REMARKS BY GEORGIA TECH PRESIDENT G. WAYNE CLOUGH
Phoenix-Burdell Society, November 16, 2007

I join with Alumni Association in thanking you for your support. RollCall:

- Fills in critical spaces between designated gifts.
- Gives GT flexibility to address unexpected problems, take advantage of unexpected opportunities.
- GT: most supportive alumni of any US public university

Overview of GT

- 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
  - North Avenue Apartments: 70% of undergrads housed on campus compared to 25-35% average for publics. Will develop Sophomore Experience.
  - Working hard on diversity:
    - More women, minorities to science, technology, engineering, and math (32% of freshmen are women – record high)
    - 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 participate; Metz campus allows study abroad for engineering, science majors; 45-50 work abroad each year in over a dozen countries; International Plan integrates international courses, study abroad into major.
  - Research – over 40% participate; Research Option offers sustained research over course of undergraduate career.
  - Honors Program a success
    - 2nd year; add 120 students a year
    - New course: Semester in the City – study English Avenue neighborhood in context of broader city; engage in partnership with the 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
  • Produces “value-added” graduates who offer more than basic programmer available in India.

Result of our efforts:
• US News: #7 among publics; highest ever
  o Engineering in top 5. ISyE retains #1 ranking
  o Computing in top 10.
  o Undergrad research, internships, co-op: “Programs to look for”
• Retention/graduation rates
  o Retention: 92%
  o Graduation 78% (still one of lowest in top 50 universities)

• Graduates in demand
  o Last academic year – 550 corporate recruiters did 10,000 job interviews on campus
  o This year’s fall career fair (Sept):
    ▪ Over 400 corporate recruiters
    ▪ Sold out space in less than 3 weeks (a record)

Research – FY 07
• Record highs:
  o Awards: $374 million
  o Expenditures: Over $460 million
• Top 5 among universities with no medical school

Highlight a few thrusts:
• Medicine – a new field for GT
  o Nanomedicine – only university in nation with 3 centers of excellence
  o Technology and electronic data systems
• Energy
  o Carbon separation and sequestration
  o Biofuels – alternatives to corn that are not food crops and have better energy ratio of input to output – southern pine, sawgrass
  o Solar – next generation of cells
  o Hydrogen – plane
  o Policy – no silver bullet; need to develop all possible options and coordinate them with comprehensive policies.
• Water, drought
  o Experts advising city, state
  o 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, fix leaks, collect storm water for irrigation
• Students to begin community outreach with Home Depot to teach water conservation

Conclusion
• GT clearly on move
• Exciting new opportunities for students, who are embracing 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.
• Your support makes it possible.