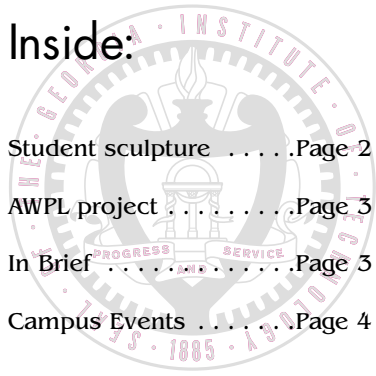


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THE WHISTLE

FACULTY/STAFF NEWSPAPER

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THE GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Continuing Education reorganizes, with focus on global partnerships

Michael Hagearty
Institute Communications
and Public Affairs

Before anyone had heard of Technology Square, a committee formed and chaired by Joe DiGregorio, the vice provost for Distance Learning, Continuing Education and Outreach, issued a report outlining its recommendations for a state-of-the-art conference center dedicated to the enhancement of Georgia Tech's reputation as a leader in distance learning and professional education.

This vision was eventually incorporated into the plans for the \$179 million development currently under way at the intersection of Fifth and Spring Streets. Expected to be complete by summer 2003, the Global Learning Center (GLC) will be a key element of Technology Square and a highly visible sign of Tech's growing leadership role in education, government and business.



Joe DiGregorio

"Since my arrival at Tech six years ago, I've had a vision for Tech to be the focal point for a group of international partnerships in the areas of continuing education and professional development," he said.

So with less than one year until the opening of the GLC, DiGregorio is assuming a new job with a new title — director of Professional Education, International Partnerships — that will allow him to build on his success in growing the Institute's Department of Distance Learning, Continuing Education and Outreach, and to transition into his retirement from Tech, which he announced would be effective June 1, 2003.

In this new role, DiGregorio will be working to build what he calls "a network of learning centers" with peer academic institutions around the globe.

Working from a select list of universities in 14 countries on four continents, his primary responsibility during the next nine

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Magazine rankings keep Tech in the top 10

#9 public university in the nation; three engineering programs in top five

Bob Harty
Institute Communications
and Public Affairs

For the sixth time in the last eight years, Georgia Tech was ranked by U.S. News & World Report as one of the top 10 public universities in the nation. Tech was ranked ninth among the nation's top public universities, moving up one slot from last year. Overall, Georgia Tech was ranked 38th among the nation's top universities, up three spots from last year.

Georgia Tech's nationally prominent College of Engineering was again ranked sixth in the country, and three programs within the College were ranked in the top five. Most prominent among those programs was the School of Industrial and Systems Engineering, again ranked number one; the School of Aerospace Engineering, again ranked second; the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, moved up one to third; and the School of Mechanical Engineering, again ranked fourth nationally. (Editorial note: At press time, only the top five rankings for each program area were available.)

More complete data will be reported in next week's issue.)

The DuPree College of Management ranked 35th in the competitive business school rankings. Tech's Co-Op Program, the largest optional co-op program in the country, was ranked third nationally.

"As I say every year, you shouldn't place too much emphasis on these or any other rankings," said President Wayne Clough. "But I do think that trend lines mean something, and I'm very pleased with our trend lines. We're consistently ranked among the nation's elite public universities. Our College of Engineering and its programs continue their national prominence, and our College of Management continues to make incremental progress in the highly competitive business school rankings. I'm particularly pleased that our School of Industrial and Systems Engineering maintained its top ranking nationally. To consistently do that at both the undergraduate and graduate levels is an extremely impressive achievement. And it's nice to see our Co-Op Program finally receive the national recognition it deserves."

Georgia Tech scored particularly well in SAT scores of incoming students (1250-1420), peer review (4.0 out of 5.0), percentage of full-time faculty on staff (99 percent), and

Rankings continued, page 2

Chancellor Meredith tours Tech

With President Wayne Clough acting as guide, Thomas Meredith got his first official tour as chancellor of the University System of Georgia earlier this month, visiting some of Georgia Tech's most prominent technological and research facilities.

Meredith was shown the recently completed Library West Commons, a collaborative multimedia center for students developed in tandem with the Office of Information Technology; a presentation of the educational technology efforts in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering as well as a visit to the clean room in the Microelectronics Research Center.

Since no tour through Tech would be complete without visiting its construction projects, Meredith was also shown the progress under way at both the BME complex and Technology Square.

Coming from the University of Alabama System, where he served as its chief executive officer, Meredith assumed USG's top position in January.



QUOTE
UNQUOTE

"Only in hindsight when the pain stopped, when I realized that I was going to recover, that the pain of even just going up the stairs carrying an infant was going to be behind me, I realized that, well, as a historian a century ago, I might not have come out the other side, that there was a medical necessity to this."
—*Andrea Tone, professor in the School of History, Technology and Society and author of "Devices and Desires: A History of Contraceptives In America," on needing a Caesarean section for the birth of her first child.*
(National Public Radio)

"Nowhere does it say that you have to cut a wrestling team to gain a women's volleyball team. That's an administration's decision."
—*Agnus Berenato, women's basketball coach, on the effect that Title IX has had on collegiate athletics, which some contend has negatively impacted the number of men's programs being offered.*
(CNN)

Student sculptures to be part of architect retrospective

Sean Selman
Institute Communications
and Public Affairs

The prestigious Whitney Museum of American Art this fall will exhibit two large-scale architectural sculptures originally constructed and displayed by students from Georgia Tech.

The sculptures, "House of the Suicide" and "House of the Mother of the Suicide," were the result of student collaboration with acclaimed architect and designer John Hejduk in the late 1980s. They will be reconstructed in the Whitney's outdoor Sculpture Court as part of a retrospective exhibition, "Sanctuaries: The Last Works of John Hejduk," beginning Sept. 15 and running through Jan. 5, 2003.

The curator for the exhibition is K. Michael Hays, a graduate of Tech's College of Architecture and current professor of architecture theory at Harvard University. Hays recently became the first adjunct curator of architecture at the Whitney Museum, and the Hejduk retrospective will be his first show.

"During the last 20 years of his life, John Hejduk made successive attempts to shift his architecture away from the more mathematical concerns of his earlier work — which owed much to Mies van der Rohe and Piet Mondrian — toward an allegorical, 'carnavalesque' mode that he called architectural masques," Hays said. "They present a reduction of form and an intensity

of emotion beyond which architecture cannot go."

During the last 15 years of his life, some of Hejduk's architectural works moved from paper and models to built reality. Many of these projects came about when students, teachers and others fascinated by Hejduk's work came together to build. This movement included architecture students from Tech.

Beginning in 1986, a group of Tech students began collaborating with Hejduk on the construction of "House of the Suicide" and "House of the Mother of the Suicide." The process took four years and resulted in the two pieces that measure 20 feet high.

The first construction, "House of the Suicide," was inspired by the story of Jan Palach, a college student who died in Prague after setting himself on fire in January 1969 to protest the Soviet occupation of Czechoslovakia. Later, a friend of Hejduk wrote a poem about the event and its aftermath, which provided a new context for Hejduk to design "House of the Mother of the Suicide."

Once completed, the two structures occupied the main lobby of the College of Architecture. They later were disassembled and put into storage in Atlanta. However, in July, Institute officials completed a loan agreement with the Whitney Museum to include the pieces in the upcoming Hejduk retrospective.

The Whitney exhibition includes selections from the John Hejduk



One of the Hejduk sculptures, on display in the College of Architecture, circa 1990.

Archive at the Canadian Centre for Architecture in Montreal and The Menil Collection in Houston. Among them are about 110 small works on paper and four architectural models, in addition to the two large-scale architectural sculptures from Georgia Tech. A book, with an essay by Hays and a preface by architect Toshiko Mori, will accompany the exhibition.

For more information...

Whitney Museum of American Art
www.whitney.org

Tech chosen by EPA to improve local environmental management

Nancy Fulbright
Economic Development Institute

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has named Georgia Tech's Center for International Standards & Quality (CISQ) one of eight Local Resource Centers for Environmental Management Systems (EMS). CISQ, which is part of the Economic Development Institute (EDI), will help local agencies adopt environmental management systems to improve their overall environmental performance and meet environmental goals.

The Georgia Tech center was chosen from among approximately 50 applicants for eight available slots.

"We are very pleased to select Georgia Tech as one of the eight EMS Local Resource Centers," says

Jim Horne, a project manager with EPA's Office of Wastewater Management. "Their experience was evident from their application, and we're confident they will be able to meet the growing EMS needs of public agencies, especially local governments."

Environmental management systems help public entities — particularly local governments — improve environmental performance beyond compliance, prevent pollution, promote greater environmental stewardship across the workforce and improve overall efficiency. These public institutions often face the same environmental challenges of private sector organizations; however, they tend to lack a systematic approach to managing their environmental aspects.

Environmental management

systems provide organizations with a structure for managing their environmental programs. An EMS often is the foundation for organizations to build viable, effective environmental policies, and to address environmental issues. The Local Resource Centers will provide the training and coaching to the public entities so they can emulate the best environmental practices of the private sector, according to the EPA.

Rick Duke, director of Georgia Tech's Economic Development Institute, says EPA's designation will help EDI better serve its clients — and represents a great honor. "With 12 years of hands-on experience in helping organizations implement management systems, EDI is prepared to help public entities improve their environmental performance," he says.

Rankings, cont'd from page 1

alumni giving rate (34 percent). Areas of improvement include faculty resources (96th), graduation and retention rate (66 percent), and acceptance rate (54 percent).

"I'm particularly proud of what our faculty are able to accomplish within the constraints of our

resources," said President Clough. "When you're ranked 96th in faculty resources and you rank ninth among public schools, that's something. Only four other universities had lower faculty resources scores. Yet we compare favorably with the very best, schools such as NYU, William and Mary, and USC, and we rank even more favorably when only considering our reputation with our

peers. I'm pleased to be ranked along with those prestigious institutions and hope to continue Georgia Tech's climb to national prominence."

For more information...

U.S. News and World Report
www.usnews.com

Georgia Tech

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Georgia Tech is a unit of the University System of Georgia.

AWPL research project focuses on universal design

Michael Hagearty
Institute Communications
and Public Affairs

Earlier this year, Georgia Tech's Advanced Wood Products Laboratory (AWPL) completed its first research project, the Autumn Chair, utilizing the technology available at the lab and developed through research performed at Tech's Center for Assistive Technology and Environmental Access (CATEA) with the cooperation of Director Joseph Koncelik. The two labs are located in the College of Architecture.



Features unique to the Autumn Chair include extended armrests, which allow for solid grasp of the chair during ingress and egress, and a wider footprint that makes it less likely to tip.

"The motivation for this project came from a need to demonstrate the capability of advanced wood processing machinery and also to create a product that exemplified the mission of the Center," said Koncelik. "The Autumn Chair is a clear demonstration of product development drawn from the relationship between aging and disability."

Originally designed in 1997 for the ambulatory elderly, the chair incorporates many features to accommodate this population, but is also a success in universal design. "Universal design is defined as the design

of products and environments to be usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design," says Alan Harp, an industrial designer for AWPL. "By designing for comfort and ease of ingress and egress for the elderly, the chair has been found to be extremely comfortable to the average population."

Last fall, Harp completed a prototype of the chair, which was the subject of his master's thesis in the Industrial Design program. In the early stages of the test run, visitors touring AWPL requested a rocking chair, an idea quickly adapted through computer-aided design (CAD).

"The creation of the rocking chair is a good example of the advantage of designing in CAD," he said, having adapted his drawings for the new design and prototype in a single day.

In anticipation of future marketing and manufacturing possibilities, the Autumn Chair design was filed with Office of Technology Licensing and given a record of invention, allowing AWPL to investigate the potential for mass production of the chair and rocker.

For more information...

Advanced Wood Products Lab
www.arch.gatech.edu/AW

Learning, cont'd from page 1

months will be establishing new relationships and identifying opportunities for academic exchange.

"Most conference centers are built on the premise that participants come to their location," DiGregorio said. "The Global Learning Center will be unique in that it will not only be used to offer local participants life-long learning programs on the Tech campus that have been developed by Tech's academic units and by our global partners, but will also offer opportunities for participants around the world to receive these programs through a global network of learning centers."

Given his new focus, it was apparent that another individual would need to fulfill the administrative, fiscal and strategic responsibilities of Tech's professional outreach activities. To fill the vacuum, Provost Jean-Lou Chameau has named Bill Wepfer, the associate chair for Graduate Studies in the School of Mechanical Engineering, to succeed DiGregorio, with the modified title of vice provost for Distance Learning and Professional Education.

"Bill has distinguished himself through his work at Georgia Tech as an extremely capable administrator and valued

member of the faculty," Chameau said. "His initiative and his commitment to enhancing our reputation are ideally suited for this position."

Wepfer plans to work closely with DiGregorio in the coming months as he is brought up to date on the services currently being offered at the Center for Distance Learning, Continuing Education and The Language Institute.

"If you look at the data over the past several years, the growth of DiGregorio's operation has really been good," he said. "We want to keep that momentum going and build on the things Joe has been doing."



Bill Wepfer

For example, Wepfer indicated his desire to further emphasize the integration of Tech's distance learning and continuing education with its academic

units, "allowing for greater collaboration between sister institutions," both within the University System of Georgia and among its international partners.

In the near term, Wepfer said his job will center around listening to and evaluating the needs of the academic units on campus. "We want to be able to move into the GLC and have the faculty feel this is a great resource for them," he said.

Having administered Mechanical Engineering's graduate program for the past 13 years, Wepfer is no stranger to his new challenges. In 1992, he oversaw the resurrection of the School's defunct distance learning program, which today boasts 160 students.

"I'm looking forward to working with the Office of Development, interacting with corporations and promoting the Georgia Tech name and our capabilities so that we can continue to foster positive relationships with the outside world," Wepfer said.

For more information...

Distance Learning, Continuing
Education and Outreach
www.conted.gatech.edu

Global Learning Center
www.gatech.edu/techsquare/vision.html

IN BRIEF:

West Nile virus discovered on campus

Late last week Fulton County health officials discovered mosquitoes containing the West Nile virus behind President Clough's home.

Go to www.gatech.edu/westnile for an announcement regarding this discovery.

OIT takes precautions to safeguard network systems

Last week, the Office of Information Technology reported a significant increase in the number of external probes of Georgia Tech computing systems, compromising more than 100 machines in the process. The attacks are designed to load hidden programs onto Tech systems, which are designed not only to prevent users from accessing computing resources, but also to allow attackers to use these resources to launch further attacks against sites across the entire Internet, the so-called denial-of-service (DNS) attacks.

John Mullin, OIT's chief information officer, said, "To the best of our knowledge, no Institute data is being compromised. We are, however, very concerned about the potential for GT computing systems to be involved in a much broader, Internet-wide denial-of-service attack."

In an e-mail sent to the campus community, Mullin went on to state that Windows-based computers were the primary victims of these attacks and that his office is working closely with Microsoft and information security organizations to develop the appropriate software fix.

Further, OIT announced a temporary suspension of off-campus access to Windows-based secure filesharing and Internet Relay Chat (IRC) to prevent additional off-campus hackers from remotely controlling affected GT systems.

"If you use these applications on campus, within the Georgia Tech network, you should see no impact," Mullin said "However, if you try to access these applications from a remote location, like your home, you will not be able to use either application."

New chair in DuPree

Marie Thursby has joined the DuPree College of Management as professor of strategic management and the Hal and John Smith Chair in Entrepreneurship. She comes from Purdue University, where she held the Burton D. Morgan Chair of International Policy and Management.

College of Management Dean Terry Blum said, "Marie is a nationally recognized innovator



in the development of models for teaching the commercialization of technology. The program she is developing here will take the College to the next level as a leader in management education for technology entrepreneurship and commercialization."

Thursby founded three multidisciplinary programs for research and curriculum development while at Purdue, including the Center for International Business Education and Research, the Technology Transfer Initiative and the Innovation Realization Lab.

The Hal and John Smith Chair in Entrepreneurship was established in 1988 by father and son, both graduates of Georgia Tech.