

**Dr. Peterson**

**Tech Square: Creating a Climate of Innovation**

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Georgia Tech is creating a climate of innovation.

- The Institute is preparing students to be leaders and innovators, and
- partnering with the city and state, it is creating an innovation ecosystem here Georgia.
- A powerful example is Tech Square in Midtown Atlanta. The largest, most transformative project in Georgia Tech history transformed a once blighted area into a thriving ecosystem for high tech innovators and entrepreneurs.

Technology Square, which celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in fall 2013, is a high-energy hub, creating an exciting environment in which innovation can flourish. What was a blighted location just ten years ago is now fast becoming the center of the entrepreneurial community in the Southeast. The mixed-use area is a testament to what is possible through a partnership between higher education, the state, business and industry.

Georgia Tech partners with the Georgia Department of Economic Development to attract new business and industry to the state. Tech Square is home to Panasonic's auto innovation center, the AT&T Foundry innovation center, and the ThyssenKrupp Elevator Innovation Center EY, along with numerous others.

Enterprise Innovation Institute, or EI<sub>2</sub>, is Georgia Tech's primary business outreach organization, providing a comprehensive program of assistance to business, industry, entrepreneurs, and economic developers. It accelerates start-up formation through education programs, assists start-ups through incubators, and amplifies commercialization impact through support programs. Today there are more than 40 start-ups in the Centergy One building in Tech Square.

The Advanced Technology Development Center (ATDC) is ranked by *Forbes* magazine as one of 12 business incubators that are changing the world. A unit of the Enterprise Innovation Institute, EI<sub>2</sub>, ATDC has helped launch more than 140 companies that, together, have created thousands of jobs and attracted more than \$2 billion in investment.

Georgia Tech's research, students, and educational resources are key assets for startups and established companies in markets spanning aerospace, biomedicine, entertainment, food/beverage, IT/telecom, logistics, manufacturing, and national security, among others.