Provost Creates Office and Council of the Arts

AMELIA PAVLIK
COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

As part of Georgia Tech's strategic initiative to foster and support a campus culture where the arts can thrive, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Rafael L. Bras has announced the creation of an Office of the Arts and a faculty-led Council of the Arts.

“Georgia Tech is all about creativity and design,” Bras said. “That creativity is expressed in a variety of contexts, ranging from product development, to architecture, to policy formulation, and everything in between. So it is only natural to invest in developing opportunities that will encourage creativity in the arts.”

Both the office and the council were part of recommendations made by the TechArts task force as part of the Institute’s strategic plan implementation efforts.

“Our students, staff and community are hungry for outlets of artistic expression and appreciation,” Bras said, citing last year’s Clough Art Crawl — that drew 150 submissions. “The Council of the Arts, supported by the Office of the Arts, will ensure that the Institute nurtures, appreciates, collects and creates the very best of the arts.”

The Office of the Arts will oversee the Ferst Center for the Arts and will be led by George Thompson, current director of the Ferst Center. The office will advocate for and develop opportunities that will encourage creativity in the arts.

Roundtable Provides Diversity, Culture Progress Report

AMELIA PAVLIK
COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

In the June 11 issue of The Whistle, we shared that the one thing that Charles Isbell Jr. wanted to get out of this month’s Diversity Roundtable was a sense that the ball was being moved forward when it comes to improving the culture at Georgia Tech.

“I was very pleased,” said Isbell, a professor and senior associate dean in the College of Computing, regarding his experience at the event. “Based on what I heard, it appeared that our leadership really listened and is genuinely interested in taking meaningful steps to change the culture.”

The arts at Georgia Tech (clockwise): Contemporary music ensemble-in-residence Sonic Generator, Director of the Office of the Arts George Thompson, Council of the Arts Chair Aaron Bobick and the annual Margaret Guthman Musical Instrument Competition.

Strategic Energy Institute Names New Director

COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

On Aug. 1, Tim Lieuwen will become executive director of Georgia Tech’s Strategic Energy Institute (SEI).

In this role, Lieuwen expects to be a “systems integrator,” bringing together the many elements of the Institute’s science, engineering, computing and policy research to address the planet’s most pressing energy challenges.

“We want to do the fundamental science and be great engineers and great scientists, but we want to address real-world problems that will serve society,” said Lieuwen, a professor and combustion engineer in the School of Aerospace Engineering.

Tech operates a broad range of energy-related research initiatives, including power generation and distribution, power electronics, fuel production, water management, materials, energy systems, energy systems,
Camp Combines Tennis Skills with a Little Fun

AMELIA PARVIL
COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

The Georgia Tech Tennis Camp is “a step up from other tennis camps,” according to Bert Bras. And he should know. Bras’ 14-year-old son, Jackson, has participated in the camp for three years.

“Jackson tried the Emory camp twice but prefers Tech’s camp,” said Bras, a professor in the School of Mechanical Engineering. “The coaching is at a higher level. He learns stuff at the Tech camp versus just hitting a ball on a court.”

For example, one year, the camp staff filmed Jackson and then discussed his strengths and weaknesses while they watched the footage.

“The unique part about our camp is that our coaches direct it,” said Georgia Tech Tennis Coach Kenny Thorne, who has helped run the camp for 14 years. “We also have many of our team members working as staff. So it’s a great opportunity to get the highest level of coaching.”

The camp runs Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. for three to four weeks in June and is open to boys and girls ages 9 to 18. This year, due to construction on the Tech tennis facility, the camp was held at Piedmont Park. As a result, only two weeks of camp were offered.

In groups of six, campers do various tennis drills during the morning hours; they play matches half the time and go to the pool the other half during the afternoon. When the camp is held on campus, it can usually accept up to 100 children and teens per week. Many of the attendees enjoy the camp so much, they sign up for multiple weeks, added Ethan Shapiro, director of team operations for Tech softball, swimming, tennis and volleyball.

“It doesn’t matter whether you actually play in high school or college — the important thing is learning the correct technique and developing a love for the game,” Thorne said.

Registration for the 2013 camp opens in January at www.yellowjackettenniscamp.com. The cost for each week is $325, and there is a $25 discount for return campers or groups of four or more.

For more information, contact Shapiro at EShapiro@gata.gatech.edu

www.yellowjackettenniscamp.com

CETL Offers Course Design Studio

CENTER FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

Many faculty members know that they’d like to try something different the next time they teach a particular course — but finding the time to devise a plan and turn it into reality can be a challenge.

That’s why the Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning (CETL) is offering an opportunity for faculty members to join forces with their peers for a new one-week Course Design Studio, July 16 to 20.

“We all need to plan our courses anyway, so why not do it in an environment where you can get peer feedback?” said Esther Skelly Jordan, a faculty development fellow with CETL who will be leading the studio. “What is discussed each day will really be driven by whatever it is that attendees want to improve.”

The studio will meet on campus from 9 a.m. until noon. Jordan will facilitate a discussion on best practices in course design, with an emphasis on areas of particular interest to the participants. Faculty will then devote time each afternoon to their own course redesigns, working individually to strengthen what they offer, and will report on their progress the next morning for feedback.

All full-time faculty members are encouraged to attend. Participants should be committed to teaching the redesigned course during the fall semester and have the support of their school/department chairs.

For more information, contact Jordan at Estherjordan@gatech.edu or register at www.cetl.gatech.edu

Going Back to College?

We’re doing an article featuring Georgia Tech faculty and staff who have returned to college to earn a degree. If you have a story to share, email editor@comm.gatech.edu.

www.cetl.gatech.edu

EVENTS

JUNE 27

The free Flicks on 5th film series will feature “Happy Feet Two” at 7 p.m. at Fifth Street, Tech Square. Some chairs have been provided but guests are encouraged to bring chairs and blankets. Free popcorn is served at all shows. Hourly parking is available in the surface lot across from Barnes & Noble at Fifth and Spring Streets and the parking deck on Spring Street adjacent to the Georgia Tech Hotel and Conference Center. Seating begins at 7 p.m. Movies begin at 7:30 p.m.

tinyurl.com/3busq7h

JULY 14

Stephen Fleming, vice president of the Enterprise Innovation Institute, will give a talk on “Hydrogen Cars, Ethanol, Wind Farms and Other Silly Ideas” at 7 p.m. at Manuel’s Tavern, 602 N. Highland Ave. RSVP at tinyurl.com/bpkwkgd

JULY 24

A course open to employees on general biostatistics will be offered at 1 p.m. in the Environmental Health and Safety Conference Room. To register visit www.train.gatech.edu

ARTS & CULTURE

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CONFERENCE AND LECTURES

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JULY 11

A course open to employees on bloodborne pathogens will be offered at 10:30 a.m. in the Environmental Health and Safety Conference Room. To register visit www.train.gatech.edu

JULY 12

A course open to employees on CPV/AED/first aid training will be offered at 8:30 a.m. in room 245, Campus Recreation Center. To register visit www.train.gatech.edu

JULY 13

A defensive driving course will be offered at 8:30 a.m. in room 320, Student Center. To register visit www.train.gatech.edu

JULY 24

A course open to employees on general biostatistics will be offered at 1 p.m. in the Environmental Health and Safety Conference Room. To register visit www.train.gatech.edu

AUGUST 3

A course on the foundations of diversity awareness for office professionals will be offered at 8:30 a.m., in room 203, Savant Building. To register visit www.train.gatech.edu

ARTS, continued from page 1

for, promote and facilitate arts partnerships on campus and between Tech and the community.

“Part of a well-rounded education includes musical, visual and written arts, and the Office of the Arts will help the campus community easily identify arts opportunities,” Thompson said. “We will be a resource for creative research and academic and performance collaborations on campus and will manage a new campus-wide, arts-focused website, among other things.”

The office will be complemented by an internal Council of the Arts, to be chaired by Aaron Bobick, a professor in the School of Interactive Computing who also co-chaired the TechArts task force. The committee will be comprised of representatives from a variety of schools and departments. Thompson will also be a part of the group to facilitate collaboration between the Office of the Arts and the council.

“The Council of the Arts will be the faculty entity that inherits the mandate of the TechArts initiative and will continue to push for innovation and development in education, research, performance, exhibition, community outreach and student arts activities,” Bobick said. “The council will impact the campus both through organizing faculty and student-centred efforts and by coordinating activities with George and the Office of the Arts to promote the arts at Georgia Tech.”

In addition to the Council of the Arts, a committee comprised of alumni and other community leaders with strong ties to the Institute is being formed to support fundraising for future arts initiatives.

During the summer, The Whistle is high-lighting various Georgia Tech camps for kids and teens. In the next issue: TEC Camp, a program for middle school girls that provides an introduction to the world of technology, engineering and computing.

www.cetl.gatech.edu

www.yellowjackettenniscamp.com

www.czv9l3x

www.cetl.gatech.edu
Faculty, Staff Share Peachtree Race Memories

For many Atlantans, the Fourth of July means it’s time to run — or walk — another Peachtree Road Race. Below are a few race memories from members of the Georgia Tech community.

JAMES CHILDERS, GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

Last year, a broken ankle almost forced James Childers to break his soon-to-be 28-race streak of running in the Peachtree. “After the ice from the big winter storm was gone, I still managed to slip and fall on some leftover rock salt and sand while walking the dogs,” he said. “In the process, I broke my ankle, which required surgery, two screws to put it back together again and 10 weeks of wearing a cast and hard boot.”

But with a little help from his orthopedist and physical therapist, Childers was able to nurse his ankle back to health in time to run in the race. “My finish time actually ended up being better than the year before, and my string of consecutive finishes in the classic 10K remains unbroken,” he said.

LAURA PRICE, STUDENT CENTER

For Laura Price, the Peachtree has become a family tradition. During her first race, she injured her knee and wouldn’t have made it to the finish line without her sister’s help. “About a mile from the finish line, my left knee locked up,” said Price, who will run her fourth Peachtree in July. “My sweet sister was with me and slowed down and told me to walk — but I didn’t want to mess up our time, so I kept running. We made it, and it was such a special moment.”

In addition to the well-known race T-shirts, runners are also given peaches at the end of the race, which has become one of Price’s favorite race day moments.

KRISTEN SHAW, COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Three days prior to her first race in 2009, Kristen Shaw was the person “many Peachtree veterans hate.”

“I managed to purchase a number from a friend and decided that I would tackle the race in Atlanta’s heat and humidity,” said Shaw, who will be running her fourth race this year. “I participated with a friend and say ‘participated’ because we walked about half the race. But in the end, despite feeling like my knees might explode, I loved the experience.”

In hindsight, she wishes he’d taken the sub and hopes that he will finally see the vendor again this year while running the race.

KYLE FRENCH, MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

In 2004, Kyle French ran his first Peachtree and was “blown away.” “It was a typical race day, but during the race I was given a slushy, offered a beer from some friendly bystanders on the side and was also offered a foot-long sub sandwich from a vendor,” said French, who has run the race annually — with the exception of one year when he had to take family to the airport. “Considering it was pretty hot for that race, a beer during the race seemed out of the question, carrying a sub sandwich for 6.2 miles seemed counterfeit competitive, but that slushy sub looked good.”

In hindsight, he wishes he’d taken the sub and hopes that he will finally see the vendor again this year while running the race.

For more comprehensive listing of events updated daily, visit www.gatech.edu/calendar.

EVENTS

MISCELLANEOUS

June 27
An information session for the new campus daycare facility, The Children’s Campus @ Georgia Tech, will be held noon in the Student Center Ballroom. Faculty, staff and students are not required to attend the information session to complete an Enrollment Interest Form. Tech families currently on the wait list at the R. Kenton Pitcher Student Center will be given priority for enrollment based on their position on the wait list. Applications received will be awarded spaces in the center on a first-come, first-erected basis. For more information, contact Melissa Moore at melissa.moore@gatech.edu.

July 9
Join the Georgia Tech GIS Community of Interest, led by the GIS@Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI) group. Current members of the GTRI GIS group will meet at 11:30 a.m. at GTRI.

CLASSIFIEDS

AUTOMOBILES

2004 BMW Z4 2.5i five-speed manual, silver with black convertible top, 70K, good condition and dealer serviced. New tires. Powerful engine is a blast to drive. $12,500 (negotiable). Email mccormickgtri@b.ent or call 404-683-3791.

1,000 A Model Ford Standard Coupe. Completely restored, all original. Two-tone brown and tan with black fend- ers. Plain straw top and seat. All original. Less than 300 miles since restoration. $1,900. EO. Email mark.ettinri@gtri. gatech.edu.

REAL ESTATE / ROOMMATES

3BR/2BA furnished, waterfront cottage along the southern outer banks (Manteo, NC). $1,500/month. Will consider exchange or split. Contact Mike at 404-894-6614 or stavros@math.gatech.edu.

Lake Lanier deep-water lot and house for rent in Gainesville, GA. $1,050/mo., plus utilities. Contact Lakelani@earthlink.net.

www.diversity.gatech.edu

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Myers Took a Risk — Got Unexpected Reward

AMELIA PAYLER
COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

The biggest risk Tasha Myers ever took was accepting an interim position and knowing there was no guarantee she’d be offered the job permanently. After six months in the position, it was offered to someone else. But taking the risk did eventually pay off.

“Sure, I was disappointed, but shortly after, I was offered my position at Georgia Tech,” said Myers, who is an associate program director at the Student Center. “Not getting the interim job was a blessing in disguise, because I love what I do at Tech.”

As a child, Myers didn’t dream of going into student affairs — she wanted to be a lawyer. This career aspiration morphed into becoming a math teacher until Myers got to college and realized that teaching wasn’t a good match for her.

“I was always good at math, but it wasn’t fun for me anymore,” Myers said. “I knew I needed to find something I could be truly passionate about.”

Once Myers realized she could make a living advising students about the same extra-curricular activities she’d enjoyed in college, she knew that student affairs was a fit.

Recently The Whistle had a chance to learn more about Myers and her time at Tech.

How did you arrive at Georgia Tech?

While I was in graduate school at the University of Georgia, I worked in an assistantship at Tech with Stephanie Ray, associate dean of students and director of diversity programs. After graduation, I initially worked at Spelman College — in the interim student affairs role that I mentioned. When it came time to find a new job, I was offered my position at Tech and have been here since 2010.

Tell us a little bit about your job.

I oversee the OPTIONS program, which offers noncredit leisure classes for students, faculty, staff and anyone else interested in participating. In addition, I am working toward becoming the Atlanta Life committees, and I oversee Under the Couch, a music venue in the Student Center where students can see live shows, practice, play, record and learn. Also, whether it’s listening to stories about breakups or providing advice about internship options, I end up becoming very involved in students’ lives.

What is the most satisfying part of your job?

Watching students develop over the years they are at Tech. But it’s also nice to hear that the students appreciate what I do for them. I remember receiving a thank you note from a student who was really involved in campus activities. He wrote that I was one of the best advisors he’d worked with at Tech, which meant so much to me.

What is the one piece of technology you can’t live without?

My Android phone — my whole life is on that device.

Which do you prefer: Facebook, Twitter or a world without any of this social media stuff?

I actually like Facebook and Twitter a lot. Both of my accounts are linked, so my updates go out on both platforms. I like how Facebook allows you to connect with other people. But Twitter is useful for putting my random thoughts out into the world.

What is the best advice you’ve ever received?

My mom would always tell me to “Never forget who you are and who you represent.”

If you could have dinner with one person, dead or alive, who would it be?

Walt Disney. I would want to ask him how he imagined places like Disneyland and Disneyworld, and I’d ask him what he thinks of his legacy has become.

Where is your favorite place to have lunch, and what do you order?

Chow Baby. I don’t really have a regular order, because it’s so easy to change up the ingredients in the stir-fry dishes they serve.

Tell us something about yourself that others might not know.

I met my husband on a dance team when I was an undergraduate. And when I retire, I would love to open a cupcake bakery of my own.

We’re always looking for article ideas for The Whistle. If you have a suggestion, email editor@comm.gatech.edu.

www.whistle.gatech.edu

Classifieds

From left to right, President G. P. “Bud” Peterson, Buzz, Trish and Ken Byers, Athletics Director Dan Radakovich, Men’s Tennis Coach Kenny Thome and former Women’s Coach Bryan Shelton gathered on June 15 to celebrate the groundbreaking of the Ken Byers Tennis Complex. The complex will be home to Georgia Tech’s men’s and women’s tennis teams and is expected to open in January of 2013.

tinyurl.com/82vfd9g

Review Updated Child Abuse Reporting Policy

OFFICE OF LEGAL AFFAIRS

On July 1, updated rules regarding the mandatory reporting of child abuse go into effect that all Georgia Tech faculty, staff members and volunteers should be familiar with.

State law will now require all employees or volunteers with reasonable cause to believe that a child has been abused to report that abuse immediately to both the Tech police department (404-894-2500) and the reporting person’s program director. “Reasonable cause” is defined as a reason that would motivate a person of ordinary intelligence under the circumstances to believe abuse has occurred.

The updated law includes all employees and volunteers because Tech is a public organization that provides care, treatment, education, training, supervision, coaching, counseling, recreational programs and/or shelter to children.

For more information about the updated policy, contact the Office of Legal Affairs at 404-894-4812 or asklegal@gatech.edu.

www.legalaffairs.gatech.edu

CLASSIFIEDS

MisCELLANEOUS


Used 90-gallon, reef ready, saltwater show tank by Oceanic with left corner overflare box. Tank only, no hood or stand. Dimensions: 32 in. high by 15 in. deep by 48 in. wide. $400. Call 404-385-2170.

2005 Emerson TV with 20.5-in. screen and remote, good working condition, stand included. Email to see pictures. Will bring to campus for the buyer. Make offer at jennifer.lyner@comm.gatech.edu.

Thomasville bookcase twin bed and trundle storage drawers for sale. Great condition. Bed measures 42.5 in. wide by 90 in. long. Bookcase is 12 in. deep. Two large storage drawers underneath measure 37 in. wide by 39 in. long by 9.5 in. deep. $350. Email msg244@gmail.com.

Santa Cruz Superglacier Mountain Bike. Blue, medium. Rock Shox Sid 100, suspension works great, no leaks. XTR V-Brakes, XT Cranks, XT Cassette. Great shape, some superficial scratches from travelling/wear. $700. Email creeque@yahoo.com.

Adopt a tame and abandoned GT kitten or cat. All are spayed/neutered with some shots. Free adoption for GT employees, students and friends. Contact www.krazyaboutkats.com or Marilyn Smith at marilyn.smith@fha.gatech.edu.

Lemond Poprad cyclocross bicycle, white and blue 27.5-in. frame, Shimano 105 components, excellent condition, $700. Redden exclusively on road and has brand new tires. Includes clipless pedals, computer and spare stem. Email daniel.a.cook@gmail.com.

For three issues in the order in which they are received.

Ads run for three issues in the order in which they are received.

Classifieds

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