Tech Named ‘Great College to Work For’

INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

Out of 103 institutions named to The Chronicle of Higher Education’s 2012 “Great Colleges to Work For” list, Georgia Tech was the only one from Georgia to be included.

The Institute, which has been named to the list for four consecutive years, was recognized in three out of 12 categories: collaborative governance, confidence in senior leadership, and facilities, workplace and security.

“Many of the questions that have been highlighted over the past several years have been discussed with the Tech community,” said President G. P. “Bud” Peterson. “Our effectiveness as an institution depends upon the culture we foster, the benefits we offer and the community we create. There’s always room for improvement, but this recognition from the Tech community indicates that we’re on the right track.”

This year, about 47,000 faculty and staff members completed the Great Colleges questionnaire — the largest number of respondents in the survey’s five-year history. Participants represented 294 two-year and four-year institutions.

The survey was administered by ModernThink LLC, a human resources consulting firm, and is based on an assessment that has been used in 53 “Best Places to Work” programs and more than 4,000 organizations.

Donna Ennis takes the time to attend Georgia Tech’s annual Diversity Symposium because it offers an opportunity to learn what the Institute is doing in this area and provides a forum for offering her feedback.

“We must participate so that leadership can hear our ideas and thoughts,” added Ennis, a project director in the Enterprise Innovation Institute.

This year’s symposium, themed “Achieving Inclusive Excellence: Challenges and Opportunities,” will be held on Friday, Sept. 7, from 8:35 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the Global Learning and Conference Center.

“One of the things I enjoy most about the event is that it’s an opportunity for faculty, staff and students to come together and have candid discussions,” said Archie Ervin, vice president for Institute Diversity. “What you say does matter to Tech’s leadership, and we walk away from events like this symposium with a better idea of what we’re doing right and what might need improvement.”

President G. P. “Bud” Peterson will provide the welcome to this year’s event, which will include a panel of faculty and administration online in March and April.

“It’s an honor to know that Georgia Tech was the only college or university in the state to be selected for the Great Colleges list,” said Chief Human Resources Officer Scott Morris. “It is our goal to continue to progress in the areas in which we were recognized and further engage the Tech community to collectively address the areas in which we want to grow. We ultimately want to create the best workplace possible in every area.”

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Be Heard at Annual Institute Address

INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

If you have a question for President G. P. “Bud” Peterson, this is your opportunity to ask it.

Students, faculty and staff are now invited to submit their questions for Peterson via email at instituteaddress@gatech.edu.

Peterson will share some of his responses during the annual Institute Address on Tuesday, Aug. 28. Questions may also be submitted during the event via Twitter to @georgetech, or in person during the question and answer portion of the event.

The 2012 address, which will be held from 11 a.m. to noon in room 152 of Clough Commons, will provide an opportunity to hear a progress report on topics including how Tech is changing the way we educate students, strategic plan initiatives and creating an innovation ecosystem. Peterson will also discuss recent Institute achievements and other need-to-know information about Georgia Tech and the coming year.

Those unable to attend can view the webcast, which will be streamed on the Office of the President homepage at www.gatech.edu/president.
August 22
The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will give a three-hour presentation open to faculty, staff and students during its "Think. Connect." event focusing on cybersecurity issues. The event will begin at 2:30 p.m. in the Clay Theater, Student Success Center. tinyurl.com/2z2bkdj

The School of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering will kick off its weekly seminar at 4 p.m. in room G011, Molecular Science and Engineering Building. Refreshments will be served at 3:30 p.m. in the Emerson-Lewis Reception Salon. http://chee.gatech.edu/seminars

August 30
The Bioengineering Seminar Series presents James Hapgood of the University of California, San Diego speaking on the “Pathogenesis of Pulmonary Fibrosis: The Fibroblast in Focus” at 11 a.m. in room 1128, Petit Building. http://bib.gatech.edu

The College of Architecture Research Forum presents Subroto Guhathakurta of the Center for Geographic Information Systems speaking on “Confronting an Uncertain Future: Planning in the Era of Climate Change and Other Global Crises” at 11 a.m. in the Architecture Library, West Architecture Building. www.coa.gatech.edu

September 5
The Robotics and Intelligent Machines Center presents Robert J. Website of Vanderbilt University at room no. 1116, Marcus Nanotechnology Building. http://robotics.gatech.edu

The IMPACT Speaker Series presents Gaiyun Guth, founder and CEO of Wymson Arts, at 4:30 p.m. in the LoCoe Auditorium, College of Business. http://ite.gatech.edu/IMPACT.html

MISCELLANEOUS

August 28
President G. P. “Bud” Peterson will present his Institute Address from 11 a.m. to noon in room 152, Clough Commons. To submit a question for President Peterson, email it to InstituteAddress@gatech.edu. www.gatech.edu/president

September 6
The Office of the Vice President for Institute Diversity invites you to attend a networking social and reception for faculty, staff and student leaders at Georgia Tech. The event will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Academy of Medicine. RSVP to najah.hofman@vprp.gatech.edu by Aug. 29. www.diversity.gatech.edu

Vice Provost of International Initiatives Named

The Office of the Provost has named Georgia Tech-Lorraine President Yves Berthelot vice provost for International Initiatives and Steven A. Denning Chair in Global Engagement. Berthelot’s appointment is effective Aug. 22.

Berthelot will succeed Steve McLaughlin, who was appointed chair of the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering. “I am very honored to serve the Institute as the next vice provost for International Initiatives,” Berthelot said. “These are exciting times for global engagement in higher education. The faculty, students and staff are truly first class at Georgia Tech, and I am confident that together we can be creative, bold and have a positive impact.”

As an integral member of the Office of the Provost’s leadership team, Berthelot will direct the Institute’s global strategy, international education activities and engagement in research, education, and economic development. He will also collaborate with all campus units to ensure the Institute’s global efforts in education and research meet the highest standards of excellence.

In announcing the appointment, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Rafael L. Bras cited Berthelot’s role in the growth of the GT-Lorraine campus, where the mission is to support the Institute’s collaborations in higher education, research and economic development with French and EU partners.

“In recent years, Yves has been dedicated to the strategic growth and increasing international presence of Georgia Tech-Lorraine,” Bras said. “He also fully understands and supports Georgia Tech’s 25-year strategic plan and global positioning strategy, and I am very confident in his ability to move these important initiatives forward.”

One of the five main goals of the strategic plan is to expand Georgia Tech’s global footprint and to ensure that the Institute is graduating good global citizens. More than 40 percent of all Georgia Tech students graduate with international work, study or research experience, which prepares them for leadership roles in their careers and communities.

With more than 400 students from the Atlanta campus studying there each year, GT-Lorraine plays a significant role in many students’ international experience. The campus offers students from around the world the opportunity to take undergraduate and graduate courses taught in English by Georgia Tech faculty.

GT-Lorraine is also home to the flagship international joint laboratory between Georgia Tech and the French National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS), the GT-CNRS UMR 7331.

Since the opening of GT-Lorraine in 1990, the Institute has added international programs in Singapore and Ireland, and dual degree programs in China, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Korea, South Africa and Mexico.

Berthelot joined the Georgia Tech faculty in 1985, was promoted to associate professor in 1990 and to professor in 1996. A native of France, he has been involved with GT-Lorraine since 1987. His main research interests are in the area of acoustic materials and ultrasonic nondestructive testing.

www.provost.gatech.edu

Balfour to Step Down as Dean

By TERRI NAGEL

Effective June 30, 2013, Balfour will return to the School of Architecture faculty as a professor. “Georgia Tech has benefited greatly from Dean Balfour’s bold vision for education and research in the built environment, as well as in music and the arts,” said Rafael L. Bras, provost and executive vice president for Academic Affairs. “His leadership has propelled the College of Architecture to new levels of excellence and reconfirmed Georgia Tech as a center of cultural and creative activity in the region, the nation and the world.”

“Returning to Georgia Tech has been such a pleasure, enhanced greatly by new and renewed friendships with so many students, faculty and alumni,” Balfour said. “But I look forward to a return to teaching and to devoting more time to writing.”

Balfour led the $9.5 million renovation of the Hmnn Research Building, which received dozens of prestigious awards including the ARCHITECT Magazine’s AIA (Progressive Architecture) Award, Interior Design Magazine’s Best of the Year Award and the University System of Georgia Sustainability Award.

In addition to teaching, Balfour will continue his scholarly endeavors. His forthcoming book, “Solomon’s Temple: Myth, Conflict and Faith,” is a highly original architectural history that is both a social and cultural history of the Rock that is both a social and cultural history of the region. His current project is a collection of writings and essays exploring perception, experience and the human imagination.

www.coa.gatech.edu

DIVERSITY, continued from page 1

Balfour to Step Down as Dean

Events continue on page 3

Published biweekly throughout the academic year and the summer by Georgia Tech Institute Communications.

Editor: Amelia Pavlik
Photos: Amelia Pavlik, Rob Felt or Jennifer Tyner, unless noted

Calendar submissions emailed to editor@comm.gatech.edu; or faxed to 404-894-2214, must be sent at least 10 days prior to desired publication date. Classified submissions are on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, call 404-385-4142.

Archived issues of The Whistle can be accessed at www.provost.gatech.edu.

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

The Whistle
Georgia Tech Institute Communications
Warndorfer Center
177 North Avenue
Atlanta, Georgia 30332-0181

THE WHISTLE * August 20, 2012 * PAGE 2

The Whistle
Georgia Tech’s Faculty/Staff Newspaper

www.whistle.gatech.edu

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THE WHISTLE * August 20, 2012 * PAGE 2

The Whistle
Georgia Tech’s Faculty/Staff Newspaper

www.whistle.gatech.edu
Campus News

Institute Recognizes Regents’ Professors

INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

Gregory Abowd of the College of Computing and Marie Thursby of the Scheller College of Business have been named Regents’ Professors.

The University System of Georgia Board of Regents grants the professorships to outstanding tenured full professors based on excellence in research and contributions to their professions and institutions.

“We are very proud of our new Georgia Tech Regents’ Professors,” said Rafael L. Bras, provost and executive vice president for Academic Affairs. “By definition, they represent the very best among our extraordinary faculty — they are educators, academicians and scholars of the first order.”

Abowd, a distinguished professor in the School of Interactive Computing, arrived at Tech in 1994 and quickly developed a research agenda on the applications of novel technologies in living laboratories such as the classroom and home. Since 2002, much of his research has been devoted to challenges linking information technologies to autism. Abowd established the Atlanta Autism Consortium in August 2008, which helped to unite Atlanta’s many autism-related constituencies.

He was selected as a Rhodes Scholar in 1986 and, after completing his research studies at the University of Oxford, worked from 1989 to 1992 as a research associate with the Human-Computer Interaction Group in the Department of Computer Science at the University of York in England. From 1992 to 1994, Abowd was a postdoctoral research associate with the Software Engineering Institute and the Computer Science Department at Carnegie Mellon University.

“I am very grateful for the recognition of this Regents’ Professorship, because it recognizes the importance of the work my colleagues, students and I have been doing,” Abowd said. “I am also very grateful because this recognition was initiated by my peers, and it is an indication of their respect for what I have accomplished over the years at Georgia Tech.”

Thursby, a research associate of the National Bureau of Economics Research since 1987, is currently Hal and John Smith Chair of Entrepreneurship in the Scheller College of Business. Her research on innovation and technology transfer has been used in congressional, National Institute of Health and U.S. National Academies policy discussions.

One of her major contributions to Tech since arriving in 2002 has been founding the internationally acclaimed Technological Innovation Generating Economic Returns (TIGER) program. TIGER is a collaboration between the Institute and Emory University that has received multiple awards including the Academy of Management Entrepreneurship Pedagogy Award in 2006. The program teams PhD students in science and engineering with MBA and JD students in an experiential curriculum focused on the intersection of technical, legal and business issues and innovation.

Prior to arriving at Tech, Thursby was the Burton D. Morgan Chair of International Policy and Management at Purdue University and has held faculty appointments at the University of Michigan, Ohio State University, Syracuse University and North Carolina State University.

“I feel honored and grateful,” Thursby said. “At Georgia Tech, I get to work with great colleagues and students in an environment that can’t help but make one productive.”

School Supply Drive Success Thanks to Tech Community

INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

Volunteers from the Office of Human Resources (OHR) were able to fill 377 backpacks with school supplies for children in grades K–12. The supplies were donated by Georgia Tech faculty and staff members during OHR’s Buzzin’ Back to School Drive. This initiative supported children of Institute employees; backpacks went to 167 Tech families.

www.ohr.gatech.edu/buzzinbacktoschool

Tech Discontinues Summer Ceremony

INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

Beginning in 2013, Georgia Tech will no longer hold a Summer Commencement ceremony.

Three major factors contributed to the decision to discontinue the ceremony. First, the number of students who participate in Summer Commencement (450 each year) is quite small in comparison to the number of students who participate in Fall Commencement (1,500) or Spring Commencement (2,300). Second, the cost of producing Summer Commencement (renting a venue, designing and printing programs, paying for security, etc.) is nearly the same as the cost of producing one of the larger ceremonies.

Third, summer graduates can be accommodated during the fall ceremony, allowing the university to be even more fiscally responsible.

The Institute will continue to award degrees for spring, summer and fall terms, but will only conduct Spring and Fall Commencement exercises.

Active summer degree candidates who complete all the necessary requirements will graduate during the fall term and receive their diplomas six to eight weeks after the term’s completion. These candidates will now have the opportunity to walk in the Fall Commencement ceremony immediately following their graduation term (for example, Summer 2013 graduates may participate in the Fall 2013 Commencement ceremony). Summer graduates will be listed in the respective Fall Commencement program, with a symbol denoting their graduation status.

For additional information, visit gatech.edu/commencement

Article Ideas?
We rely on the campus community to let us know what is going on. Have an article idea? Send it to editor@comm.gatech.edu.

www.whistle.gatech.edu

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EVENTS

MISCELLANEOUS

September 10
Join the Georgia Tech GIS Community of Interest, led by the GIS/GITR Program, at 11:30 a.m. at Georgia Tech Research Institute. Bring your own lunch. Parking is free. Space is limited. RSVP to daniels.ayan@gtri.gatech.edu.

September 13
Provost Rafael L. Bras welcomes faculty, staff and students to participate in an open forum that will discuss Georgia Tech’s latest foray into the world of web-based learning at 11 a.m. in room 1116, Klaus Building. Topics along with a panel of faculty who are teaching courses via Coursera.

www.president.gatech.edu

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

CLASSIFIEDS

AUTOMOBILES

1930 A Model Ford Standard Coupe. Completely restored, all original. Two-tone brown and tan with blackfinders, wheat straw stripe and wheels. Less than 500 miles since restoration. $18,500. Email mark.mrnak@gti.gatech.edu.

2000 Chrysler T&C Ltd. 3.8L V6, four-speed automatic, leather interior, 93K, very clean, dealer serviced, new Michelin tires and brakes. Seats seven, dual AC and sliding doors. Infinity sound. $7,495 (negotiable). Email mark.brunstein@ez.gatech.edu.

2001 Acura Integra LS Sport, 1.8L 4 cy, 124K miles, silver, AC, automatic, AM/FM/CD, cruise, FWD, power steering, moonroof, ABS, good tires. Great condition. $5,500. Email david.morew@cos.gatech.edu for pics.

REAL ESTATE/ROOMMATES

3BR/2BA furnished, waterfrontcolony, along the East-West Connector and Powder Springs Road. $650/mo., includes utilities and cable/Internet. Call 404-861-5551.

Rental to share in Avondale Estates. Private BR/BA with full access to house, basement for storage. Great location. $600 per month. Utilities included. Email lukiesmyg@hotmail.com.

Well-maintained 3/2 ranch with beauti ful yard. Large living room, beautiful kitchen, hardwood floors. Freshly painted and ready to move in. One mile from East-West Connector and Powder Springs Road. $850/mo. Contact Shawn Oates at 770-789-0202.

Classifieds continue on page 4
Jackson Helps Yellow Jackets Go Green

AMELIA PAVLIK INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

For Cindy Jackson, recycling is much more than just tossing the occasional can or bottle in a bin—it’s a way of life.

Jackson, associate director of the Office of Solid Waste Management and Recycling, has spent her 13 years at Georgia Tech developing programs to minimize waste when and wherever possible. “A lot of people don’t realize all of the recycling initiatives that we’ve created,” Jackson said. “Sure, we oversee the recycling in campus buildings, but we’ve also developed several other campus initiatives such as Game Day Recycling and the student move-in and move-out events that reduce the amount of waste that Tech puts in landfills.” For example, the Game Day Recycling Program, launched in 2008, allows football fans to recycle plastic bottles, glass bottles and aluminum cans at home football games and tailgates. “It’s amazing to know that we’ve diverted more than 76 tons of materials from the landfill through this program,” Jackson added.

And when students move into their dorms each fall, Jackson’s office sets up temporary recycling sites throughout the residential areas to collect cardboard. During the 2011 move-in event, 14,535 pounds of cardboard were collected in one week. “When students move out of their dorm rooms at the end of spring, they leave behind thousands of pounds of food, clothes and other items they don’t need,” Jackson said. “We encourage all of you to strive for excellence and outreach by helping other university campuses with their recycling endeavors and organize events like Tech’s annual Earth Day celebration.”

What are three recycling facts that everyone on campus should be aware of?

• The mixed office paper program is truly mixed. You can put magazines, newspaper, file folders, etc., in the container (Staples don’t need to be removed.)

• If you are having a special event and want to provide recycling opportunities at the event, go online to www.recycle.gatech.edu to order containers.

• Our office picks up confidential or sensitive material and shreds and recycles it. Just box it up, tape it shut, mark it “confidential/sensitive” and call our office at 385-0883 for pickup.

What is one piece of technology you could not live without?

My television. I love the Discovery Channel and Food Network—and just about any movie.

Which do you prefer: Facebook, Twitter or a world without social media?

A world without it. I’m a private person.

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

Henry Kissinger, because I respect him. He’s been a voice of reason.

Where is your favorite place to eat lunch?

I like to eat at my desk, because I prefer to eat food that I’ve grown in my garden. So lunch typically includes zucchini, cucumbers, eggplant and other produce I’ve grown. Lunch typically includes zucchini, cucumber and other produce I’ve grown.

Chiefs of Police Teresa Crocker Urges Employees to Be Proactive About Safety

As the new academic year begins, I wanted to personally reach out to our campus community to let you know that your safety is the Georgia Tech Police Department’s (GTPD) top priority.

Our mission is to strive for excellence and integrity by providing a safe and secure environment for the Tech community. But our officers can’t do it alone. We encourage all of you to be alert and aware of your surroundings and the behavior of others both on and off campus.

One of the most effective resources in deter- ring or solving a crime is information provided by the campus community. We really mean it when we say, “If you see something, say something.” We need you to report suspicious behavior to us at 404-894-2500, as quickly as possible.

Also, take a moment to register for Jacket Guardian, the innovative campus security service that transforms mobile phones into personal safety devices. Jacket Guardian enables cell phone users to make an emergency call directly to GTPD, allowing us to pinpoint a phone’s current GPS location and critical information about the registered user. All information is secure and private until the system is activated.

Those who register will also have their profile enabled to function with Atlanta’s Smart911 system. You can sign up for the service at www.police.gatech.edu/services/jacketguardian.

The bottom line is that we are here to serve you. If you ever have a question or concern, please don’t hesitate to contact us. We hope that you will join us in making safety a personal responsibility. Together, we can make our campus a safer place for everyone.

Chief of Police Teresa Crocker

Profes Awarded PECASE Honor

The White House named Baratunde Cola, assistant professor in the School of Mechanical Engineering, and Meghan Duffy, assistant professor in the School of Biology, two of 96 recipients of the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE).

The award is the highest honor bestowed by the United States government on science and engineering professionals in the early stages of their independent research careers. According to the White House, the PECASE awards embody the high priority the Obama Administration places on producing outstanding scientists and engineers to advance the nation’s goals, tackle grand challenges and contribute to the American economy.

For more, read the full story at tinyurl.com/d9ojl9a