NOTES FOR GEORGIA TECH PRESIDENT G. WAYNE CLOUGH
Appropriations Higher Education Subcommittee, 1.31.06

Thank for investment in GT:
- FY 2004: GT got $209 million in state funds; had economic impact of $2.2 billion – a return of $9 for every $1 in state funding. (To document impact, have to begin with FY 04 appropriation.)
- State funding < 25% of GT’s budget – for every $1 in operating funds state gives GT, GT attracts $3 more from other sources into its budget. More than $2 of those $3 dollars come from outside the state. FY 2004: GT brought $450 million into Ga from outside the state (Huron).

But benefit of GT to state much bigger than simply return on dollar investment:
- GT ranks among nation’s top 10 public universities.
- Educates bright, talented, technologically savvy students:
  o One of best caliber student bodies of any public university in nation.
  o GT one of system’s fastest growing institutions – 4,150 additional students over past 10 yrs; 1,560 additional students in past 5 years.
  o Pleased to report that GT’s engineering program on coast continues to thrive and grow. About 600 students enrolled at partner schools and on own GT-Savannah campus combined. Also about 40 graduate students.
  o GT actually an importer of talent to Georgia – out-of-state students tend to stay here, join workforce.
  o Working very hard to improve our retention rate and graduation rate to keep these kids here. First year retention now at 92% after hovering in mid-80s for a long time. Graduation rate now at 76%, up from 66%. (Since 1993: nets an additional 420 engineers; if we hold this rate, will net an additional 1,000 by 2010.)
  o Despite reputation as one of the most academically rigorous universities in the nation, GT’s first year retention is among System’s highest; graduation rate is System’s highest.
- Research enterprise continues to grow:
  o Last year: $357 million in awards; $425 million in expenditures. On track to surpass that this year.
  o Focused on strategic fields for the future; aligned with the high-tech economic development priorities of state of Georgia:
    ▪ Nanoscience & nanotechnology: GT in NNIN, already a leader in nanotech with world-renowned faculty.
    ▪ Bioscience & biotech: partnership with Emory has already gotten national attention; biomedical engineering program regarded as one of the best in the nation. Recent award of $20 million nanomedicine center. GT’s partnership with Emory leverages state dollars – gives state more bang for its bucks.
- New thrusts: predictive health; electronic health systems (will launch Health Systems Institute in March with Emory – Newt Gingrich will keynote); computational biology (will cut ribbon on new center next week).
- Strategic Energy Initiative – lessen dependence on fossil fuels by developing alternative energy sources, making stuff more energy-efficient, etc.

  - Economic development
    - VentureLab = clear path to commercialization for discoveries, new technologies coming out of GT labs. Result 25 new companies in past 2 years.
    - ATDC: recognized as one of nation’s most successful incubators. Just this month featured in *BusinessWeek*’s “Small Biz” edition as one of top 4 incubators who are “setting the pace.” Celebrated 25th anniversary by graduating its 100th company.
    - Technology Enterprise Park: will help keep those graduates in Ga. Broke ground earlier this month.
    - New: Georgia Tech Commercialization Services: to speed up commercialization of new technology and make GT’s resources even more accessible to business and industry as they seek to develop new products, compete in world markets.
    - EDI: saved, created 17,250 jobs in FY 04.

  - GT helps put Georgia on the map
    - Engaged in numerous national public policy discussions.
    - Katrina: at policy level – NAE/NRC committee, NSF-sponsored workshop. On the ground: 3 teams on structural damage; Mid-America Earthquake Center, harbors/ports research center = bridge damage; GTRI = train clean-up workers to prevent injury, long-term health damage; plasma furnace system for waste disposal.

- As you can see, money you appropriate for GT gets leveraged and expanded to benefit of state.

- Grateful for the Gov’s recommendation of 4% salary increase. Hope you will support it.
  - Market for faculty in GT’s arena is very competitive.
  - GT has worked to attract outstanding young faculty.
  - Others now trying to lure them away; need resources to hang on to them (80 in past year)

- Appreciate full funding of formula
  - Already mentioned strong enrollment growth.
  - Helps keep our bright, technologically focused students in Georgia to complete degrees.

- Appreciate ongoing support for Nanotechnology Research Center; hope you support $38 million in Gov’s budget.
  - Non-state funding is in place; ready to move forward.
o This facility will take us to the next level, and put Georgia on the map with exclamation point.
o Will be available to other universities, industry.
o Gov’s budget reflects importance of bioscience and biotech to Ga’s economic future.
o Recent award of $20 million NIH cancer center to Ga Tech and Emory stresses need for NRC and is indicative of its significance for Georgia’s bid to become biotech center of excellence. (First clean-room facility in nation to be design specifically to serve biotech research.)

- ATDC: $5 million Seed Capital Fund for bioscience industry. Recent announcement of Altea project at Technology Enterprise Park is indicative of success of this kind of funding.

- Old Civil Engineering Building renovation:
o With strong growth in student body, badly need classroom, lab space. Hamstrung by inability to renovate this building.
o Appreciate your support in adding funding to budget last year. Unfortunately Gov vetoed, so need your help again.

- GRA budget
  o Appreciate matching funding for energy chairs – will help strengthen and amplify major, multi-faceted Strategic Energy Initiative GT already has underway.
o $21.5 million in bonds for R&D infrastructure at research universities is important. If Georgia wants to make its mark on the high-tech map, need to have major national centers of excellence; this money is critical to attract eminent scholars and develop centers (Mike Cassidy has already provided details.)
o Funding for VentureLab: this concept was developed and piloted by Georgia Tech; incredibly successful. Funding will support the expansion of this concept throughout the state.
o GRA a powerful way to align and coordinate the efforts and resources of Georgia’s research efforts. Nothing like it anywhere in U.S.