REMARKS BY GEORGIA TECH PRESIDENT G. WAYNE CLOUGH
Buckhead Rotary Club, June 25, 2001

➢ History
  - When Georgia Tech was created by legislature in 1885, Atlanta ended at North Avenue; a farmer named John Simpkins was growing corn and cotton on the land where Lenox Square is today.
  - Tech created to help move Georgia from agrarian economy into industrial age. Buckhead and Atlanta much different today, but Georgia Tech has similar mission: move Georgia from industrial economy into global, technology based economy.

➢ What can a research university do for its community?
  - Personal experience in Silicon Valley, Research Triangle, Seattle: research universities are the key to driving innovation.
  - Patents and innovation focused on specific locations called “clusters” which are hot-beds of innovation, economic activity.
  - Research universities are not only thing you need for cluster, but they are the heart.
  - Georgia Tech, together with Emory, Georgia State, Atlanta University complex, are making Atlanta a high-tech cluster. Many of Atlanta’s high-tech companies have Georgia Tech connections.
  - Georgia Tech is a stable presence; anchor in volatile economic times. We were here before the dot-coms; we will still be here after the dot-coms. Georgia Tech was born a year before Coca-Cola; continued on through Stock Market Crash of 1929, Great Depression, two world wars. We are now looking ahead long-term across the 21st century.
  - Tech’s Advanced Technology Development Center (ATDC): nurtures new businesses; attracts others with landing party assistance; 20 years old, rides out economic dips like private incubators such as e-Hatchery cannot.

➢ Much of Atlanta’s high-tech activity to date is in advanced communications; Georgia Tech is setting stage for future diversity:
  - Biotech partnership with Emory: joint research (Petit Institute, Engineering Research Center in Tissue Engineering), joint academic dept, EmTech Bio industry park for biotech companies and start-ups.
  - Nanotechnology: Georgia Tech is a leader in this new interdisciplinary field.

➢ Georgia Tech is also connecting to its surrounding neighborhoods, we are a partner in creating vibrant urban community:
  - Schools: Centennial Place, Inman, Grady.
  - Childcare center with Home Park.
Technology Square:
- Location rejoins Georgia Tech with its natural Midtown neighborhood.
- Part of bigger revitalization of dilapidated area into technology corridor:
  BellSouth, Fed, Crawford Long are expanding. New facilities for Yamacraw and ATDC are directly across the street from Technology Square.
- $175 m investment just in Technology Square.
- Careful attention by the architects to Technology Square’s fit and flow with neighborhood.
- Components will reach out to business community:
  Global Learning Center
  College of Management
  Hotel and conference center, which will also serve Midtown
  Light retail, restaurants where neighborhood workers, residents are welcome
- Capping freeway – will begin by broadening Fifth Street Bridge to provide a better link between Technology Square and the rest of our campus.
- Break ground in early fall for Tech Square, Yamacraw; finish 2003.

Atlanta is known as a poster child for urban sprawl, but we are seeing renewed interest in in-town areas like Buckhead, Midtown, and downtown. Midtown has an opportunity to lead the way in creating a dynamic urban live-work-learn-play community. Georgia Tech is a partner in that effort.