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Update from Georgia Tech President Ángel Cabrera
November 2019



From the Desk of **THE PRESIDENT**



President Ángel Cabrera arrived in style Oct. 28 on the Ramblin' Wreck to deliver his Investiture speech in Ferst Center for the Arts. Presidents emeritus G. Wayne Clough and G.P. "Bud" Peterson were among the more than 700 attendees as the title of president was formally conferred upon Cabrera.

Dear Georgia Tech Friends and Supporters,

In this season of gratitude, we don't need to look far to find reasons to celebrate at Georgia Tech. Every day, I am inspired by the talent of our students, the caliber and dedication of our faculty and staff, and the commitment to our mission by so many individuals and organizations who believe and invest in what we do. Georgia Tech has never served more students, conducted more research, or had a stronger impact in the health of our economy and our community.

For the Cabrera family, we were both grateful and humbled to take part in the Oct. 28 [presidential Investiture](#) at the Ferst Center for the Arts. Beth and I are so appreciative of the work it took so many to pull together such a memorable and fun event.

I was moved by the presentations from alumnus Tom Fanning, IM 1979, M.S. IM 1980, HON Ph.D. 2013; Georgia Lt. Gov. Geoff Duncan; Dalton State College President Margaret Venable, M.S. CHEM 1990; George Mason University Professor Gregory Unruh; University System of Georgia Chancellor Steve Wrigley; Staff Council Chair David Brown; Scheller College of Business Dean Maryam Alavi; College of Computing Dean Charles Isbell; and

Undergraduate Student Government Association President Pooja Juvekar. I was also honored to have in attendance my two immediate [predecessors](#), Wayne Clough and Bud Peterson; Board of Regents Chair Don Waters; Regents Sachin Shailendra, Ben Tarbutton, and Philip Wilheit; and dozens of representatives from our sister schools in Georgia and universities from across the nation and from as far away as South Korea, Mexico, and Spain.

It was also very special to be able to share the moment with two of Tech's African American trailblazers, Ralph Long Jr. and Lawrence Williams, whose role in integrating the Institute in 1961 is [commemorated with sculptures](#) we unveiled this semester in Harrison Square.

The five student groups who participated — the Glee Club, Treble Choir, ROTC Color Guard, Pan-Hellenic Council Steppers, and the Yellow Jacket Marching Band — were magnificent. Many other students and staff contributed to help the event run smoothly, and I even got to ride onstage on the Ramblin' Wreck running board, something I never experienced during my days as a Georgia Tech graduate student!

[Homecoming](#) on Nov. 1-2 represented another opportunity for which to be grateful. Beth and I attended about a dozen events on campus, all filled with Yellow Jackets who infused the weekend with high energy. Many of the weekend's events were student-run. School spirit at the reunions of the classes of 1969, 1979, and 1994 was off the charts, and the three groups made a combined donation of more than \$26.8 million to help ensure that the world-class education they received while here will be available to future Jackets.

On Veterans Day, Nov. 11, we honored an important part of the Georgia Tech community during a luncheon at our [Veterans Resource Center](#). The Institute has a long and distinguished history with the U.S. military, both via research and the recruitment of our students to serve our country. We have 160 veterans enrolled on campus this fall and another 500 veterans enrolled in our distance learning and online master's programs. About 300 faculty and staff members are veterans. Georgia Tech is [ranked No. 10](#) among *U.S. News & World Report's* Best Colleges for Veterans (national universities).

And as this newsletter arrives in your e-mailbox, Georgia Tech — along with all other University System of Georgia institutions — is participating in [USG Ethics Awareness Week](#), a time in which, through several planned activities, we focus on our values and our commitment to being careful stewards of the public trust.

For more reasons to be thankful, I invite you to explore [Georgia Tech's 2019 Institute Annual Report](#), a comprehensive reflection of the university's past year. If you do, I think you'll discover why it's truly a great time to be a Yellow Jacket!

Regards,

Ángel



Rewriting Sustainability Rules



Burdell Returns Plaque In Time For Homecoming

Georgia Tech [dedicated a new building](#) Oct. 24 that rewrites the rules for sustainability in the Southeast. In fact, The Kendeda Building for Innovative Sustainable Design isn't really sustainable at all; more accurately, the newest building on the Atlanta campus is regenerative. And it has reimagined from the ground up what a campus building can be.

In early October, a 40-pound package, wrapped neatly in brown paper and [sent from alumnus and longest-attending student George P. Burdell](#), was delivered to Dean John Stein in the Student Services Building. Stein lifted the heavy parcel, carried it to his office, and placed it on the floor while he and others contemplated whether to open it.



Tech Alumnus Inaugurated as College of Charleston President

President Ángel Cabrera was not the only Georgia Tech graduate to be officially installed as a university president last month. Three hundred miles away at the College of Charleston, Andrew Hsu, who holds master's and Ph.D. degrees from Georgia Tech in aerospace engineering, celebrated his inauguration Oct. 25 as the 23rd president of the college.

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Tech Included in Major Water Research Project

The U.S. Department of Energy has announced that the National Alliance for Water Innovation has been chosen to lead a large research and development effort called the Energy-Water Desalination Hub. [Georgia Tech is a member](#) of this multi-institutional public-private team, led by the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. Total federal funding for this five-year research center is expected to reach \$100 million.



Marcus Foundation Grants \$2.1M to Fund CREATE-X

CREATE-X at Georgia Tech announced Oct. 21 that The Marcus Foundation [has granted \\$2.1 million](#) to fund the initiative. The grant will provide program funding for the next three years to instill entrepreneurial confidence in Georgia Tech students across campus. CREATE-X is a visionary enterprise aimed at systematically nurturing entrepreneurial confidence as one of the signature attributes of Tech graduates.

Scheller College Shines in *The Economist* Rankings

In its 2019 rankings released Oct. 31, *The Economist* ranked the Scheller College of Business full-time MBA program in the top 20 among all MBA programs in the U.S. *The Economist* also rated the program

No. 6 among MBA programs at public universities, and No. 23 globally.

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Google News Creator Endows New Faculty Chair

The creator of Google News has [endowed a new faculty chair position](#) in computational journalism at Georgia Tech's College of Computing. Krishna Bharat – Georgia Tech alumnus (M.S. CS 1993, Ph.D. CS 1996) and Distinguished Research Scientist at Google – announced his donation during an Oct. 31 reception at the College.



Student Makes Lifesaving Bone Marrow Donation

Ten seconds on Georgia Tech's campus eventually led to a lifesaving donation hundreds of miles away in Ohio. That's how long Sophie Heiman needed to swab her cheek on Tech Green last fall. The sample of cells was then mailed to a lab for testing. But it was months later that Sophie actually had the chance to save a stranger's life.

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Architecture Students Win International Competition

Georgia Tech School of Architecture students Kang Song (2019), Dan Lu (2019), and Raunak Tibrewala (2019) [were awarded first prize](#) over more than 400 participants in HERE+NOW: A House for the 21st Century, an international student design competition administered by the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture.



Clever Use of Sticky Notes Gets Student Noticed

Landing the perfect internship can be hard. With career fairs to attend, resumes to polish, neckties to tie, comfortable dress shoes to locate, and elevator pitches to land, the process can be daunting. How do you stand out? One enterprising Georgia Tech student [used sticky notes](#) to get noticed by a Fortune 500 company, and he did it from the comfort of his own apartment.



'Astounding Elements' Caps Periodic Table Year

As Georgia Tech [winds down its celebration](#) of the International Year of the Periodic Table of the Chemical Elements, the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts' School of Literature, Media, and Communication (LMC) has partnered with the College of Sciences and the Georgia Tech Library to narrate how those elements have figured over millennia of human storytelling.

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