2009 year in review
A new president, strategic planning and economic challenges form the critical events of the past, present

Tech closes the book on 2009, finishing the calendar year while reaching the midpoint of the academic year. In the past 12 months, the Institute has welcomed President Bud Peterson and Val Peterson to Atlanta from Boulder, Colorado; the campus community has participated in providing “big ideas” for Tech’s next 25 years and economic challenges have impacted every member of the community, from students to faculty to staff.

Named the sole finalist and then the 11th president of the Institute, Peterson took the reins from Interim President and Provost Gary Schuster in April. Eager to begin working with the Tech community, he came to campus in April rather than finish the academic year as chancellor of the University of Colorado at Boulder. And although officially beginning with Peterson’s investiture ceremony in September, the strategic vision process was talked about when the new president arrived in April.

Peterson spoke about his desire to find those key aspects that define Tech’s graduates and separate them from alumni of other schools. Through engaging students, faculty and staff in fall 2009, nearly 60 town hall-style meetings were held, with more than 1,200 big ideas submitted.

Preliminary plans from the eight sub-committees were submitted for initial review prior to the furlough in December. These plans will now be subject to review by core contributors from the larger community.

The past year also brought extensive budget reductions to every member institution of the University System of Georgia, due to declining state revenues. Faculty and staff were required to take four furlough days prior to the winter break in an effort to help with these reductions, and campus administration has said other measures will be taken in 2010.

Incidents around the campus have also increased the community’s awareness of crime. Several town hall forums were held by students to address the issues, and Tech Police have entered into an expanded collaboration with Atlanta Police.

On the brighter side, the Institute continued to shine with national and global recognition. Tech held its position in the U.S. News & World Report rankings, and continues its commitment to sustainability as its score on the Princeton Review’s Green Honor Roll improved.

Milestones were reached and celebrated as the Georgia Tech Research Institute celebrated its 75th anniversary and the College of Architecture marked 100 years of architecture education at the Institute. This issue of The Whistle takes a look back at many of the items reported on during 2009. Let us know if we missed something or if there’s something we can cover better in the year ahead.

editor@comm.gatech.edu

Administration and Finance names Assistant VP
Following an Institute-wide search, Executive Vice President for Administration and Finance Steve Swant appointed Julie Anne Williamson as assistant vice president of Administration and Finance, effective in November.

An alumna, Williamson was previously director of Georgia Tech Consulting Services in the Office of Organizational Development. After graduating, she was a consultant with Andersen Consulting in Atlanta before returning to Tech in 1996.

Williamson joins a three-person staff leadership team in the Carnegie Building, which includes Executive Assistant to the President Lynn Durham and Assistant Provost Jennifer Herazy.

www.admin-fin.gatech.edu

Search under way for SEI director
The Institute has launched a national search for a new director of the Strategic Energy Institute (SEI) and has created three new part-time associate director positions within SEI.

The new director will hold an endowed chair in Energy Systems and have an academic appointment in the appropriate school.

The associate director positions will focus on three major areas: CHIE Professor David Sholl, Energy Conversion; Chemistry Professor Thomas Orlando, Alternative Energy and Storage; and ECE Professor Deepak Divan, Energy Deployment and Utilization.

Nominations and applications are currently being solicited for director of the Strategic Energy Institute.

www.energy.gatech.edu

In Brief . . .
009 Year in Review

INSTITUTE

Tech is rated as a “best value” among public colleges and universities in three separate surveys conducted by Kiplinger, SmartMoney and the Princeton Review.

G.P. “Bud” Peterson, chancellor of the University of Colorado at Boulder, is selected as the sole finalist for Tech’s president. The investiture is held in September.

The Department of Biomedical Engineering announces a groundbreaking joint doctoral program with the Department of Biomedical Engineering at Peking University in Beijing.

Musician inventors from across the globe showcase their new musical instruments at the annual Guthman Musical Instrument Competition.

The Digital Lounge serves as a virtual showcase for research and work from faculty members.

“Buzz Around Town” initiative and auction offer pieces of Institute history.

Inaugural iVenture Prize winners are announced.

Bobby Dodd Stadium receives upgrades to infrastructure and ente- rtainment system.

Georgia Tech plays a key role in the relocation of NCR to Georgia.


Tech continues to be recognized for sustainability efforts by the Princeton Review.

The Chronicle of Higher Education names Tech to the top 10 of the Great Colleges to Work For.

at Georgia Tech-Lorraine.

The Korean government chooses Tech to develop new digital technology for connecting communities.

Meetings among the campus community begin for the Institute’s next strategic plan.

Furloughs are enacted for most faculty and staff across campus to offset budget cuts.

Tech holds its position in the U.S. News & World Report undergraduate rankings.

The Marcus Nanotechnology Building is formally dedicated.

The Institute joins the Center for Sustainable Engineering.

OMED Educational Services celebrates 30 years with alumni, students, faculty and staff.

Nobel Laureate Harry S. Kroto speaks at the Ferst Center for the Arts.

Provost Gary B. Schuster announces plans to return to teaching and research after a successor is named.

Management receives a $25 million anonymous commitment.

Dead Week policy revised.

College of Architecture reestablishes its programs as schools.

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Archived issues of The Whistle can be accessed electronically through the Georgia Tech Web page, or directly at www.whistle.gatech.edu.

Georgia Tech is a unit of the University System of Georgia.
RESEARCH

Two technologies named as the “top 10 in the next 30 years” by New Scientist magazine pioneered by Tech researchers.

The College of Computing develops a Web-based tool for tracking blood safety.

Tech’s flight testing of “continuously variable” arrivals helps save fuel and time for airlines.

A new wireless standard approaches reality thanks to research at the Georgia Electronic Design Center (GEDC).

National Electric Energy Testing Research and Applications Center works to protect against lightning damage.

A City and Regional Planning study shows that “smart growth” in cities could reduce CO2 emissions.

School of Civil and Environmental Engineering study could boost highway capacity by managing lanes.

GEDC commits to help build mobile Internet.

The Institute reports that research activity has exceeded the $500 million mark for the first time.

Student designs “HappyHR” to elevate fitness enthusiasm.

Tech powers Suniva, the Southeast’s first solar cell manufacturer.

GEDC, the Georgia Research Alliance, the Georgia Department of Economic Development and Microsoft Research announce a two-year alliance in RFID technology.

New research technique into seaweed could lead to improved drug compounds.

Researchers develop a new way to see single RNA molecules in living cells.

WIRES conference kicks off international networking and research into gender equity in higher education institutions around the globe.

Tech faculty among those awarded DOE funding for nuclear research.

Computing at the Margins symposium examines computing needs of global communities.

The National Science Foundation awards funding to Tech for a new Materials Research Science and Engineering Center (MRSEC).

The Strategic Energy Institute awards four faculty proposals with Creating Energy Options funding.

MRI simulation of blood flow helps with delicate heart surgery.

The Library and Information Center takes the lead in federal grant for digital repository.

The Institute teams with Emory University and Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta for kidney replacement devices.

Tech named to the top 10 in “Patent Scorecard.”

Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons prototype classroom to be used for spring semester.

Search committee named for the new executive vice president for research.

Institute team brings The Tower undergraduate research journal to publication.

PEOPLE

Physics researchers Uzi Landman and Predrag Cvitanovic win the Humboldt Research Award.

Assistant Professors Kim Cobb, Nick Fearn and Justin Romberg awarded the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers.

The American Association for the Advancement of Science names Professors Bridgette Barry, Charles Eckert and Gary May 2008 Fellows.

The Georgia Cancer Coalition names Assistant Professor Michelle Dawson a recipient of Black Cancer Research Awards.

Associate Professor Robert Butera is recognized in Washington, D.C., as one of seven 2008 Jefferson Science Fellows.

Researcher Hang Lu is named as one of 118 Sloan Research Fellows.

Professor Mostafa El-Sayed named winner of the Ahmed Zewail Prize in Molecular Sciences by the international journal Chemical Physics Letters.

Assistant Professor Carl DiSalvo presents the exhibition “Consequential Matters” at the CDC’s Global Health Odyssey Museum.

Six Tech students receive Fulbright Scholarships.

Former Americal Conservatory Theater conservatory general manager Thompson named director of the First Center for the Arts.

Tech alum Stephen Fleming named vice provost of the Enterprise Innovation Institute.

Chester “Chet” Warzyński named executive director of the Office of Organizational Development.

The Tech community remembers researcher Adrian Arakali and Ivan Allen College Development Director Ferdinand “Ski” Hilinski.

Assistant Professors Melissa Kemp and Christine Payne are the first at Tech to receive the National Institutes of Health New Innovator Award.

Researcher Bahareh Aziizi sets her sights on an Atlanta City Council seat.

Tom Akins, longtime director of the Division of Professional Practice, announces plans to retire.

Professor Robert Guldberg is named the new director of the Parker H. Petit Institute for Bioengineering and Bioscience.

CLASSIFIEDS

Close to restaurants and night clubs. Walk to Tech or Piedmont Park. Easy access to downtown, and MARTA is only a block away. Spectacular views of the Fox, midtown and pool. 24-hour concierge, gated parking commons areas.

Call Rick at 770-366-4714.

Rent or sell: Marietta 38R/28A ranch, 2-car carport, partial basement. HW floors, tiled kitchen and baths. Approx. 2,000 sq. ft. Fenced private yard, quiet neighborhood. Convenient to I-75. $1,195/mo., $5,000 deposit. 1-yr lease. Call Mickey Register at 678-488-1845 or e-mail mickyr@comcast.net.

For rent: 28R/28A in Howell Station, west of Tech. 1,350-sq. ft., bungalow, large office or bonus room, large living and separate dining rooms. Off street parking. W/O included. Pets OK. $1,000/mo. Call 404-762-7777 or e-mail grahamr@gatech.edu.

28R/28A condo, bonus room connected to terrace. Clean, high-quality midmod style. Granite, stainless, great amenities, 4br/2.5ba, 3,100 sq. ft. $400/mo. MARTA within walking distance, surrounded by shops and restaurants. Great sq. footage. Call Ty at 254-541-6410 or e-mail ty@gtalge.edu.

For rent: 1BR/1BA in Cabbagetown. Great community, security, granite, hardwoods, open floor plan. Includes 1 parking space, washer/dryer. DeKalb pub, Suburbs, 24-hour gym. $995/mo. $600 security deposit. Call Kathie at 404-819-9041.

Rooms for rent: 38R/38A, fully furnished with 4-space carport and back yard on almost 1 acre in Lithonia, close to Str. Mtn. Park and Stonecrest Mall. Individual rooms are $450 per room with utilities. Call 404-316-9682.

1BR/1BA, $775 a month, near Piedmont Park. Walk to area restaurants and night clubs. HW floors and off-street parking, true separate 1BR unit. Water incl. in rent. Call Sabrina at 678-315-9648 or Rick at 770-366-4714.

28R/28A, 1,400-sq ft condo for rent. Great. Great room, sun room, dining room, kitchen, wired connections, fresh paint and new carpet. Electricity and gas not incl. $900 month, $800 deposit. 2 beds in DeKalb and Atlanta. Call 770-939-0671 or 770-205-0175.

FURNITURE/APPLIANCES

Office refrigerator, white, 14.4 cubic ft. Purchased March 2008 for minimal office use. $80 or reasonable offer. Call Barbara at 404-385-2360 or e-mail barbara.miller@gtalge.edu.

Hardwood futon w/ mattress, $350 ($800 value). Frame is solid hardwood with mission-style detailing. Mattress is 8” thick foam, firm. Handsome sofa, also makes perfect occasional guest bed for 2 people. Red mattress cover. E-mail nirmal.trivedi@lcc.gatech.edu for pics. Cash only, must be picked up from Midtown location.

Dining room table. Glass top with cast feet. Purchased March 2008 for minimal office use. $150. Can be picked up from Midtown location.

For rent: 2BR/1BA in Howell Station, west of Tech. Includes 2 parking spaces, 2nd floor, 1,400 sq. ft. $775 a month, near Piedmont Park. Walk to area restaurants and night clubs. HW floors and off-street parking, true separate 2BR unit. Nice views. Call Mickey Register at 678-488-1845 or e-mail mickyr@comcast.net.


MISCELLANEOUS

Dell XPS M2010 Mobile PC. $2,000, Intel Core 2 Duo processor (2.4GHz), 20-inch display. SoundBlaster Audigy, 8-bit built-in sound with “shineplate” slot-loading DVD burner, BlueTooth wireless keyboard/mouse. Two 160 GB SATA drives (RAID 1), 2 GB RAM, eight gig internal hard drive, 80 GB external USB portable hard drive, Windows Vista Business, 1 GB ATI Radeon X1800 graphics card, Vista Ultimate (32-bit), Office 2007 small business edition. Call Chuck at 404-610-9090 or e-mail chuck@grahamt@lcc.gatech.edu.

Ad space available. Call 770-366-4714.
COMMUNITY

Amid growing economic concerns, the annual Charitable Contributions campaign raises more than $300,000 for 2009.

The Microelectronics Research Center welcomes “Wednesday’s Child” to Tech.

Offices located primarily in Lyman Hall unite for annual charity drive, benefiting an area shelter as well as Georgia Tech families in need.

Speakers and events highlight Body Image Awareness Month, hosted by the Women’s Resource Center.

Go T.E.C.H. (Teams Encouraging Campus Health) seeks campus cooperation in addressing Institute health initiatives.

Freshman Council helps plant trees for campus beautification.

Finding Common Ground panel discussion offers community dialogue.

Students on the Special Committee for the Presidential Transition solicited input from the student body to ask incoming President Bud Peterson.

Tree replacement plan eases removal of older specimens.

Institute teams with students for annual Tech Beautification Day.

Due to incidents around campus, the Student Government Association facilitates forums with Tech Police, surrounding neighborhoods and the campus.

Students, staff and faculty recognized by OMED Tower Awards.

Tech becomes a founding partner in Mission Zero, an organization striving to create a community of people working to become carbon neutral.

School of Applied Physiology group works to recycle prosthetics and orthotics.

The Institute holds its 12th annual Earth Day Celebration.

Tech summer camps serve as an outreach for high school students.

Campus members turn out for annual “Take Back the Night.”

Students get dorm room makeovers with Oprah’s help.

The Alumni Association’s Living History program marks its 15th anniversary.

Bench, tree donation program honors individuals and fosters a greener campus.

Tech holds its inaugural Legislative Day at the President’s residence.

The Summer Undergraduate Research in Engineering/Science (SURE) Program “graduates” its largest class yet.

Tech’s Game Day Recycling program moves into its second year, nearly doubling the amount of recyclables collected in 2008.

Vice Provost for Academic Diversity Gilda Barabino begins the academic year by launching the Diversity Symposium.

Mayoral and city council candidates address students prior to November’s election.

Institute ombuds program offers ear for confidential, alternative resolutions.

Campus group unites survivors and those suffering from cancer across the Institute.

TOP PHOTOS OF 2009

The following images were chosen by photography services in Communications & Marketing as favorite photos of the year.