

KEEPING THE WHITE AND GOLD GLEAMING



Photo by Laura Pusateri

Nick Wiseman, painter in Facilities Management, gives the Corliss Pump a touch-up coat of paint on Aug. 4. Wiseman has worked at Tech for nearly four years, and this is the second time he's spruced up the Corliss Pump, which was once used in the Coon Building.

President to Deliver Annual Address

President G.P. "Bud" Peterson will give the annual Institute Address on Thursday, Aug. 31, from 11 a.m. to noon in Room 152, Clough Commons. All faculty, staff, and students are invited to attend.



The address will conclude in time for attendees to ask questions at the end of the event. Questions can also be submitted ahead of time by emailing townhall@gatech.edu.

For more information or to watch the archived presentation after the event, visit president.gatech.edu.

T-Square Being Phased Out, Use of Canvas to Begin this Semester

BRITTANY AIELLO
CENTER FOR 21ST CENTURY UNIVERSITIES

After two years of testing and discussion on technology solutions that best support the academic enterprise, Tech's primary learning management system, T-Square, is being phased out.

Georgia Tech has contracted with Canvas by Instructure for this new service. Transition to the new platform will begin with a small group of users this semester. Those who will be part of the initial group were notified last week.

Canvas will eventually be used in Tech's residential and virtual courses as well as non-credit, professional education, and lifelong learning opportunities. The implementation will expand in Spring 2018 and will reach completion by Spring 2019.

T-Square will be available for course sites until the end of 2018.

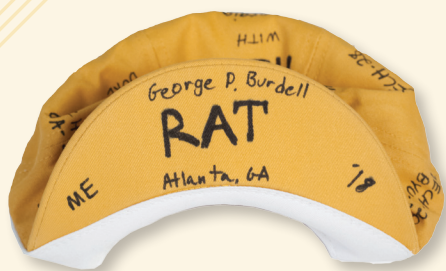
Beginning in Spring 2019, all courses will reside in Canvas. T-Square will no longer be supported for course sites beginning in January 2019.

For the past two years, the Office of the Provost spearheaded an in-depth testing process in which faculty, staff, administrators, and students evaluated and provided feedback on a number of learning management solutions. The collaborative effort was led by the Center for 21st Century Universities, the Center for Teaching and Learning, Professional Education, and the Office of Information Technology.

The Canvas platform provides a cloud hosting solution, an open application programming interface (API), mobile applications, and the possibility of future software add-ons. As Georgia Tech continues to expand, digitize, and diversify its educational offerings, Canvas will provide a flexible infrastructure for educational growth and innovation.

Learn more at canvas.gatech.edu, and view frequently asked questions at canvas.gatech.edu/faq.

2017 FRESHMAN CLASS PROFILE



Academic Ranges

SAT: 1360-1490 // ACT: 30-34 // GPA: A
College-level courses: 8-13

31,504
total applications
(record high)

43%
female

57%
male

Admit Rates

45% **18%** **23%**
in-state out-of-state overall

47
states

55
countries

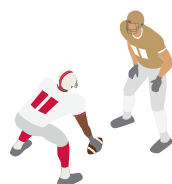
NEWS BRIEFS



Discounted Tickets Available for Home Football Games

Faculty and staff members can purchase tickets to the first home games of the season. Jacksonville State tickets (Sept. 9) start at \$12, and North Carolina tickets (Sept. 30) start at \$20. Purchase tickets at:

c.gatech.edu/fsfball2017



Tech Welcomes New Faculty

On Aug. 15, about 50 new faculty members — including two new school chairs and a new associate provost — attended New Faculty Orientation. Since last fall, Tech has welcomed around 90 new academic faculty members from across the country and around the world.

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EVENTS

ARTS AND CULTURE

Through Aug. 31

The Eclipse at Georgia Tech exhibit will examine the impact of total solar eclipses over the U.S. since 1878 on science and pop culture, survey the path of the Aug. 21 solar eclipse, and recognize the role of the 1919 solar eclipse in confirming Albert Einstein's ideas about the fabric of space, gravity, and general relativity. The exhibit will be in Clough Commons. c.gatech.edu/eclipse

Sept. 14

The Office of the Arts hosts an opening reception for the Faculty/Staff Arts Exhibit from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Ferst Center for the Arts. The exhibit will run through Oct. 2. arts.gatech.edu

MISCELLANEOUS

Aug. 22

The Robotarium is a first-of-its-kind, remotely accessible swarm robotics lab. An open house will take place from 2 to 3 p.m. in Room 261, Van Leer Building. robotarium.gatech.edu

Aug. 24

Georgia Tech Police Chief Robert Connolly and Vice President for Legal Affairs and Risk Management Pat McKenna share guidance from the University System of Georgia related to the implementation of Georgia House Bill 280, which allows licensed gun owners to carry concealed firearms on campus. The session takes place from 11 a.m. to noon in Rooms 144 and 152, Clough Commons. An additional session will take place Tuesday, Aug. 29, at 5 p.m. in the same location. police.gatech.edu/campuscarry

Aug. 25

Graduate students and postdoctoral fellows interested in pursuing faculty positions in higher education can attend the Tech to Teaching open house from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Piedmont Room, Student Center. c.gatech.edu/techtoteach

Aug. 29

The Resilience employee resource group hosts a lunch and learn session on *Self-Confidence in the Midst of Chaos*. Tiffany Hughes-Troutman, director of health behavior for Health Promotion, will discuss ways to increase self-confidence when circumstances of change are outside of our control. Learn more and register at: c.gatech.edu/chaos

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Not in Their Words: Strategies for Dealing with Plagiarism

BRIAN GENTRY
GRADUATE EDUCATION
AND FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

Last year, there were nearly 100 counts of theft at Georgia Tech — not physical theft, but theft of words.

"Plagiarism cases make up 38 percent of all cases we process, and we know there are some cases we never hear," said Bonnie Weston, director of the Office of Student Integrity (OSI).

Tech's policy on plagiarism is straightforward. It states that all cases need to be reported to OSI; then students who want to challenge the accusation may do so.

Weston and a few Georgia Tech colleagues offered some insight into how they've dealt with plagiarism on campus.

Why Do Students Plagiarize?

At Tech, there are two primary reasons for plagiarizing. Some students do it because they consider the class unimportant, as it isn't one of their core classes. The other major reason is lack of time.

"Most of the students I see plagiarizing are trying to get everything done within their packed schedules," said Andy Frazee, associate director of the Writing and Communication Program in the School of Literature, Media, and Communication. "They're stressed, tired, and think they can't get it done in time, so they copy someone else's work."

David Smith, senior lecturer in the College of Computing, noted that non-computer science students often view his classes as a formality, and some fail to learn anything because of this. These students copy work done by others or ask others for help with

their programming assignments and fail to learn the programming skills they need to succeed.

"Every semester, I'll get students whose failure to do their own work causes them to have to come back and retake my class," Smith said. "I had one student have to repeat my class several times, because he refused to do his own homework and had no idea how to solve the problems placed before him on the tests."

How Do You Spot It?

According to Frazee, the first question any professor should ask himself when presented with suspicious work is: "Does this answer the question I've asked?" Plagiarizers often take their material from sources where the question answered doesn't match the one being asked by the professor. So, a paper or answer that fails to fit the question can be a warning sign of plagiarism.

Another sign is sudden changes in the spacing or fonts in a student's work. If the font size or type isn't consistent, this can indicate that information was copied and pasted from another document, Frazee said.

Many professors use plagiarism-checking software, such as Turnitin, especially when it comes to work submitted online. These "cheat catchers" — a term that Smith uses to describe the software — will let professors know if portions of essays or homework were copied. Smith acknowledges the limitations of these services, though.

"We first introduced a cheat catcher in our computer science classes in 2000," Smith said. "But the result was that students progressively learned how to get around the program. They weren't learning anything, and those we caught faced severe academic penalties."

What Can You Do to Prevent It?

Just one instance of plagiarism can have a tremendous impact on a student's academic career. For example, it's unlikely that the student will ever be able to find teaching assistant positions or internships on campus, Smith said. For this reason, he does all he can to try and prevent plagiarism from occurring.

One way he accomplishes this is by basing his tests (worth 45 percent of his grades) off his homework, which is only worth 15 percent. Students who cheat on the homework usually fail his courses as a result.

"Just waiting for plagiarizers to get caught and then punishing them doesn't work," Smith said. "I advocate a two-pronged approach: dissuading people from cheating through incentives, as well as punishing plagiarizers after they're caught. There's no room for negotiation once a student is caught, so it's essential to keep as many students as possible from trying in the first place."

Weston reminds all professors to include a copy of the Student Honor Code at the beginning of their syllabi and to go over the correct formatting for citations and references. It is her hope that this clarification will help prevent cases of ignorant plagiarism and many of the cases that come to OSI.

And to help mitigate the dangers of time crunches, Frazee has a solution.

"You have to be willing to be a little flexible," Frazee said. "While setting deadlines is important, you should make it clear to your students that you can be approached if work is piling up. If you're willing to give an extra day or two to complete an assignment, it can encourage students to write their own work."

For more information about dealing with plagiarism at Tech, visit osi.gatech.edu.

LIVING BUILDING PLANS PROGRESS, ONE PETAL AT A TIME



Renderings courtesy of The Miller Hull Partnership in collaboration with Lord Aeck Sargent

Later this summer, the Living Building at Georgia Tech will near the end of the design development phase, signaling another major milestone in the evolution of what is expected to be the most environmentally advanced educational and research facility built in the Southeast. The project team anticipates construction starting later this fall. Above is a view of the northwest facade of the building. To the right are renderings of the interior atrium from the second floor (top) and from the entry. The official launch of the Living Building at Georgia Tech is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 12, at the northwest corner of Ferst Drive and State Street. For more information, visit livingbuilding.gatech.edu and livingbuilding.kendedafund.org.



Fleischer Brings STEM Expertise to K-12 Students

LORRIE BURROUGHS
OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Blake Fleischer is on a mission to give back to public education. As a research scientist with the Office of Information Technology (OIT)'s Partnership for Advanced Computing Environment (PACE), he devotes time outside Tech to teach kids about science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM); high performance computing; and coding.

"It is definitely something I feel passionately about and I think is important," says Fleischer. He speaks reverently about his own experience in being the recipient of giving. "For me, the motivation for talking to these students is rooted in giving back to the community. Having gone to school at Tech, I think it is important to give back because the state helps fund education at Tech. It's a great chance to meet with kids and try to inspire them to think about STEM careers, especially given the high demand."

Fleischer earned his Ph.D. in chemistry from Tech in 2016 and began working with OIT as a graduate student in 2013.

When explaining technology such as high performance computing to middle and high school students, Fleischer ties the subject to things they already understand, such as smartphone apps.

"It's really hard to be a math teacher when the kids are asking, 'When are we going to use this?' Even at schools with a STEM focus, students are questioning why math like calculus matters. They will say, 'Well, we're never going to use calculus.' And I reply, 'Have you ever seen a curved surface on a boat or airplane? That's calculus.'"

Fleischer says that providing a snapshot of what careers in STEM look like and how the students can get more involved at their age makes it more accessible them, giving them a better chance at turning their interests into a career.

"Coding is becoming more common in the



Photo by Christopher Moore

Blake Fleischer earned his Ph.D. at Georgia Tech in 2016. He started working with the Office of Information Technology as a graduate student in 2013.

workforce today, so it is an important skill to start learning," he said.

Fleischer takes the same approach when talking about high performance computing. He says most people see supercomputers depicted in movies as big governmental rooms housing towers of computers. When he speaks to students, he finds the topic is more accessible when broken down.

"Let's say you have a really big problem that you want to solve and you divide it into all these little pieces," he said. "When you put each piece on a separate but connected computer, they all can work on the same problem together to solve the problem much more quickly. That's the essence of a supercomputer."

Fleischer also uses real scenarios from his work with Georgia Tech research to inspire and motivate the young students.

"I talk about some of the big problems we solve here at Tech," he said. "For instance, we are now part of the [Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory] LIGO gravitational waves project, running computa-

tions on our clusters at the Tech campus. My background in chemistry allows me to interface with researchers and the administrators maintaining the systems to make sure things are functioning. Having an understanding of both the science and the computational toolset here at PACE helps researchers make the most of the incredible resources we have at Georgia Tech."

Faculty can come to PACE with a research problem and a desire to use a particular computing tool but may not want to deal with the subtleties of maintenance and optimization. PACE provides the technical expertise to allow researchers to focus on the specifics of the science and engineering.

"We're all about enabling research," Fleischer said.

He takes the concept of "creating the next" directly to students in the community. For Fleischer, it is important to give kids a sense of what else is out there and how much larger the picture is than what they are used to seeing.

"That gives them a sense of where they could go to create the next," he said.

Tech Guarantees Admission to State Valedictorians, Salutatorians

LAURA DIAMOND
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

Georgia Tech will offer automatic acceptance to all Georgia high school valedictorians and salutatorians under a new program that goes into effect with this year's graduating class.

President G.P. "Bud" Peterson unveiled the Georgia Tech Scholars Program Thursday, Aug. 17, during an event at Gilmer High School in Ellijay. The initiative applies to students who graduate at the top of their class from any accredited Georgia public or private high school with 50 or more graduates. It is designed to increase exposure and access to Georgia Tech for the state's most prepared students.

"Georgia Tech has a long track record of partnering with Georgia K-12 schools to help young people prepare for college, and the Georgia Tech Scholars Program is an outgrowth of our commitment to improve college access for students from throughout the state," Peterson said. "While we are proud

of our global reputation, we are equally as proud to serve many of Georgia's brightest undergraduate students. The Georgia Tech Scholars Program supports our ultimate goal to put a Georgia Tech education within reach of all qualified Georgia students."

The program will allow more deserving young students to attend the state's top colleges. The University of Georgia also offers automatic acceptance to Georgia students who graduate at the top of their class.

To become a Georgia Tech Scholar, students must be named either the valedictorian or salutatorian of their high school. Students must submit an application and have successfully completed the prerequisite coursework for entrance to the Institute.

The new program is a continuation of Georgia Tech's commitment to benefit all Georgians and support economic development throughout the state.

In 2014, Georgia Tech announced the APS Scholars Program, which guarantees admission and provides financial support to the top graduates from Atlanta Public Schools. Since the introduction of that program the number of students from the district applying to

Georgia Tech has doubled.

While the majority of Georgia Tech's undergraduates come from Georgia, some of the state's best students are not applying to the Institute, said Rick Clark, director of undergraduate admission. This program aims to change that.

"Georgia Tech is committed to recruiting and enrolling the best students from across our state, and this program is a reflection of that vision," Clark said. "In order for Georgia to thrive economically in the future, it's imperative that Tech recruit, develop, and graduate our state's top talent and cultivate innovation and entrepreneurship in business, technology, and engineering."

Learn more at admission.gatech.edu/gtscholars.

This week, Georgia Tech will partner with Georgia State University and the University of Georgia for the annual Peach State Tour. The tour takes admission representatives across the state for high school information sessions at 23 locations, and it brings admission staff within 50 miles of every high school counselor and student in the state. Learn more at peachstatetour.org.

EVENTS

Aug. 30

Twenty-seven startups participating in CREATE-X Startup Launch will demo their products and services at Demo Day, from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Egyptian Ballroom, Fox Theatre. Learn more and RSVP at: demoday.gatech.edu

Sept. 1

Graduate students and postdoctoral scholars going on the job market for faculty positions within the next year can attend *Academic Job Search 101: Preparing Your Application Packet* from 9 a.m. to noon in the Peachtree Room, Student Center. Refreshments will be provided. c.gatech.edu/gradworkshop

Sept. 4

Campus is closed in observance of the Labor Day holiday.

SEMINARS AND LECTURES

Sept. 7

Charlie Kuehmann, vice president at SpaceX and Tesla Motors, will discuss *Computational Materials Design: Concept, Implementation, and Future*, from 10 to 11 a.m. in the Student Center Ballroom. RSVP at: c.gatech.edu/kuehmann

Sept. 11

Matt Ventresca, postdoctoral fellow in the School of History and Sociology, will discuss *Scanning Brains and Reading Minds: Sport's "Concussion Crisis" and the Curious Case of CTE* from 4 to 5:30 p.m. in Room 104, Old Civil Engineering Building. hsoc.gatech.edu

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Aug. 22

The Office of Human Resources hosts a Be Well session on *Powers of Attorney* from noon to 1 p.m. in Room 320, Student Center. ohr.gatech.edu/bewell

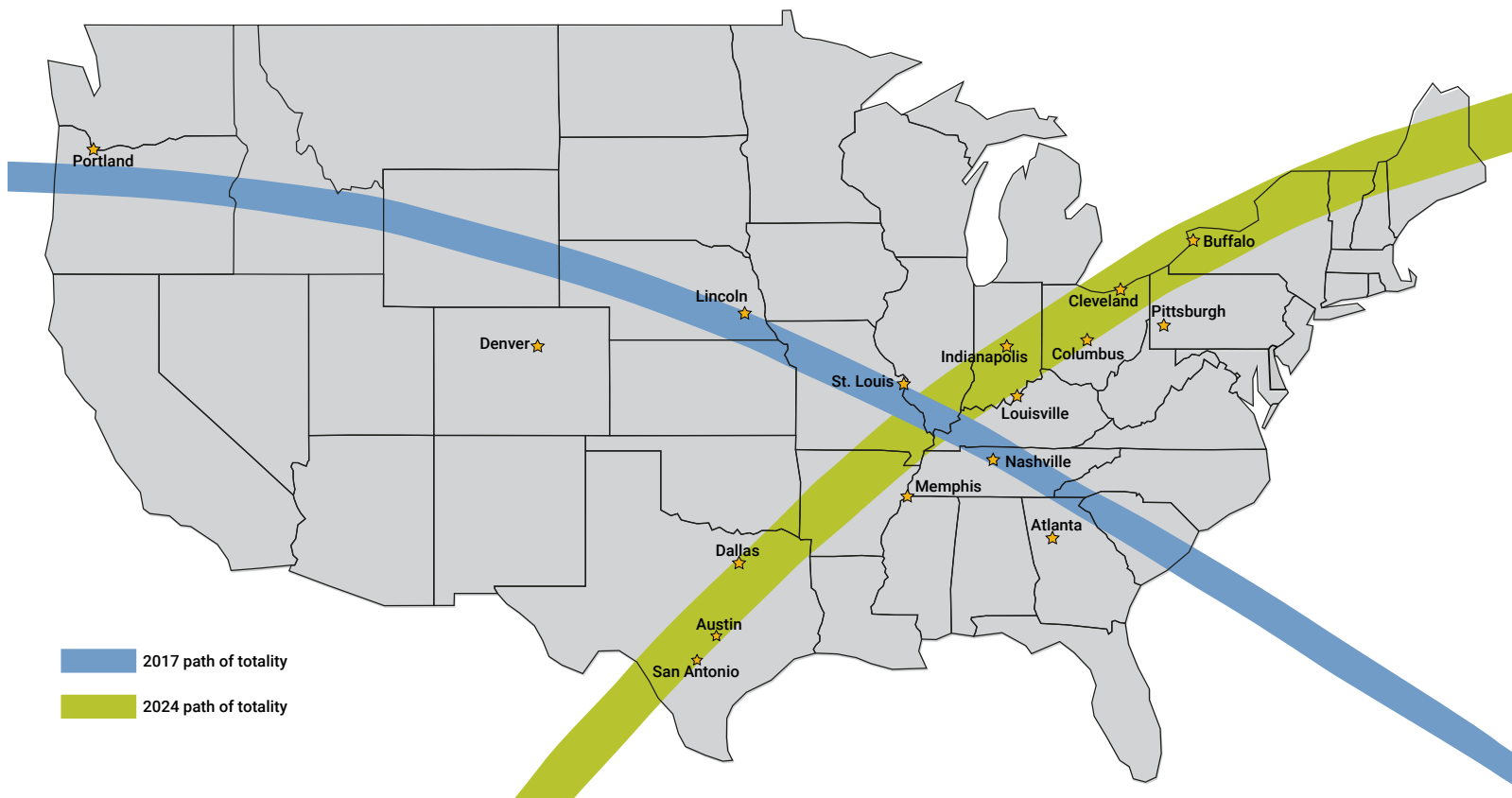
Sept. 7

The Kaiser Permanente Corporate Run/Walk 5K will take place at the Georgia World Congress Center from 7 to 9 p.m. For more information and to register, visit: hwb.gatech.edu/go-tech-events

Sept. 13

The Office of Human Resources hosts a Be Well session on *Saving for the Holidays* from noon to 1 p.m. in Room 320, Student Center. ohr.gatech.edu/bewell

For a more comprehensive listing of events, or to add your own, visit calendar.gatech.edu.



COMMEMORATING THE ECLIPSE

In many ways, the first day of the fall semester often feels the same. Students find their classes, reunite after months away, and repopulate what has been a quiet campus for several weeks. Today, though, is different.

The solar eclipse that will consume the campus sky this afternoon is a once-in-a-lifetime viewing for most people. For months, Tech administrators have been planning to equip students with viewing glasses, tips on how to watch the eclipse safely, and knowledge of what they're looking at.

The level of excitement mirrors the rarity of the circumstance. Though an eclipse occurs somewhere on earth about twice a year, most people never get a chance to see it.

"The reason we don't have an eclipse every month is because the moon's orbit is tilted by

five degrees with respect to the sun's orbit," said Jim Sowell, senior academic professional in the School of Physics and director of the Georgia Tech Observatory. "So the moon has a range of 20 slots it can be in, which is why it doesn't occur very often to get an alignment for the sun, moon, and earth."

The event is so rare that, for dedicated astronomers, Tech's view of 97 percent totality is not enough. Sowell will view the event from North Georgia in the line of totality.

During today's eclipse, the moon's shadow will pass over the entirety of the continental U.S. in just 90 minutes, crossing over Atlanta at approximately 2:36 p.m. For those who get a taste of eclipse fever today, you'll have to wait until 2024 for the next eclipse in the U.S. Next time, though, you'll have to travel as far



as Texas or New York to find totality, as the line won't pass near Atlanta.

To learn more about Tech's celebration of the 2017 eclipse, visit cos.gatech.edu/eclipse.

Following the historic event, photos and video will be available at c.gatech.edu/eclipse.

CLASSIFIEDS

REAL ESTATE/ ROOMMATES

Looking for young working professional, graduate student, or visiting professor to rent private bedroom and bath (w/ access to all living spaces) in w. \$800/mo. Includes utilities, cable, internet, parking. Fully furnished large condo in small private community. Neat, clean home. Walking distance to food markets, restaurants, entertainment, shopping, public transit. Request 1-year agreement. Contact 404-514-7662, reba.darr@gmail.com.

2BR/1BA condo for sale. 1,100 sq. ft., hardwood floors, separate living and dining rooms, street level, beautiful courtyard, reserved parking and storage. Two blocks from Lindbergh MARTA station. Call 404-307-8182 for showing.

3BR house for rent in Marietta. About 30 minutes from Tech. \$950/mo. Call 770-855-5647.

Second floor unfurnished condo w/ balcony overlooking quiet courtyard. 15-min. walk to Tech, 3-min. walk to Stinger Green Route. Unit comes with gated parking garage and reserved parking space, refrigerator, W/D, granite counters, custom closet, access to pool and gym. 24-hour security on property. Non-smoking unit, prefer no pets. Walking distance to Atlantic Station. Available for 1-year lease. \$1,350/mo. OBO. Includes water, trash. Contact yangtzepirit@yahoo.com.

Male employee seeking roommate to share 1BR apartment near Lenox MARTA Station. Very quiet, near shopping. Contact Jose, 404-904-0202.

MISCELLANEOUS

Free loving, playful young adult female calico cat desperately needs a forever home. She is spayed, has her shots, and is litter-box trained. Email Marilyn Smith (ms55@gatech.edu) or Josie Giles (josie@gatech.edu).

One-of-a-kind Signature Bryan Ashley marble top cherry wood bedroom dresser/vanity. Like new. \$300. Contact taylorov42008@yahoo.com or 678-508-2462 for photos.

Vintage 1960s Magnavox AstroSonic console stereo unit. Working turntable and radio w/ auxiliary input. Speakers need some work. Cabinet in excellent condition and has good sound. Asking \$75. Call 404-735-7611 or email james.corbett@tri.gatech.edu.

Oak table, round, 48-in., four legs, w/ two 10-in. extensions and six fancy-back chairs. \$170. Contact james.cagle@mse.gatech.edu.

New in box Maytag s/s kitchen appliances: 27 cu. ft. french door refrigerator, 6 cu. ft. convection double oven, 2 cu. ft. over-the-range microwave, s/s interior dishwasher w/ Powerblast. \$3,600 for all. Call 770-652-9911.

Free yellow jacket nest removal. Nests to be used for research in the School of Biology. Call 404-385-6311 or e-mail michael.goodisman@biology.gatech.edu.

Ads run for at least three issues in the order in which they are received. Submit your 35-word-or-less ad to editor@comm.gatech.edu.

August BOR Meeting Covers Budgets, Real Estate, Policies

KRISTEN BAILEY
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

The Board of Regents (BOR) held its last meeting of the summer on Tuesday, Aug. 8, in Atlanta. Business at the meeting included budgets, a revised sexual misconduct policy, and campus renovations.



Systemwide Updates

The BOR approved a \$2.43 billion operating budget request for FY19, which goes to Governor Nathan Deal for approval in January. The operating budget would be a \$122 million increase over FY18. The increase accounts for growth in student enrollment, as well as increased contributions to the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia.

Included in the recommended budget is Phase II funding in the amount of \$30.6 million for Georgia Tech's Library Renewal Project.

The Board also authorized the distribution of Major Repair and Rehabilitation (MRR) funds for FY18 for all institutions, of which Georgia Tech's portion is \$5.5 million. Fiscal year 2018 budgets for all University System

of Georgia (USG) institutions were approved earlier this year.

The BOR revised the process for handling incidents of sexual misconduct for all four-year public colleges and schools. The revisions give USG administrators more oversight in investigations. The updated policy requires that the USG be notified when a complaint is filed that could lead to a suspension or expulsion. It also states that false reports can result in suspension or expulsion.

Campus Title IX officers will report to Kimberly Ballard-Washington, associate vice chancellor for legal affairs and conduct and Title IX administrator for the USG.

Real Estate

Renovation of the Howey Physics Building was presented as an informational item to the Committee on Real Estate and Facilities. The project spans 15,300 square feet of the building and will include renovation of the five lecture halls, new audio-visual equipment, upgrades to mechanical systems, and furnishing and finishing updates. The renovation will also redesign the lobby area to provide study space for students between classes.

Tech's second informational item for the Real Estate committee was for the acquisition and development of a portion of a Lockheed

Martin campus in Marietta. The project is adjacent to the Georgia Tech Research Institute's Cobb County campus and spans 32 acres that includes 755,000 square feet of office, high bay, and warehouse space, which would be renovated to support Tech's research enterprise.

The Board authorized Tech's project to make upgrades to the football locker room, which is funded by private donors. The space inside Bobby Dodd Stadium would receive updates that include waterproofing and ventilation work, an expanded physical therapy area, and renovation of the players' locker room, coaches' locker room, equipment areas, and associate lobby and circulation spaces.

Recognition

David M. Collard, professor in the School of Chemistry and Biochemistry and associate dean for academic programs in the College of Sciences, was recognized at the meeting for earning the Felton Jenkins Jr. Hall of Fame Faculty Award for the research and comprehensive universities sector of the USG. The award recognizes a faculty member for his or her strong commitment to teaching and student success.

For more information, meeting minutes, and agendas, visit usg.edu/regents/meetings.