

Recruiting News: Securing the Next Class

We had a great year recruiting, once again signing more PSs than expected. Candidates continue to tell us that the personal attention makes the biggest difference.

Applications for the PS were up 17%, from 2,873 to 3,228. Recruitment through the interview process led to a tremendous increase in top students attending. Of the semifinalists, 251 are coming to GT, compared to 193 last year, and the percentage increased, too: 41% vs. 33%. 170 are coming even without getting a scholarship through

the PS process (though many have National Merit, Hope, or other scholarships).

Women comprise 42% of the semifinalists and finalists enrolling at Georgia Tech, compared to 26% of the rest of the freshmen class (those who didn't interview for the PS).

1999 Entering Class of President's Scholars

• Of the 81 new freshmen, 49 played at least one varsity sport, and the average was two. Nineteen were team captains.

• Eight of the thirteen who worked on yearbook or newspaper publications were the editors-in-chief. • Fourteen of the 1999 President's Scholars were class presidents for at least one year. • Twenty are National Merit Scholars (separate from semifinalist or finalist). • There were five Debate Team captains and four Academic Team captains. • One band drum major, one Irish dance world champion, one karate competitor (fifth in nation), one student in the world finals of Odyssey of the Mind, and Miss Teen Arkansas.



Outside Alexander Memorial Coliseum, President's Scholars welcome a few recruits to Georgia Tech hoops, compliments of the GT Athletic Association. In a new recruiting effort, the PS Program secured tickets to football and basketball games to show prospective scholars the non-academic side of life at GT. Potential PS's were also invited to DramaTech productions and music concerts. From left to right: Cayman Percy (CEE '00), Randy McDow (ISyE '95), Danielle Dees (AE '03), Cori Batchelor (CHE '02), Kevin Stogner (ECON '02), Phebe Clawson (INTA '02), Catie Newell (ID '02), David Reid (EE '02), Jenny Schwerman (CHE '02), Steven Abernathy (CHE '03), and David Enright (Brookwood High School).

My First Step to Healing the World

—Laura Frick (BIOL '03)

As the multiple flashes exploded before my eyes at Signing Day, I thought about the many steps I took to get to this point. I had always wanted to attend Georgia Tech, and to go here with a scholarship was ideal. I submitted my application before the fall deadline to be considered for the President's Scholarship. As Christmas break began, I patiently awaited notification. Finally, I received a phone call informing me that I was a semifinalist for the President's Scholarship along with 600 other students.

My heart raced and my palms perspired as I stood outside the press boxes, waiting for my interview. Luckily, my interviewers were incredibly nice, and the interview went well. I returned to the lobby filled with high hopes and eagerness; I now had

another phone call to anticipate.

A few weeks later, I was watching television and doing homework at the same time (an absolute mistake) when the phone rang. "Hello, Laura? This is Randy McDow with the President's Scholarship Program." I crossed my fingers; the news would change my life. "I would like to congratulate you on being named a finalist for the President's Scholarship." I had made it!

I really enjoyed the President's Scholarship Weekend in March, both the social day and the interview day to determine the amount of my scholarship. I had a lot of fun experiencing the social life at Tech as well as getting to know the campus and the President's Scholars, both prospective and current. The interview session flowed smoothly, and I went home feeling great.

Just like athletes, the PS Program has a Signing Day to publicize our achievements. I met many new and very interesting people on this day; people that I will soon get to know even more on the hiking trip. Each one of us walked across the stage, signed our name in the record book as Chris Young (HTS '00) announced our achievements to the audience. Many pictures were taken, and I'm sure most of us had spots in our eyes when we left.

I've had a wonderful experience with the President's Scholarship Program so far, and this is the beginning of my journey to someday help the children of the world as an emergency medicine pediatrician. I can't wait to begin school at Tech!



PSsssssst!

A Newsletter for the Alumni of the President's Scholarship Program at Georgia Tech
Progress and Service Founded 1981 Summer, 1999

Alumni Involvement on Upward Trajectory

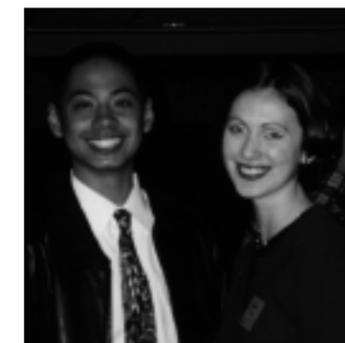
Among the 357 interviewees who met with candidates around the country and on campus this year, 57 were President's Scholar alumni. This is a significant increase, 63%, from last year's 35%.

Anthony Priest (EE '88), who interviews candidates in Washington, D.C., said, "After interviewing students the past two years, I continue to be impressed with the levels of maturity, intelligence and direction these people exhibit. The students' backgrounds have been tremendously diverse and each one has their own fascinating story. Listening to these high-achievers you can't help but be inspired. When it's all over I feel energized and excited, both for the future of Georgia Tech and our society and for the boundless possibilities that these students have reacquainted me with."

Thanks to the following President's Scholar alumni for their efforts in helping to recruit an outstanding class:

Jon Arrowood (EE '92)
Jason Byars (ME '96)
Mara Carey (EE '99)
Will Chafin (ME '93)
Bill Crew (AMATH '91)
Jay Debnath (CHEM '92)

Bert Eidson (MGT '97)
Elizabeth Ferdman* (CHE '98)
Kevin Ferwerda (ISyE '93)
Michael Floyd (CMPE '95)
Greg Garstka* (NE '91)
Scott Gillies (ISyE '97)
Laurie Gilmore (CE '89)
Janet Goolsby (ISyE '92)



Jonathan Bonus (STAC '03) is greeted at his semifinalist interview in the Success Center by Anna Fincher (CHE '02).

Ben Grimes (CHE '94)
Cynthia Hall (CHE '97)
David Hall (CHEM '97)
Martin Hall (PHYS '92)
Eric House (CS '92)
Kim House (ME '95)
Amol Joshi (EE '92)
Bing Kao (CHE '97)
Jimmy Kenyon* (AE '96)
Jody Kinney (ME '89)
Carl Kirkconnell (ME '90)

Read about our recent graduates in a special insert inside this issue of PSsssssst!

Susan Kopetz (CHE '99)
Patrick Ku (ISyE '95)
Matt Kuhl (CHE '98)
Joe Layden (CHE '87)
Charlene Leonard (CHE '96)
Tommy Lewis* (ME '85)
Alan Lovell (AE '91)
Jay Lyles (CMPE '95)
Mike Mangin (ME '95)
Jim Mason (ISyE '97)
Catherine Matos (AE '94)
Randy McDow (ISyE '95)
J.P. Montagnet (CHE '96)
Mark Munson (EE '90)
Hope Norman (ID '98)
Stephen Parr* (ECON '90)
Anthony Priest (EE '88)
Jimmy Rose (ISyE '92)
Chuck Scales (CHEM '93)
Chris Seay (ISyE '93)
Vicky Smith* (CHE '90)
Tyler Spruell (MATH, PSY '94)
Ray Sun* (EE '97)
Julie Swann* (ISyE '96)
Kristen Thorvig (STAC '98)
Connie Toalson (INTA '00)
Betty Tong* (ME '93)
Alisha Waller (ISyE '87)
Brad Weill (ISyE '97)
Craig Woolsey (ME '95)
Jay Wynn* (AE '92)
Grace Yu* (CHE '97)

* Denotes Regional Committee Chair

If you would like to recruit and interview candidates, please contact Randy McDow (contact information inside). The deadline for students to apply is October 31, 1999. We will interview the students chosen as semifinalists in January, 2000.

"Interviewing students was a very rewarding experience for me. The students I interviewed were extremely talented people, and having met them I am enthusiastic about the future of Georgia Tech. I encourage everyone to get involved in the interview process; it's a fantastic way to see for yourself the high quality of incoming students and also to sell the Institute to the best and brightest. I only wish all of the students I met had chosen to come to Tech."

—Vicky Smith (CHE '90), Greenville/Spartanburg Committee Chair

Save the Date!

Homecoming '99

Please come by to see your classmates and to meet the current President's Scholars!

We will have the third annual PS Alumni homecoming party at the PS Study House on Friday, Oct. 8th, at 8 pm.

See the PSP Web Page for more information!

Class Clippings

David "Sax" Mayfield (ISyE '87) and his wife, Lisa, announce the birth of their third child and second daughter, Caroline Anne, on July 20, 1998. She joins big sister Christina and big brother Andrew in the Mayfield clan residing in Macon. Dave is currently the planning and scheduling manager for the Middle Georgia Operations of the Engelhard Corporation.

I am an associate with the law firm of LaFollette Sinykin, L.L.P. In the last one and one-half years, I have argued or testified before the Wisconsin Supreme Court three times — twice successfully — and before the Wisconsin Court of Appeals, as well as state, federal, and Native American trial courts. I co-authored an article on free speech rights under state constitutions that was published in the 1998 University of Wisconsin Law Review. I married Jessica Carrier on November 4, 1995. We have no children yet.

-James Friedman (EE '88)

New birth: Brandon Thomas Counts, born December 22, 1998.

-Thomas Counts (ISyE '90)

My wife DeEtte gave birth to our first child on June 21, 1998 in Newport Beach, CA. We named her Cassie Evelyn, and she's now an active six and one-half month old and doing great!

-Carl Kirkconnell (ME '90)

After graduating MSEE in 1993, I moved to Dallas to join TI. In 1995, I moved to San Jose, CA. In 1996, I married Jennifer Plass. In 1997, Colin, Jenny, and kitty moved to Boulder, CO, still with TI. We bought a house this year and plan to stay awhile.

-Colin Baldwin (EE '92)

I would love to announce the birth of Katelyn Nicole Hefter on April 24, 1998, to myself and Karen Shields Hefter!

-Edward Hefter (ME '92)

Alexander Cole Krueger born October 9, 1998 to Maria (Toogood) Krueger

and Jeffrey Krueger, both '92 GT graduates.

-Maria Krueger (AE '92)

I'll be graduating from the Duke University School of Medicine in May, 1999, and have accepted a residency position in the Department of Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore, MD.

-Betty Tong (ME '93)

I just got into medical school, and I just got married! I'll be starting at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx this August. Plus my boyfriend (Ben MacNeill - an artist and graphic designer) and I took off for Las Vegas and got married. If you'd like a peek, a few photos are up on the web at:

www.artshare.com/wedding.html

-Jennifer Egan (PHYS '96)

I have been invited to serve in the US Peace Corps and will be leaving in May to move to Cote d'Ivoire (the Ivory Coast), a country in West Africa. I will be doing urban environmental business development.

-Shannon James (MGT '96)

I've got some good news to share. I'm engaged and getting married on October 16, 1999. And the really good news is that we just won a free honeymoon!

-Bruce Johnson (CS '97)

Please send your updates to the PS Program at psp@success.gatech.edu.

New Scholars Retreat to Unicoi



On September 14, 1998, the President's Scholar Entering Class of '98 assembled in Atlanta for their trip to Helen, Georgia. With Unicoi State Park as their base camp, they hiked to Brass Town Bald, the highest point in Georgia, and along several other scenic trails. 82 freshmen attended, along with 16 upperclassmen, Paul Hurst, Director of Special Programs, and Randy McDow, Program Coordinator. This fall, the new class will again travel to the North Georgia mountains for fellowship before starting their first semester.

How I Survived My Freshmen Year (and Loved It!)

-Lacey West (PSY '02)

It all began with one decision...I was going to Tech! Amidst the excitement of the long awaited high school graduation my anticipation of college began to build. The weeks of summer flew by and before I knew it, it was time for the President's Scholars hiking trip.

I must admit that I was extremely nervous about going on this trip without knowing anyone. But my fears quickly ceased as soon as I arrived for the trip. Standing in the parking lot were 81 of the friendliest, funniest, and most intelligent people I had ever met. Through a weekend of campfires, hikes, games, and van rides, our fears quickly turned into excitement, and that was just the beginning. When

classes began, we would have the advantage of knowing almost 100 people.

The President's Scholarship activities did not end there, however. The fall luncheon allowed the opportunity not only to see the freshman again, but also to meet the upperclassmen. We dined while getting to know the new faces of students, alumni, and professors at our tables.

Throughout the year, the President's Scholars organized many activities together, from shag classes to the Homecoming Party. These events were a large part of my adjustment to Tech. One that sticks out most significantly in my mind is a rafting trip organized for the fall. I enjoyed a day of rafting and fun with about 20 other PS's.

Later in the spring was President's Scholarship Weekend for the high school

scholarship nominees. The current PS's spent weeks before the weekend helping to plan activities and organize hosts. The big day arrived, and we were all taken back to our own PS Weekend, which for most of us was not so long ago. Dinner, skits at DramaTech, an ice-cream social at Junior's, and an acappella performance at Under the Couch were enjoyable for the potential students as well as the current PS's.

My freshman year has been an experience like none other. Tech has given me the college experience I have always imagined. The President's Scholarship Program has allowed me opportunities that I had never expected. The main benefits of the PS Program go beyond the scholarship money. The real advantage lies in the fellow PS's and the high standards of the PS Program.

President's Scholarship Program

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Change of Address?

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