



THE Whistle

WHISTLE NEWS

Whistle Goes on Publishing Hiatus

This is the last issue of the semester. But don't worry; we'll be back in action with our first issue of spring semester on Jan. 10. If you have any suggestions or comments regarding what you'd like to see in The Whistle in 2011, please send to editor@comm.gatech.edu.

NOMINATIONS

Faculty Honors Committee Seeks Award Nominees

The Faculty Honors Committee is accepting nominations for this year's faculty awards, which will be presented at the annual Faculty-Staff Honors Luncheon this spring (see the website listed below for award categories). Nominations are due by Jan. 31.

tinyurl.com/28g5cdr

EVENTS

ARTS & CULTURE

December 9

The School of Music presents its holiday concert featuring the Tech orchestra, jazz band, symphonic band and choirs at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10.

December 10

The Ferst Center presents A Peter White Christmas featuring Rick Braun and Mindi Abair. Call 404-894-9600 for tickets.

Until December 17

The Robert C. Williams Paper Museum is featuring an exhibit "Twinrocker: Forty Years of Hand Papermaking." The museum is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

www.ipst.gatech.edu/amp

CONFERENCES & LECTURES

December 8

Joseph Wu will speak on "Serologic Surveillance to Monitor Infection Attack Rates and Severity of an Influenza Pandemic in Real-time" at 11 a.m. in the ISyE Executive Classroom.

December 9

Richard M. Murray of the California Institute of Technology will lecture on "Specification, Design and Verification of Distributed Embedded Systems" as part of the Aerospace Engineering Distinguished Lecture Seminar Series. The lecture will be held at 3:30 p.m. in room 442, Guggenheim Aeronautics Building. www.ae.gatech.edu

Events continue on page 2

Winter Brings Construction on Campus

When students, faculty and staff return from winter break next month, those accustomed to walking certain routes across campus may find the need to get creative with their commute.

Due to a confluence of events, several construction projects located in the center of campus are scheduled to occur simultaneously. As a result, some of the primary paths for moving between east and west campus will be temporarily shut down.

The biggest lane, of course, is Skiles Walkway, a 30-foot-wide corridor that provides the most direct access between the Library and the Student Center. In anticipation of this, crews have been working to create an alternate path on the opposite side of the Skiles Building, which will tie in with existing sidewalks to shuttle pedestrians across campus.

The administration made the decision to proceed with these construction projects at once in an effort to minimize the duration of the inconvenience to campus.

"It's not going to be pain free, but we're working to make sure the impact on campus is as painless as possible," said John



Skiles Walkway will be one of the areas impacted by the construction projects in the center of campus. The walkway will be closed to pedestrian traffic from the semester break through August 2011.

Duconge, project manager in Facilities Design and Construction. "We have a large group of stakeholders in close communication so that concerns surrounding public safety, accessibility and space allocation are addressed in advance."

The following is a detailed description of each project:

STEAM LINE REPLACEMENT, PHASE I

WHAT IT WILL ACCOMPLISH: The current steam line is nearly 100 years old and is being replaced for operational and efficiency reasons. Phase one will

PROJECTS, continued on page 3

A Holiday Reading List to Help Energize Your Teaching

Once exams are over, it can be very tempting to swear off planning next semester's classes until January.

But, this is the ideal time to reflect on what worked and did not — and to read up on teaching and learning strategies, according to Joyce Weinsheimer, associate director of the Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning.

"This is the perfect time to pick up a book," she said. "Rather than just think on our own, we can connect with an author who is thinking about the same issue, and who has spent a lot more time delving into the topic than we will ever have available."

Read on to find out which five books Weinsheimer recommends for energizing your teaching.

- "How Learning Works: Seven Research-Based Principles for Smart Teaching," by Susan A. Ambrose, Michael W. Bridges, Michele DiPietro and Marsha C. Lovett
Each chapter begins with stories of instances where students overestimate their prior knowledge, for example, or hold misconceptions that actively interfere with their ability to learn new material, Weinsheimer said. Chapters then focus on principles of learning at work in the situations mentioned, what research says about the principles and suggested strategies to improve student learning in courses.

READING, continued on page 2

OpenStudy Fosters Worldwide Study Group

DAVID TERRASO
COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

Online courses are wonderful because they are easily accessible. For example, you take a professor interested in teaching computer science and set her up with hundreds or thousands of students across the globe who want to learn. Except there's one problem.

"What happens when the students need help? Who can they turn to?" said Ashwin Ram, associate professor in the College of Computing.

In 2007, Ram teamed up with his wife, Preetha Ram, associate dean for pre-health and science education at Emory University; Chris Sprague, a Tech



OpenStudy was developed in 2007 by (from left to right) Ashwin Ram, associate professor in the College of Computing; Phil Hill, chief executive officer; Chris Sprague, Tech alumnus; and Preetha Ram, associate dean for pre-health and science education at Emory University.

OPENSTUDY, continued on page 3

EVENTS

FACULTY/STAFF DEVELOPMENT

December 7 & 9

The Talent Acquisition team of the Office of Human Resources will demonstrate its new Applicant Tracking System. The 45-minute presentation will be held at 11 a.m., noon and 1 p.m. in room 343, Student Center. www.ohr.gatech.edu/atsbrownbag

December 14

The Office of Capital Planning and Space Management is offering training sessions on the Event Management System from 10 a.m. to noon and 2 to 4 p.m. All sessions will cover the same information. The trainings will take place in the Global Learning Center. Enter keyword "EMS" to find the class on the Training website. www.orgdev.gatech.edu/training

MISCELLANEOUS

December 9

The mechanical engineering Capstone Design Expo will be held at 5 p.m. in the Marcus Nanotechnology Building. www.capstone.gatech.edu

December 14

The Biomedical Engineering program at Georgia Tech/Emory will host its Senior Research Design Poster Session from 11:30 a.m. to 2:20 p.m. in the Whitaker Building. www.bme.gatech.edu

December 15

The Digital Media graduate program will host a reception and showcase in the Technology Square Research Building from 3 to 6 p.m. The event is free and refreshments will be served. RSVP at <http://lcc.gatech.edu/graduate/winterReception2010/>.

December 17

The fall commencement ceremony for master's and PhD students will be held at 7 p.m. in the Alexander Memorial Coliseum. Ambassador Andrew Young will speak. www.commencement.gatech.edu

December 18

The fall commencement ceremony for undergraduate students will be held at 9 a.m. in the Alexander Memorial Coliseum. www.commencement.gatech.edu

Until January 29

Student, faculty, staff and alumni volunteers are needed to assist at the State of Georgia FIRST LEGO League Robotics Tournament, to be held on Jan. 29 from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Student Center. For more information, contact Jeff Davis at 404-894-4770 or jeff.davis@ece.gatech.edu.

For a more comprehensive listing of events updated daily, visit www.gatech.edu/calendar.

Institute

Tech Employees Share Holiday Traditions

In the last issue, we asked you to share your holiday traditions. Here's what your colleagues said:



On New Year's Eve, my husband and I eat dinner at our house and play cards with two other couples.

—Melissa C. Moore, Auxiliary Services

As a historian, I like to review what happened in the past year and to give perspective on

the year to come, either as an individual or as a nation, or both.

—Hanchao Lu, History, Technology and Society

I am part of a team of around nine who drive nonstop from Atlanta to Estancia de Animas, Mexico (36 hours, including the border stop) to deliver the bags from SOAR Ministries Angel Bag Project.

—Melinda Wilson, Mechanical Engineering

I confirm that a desk exists beneath the layers of stuff that get deposited in my office each semester. Realizing that "this was the semester that was" always makes me smile.

—Bill Koros, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering

When we sit down for holiday dinners, we say a prayer and go around the table and call out the names of our heroes and "sheroes." I hope this teaches my 7-year-old son to appreciate those who came before us and made our lives possible.

—Sheyil Taylor, Biomedical Engineering

On Christmas Eve, we put on pajamas, jump in the car, grab a milkshake from Dairy Queen and ride around looking at lights.

—Alison M. Kaiser, Graduate Studies

My wife is an amazing cook, but I make the holiday chocolate chip cookies — multiple batches. Then, I face the moral dilemma of deciding how many to mail to distant family.

—Richard Barke, Public Policy

My father loves music and always blasts holiday music from the R&B/soul greats. Waking up to the Temptations, Donny Hathaway and the O'Jays on Christmas morning is the best.

—Nicole Stephens, Human Resources

Each year, the Women's Resource Center adopts a family headed by a grandparent raising her grandchildren. Many contribute to this worthwhile initiative, and it is definitely the highlight of my December season.

—Colleen Riggle, Women's Resource Center

READING, continued from page 1

- "Student Engagement Techniques: A Handbook for College Faculty," by Elizabeth Barkely
According to Weinsheimer, the handbook introduces faculty members to more than 100 strategies and techniques that can be used in their classrooms.
- "Just in Time Teaching: Across the Disciplines and Across the Academy," by Scott Simkins (editor) and Mark Maier (editor)
This book provides a pedagogical approach that requires students to answer questions or work on problems before coming to class, Weinsheimer said. Using an online course management system to submit their responses before class begins, students make their "gaps in learning visible" to the teacher. This sets the stage for the instructor to use class time to address these learning gaps while the material is still fresh in students' minds.
- "Effective Grading: A Tool for Learning and Assessment in College, Second Edition," by Barbara E. Walvoord and Virginia Johnson Anderson
Like the first edition, the second provides guidance on grading standards, managing time spent on grading and providing feedback for students, Weinsheimer explained. The new edition also suggests ways to align tests and assignments with learning goals, highlights new developments in assessment for grant-funding projects, and offers ideas for grading group work, portfolios and service-learning experiences.
- "Learner-Centered Teaching: Five Key Changes to Practice," by Maryellen Weimer
Weimer's goal is to help educators tie teaching and the curriculum to the objectives of learning rather than to content delivery alone, Weinsheimer said. As she looks at how to implement learner-centered teaching, Weimer explores issues that pertain to balance of power, the function of content, the teacher's role, responsibility for learning and the purpose of evaluation.

www.cetl.gatech.edu

Update: Job Classification, Compensation System Timeline Announced

On Jan. 1, 2011, Tech will move to a new job classification and compensation system for classified staff.

In order to establish consistency across the Institute and provide a better foundation for recruiting, performance management and career development, classified staff will soon have: updated and online job descriptions, new job grades based on job type and salary structures that reflect the job function.

Here is the updated implementation timeline:

January 2011: New job descriptions, compensation policies and job structures will be available online at www.ohr.gatech.edu/compensation. Training sessions will be offered to managers on the new compensation policies and system.

February 2011: All classified staff members will move to a new structure, title and grade. Employees will receive information about individual changes from their department management.

April 2011: Performance-based salary adjustments may be implemented for individuals who are below the minimum of their range.

www.ohr.gatech.edu/compensation

Nominations Sought for Next Engineering Dean

Regents' Professor Mostafa El-Sayed, chair of the search committee to select Tech's next dean of the College of Engineering, has announced an open call for recommendations and nominations to lead the Institute's largest academic unit. Visit the following website for more information:

www.provost.gatech.edu/engineering

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Georgia Tech's
Faculty/Staff Newspaper

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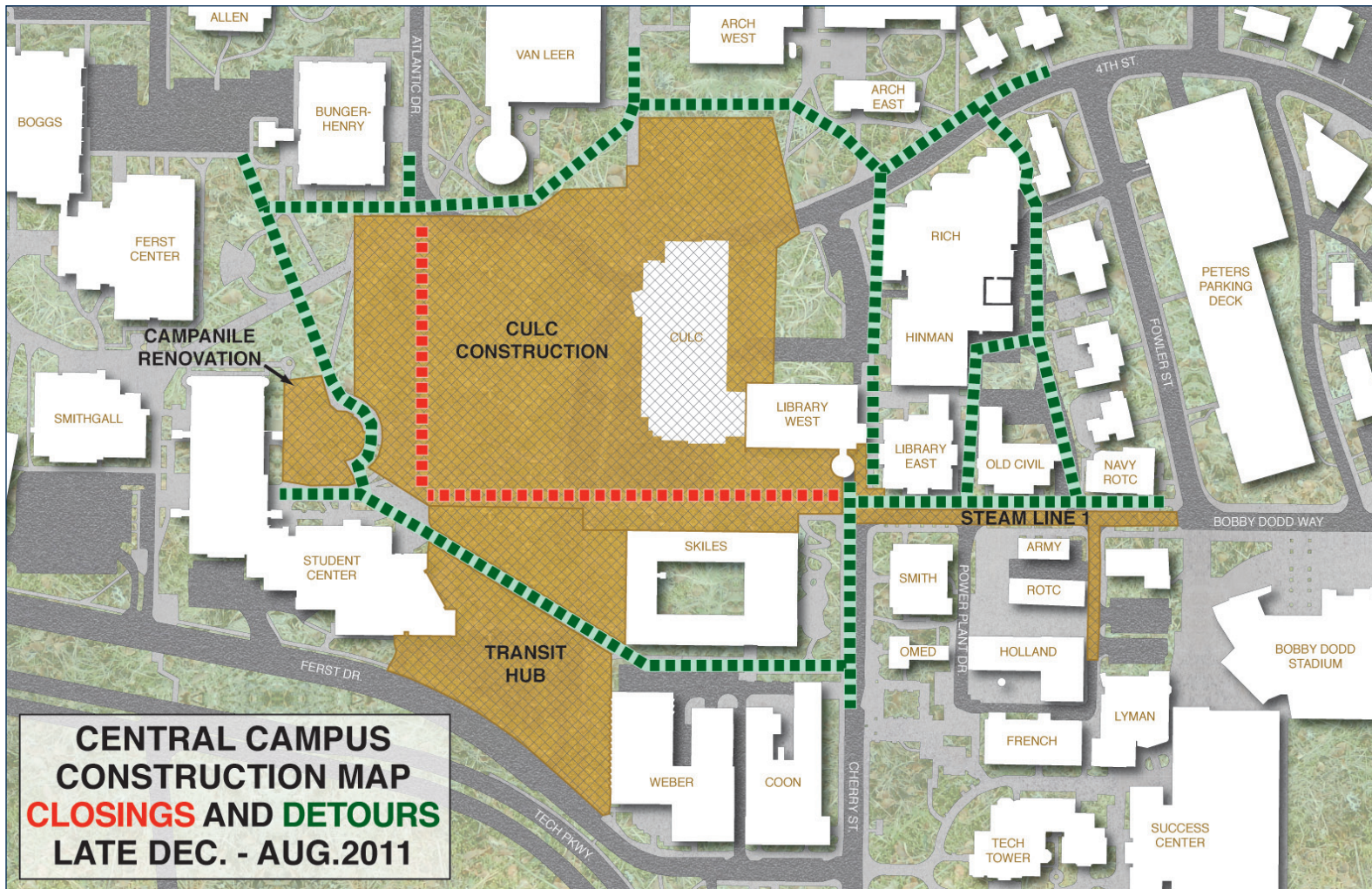
Editor: Amelia Pavlik
Photos: Rob Felt, unless noted

Calendar submissions e-mailed to editor@comm.gatech.edu, or faxed to 404-894-7214 must be sent at least 10 days prior to desired publication date. Classified submissions are on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, call 404-385-4142.

Archived issues of The Whistle can be accessed electronically through the Georgia Tech Web page, or directly at www.whistle.gatech.edu.

Georgia Tech is a unit of the University System of Georgia.

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PROJECTS, continued from page 1

replace a large section of line, beginning at the Holland Building on Power Plant Drive, and continuing in both directions along Bobby Dodd Way. The changeover from the old line to the new line will occur during a scheduled maintenance outage in August.

HOW LONG IT WILL TAKE: Current estimates are that the project will run from March to August 2011. However, underground projects have a greater potential for running longer because of the uncertainty involved. Once ground is broken, Duconge said, "you're never sure what you're going to find."

PEDESTRIAN IMPACT: Bobby Dodd Way will remain open for pedestrians but closed to vehicular traffic (except emergency vehicles) beginning at Fowler Street.

TRANSIT HUB

WHAT IT WILL ACCOMPLISH: The hub will bring transportation busses and shuttles to the center of campus, and will provide students with immediate access to the Student Center, Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons (CULC), the Skiles Building and the Library. This will replace the transit hub currently located on Ferst Drive adjacent to Stamps Health Services and the Campus Recreation Center.

HOW LONG IT WILL TAKE: Construction will begin in late December 2010 and will continue through August 2011.

PEDESTRIAN IMPACT: During construction, there will be a pathway between Skiles Allee and the Student Center. The sidewalk along Ferst Drive will also be closed; however, there will be temporary pedestrian access adjacent to the project site.

OPENSTUDY, continued from page 1

alumnus; and entrepreneur Phil Hill to create OpenStudy.

OpenStudy is an online system that links students from around the world with each other in real time, so they can get help at any time — day or night.

"We want to make the entire world your study group," Ram said.

OpenStudy debuted this August and already has more than 11,000 users from 151 countries, with a particularly large presence in the United States, China, India and Brazil. The service is free, and all a user has to do is sign up and connect with a study group that covers their topics of interest.

But why would people bother answering others' questions?

"We've found that people get significant gratification from helping

CAMPANILE RENOVATION

WHAT IT WILL ACCOMPLISH: Crews will replace the pump equipment and perform a general refurbishment of the pool area.

HOW LONG IT WILL TAKE: Work is expected to begin in January and to be completed by April 2011.

PEDESTRIAN IMPACT: Because of the limited size and scope of the project, the impact to access will be minimal.

SKILES WALKWAY/TECH GREEN/CLOUGH UNDERGRADUATE LEARNING COMMONS

WHAT IT WILL ACCOMPLISH: This multifaceted project includes completion of the CULC and a renovation of Tech Green, which will add a series of tiered walls on the perimeter, as well as an improved irrigation and drainage system. Sidewalks, including Skiles Walkway, will be renovated according to current campus design standards.

HOW LONG IT WILL TAKE: The two main walkways will close during the semester break and will remain closed until August 2011.

PEDESTRIAN IMPACT: The Walkway will be closed for the duration of the project. Pedestrians moving between west and east campus may either use Skiles Allee — located on the south side of the Skiles Building — or follow the northern boundary of the CULC construction zone.

www.facilities.gatech.edu

people right now," Hill said.

"We've seen some fantastic examples of students connecting and helping each other, such as a student from Los Angeles being helped with chemistry by a student from Istanbul, Turkey," Ram added.

Currently, about 90 percent of the questions posed on OpenStudy are answered, and each question asked receives input from an average of 4.5 other students. OpenStudy has more than 350 study groups that users can join, such as AP History, Natural Language@Georgia Tech or Emory Biology.

<http://openstudy.com>

Help Improve Research Data Services

To improve the data curation services available to faculty, the library is conducting an assessment of research data on campus and invites you to complete a 20-question survey. The purpose of the survey is to find out what types of data assets are created and held by researchers; how data are managed, stored, shared and reused; and what researchers' attitudes are toward data creation, sharing and preservation. E-mail questions to Susan Parham at susan.parham@library.gatech.edu. Go to www.library.gatech.edu/research-data/survey (Tech ID and password required) to complete the survey.

CLASSIFIEDS

AUTOMOBILES/MOTORCYCLES

2000 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo. Gray, 165K miles. Kelly Blue Book valued at \$4,600; asking \$4,200 OBO. Beautiful car that you must see to appreciate. E-mail sandysong07@yahoo.com.

2001 Acura Accord EX Coupe. Gold with tan leather. Automatic. Meticulously maintained by Honda Dealership. 181,000 miles. \$4,200. Original owner. E-mail january15@bellsouth.net.

REAL ESTATE/ROOMMATES

Buckhead condominium 1BR/1BA with balcony (936 sq ft), 16th floor. Additional storage available. Immediate access to GA-400. Short walk to Buckhead MARTA and Terminus. Close to malls. Private parking, hardwood floor, floor-to-ceiling windows, stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, concierge, fitness center, pool, spa, private lounge, wine cellar and valet. Available Jan. 1. \$1,300/month. E-mail jennifer.brown@esl.gatech.edu.

3BR/2.5 BA townhouse in Smyrna, 9 miles from Tech. Two-level, end unit, two-car garage, nice community with pool. New flooring and stainless steel appliances. Water, trash and landscaping included in rent. \$1,450/month. E-mail frantastic483@gmail.com.

Tybee Island, Georgia, beach cottage for rent. 2BR/1BA with additional shower. Sleeps eight. Family owned, located three blocks from the beach. Ground level and pet friendly. For information and rates, go to www.vrbo.com/317979.

5BR/4BA home in Inman Park. Recently renovated kitchen, stunning master retreat, upstairs bedrooms. Walk to restaurants and shops. Unique architectural accents throughout. Terrace level with full kitchen and potential for rental income. \$889,000. Visit www.tinyurl.com/2ad5cpe.

Two-story house w/ basement, 4BR/2.5BA. Off Hwy. 78 between Stone Mountain and Snellville, 24 miles from GT. Much desired Gwinnett Co./Brookwood schools. Renovated, new systems, new carpet, SS appliances. Wooded and lovely fenced backyard. MLS # 2934085. Reduced price \$179,900. Contact tcron@isye.gatech.edu or trudy.cron@yahoo.com.

Classifieds continue on page 4

Tech Campus is Central to Advisor's Life

Most of us commute to campus from our homes and leave it behind at 5 p.m., but not Troy Whyte. The Georgia Tech campus is a part of his everyday life.

"I live on Marietta Street, within walking distance to campus — so I walk to work," said the College of Architecture academic advisor. "And I'll frequently head over to Tech Square for dinner."



Troy Whyte

Whyte's connection to campus isn't anything new. He earned a bachelor's degree from the College of Management in 1997.

With a little help from a friend who worked in the College of Architecture, Whyte landed a temporary position in the Industrial Design program about a month after graduating.

A little more than a month later, he was offered a position as an academic advisor, where he's been ever since.

Recently, The Whistle sat down with Whyte to learn more about him and his time at Tech. Here's what we learned:

What does your job entail?

I advise 190 undergraduate and graduate students and ensure they stay on track for graduation. Generally, I start working consistently with most undergraduate students during their sophomore year, when they've figured out what aspect of the designed and built environment they want to pursue.

Because our school is small, I also support our faculty. For example, I might be called upon to answer questions related to everything from Institute policies regarding dealing with a student transgression of the Honor Code to the Institute's catering policy — it just varies.

What do you enjoy most and least about your job?

I enjoy working with the faculty, because I can tell that they are passionate about their work, and with the students, because they are really engaging. The challenge in this job is that since the school is small, I wear many hats. Thankfully, I can multitask pretty well.

What piece of technology could you not live without?

My iPhone. I even amazed myself by waiting in line from 5:40 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. to pick it up from the Apple store the day it was released. Needless to say, I really bonded with the other people in line.

What are three things everyone should do while working at Tech?

Eat at Junior's; I think I ate there about three times a week as a student. Use the Campus Recreation Center. Go to a sporting event on campus — go Jackets!

Where do you like to grab lunch on campus?

Tin Drum, and I order the curry katsu. I have to admit that I am awful about bringing my lunch from home and not eating it.

Tell me something surprising about yourself.

I'm a science fiction junkie and love reading a good sci-fi novel.

What is your favorite place to visit in the city on the weekend?

Centennial or Piedmont Park. But, Piedmont Park is better for people watching.

If you weren't in your current line of work, what would you be doing?

With my love of history and reading and research, I think I would like to have become an historian.

CORRECTION: In the Nov. 22 issue, the headline for the profile on Jackie Nemeth should have read, "Communicator has Worn Many Hats at Tech."

1BR/1.5BA condo with office in Sandy Springs. Close to both I-285 and GA-400; 15 minutes to Tech. Hardwood floors, granite counter tops, master bath, 2 covered parking spots, storage space, wine cellar, 3rd floor of 4-story building, pool and workout room. \$1,000/mo., plus utilities. Call 404-210-9092.

Exceptionally located, professionally decorated/landscaped house near Northside/St. Joseph's Hospital complex. 4BR/3BA, library/office, gourmet kitchen, great entertainment space, deck. Full basement \$2,600/mo.; \$560K sale price. Contact georgegarcia46@gmail.com or marta.garcia@dev.gatech.edu or 404-275-5640

Very cool 2BR/1BA. \$1,550, utilities included. End unit in quiet concrete building, hardwood parquet floor, gated, tennis courts and pool. Glazed porch doubles as separate dining area or office. Located very close to Tech. Contact jude.leblanc@coa.gatech.edu or 404-894-1883.

Large master BR, free Internet, walk-in closet, private bath, hardwoods. Kitchen w/ new appliances, island. Patio/deck, parking, gated. Washer/dryer. \$675/mo. West Midtown. 713-560-7460.

3BR/2.5BA townhouse for rent with fenced backyard. \$1,200/month. For additional info and contact numbers, go to tinyurl.com/3yppgb2.

FURNITURE/APPLIANCES

Leather sofa and love seat. Set is less than 2 years old, smoke free/pet free environment. \$750 (cash or money order only) or best offer. Must pick up, located in Cumberland Mall area. E-mail jennifer.jacobs@mgt.gatech.edu.

Maytag Legacy Series washer and dryer. Everything you need is included to hook you right up and start using these units! No scratches or dents. \$650. Call 404-939-1048.

Like new, 3-piece Macy's chocolate microsuede queen sleeper sofa, chair and storage ottoman. Sleeper bed has never been slept on! \$750. Call 404-939-1048.

Heavy-duty swivel TV stand for both CRT and flat panel TVs. Can hold more than 100 lbs, has a divider shelf for stereo/DVR/VCR components with glass door and side storage shelves for DVD/VHS. Some scratches and scuffs from normal wear. Call 404-939-1048.

MISCELLANEOUS

Interested in carpooling? Looking for a ride from Stilesboro Road/Mars Hill Road in the Hedgerose Development. Working hours 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; flexible hours 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. E-mail to KMuru@comcast.net.

Eureka "The Boss" SmartVAC vacuum. Top-rated by Consumer Reports. Carpet and floor selection, like new, 18 months old. \$50 OBO. Call 404-894-1390 or e-mail bruce.henson@library.gatech.edu.

Free yellow jacket nest removal. Nests to be used for research at Georgia Tech. Call 385-6311 or e-mail michael.goodisman@biology.gatech.edu.

HP 12c financial calculator — hardly used w/ case. \$35. E-mail lks@gatech.edu.

Speakers for sale: Mirage FRx-7 floorstanding speakers, \$500/pair. Mirage OM-C3 center channel, \$200 or \$500 for all three. Call 404-717-9186.

Pro-Form 485EX Treadmill. Elevates, odometer, in good condition! \$75. Call 770-386-3181.

Ads appear and run for three issues in the order in which they are received. E-mail submissions to editor@comm.gatech.edu.

RAMBLIN' THROUGH TIME

The 1929 Rose Bowl and Riegels Famous Play

In each issue, we're partnering with the Georgia Tech Alumni Magazine to highlight a piece of Tech history. This issue's topic: the 1929 Rose Bowl and Roy Riegels famous football play.

The following excerpt is number 19 on the list "125 Pieces of Tech History," featured in the September/October 2010 issue of Georgia Tech Alumni Magazine:



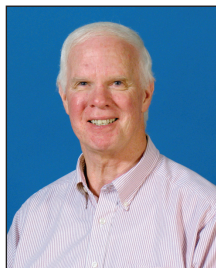
Peer closely at the priceless Rose Bowl play chart in the archives to see what would become one of the most famous plays in football history documented in blue pencil: Riegels recovers, runs the wrong way.

When Tech fumbled during the Jan. 1, 1929, Rose Bowl, California's Roy Riegels recovered the ball, spun around and headed for the goal 54 yards away. Unfortunately for

Riegels, he was running toward Tech's goal. He realized his mistake too late and was tackled on the one-yard line. The wrong-way run ultimately cost California the game, as Tech won 8-7.

In the 1970s, when the 1928 team was inducted into the Georgia Tech Sports Hall of Fame, Riegels was made an honorary member of the Letterman's Club.

Memorial Service Set for Dec. 16



Marshall Leach

A much loved and respected friend of the Tech community was lost when W. Marshall Leach Jr. died on Nov. 20 at the age of 70. A campus memorial service for Leach will be held on Dec. 16 at 3 p.m. in room 1116 of the Marcus Nanotechnology Building.

Shortly after graduating with his doctorate from the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE) in 1972, Leach joined the ECE faculty and taught analog electronics, audio engineering, electroacoustics, electromagnetics and instrumentation courses to thousands of students during his 38-year career.

www.ece.gatech.edu

ASK AWAY...



What is the white powder being used to insulate the steam pipes behind Skiles (i.e., the area around the steam pipes that go between the tin building and Skiles and toward the new CULC building)? We are breathing it, and it's settling on our parked cars. Is it safe?

According to Scott Jones, director of design and construction at Tech, most of what you see is steam. However, there is dust associated with the insulation, which is used to provide thermal containment for the steam lines. The dust ensures it doesn't stick together and surrounds the pipes as it is poured in. (The insulation provides a two-year payback on energy saved.)

The dust is harmless and won't hurt cars. As for people, it's not any more harmful than inhaling other kinds of dust, Jones added. "Every effort is made to minimize airborne dust from this and all other construction activities," he said.

If you have a Tech-related question that you'd like answered, e-mail it to editor@comm.gatech.edu