REMARKS BY GEORGIA TECH PRESIDENT G. WAYNE CLOUGH
Capital Campaign Announcement, Wardlaw Terrace, March 24, 2000

When we set out on this Capital Campaign journey four years ago, we thought we were being bold and daring to set a goal of $300 million. As the Campaign picked up steam, we gained a little more confidence and moved the goal to $400 million. A year ago we raised our sights again to $500 million. And last December, we took a deep breath and increased it one last time to $600 million. Today we celebrate our success thus far, and all that it means to Georgia Tech.

The Capital Campaign is proof both of the incredible generosity of Georgia Tech’s alumni and friends, and of their faith that they are investing in the creation a world-class university. The support of our alumni and friends is what truly makes it possible for Georgia Tech to move beyond adequacy and achieve excellence.

To date, the Campaign has provided 78 endowed scholarships for students and made other improvements in their quality of life. We have surpassed the initial goal of a $5 million endowment for the President’s Scholarship Program, and have now raised the bar to $10 million.

The Campaign has 38 endowed chairs for faculty, and opened new opportunities for excellence by funding teaching and research programs in Tech’s six colleges.

We began the Campaign with a focus on the facilities we needed to host the 1996 Olympics. Since then, we have shifted toward the construction of critically important state-of-the-art academic buildings.

- State construction funds must be shared across 34 institutions, and while Georgia Tech gets our fair share, those funds are only enough to support adequacy. The Capital Campaign provides the additional funding that makes excellent facilities possible.
- As a result, the Bioengineering and Bioscience Building is now open, and we are about to break ground on the Environmental Science and Technology Building adjacent to it. The Advanced Computing Technology Building, the Molecular and Materials Science and Engineering Building, the Undergraduate Learning Center, and the Continuing and Executive Education Center are all on the drawing board. And we will soon begin a $42 million renovation and expansion of SAC, which will include a new parking deck and the enclosure of the Aquatic Center.

The Campaign National Steering Committee has just met, and we invited all of you to here to share the good news that thanks to a major anonymous gift – that we will say more about next week – the Campaign has now passed the $500 million mark and is within $100 million of our goal.
Your hard work has brought us to a place that was beyond our dreams when we began this Campaign four years ago. For that I thank you. And as we celebrate this milestone and the incredible impact the Campaign is having on Georgia Tech, let’s use that enthusiasm and inspiration to propel us forward toward our final goal of $600 million.