

REMQRKS BY GEORGIA TECH PRESIDENT G. WAYNE CLOUGH
Charles H. Jones Auditorium Dedication, Ford Environmental Science & Engineering Building
October 17, 2003

Charles Jones was a fellow civil engineering major whose student days preceded mine. He was a member of the Class of 1952, which celebrated its 50th Reunion last year

His career is a great example of the connection between civil engineering and environmental issues: In 1958, he was a founder of Jordan, Jones & Goulding, and he helped to guide it into a prominent engineering consulting firm. But he also owns and lives on a tree farm in Social Circle, Georgia, and is involved in the management of Southeastern Wholesale Nursery. And he has served as president of the Water Pollution Control Association, the Georgia Water and Pollution Control Association, and the Water Pollution Control Federation – a 45,000 member international organization.

Charles Jones' career illustrates the concept that is behind the Ford Environmental Sciences and Technology Building – a gathering of resources and ideas essential to preserving the environment while simultaneously serving the needs of society. It is very fitting that he should help bring this facility to fruition and that this Civil Engineering auditorium should bear his name.

The auditorium is not only a beautiful room that seats just over 100, but it also has built-in infrastructure that will enable us to use it for distance learning in the future, as we build our civil and environmental engineering program at Georgia Tech-Savannah. It is a special gift not only to the Georgia Tech students who are here in Atlanta today, but when distance learning technology is added, it will also serve Georgia Tech students in other locations.

As Mike Saunders will tell you, Savannah is a strategic location that offers unique opportunities for research and education in civil and environmental engineering. Our campus there is in the coastal wetlands – a location where civil engineering has to learn to function successfully within the constraints of a very fragile natural environment.

I am deeply grateful to Charles Jones for the support he has given to Georgia Tech, and for the example of his career, in which he has merged civil and environmental engineering so beautifully. We are proud to name the Charles H. Jones Auditorium in his honor within the Ford Environmental Science and Technology Building, where students are aspiring to follow in his footsteps.