

## College of Architecture Gives Way to Design

ANN HOEVEL  
COLLEGE OF DESIGN

Effective today, Georgia Tech's College of Architecture will be called the College of Design.

The new name is a more accurate reflection of the wide range of academic programs and work that takes place within the College's research centers and Schools of Architecture, Building

Construction, City and Regional Planning, Industrial Design, and Music. It also showcases the College's strengths and innovation in the multifaceted aspects of design, said Steven P. French, dean and John Portman Chair of the College of Design.

"This name change will mark an exciting new chapter for our College and the work of our students, faculty, staff, and alumni," French said. "We intend to broaden the definition of design at Georgia Tech through our academics

and research. We will draw the connection between design and today's uniquely human experiences, from buildings and cities, to products and soundscapes."

The College has been discussing a name change for about 20 years to better capture its range of academic and research activities. The number of academic programs offered by the College has doubled over the past decade, and three quarters of the degrees are not rooted in architecture. In response, the College's 2014 Strategic

Plan suggested exploring a new name.

"Our architecture school is unique in how it combines design, the latest technologies, and the influence of our professional practice partnerships," French said. "But when you look at the College as a whole you begin to understand we have a much broader range of design capabilities that shape how people live."

The College engaged Armchair Media

see **DESIGN**, page 4

## Technology of Trees

### Campus Arboretum Offers More Than Beauty

MARGARET TATE  
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

Georgia Tech's arboretum status — official as of March — was an organic development stemming from a tree inventory in 2012. Data in hand, the question became, "Now what?" Campus "treekeepers" hope the questions will keep on coming.

If Hyacinth Ide had walked around Georgia Tech's campus before hiring on with Landscape Services in 1999, he might not have accepted the job. "Luckily," said the associate director of Landscape Services and Fleet Services, "my former boss said there was a plan to focus on landscaping, and we have done it."

Have we ever. Tech's certification as a Level II Arboretum is just the latest feather in the Institute's gardening cap — on top of Tree Campus USA, Bee Campus USA, and 3 Star Landscape Management Accreditation.

#### 12,000 Trees and Calculating

Georgia Tech's 2010 Landscape Master Plan included a goal to increase the tree canopy to more than 50 percent. Planners knew the campus had a long way to go, but how far? The last time Tech had inventoried its trees was 2004.

see **TREES**, page 2



Photo by Fitrah Hamid

Labels created by students in the Digital Building Lab identify each tree featured in the campus arboretum. This black tupelo tree is located on the Instructional Center Lawn on West Campus. Students are also working on a mobile app for the arboretum's four tours; in the meantime, maps are available in the Bill Moore Student Success Center.

## Implementation Underway for Gender Equity Recommendations

KRISTEN BAILEY  
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

After a period of evaluation, a working group looking at gender equity on campus is moving recommendations received from the campus community into the next phase of action.

The Office of the President conducted a number of listening sessions last fall with female students, faculty, and staff to gather feedback about gender-related campus issues. That feedback was collected, categorized, and synthesized into a set of recommendations that will be pursued by departments across campus.

President G.P. "Bud" Peterson met with other Institute leaders earlier this semester to begin disseminating recommendations to relevant areas. Going forward, the implementation will be led by Institute Diversity, in close partnership with Human Resources and Faculty Affairs. These offices will call upon others for input and to hand off recommendations when needed or appropriate.

In a memo last week, Peterson endorsed the work of the group and notified campus leaders that they may have a role.

"We are all called upon to create a campus culture of dignity, respect, and inclusion," Peterson said.

For faculty and staff, many of the recommendations focus on policy or human resources initiatives. Some of those include providing diversity

see **GENDER**, page 2

## NEWS BRIEFS



### Feedback Wanted on Campus Accessibility

As part of the creation of an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Assessment Plan, feedback is being sought for a campus priority list. Learn more and provide your feedback for this 10-year plan by June 1 at

[www.c.gatech.edu/ada](http://www.c.gatech.edu/ada)



### Five Tech Students Earn Fulbrights

The five recipients, whose studies represent five majors and four Georgia Tech colleges, have been offered opportunities to conduct research and teach English in India, Germany, Switzerland, and the Netherlands.

[www.c.gatech.edu/fulbright2016](http://www.c.gatech.edu/fulbright2016)



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# EVENTS

## ARTS & CULTURE

**May 20**  
DramaTech Theatre hosts *A-Town Throw Down*, a three-day stage combat workshop sanctioned by the Society of American Fight Directors. [www.atownthrowdown.com](http://www.atownthrowdown.com)

**May 23**  
Sonic Generator, Georgia Tech's contemporary chamber music ensemble-in-residence, hosts a free concert at the Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia at 7:30 p.m. The concert takes place in the Lower Level Gallery at 75 Bennett Street NW, Atlanta, GA 30309. [www.sonicgenerator.gatech.edu](http://www.sonicgenerator.gatech.edu)

## TRAINING

**June 1-2**  
The Techniques Symposium is a two-day scientific training event with seminars and hands-on workshops on laboratory techniques, software analysis, and scientific communication for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows in bioengineering and bioscience. The event takes place at the Petit Institute and U.A. Whitaker Building. [www.techniques.gatech.edu](http://www.techniques.gatech.edu)

## SEMINARS & LECTURES

**May 16-17**  
The Digital Building Lab in the College of Design hosts a symposium reviewing new technologies and processes in building industries. The symposium takes place in the Tech Square Research Building Auditorium. The event is free with a valid BuzzCard. Learn more and register to attend at [www.c.gatech.edu/buildsymp](http://www.c.gatech.edu/buildsymp)

**May 26**  
The Staff Council hosts its second Inform Georgia Tech session with Dene Sheheane, vice president of Government and Community Relations, who will discuss legislative issues pertaining to higher education, how Georgia Tech lobbies, and how you can engage. The session takes place from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. in the Clary Theatre, Student Success Center. [www.staffcouncil.gatech.edu](http://www.staffcouncil.gatech.edu)

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**TREES**, from page 1  
To get a new baseline, Landscape Services, Capital Planning and Space Management, and the Center for Geographic Information Systems (CGIS) came together to design a plan for documenting and measuring every tree on campus — with 40 different data points for each one.

A vendor was hired to execute the plan based on an estimated 7,000 trees, but the contract soon had to be revised — it turned out the campus had almost 12,000 trees.

**The A Word**  
With new information in hand, one of the first decisions — aided by technology — was to make the inventory a moving picture, rather than a one-off snapshot. Since 2013, landscape crews have been armed with handheld GPS devices on which they record tree plantings, removals, and maintenance.

“We don’t know of any other institutions with an inventory that is as up-to-date as ours,” Ide said. The first person to say the A word — according to several members of the Tree Campus USA committee — was Executive Vice President of Administration and Finance Steve Swant.

**Arboretum [är-bə-’rē-təm],**  
*noun: a plot of land on which many different trees or shrubs are grown for study or display.*

“Once we had this incredible database, he’s the one who asked what it would take to be an arboretum,” said Jason Gregory, senior education facilities planner and landscape architect with Capital Planning and Space Management. “So we started looking into it and saw that it really wouldn’t be too difficult with all the documentation and protocol we already had in place.”

As the project evolved, Gregory said, so did the questions surrounding it. “We needed to define why we wanted to be an arboretum — why it was important,” he recalled. “We realized we could break that down to the individual tree: What does it actually do and how does it perform in the landscape? Can we teach people about that and use this information across campus?”

**GENDER**, from page 1  
guidelines for search committees, evaluating and promoting family-friendly programming and policies, conducting a salary equity study for staff (to complement a recent one for faculty), and identifying pathways for advancement for professional staff.

Feedback from students was more cultural than institutional, but many of the opportunities created through the working group will also benefit students and lend to a more inclusive culture for all. Some of those campuswide opportunities will include implicit bias workshops, mentoring, professional and leadership development, highlighting the success of women on campus, and promoting events that feature and celebrate women.

“The whole process has been eye-opening for the Institute’s senior leaders,” said Lynn Durham, assistant vice president and chief of staff for the Office of the President, who helped lead the working group. “Having these conversations has brought to light some of the issues that may not have been readily apparent on campus.”

### Campus Arboretum

- **Level II Arboretum:** 100 tree species identified
- **Four Tours:** The Hill, Tech Green, Central Campus, and Hemphill/Instructional Center Lawn
- **Total Tree Count:** 12,249
- **Smallest Tree:** 2" in diameter (anything less is not classified as a tree)
- **Largest Tree:** 66.5" in diameter
- **Most Prevalent Tree:** Crepe Myrtle
- **Campus Canopy Coverage:** 23.5%
- **Gross Carbon Sequestration:** 211,318 lbs per year
- **Tree Value:** \$12,107,376

**Arboretum — Georgia Tech Style**  
Ramachandra Sivakumar, who goes by Siva, is a senior research engineer at CGIS. He manages Tech’s site license for GIS software and promotes its use for academic and research projects across campus, so the tree inventory and arboretum project have been a natural fit for his expertise.

Before all this, he’d never really paid much attention to trees beyond their beauty and the shade they provide. Now, he is working with computer models that can look at a geographic area of trees and calculate such benefits as carbon sequestration, heat mitigation, air purification, and rainfall interception for stormwater management.

“There’s even a program that can look at health impacts,” he said. “So knowing the importance of our campus tree canopy, we have greater motivation to preserve it or add to it.”

To ensure the numbers stay up to date, the campus has been divided into five zones and has set up a five-year schedule during which, zone by zone, each tree will again be measured and evaluated according to the 40 data points.

Gregory, like Siva, has been making presentations in hopes that faculty and students will find ways to use the arboretum and database as a springboard for innovative projects.

“That’s going to be part of the fun,” Gregory said. “If you were at UGA, you’d have the horticulture or agriculture people looking at this. But Georgia Tech — we’re a completely different arena.”

Per Peterson’s memo, two themes will continue to guide the Institute’s work in this area:

1. Promoting gender equity through policies and processes related to the recruitment, hiring, retention, promotion, professional development, and appointment to leadership roles of faculty and staff members.
2. Celebrating the contributions of women in our community and making the commitment to inclusion more visible in communications.

Institute Diversity will meet quarterly with unit representatives from Human Resources, Faculty Affairs, Institute Communications, and other units to prioritize and track progress on these initiatives.

At the recommendation of the working group, the 2016 Diversity Symposium will put a focus on gender equity. Institute Diversity also recently launched a Leading Women at Tech initiative, which engages senior and emerging women leaders on campus in collaboration and empowerment opportunities. Another recent step was a modified Regents Professor selection process to better incorporate diversity.

## FACULTY AND STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

**Raheem Beyah** has been named the Motorola Foundation Professor in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

**Sandra Bramblett**, executive director of Institutional Research and Planning, earned the 2016 Outstanding Service Award from the Association for Institutional Research (AIR). Bramblett was nominated and selected for the honor by AIR peers.

**Dan Dykstra**, associate director of Housing and Conference Services, received the Jack Thornton Distinguished Service Award for his exemplary work within the industry and to the Association of Collegiate Conference and Event Directors – International.

**Jonathan Elwell**, executive chef for Dining Services, won a gold medal in the National Association of College and University Food Services Southern Region Culinary Challenge. Elwell was also invited to serve as a chef for the 2016 Masters Golf Tournament.

**Diana Hicks**, professor in the School of Public Policy, has been appointed to the Australian Research Council’s newly formed Engagement and Impact Technical Working Group.

**David Hu**, assistant professor in the George W. Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering, has been named a Woodruff Faculty Fellow. Hu also earned the 2016 Pineapple Science Prize in Biology for his research about why flies rub their legs.

**Margaret Kosal**, associate professor in the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs, has been selected as a non-resident adjunct scholar to the Modern War Institute at West Point.

**Jenny Leigh Smith**, assistant professor in the School of History and Sociology, received a two-year fellowship with the Carnegie Fellows Program that will support research, travel, and writing for her work on a book about the history of 20th century famines.

The Department of Defense’s Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program awarded **Susan Thomas**, assistant professor in the George G. Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering, a Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program Career Development Award.



# ICYMI: SPRING COMMENCEMENT

Commencement weekend is a special time not just for graduating students, but for all of campus. If you didn't get to participate in this semester's festivities, you can relive the fun through online stories, photos, and video.

## BETTER LATE THAN NEVER



Leo Benatar received his undergraduate degree from Georgia Tech in 1951. He later returned for graduate studies and, as it turns out, had enough credit to receive his master's degree, but never got it. The 86-year-old participated in this semester's Commencement as a master's candidate: [www.c.gatech.edu/benatar](http://www.c.gatech.edu/benatar).

## COMMENCEMENT FROM THE OTHER SIDE



People joke about "getting out" of Tech, but many come back. Many alumni become faculty and staff members at the Institute (including Wendy Rogers and Michael Smith, above), and even find themselves with roles to play at Commencement: [www.c.gatech.edu/secondtimearound](http://www.c.gatech.edu/secondtimearound).



### WHO TURNED THEIR TASSELS

Each semester, Georgia Tech says goodbye to students who have been an integral part of the community. This semester, that included a viral video sensation, a Ramblin' Wreck driver, and a student whose letter to President Barack Obama encouraged him to come to campus. Read their stories at [www.c.gatech.edu/turntheirtassels](http://www.c.gatech.edu/turntheirtassels).



### UNDER THE HOOD

Commencement weekend is all about celebrating Tech's newly minted graduates, but it takes a lot of people to make it happen. Go behind-the-scenes to hear from some of the volunteers — from lineup wranglers to name readers — who participate every semester: [www.c.gatech.edu/underthehood](http://www.c.gatech.edu/underthehood).



### PHOTOS, VIDEOS ONLINE THIS WEEK

A photo album and full video from all of this semester's ceremonies will soon be made available at [www.c.gatech.edu/spring2016](http://www.c.gatech.edu/spring2016).

## EVENTS

### HEALTH & WELLNESS

#### May 18

The Office of Human Resources hosts a Be Well session on "How to Lower Your Grocery Bill by Cooking in Season." The demo takes place from noon to 1 p.m. in Room 343, Student Center. Register to attend at [www.c.gatech.edu/cookinseason](http://www.c.gatech.edu/cookinseason)

#### May 24

The annual President's Campus Walk, hosted by the Center for Community Health and Well-Being and Go T.E.C.H., will begin at 4:30 p.m. at the Campus Recreation Center. Join campus colleagues for one of two route options: a one-mile option or a three-mile option, both along the Tyler Brown Pi Mile. [www.gotech.gatech.edu](http://www.gotech.gatech.edu)

#### May 25

The Center for Community Health and Well-Being and Go T.E.C.H. host the annual Employee Health Fair from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Campus Recreation Center and Stamps Health Services. The event includes vendor information, fitness demonstrations, free health screenings (beginning at 9 a.m.). [www.gotech.gatech.edu](http://www.gotech.gatech.edu)

## MISCELLANEOUS

#### May 10

The Event Coordinators' Network hosts a Campus Road Trip to visit four different campus venues with event space options, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Register to attend at [www.c.gatech.edu/ecnroadtrip](http://www.c.gatech.edu/ecnroadtrip)

#### May 16

Classes begin for Early Short and Full Summer sessions.

#### May 26

The Veterans Resource Center hosts a Memorial Day Recognition event at 10:30 a.m. in the Student Center Theater. The event will include presentations on Tech's military history and an opportunity to honor and remember the men and women who lost their lives in service. [www.veterans.gatech.edu](http://www.veterans.gatech.edu)

#### May 30

Campus is closed in observation of the Memorial Day holiday.

#### June 2

The Event Coordinators' Network hosts a Vendor Showcase from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in McCamish Pavilion. Meet vendors and discover new products for upcoming events. This event is open to the entire Georgia Tech community and neighboring institutions. [www.c.gatech.edu/ecn](http://www.c.gatech.edu/ecn)

For a more comprehensive listing of events, or to add your own, visit [calendar.gatech.edu](http://calendar.gatech.edu).



# IN THE CLASSROOM

with Deborah Phillips

## Teaching Ingrained from Early Age for Phillips

VICTOR ROGERS  
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

At an early age, Deborah Phillips had a front row seat to witness the lasting impact educators can make. Her mom taught home economics, and her dad taught vocational agriculture — both at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College in Tifton, Georgia.

“There were students all around my parents,” Phillips said. “I saw what a difference my parents made in the lives of others, but I also saw that the students made a difference in my parents’ lives. It was interesting because even at my mom’s funeral there were a lot of her friends, but the majority of the people were her students.”

The experience had a profound impact on Phillips, leading her to work as director of education and governmental liaison for a not-for-profit organization, then as director of training and marketing for a national real estate company. But, as her career progressed, she held on to an interest in teaching because she had strong mentors, and she believed she could make an impact.

“I always say it’s easy to make impressions on people, but when you make an impact on someone, it’s definable,” she said. “It’s something you can measure. I measure a person’s success by what kind of impact they have made.”

Today, Phillips is a certified property manager and president of an international consulting firm, The Quadrillion. She also is a lecturer and industry liaison in the College of Design’s School of Building Construction, where she enjoys helping others discover their gifts and abilities.

“There is nothing that brings me greater satisfaction than to see a student in his or her genius zone making a contribution to a greater good,” she said. “Whether it is a college student or someone looking to change careers, when I see a spark or something that ignites inside of a person to move beyond where they are, that gets me excited!”



Photo by Fitrah Hamid

Deborah Phillips teaches Real Estate Asset and Income Property Management in the School of Building Construction. For Phillips, who also works in the corporate sector, teaching is both a pastime and a passion.

### Deborah Phillips

- **College:** College of Design (formerly the College of Architecture)
- **Time at Tech:** 11 years
- **Academic Expertise:** Building construction; real estate; employee engagement

Phillips says she sees teaching as more of her pastime.

“I’m also president of the Georgia Apartment Industry Education Foundation, and teaching is my hobby job,” she said. “Nobody goes into teaching because they’re going to get rich. They go into teaching because they want to make a difference in somebody’s life. I look at my job as loving, investing, and growing,” she said. “I look at my job as seeing students as not who they are, but who they can be.”

### Classroom Strategies

Students are just like working professionals, according to Phillips. “They have a lot on their minds,

and I can tell instantly when they are distracted, tired, and emotionally drained” she said. “I realize I have to change things up and get their focus. It’s like that old adage, it’s hard to add anything new when something is already full. I try to get them to hit the ‘refresh’ button of their minds and be open to possibility.”

Phillips teaches Real Estate Asset and Income Property Management (BC 6500). At the beginning of each semester, she sets the tone for the class regarding expectations.

“I’m a big believer in: You have to meet your deadlines, you have to show up, follow up, and dress up,” she said. “I give them every opportunity to get prepared for the real world. If I let students leave class unprepared, not only have I failed them, but I have diminished the Georgia Tech brand. Every day that I walk into the classroom, I have a huge responsibility to get it right,” said Phillips, who has undergraduate and master’s degrees from the University of Georgia and a Ph.D. from Georgia Tech.

“I try to remember that not

everyone learns the same way,” Phillips said. “Without getting too technical, there are three basic learning styles: visual, auditory, and kinesthetic.” She explained that visual learning is by seeing and reading; auditory learning is by listening and speaking; and kinesthetic learning is by touching and doing.

She said she gives many practical experiences in her class because she likes it when students are exposed to real situations and case studies.

“Anyone can memorize something, but the real assessment is when a student can truly demonstrate a particular concept and apply that to an actual problem,” said Phillips, recipient of the 2013 Apartment Career and Education Award from the National Apartment Association, and the 2012-13 Outstanding Educator Award from the University of Georgia’s Department of Housing and Consumer Economics.

*“It’s easy to make impressions on people, but when you make an impact on someone, it’s definable.”*

### Advice for New Faculty

So, what’s the best guidance Phillips can offer new faculty? “Don’t be afraid to go off script!” she said. “Sometimes I come in with a lesson plan thinking ‘this is what I’m going to cover today.’ But that doesn’t happen. You must be aware of the vibe in the classroom. There’s energy there, and you must be sensitive to that.”

Phillips says that learning has become more experiential.

“Students can learn concepts without even leaving the dorm room,” she said. “But they need to come together to share new ideas, to hear experiences from industry experts, and to learn to communicate and apply what they have learned so they can solve real and complex problems. The world needs problem-solvers and people who can communicate, inspire, and pass on their knowledge to those coming behind them.”

## CLASSIFIEDS

### AUTOMOBILES

For Sale: 2002 Toyota Avalon XLS. Gray with gray interior, 165K miles. Second owner, excellent condition, well-maintained, maintenance records available for review. \$4,395 OBO. Contact Dinesh at dsharma@mes-inc.net.

For sale: 2004 KIA Sedona minivan. White, 128K miles, 6-cylinder engine, automatic. Good condition. Second owner. \$3,500. Contact Ruby at ruby\_hollender@yahoo.com.

### REAL ESTATE

For rent: 2BR/2.5BA house in East Cobb/Marietta, Johnson Ferry and Post Oak Tritt Road. Fully furnished, sun room, enclosed patio, garage, pool. Lawn service provided. \$1,800/mo. includes DirecTV and Netflix. Contact Sandra Sheppard, 770-364-3692.

For rent: 219 Gordon St., Oakhurst/Decatur. 2BR/2BA craftsman bungalow. Walk to Oakhurst Village. Hardwood floors, updated kitchen and baths. Front and back screened porches. Large fenced yard. Refrigerator, dishwasher, washer/dryer connections. \$2,500/mo. Contact Butch, owner/agent: 770-630-6668.

### MISCELLANEOUS

For sale: Exercise elliptical trainer. Four months old, excellent condition. Fully assembled. \$125 or best offer. Call 678-481-8170.

For sale: 3-piece full size bedroom set (bed, side table, 5-drawer dresser), cream-colored painted wood. Excellent condition, \$600. Antique oak 5-drawer dresser and mirror, \$300. Upholstered chair, \$100. Maple armoire with red and green staining highlights, \$100. Text 770-576-0704 for photos.

For sale: Schwinn Mesa mountain bike, 2007 model in excellent condition, only ridden a few times. Needs a tune up and new tires. Can provide pictures upon request. Asking \$200. If interested, email rprogersjr@gmail.com for additional information.

Looking for a carpool partner for daily commute from East Cobb to Tech campus. Email bdespy@hotmail.com.

Free yellow jacket nest removal. Nests to be used for research in the School of Biology. Call 404-385-6311 or e-mail michael.goodisman@biology.gatech.edu.

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to conduct a positioning study and narrow the field of potential names. The company submitted potential names based on extensive surveys and interviews with faculty, staff,

alumni, students, and prospective students.

The selection, College of Design, best fit the College’s output as well as its environment. Academic work and research utilize the methods and conclusions of design to create products, buildings, neighborhoods, cities, and

human experiences, French said.

“The College of Design will be the premier college for technology-focused design education,” he added.

Learn more at the College’s new online home at [www.design.gatech.edu](http://www.design.gatech.edu).

Ads run for at least three issues in the order in which they are received. Submit your 35-word-or-less ad to [editor@comm.gatech.edu](mailto:editor@comm.gatech.edu).