Privilege to welcome all of you to Technology Square Research Building. Look forward to joining with you after lunch to pay tribute to former Governor George Busbee and dedicate the George Busbee Center for Global Economic Development.

Technology Square:
- Gave us some new space to address growing student body and faculty and rehabbed some decrepit land that was an eyesore of vacant lots and run-down buildings. But GT had an even bigger vision for Tech Square.
- Gathers our business programs and services together in Atlanta’s evolving high-tech business community – a driving force in helping to shape a high-tech corridor for the city and the state.
- GT already number one university in nation in promoting economic development and technology transfer; Technology Square allows us to take that to next level.

Georgia Tech has historic culture of entrepreneurism and creative problem solving. Combined with our historic economic development mission – gives us a leg up on most universities in being a driving force in today’s technology-based global economy.

Tech’s goal is to define the technological university of the 21st century, educate leaders of technology-driven world.
- Tech has a unique contribution to make in today’s global economy in which technology is pervasive and the driving force is innovation.
- Building a solid reputation for being a leading edge of newest interdisciplinary fields that enhance quality of life and address problems society faces.
- Have become much more visible in policy arena in Washington, D.C. Public officials called on to make far-reaching decisions about technology – important opportunity for GT to provide expertise.

In a global economy, our endeavors have to have an international flavor. GT wants to be one of the world’s few truly international universities:
- Educate students from around the world to be leaders in global economy.
- Key research projects around the world that attack critical global issues.
- Participate in public policy discussions around the world.
- Foster economic development and entrepreneurism in variety of nations and cultures.

To do that:
- Most fundamental level: give our own students here in Atlanta an international perspective:
  - Rise in study abroad to 1/3 of undergrads
  - Rising demand for languages – 65% increase in just past 3 years (offer Spanish, French, German, Japanese, Chinese, Korean, Arabic, Russian)
- Study Abroad driving demand for new program called Language-Across-the-Curriculum – substantive courses in international affairs taught in a foreign language by 2 professors – one from School of Modern Languages and other from Nunn School of International Affairs.
- 2 new degrees: International Affairs and Modern Languages; Global Economics and Modern Languages.
- College of Management here at Tech Square: Global Technology Entrepreneurship and Commercialization (G-TEC program) developing Global Team MBA – executive MBA offered jointly by GT and two other universities, one in France and the other in Argentina. First students to enroll next fall.
- Have 2,900 international students here in Atlanta – most of any university in Georgia. Walk across our campus and you will hear a smorgasbord of languages being spoken.
  - Also have our own education and research platforms at key international locations: GT-Lorraine; GT-Singapore (France over 10 years old; not only education, but research, spinning off new companies)
  - Partner with other international universities: Imperial College in London, Technical University of Munich, Fudan University in China, nanotech consortium of Israeli universities.
  - Connect to the world electronically through the Global Learning and Conference Center here at Tech Square:
    - Deliver courses among our own campuses
    - Provide on-line courses – offer 10 master’s degrees; 25 master’s students in Bangalore, India.
  - Faculty doing international research projects – a few examples:
    - Aris Georgakakos: water management system for Nile River Basin – gathers scientific data on weather dynamics, watershed behavior, environmental impacts, etc. for computer models that allow decision-makers to see the impact of decisions they may make.
    - Michael Elliot: trains Israeli and Palestinian environmental experts to mediate disputes of natural resources like water.
    - Bill Chameides: study director of China-Map, a project that studies the impact of pollution and environmental change on agriculture in China.
    - Sy Goodman: international developments and policies relative to IT and the Internet. Research has taken him to 80 countries.

- GT’s lifelong mission: educating students, conducting research, and fostering economic development. We are building on those strengths to move out on the leading edge of innovation – not only generating new ideas and new technology, but using it to solve the problems society faces and enhance the quality of life for all of Earth’s inhabitants.