

WELCOME REMARKS, GEORGIA TECH PRESIDENT G. WAYNE CLOUGH
CIBER Business Language Conference, April 6, 2006

- Welcome to Georgia Tech and to the Georgia Tech Hotel.
 - GT one of 30 universities around the nation with CIBER national centers of excellence in international business funded by the U.S. Dept of Education.
 - Here at GT, CIBER = collaboration of College of Management and Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts.

- Earlier this year (Jan 5-6) I attended the U.S. University President's Summit on International Education, co-hosted by Education Secretary Margaret Spellings and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice:
 - Began with President Bush announcing the National Security Language Initiative, which calls for more Americans to learn languages that will enhance our national security efforts.
 - Moved on to examine the need for the U.S. to welcome international students and encourage American students to study abroad.
 - Put important issues on the table for discussion: student visas, deemed exports, international forums for exchange of ideas.
 - Bottom line: Acknowledged the reality that we live in a global economy, and modern languages play an important role in that endeavor.

- Modern languages have traditionally been seen as the purview of liberal arts colleges rather than a technologically focused university like Georgia Tech, but...
 - Have developed a robust language program that has a unique, practical Georgia Tech twist.
 - Students have responded enthusiastically: Language study not required, but have quadrupled number of students taking foreign language courses over past decade.
 - Students see global economy emerging, and understand that this is the environment where they will pursue their careers.

- One of Georgia Tech's goals is to become one of the world's few truly global universities:
 - Campuses in France, Singapore
 - Dual degree programs and partnerships with universities in London; Munich; Monterrey, Mexico; and Shanghai.
 - Opening GTRI office in Ireland
 - Study Abroad: 33% of undergrads participate. Unique programs that combine study at a university with an international internship (Technical University of Munich and Siemens, for example).
 - Special International Plan: students do 2 study abroads, take global economics, international affairs electives, imbue chosen discipline with international focus, get special notation on diploma, transcript.

- Unique interdisciplinary degrees that combine foreign languages with either global economics or international affairs. Teach not only language, literature and culture, but also skilled, practical applications for it.
 - Language across the curriculum: courses team-taught by language professor and professor from discipline such as international affairs.
 - Global executive MBA with residencies in South America and Europe; executive master's in international logistics with residencies in Europe and Singapore
- Believe universities need to educate citizens of the world who are comfortable working across cultures. Modern languages play critical role in that endeavor, and pleased to welcome you to this CIBER Business Language Conference.