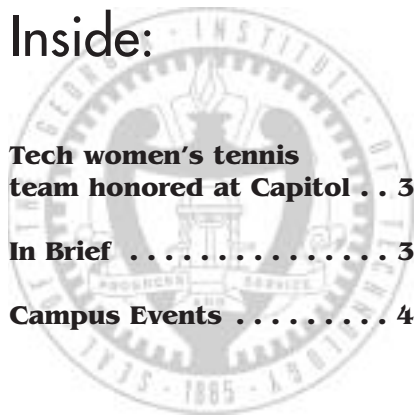


Inside:

Tech women's tennis team honored at Capitol . . . 3
 In Brief 3
 Campus Events 4



THE WHISTLE

FACULTY/STAFF NEWSPAPER

Volume 33, Number 13 • March 31, 2008

THE GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

GTRI lab marks three decades

Rick Robinson
 Research News

The Georgia Tech Research Institute's Huntsville Research Laboratory (HRL) became official 30 years ago—in February 1978—when research faculty began establishing an onsite presence at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Ala., to support U.S. Army missile technology.

Since its beginning as "Huntsville Operations," the laboratory's impact has grown, branching out into a variety of defense fields. Moreover, its location on a key Army installation has helped enhance communication between its parent organization and its military stakeholders.

"Our Huntsville Research Laboratory is an extremely important part of our overall strategy," said Stephen E. Cross, GTRI's director and an Institute vice president. "It has delivered outstanding technical assistance and real innovation on a consistent basis, which is reflected in the positive feedback we get

Huntsville continued, page 2

Institute makes the grade in U.S. News rankings

Georgia Tech's graduate programs rank among the finest in the nation in the most widely read college rankings for graduate programs. U.S. News & World Report ranked Tech's College of Engineering among the elite, retaining them in the top 5, and the Computer Science program has moved into the top 10.

"Georgia Tech continues to maintain its excellence in graduate education," said Georgia Tech President Wayne Clough. "Although the graduate rankings are not our sole measure of success, it is great to see so many of our graduate programs recognized on a national level for their consistent quality

and continued success."

Overall, the College of Engineering maintained its ranking of 4th, with 10 of the 11 programs ranking in the top 10. The top engineering programs are Industrial (No. 1), Biomedical (No. 2), Aerospace (No. 4), Civil (No. 6), Electrical (No. 6), Environmental (No. 6), Computer (No. 7), Mechanical (No. 7), Materials (No. 8) and Nuclear (No. 9).



Computer Science ranked 9th in the nation overall, with Artificial Intelligence (No. 7), Theory (No. 9) and Systems (No. 10) all ranking in the top 10. For business schools, Tech's College of

Rankings continued, page 2

Facilities office wins award for recycling

Robert Nesmith
 Communications & Marketing

Over the weekend, Office of Solid Waste Management and Recycling Manager Cindy Jackson traveled to New York to accept an award recognizing the Institute's efforts in paper recycling.

"We beat out over 100 (other) programs that applied," Jackson said, referring to the 2008 American Forest and Paper Association's (AF&PA) College and University Paper Recycling Award. "We are the only award-winner for the College and University group."

The application requested an overview of the institution's program, including the weights of paper collected, the number of students enrolled, how the program began, how students, faculty and custodial staff are educated on the benefits of recycling and the specifics of the program, and what partnerships have formed under the program, both on and off campus.

Prior to Jackson's arrival, Tech students would take charge of paper recycling around campus. "Students would start the program, but then graduate or transfer, so the program would die down again," she said, leaving the initiative in limbo until other students picked up the standard.

It was in 1996 that four undergraduate Civil and Environmental Engineering students requested a full-time recycling program and manager from President G. Wayne Clough after analyzing the solid waste and recycling processes at the Institute. Jackson, who held this position at Auburn University, came aboard then.

Since 1997, the smallest unit in Facilities Operations and Maintenance—comprised of six full-time and two part-time student employees—has been responsible for the Institute's comprehensive solid waste program. Waste management and recycling each take up a third of the office's resources, with program development garnering an

Recycle continued, page 2

Fast plane to China

Vice provost travels with state delegation to open partnerships

Robert Nesmith
 Communications & Marketing

On the day Delta Air Lines offered direct service from Atlanta to Shanghai, Georgia Gov. Sonny Perdue and a delegation from Georgia were on the flight to establish an economic development office in Beijing for the state of Georgia. Vice Provost for International Initiatives Steve McLaughlin was scheduled to be part of that group on March 30, working on partnerships with the country's best and brightest.

"There's probably 40 people from Atlanta—university people, industry people, economic development people, local government officials—going with the governor and spending three or four days making China more aware of what's going on in Georgia,"

McLaughlin said. "Part of that trip is going to be focused on 'R and D' and how Georgia (can develop partnerships)."

Tech currently has or is developing collaborative efforts with both Peking University and Tsinghua (pronounced chin-wah) University in China's capital city. Across the street from each other, the schools are often compared to Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in the United States. As Tech has been very influential in helping Peking University build its engineering program, one goal of his trip, McLaughlin says, is to continue renewing and developing collaborations with Tsinghua, as well.

"The governor will give a speech at one of the universities," McLaughlin said. "Myself and the (University of Georgia) provost will highlight how our



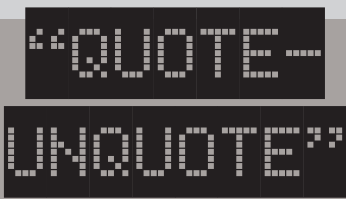
Steve McLaughlin

universities can work together and how industry can get involved. There's a lot of goodwill on both sides."

A major initiative under way is the development of joint doctoral degrees in both biomedical engineering and materials science and engineering with Peking. Regents' Professor Z. L. Wang is interim chair of the department in China. "It's a very high-quality program," McLaughlin said. "It's (a) pretty innovative, and somewhat low-risk grassroots effort." The Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering at Georgia Tech and Emory used this same model at Peking University, with The Coulter Foundation providing funding for the partnership and jumpstarting the degree program. Professor Cheng Zhu from biomedical engineering will be going as well.

According to McLaughlin, as more opportunities become available globally the "best and brightest" students—who have traditionally studied in Western schools—stay in their home

China continued, page 3



"If I click on an object, the robot will go and grasp it, pick it up ... and deliver it to me. It's a powerful new way of interacting with a robot, a point and click interface ... for a companion robot in the real world."

—Charlie Kemp, assistant professor in the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering at Georgia Tech and Emory University and director of the Center for Healthcare Robotics in the Health Systems Institute, on his point-and-click interface with robot EL-E. (Wired News)

Recycle, cont'd from page 1

equal share.

"We recycle 13 different materials on campus, from your traditional household recycling—plastic bottles, aluminum cans, glass and mixed office paper—but then we do tires, pallets and mixed metal," she said. "On average, we recycle about six tons of paper every week. During Student Move-Out we recycled 4.27 tons in about three days." For fiscal year 2007, the Institute recycled 376.18 tons of mixed paper, cardboard and shredded confidential or sensitive material.

Two aspects of Tech's recycling program that caught the eye of the AF&PA are its comprehensive nature and the investment in outreach programs. There is no need for paper to be separated, as the department collects all grades of paper mixed together. And the education and outreach extends across campus, with a presentation for new students during FASET orientation, a recycling contact person (RCP) in each building on campus and housing initiatives.

The program's initiatives also are relayed to the individual, as each employee is issued a desk-side container for recycling papers. "We have a Recycling Contact

Person—RCPs—in every single building that acts as a liaison between their department and our office," Jackson said. In 2003, the Recycling Office started a Green Purchasing Guide, encouraging employees to purchase recycled paper materials. "There is no reason to use virgin paper on campus anymore, and not one scrap of paper should go into the solid waste stream."

From student to staff and faculty cooperation, the Recycling Office's outreach program continues to spread the word. "In the past two years, there's been more student involvement than I've had in the past 11 years," Jackson said. Staff, faculty and administrative staff have been helpful as well.



"On average, we recycle about six tons of paper every week. During Student Move-Out we recycled 4.27 tons in about three days."

—Cindy Jackson
Office Manager of Solid Waste Management and Recycling

Regarding partnerships, the program works with Sodexo (food services), Housing, GTRI (Georgia Tech Research Institute) and with the Athletic Association and the Greek organizations. "We (also have) off-campus initiatives where we work with Atlanta Recycles," Jackson said.

For now, the office is gearing up for its largest annual initiatives: Think Green Week (April 14–18) and Earth Day (April 18). Events will include lectures, concerts, the Nike Reuse-a-Shoe, the Office Supply Exchange, E-waste recycling and the Earth Day Maze, all organized to

help raise awareness and establish recycling practices.

"You're not going to get participation if you don't educate people and provide programs," Jackson said.

The future goal for the office is to literally expand—both in items collected and in initiatives offered.

The Office Supply Exchange—available at the last two Tech Earth Day celebrations—will become a permanent fixture on campus, Jackson said. Offices and departments can donate unused office supplies, which can then be "bought" for free by anyone with a Buzzcard. In 2006, the program exchanged \$17,000 worth of office supplies.

The office provides its basic recycling program for mixed paper and aluminum cans to 114 buildings on and off campus. Several buildings recently were fitted with a five-slot receptacle for aluminum cans, plastic bottles, trash and newspapers in addition to mixed office paper. In the next phase, 15 more buildings will receive these.

And the Tech community's opportunities for recycling will expand outdoors, as well. "We've had 11 outdoor recycling sites for the past five years," Jackson said. "We need to expand that and provide more opportunities for people to recycle as they're walking through campus."

For more information...

Recycling Services
www.recycle.gatech.edu
Think Green Week
www.thinkgreen.gatech.edu
Earth Day
www.earthday.gatech.edu



THE WHISTLE

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



Huntsville, cont'd from page 1

from our stakeholders."

The milestone was celebrated at a Feb. 26 Huntsville event that drew some 200 attendees, including Tech officials, alumni and researchers, along with representatives from the Army and other military branches.

Georgia Tech President Wayne Clough presented a GTRI award to William McCorkle, executive director of the Army Aviation and Missile Research, Development, and Engineering Center (AMRDEC) and an early proponent of a permanent GTRI presence in Huntsville. McCorkle is the first recipient of the GTRI Award for Exceptional Innovation and Leadership.

"What we are celebrating today is Dr. McCorkle's bold solution to

bring in Georgia Tech to Huntsville and establish the permanent presence of GTRI engineers at Redstone Arsenal," Clough said. Today, HRL focuses on software engineering and system engineering for a variety of U.S. Department of Defense programs, said Barry Bullard, the lab's director. "In our 30 years here, we've had the opportunity to work with the Army on its missile defense mission as well as grow our sponsor relationships into other areas," said Bullard, HRL director since 1998. "Our expansion into the aviation mission area and several forms of system engineering is keeping our staff of 33 very busy."

For more information...

Georgia Tech Research Institute
www.gtri.gatech.edu

Rankings, cont'd from page 1

Management ranked 29th with Production/Operations (No. 13) and Supply Chain/Logistics (No. 16) both moving up in the rankings.

The Information and Technology Management program, ranked 4th for public affairs graduate programs, moved up from 8th.

China, cont'd from page 1

universities. "The world is flatter and becoming more balanced," he said. "There are tremendous opportunities around the world—not just in the United States or Europe any more—and the top (U.S.) universities feel like they should go to these places and be where the best students are." China and India are among the top countries on this collaboration list. "All universities in the world are taking globalization more seriously (and are) taking their position more seriously."

Tech also has several different programs in a strong partnership with Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU). Two dual-degree master's programs are offered, and there is a strong summer study abroad program and a Languages for Business and Technology (LBAT) session. "Students can earn a degree in ECE (Electrical and Computer Engineering) or in ISyE (Industrial and Systems Engineering) from both Tech and SJTU," McLaughlin

said. In addition, during the summer, about 30 students from SJTU study on the Atlanta campus. The ISyE program includes research in logistics and supply chain management and connects to the university's operations in Singapore. Overall programs in Shanghai amount to about 75 students and are self-sustaining. "These international initiatives enhance our reputation in the region and promote Georgia Tech both in China and around the world,"

he added.

Harkening back to his communications background, McLaughlin says both the United States and China are involved in network-building. "The best universities in China want to be connected to the best universities in the world. What those networks look like—what's accomplished in those networks—everybody's trying figure out a model that works for them."

This network model varies according to the partners

versity research and translation of that research to the marketplace is something we're really good at and the rest of the world is trying to figure out how to do," McLaughlin said, admitting this "trade secret" can be the source of some contention.

"It is a controversial thing, because the U.S. government says—rightly so—'we spent all this energy and money funding (American) universities for a century or more,' and we now have the best educational system in the world. If you travel abroad or live overseas, you just see it, how (our) education system works within the innovation ecosystem of our economy. There's a very close connection between industry and academia, and that doesn't really exist in many other places in the world. (The fear) is these partnerships will result in the 'other guy' taking everything for themselves." That won't happen, McLaughlin said. "We're looking to establish long-term, win-win partnerships. If they are not win-win, they won't be sustainable."

And, McLaughlin says, it's a matter of staying ahead in the globalization effort.

"All universities in the world are taking globalization more seriously, taking their position more seriously," he said. "They believe globalization is important and that it's important to be a part of a network, and to have collaborations and partners around the world so that they can have access to the very best students in the world. If we're not trying to be a leader, then we will be left behind."

Competitive experience

The Georgia delegation's trip to China comes on the heels of a report published in January by Tech researchers on China's emerging power as the world's technology leader. By evaluating certain "High Tech Indicators," the study shows China is ready to move from a low-cost producer of manufactured goods to developing basic science and technology into global products and services.

Vice Provost of International Initiatives Steve McLaughlin has seen this evolution first-hand.

In the early 1990s, his company had developed new technology to enable three times the storage capacity for Digital Versatile Discs (DVD).

"We found out a few years ago that a group (in China) had proposed that same technology for next-generation DVD, and was promoting it for a standard," he said. Several years ago China did not necessarily have the highly-skilled workforce that it would take to develop a full, next-generation product like DVD or Blu-ray, but McLaughlin says they do now.

"In pure numbers the U.S. still really dominates (technological competitiveness)," he says. "But it's clear when you look at the slope of all those curves that everything (the report states) is true."

involved, as "hundreds of universities" in the States are seeking collaborations in China. The University of Michigan is forming a new joint institute within the engineering college at Shanghai University, and Johns Hopkins has had a public policy program in Nanjing for more than 10 years. "They're all trying to figure out what those partnerships might look like. There's no clear model (for collaborating with other universities)," he said.

"That closeness between uni-

IN BRIEF:

Word on the street

The Georgia Department of Transportation's Downtown Connector repaving project—originally scheduled to begin March 28—will begin April 4.

During the next 30 or so weeks from 9 p.m. on Fridays to 5 a.m. on Mondays, road construction crews will remove material and repave the roughly 5-mile stretch of highway. Construction is not scheduled during weekdays and work is projected to be completed by November.

As part of the 14th Street Bridge Improvement Project, the DOT reports that early May marks the closure of the 14th Street bridge. According to the original construction and replacement plans, the bridge was to be closed in mid-summer. This, coupled with the closing of Techwood Drive between 16th and 10th streets, will add to the daily traffic strain in Midtown. The new bridge will be opened summer 2010.

For more information and construction schedules, visit www.14thstreetbridge.com.

Reimbursement deadline looms

April 15 is the deadline for tuition reimbursement through the Board of Regents' Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) and the Staff Tuition Reimbursement Program (STRAP).

TAP provides a fee waiver for full-time, benefits-eligible employees who have completed six months of employment. Employees can attend up to eight academic hours per semester at University System of Georgia institutions. STRAP provides partial tuition reimbursement at accredited private institutions for full-time, benefits-eligible employees who have worked at Tech for at least one year.

For more information, contact Bethany Davis at bethany.davis@orgdev.gatech.edu or at 894-1146. For more information, visit www.orgdev.gatech.edu.

Legislative update

Going into the last days of the Georgia Legislative Session, the House and the Senate have both approved \$10 million in the FY2009 budget for the Innovative Learning Resource Center (ILRC). This initiative, along with \$6.4 million recommended by the governor's office and the House for the Hinman building renovation, will be discussed in conference committee with representatives from both houses and the governor's office. For more information, visit www.gtl.gatech.edu.

Tennis team receives state recognition



Members of Georgia Tech's women's tennis team were recognized by the Georgia General Assembly March 19 for their 2007 season. Both houses of the state legislature and Gov. Sonny Purdue honored the team and head coach Bryan Shelton for taking the National Team Indoor Championship and the Atlantic Coast Conference title—for the third consecutive time—prior to winning the NCAA Women's Tennis title last May.

C A M P U S E V E N T S

Arts & Culture

April 1

The Science Fiction Film Series continues with James Cameron's "Terminator 2: Judgment Day" (1991), from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Library East Commons area. The series closes April 8 with Roger Nygard's documentary "Trekkies" (1997). For more information, visit www.lcc.gatech.edu.

April 2

The Office of International Education presents Performance Night, featuring live cultural entertainment, music and clothes inspired by different countries and ethnicities, 7 p.m. at the Ferst Center for the Arts. For more information, visit www.oie.gatech.edu.

April 3

Tech contemporary music ensemble Sonic Generator performs at 8 p.m. in the Georgia Tech Alumni House. For more information, visit www.coa.gatech.edu.

April 4

Social commentary is the basis for Tony Award-winning "Urinetown: The Musical" through April 19 at 8 p.m. in the DramaTech Theater. Tickets are \$8 for faculty and \$10 general admission. For more information, visit www.dramatech.org.

April 5

Britain's Carl Rosa opera company presents "The Mikado" by Gilbert and Sullivan, 8 p.m. at the Ferst Center for the Arts. Tickets range from \$20 to \$45 (subscription rates available). For more information, visit www.ferstcenter.gatech.edu.

April 6

Tech's Chorale Ensemble presents "Sacred and Profane," featuring selections from "Carmina Burana" and "Fern Hill," 4 p.m. in the College of Architecture's West Atrium. For more information, visit www.coa.gatech.edu.

April 8

The College of Architecture's Concert Band and Percussion Ensemble presents "Flowing Time, Changing Winds," 8 p.m. at the Ferst Center for the Arts. There is no fee to attend. For more information, visit www.coa.gatech.edu.

Conferences & Lectures

April 1

City and Regional Planning Associate Professor Brian Stone presents "Are Cities Warming Faster than the Planet as a Whole?" as part of the Library's

Tuesday Talk series, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the Neely Lobby of the Tech Library. For more information, visit www.library.gatech.edu.

April 2

University of California, Davis, Professor Bruce Gates presents "Hurry Up! Accelerating Chemical Transformations with Catalysts" as the keynote for the 23rd Annual Ashton Cary Lecture Series, from 4 to 6 p.m. in room G011 of the Molecular Science and Engineering building. For more information, visit www.chbe.gatech.edu.

Ron Scharbo, vice chairman of MATCH Inc. advertising agency, will be the College of Management's IMPACT series speaker, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the Management Building's LeCraw Auditorium. The series provides advice from and chances to network with high-tech entrepreneurs and business leaders. For more information, visit www.mgt.gatech.edu.

Paul Lukez and Cesar Garcia-Pons from San Francisco-based EDAW, along with Architecture Program Director Ellen Dunham-Jones, present a panel on "Suburban Transformations," from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Architecture Auditorium. For more information, visit www.coa.gatech.edu.

April 3

Massachusetts Institute of Technology Professor Richard J. Samuels presents "Securing Japan: Tokyo's Grand Strategy and the Future of East Asia," from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Gordy Room of the Wardlaw Center. For more information, visit www.cistp.gatech.edu.

North Carolina State University Professor Lin He presents "Enriching the Analytical Toolbox with Nanomaterials-by-Design," at 3 p.m. in room G011 of the Molecular Science and Engineering building. For more information, visit www.chemistry.gatech.edu.

April 4

Northeastern University School of Law Professor David Hall presents "Empowering Diversity and Excellence in the Academy," the keynote address for the Cross-Disciplinary Initiative for Minority Women Faculty, from 11 a.m. to noon, in the Institute for Bioengineering and Bioscience building atrium. The initiative seeks to increase the number of minority women faculty achieving tenure across primarily engineering disciplines. Hall will offer his strategies and insights toward this end. For more information, visit www.ibb.gatech.edu.

Faculty/Staff Development

Ongoing

The Office of Organizational Development offers a

Web-based tutorial on the basics of using a state purchasing card (P-card). To register, visit www.trainsweb.gatech.edu.

The Office of Organizational Development offers an Emergency Preparedness Certificate, which consists of several smaller courses, including "Fire Safety," "Facilities Hazard Training" and "Basic First Aid/Adult CPR/AED." For more information on scheduling, visit www.orgdev.gatech.edu.

The "Defining Customer Service" certificate program provides campus groups and employees with the foundation for offering exemplary service, to those both on and off the campus. Four required courses and two electives are offered. For more information, visit www.training.gatech.edu.

April 3

Undergraduate researchers will present their works at the third annual Undergraduate Research Spring Symposium, from 1 to 6 p.m. in the Student Center Ballroom and surrounding rooms. Events include oral presentations and an awards ceremony and reception. For more information, visit www.undergradresearch.gatech.edu.

April 11

The Georgia Tech Academic Advising Network presents updates on the Institute's Campus Master Plan and the Innovative Learning Resource Center (ILRC), from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Student Center Commons Piedmont Room. For more information, visit www.gtaan.gatech.edu.

Miscellaneous

April 10

Faculty and staff volunteers are needed for Sting Break. A Sting Break Volunteer Luncheon and information session will be held April 7 for those who sign up. For more information, visit www.gtalumni.org/site/MailForm/StingBreak.

April 12

The Georgia Tech Alumni Association hosts the 36th Annual Dean Griffin Pi Mile 5K Road Race on the Tech Tower Lawn. Registration is at 7 a.m. and the race begins at 8 a.m. For more information, visit www.gtalumni.org/pimile.

April 18

Georgia Tech's 11th Annual Earth Day Celebration, "Take Action: Code Green," wraps up Think Green Week (April 14-18). Campus organizations can sign up for a booth by April 4, and volunteers can register by April 8. The event will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. near Skiles. For more information, visit www.earthday.gatech.edu.

C L A S S I F I E D S

AUTOMOBILES & MOTORCYCLES

1995 Honda Accord wagon, auto. PW, PL, AC, 17" rims. Very clean, new timing belt, great gas mileage. \$3,200 OBO. 678-913-5591.

2001 Panoz Esperante. Awesome American-made sports car. Garaged near campus. Only 22,000 miles. Pics and info at www.panoz.pbwiki.com.

2000 Ford Windstar. Red ext. w/ gray leather int., 80,000 miles, new trans., exc. cond. 4 captain's chairs, in-console ent. system (VHS w/ additional inputs). V. clean. \$5,000 firm; Edmund's price

\$5,900. E-mail nate.bennett@mgt.gatech.edu.

2003 Toyota Camry LE. 59K miles, leather, gray interior/exterior, clean. All power. \$10,250. 678-231-3678, or e-mail mc191@mail.gatech.edu.

REAL ESTATE/ROOMMATES

For rent: Studio condo in historic building near Tech, GSU, Aquarium, Centennial Park. Full kitchen and bath. \$800/month, incl. utilities. E-mail lynette.wilson@buzzcard.gatech.edu or call 404-771-6952.

For rent: New 1BR condo,

walking distance of Civic Center. Incl. hardwood floors, maple cabinetry, onsite swimming, workout areas and secure covered parking. Minutes from GSU and Tech. \$1,000/month. Gas, basic cable, phone and Internet included. Darrel Mason, 678-637-9333.

2BR/2BA home for rent in Bolton/Riverside area. Chattahoochee off yard, back deck. On Paul Ave., west of Marietta, less than 10 min. to Tech. \$850/month. E-mail wickham3@yahoo.com or call 770-436-5104, 404-432-1815.

Two for rent: 3BR/2BA house and 1BR apartment, close to

Tech near Bobby Jones Golf Course on McKinley Rd. 404-805-8505 or 770-801-8505.

Beautiful Downtown studio. Hardwoods, new kitchen. Near MARTA; easy access to airport or Midtown. \$95K. Visit www.summet.com/condo or call 404-784-6046.

For rent: 3BR/2.5BA town-home. Oakley Commons in Union City. End-unit with side porch, lg. kitchen and breakfast bar, closet space and 2-car parking. Incl. all electric appliances, plus washer/dryer. Hardwood floors recently upgraded in kitchen and dining room. \$975 + deposit. 678-908-6799.

FURNITURE/APPLIANCES

Antique sofa (probably Art Deco) w/elegant swan neck accents. Re-covered in off-white silk; pics avail. \$450 OBO (similar on eBay start at \$250-\$950). E-mail jswann@gatech.edu or call 385-3054.

Unfinished oak dining table, 4' x 6', and six Windsor chairs. \$325 OBO. Pics avail. E-mail kathy30340@yahoo.com or call 404-932-9396.

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