Princeton Review awards Tech top green ranking

Georgia Tech is one of 11 universities to receive a top score of 99 for green efforts from Princeton Review. The “Green Honor Roll” included six public universities and five private schools.

Criteria for the rating cover three broad areas: 1) whether the school’s students have a campus quality of life that is healthy and sustainable, 2) how well the school is preparing students for employment and citizenship in a world defined by environmental challenges, and 3) the school’s overall commitment to environmental issues.

The institutional survey included questions on everything from energy use, recycling, food, buildings and transportation to academic offerings (availability of environmental studies degrees and courses) and action plans and goals concerning green-house gas emission reductions.

“Georgia Tech is a living laboratory for sustainability, including education, research and campus implementation across the board,” said Marcia Kinnelly, director of the Institute’s Office of Environmental Stewardship. “The Institute has been steadily growing and expanding our sustainability programs in a strategic, professional manner for over a decade.”

More than 334 schools were given a green ranking; the other 10 schools receiving the top ranking are Arizona State University (Tempe campus), Bates College, Birmingham-Southern College, Brown University, College of William and Mary, Connecticut College, Duke University, George Washington University, University of Chicago, and University of Southern California.

Green continued, page 3

Sustainability at Tech

Earth Day and Think Green Week draw 5,000 to 6,000 students.

More than 20 student sustainability organizations are present on campus.

The campus boasts 26 sustainable buildings that are recognized as leaders in energy efficiency and building technologies, with 12 more projects registered to seek LEED Silver or better certification.

Tech’s recycling programs have won national awards even as we move to expand our program and move toward a broader waste-neutral culture.

A conversation with ...

Econ professors talk gas and food prices, recession rumblings

The Whistle recently sat down with Associate Professor Willie Belton and Assistant Professor Ruth Uwaifo Oyelere in the School of Economics to better understand what is happening with the U.S. economy.

Are we in a recession?

Willie Belton: I think so. The definition of recession is when you have two consecutive quarters of downturn. We haven’t actually had two quarters of downturn, but when people stop spending, when you hear about the jobs being lost, the economy may not be affected initially. Recessions are a little different now than they used to be. Now, you get certain sectors in the economy that are suffering, while other sectors are not. When you start to see people lose jobs and the unemployment rate jumps from 5 percent to 5.5 percent—that’s a big jump in a short span—and when people start to believe that things are going bad, things will go bad.

Ruth Oyelere: I agree. Just thinking about the technical way in which a recession is defined, maybe by September we’ll know for sure.

WB: The other issue that’s really driving this whole process is fuel prices are taking so much money out of people’s budgets; they can’t spend on anything else. Think about it: Last year at this time we were paying $2.70 or $2.80 for gasoline.

RO: And we thought that was the worst. It was interesting, though, that we got a spike in consumer spending (during the month of) May. It was the stimulus package. I was shocked.

Did the stimulus package help the economy?

WB: The problem with the stimulus package is it’s a one-time shot. People don’t spend long-term unless it’s a huge infusion. There’s a whole bunch of literature in economics that shows people consume based on their permanent income. If you don’t change the permanent income, they won’t change their spending habits.

RO: I thought that maybe people instead of going out and buying stuff...

Conversation continued, page 2
"We’re all getting more access to a lot more data in various forms — and it’s getting challenging to make sense of all that. This is all about giving (scientists and government agencies) data in a better form that they can work with more easily."

— School of Interactive Computing Associate Chair and Professor John Stasko on a $3 million grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the National Science Foundation to help fund research and development of tools to aid in sorting through, organizing and displaying salient information from larger data caches. (Cox News Service)
Tech Police held active shooter exercise at closed apartments

Tech Police used the now-closed Burge Apartments for an active campus shooter exercise, bringing officers and “victims” face to face with a live shooter with paint-tipped ammunition.

On July 31, campus dispatchers routed police officers to the boarded-up building with reports of “shots fired.” A “gunman,” equipped with a Simunition-modified Glock pistol and five magazines of reduced-capacity, color-tipped 9 mm rounds, had wounded victims holed up in the building. Responding officers, both from Tech and the city of Atlanta, were equipped with similar pistols. Shots rang out for roughly 22 minutes as police engaged the shooter.

According to Tech’s Emergency Preparedness Director Andy Altizer, the exercise was used to gauge response time and police tactics in the face of a real gunman, as well as dealing with all related aspects of such an event.

“The case studies have involved real situations involving a campus or workplace shooter, the shooting is usually over in less than five minutes,” Altizer said. “Getting to the scene, entering the building and confronting a shooter in that five minutes is a challenge. Our officers did a great job during this exercise.”

Altizer reiterated that faculty, staff and students all play a part in campus safety, as identifying a person before he turns violent is always the preferred solution.

“Thinking and teaching about what to do if caught in a shooting nightmare is also important—and a somber new concept on campuses across the nation,” he said.

IN BRIEF:

ISyE professors earn IBM awards

Professor William Rouse and Associate Professor Bert Zwart in the Stewart School of Industrial and Systems Engineering received a 2008 IBM Faculty Award. This is Rouse’s fourth consecutive IBM faculty award since 2005.

The award is part of a global competition program designed to enable collaborations between researchers at IBM and in universities, as well as help prepare courses and curricula in disciplines that are strategic to IBM.

Rouse holds a joint appointment with the College of Computing. For more information, visit www.isye.gatech.edu.

CRC renovations continue

As annual maintenance continues at the Campus Recreation Center, the climbing wall, Wilderness Outpost, fourth and fifth floors, racquetball and squash courts, and diving well will remain closed through Monday, Aug. 18. The competition pool will be closed until Sept. 1. For more information, visit www.crc.gatech.edu.

For more information...

Student Center
www.studentcenter.gatech.edu
Tech, Boeing collaborate on new manufacturing technologies

Researchers from Georgia Tech and The Boeing Company soon will work together to investigate and develop innovative manufacturing technologies for possible application in a wide variety of aerospace products.

Under a long-term strategic research agreement, the Manufacturing Research Center (MARC) at Tech will become Boeing’s newest university partner for strategic research to study new technologies involving methods, techniques and processes for aerospace manufacturing. The initiative will include faculty from the Schools of Mechanical Engineering, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Industrial and Systems Engineering, and Materials Science and Engineering.

MARC director and Mechanical Engineering Professor Steven Danylej, who is leading the Georgia Tech/Boeing initiative, with senior research engineer Richard Cowan serving as engineering manager and John Griffith, senior technical fellow at Phantom Works, the Boeing principal investigator. Tech is ranked No. 1 in the nation for industrial and manufacturing engineering degree programs.

“I think this partnership exemplifies how Georgia Tech and Boeing approach technology innovation,” said interim President Gary T. Haas.

“Boeing naming us a strategic partner in manufacturing is an important validation of our direction and approach.”

Because lean and efficient manufacturing is so critical to the success of future aerospace systems, Boeing is reaching around the world to find the most innovative and affordable solutions possible,” said Frank Boerner, vice president of Aero-Structures, Manufacturing & Support Technologies at Boeing Phantom Works, the company’s advanced research and technology unit.

The initiative will not be tied to any one company, as it is envisioned that developed technologies will also apply to other manufacturers.

Tech’s agreement with The Boeing Co. was facilitated by Boeing’s Global Technology organization, part of the company’s Chief Technology Office. The agreement is intended to further the state-of-the-art in manufacturing aerospace structures consistent with the technical and research talent at Tech and the interests of Boeing and other industrial partners.

MARC is now assembling a coalition of companies to join Boeing in a broad research program entitled “Aero/Space Manufacturing for the 21st Century.” MARC’s vision is to be the premier organization for advancing the art, science and practice of manufacturing throughout the world, within a domain that fosters discovery and innovation while making a positive impact on the environment.

Georgia Tech becomes the eighth university with which Boeing has signed overarching, long-term research agreements in specific technology areas. Other universities with similar research agreements include the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Carnegie Mellon University and the California Institute of Technology.

C A M P U S  E V E N T S

Arts & Culture
August 22
Singer and pianist Jon McLaughlin will perform at the Fret Center for the Arts from 8 to 10 p.m. Tickets are $15 and $25, or $12 and $20 with a subscription. For more information, visit www.ferstcenter.gatech.edu.

Ongoing
The School of History, Technology and Society presents the Robert C. Williams Paper Museum exhibit “How Do They Spend It?” through Sept. 2. Formed by Professor Gus Giebelhau and students from HTS 4001, the exhibit examines money and images on money from 10 countries. For more information, visit www.ipst.gatech.edu.

Conferences & Lectures
August 21
Elizabeth A. Glascoe, with the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in Livermore, Calif., presents “Pressure-Dependent Decomposition Kinetics of the Energetic Material HMX,” at 3 p.m. in room 3201A of the Molecular Science and Engineering Building. For more information, visit www.chemistry.gatech.edu.

August 27
Atlanta architect and Georgia Tech graduate John C. Fortman will deliver the first Architecture Centennial Lecture, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., in the Architecture Auditorium. A series of lectures and events will celebrate 100 years of architectural education at Tech. A two-part exhibition will be held in the West Porter Building.

For more information, visit www.coa.gatech.edu.

Faculty/Staff Development
August 12–14
The Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning (CETL) presents New Faculty Orientation, starting at 8 a.m. in the Warfline. The first two days will introduce new faculty members to current community members, and the Office of Human Resources will provide benefits and services orientation on the third day. For more information, visit www.cetl.gatech.edu.

August 19
The Georgia Tech Alumni Association presents a panel discussion on “Legal and Business Implications of the Real Estate Foreclosure Market,” from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Georgia Tech Alumni Association. A breakfast will be offered.

For more information, visit www.gtech.org.

Ongoing
The Office of Organizational Development offers an Emergency Preparedness certificate consisting of several courses. For more information on scheduling or for other classes offered, visit www.ordev.gatech.edu.

The “Defining Customer Service” certificate program provides campus groups and employees with the foundation for offering exemplary service to those both on and off campus. For more information, visit www.training.gatech.edu.

Miscellaneous
Ongoing
Tours are available on Wednesdays for Tech’s Solar Decathlon House, located on the West Architecture lawn at the College of Architecture. Four tours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. To register, visit www.solar.gatech.edu.

Techmasters, Georgia Tech’s division of Toastmasters, meets every Thursday from 7:30 to 9 a.m. in room 102 of the Petit Microelectronics Research Center. For more information, visit www.techmasters.gatech.edu.

C L A S S I F I E D S

AUTOMOBILES/MOTORCYCLES

For rent, sale: 1DR unit located on 11th floor of Spire Condo at Peachtree and 8th. For info, e-mail jinrachel@comcast.net.

For sale: Midtown 1DR condo. Walk to work—mile to Tech. Hardwoods, travertine, granite. QTR 98-4885. Contact tiffany@comcast.net for info.

For rent: Less than a year old, 1DR condo (Element in Atlantic Station). Walk to Tech, incl. washer, dryer, refrigerator, swimming, workout area and parking. $1,200/month incl. Internet, cable and water. Call 404-715-0388 or e-mail miles860@gmail.com.

Rent or lease: 2BR, 2BA, large bonus room, full finished basement and 3-car garage w/ 24-hour security and 3-car garage incl. hardwoods. $172,000 w/ 1-yr. lease. E-mail eileen.granit@juno.com.

For rent: 2BR/2BA condo in Buckhead. 6 miles to Tech. Parklike, gated community w/ 24-hour security and club house/pool. Washer/dryer incl. Utilities incl. basic cable and water. $1,300 + deposit, 1-yr. lease. E-mail sy9@bellsouth.net for info.

For rent: 3BR/2BA Condo in Buckhead. 6 miles to Tech. Parklike, gated community w/ 24-hour security and club house/pool. Washer/dryer incl. Utilities incl. basic cable and water. $1,300 + deposit, 1-yr. lease. E-mail sy9@bellsouth.net for info.

Furniture/Appliances

Sleek sectional sofa and cherry coffee table. Micro fiber suede beige sleeper, dual recliners with center console, both couch and recliners have two arms. Wedge-style cherry coffee table lifts towardouch. $1,000. Will sell separately. Call 770-634-2875.

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER: quality oak. 3-Part unit w/ shelves, cabinets for stereo and TV, plus books, etc. 9 ft., 6 in. wide by 6 ft., 8 in. high. 32” TV incl. Ashing $800, paid $2,400. Three carpets with bound edges: Deep green, 9 ft. x 10 ft. 4 in.; light beige 9 ft. by 11 ft.; and cream border rug 9 ft. 4 in. by 14 ft. Asking $50 for each carpet. Call Clare or Rich, 770-935-4092.

MORE ADS ARE AVAILABLE AT www.whistle.gatech.edu Ads appear and run for three weeks in the order in which they are received. E-mail submissions to editor@comm.gatech.edu.