WELCOME BY GEORGIA TECH PRESIDENT G. WAYNE CLOUGH
College of Management Impact Series: Thomas L. Friedman, November 7, 2005

Georgia Tech:
- Understands importance of educating students who are both well-grounded and well-rounded: combine in-depth understanding of their discipline with global perspective, ability to collaborate and solve problems, communication skills.
- Impact Series contributes to their broader understanding of the business world.

The Impact Series:
- Celebrating fifth anniversary this fall.
- Begun in fall of 2000 as a weekly forum for GT management students to interact with and learn from business leaders and entrepreneurs who have had a significant impact.
- This fall year, the Series has added a new dimension, exploring broader international issues:
  - Earlier featured Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf, founder and CEO of American Society for Muslim Advancement and author of *What’s Right With Islam: a New Vision for Muslims and the West*.
  - Continue that broader discussion today with Thomas L. Friedman.

Tom Friedman will be introduced by one of our students, Bala Ganesh:
- Graduate student pursuing an MBA in the College of Management and a Ph.D. in aerospace engineering.
- Ph.D. thesis relates to the unsteady aerodynamics of helicopters flying close to the ground.
- Interned last summer with the strategic planning group of Amgen, Inc. – a major biotechnology company.
- Native of South India; did his undergraduate studies at the National Defense Academy in India and served for six years in the Indian Air Force as a fighter pilot before coming to Georgia Tech for his graduate studies.