Georgia Institute of Technology: Defining the technological research university of the 21st century

Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee
Georgia House of Representatives
February 2008
Students

17,933 students enrolled:

- 12,357 undergraduate students*
- 5,576 graduate students

Growing enrollment: added 4,150 students in the past 10 years.

* Including Robert Smith, Architecture

A national leader in graduating minority and female engineers
Access for talented students

- Low tuition compared to national peers.
- Co-op Program: 2,700 students work their way through Tech, gaining valuable job experience.
- *Diverse Issues in Higher Education* and *Hispanic Business* rank Tech among the best in the nation in graduating minority engineers.
- Tech Promise for economically disadvantaged Georgia students:
  - 400 students from families with income less than $30,000
  - Program dependent upon private gifts
  - Will help in recruiting from South Georgia, inner cities
Access to engineering education

- Largest engineering program in the nation
- Regents Engineering Transfer Program: 235 juniors and seniors from RETP enrolled
- Georgia Tech Savannah: 550+ students including our partner institutions:
  - Savannah State University
  - Armstrong Atlantic University
  - Georgia Southern University
- Distance learning: 485 students
Reshaping undergraduate education

- Honors Program
- New interdisciplinary degrees
- International Plan
- Research Option
- Leadership education
- Revising the curriculum
  - Problem-based learning
  - “Threads”
Improving our performance

- First year retention, 2006: 92% (up from 85% in 1994)
- Graduation rate, 2006: 77% (up from 69% in 1994)
- Study abroad quadrupled since 1994 to 34% of undergraduates
- 43% of undergraduates engage in structured research
- Awarded more PhD degrees since 1996 than in all of Tech’s 108 years prior to 1996
Improving the System’s performance

- System’s 3 goals:
  - Increase access
  - Improve retention
  - Improve graduation rates by 1% each year, bring individual units to national average by 2010
A quality campus

7 million gross sq ft of new/renovated space since 1995; 20% from state funds
Marcus Nanotechnology Building

- Largest in the South
- Three classes of cleanrooms (10, 100, 1,000)
- First in nation, world designed for both physical, biomedical research
- Flexible configuration
- Multi-user access

Funding:
- State: $45 M
- Ga Tech: $45 M
- Equipment: $50 M
Annual research expenditures (in millions)

1,884 awards
2,317 awards
At the leading edge

- Research expenditures doubled during past decade
- 18 National Centers of Excellence
- No. 2 nationally in engineering R&D
- No. 3 nationally in nanotechnology experts cited in peer-reviewed publications
- Attracted Jeff Skolnick, world-renowned computational biologist, and team of 19 to Institute for Systems Biology

Identifying and attacking individual cancer cells.

“The Razor” at the Institute for Systems Biology is the world’s 41st fastest computer.
Expanding medical research

3 NIH national centers of excellence in nanomedicine; Emory, MCG are partners:

- Cardiovascular disease
- Cancer diagnosis, treatment
- DNA, RNA repair

Center for Pediatric Outcomes and Quality, joint with Children’s Health Care of Atlanta

Electronic health systems

Joint center with Shepherd Center: wireless technologies for disabilities.
Softwood to Ethanol: UGA is a partner

New solar cell technology

Fuel cells, batteries

New materials for the rigors of producing, shielding nuclear energy.
Other research thrusts

- High performance computing
- Robotics
- Disaster recovery
- Global Safe Water
Expanding economic impact

- Annual economic impact: $4 billion
- 2005: Awarded 43 patents
  - Top 10 among national research universities
  - No. 3 in Georgia behind GE Energy, BellSouth

- Spinning off start-up companies:
  - 1987-1995: 8 companies
  - 1995-2000: 29 companies
  - 2000-2005: 47 companies

Advanced Technology Development Center
Technology Enterprise Park
Global leader in biotech transfer

- No. 4 in start-up companies
- No. 8 in patents filed
- No. 11 in technology transfer

*Mind to Market: A Global Analysis of University Biotechnology Transfer and Commercialization*

A study by the Milken Institute

Orthonics

CardioMEMS
Expanding Georgia’s economic reach

France

Ireland

Singapore

Shanghai
Engaged through GRA

- 19 GRA Endowed Scholars at Georgia Tech
- Support for national centers of excellence:
  - Center for the Engineering of Living Tissues
  - Chip Packaging Research Center
  - Nanomedicine Center for DNA Repair (GT, Emory, MCG)
- Examples of other efforts at Georgia Tech:
  - Center for the Study of Systems Biology
  - Georgia Electronic Design Center
  - National LambdaRail, Inc.
National rankings

**Academic**
- Top 10 public university
- Top 5 engineering school
- Top 10: all engineering disciplines
- No. 3 among public universities in % of National Merit Scholars
- No. 2 among all universities in NSF CAREER Awards
- Top 5 in nanomedicine
- Top 12 best value in public education

**Other**
- Best university-based business incubator
- Top 12 academic places to work
- Top 5 public university in alumni giving
- Largest voluntary co-op program
- Best campus rec center
- No. 1 women’s tennis team
Tech has the “right stuff”

“What the Georgia Tech model recognizes is that the world is increasingly going to be operating off of the flat-world platform, with its tools for all kinds of horizontal collaboration.”

Thomas L. Friedman
*The World is Flat*