State of the Institute Address:
Tech Makes Tremendous Gains This Year Despite Financial Crisis

By Vera L. Dudley

Despite sharp budget cuts resulting from what he deems a lack of commitment to education from the state, Georgia Tech President John P. Crecine described the Institute's vast achievements during a period of economic instability. In a 30-minute delivery of his State of the Institute Address at the October 29 General Faculty meeting, Dr. Crecine said, "The apparent lack of short or long run commitment to provide sufficient funds to Georgia Tech remains my single biggest source of frustration as president." That frustration, he continued, was magnified during the current fiscal crisis when each institute in the System received the same 7.5 percent cut regardless of that institution's performance or need.

"As president of an institution that makes important contributions to the state's economy, I find a policy that fails, in a period of declining economic activity in the state, to recognize contributions to long-term economic development, to be puzzling," Dr. Crecine said. After a brief description of the controversial financial exigency policies and his support of a feature allowing a

Dr. Crecine said.

In addition, Dr. Crecine spoke of new degree programs resulting from academic restructuring, recruitment of high-quality faculty, a 17-point increase of freshman SAT scores, an expanding Ph.D. pipeline and the opening of the Student Galleria as some of the accomplishments the Institute can be proud of. He was particularly impressed with achievements made in women and minority enrollment in undergraduate and graduate programs. In Ph.D. programs, he said, female enrollment in 1990 was up 19 percent and African-American enrollment increased by 33 percent.

At the undergraduate level, he added, Tech recruited 61 percent more African-American freshman and admitted 57 percent more African-American graduate students in 1991.

"It is testimony to the great vitality of this Institution's students, faculty, and staff that we continue to perform at the highest levels in the current financial climate."

-Dr. John P. Crecine

Human Relations Committee Rejuvenates Its Mission To Manage Diversity At Tech

After a brief hiatus, the Human Relations Committee is reorganizing this quarter to place greater emphasis on increasing minority and women enrollments while managing cultural diversity at Georgia Tech, two high priority goals of Tech President John P. Crecine.

Under the leadership of newly appointed chairman Richard Mole, assistant director of Student Affairs in the Housing Office, the executive subcommittee of the Human Relations Committee plans to build on the work initiated by its former leader, Dr. Don Bratcher, Mole says.

"Don blazed a trail that raised awareness and sensitivities that is absolutely crucial for ongoing work that must now take place at the organizational level," Mole said.

Referring to President Crecine's enrollment goals Mole added, "What we're doing here is not unique to Georgia Tech. It's about keeping us competitive. Georgia Tech is stepping over an important threshold into a far more competitive and complex future. Our success depends upon our ability to manage diversity as a vital resource."

According to Mole, subcommittees will be in place by the end of the fall quarter and will begin setting their agendas for the next year. Projects such as Human Relations Awareness Week and the newsletter, which were initiated by previous Human Relations subcommittees, will continue. The Office of Human Resources will conduct AIDS Education Programs and White Awareness seminars for employees and students, under the supervision of Associate Vice President-Student Affairs, Carole Moore, assistant vice president of Student Affairs, will chair the Acts of Intolerance Committee.

"The key is to try to change systems and procedures, not people," Mole explained. "In order to move from assimilation to differentiation and ultimately to integration, we must have systems in place that reward excellent performance regardless of size, shape, age, affectional orientation, or color of the performer."

Mole says that new subcommittees will also be formed to deal with faculty, staff and student issues and employee performance and evaluation. A new Community Resources Committee will be charged with creating an environment that includes the Olympic ideals.

Without filling the pipeline with African-American Ph.D. students, no institution, not even Georgia Tech, will be able to assemble a cohort of African-American faculty of any size," Dr. Crecine explained. "This is a national dilemma and Georgia Tech is one of the few institutions with a solution."

Despite enormous accomplishments made at Tech during a financially unstable year, Dr. Crecine was concerned for factors stemming from some faculty's attitudes toward students in math, science and computing courses that may be affecting education quality. He related a poor overall retention rate at the Institute to a "small, but persistent group of instructors who mistakenly equate the quality of education in the classroom with low and failing grades." Dr. Crecine emphasized the need for faculty to do everything possible to help students succeed without lowering standards.

"I would go as far as to say the majority of these failures represent a failure by the institution not by the student," he said. "I am talking about changing the attitudes of some from 'judge and executioner' to 'mentor and coach.' We cannot afford to have one part of the institution working hard to..."

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EXXON Grants
$32,500 to Tech

As part of its national program to assist universities with extra funding needed for special programs and equipment, Exxon has awarded $32,500 in grants to Georgia Tech to use in its engineering and computer science departments.

Tech's share is part of a $1.8 million contribution to approximately 100 colleges and universities for use in their computer science, chemical, mechanical, electrical, and civil engineering departments and schools.

Past grants have supported scholarships, field trips, visiting speakers, equipment purchases, student and faculty travel to professional meetings, and many other academic projects designed to attract quality students.

see Exxon Grants p.4, col.3
Homecoming 1991
"The Renaissance Continues"

Faculty, students and alumni flocked to the streets of Georgia Tech's campus to participate in numerous activities making up Homecoming Week. This year's festivities included a Festival of Masterpieces Talent Show, a concert, a comedy show and of course the traditional homecoming game. Students also organized a special tribute to Dean Dull as he retires from Tech as it's vice president of Student Affairs. Dean Dull has served Tech for 34 years.

Halftime activities included the naming of Mr. and Miss Georgia Tech. The 1991 winners were Ed Carolan, EE, and Jenny Hickok, IE. From left to right, Mr. Georgia Tech 1990 Dan von Saal, ICS; Ed Carolan; John C. Staton, Jr., IM '80, president of the Georgia Tech Alumni Association; Jenny Hickok; President John P. Creecy; and Miss Georgia Tech 1990 Janet Nelson, IE.

The Yellow Jackets wrapped up the day's events with a big victory over North Carolina. With the help of Tech's number 42, Jimmy Lincoln, Tech overpowered the Tarheels to win the game 35-14.

A favorite of students and alumni, Dean Jim Dull head-up this year's Ramblin' Wreck Parade as the parade's Grand Marshall. He is joined here by his wife, Gay Dull, as they lead Tech's famous wrecks down Fowler Street.

State of Tech... continued from page 1

bring hundreds of outstanding students to Georgia Tech and other individuals working hard to cause them to leave."

When Tech receives "adequate funding" at the end of the state fiscal crisis, success in recruitment, effective teaching and retention will be rewarded, Dr. Creecy said. New resources will be used where they will do the most overall good for the institution and in most cases, he said, resources will reward demonstrated performance.

"It is testimony to the great vitality of this institution's students, faculty, and staff that we continue to perform at the highest levels in the current financial climate," Dr. Creecy said in closing. "It is testimony to the great vitality of this institution's students, faculty and staff that in nearly every competitive environment we find ourselves in, we are meeting and beating the competition. We are gaining market share in the midst of difficult times. In 1996, 1997 and 2000 we will be an even stronger institution."

Atlanta Area Teachers Gear Up for JASON Project

About 320 school teachers from Atlanta area public and private/parochial schools converged on Georgia Tech's campus to learn more about a Galapagos Expedition, a major study of animal life and island geography. According to Dr. E. Jo Baker, associate vice president for Academic Affairs, this was the largest group of middle and secondary school teachers ever to assemble at the institute. The teachers, representing 164 public and a half dozen private/parochial schools, want to include the live observation of the expedition in their science lesson plans.

Dr. Robert Ballard, senior scientist at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and the discoverer of the sunken RMS Titanic and the German battleship Bismarck, will lead a team of scientists in December to the Galapagos Islands, 600 miles off the coast of Ecuador. They will conduct an extensive study of a broad variety of land and marine life as well as the islands' unique geography and physical characteristics.

The expedition, to be delivered live via satellite, is sponsored by the JASON Foundation and National Geographic. The JASON Project the brainchild of Ballard, uses the latest satellite technology and advanced robotics systems to share with young people the thrill of scientific discovery. Turner Educational Systems, Inc., in cooperation with Georgia Cable Television Association members, will deliver the live telecasts directlly into the classrooms.

Next year Tech plans to have a primary network site on campus where students and teachers can come and interact directly with JASON crew at their expedition sites. Georgia students who come to Tech will gain a better understanding of scientific exploration and discovery through their direct involvement with JASON's journeys and their queries of the JASON crew.

Tom Hamill, director of University Partnerships coordinated the networking aspects of the program. "The JASON Project is a unique marriage of scientific exploration and satellite technology and presents a highly appealing way to reach large numbers of youngsters with a positive message about science," he said. "With the statewide cooperation of the cable industry, we will be able to reach most of the 12,000 plus science teachers who may want to bring JASON to their students."

Through arrangements made by the University Partnerships Department, a national Science Teachers Association training team was brought to the campus and a camera crew from WPPB (Atlanta's public broadcasting channel) worked with Tech's TelePhoto department to tape an entire session. That master tape will be duplicated and distributed by the Georgia Cable Television Association to its local cable operators so that they can make it available to public and private schools statewide. This collaborative effort will make the training program accessible to virtually all middle and high school science teachers in Georgia, and their students will have the ability to see the JASON programs live or on tape within their school's media centers and classrooms.

Tech's is focusing on training Georgia teachers to maximize the classroom benefit of the project. Mary DeWall, assistant executive director of the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) and her staff associate, Peter Fisher, presented workshops on the complimentary curriculum developed by NSTA, with support from the National Science Foundation and the National Council for Social Studies.

Dr. Baker introduced the NSTA faculty to the assembled teachers and was enthusiastic about turnout. "On a bright Saturday, to see Tennensbaum Auditorium filled with teachers - who seated themselves from the front to the back - makes See JASON, Pg. 4, col. 1
Focus on Human Relations

Braves Fans vs Native Americans: What’s All The Noise About?

Dr. Ronald Bayer, professor of history, technology and society at the Ivan Allen College of Management, Policy, and International Affairs is an expert in race relations, ethnicity and immigration. We asked him for his views on why the American Indian Movement is up in arms over the Braves’ "tomahawk chop.

The interview is presented as part of Georgia Tech's satellite video news release program transmitted to TV stations across the country.

Whistle: Dr. Bayer, why do you think the American Indian Movement is up in arms over the tomahawk chop seen recently at the Braves playoff and World Series games?

Dr. Bayer: I think that the American Indian movement is part of a general, growing sensitivity among ethnic groups to any attempt to demean or belittle their culture. This is just one of many ethnic groups that have really become concerned about these issues. What I see now is that the American Indian Movement is organized, and this is the year that the tomahawk chop and the chants have appeared on national television, so of course they’ve reacted to it.

Whistle: The Atlanta baseball team has always been the Braves. The Florida State University Seminoles have been doing the "chop" for a while. Why do you think they’ve waited until now?

Dr. Bayer: I don’t think the question is the Braves. I don’t think the name of the team is the question. I think the chant, which they feel maligns their religion and their culture and the tomahawk chop which perpetuates stereotypes about Indians. I think the national coverage that brings it to the fore now.

Whistle: Will it bring other race issues to the public’s attention?

Dr. Bayer: Not in the same way, except for this. I think what this whole issue does raise is the fact that we do live in a multi-ethnic society. We are a country of diversity and we have to recognize that each group has to be respected in its own right. Now, I doubt the Braves are going to change their name and, because of freedom of speech issues, I don’t think you’re going to prevent anybody from going into a stadium and doing a chant or moving their hands up and down.

That’s impossible. What you really need here is a re-education process. And that begins in the early levels of school. I think students have to be made to understand that we are this multi-ethnic society and they have to learn to respect other peoples’ cultures and recognize stereotypes for what they are – stereotypes. I would like to see more emphasis put on the schools so that when you come to a Braves game, you’re not going to walk away with a stereotype of Indians being tomahawk brandishing, yelling individuals. I also would like to see, as a possible education process, the Braves perhaps run mini-history lessons or little [video] shorts in which the Indians can speak for themselves, perhaps between innings. I think the Braves’ game is a golden opportunity to educate the American public – or for the Cleveland Indians or for any other team that uses Indian symbols, a perfect opportunity to educate the public about what the Native American is today. That might soothe some of the feelings. Of course, I’m not a Native American and I’m not a Braves’ official, so I can’t really speak for either one of them, but I think this would be part of dealing with the problem.

Again, the problem isn’t the chant, the tomahawks or the Braves’ name. The problem is the perceptions it creates, about stereotypes and the sense that it demeans their culture and that seems to be the issue here.

Whistle: Do you feel that people are really coming away from those games with that stereotype in their heads, or do you think that they’re only caught up the fanfare of the whole thing?

Dr. Bayer: Well, partly both. Certainly, if you’ve never come into contact with Indian culture and you know no Native Americans, you do walk away in the same way you walk away from a Hollywood movie with a sense that the Indians are a bunch of screaming savages. And that’s just not the case, and I think that’s what they object to. So sure, it’s harmless fun to a certain extent, but again, we have to recognize that some groups have a sensitivity to these issues and I think we should recognize those sensitivities.

Whistle: Do you think they’ve made the right move by protesting at the games?

Dr. Bayer: Absolutely. It sensitizes people to the issue. In the same way that Anita Hill sensitized people to the sexual harassment issue, this sensitizes people about using other group’s symbols in a way that the group feels belittles them.

People on the Move

Dr. J. Nari Davidson, former associate director of the School of Mechanical Engineering, has recently been appointed associate dean for Faculty and Planning in the College of Engineering by the College’s Dean, Dr. John A. White. Dr. Davidson served the Dean’s Office as interim associate dean for the past year.

Dr. Jack R. Lohmann, a professor in the School of Industrial and Systems Engineering, has been appointed associate Dean for Educational Affairs and Academic Programs in the College of Engineering by the College’s Dean John A. White, effective October 15, 1991. Before his arrival at Tech, Dr. Lohmann served as senior program director in the Division of Undergraduate, Service and Community Education and Mathematics Education at the National Science Foundation while on an intergovernmental personnel assignment from the University of Michigan. At Michigan he served in the College of Engineering as Associate Dean for Graduate and Undergraduate Studies.

Phil Adler and Charles Parsons of the School of Management recently co-authored a major section of a book, The Strategic Use of Information Technology published by the Oxford University Press in its Executive Bookshelf Series. Their section is titled, "Employee Privacy: Legal and Research Developments."

Classifieds...

Wanted - Car pool to Buford. Please call Jane at 4-3460.
Wanted - Coweta County commuter Braves campus car pool! Call Russ at 4-6013 or 253-6407.
For Sale - Concert tickets for Tom Petty, Red Stewart, Allman Bros. All concerts are at the Lakewood Amphitheater. Call Ann Heiman at 727-6157.
For Sale - Sears Craftsman band saw, 12 in., 2 spd. Excel. cond., $840. Call 925-3655 day or night.
For Sale - 1/4 CT. ladies solitaire diamond ring, Size 10, $225 or best offer. Call 4-6838.

Student Ingenuity Displayed At Atlanta’s SciTrek Museum

What started out as a routine senior project for a class of 44 mechanical design students at Georgia Tech is now a learning tool for hundreds of visitors touring Atlanta’s SciTrek museum.

A 30-foot long “Rube Goldberg” machine, a device named for the American cartoonist who originated the genre that uses complicated means to accomplish a simple task was installed in the Hall of Simple Machines at SciTrek, the hands-on science and technology museum on Piedmont Ave.

The class took 10 weeks to build the device that propels a cue ball through seven stages of mechanical motion in order to eventually play the Tech fight song, “The Ramblin’ Week,” on a makeshift guitar.

Funded by SciTrek, the machine demonstrates several basic principles of mechanical engineering including rigid body dynamics, kinematics, hydraulics, mechanical resonance, vibrations, heat transfer and acoustics. The class was divided into seven teams, each charged with the construction of a stage or segment demonstrating a principle. The experience not only taught students how to design something, says class instructor Dr. Massoud Tavakoli, but they also learned an important aspect essential to accomplishing all tasks requiring interpersonal and intermechanical relationships: “Communications,” said Dr. Tavakoli. “They had to communicate with each other to make sure that their designs were compatible. They saw, as the machine worked, the principle behind what was happening.”

According to Dr. Tavakoli, each stage of the process is designed to take from 30 seconds to a minute so the observer will have time to absorb what is happening. Currently it is too delicate to be handled by the general public, but once it is "childproofed" Dr. Tavakoli said, anyone will be able to trigger the motion and handle the machine without close supervision.
Briefly...

1991 Kuppenheimer Classic: Tickets for the Kuppenheimer Classic at the Omni (Georgia vs. Penn State and Georgia Tech vs. Kentucky) go on sale at Tick-A-Tech inside the Tech Bookstore on Friday, Nov. 1 at 8 a.m. Tickets, which are $12.50 each and include both games on Saturday, Dec. 21, are available on a first come, first serve basis. There is a limit of 210 tickets in the student section. Up to four tickets may be purchased with a valid Tech ID. For more information call 4-2805.

Thousands Learn More About Tech at Annual Air Show.
People lined up to view Georgia Tech’s display at the Warner Robbins Air Show and Open House. Approximately 300,000 people recently attended the annual two-day event at Warner Robbins Air Base to see stunts, flying, aircraft exhibitions, and a variety of displays and entertainment. Atlanta and Macon branches of GTRA and ATDC, along with Georgia Tech’s Office of External Affairs, collaborated to erect a display informing visitors about Georgia Tech’s latest efforts in research and development and other campus-wise successes.

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One feel more optimistic about our educational system. It tells me that many teachers are eager to find better ways to communicate the excitement of science to their students.

Beyond JASON, the Georgia Cable Television Association will be working with Georgia Tech to develop ongoing teacher training and student enrichment programs throughout Georgia.

What’s Next

LECTURES & SEMINARS
November 7

November 13
School of Physics Colloquium, J. W. Giduzak, National Institute of Standards and Technology, “Inelastic Resonance Scattering, Tunneling and Desorption,” 3 p.m., Physics Bldg., Lecture Room 5. Refreshments at 2:45 p.m., Rm. N110.

November 14

School of Chemistry and Biochemistry Seminar, Jaquelyn Petrow, SUNY Albany. “Deductions and Replacements of Mega Loops in Yeast Iso-1 Cytochrome C: Effect on Protein Structure and Function,” 3:30 p.m., Boggs Bldg., Rm. 66A.

November 15
Nuclear Engineering/Health Physics, Mango Oge, Environmental Protection Agency, “EPA Involvement in Radon and Environmental Radiation Protection,” 4 p.m., ESAM Bldg., Rm. 109.

“JASON is merely the tip of the iceberg,” according to Tom Hamall. “The full impact of this working partnership will take time and effort to be realized. But the potential impact on our future student pipeline is tremendous.

Exxon... continued from pg. 1
Exxon makes the grants to schools offering degrees in educational fields where the company recruits future employees.

Exxon College Relations Coordinator Truman Bell said, “in addition to our general support of education, these grants are specifically directed to university departments which are producing the type of well qualified graduates Exxon needs.”

According to Program Officer Terry Walker of Exxon USA Public Affairs, the amount of each grant is based on several factors, including the number of Exxon employees from a particular school and Exxon’s recruiting success at the school over the past five years.

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* JASON Project helps deliver far-away discoveries to children via satellite.

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