

REMARKS BY GEORGIA TECH PRESIDENT G. WAYNE CLOUGY  
Dedication of Maulding Residence Hall, November 27, 2000

I'm pleased to welcome Bill and Jeanette Maulding to campus to celebrate the dedication of the William R. and Jeanette S. Maulding Residence Hall, and to show our appreciation to the Mauldings for their generosity in support of Georgia Tech.

As Barrett has related, the Mauldings have worked and saved all their lives, and over the years they have accumulated a significant estate, which they have willed to Georgia Tech. I want to assure you, Bill and Jeanette, that Georgia Tech is committed to being as careful and as investment-oriented with your money as you have been. Not only do we invest the principal of an endowment gift like yours, but we also re-invest a portion of the interest that is earned, so that the principal of the gift is never eroded by inflation, but continues to grow over time and earns an increasing amount of interest.

Half of the Mauldings' gift will form a dedicated endowment for the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering. I am a civil engineer and a graduate of that School, so I have a very personal sense of appreciation for the Mauldings' gift, and I especially want to thank them for their generosity on behalf of civil and environmental engineering.

Endowments like this provide funding for enrichment activities that help lift academic programs to new levels of excellence. They open new doors of opportunity for students and faculty by supporting activities like visiting scholars, lecture series, and participation in seminars, conferences and professional organizations. They support student research and student assistants who serve as mentors.

The other half of the Mauldings' gift will be invested as an unrestricted endowment fund, and these unrestricted investments are very special to us at Georgia Tech. They give us the flexibility we need to respond quickly to unanticipated needs and unexpected opportunities. They also help to fill in the gaps between restricted endowments, so that we can provide a uniform level of enrichment across our programs. Unrestricted endowment funds help to keep us on an even keel and moving forward in a balanced way, and their flexibility puts them among Georgia Tech's most valued gifts.

Georgia Tech was proud to serve as the Olympic Village for the 1996 Centennial Games. We gained much from that experience, and one of the most important pieces of our Olympic Legacy is seven new residence halls. They added several

thousand beds to our capacity, and we have needed every single one. They are completely full, and we have a waiting list with hundreds of names.

The residence halls provided by the Olympics represent the finest student housing we offer on campus – actually the finest housing Georgia Tech has ever offered in our history. The residence hall we are naming in honor of the Mauldings today is a wonderful facility. It looks out across Roe Stamps Field and has the new Alumni Park right there to serve as an outdoor living room. It represents an incredible improvement over the dorms I lived in when I was a Tech student in the 1960s, and I'm sure Bill would say the same thing about the dorms he lived in back in the 50s.

The name that we have been using to refer to this marvelous facility has simply been a description of its location – the Sixth Avenue Apartments West. The “William R. and Jeanette S. Maulding Residence Hall” has a much more distinctive ring to it. And today we are proud to recognize and thank Bill and Jeanette for their contribution to Tech by naming it in their honor.

A shuttle bus is waiting for us outside at the front of the building, and I invite all of you to join us as we ride to the west side of campus for the actual dedication of the William R. and Jeanette S. Maulding Residence Hall, which we will celebrate with some of the students who live there. And we will be serving coffee afterward in very special mugs that commemorate this occasion.

At the close of the festivities, the shuttle bus will be waiting to bring back anyone who wants to return here to the Wardlaw Building.