The Biotechnology Complex

President G. Wayne Clough
Georgia Tech Advisory Board, October 7, 2006
A little historical background

1987: Robert Nerem assumes the Parker H. Petit Chair in for Engineering in Medicine, establishes the Emory/Georgia Tech Biomedical Technology Research Center.

1992: Master’s degree in biomedical engineering

1993: Whitaker Foundation Biomedical Engineering Award

1994: Ph.D. program in biomedical engineering, additional faculty
1996: Parker H. “Pete” Petit endows the Petit Institute for Bioengineering and Bioscience.

1997: Joint GT-Emory Biomedical Engineering Department, Don Giddens assumes Lawrence L. Gellerstedt Chair in Bioengineering.

1998: $12.5 million NSF Center for the Engineering of Living Tissues.

1999: Opening of Petit Biotechnology Building.
Private gifts made complex possible

- State funds covered only part of the construction cost of one building: Ford ES&T

- Major donors:
  - Coulter Foundation
  - Whitaker Foundation
  - Woodruff Foundation
  - Anonymous foundation
  - Ford Motor Company
  - Alumnus Pete Petit
Biotechnology Complex
as initially envisioned in 1999

Molecular Science & Eng
Ford ES&T
Petit Biotech
Petit Biotechnology Building was the first Tech facility in modern history to be built entirely with private funding.
Ford Environmental Science & Technology Building

- Energy efficient materials and systems
- Rooftop draining system collects rainwater
Biotechnology Complex

as envisioned in 2000
Before Ford is finished, Whitaker begins
Whitaker Biomedical Engineering Building
Biotechnology Complex

2004
Imagining the Molecular Science & Engineering Building
Construction underway
Molecular Science & Engineering

Completed fall of 2006
Special features of the complex

Whitaker: Problem-based learning

Ford: Wet-lab incubator

Petit: Research neighborhoods