

GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
TWO HUNDREDTH AND THIRTIETH COMMENCEMENT EXERCISE
GEORGIA DOME

May 3, 2008, 9:00 A.M.

(Faculty and President's Party will assemble at 8:00 a.m. in the Blue/Green Room and Meeting Room 1 &2)

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| Processional | Georgia Tech Commencement Ensemble |
| Master of Ceremonies | Dr. G. Wayne Clough President |
| Reflection | Rev. Trent McEntyre Senior Staff, Campus Crusade for Christ |
| National Anthem | Ryan Ceciliani |
| Commencement Address | Mr. Dean Kamen President, DEKA |
| Presentation of Master's Degree | Dr. Sue Ann Bidstrup Allen Faculty Executive Assistant to the President |
| Conferring of Degrees | Dr. Clough |

Introduction of
Academic Deans

Dr. Anderson Smith
Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

Presentation of Undergraduate
Degree Candidates

College of Computing
Associate Dean Merrick Furst

Ivan Allen College
Associate Dean John Tone

College of Architecture
Associate Dean Sabir Khan

College of Management
Dean Steven R. Salbu

College of Sciences
Dean Paul Houston

College of Engineering
Dean Don P. Giddens

Conferring of Degrees

Dr. Clough

Commission Recognition
Ceremony

Lt. Colonel Nathaniel Farmer
U.S. Army ROTC

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| Induction into | Mr. C. Meade Sutterfield , Class of 1972 Chair, Georgia Tech Alumni Association |
| Alma Mater | Ryan Ceciliani |
| Faculty Recessional | Georgia Tech Commencement Ensemble |
| "Ramblin' Wreck" | Graduates and Audience |

May 3, 2008 - Ceremony Script

(Dr. Clough)

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Will everyone please stand for the reflection by Rev. Trent McEntyre, from Campus Crusade for Christ, and remain standing for our national anthem.

(Rev. Trent McEntyre)

Reflection

(Ryan Ceciliani)

National Anthem

(Dr. Clough)

Please be seated. Once again, good morning. It is my pleasure to welcome everyone to Georgia Tech's two-hundred thirtieth commencement exercises. This is the largest commencement in Georgia Tech history – so large we had to hold it in the Georgia Dome. However, we already conferred the Ph.D. degrees at an earlier ceremony, so it will not be quite as long as it could have been.

All of these talented young people graduating today have received a technology-oriented education that is increasingly valuable and rare among the thousands of graduates from our nation's universities. Each of them will be a key resource in helping our nation remain great for the future.

As you know from news reports, our nation is at risk of falling behind in the global economic competition, because too few of our young people are choosing to study fields like engineering and science. But each of the graduates before us today has chosen the less traveled path – one that called for them to work hard, learn about the latest developments in fields like science, engineering, public policy, architecture, and management. In the process, they have learned to compete with some of the best and brightest our nation has to

offer. I know you join me in the special pride I feel in being among them on this day.

The world around us is changing rapidly, and these young graduates have been educated in what is required to address the challenges and solve the problems of the 21st century. This assessment is based not only on their talents and academic achievements, but also on the quality of our faculty and the strength of our academic programs. Georgia Tech is known for its academic rigor, and is regularly ranked among the nation's top 10 public universities.

I also have great confidence in the future of these young graduates based on the track record of the Tech alumni who preceded them. Just look around at the billion-dollar companies whose CEOs are Georgia Tech alumni – Wal-Mart International, Gulfstream Aerospace, GE Commercial Finance, Shaw Industries, SEI Investments, and Coca-Cola Enterprises.

Beyond the business world we see alumni who have won Nobel prizes, like Kerry Mullis, and who have served in the U.S. Senate, like Sam Nunn whom we will honor this morning... alumni who have walked on the moon, like John Young; and who are even well-known entertainers, like John Salley, Jeff Foxworthy, and Phil Gordon – who is not only a successful business man but also holds a world poker title and is seen on TV advising others on when to hold 'em and when to fold 'em.

You, today's graduates, are the recipients of that same education. You are the inheritors of those same traditions – including the ability to think clearly on just a few hours of sleep a night, an abiding appreciation for chili dogs from the Varsity, cheering on the Yellow Jacket athletic teams, pulling all-nighters during “dead week,” and being gently awakened by the sweet sound of the Whistle or a little jack-hammering on the latest construction project.

As we celebrate the completion of this phase of your life today, we hope and believe that the knowledge and skills you carry with you from our campus will continue to shape and influence your lives in ways you cannot yet even imagine. And we look forward to seeing you step to the fore to provide the technological and ethical leadership our nation and world will need in the days ahead.

We hope and believe you have learned to rise to a challenge... to be creative in solving problems... to adapt to change, and even to anticipate and provoke it. These abilities will stand you in good stead your whole life long. Most importantly, we hope and believe that here at Georgia Tech you have learned that the goal is not merely to “have more,” but also to “be more.” As Lily Tomlin once noted, even if you win the rat race, you’ll still be a rat. And we hope and believe that you set forth from this day, prepared not only to live in the world, but also to help make it a better place.

Today, as we celebrate the successful conclusion of a chapter of your lifelong education, it is important to acknowledge that you have not done it alone. With you every step of the way – at least in spirit – were your parents and for some of you, your spouses, who made all the difference in your success. The faculty and staff of Georgia Tech and our graduates would like to thank you for your support. Would our parents and spouses please stand so that we may recognize you.

(LEAD APPLAUSE)

Additional support for our graduates came from our outstanding Georgia Tech faculty. I know that when you got your tests back you did not always feel loved by the faculty, but today they are here to testify that you earned their respect. So now is the time for all of our graduates to say thanks to all the help they received from the faculty and I would like to ask the faculty present today to rise and be recognized.

(LEAD APPLAUSE)

Of course, those who deserve the most recognition on this momentous day are the graduates, who entered this room a few minutes ago as students and who will leave as Georgia Tech alumni. Would all of you please stand so that we may recognize you and your achievement?

(LEAD APPLAUSE)

The career of our commencement speaker this morning has followed a course that reflects the aspirations of many Georgia Tech students. Dean Kamen is an inventor, an entrepreneur, and a tireless crusader in the quest to awaken curiosity and excitement in kids about science and technology.

His best-known invention is perhaps a two-wheeled, self-balancing, battery-powered scooter called the Segway Human Transporter. The Segway has received the Gold Medal in the transportation category of the Industrial Design Society of America. And you can buy it at Amazon.com, where it is among the 200 best sellers in the electronics store.

You might expect an invention like the Segway to come from someone with a career in transportation technology, or maybe environmental sustainability, since the Segway is a much cleaner alternative to vehicles that burn fossil fuel. But most of the 150-plus patents that Dean Kamen holds are for medical devices that have expanded the frontiers of health care worldwide.

His career as an inventor began in high school, when he designed an audiovisual control system that was used in New York's Hayden Planetarium. He invented his first medical device as a college undergraduate – a wearable fusion pump that was a welcome improvement in medical procedures from chemotherapy to endocrinology. Its success turned him into an entrepreneur, as he founded AutoSyringe, Inc. to manufacture and market the pumps. The company grew as demand for the fusion pumps grew and as Mr. Kamen created more products, such as the first insulin pump for diabetics.

However, by the time he reached the age of 30, Dean Kamen was ready for something new. He sold AutoSyringe and started a new company called DEKA Research and Development to develop his own inventions as well as new products for corporate clients. Today, hundreds of engineers, technicians, and machinists work in DEKA's labs and shops, and Dean Kamen has added climate control systems and helicopter design to his list of patents. One of his newest projects is a water purification system to provide clean drinking water, which addresses an increasing challenge around the world.

However, the creation that ties him most closely to Georgia Tech and has involved many of our students is FIRST – which stands for “For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology.” Dean Kamen founded FIRST in 1992 and continues as its guiding spirit and driving force in a crusade to stimulate interest in science and technology among children and youth.

The signature event of this organization is the FIRST Robotics Competition. Every year robots built by thousands of high school students compete at the regional level across the United States and in other nations. Just last month, these regional winners converged at the annual international championship competition that was held right here in the Georgia Dome.

Georgia Tech believes in Dean's dream and is involved as a sponsor of the Georgia regional competition and the national competition. Our students mentor numerous teams who enter robots in FIRST competitions, and more than a few of those who enroll at Georgia Tech have participated in a FIRST event.

FIRST now also engages younger students in its Leggo League – which involves building robots from Leggo products – and offers hands-on science and technology day camps and workshops for schools.

I am proud to claim Dean Kamen as a fellow member of the National Academy of Engineering. He has also been awarded the National Medal of Technology and was inducted into the Inventors Hall of Fame in 2005.

Dean, we are honored and delighted to welcome you to present our commencement address today.

(DEAN KAMEN'S REMARKS)

Thank you, Dean. As a token of our appreciation for taking time to speak today, I would like to present you with a gift.

(PRESENT GIFT)

We are going to begin the process of granting degrees by presenting two very special honorary doctoral degrees. The first goes to Dean Kamen, whose extraordinary accomplishments were described in the course of his introduction as our commencement speaker. Dean, it is my great pleasure to present you with this honorary degree which reads:

“To all whom these presents may come, Greeting: Whereas Dean Kamen has been recognized for his inventions that have advanced medical care and human welfare worldwide and for his imaginative leadership in motivating young people to consider careers in science and engineering, now, therefore, we, under the authority vested in us, do hereby confer the degree of Honorary Doctor of Philosophy with all the rights, privileges and honors thereunto appertaining.”

(PRESENT HONORARY DEGREE)

The second honorary degree is presented to one of our nation's most respected and visionary experts on national defense and security – former United States Senator Sam Nunn.

He grew up in Perry, Georgia, and began his academic career at Georgia Tech, where he was more interested in the Freshman Cake Race than the arms race. He won the Cake Race, and we'd like to think he learned something about winning from that experience, because in 30 years of elected political office, he never lost a campaign.

Soon after receiving his law degree from Emory University, he began his political career. And in the course of that career, he defeated a crowd of veterans to be elected to the United States Senate at the tender age of 36. As chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, he was a guiding force in reshaping American policy toward Eastern Europe in the wake of the collapse of the Soviet Union. The Nunn-Lugar Act provided incentives to the former Soviet republics to dismantle their nuclear arsenals and other weapons of mass destruction. This effort was so effective and successful that scholars hailed it as “the most significant congressional achievement in nuclear affairs since the dawn of the nuclear age.”

Sam Nunn retired from the U.S. Senate in 1996, but has continued to crusade against the dangers of terrorism and nuclear weapons. Together with fellow Georgian and CNN founder Ted Turner, he established the Nuclear Threat Initiative, a nonprofit organization that works to reduce global threats from nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons. He also chairs the board of the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, D.C.

The same year he retired from the Senate, he agreed to join the Georgia Tech faculty and allowed us to name our newly created School of International Affairs for him. Since then, the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs has more than doubled in size and become

the home of the biennial Sam Nunn Bank of America Policy Forum. Other initiatives like the Sam Nunn Security Fellows Program also enable Georgia Tech to educate the next generation of national and international security policy advisors.

Senator Nunn, it is my great pleasure to present you with this honorary degree which reads:

“To all whom these presents may come, Greeting: Whereas Sam Nunn has been recognized as a guiding force in the reshaping of American international policy following the collapse of the Soviet Union, and continues to be one of the nation’s most respected voices in international affairs and defense, now therefore, We, under the authority vested in us, do hereby confer the degree of honorary Doctor of Philosophy with all the rights, privileges, and honors thereunto appertaining.”

(PRESENT HONORARY DEGREE)

At this time we will confer the master’s and bachelor’s degrees. Dr. Sue Ann Bidstrup Allen, Faculty Executive Assistant to the President, will present the candidates for the master’s degree.

(Dr. Allen) Will the candidates for the Master’s and Master of Science degrees please rise?

(Dr. Allen) Mr. President, I have the honor of presenting to you for the Master's and Master of Science degrees those candidates who have completed all requirements for those degrees.

(Dr. Clough) Upon the recommendation of the faculty of the Georgia Institute of Technology and by authority of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, I confer upon each of you the

Master's Degree, with all the rights, privileges, and responsibilities thereunto appertaining.

(Dr. Clough) We shall now present the diplomas. Will the faculty marshals please bring the candidates forward.

(Dr. Allen presents diplomas, Dr. Clough shakes hands)

(Dr. Clough) Please join me in congratulating these Master's graduates.

(LEAD APPLAUSE)

(Dr. Clough)

At this time, Dr. Anderson Smith, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, will introduce the academic deans who will then present the candidates for the bachelor's degree.

(Dr. Smith) Associate Dean Merrick Furst will introduce the undergraduate candidates for degrees in the College of Computing.

(Dr. Furst) Candidates for the Bachelor of Science degree in the College of Computing please rise and remain standing. *(Pause)*

(Dr. Furst) Mr. President, I have the honor to introduce to you those candidates for the Bachelor of Science degree who have completed the requirements for this degree.

(Dr. Smith) Associate Dean John Tone will introduce the undergraduate candidates for degrees in the Ivan Allen College.

- (Dr. Tone) Candidates for the Bachelor of Science degree in the Ivan Allen College please rise and remain standing. *(Pause)*
- (Dr. Tone) Mr. President, I have the honor to introduce to you those candidates for the Bachelor of Science degree who have completed the requirements for this degree.
- (Dr. Smith) Associate Dean Sabir Kahn will introduce the undergraduate candidates for degrees in the College of Architecture.
- (Dr. Kahn) Candidates for the Bachelor of Science degree in the College of Architecture please rise and remain standing. *(Pause)*
- (Dr. Kahn) Mr. President, I have the honor to introduce to you those candidates for the Bachelor of Science degree who have completed the requirements for this degree.
- (Dr. Smith) Dean Steven Salbu will introduce the undergraduate candidates for degrees in the College of Management.
- (Dr. Salbu) Candidates for the Bachelor of Science degree in the College of Management please rise and remain standing. *(Pause)*
- (Dr. Salbu) Mr. President, I have the honor to introduce to you those candidates for the Bachelor of Science degree who have completed the requirements for this degree.
- (Dr. Smith) Dean Paul Houston will introduce the undergraduate candidates for degrees in the College of Sciences.

- (Dr. Houston) Candidates for the Bachelor of Science degree in the College of Sciences please rise and remain standing. *(Pause)*
- (Dr. Houston) Mr. President, I have the honor to introduce to you those candidates for the Bachelor of Science degree who have completed the requirements for this degree.
- (Dr. Smith) Dean Don Giddens will introduce the undergraduate candidates for degrees in the College of Engineering.
- (Dr. Giddens) Candidates for the bachelor's degree and Bachelor of Science degree in the College of Engineering please rise and remain standing.
(Pause)
- (Dr. Giddens) Mr. President, I have the honor to introduce to you those candidates for the bachelor's degree and the Bachelor of Science degree who have completed the requirements for those respective degrees.
- (Dr. Clough) Upon the recommendation of the faculty of the Georgia Institute of Technology and by authority of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, I confer upon each of you the bachelor's degree, with all the rights, privileges, and responsibilities hereunto appertaining.
- (Dr. Clough) Please be seated. We will now award the degrees. Will the faculty marshals please bring the candidates forward.

(College of Computing candidates will come forward, then IAC, Architecture, Management, College of Sciences and College of Engineering. Deans present diplomas and Dr. Clough shapes hands. Announcer will pause between colleges to allow the Dean time to come forward.)

(Dr. Clough) Now, please join me in congratulating these fine new graduates of Georgia Tech.

(LEAD APPLAUSE)

(Dr. Clough) At this time I would like to introduce Lieutenant Colonel Nathaniel Farmer of the U.S. Army ROTC to recognize those graduates who are commissioned to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces.

(Lt. Col. Farmer) Commission graduates

Dr. Clough:

To formally induct our graduates into our great Georgia Tech Alumni Association, I would like to present Mr. C. Meade Sutterfield, class of 1972. He is a private equity investor and also advises venture capital firms. As chair of the Georgia Tech Alumni Association, he will welcome the members of this graduating class into the fellowship of Tech.

(Mr. Sutterfield) Induction of graduates into the Alumni Association.

Dr. Clough:

As you know, this is my last Georgia Tech graduation as the Institute's president. We now do three graduations a year, but prior to our conversion to semesters, we did four a year. If you add them up, I have presided over 47 graduations at which a total of more than 51,000 degrees were conferred. Like this one, all of the others have been fun and I am grateful for the opportunity that has been afforded to me to participate. I am proud that over half of the Ph.D. graduates in Georgia Tech's storied history have received their degrees on my

watch, and over 35 percent of the total number of students who have ever graduated from Georgia Tech have walked across the stage and shook my hand while I was president.

My wish for each of you here today is that you enjoy long, productive, and fruitful careers. Your Tech degree will help immensely, as it did for me. But it will be up to you to make the most of it, and each of you graduating today has this ability in you. Nothing is beyond your reach if you have a mind to make it happen and do it in the spirit of helping others, not yourself. After all, I have had a career with its high points, and I was not even the brightest person in my class, as my faculty would be glad to confirm! Fortunately I have outlived most of those who might speak to the matter, and my “creds” are getting better with age. But just remember, if Wayne Clough could do it, so can you!

I bid all of you farewell, and offer you my wife’s favorite toast, said to have been used by Sally Stanford, who was reputed to be a bootlegger and madam in Sausalito, California in her early days, but who later in life was elected mayor of her city in recognition of her managerial skills. Her toast, and mine for you, is: “I wish you good health, long life, true and loyal friends, and time to enjoy it all.”

In closing, I would like to express my appreciation to the Georgia Tech Music Department for their participation in our program this morning. Thanks also to Dr. Johnson, Dr. Stephanie Boulard and Dr. Kyoko Masuda for calling the graduates’ names. And many thanks to all of my associates for arranging this important event.

At this time, Ryan Ceciliani will lead us in the alma mater, followed immediately by the faculty recessional. The graduates and the audience are requested to remain standing for the faculty recessional. Then I invite all of you to join in singing the Ramblin’ Wreck, which will accompany the student recessional.

Thank you for your attendance this morning.

(At the end of the alma mater, the mace bearer will be the first one off the stage. Dr. Clough will immediately follow then the remainder of the President's Party, Deans, and Faculty.)