

REMARKS BY GEORGIA TECH PRESIDENT G. WAYNE CLOUGH
Chicago Campaign Celebration, April 26, 2001

Thank you, Lynn Maddox for that kind introduction. I am pleased to be here in Chicago and have an opportunity to thank all of you in person for your generous support of the Campaign for Georgia Tech. There is really no adequate way to express our appreciation to each one of you for your loyalty to Georgia Tech, your confidence in us, and your willingness to give back.

I am going to take you back to your student days by beginning with a quiz. Remember these numbers: 712, 54, 233, 11, 100, 46,000, 57

These numbers sum up the campaign in a nutshell:

- ❖ 712 million dollars
- ❖ 54 endowed chairs for faculty
- ❖ 233 endowed scholarships and fellowships for students
- ❖ 11 new buildings received campaign support
- ❖ 100 percent of our academic units exceeded their campaign goal
- ❖ Over 46,000 donors contributed
- ❖ Gifts came from 57 countries, reflecting Georgia Tech's growing international reach.

The Campaign for Georgia Tech is counted in dollars, but it is measured in people. Your contributions are already making a difference in the lives of the students, faculty and staff who make up the Georgia Tech community.

This event has been billed as a celebration of the end of the campaign, but what we are really celebrating is a new beginning, because your generosity has made it possible for Georgia Tech to step across the threshold into a whole new era of excellence.

Students were a primary focus for the campaign, and we have seen the caliber of our students increase over the course of the past five years. The applicant pool for next year was 30 percent larger than when the campaign began, despite the fact that we strengthened the process and started requiring an essay along the way. The average SAT of incoming freshmen last fall was 1329, compared to 1297 when the campaign began.

Every year, the pool of applicants to study at Georgia Tech gets both larger and deeper, and we are working very hard to give our students the outstanding educational experience they deserve. Our goal is to create a new paradigm for excellence in

undergraduate education that gives our students the best of both worlds – the attention to quality teaching that is usually found only at a liberal arts college, and the opportunity to participate in a world-class research enterprise. Thanks to you, we will be able to give them both the quality educational experience and the scholarships they deserve. The value of a Georgia Tech degree will continue to increase, and the contribution of our graduates to society will continue to grow.

The Campaign for Georgia Tech endowed 233 undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships, including a \$10 million endowment for the President's Scholarship Program, our top undergraduate merit scholarship. In addition to contributing to that endowment, this region was very creative in endowing new scholarships for co-op students and disabled students. Georgia Tech's co-op program is the largest voluntary program in the nation, and we take that as proof that it is the best. It is a tremendous learning opportunity for our students, and it helps keep us in close touch with what the real world of business and industry needs from our graduates.

We also appreciate your help for disabled students, whom we welcome. Our campus has a lot of old buildings which are not quite all handicapped accessible, but we get around that by looking at the classes our disabled students want to take and making sure they are scheduled in accessible locations. The Center for Rehabilitation Technology in the College of Architecture is attracting growing recognition for creating the technology disabled persons need to live normal, productive lives.

Georgia Tech's goal is to define the technological university of the 21st century, and that requires top-quality faculty who are recognized international leaders in dynamic research fields. We want to attract the best talent in our areas of emphasis, and give our faculty the support and encouragement they need to take their discoveries and innovations into the marketplace where they can make a difference in people's lives.

Endowed chairs have proven to be the most powerful tool a university can have to establish pre-eminence in particular fields of expertise. The 54 chairs endowed through campaign more than triple the total number of endowed chairs at Tech, taking us a quantum leap forward in our ability to attract eminent professors. We are grateful for the role of this region in adding to that number.

If you aspire to excellence in technological education and research, then you need state-of-the-art facilities, and the third focus of the campaign was to provide the quality facilities our students and faculty need and deserve. The campaign provided funding for 11 new facilities, including a major new research complex at the heart of campus whose unique design was featured in the international science journal *Nature*. The

Bioengineering and Bioscience Building is already alive with students and faculty. This new facility combined with our unique partnership with Emory University's Medical School is enabling Tech to apply our science and engineering expertise to medical questions and move to the forefront in biomedical research and education. So the endowment from this region for diabetes research is particularly timely and appreciated.

This interdisciplinary complex will include three more buildings – the Ford Motor Company Environmental Science and Technology Building, which is under construction, and the new home of the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering and the Molecular Science and Engineering Building, which are both in the planning stage. Across the street will be the new Advanced Computing Building.

Just to the east of these five new buildings, Georgia Tech is preparing to leap across the downtown connector and build Technology Square, a \$150 million complex along Fifth Street between I-75/85 and the renovated Biltmore. This move takes Georgia Tech's College of Management, continuing education, distance learning, and executive education programs into the heart of Midtown's growing high-tech business sector.

Facilities like these represent a very exciting facet of the campaign, and raising funds for them will be an ongoing effort, because even though we met our campaign goals, we have not yet fully funded several that began under the auspices of the campaign.

In addition to creating new scholarships, fellowships, endowed chairs, and facilities, the campaign also touches many other aspects of our life together on the campus of Georgia Tech, and I want to thank those who contributed to Roll Call, the A-T Fund, and the reunion projects. As you can tell, this wonderful and wildly successful campaign is already touching all aspects of campus life and lifting Georgia Tech to a higher level of excellence.

The campaign was a collaborative effort. The Alumni Association, the Athletic Association, the Development staff, the Office of the President, and many administrators, faculty and staff across campus worked shoulder to shoulder in a coordinated effort to share our vision for Georgia Tech with all of you. And your investment in that vision through the campaign is what will enable Georgia Tech to achieve its potential.

Your gifts give us the extra resources, beyond state appropriations and tuition, that will allow us to seize our opportunities and rise above the level of a good, solid school to become the standard by which others measure themselves. This evening, we express

our appreciation to each one of you for your loyalty, your faith, and your willingness to give back to Georgia Tech.

Now that the campaign is over, we are not going to go back to North Avenue and forget about you until the next campaign. We will continue to keep in touch. We will continue to seek your advice. And we hope that you will continue your service with your local club or Regional Development Committee, or serve on advisory boards for schools and colleges. We are grateful for your participation, and we will continue to ask for it.

We will also continue to share with you the many ways that your gifts are shaping futures through innovation at this Institute we all love so well. We sincerely believe that the best is yet to come at Georgia Tech, and we want you to be part of the excitement.

We have tried to capture the extraordinary spirit and meaning of the Campaign for Georgia Tech in a video that is being shown at campaign celebration events, in Atlanta, here in Chicago, and in 10 other cities around the nation. We think it's pretty exceptional, and that assessment was confirmed when it won a Telly Award in competition with more than 11,000 other entries. So we are going to conclude our program this evening by showing the campaign celebration video.