A 22 years old, graduate student Will Roper had what some would call a career year. In April, Roper was selected as one of 80 national scholars – and the only one from Georgia – for the Truman Scholarship, which provides funding for graduate school based upon leadership potential, academic achievement and commitment to public service.

Then in December, Roper became the first Tech student in 50 years to secure a Rhodes Scholarship, affording him the opportunity to more fully explore his ideals as he studies at Oxford University in England. "I love education, and I think there are a lot of problems with math education. My absolute dream job is to become the U.S. Secretary of Education. Having a Rhodes will give me a chance. Maybe it will open a few doors," he said.

The campus was shaken to its very foundation on September 11, when passenger planes struck the Pentagon and the World Trade Towers, killing thousands and altering the course of a nation.

At left, an unswerving show of strength, unity and humanity across the entirety of campus marked a September 14 remembrance service for the victims and their families of the terrorist attacks in New York City, Washington D.C. and Pennsylvania. The service was wrought with poignancy and raw emotions as faculty, staff and students — estimated at 10,000 in all — came together around the Campanile to try and make some sense of it all.

Undergraduate Student Government President Chris Kavanaugh said, "We have come here together in a day of remembrance for those who have died in the tragic events of the week. We join our hands, our voices and our hearts, and in unison, we mourn for our fellow citizens. While although at first glance it appears as though America has been weakened, today, with all of you here, the Georgia Institute of Technology has shown the world that just the opposite has occurred ... we are stronger than ever."
awards and recognitions

Georgia Tech became the number one producer of African-American engineers in the country, according to a report from the journal Black Issues in Higher Education. During the 1999-2000 academic year, Tech awarded more bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees to African-American engineering students than any other university or college in the nation. The National Society of Black Engineers also honored Tech’s graduate program in engineering as the top choice among the 10,000 student and professional members of the NSBE, according to a survey conducted by the organization.

research and innovation

James Meindl, director of the Microelectronics Research Center, presented a report on the fundamental limit of microelectronics. In it, he and collaborator Jeffrey Davis conclude that future engineering design will be determined by “a hierarchy of physical limits.”

The refinement of prostate brachytherapy treatment is one result of Eva Lee’s work in the treatment of cancer, merging advanced mathematical techniques with cutting-edge computer technology for the optimal placement of radioactive “seeds” to improve tumor control and reduce side effects. Lee is an assistant professor in the School of Industrial and Systems Engineering.

Graduate education at Tech continues its strong showing in national magazine rankings as programs in the College of Engineering, the College of Sciences and Ivan Allen College garner top 10 placements.

Public Policy student Sara Cames spent fall semester serving as one of two interns working with U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice William Rehnquist, monitoring domestic and foreign current events and regularly briefing Rehnquist on her findings.

Smartraq, an activity-based travel survey designed to help regional planners make sound decisions affecting metro transportation issues, recruited its first participants. Data from the surveys will offer a better understanding of how investment in land-use and transportation affects mobility, air quality and health.

A new grant allowed Mark Hay, a professor in the School of Biology, to create a new research center for his Signals in the Sea project, which studies chemical signaling in aquatic ecosystems, linking Tech with top marine science institutions.

The wider implementation of the CoWeb application in the classroom extended Tech’s commitment to digital communications and provided a constant forum online for more thorough class discussions. By integrating silicon circuits with nerve cells, Biomedical Engineering Professor Bill Ditto and his research team worked to create the first generation of hybrid biological computers. His team scored its first breakthrough - doing arithmetic with two neurons derived from leeches.
Construction projects abound, as Georgia Tech makes academic, athletic and aesthetic improvements to campus, though no new parking to accommodate the 14,000-seat stadium facility in use in NCAA ball season.

Two years after being established, the Georgia Tech Regional Engineering Program (GTREP) graduated its first engineering students at fall commencement.

Several athletic facilities underwent major renovations. Russ Chandler Stadium was razed and rebuilt as a modern, 5,000-seat ballpark with improved access and private suites and will be ready for the 2002 base- season.

Ruthie Beck, who began working in Brittain Dining Hall in 1941, celebrated her 50th year at Tech.

Brittain Dining Hall, built shortly after World War I, closes in January 2002 so maintenance can be completed. The $14.4 million facility before reopening to students in the fall.

To help give incoming freshmen some insight into the academic rigor of a collegiate environment, Institute Communications and Public Affairs and the Office of Enrollment Services collaborated on a resource website called success@georgia tech that provides practical information, advice from professors and student testimonials on surviving the first year.

The prestigious National Academy of Engineering named Bruce Ellingwood, chair of the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, as one of its newest members.

The north stands of Bobby Dodd Stadium were demolished to allow a 14,000-seat stadium expansion and renovation. The $100 million expansion, part of the larger Bobby Dodd Park development, will be ready for the 2002 Winter Olympic Games.

Jean-Lou Chameau, dean of the College of Engineering, was named interim dean of the college.

President Clough was appointed by President George W. Bush to his Presidential Committee on Science and Technology, charged with issues such as environmental, federal investment, and infrastructure.

Head football coach George O’Leary resigned from Tech after accepting a job offer from the University of Notre Dame. He would resign that position five days later amid allegations of inaccuracies on his resume.

To replace the vacancy, Tech hired Chan Gailey as successor. He will be the school’s 11th football coach.

A new measure to help boost freshman retention this year was the issuance of mid-term grade reports — noted as either satisfactory or unsatisfactory — as an early warning system designed to alert students to potential academic problems. Following the first such distribution, nearly 30 percent of students received at least one unsatisfactory mark.

Representatives of the Ford Motor Company attend a ceremony in honor of the company’s $10 million commitment to Tech’s new Environmental Science and Technology Building, the largest corporate donation in school history. When completed in fall of 2002, the 287,000-square-foot facility will be the largest academic building on campus.

The manual reporting of grades via “bubble sheets” became a thing of the past as electronic grade submission went online.

After leading Tech’s Music Department for 19 years, Director Bucky J. Johnson retired.

An evaluation of this year’s freshman class indicated a subtle shift in the profile of a “Typical Tech student,” as the school’s non-engineering colleges acquired greater academic interest among incoming students.

In particular, the College of Management, the College of Sciences and Ivan Allen College saw substantial enrollment increases.

The stands, built in 1958, are being expanded and renovated. Though no new parking to accommodate the 14,000-seat stadium facility in use in NCAA ball season, will be ready for the 2002 base- season.

The Student Athletic Complex will be ready for the 2002 baseball season.

April Brown succeeded Mark Smith as President Clough’s new executive assistant.

Tech filled several vacant departmental chairs: Bill Long, School of International Affairs; Willie Pearson, School of History, Technology and Society; William Rouse, School of Industrial and Systems Engineering; and Phillip McNight, School of Modern Languages.

Now faculty member Alfred Merrill was appointed to the Smithgall Institute Chair in Molecular and Cell Biology.

The Student Athletic Complex “pulled the plug” on its facilities, closing down the Aquatic Center to begin work on the three-year, $45 million SAC II project.

Arnold Stancell, professor of chemical engineering, was named the first chair of Servant Leadership as part of President Clough’s student leadership initiative.

Kathryn Smith (left), a 23-year-old sophomore in the School of Psychology, returned to campus this fall after a three-year absence. Smith’s autoimmune hepatitis caused multiple organ failure, several transplant operations and prolonged rehabilitation. In addition to her work as an active member of UTeach, a non-profit program run by every organization, Smith said she plans to continue her psychology studies at Tech and one day hopes to attend medical school.

Clough’s student leadership initiative found growth and change as directed by Walter Wilkinson and approved by the Student Body Council.

Call for faculty committee nominations

Committees of the Faculty have an important responsibility for guiding many of Tech’s activities. With committee elections approaching, the Nominating Committee is seeking interested candidates. Forward your nominations, including self-nominations, by February 1 to Gisele Welch, chair of the Nominating Committee, by email (or campus mail, code 0834), indicating for which committee or committees the nominations are designated.

The Nominating Committee will assemble the ballots, and elections will be held during the spring semester. The Standing Committees of the General Faculty and of the Academic Senate are listed below. For a complete listing of current memberships, minutes of committees and further information, visit the faculty governance web site at www.facultysen-ate.gatech.edu. Contact chairwoman committees or other members to find out more about their activities.

• Committees of the General Faculty, open to all faculty members with general faculty or academic faculty status: Faculty Benefits Committee, Faculty Honors Committee, Faculty Status and Grievance Committee, Statutes Committee, Academic Services Committee, and Welfare and Security Committee.

• Committees of the Academic Faculty, open to all faculty members with academic appointments: Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Graduate Committee, Student Regulations Committee, Student Academic and Financial Affairs Committee, Student Activities Committee, Student Grievance and Appeal Committee, Student Honor Committee, and Student Computer Ownership Committee.

Charles William Landiss Jr., 76, of Dunwoody died Wednesday at Portobello Hospice in Dunwoody. The family was cremated and a memorial service was held on Jan. 6 at Kingswood United Methodist Church in Dunwoody.

“Dad was not a judgmental, Bible-thumping kind of preacher,” said his son, Bob Landiss. “He had an analytical mind and a fresh way of looking at things. He was very good at taking Bible stories and breaking them down to their essential components. He didn’t like the mythology; he was more about the message.”

The Rev. Landiss earned a bachelor’s degree in philosophy from Berry College, a master’s degree from the Boston University School of Theology and a doctorate in theology from Harvard University.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to the Wesley Foundation at Georgia Tech/Landiss Lecture Series, 189 Fourth St. N.W., Atlanta, GA 30313

IN BRIEF:

New faculty member Arthur Jones, from Harvard University, earned a master’s degree from the Boston University School of Theology and a doctorate in theology from Harvard University.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to the Wesley Foundation at Georgia Tech/Landiss Lecture Series, 189 Fourth St. N.W., Atlanta, GA 30313

Judges wanted

Centennial Place Elementary School will hold its annual Science and Math Fair on Wednesday, Jan. 30. In order to evaluate each student’s project properly, the school is looking for judges who have a knowledge of the scientific method and age-appropriate developmental abilities. Judges arrive at 8 a.m. for orientation and refreshments, and each judge will be assigned a number of projects to evaluate. To participate, contact Centennial Place Elementary by phone at 404-853-4022 or by fax at 404-853-4089.