Introduce student leaders, partners in this effort:

- From Student Lobby Board:
  - Chair Kevin Widmaier
  - Government Relations Co-chairs: Michael Pollock and Will Raybon
- SGA President Anu Parvatiyar

Overview of Georgia Tech

- Growing, vibrant student body:
  - This fall: About 18,750 students
  - Added over 5,650 students in past decade – 43% increase
  - Students continue to get smarter even as enrollment grows – most schools can only do one or the other – quality of our students among top 5 of nation’s public universities
  - House 70% of undergrads on campus compared to 25-35% average for publics.
  - Working hard on diversity:
    - More women, minorities to STEM
    - GT Promise for economically disadvantaged Georgia students
    - Strong international enrollment (even though it is now tougher than it used to be)
  - Women’s tennis – NCAA Championship, indoor championship; Bryan Shelton is Intercollegiate Tennis Association National Coach of the Year. Congratulated by President Bush in White House visit.

- Enhancing the undergraduate experience
  - Study abroad – over a third of undergrads participate; Metz offers opportunity to engineering students; 45-50 students work abroad each year in internships or co-op assignments in over a dozen countries; International Plan puts major into international context.
  - Research – over 40% participate; Research Option gives undergrads sustained research experience, noted on record.
  - Honors Program a success
    - 2nd year; add 120 students a year
    - New course: Semester in the City – study English Ave as neighborhood, in context of broader city; engage in partnership with neighborhood in community service activities
  - Interdisciplinary majors:
    - Biomedical engineering
    - Digital media
  - Computer science
    - “Threads” – focus on various applications of CS
    - “Roles” – focus on basic career tracks
    - Enables students to rise above the level of basic programmer available in India.
Result of our efforts:

- **US News:** #7 among publics; highest ever.
  - Engineering in top 5. ISyE retains #1 ranking.
  - Undergrad research, internships, co-op: “Programs to look for”
- Retention/graduation rates
  - Retention: 92% (still one of lowest in top 50 univ)
  - Graduation 78%
- Graduates in demand
  - Last academic year – 550 corporate recruiters – 10,000 job interviews on campus
  - This year’s fall career fair (Sept):
    - Over 400 corporate recruiters
    - Sold out space in less than 3 weeks (a record).

**Innovative Learning Resource Center, formula funds** – very important part of accommodating enrollment growth and offering a high-quality educational experience to our undergraduate students.

Research – FY 07

- Record highs:
  - Awards: $374 million
  - Expenditures: Expect over $460 million
- Top 5 among universities with no medical school

Highlight a few research thrusts:

- **Medicine** – a new field for GT
  - Nanomedicine – only university in nation with 3 centers of excellence
  - Technology and electronic data systems
- **Energy**
  - Carbon separation and sequestration
  - Biofuels – alternatives to corn that are not food crops and have better energy ratio of input to output – southern pine, sawgrass
  - Solar – next generation of cells
  - Policy – no silver bullet; need to develop all possible options and coordinate them with comprehensive policies.
- **Water, drought**
  - Experts advising city, state
  - Campus – 2nd largest user in Atlanta (campus community larger than Decatur or Forest Park)
    - Same level of water usage today as 2001 despite 25% increase in square footage
    - Low-flow fixtures, fixed leaks, collect storm water for irrigation
    - Students to begin community outreach with Home Depot to teach water conservation.
Helping Georgia thrive in global economy

- GT’s annual economic impact on state – $4 billion
- ATDC full; GT continues to spin out new companies – 52 in just past 5 years.
- Just opened Technology Enterprise Park – keep second-stage biotech companies in Georgia.
- Working closely with State Dept of Ec Dev to help Georgia businesses make international connections through our education and research platforms in France, Ireland, Singapore, Shanghai.

Conclusion

- Exciting new opportunities for students, who embrace them with enthusiasm
- Creating a campus environment, educational experience that prepares students to succeed in 21st century and at same time is very engaging and a lot of fun.
- Driving economic growth for Georgia
- Need state to be a partner with us in supporting our endeavors