Welcome to the ASME 2007 International Manufacturing Science and Engineering Conference. Georgia Tech is pleased to be your host.

- Recognize and congratulate Georgia Tech ME professors Steven Liang and Shreyes Melkote for leading the organizing committee for this conference.
- Have put together an incredible technical program.

Especially want to welcome international visitors.

- This conference brings together the best technical advances in manufacturing from all around the world. Recognizes that today’s high-tech global economy requires a balance of collaboration and sharing of information on one hand and competition on the other.
- Similarly, Georgia Tech is a global university that aspires to operate in a global context. As this conference illustrates, advances in technology are happening all around the globe. GT wants to be there, partnering in discovery of new knowledge, development of new technologies where they are happening. Hosting conferences like this one an important piece of that picture.

Had honor of being senior U.S. delegate to G8 Business and University Leaders Symposium, held in conjunction with the 2006 G8 Summit in Russia. Lots of discussion on:

- Role of manufacturing as key economic sector the world over.
- Ways that universities can help to stimulate the manufacturing sector.

Manufacturing is deeply rooted in Georgia Tech’s history and culture.

- Mechanical engineering the only discipline offered when we first opened our doors in 1888.
- Still one of our bedrock engineering disciplines; program ranked among top 10 programs in United States.
- GT companion program of industrial and systems engineering ranked 1st in nation for 17 straight years.
- GT forerunner in bringing together disciplines involved in manufacturing to work together in a coordinated way. Hope you have a chance to visit the complex of manufacturing-related disciplines on the other side of our campus.
- Includes both Woodruff School of ME and Stewart School of ISyE – critical components of today’s manufacturing enterprise.
- Collaboration with other disciplines as well – e.g. electrical engineering and the many disciplines involved in nanotechnology.
• We have expertise in a number of research fields that are already beginning to shape the manufacturing enterprise of the future:
  o Nano-scale manufacturing
  o Micro-electro-mechanical systems or MEMS
  o Free-form fabrication
  o New software control technologies
  o So it is very exciting for us to host this conference that highlights the most recent developments from manufacturing research around the globe.

• Program for this conference incredibly broad and deep; shows just how sophisticated manufacturing has become. Sessions range:
  o From molding and casting metals to fabrication for biomedical and tissue engineering.
  o From tiny nano-manufacturing systems to macro-manufacturing processes.
  o From high-speed machining to thermally assisted machining.
  o From intelligent approaches to maintenance to intelligent fault diagnosis.

• Especially exciting to see student manufacturing design competitions. Importance of exposure to the international character of manufacturing and to the incredibly sophisticated technologies that characterize manufacturing today.

• Manufacturing is an essential part of the economy. Manufacturing is what creates wealth by adding value to resources, which is something services cannot do. But it has become a very high-tech, complex endeavor requiring an increasing level of expertise. Conferences like this becoming increasingly important.

• Again, pleased to have you at GT. Hope you enjoy the conference and have an opportunity to see and experience our campus as well.