IAC Freshman Class Delivers Again

BY RUTH MALHOTRA
SAB Alum, INTA '06

To the incoming freshman class, welcome to Georgia Tech! You've come to a unique place where science and technology intersect with the liberal arts, and talent expresses itself in impressive academic, artistic and athletic achievements. The acclaimed Tech tradition is preserved by faithful alumni and carried on by loyal students. The possibilities are infinite.

The Ivan Allen College, featuring “liberal arts with a Tech twist,” is a wonderful place to experience the challenges and opportunities that Tech has to offer. Among the IAC's many strengths are its unique degree programs, distinguished teaching personnel, vast career resources and strategic connections. With all these assets, its greatest strength remains its impressive student body.

This year, the IAC is delighted to welcome the largest incoming freshman class in its 16-year history, with enrollment up 44%! (includes summer freshmen) The incoming class is an intriguing mix of students and reflects a wide geographical scope with students from over 50 Georgia cities and 19 different states.

This freshman class continues to raise the bar with average SAT and GPA's up from last year's record-breaking numbers. Below are some of the facts and figures that make this stellar class not only impressive, but quite unique. The incoming class demonstrates academic excellence with over 50 National Honors Society members, leadership experience with two dozen class representatives, and travel experiences from Kenya to Tanzania to climb Mount Kilimanjaro.

The enrollment results reflect the tremendous success of the IAC's recruitment efforts over the past few years, and are evidence of the hard work of administration and students alike. “The IAC students, and especially the SAB, have played a tremendous role in our growth,” says the incoming class is sure to contribute significantly to the IAC community, as the College expands its scope of influence both within and beyond the campus.

“Both the IAC and Georgia Tech as a whole will offer you a wealth of opportunities to grow personally, intellectually and socially. Thinking now about how you will take charge of your life and exploit those opportunities.”

253 Incoming Freshman so far...
First, the faculty-led summer study abroad experiences are highly popular with Georgia Tech students. Each summer hundreds of students embark to Argentina/Brazil, Barcelona, the Oxford Program, and many different locations throughout the world. Faculty-led summer programs are an excellent way to benefit from a smaller class size, and hence to get to know professors better. These programs have a targeted focus; for instance, the Brussels program specifically studies the European Union, while LCC offers a program focusing on Italian Film Studies in Italy. Also, the LBAT (Language for Business and Technology) programs in Spanish, Japanese, French, and German offer intensive language experiences.

Second, the Georgia Tech campus in Metz, France (GT Lorraine) is another popular study-abroad option. Offering graduate degrees in Electrical and Mechanical Engineering, GT Lorraine organizes a summer program featuring EE, IE, ME, CEE, MGT, COE, COA, French, German, Accounting, and HTS classes. The location provides a taste of Europe, while still taking classes from Georgia Tech professors.

A third option is to participate in an exchange program, for either one semester or a full academic year abroad. Investing a greater length of time on the study abroad experience allows for a deeper interaction with a foreign culture. Students learn by actually living in a new city, developing greater cultural knowledge and participating in the daily activities of building a lifestyle in a foreign country. During a semester exchange, students are enrolled in a foreign, host university, while retaining their Georgia Tech enrollment. You can register for classes and take part in academic life at the foreign, host university. These exchanges facilitate excellent interaction with local students and provide intense and exciting cultural experiences.

OIE maintains an extensive list of study-abroad opportunities that span the globe. Where will you venture on your international experience?!