Endowment recognizes faculty commitment to undergraduate instruction

Michael Hagerty
Institute Communications and Public Affairs

A retired professor has made a substantial contribution in support of senior faculty members committed to the role of teaching undergraduates at the introductory level at Georgia Tech. Geoffrey Eichholz, a Regents’ Professor emeritus in the School of Mechanical Engineering, has pledged $150,000 to create an endowment fund that will reward those professors for their good work. Two professors — School of Public Policy Associate Professor Gordon Kingsley and School of Mathematics Professor Michael Loss — have been chosen as its inaugural recipients.

“We are deeply appreciative of Dr. Eichholz’s interest in establishing this program,” said vice provost for Undergraduate Studies and Academic Affairs Bob McMath. “It provides us with a unique opportunity to celebrate truly outstanding teachers and encourage others along the same lines.”

Honorary awards from the Eichholz Faculty Teaching Fund will be annual salary supplements that recognize tenured or tenure-track professors based on a long-term contribution to undergraduate teaching at Georgia Tech and for their primary focus on undergraduate education in the later stages of their career.

Though open to all six colleges, the endowment acknowledges a preference for those in the College of Sciences and Ivan Allen College whose teaching involves foundation courses common to most majors. Professors are selected based upon course evaluations and collegial recommendations, and are endorsed for a fixed term.

“Georgia Tech has a large cadre of qualified teachers doing a difficult job motivating students in a large-classroom environment,” McMath said. “Both Gordon and Michael have distinguished themselves as accessible teachers who challenge their students to excel. We are pleased to be able to recognize them in this way.”

When they first come to Tech, students are frequently shocked by the rigor of the curriculum. Loss, who has taught calculus since joining the faculty in 1988, sees this as a critical step in the learning process.

“At the beginning, students won’t understand the concepts I am trying to teach them. After all, it took mathematical geniuses centuries to discover them. So they will first knock their heads against these concepts and will struggle. But with perseverance they will eventually get to the point where they simply understand. Afterwards, they often wonder what the difficulties were.”

“In my opinion the only sin in teaching is to deprive the students of the chance for intellectual growth. I see my role as a teacher to encourage this process and to provide them with perspective and guidance. It is a great honor and joy for me to receive the Eichholz prize.”

As a professor at Tech since 1994, Kingsley routinely teaches an introductory course in American government, a class that has enrolled more than 200 students. By turning the classroom into a simulated legislative body, however, he is able to illustrate the lessons in a personal way.

“Those of us who teach [this course] have long wrestled with the problem of the large class size,” he said. “The simulation turns the large numbers into a learning tool by requiring students to engage in political exercises within the class. The only limit to how we organize our simulation is the students’ imaginations. I am deeply touched by being named as a recipient, and would like to thank Dr. Eichholz for creating a unique award that specifically recognizes the challenges and opportunities associated with teaching in the core curriculum.”

Tech plans relief effort to aid tsunami victims

The recent tsunami in Southeast Asia serves as a sobering and tragic reminder of the incredible power of nature and the fragility of human life. It also reminds us just how closely linked we all are throughout the world. Our hearts, our thoughts and our prayers reach out to the more than 150,000 people killed by this natural disaster. They also go out to the families committed to the role of teaching undergraduates at the introductory level at Georgia Tech.

Here at Georgia Tech, we are doing something to help. With our students leading the way, I am pleased to announce a number of initiatives intended to ease the suffering while engaging our entire community.

Through the leadership of the Student Government Association, Omicron Delta Kappa and Alpha Phi Omega, we are challenging the Georgia Tech community to raise $60,000 for relief efforts by asking faculty, staff and students to contribute at least $3 to the Georgia Tech Tsunami Relief Effort. Fundraising has already begun and will last until January 26, the one-month anniversary of the disaster. Proceeds will be delivered to AmeriCares, an established nonprofit disaster relief and humanitarian aid organization working in the region.

Students will be raising funds to help the victims at tables across campus and at athletic, academic and cultural events. To drop off your donation in person, visit the Office of Student Involvement, located in room 2211 of the Student Center Commons. More information about this effort is available at www.ttegatech.edu.

To date, we are not aware of anyone from the Tech community who perished in this disaster. However, we want to hear from any student, faculty member or staff member who has been affected, so that we may ensure that Georgia Tech is offering support at this difficult time. If you are affected, contact Sheila Schulte in the Office of International Programs. Please provide your name, your position, your contact information, and the loss you have experienced.

Also, if you are aware of anyone who needs assistance due to this situation or weather-related problems in California, contact the Office of the Dean of Students.

We are indeed a global community, and this message is going out to all of our campuses around the world. I hope that you will consider contributing to this fine effort. We are fortunate to have all that we do. Please consider providing for those who have lost everything.

Thank you for your assistance,
G. Wayne Clough
President
New e-mail attacks lead OIT to issue fraud alert

Michael Hagearty  
Institute Communications and Public Affairs

With new technologies come new opportunities for exploitation. In response to a recent trend, the Office of Information Technology has issued a fraud alert to the entire Georgia Tech community next month.

The byproduct of a campus network usage policy that ensures free and open access to electronic media, the Georgia Tech community receives a substantial amount of spam. Herb Baines, OIT’s information security director, estimates that on average, spam accounts for some 60 percent of the e-mail received.

To counter, Tech will use a centrally located messaging security appliance to block spam and virus-infected attachments. The appliance, known as IronMail, has been installed at the campus network gateway where it can block messages on their way in and out of the campus environment.

OIT is currently working on a pilot phase. When the service is implemented campuswide, IronMail will initially flag probable spam on all e-mail accounts of campus units that choose to use the service. During the first few weeks of the campuswide implementation, OIT will evaluate its effectiveness. If effective at identifying spam and harmful attachments, the service will be set to quarantine these messages rather than flag them.

The e-mails claim to be sent from an established, legitimate enterprise, and directs the user to visit a Web site — designed to match the company’s — where they are asked to update personal information, such as passwords and credit card, social security and bank account numbers. The Web site, however, is bogus, set up only to steal the user’s information, which can then be used to empty one’s bank accounts, or hijack one’s computer to send more spam.

The technique has proven to be both lucrative and effective: some estimates claim phishers are able to convince up to 5 percent of recipients to respond.

Computer users in a university setting are especially vulnerable to these solicitations. The Georgia Tech network usage policy, which ensures free and open access to digital information, makes it an appealing target for phishers.

Baines said the best way to prevent victimization is by deleting all e-mail from unexpected sources. And rather than clicking on an e-mail link, he suggests users visit Web sites either through a bookmark or by entering the address manually.

For more information on phishing attacks, visit www.antiphishing.org.

New anti-spam service to fight influx of unsolicited e-mail

Holly Mullins  
Office of Information Technology

To combat the thousands of unwanted messages sent to each day, the Office of Information Technology (OIT) is implementing a new anti-spam and anti-virus service that will be ready for use by the entire Georgia Tech community next month.

The byproduct of a campus network usage policy that ensures free and open access to electronic media, the Georgia Tech community receives a substantial amount of spam. Herb Baines, OIT’s information security director, estimates that on average, spam accounts for some 60 percent of the e-mail received.

At that point, most e-mail accounts using the service should see a dramatic decline in spam messages received. Users receive a single, daily e-mail linked to the quarantine, from which individual messages can be retrieved.

Campus units that opt to use IronMail with their departmental e-mail accounts will be able to set up the IronMail service to work according to their e-mail usage policies.

OIT is seeking feedback from campus on this new service, and will use it to shape campus decisions on this service and other potential solutions. Send comments to spam-feedback@oit.gatech.edu.

Faculty panel discussion to cover research innovation at Tech

The Alumni Association invites the campus to attend “Georgia Tech: Innovating Here and Now,” a panel discussion, led by President Wayne Clough, on Tech’s role as an innovation leader in the 21st century.

Faculty members will discuss progress made by the Institute and its role in the future. School of Biology Chair John McDonald will address “Future Biology and Georgia Tech,” Electrical and Computer Engineering Professor Gary May will share insights on “Intelligent Semiconductor Manufacturing,” and Regents’ Professor Uzi Landman’s topic will be “Materials by Numbers: Computation as Tools for Discovery.”

The event will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 15, at the Georgia Tech Hotel and Conference Center. There is no charge to attend, but reservations are required. For more information, visit www.gtalumni.org/innovationevent or call 804-7085.
Study to examine creativity’s role in research

Michael Hagearty
Institute Communications and Public Affairs

Researchers from the Technology Policy and Assessment Center (TPAC) in Georgia Tech’s School of Public Policy are collaborating with two European partners in a new study to examine Creativity Capabilities and the Promotion of Highly Innovative Research in Europe and the United States (CREA). The Tech team, led by Philip Shapira, a professor of public policy and TPAC senior fellow, also involves Professors Juan Rogers and Diana Hicks.

The focus of the CREA project is to find the most creative researchers in genetics and nanoscience and to learn from them what makes for excellence in research, probing not only the personal characteristics of the researcher, but also the working environment. The research team hypothesizes that environments encouraging interdisciplinary approaches, risk taking and challenging accepted concepts generate the most creativity. The findings, it is hoped, will hold important lessons for developing future science and technology policy.

CREA’s objective is to identify individuals and institutions, both in Europe and the United States, which have a record of creative and unconventional research. The next step will be to understand the conditions and circumstances that led to the groundbreaking work.

In discussing the project, Shapira — who also directs the Georgia Tech Policy Project on Industrial Modernization — noted this study’s unique focus on the organizational and environmental aspects that affect creativity, and that it should provide some interesting opportunities for policy organizations to look at how to create an environment that’s more conducive to creativity. Sponsored by the Newly Emerging Science and Technologies program of the European Union, the project is expected to last 18 months.
C A M P U S  E V E N T S

Arts & Culture

Jan. 20
The Ferst Center will hold a one-day sale for staff and faculty from 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. at the Student Center box office. Tickets for remaining performances will be 50 percent of the original price. For more information, call 894-9600.

Jan. 21
The Ferst Center presents Broadway's bright stars with "Over the Rainbow: Celebrating the Music of Harold Arlen" featuring Faith Prince and Tom Wopat, at 8 p.m. For tickets, call 894-9600 or visit www.ferstcenter.org.

Jan. 22
The Ferst Center welcomes Grammy-winning jazz saxophonist Gato Barbieri for an 8 p.m. performance. For tickets, call 894-9600 or visit www.ferstcenter.org.

Jan. 24
The American Museum of Papermaking hosts a workshop on "Basics of Japanese Papermaking," from noon - 3 p.m. Reservations are required. For further details, visit www.ipst.edu/amp or call 894-6663.

Jan. 23
The Ferst Center welcomes the Moscow Philharmonic Orchestra for a 5 p.m. performance. For tickets, call 894-9600 or visit www.ferstcenter.org.

Brown Bags/Conferences/Lectures

Jan. 25
The School of Mechanical Engineering's Woodruff Colloquia Series welcomes Robert Bernhard, associate vice provost for Research at Purdue University, on "The Engineering Research Role in Environmental Noise Control Applications: Traffic Noise and Aviation Noise," at 11 a.m. in the MARC Building Auditorium.

Jan. 25
The Material Council's Institute-wide Seminar Series welcomes Michael Kassner, chair of the Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering Department at the University of Southern California, at 3 p.m. in room 118, Love Building.

Jan. 25
The Center for the Study of Women, Science and Technology hosts University of Washington Associate Professor Angela Ginorio on "When N=1 or 2: Justice, Privacy and Women of Color in Science and Engineering," at 4 p.m. in room 118, Technology Square Research Building.

Jan. 27
The Georgia Tech Research on Accessible Distance Education (GRADE) hosts a luncheon roundtable on "Accessible Features on Dreamweaver MX." Lunch will be provided, but registration is required. For more information, e-mail barbara.christopher@coa.gatech.edu.

Faculty/Staff Development

Feb. 3
The Office of Organizational Development sponsors a seminar in "Business Writing Skills," from 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. in room 508, Savoy Building. To register or for more information, visit www.trainweb.gatech.edu/mastcal.asp.

Miscellaneous

Jan. 18-20
The MOVE Office and Delta Sigma Chi sponsor the Winter Blood Drive, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. in the Student Center Ballroom. Walk-ins are welcome, but to schedule a time, donors should visit http://gatech.givesblood.org.

Jan. 30
Last day to register for Options classes, with discounts available for faculty and staff. Visit www.fun.gatech.edu/SpringOptions for a complete schedule.

Feb. 8-9
The Campus Recreation Center's G.I.T. FIT Program offers a free HealthCheck blood screening from 7:30 - 10:30 a.m. for faculty and staff. To schedule an appointment, call 894-5807 or e-mail jonathan.harri@ccr.crc.gatech.edu.

E-mail spring events to editor@icp.gatech.edu.

C L A S S I F I E D S

AUTOMOBILES

2000 Nissan Maxima GLE. One owner, garaged, 65K miles with 190K warranty, automatic, hunter green, leather, Bose audio system, excellent condition, $13,750. Call 770-457-8184 or e-mail larry.fountain@edi.gatech.edu.

2001 Jeep Wrangler 4x4, black with tan interior, soft top, 44K miles, off-road package, factory premium sound, 31-inch tires, chrome bumpers and step bars. Asking $15,800. E-mailleigh.pidgeon@coa.gatech.edu or call 894-4875.


FURNITURE

King headboard and metal frame, great condition, $75. Call 770/944-6240 or e-mail susan.longpre@biology.gatech.edu.

Antique bed, full size, includes mattress and headboard, $200; sleeper sofa, $100; rocking chair, $25; two black papasan chairs, $30 each; small loveseat $25. All items OBO. E-mail alicia.kelly@facilities.gatech.edu or call 385-3054.

REAL ESTATE/ROOMMATES

3BR/2BA house, close to Emory and Northlake Mall. Carport, hardwood floors, new appliances, cable and security system ready and large lot with fenced back yard. $1,395/month. Call Alice 770-403-5055.

2BR/1BA in Midtown, 14 miles, 1 mile from Midtown, modern neighborhood association, no highway travel to GT, $250K. Call 404-504-9661 or e-mail will.marble@ccr.gatech.edu.

3BR/2BA house for rent, screened porch, one-car garage, appliances, lawn service included, 1152 Pleasant Oak Lane, Douglasville, 1 $050/mo. Section 8 OK. Call 404-614-9880.

3BR/2BA house for rent, deck, w/d, air/heat, appliances and lawn service included. 6553 Dodgen Road. Hooneton. 1 $00/mo. Section 8. Call 404-641-9880.

Renovated 2BR/1BA in Decatur; includes washer/dryer, dishwasher, fenced yard, off-street parking. $1,200/mo. utilities. Pets OK with deposit. 4 blocks from MARTA, 8 miles to Tech. Student discount available. Call 404-606-6096.

Quaint Buckhead bungalow, 2BR/1BA, study, sunroom, giant deck, carport, 15 minutes to GT. Perfect for visiting academic professional, $1,100/mo. Call 404-237-7242 or e-mail jonathan.hart@ccr.crc.gatech.edu.

SPORTS/FITNESS/RECREATION

Epiphone PR-200 acoustic guitar. Good condition, very smooth neck. Nice Larriave case. Guitar has plastic pickup installed. $175 OBO. Call 770-352-7605 or e-mail rob.hemphill@gtri.gatech.edu.

Large aquarium with accessories, $150 OBO. E-mail alicia.kelly@facilities.gatech.edu for photograph.


3BR/2BA brick ranch one mile to 145 and 15 minutes to Tech. LR/DR combination, hardwood floors, basement, back yard with deck. Oak Grove and Lakeside schools. $300,000. E-mail efurom@msn.com or call 404-656-3947.


Tuff Stuff Muscle 3 all-in-one gym. Eight-station with leg press attach. Like new, kept in finished basement. Paid $1,200, sell for $500 OBO. Can send pictures. Call 894-8392 or e-mail bob.lang@police.gatech.edu.

MISCELLANEOUS

Professional made bag-pass speaker box, 3 chambered, 4 ports, Plexiglass front, spring clamp wire connections. Holds two 10-in. sub-woofers. Works best in SUVs, but sounds good in car trunks, too. $100 firm. Call 404-429-3985 or e-mail scott.stilwell@bfb.gatech.edu.

Large aquarium with accessories, $150 OBO. E-mail alicia.kelly@facilities.gatech.edu for photograph.

Tuff Stuff Muscle 3 all-in-one gym. Eight-station with leg press attach. Like new, kept in finished basement. Paid $1,200, sell for $500 OBO. Can send pictures. Call 894-8392 or e-mail bob.lang@police.gatech.edu.

Like new, kept in finished basement. $1,200, sell for $500 OBO. Can send pictures. Call 894-8392 or e-mail bob.lang@police.gatech.edu.

For distance travel. Has 100K-mile warranty. $22,000. Call Katie, 678-596-5909.

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