IAC Dean Rosser to become SFSU Provost

By Sijia Cai
News Editor

At the end of this summer, Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts (IAC) Dean Sue Rosser will be taking a cross-country trip all the way to San Francisco — to stay.

After a ten-year tenure at Tech as dean, Rosser will be taking up the position of provost at San Francisco State University (SFSU) beginning this August.

Rosser came to Tech in 1999 as the Institute’s first female academic dean. According to provost Gary Schuster, at the time there was not a clear understanding of how the humanities and social sciences fit in with the rest of the university. The Ivan Allen College of Management, Policy, and International Affairs had been created in 1990 but was split into the independent College of Management and the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts in 1998. Rosser, IAC’s first dean, was in charge of bringing liberal arts-related studies to research and education at Tech.

“Working with faculty and administrators around Tech to form this new, interdisciplinary academic unit was a great experience,” Rosser said. “In the past decade, we have experienced enormous growth, one example being that sponsored research grew from 1 million to 6 million a year.”

In her tenure as dean, Rosser has completely revamped the Ivan Allen College, its image within the larger campus community and its relation to the City of Atlanta. Under her direction and leadership, the College implemented three new doctoral programs, three master’s programs and four bachelor’s programs.

In addition, Rosser hired 75 percent of the College’s tenure-track faculty and doubled student enrollment to make the IAC the fourth largest college at Tech.

Rosser herself holds joint professorships in the School of Public Policy and the School of History, Technology, and Society, with a research focus on gender and technology.

“Rosser’s legacy is outstanding. She has been a driving force in making the Ivan Allen College an integral part of education at Tech. She has really defined the term interdisciplinary for our students, undergraduates and graduates,” said Gary Schuster, provost and executive vice president for Academic Affairs.

At San Francisco State University, Rosser will be in charge of formulating all academic policies, overseeing nine colleges, the university library, and sponsored research. In addition, SFSU is among the largest campuses in the California State University system, with around 30,000 students and more than 3,500 faculty and staff.

“I am really interested in SFSU because of their focus on diversity and social responsibility. Of course, there is also a lot of overlap, especially with the Ivan Allen College in that both are very intertwined with their respective cities,” Rosser said. “SFSU is a much larger institution and it’s certainly a big job, but I do have two daughters and two little grandsons in the San Francisco Bay area, which makes it very appealing.”

Rosser is still in the process of learning about SFSU and thinking about the next best step for the university, but her initial goals are to increase bridges between different academic units and with programs in the Bay area.

For now, Rosser is still exercising her Dean duties at Tech and putting everything in order before she leaves.

“It’s a lot of packing and organizing,” she said. “I have enjoyed my time at Tech and will miss the interdisciplinary environment and sense of collegiality here, but I also look forward to an exciting new chapter in my life.”

The Provost’s Office has appointed Kenneth Knoepfler, provost and chief academic officer, the School of Literature, Communication and Culture, as interim dean. He will take office on July 1.

“Right now we’re still in the very early phase of the search,” Schuster said. “We expect to form the search committee very soon and initiate a nationwide search for the new dean of Ivan Allen College.”

Sustainable Move Out provides strong student support

By Vijai Narayanan
Senior Staff Writer

Tech’s Sustainable Move Out Initiative had a particularly strong turnout this year, with over 4,400 pounds of food collected for charity. This was the highest tally of non-perishable food in the program’s history.

In addition to food collection, members who took part in the initiative contributed 1,300 lbs of clothing and household goods and nearly 5,300 lbs of paper. Over the past 12 years, the program has collected everything from food, books, paper and clothing to E-waste during finals week.

“This year it was a pleasant surprise that we collected so much food, especially because of the way the economy is right now,” said Maria Linen, fourth-year BMED major. “It was a good year, although the amount was not as much as we wanted.”

Another major problem that confronted the group was the unpredictability of weather. “We had several times that targets students by dorm and apartment and challenges them to reduce their waste. “We are going to try again next year. We get as many people to donate as we can and hopefully we can get even better results,” Jackson said.

Another plan that the sustainable move out group had to increase donations is to try to get more student volunteers and to advertise the program better. The group was able to get modest Student Publications

Newly graduated students celebrate Spring Commencement on Saturday, May 2 at the Georgia Dome. Congratulations grads!

By Virginia Au
Senior Staff Writer

New haven in Tech square

Tech square welcomes Waterhaven, a new contemporary American dining option.

This year, the program aims to try to make it so that we have also been meticulously gathering data from waste sources on campus and hope to create a system that targets students by dorm and apartment and challenges them to reduce their waste. “We are going to try again next year. We get as many people to donate as we can and hopefully we can get even better results,” Jackson said.

Another plan that the sustainable move out group has to increase donations is to try to get more student volunteers and to advertise the program better. The group was able to get modest Student Publications

Newly graduated students celebrate Spring Commencement on Saturday, May 2 at the Georgia Dome. Congratulations grads!

By Virginia Au
Senior Staff Writer

New haven in Tech square

Tech square welcomes Waterhaven, a new contemporary American dining option.
On May 11th, two vehicles collided on Dalney/10th Street. The accident resulted in no injuries to the drivers or passengers. An offender was arrested for driving without insurance and disobeying a traffic control device.

On May 13th, two more vehicles collided on Hemphill Avenue near campus. There were no injuries and only minor damage to the vehicles.

On May 17th, an offender was arrested for driving under the influence, failure to maintain lane, and no license on West Peachtree Street at Fifth Avenue. He was transported to the Fulton County Jail.

On May 12th, an offender was arrested for operation of a vehicle without registration or license on West Peachtree Street at 5th Street. Another offender was arrested on a traffic violation charge for suspended registration, served official notice of personal service, and later released over on 4th Street at West Peachtree Street.

On May 10th at Spring Street near North Avenue, an offender was arrested for driving with a suspended license and an expired registration. Over on 10th Street at Williams Street, an offender wanted by the Atlanta PD was arrested.

On Tech Parkway between North Avenue & State St, an offender was arrested for driving without insurance, driving outside license restriction, and following too closely. He was released on copy of charges.
Solar Jackets impress at Expo

By Zimu Yang

On April 17, the Solar Jackets demoed their latest project at the 2009 Georgia Career and Transportation Expo, located at the Delta Museum. The event was sponsored by Delta Airlines and featured prominent companies such as GM and Toyota.

The Jackets brought to the event a 2001 Audi converted to run purely on electric and solar power. Despite the spatial limitations of having to work out of a U-Haul, the Jackets considered their conversion successful. Michael Hunter, research scientist at Tech’s Information Security Center and faculty advisor for the Solar Jackets, was impressed by the level of intensity the club had put into the project.

“There’s a lot of self-organization in the [club]. I told them the path to get space was to show the administration, not just students, that we’ve got a lot of people working hard and they’d do well to welcome them,” Hunter said.

Even though space is not yet forthcoming, Hunter feels that the team is doing everything they can.

“Right now we’re trying to raise awareness for the student body. I have a lot of praise for the students in the club, and despite having no space they’re working hard.”

The Audi has a top speed of ninety miles per hour, a range of seventy to eighty miles, and is only two hundred pounds above the stock vehicle weight, an impressive feat considering the numerous modifications made to the car. It has solar panels for energy but it can also plug into a regular electric outlet to charge its batteries. Senior team members John Forrest, fourth-year ME, and Francisco Zimbardi, fourth-year EE, spearheaded and planned the project.

Despite the successful design and conversion, the team’s expectations going into the event were modest.

“We expected GM and Toyota to be there. We expected to be in the shadow of the vehicles they had,” said Zimbardi. “[There were] flight simulations, people that built electronics kits, racing teams, car companies, any sort of welding equipment. There were other technical colleges there. There was even one car that had a formula one car,” Zimbardi said.

He admitted to being surprised at how many people their booth drew and the numerous business cards, invitations for private demonstrations, and offers of help and sponsorship they received.

“We were actually the big event of the show since [GM and Toyota] had just had regular hybrids and we were the only one with a fully functioning electric vehicle. We probably got the most people in our booth, especially the younger people,” Zimbardi said. “The biggest question most people asked was why a car like this wasn’t being sold yet.”

The Solar Jackets considered showing the feasibility of electric vehicles as the most important aspect of their demonstration. Even though there still remains much research and development to be done, Zimbardi and Forrest both wanted to raise awareness of this field as well as clarify questions bystanders might have about it.

“A lot of people just almost didn’t believe that the car rode on batteries, they kept asking us and checking the hood to see whether the engine was still in.”

As for the future, Zimbardi and his team are undaunted by their current lack of space. They are planning to build a car that runs exclusively on solar power and are in the process of raising about $100,000 dollars to fund the project.

Breaking the Bubble

Swine flu raises international panic

The Influenza A (H1N1) virus, suspected to have originated in Mexico, has caused a shockwave in media and diplomatic relations around the world in mere weeks. Seasonal influenza infects around 5-15% of the world population every year, of which 250,000 – 500,000 die. In the U.S. alone, about 36,000 people die of influenza related causes annually. Influenza viruses that jump between species are also not new, with historical cases such as avian influenza (bird flu) in 2006 and most famously the Spanish flu in 1918, which infected around 500 million people (one third of the world at the time) and killed anywhere from 50 to 100 million. The current strain of Influenza A is composed of four separate strains: one endemic to birds, one endemic to humans, and two endemic to pigs.

As of Wednesday, 40 countries have officially reported 93,083 cases of swine flu and 49 deaths around the world. Of these, Mexico and the United States hold the clear lead, with 2893 and 4741 laboratory confirmed cases (72 and 5 deaths respectively). WHO has raised the pandemic alert level to 5, the second-highest level, which means that human-to-human transmission has been recorded in more than two countries. There are concerns that the flu virus will return in the fall in a more virulent form, though in its current form it is susceptible to antiviral medications such as Tamiflu.

Sri Lanka government declares “liberation”

Since the 1970s, the Sri Lankan government has been engaged in a bitter civil war with the Tamil Tigers, a rebel guerrilla group which demands a separate independent state. The Tigers are among the most well-organized guerrilla groups in modern history, with a “capital,” ground forces, and a navy. After increased defense spending beginning in 2005, the Sri Lankan government has stepped up its military offensive and for the first time in decades controls the whole of Sri Lanka territory. President Mahinda Rajapaksa has formally declared the country “liberated.”

However, the war has been costly not only in terms of money but also human lives. Well over 70,000 people have been killed and tens of thousands are displaced. Both sides faced repeated accusations of igniting civilian safety and indiscriminately killing civilians during the war. Even though President Rajapaksa has declared his intention to pursue lasting peace and end ethnic and religious divisions, international authorities fear that the manner in which the war was waged may have radicalized a new generation of Tamils. In addition, Sri Lanka’s economic and social development has been severely retarded by the war and there are concerns that the newly victorious government may not be able to take care of the needs of thousands of people currently living in government-controlled camps.

Enjoy everything Atlanta has to offer in the summer and advance your academic career in International Affairs!

INTA 1200 American Government
INTA 2030 Ethics in International Affairs
INTA 2100 Great Power Relations
INTA 3101 International Political Economy
INTA 3110 US Foreign Policy

For course descriptions and more information, see www.inta.gatech.edu

Technique • May 22, 2009 • 3