Gerald Wayne Clough leaves an indelible mark on the institution he loves so. When Clough arrived at the Carnegie Building on Sept. 1, 1994, to begin serving as president, he found a robust and well-regarded regional university with a reputation for engineering and applied research and an identity that was closely aligned with the South. The physical appearance of the campus was unimpressive, and despite being in the middle of Atlanta, the university was isolated psychologically and intellectually from the city. What a difference 14 years makes. Tech is now seen as a rising national power in emerging interdisciplinary fields such as biotechnology, nanotechnology, sustainability, photonics/optics, telecommunications/microelectronics, manufacturing, and logistics. Research awards and expenditures have more than doubled, and the Institute’s growing global research and education platforms are making it one of the world’s few truly international universities. Tech is now recognized as a national leader in diversity, among both its students, faculty and staff. The undergraduate curriculum has been energized with Web enhancements, and students have embraced expanded opportunities to study abroad and participate in the Institute’s dynamic research enterprise.

The campus has been reshaped for beauty and sustainability, and its square footage has been doubled. New and renovated structures not only feature the latest in technology, but are also designed for flexibility and interdisciplinary collaboration. The funding that enabled the Institute to go the extra mile in its quest for excellence was provided initially by the five-year Campaign for Georgia Tech, and later continued with the as yet announced Campaign Georgia Tech. The success of both these efforts is inextricably linked with Clough’s passion, drive and power to articulate an inspirational vision of the Institute’s future. As we bid Clough and his wife, Anne, farewell and wish them all the best at The Smithsonian Institution, we also pause to reflect on how the Clough era has forever transformed Tech and positioned the Institute to achieve even greater heights.

Charting a new course at Tech

It was a time for the Institute to celebrate at G. Wayne Clough’s inauguration in 1995. Months earlier, he was named Georgia Tech’s 10th president—and the first alumnus to hold the position. The former dean of Virginia Tech’s College of Engineering, Clough came to Tech with a definite vision and plan. His arrival was just prior to the Centennial Olympic Games, which in turn helped grow the Institute’s visibility and square footage. New facilities such as the Klaus Advanced Computing Building and new academic programs, such as the Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering at Emory University and Georgia Tech, began to pepper the landscape, consequently increasing the number of students and faculty. Although known as an “engineering school,” the Institute saw the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts and the College of Sciences begin to attract national attention, keeping pace with Tech’s ever-improving College of Engineering.

The following pages mark just a few of these milestones reached by the Tech community during Clough’s tenure.
1994: The National Science Foundation awards Tech the Institute’s first Center of Excellence, the Microelectronics Packaging Research Center (MRC).

1996: During the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games, Georgia Tech served as the Olympic Village and the venue for boxing and swimming events. Buildings housing more than 15,000 athletes and officials on campus later became student housing for Tech and other universities.

1997: For the first time, Georgia Tech is named one of the top 10 public universities in the nation by U.S. News & World Report. The latest rankings (August 2007) place the Institute at No. 7.

1998: The nation’s first public-private academic program begins with the joint academic department in biomedical engineering with Emory University (left, counterclockwise); three national centers of excellence are awarded, including the NSF Engineering Research Center for the Engineering of Living Tissues; and the Women’s Resource Center opens.

1999: Sue V. Rosser and Terry C. Blum, Tech’s first female deans of academic colleges, are appointed to the Ivan Allen College and the College of Management, respectively (Rosser, left); the Petit Biotechnology Building, home to the Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering, is completed.

2000: Georgia Tech becomes the top producer of African-American engineers at all three degree levels.

2001: Tech receives an Exemplary Voluntary Efforts Award from the U.S. Department of Labor for its efforts to promote diversity.


2004: President G. Wayne Clough welcomes Tech students for dinner (from left); he testifies before the U.S. Senate in 2003; Clough helps cut the net after Tech’s victory in 2004, putting the team in the NCAA Final Four.
2003: Construction of Tech Square is complete (left); Georgia Tech-Savannah begins holding classes; and the R. Kirk Landon Learning Center childcare facility—for Tech and the Home Park neighborhood—opens.

2002: The Russ Chandler Baseball Stadium renovations are completed; President George W. Bush visits the Institute to see a technology demonstration for first-responders in the war against terrorism.

2004: The Student Athletic Complex is transformed into the Campus Recreation Center, incorporating the swimming and diving facilities from the Centennial Games; Tech’s basketball team plays for the first time in the championship game of the NCAA tournament.

2006: A picture of collaboration and green engineering, the Klaus Advanced Computing Building (above) houses College of Engineering and College of Computing classes, as well as several innovations that support environmental sustainability. Georgia Tech-Ireland (top), a division of the Georgia Tech Research Institute, opens in Athlone.

2005: The Georgia Tech community rallies to aid areas in the Gulf Coast hit hard by Hurricane Katrina.

2007: The women’s tennis team came home national champions after defeating UCLA; it’s the first NCAA title in any sport for Tech.

2008: Construction is scheduled to be complete in October for the Marcus Nanotechnology Building, which will house the largest clean room facility in the Southeast.

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Clough receives an honorary doctorate from Shanghai Jiao Tong University in 2005 (from left); unveils a plaque at the opening of Stamps Health Services in 2003. In 1999, Tech began offering engineering degrees through partner universities located in southeast Georgia, including Clough’s hometown.
Thanks for the memories ...
May 23
Alumnus John Young Jr., under secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics in the U.S. Department of Defense, presents "The Dumbest Generation: How the Digital Age Stupefies Young Americans and Jeopardizes Our Future," from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., in room 308 of the Savant building. For more information, visit www.trainweb.gatech.edu.

May 24
Kara Allen, director of events at the Georgia Tech Alumni Association, presents "10 Tips for Planning Successful Roomballs on a Tight Budget," from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., in room 308 of the Savant building. For more information, visit www.trainweb.gatech.edu.

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May 29
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Miscellaneous

Ongoing
Registration for the Georgia Tech Career Fair is open through May 31 with information available at www.bgs.gatech.edu. The Career Fair will be held on Wednesday, May 28, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Student Center. For more information, visit www.bgs.gatech.edu.

May 20
Tech's Horticulturist Michael Walsh presents "Gardening in Dry Conditions," from noon to 1 p.m., in room 521 of the Student Center. The event is sponsored by the Georgia Tech Horticulture Club. For more information, visit www.ibb.gatech.edu. To RSVP, contact Shondra Carter at 383-8368 or shondra.carter@gatech.gatech.edu. For more information, visit www.chem.gatech.edu/gtwf.

May 22
A faculty and staff farewell reception will be held for President G. Wayne and Anne Clough from 2 to 5 p.m. in the ballroom of the Georgia Tech Hotel and Conference Center in Technology Square.

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