

GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
TWO HUNDREDTH AND TWENTY-FIRST COMMENCEMENT EXERCISE
GEORGIA DOME

May 7, 2005, 9:00 A.M.

Processional	Georgia Tech Commencement Ensemble Dr. Frank Clark
Master of Ceremonies	Dr. G. Wayne Clough President
Reflection	Rev. Steve Fazenbaker
National Anthem	Georgia Tech Commencement Ensemble
Commencement Address	The Honorable Samuel Bodman United States Secretary of Energy
Presentation of Doctoral Degree Candidates	Dr. Charles Liotta, Vice President for Research and Dean of Graduate Studies
Conferring of Degrees	Dr. Clough
Presentation of Master's Degree Candidates	Dr. Liotta
Conferring of Degrees	Dr. Clough

Introduction of
Academic Deans

Dr. Jean-Lou Chameau,
Provost and Vice President, Academic Affairs

Presentation of Undergraduate
Degree Candidates

College of Computing

Assistant Dean Maureen Biggers

Ivan Allen College

Dean Sue V. Rosser

College of Architecture

Dean Thomas D. Galloway

DuPree College of Management

Dean Terry Blum

College of Sciences

Dean Gary Schuster

College of Engineering

Assistant Dean Jane Ammons

Conferring of Degrees

Dr. Clough

Commission Recognition
Ceremony

LTC Alfred Scott, Jr.
Army, ROTC

Induction into
Alumni Association

Mr. Carey Brown, Class of 1969
President, Georgia Tech Alumni Association

Alma Mater

Georgia Tech Commencement Ensemble and Chorale

Faculty Recessional

Georgia Tech Commencement Ensemble

"Ramblin' Wreck"

Graduates and audience recess

May 7, 2005 - Ceremony Script

(Dr. Clough)

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Will everyone please stand and remain standing for the reflection and our national anthem. Rev. Steve Fazenbaker, director and campus minister of the Wesley Foundation at Georgia Tech, will give the reflection.

(Rev. Fazenbaker)

Reflection

(Commencement Ensemble)

National Anthem

(Dr. Clough)

Please be seated. Once again, good morning. It is my pleasure as president of Georgia Tech to welcome everyone to our two-hundred and twenty-first commencement exercises. I am particularly proud to be here, as this should serve to squash the rumor planted in the April Fool's issue of the Technique that I was going to take early retirement to undertake a rap career. Now, I have to congratulate the Technique on their scoop, but the truth is, my rap career is on officially on hold until this cultural phenomenon catches on with the over 65 set.

As we gather here this morning, we are making history in the Georgia Dome. As Georgia Tech grew and our retention rates increased during the 90s, our spring commencement ceremony got bigger and bigger until, finally, the Georgia Tech Coliseum could not hold it anymore. So for the past five years we have been holding two ceremonies – undergraduate in the morning and graduate in the afternoon.

Then undergraduate ceremony became too large for the coliseum, and the Georgia Dome was the best option available for today to handle the 2,200 students who are graduating this spring. So today you are part of a great experiment, and we appreciate your patience

with our efforts to preserve Tech's cherished traditions even as we continue to grow.

The talented young people who will receive degrees this morning have a technology-oriented education that is increasingly valuable and rare among the thousands of graduates from our nation's universities, and they will be a key resource in helping our nation remain great for the future. Each of our graduates today has chosen the less traveled path, one that called for them to work hard, develop a disciplined approach to life, and to compete with some of the best and brightest our nation has to offer. I know you join me in my pride in being among them on this special day.

The world around us is changing rapidly, and these young graduates have been educated in what it takes to be leaders in creating the technology, policy, and resources required to address the challenges and solve the problems of the 21st century. This assessment is based not only on their talents and academic achievements, the quality of our faculty, and the rigor of our academic programs, but also the track record of the Tech graduates who preceded them.

Just look around at the billion-dollar companies whose CEOs are Georgia Tech alumni – Sears, AT&T, Wal-Mart USA, Invesco, Gulfstream Aerospace, Dollar General, GE Commercial Finance, Newell Rubbermaid, Shaw Industries, Milliken & Company, Earthlink – and I saved the best for last – the CEO dream job of many a Georgia Tech graduate, held by alumnus John Brock who lives in Brussels and heads up Interbrew, the world's largest brewer of fine beer with more than 200 brands.

You, today's graduates, are the recipients of that same education; you are the inheritors of those same traditions – including the ability to think clearly on just a few hours of sleep a night, an abiding appreciation for chili dogs from the Varsity, cheering on the Yellow Jacket football team in Bobby Dodd Stadium and our basketball teams at Alexander Memorial, pulling all-nighters during “dead week,” and being gently awakened by the

sweet sound of the Whistle or a little jack-hammering on the latest construction project.

As we celebrate the completion of this phase of your life today, we hope and believe that the knowledge and skills you carry with you from this campus will continue to shape and influence your lives in ways you cannot even imagine. And we look forward to seeing you step to the fore to provide the technological and ethical leadership our nation and world will need in the days ahead.

We hope and believe you have learned to rise to a challenge... to be creative in solving problems... to adapt to change, and even to anticipate and provoke it. These abilities will stand you in good stead your whole life long. Most importantly, we hope and believe that here at Georgia Tech you have learned that the goal is not merely to “have more,” but also to “be more.” As Lily Tomlin once noted, even if you win the rat race, you’ll still be a rat. And we hope and believe that you set forth from this day, prepared not only to live in the world, but also to help make it a better place.

Today, as we celebrate the successful conclusion of one chapter of your lifelong education, it is important to acknowledge that you have not done it alone. With you every step of the way – at least in spirit – were your parents and for some of you, your spouses, who made all the difference in your success. The faculty and staff of Georgia Tech and our graduates would like to thank parents and spouses for your support. Would you please stand so that we may recognize you.

(LEAD APPLAUSE)

Additional support for our graduates came from our outstanding Georgia Tech faculty. I know that when you got your tests back you did not always feel loved by the faculty, but today they are here to testify that you earned their respect. So now is the time for all of our graduates to say thanks for all the help they received over time from the faculty, and I would like to ask the faculty present today to rise and be recognized.

(LEAD APPLAUSE)

Of course, those who deserve the most recognition on this momentous day are the graduates, who entered this room a few minutes ago as students and who will leave as Georgia Tech alumni. Would all of you please stand so that we may recognize you and your achievement?

(LEAD APPLAUSE)

Our commencement speaker this morning once described his job as a “professional meeting attendee.” And while he does spend a lot of time in meetings, his job has actually become one of the most challenging positions in Washington today. As the worldwide competition for oil grows increasingly intense and prices spiral upward, eyes are increasingly turning to the Secretary of Energy to lead the nation in shifting its energy paradigm for the new realities of the 21st century. So Georgia Tech is honored that Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman was willing and able to take time away from his pressing responsibilities to be here with us today.

Secretary Bodman holds a bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering from Cornell and a doctorate from the Georgia Tech of the north, MIT. And he began his career in academe as a professor of chemical engineering at MIT. He then shifted into venture capital – first with the pioneer venture capital firm American Research and Development Corporation, then with Fidelity Venture Associates, of which he became president and chief operating officer. He capped his private sector career by serving as chairman, CEO, and a director of Cabot Corporation, a Fortune 300 company whose activities in specialty chemicals and materials span the globe.

At the beginning of the present Bush administration in 2001, Dr. Bodman was tapped to serve as Deputy Secretary of Commerce. In February of 2004, he became Deputy Secretary of the Treasury, then on January 31 of this year, he was confirmed by the United States

Senate as Secretary of Energy.

The Department of Energy encompasses a broad array of energy-related activities, from the development of new energy sources to the stewardship of the nation's nuclear weapons stockpile and the provision of nuclear propulsion systems to the U.S. Navy. It also includes two important responsibilities that relate directly to Georgia Tech. First, the Department of Energy is the largest federal sponsor of fundamental research in the physical sciences, providing more than 40 percent of the funding. Not surprisingly, with Georgia Tech's growing strengths in the physical sciences, we received more than \$9 million in research awards from DOE last year.

In addition to providing grants for university research, the Department of Energy also sponsors ten national laboratories and fourteen technology centers, including Oak Ridge National Lab in Tennessee. Georgia Tech is one of six universities that participate formally in the operation of Oak Ridge National Lab, and we are engaged in many collaborative research efforts there. In 2002, we connected Georgia Tech to Oak Ridge with a powerful, high-speed computer network, and last year we extended the national fiber-optic research network Lambda Rail, of which Georgia Tech is a founding partner, to Oak Ridge.

But the real reason I am pleased Secretary Bodman was willing to be our commencement speaker is because of the model he offers of an engineer who is providing public policy leadership. He has served in academe, in private industry, and now in government, and I am sure he could be making a lot more money if he had stayed in industry. It is reassuring to me that at this critical juncture when our nation needs a steady hand on energy policy, we have an engineer at the helm of one of the nation's most important federal enterprises. I hope many of our graduates will be willing to follow in his footsteps and consider public service as part of your future.

I am proud to introduce Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman to address our graduates with a few parting words of wisdom before they leave Georgia Tech.

(SECRETARY BODMAN'S REMARKS)

Thank you Secretary Bodman. To show our appreciation to you for sharing your insights with our graduates this morning I would like to present you with this special gift.

(PRESENT GIFT.)

Our graduates are not the only ones who are “getting out” today. Our Registrar Jo McIver is retiring, and this will be the last commencement ceremony in which she presides over the awarding of degrees. Jo joined the registrar’s staff at Georgia Tech in 1981 after serving at other colleges for 12 years. She has helped to guide the registrar’s office through changes in technology, conversion from quarters to semesters, and the expansion of Georgia Tech to four campuses on three continents. The past five and a-half years during which she has headed the office as our Registrar caps off a distinguished career in which she has won the trust and admiration of faculty and students alike for her fairness and integrity and for her love of Georgia Tech.

Jo, please step forward so that we can show our appreciation.

(LEAD APPLAUSE)

At this time Dr. Charles Liotta, Vice Provost for Research and Dean of Graduate Studies, will present the candidates for the doctor of philosophy degree.

(Dr. Liotta) Will the candidates for the doctoral degrees please rise.

(Dr. Liotta) Dr. Clough, I have the honor of presenting to you for the doctoral degrees those candidates who have completed all requirements fo

those degrees.

(Dr. Clough)

Upon the recommendation of the faculty of the Georgia Institute of Technology and by authority of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, I confer upon each of you the degree of doctor of philosophy with all the rights, privileges, and responsibilities thereunto appertaining.

Congratulations on your earning of Georgia Tech's highest academic degree. Will you please come forward and receive your diplomas.

(Dr. Liotta presents diplomas, Dr. Clough shakes hands, and advisors step on stage to hood their students.)

(Dr. Clough)

Please join me in congratulating these doctoral graduates.

(LEAD APPLAUSE)

At this time Dr. Liotta will present the candidates for the master's degree.

(Dr. Liotta)

Will the candidates for the master and Master of Science degrees please rise?

(Dr. Liotta)

Dr. Clough, I have the honor of presenting to you for the master's and master of science degrees those candidates who have completed all requirements for those degrees.

(Dr. Clough)

Upon the recommendation of the faculty of the Georgia Institute of

Technology and by authority of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, I confer upon each of you the master's degree, with all the rights, privileges, and responsibilities thereunto appertaining.

(Dr. Clough) We shall now present the diplomas. Will the faculty marshals please bring the candidates forward.

(Dr. Liotta presents diplomas, Dr. Clough shakes hands.)

(Dr. Clough) Please join me in congratulating these master's graduates.

(LEAD APPLAUSE)

(Dr. Clough) Dr. Jean-Lou Chameau, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs will introduce the academic deans who will then present the candidates for the bachelor's degree.

(Dr. Chameau) Assistant Dean Maureen Biggers will introduce the undergraduate candidates for degrees in the College of Computing.

(Dr. Biggers) Candidates for the Bachelor of Science degree in the College of Computing please rise and remain standing. *(Pause)*

(Dr. Biggers) Mr. President, I have the honor to introduce to you those candidates for the Bachelor of Science degree who have completed the requirements for this degree.

(Dr. Chameau) Dean Sue Rosser will introduce the undergraduate candidates for degrees in the Ivan Allen College.

- (Dr. Rosser) Candidates for the Bachelor of Science degree in the Ivan Allen College please rise and remain standing. *(Pause)*
- (Dr. Rosser) Mr. President, I have the honor to introduce to you those candidates for the Bachelor of Science degree who have completed the requirements for this degree.
- (Dr. Chameau) Dean Thomas Galloway will introduce the undergraduate candidates for degrees in the College of Architecture.
- (Dr. Galloway) Candidates for the Bachelor of Science degree in the College of Architecture please rise and remain standing. *(Pause)*
- (Dr. Galloway) Mr. President, I have the honor to introduce to you those candidates for the Bachelor of Science degree who have completed the requirements for this degree.
- (Dr. Chameau) Dean Terry Blum will introduce the undergraduate candidates for degrees in the College of Management.
- (Dr. Blum) Candidates for the Bachelor of Science degree in the College of Management please rise and remain standing. *(Pause)*
- (Dr. Blum) Mr. President, I have the honor to introduce to you those candidates for the Bachelor of Science degree who have completed the requirements for this degree.
- (Dr. Chameau) Dean Gary Schuster will introduce the undergraduate candidates for degrees in the College of Sciences.

- (Dr. Schuster) Candidates for the Bachelor of Science degree in the College of Sciences please rise and remain standing. *(Pause)*
- (Dr. Schuster) Mr. President, I have the honor to introduce to you those candidates for the Bachelor of Science degree who have completed the requirements for this degree.
- (Dr. Chameau) Assistant Dean Jane Ammons will introduce the undergraduate candidates for degrees in the College of Engineering.
- (Dr. Ammons) Candidates for the bachelor's degree and Bachelor of Science degree in the College of Engineering please rise and remain standing.
(Pause)
- (Dr. Ammons) Mr. President, I have the honor to introduce to you those candidates for the bachelor's degree and the Bachelor of Science degree who have completed the requirements for those respective degrees.
- (Dr. Clough) Upon the recommendation of the faculty of the Georgia Institute of Technology and by authority of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, I confer upon each of you the bachelor's degree, with all the rights, privileges, and responsibilities hereunto appertaining.
- (Dr. Clough) Please be seated. We will now award the degrees. Will the faculty marshals please bring the candidates forward.

(College of Computing candidates will come forward, then IAC, Architecture, Management, College of Sciences, and College of Engineering. Dean presents diplomas and Dr. Clough shakes hands. Announcer will pause between colleges to allow the Dean time to come forward)

(Dr. Clough) Now, please join me in congratulating these fine new graduates of Georgia Tech.

(LEAD APPLAUSE)

(Dr. Clough) Now, I would like to introduce Lieutenant Captain Alfred Scott Jr., from the Army ROTC, who will recognize those graduates who are commissioned to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces.

(LTC Scott) Commission graduates

(Dr. Clough)

Near the close of the 1800s, an aspiring young writer sent a sheaf of poems to the foremost American author of the day to be critiqued. Ralph Waldo Emerson read the manuscript, which was entitled “Leaves of Grass” and was destined to become one of America’s best-loved volumes of poetry. And he wrote back to the young Walt Whitman: “I greet you at the beginning of a great career.”

As I look out over this sea of newly minted young Georgia Tech alumni, I echo his words. I greet you at the beginning of a great career. As of this moment, you are no longer merely students. You are the technological leaders of tomorrow... and the role models for future generations.

Georgia Tech has more than 120,000 living alumni around the world, including some who are here today, and I would like to ask all Georgia Tech alumni to stand at this time and be recognized.

(LEAD APPLAUSE)

Among the alumni who are here is Carey Brown, who graduated in 1969 with a degree in industrial engineering. He is now a partner in The Benefit Company, which specializes in executive and employee benefit planning. He is also president of the Georgia Tech Alumni Association, and will now induct our new graduates into this special group.

(Mr. Brown) Induction of graduates into the Alumni Association.

(Dr. Clough)

I would like to express my appreciation to the Georgia Tech Music Department for their participation in our program this morning. Thanks also to Dr. Johnson, Dr. Pilipp, and Dr. Shook for calling the graduates' names. And many thanks to all my associates for arranging this important event.

At this time, the Georgia Tech Commencement Ensemble will lead us in the alma mater, followed immediately by the faculty recessional. The graduates and the audience are requested to rise for the alma mater and remain standing for the faculty recessional. Then I invite all of you to join in the singing of the Ramblin' Wreck, which will accompany the student recessional.

Thank you for your attendance this morning. I wish you and your families safe travel as you return to your homes.

(At the end of the alma mater, the mace bearer will be the first one off the stage. Dr. Clough will immediately follow then the remainder of the President's Party, Deans, and Faculty.)