

DEDICATION OF THE PACKAGING RESEARCH CENTER

Ladies and gentlemen,
distinguished guests, faculty and
students. It is my pleasure to join
you in formally dedicating Georgia
Tech's Packaging Research Center.

Let me begin by thanking all those
who have participated in our
afternoon's keynote addresses and
panel sessions. I know this
program generated informative and
interesting discussions. I would
also like to formally congratulate
the team of faculty and research
support personnel at Georgia Tech
who worked so hard to make this a
reality. Finally, we express gratitude
to the Georgia Research Alliance,
the National Science Foundation
and our industrial partners who are

providing the resources to make it all possible.

Most of you spent the afternoon hearing from distinguished speakers who have described for you what this center means from their vantage points - including those of national industry, the National Science Foundation, the State of Georgia, and local industry. You have heard that the Center will be a key element in promoting the vitality of the economic competitiveness of our electronics industry in the future. Our dedication recognizes this mission as an important part of the Center. However, what makes the Center unique is that it is housed in a University, and this one in particular.

For Georgia Tech the Packaging Research Center is important to the

core of our academic mission. And, contrary to the popular notion, the academic mission of universities is not static, but is rapidly evolving. In the dawning world, universities will frequently bring together teams of its best minds to address large scale interdisciplinary research agendas. This is the nexus of the creative process of the future. These teams will have strong ties to industry and serve as one of the principal arms in the future of industrial research. Universities will also act as a link between governmental agencies and industry. Finally, these activities will be structured so that the findings and results are factored promptly into the graduate and undergraduate curricula, thus bringing an element of relevance to the classroom that is today often missing. Related to this, there will

be active student involvement in the research agenda.

The Packaging Research Center is a prototype organization that fits with the modern research university. In fact, its title is misleading, since a very real part of its mission is teaching, and it is charged to bring the results of its research to the educational process. Not only will the PRC produce "results" in the form of papers and products, but it will also change what we teach our students. In doing this, it will have a larger impact and more rapidly change our society and industry. In the coming years, the PRC should help us produce students who will go forth carrying the seeds of a new knowledge base, one that is generated here at Georgia Tech and reflects the top state-of-the-art of electronics technology. Thus, we dedicate this Center in the name

not only of research, but also for its future beneficial effects on the teaching and learning mission.

We also understand full well the responsibility the formation of this Center brings to us. Georgia Tech will be called upon to provide a hospitable environment for the interdisciplinary research that will be done. We will need to work to speed the introduction of newly developed materials into the curriculum. Our commitment is to these ends. We also will seek to see that the vitality of the PRC is maintained well into the future.

In closing, let me say that Georgia Tech welcomes the PRC and the challenges it brings to us. We believe we have the right team in place to do the job and we know we have the will to see it succeed. Thank you.