Undergraduates Build Pageant-Worthy Shoes for Fellow Student

Maggie Bridges (right), a business administration student from Brinson, Ga., who was recently crowned Miss Georgia, will compete in the Miss America pageant this week in Atlantic City, N.J. Three of her fellow students — (L-R) Jordan Thomas, Julia Brooks, and Maren Sonne, all industrial design majors — designed these shoes for her to wear in the Show Us Your Shoes portion of the competition. The shoes were designed and constructed in the Georgia Tech Invention Studio and presented to Bridges at the Institute Address on Aug 28. Read more at c.gatech.edu/missgeorgia.

Tech Employees Benefit from State Charitable Contributions Program

AMELIA PAVLIK

GRADUATE EDUCATION AND FACULTY AFFAIRS

Every parent knows how frustrating the potty training process can be. And no one understands this better than Melissa Arceneaux, whose daughter, Ariel, is autistic.

“The autism made it even more challenging to teach Ariel to use the toilet, which was really hard for us,” said Arceneaux, who is the financial manager in Procurement and Business Services. “So, we reached out to an organization called Autism Speaks, which referred us to the Marcus Institute, where we found a day-long potty training program.”

After attending the event, Arceneaux was able to potty train Ariel, who was 5 at the time.

“We’d been trying daily for several years to make this happen, and all along there was a resource out there for us that we didn’t know about,” she said. “I’m so thankful for Autism Speaks for referring our family to something that has changed our lives for the better.”

Autism Speaks is one of the many organizations that addressed staffing, programming, technology, and financial resources.

COUNSELING CENTER

Based on the recommendations, the Counseling Center has added two new full-time staff members, filled four vacant positions, and issued salary adjustments to raise current staff members to competitive market rates.

“It’s great to be operating with a full staff again,” said Ruperto Perez, director of the Counseling Center. The addition of counselors lowers the Georgia Tech Counseling Center’s counselor/student ratio closer to the national average of 1:1,500. The Technique editorial board also advocated for additional counseling resources in a September 2013 consensus.

One of the new staff psychologists will oversee the continued development and expansion of Tech’s recovery services, and the other will shepherd the establishment of a new peer counseling program.

“We’re able to move forward with our own initiatives and also support student-driven needs and services,” Perez said. A survey is in development that would complement Counseling Center efforts by evaluating student mental health issues on an ongoing basis. A working group of students, faculty, and staff will determine the survey’s content and frequency.

WELLNESS INITIATIVE

Several recommendations relate to the development of a student wellness initiative, an idea being further honed by Georgia Tech’s Office of Student Affairs and other departments.
EVENTS

ARTS & CULTURE

Through Sept. 21
The Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum hosts the cultural exhibi-
tion KONGO across the WATERS, part of Africa Atlanta 2014. afroatlanta.org

Through Dec. 12
The American Museum of Papermaking sponsors the exhibition Selections from Hand Papermaking Journal’s Portfolios, weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free.
gat.technet.edu/pmp

September 5
The Student Center Programs Council hosts a free showing of “A Million Ways to Die in the West.” 7 p.m., Tech Walk.
scp.gatech.edu

September 11
The First Center for the Arts hosts Montana Skives, a guitar and cello duo, as part of a free concert series. Tickets are available at the First Center Box Office. Noon, First Center.
firstcenter.gatech.edu

SEMINARS & LECTURES

September 8
The Georgia Tech Manufacturing Institute hosts Mike Timiskey, Ford’s director of Global Electrical and Electromechanical Systems. Timiskey will discuss the innovative work coming out of Ford’s partnership with Georgia Tech. Light lunch will be provided. Noon, Room Y14, GTMI. gatm.gatech.edu

September 17
The Sports, Society, and Technology program hosts “FIFA Brazil World Cup Retrospective: Social, Political, and Economic Legacies.” 3:35 p.m., Clary Theater, Student Success Center. c.gatech.edu/hpspanel

TRAINING

September 9
The Georgia Tech Project Management Networking Forum hosts an interactive session on using the Georgia Tech Strategic Framework in project management. Join for an opportunity to learn, share, and network with other project managers at Georgia Tech. 9:30 a.m., Student Center Ballroom. Free and open to all. Register at q.gatech.edu/gpmnfp2014

Whistle

THE WHISTLE • September 2, 2014 • PAGE 2

Published biweekly throughout the academic year and the summer by Georgia Tech Interactive Communications.
Editor: Michael Hagerty
Photo: Rob Yok or Press panda unless noted

Lisa Grovenstein
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

CAMPUS NEWS

The familiar adage, “Everyone talks about the weather, but nobody ever seems to do anything about it,” may hold true for the general population, but for the Georgia Tech Police Department’s Office of Emergency Preparedness (OEP), monitoring campus weather conditions is a year-round responsibility.

“In terms of significant threats to the safety of Georgia Tech, weather ranks as a top concern,” said Emergency Preparedness Director Andy Altizer.

To monitor for severe weather conditions threatening the campus community, Emergency Preparedness uses WeatherSentry, an Internet-based lightning detection and weather monitoring system that provides weather alerts tailored specifically to Georgia Tech’s Atlanta campus.

According to Project Coordinator Will Smith, WeatherSentry pulls information from the National Weather Service, so all warnings, watches, and advisories that specifically impact the campus generate an alert through the system. For example, text alerts are sent to OEP and GTPD command staff and watch commanders.

While public safety and other staff members depend on the service to monitor severe weather conditions, the system also provides a critical tool for those on campus who are responsible for outdoor events and other occasions that might be impacted by the weather.

Monitoring lightning is an important function, particularly for major sporting events. WeatherSentry provides detailed alerts when lightning is detected within advisory, caution, and warning areas of campus, currently set at 15, 10, and 8 miles, respectively. Alerts, sent via text and email, provide details on the range and direction of the lightning from the center of campus. (For example, an alert might note, “lightning has occurred within your warning area 3.6 miles to the northeast.”) Using this 8-mile warning radius, the Athletic Association and the Campus Recreation Center, for instance, are able to decide when athletic events and outdoor recreational activities should be suspended.

“For major events, we can provide temporary access for организators to receive alerts for lightning as it approaches campus in the 15-, 10-, and 8-mile range,” said Smith.

The notification system is available to anyone on campus who is responsible for managing events or any member of the campus community who is interested in following severe weather conditions that might impact campus events.

For those who simply prefer knowing about ongoing weather updates, alerts are provided when lightning is detected within an 8-mile radius.

“WeatherSentry updates are not intended to take the place of our siren warning system and the Georgia Tech Emergency Notification System (GTENS),” said Smith. GTENS allows students, faculty, and staff to receive time-sensitive emergency messages in the form of an email, voice mail, and text messages when there is action required.

“Weather is no different from potential dangerous situations where everyone must take responsibility,” said Altizer. “Staying alert to changing weather situations, and adhering to the old saying, ‘when thunder roars, go indoors,’ remains important even with today’s technology.”

This screen shot from the WeatherSentry radar shows lightning as it approaches the Georgia Tech campus from the 15-, 10-, and 8-mile range.

Subscribe to WeatherSentry
Those interested in subscribing to regular WeatherSentry alerts may sign up by emailing a request to sympalert@lists.gatech.edu and typing “gtsp weather alerts” (without quotation marks) in the subject line.

William Smith can also provide temporary access to event planners who desire more extensive notifications. Contact him at william.smith@ep.gatech.edu.

According to the National Weather Service, a typical lightning flash is about 300 million volts and about 30,000 amps. In comparison, household current is 120 volts and 15 amps.

MHTF. from page 1
Techs Office of Strategic Consulting over the next 90 days.

“We discovered that there are already great wellness programs at Georgia Tech, but that many units have their own programs, so the idea formed to have a wellness initiative that pulled all of these areas and units together to look at student wellness,” said Lyn Durham, assistant vice president and chief of staff for the Office of the President, who chaired the task force.

The initiative would serve to support and enhance services already provided in various places on campus, such as Stamps Health Services, the Campus Recreation Center, and the Counseling Center, but would emphasize a full spectrum of wellness rather than individual facets.

ACADEMIC STRESS
Six of the recommendations are being addressed by the Office of the Provost in the areas of Academic Success and Financial Aid. One in particular deals with the pressure placed on students to stay in their designated major or to forgo majors that are seen as less challenging than others. The Task Force identified the need to promote the value of all majors on campus and help students feel more comfortable considering a major change if their program of study is not a good fit. Efforts are underway with the Center for Academic Success, Center for Academic Enrichment, and Center for Career Discovery and Development to address this need.

To better educate transfer and graduate students about campus resources and adaptation, a new GT1000 section is being offered for transfer students this spring, and a similar educational program for graduate students is being developed and piloted this fall.

With the intention of addressing financial stress, the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid is developing new tools to help students better understand aggregate debt levels and to issue warnings to students who are in danger of losing HOPE or Zell Miller scholarships.

CAMPUS CULTURE

On a broader cultural scale, a sub-group was convened to discuss how to promote a more positive outlook on campus in the form of collaborative events or experiences. This group is continuing to meet and develop ideas this academic year, with the goal of more students partaking in campus-wide, inclusive events that promote the ideal of “One Georgia Tech.”

“This group will implement ideas to foster unity, pride in our unique qualities, and appreciation for the Institute and the people who make up the campus community,” Durham said.
Campus News

Starkeshe Dhongde, assistant professor in the School of Economics, has been named a research affiliate by the The Institute of Research on Poverty, the national original pov- erly research center and one of three National Poverty Research Centers sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Beth Mynatt, executive director of the Institute for People and Technology, was named vice chair of the Computing Community Consortium. The organization was established by the Computing Research Association and National Science Foundation and helps put future computing research into motion.

Jacqueline Royster, dean of the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, has been selected by the Alliance Française d’Atlanta as its 2014 Global Ambassador. The award recognizes local com- munity leaders who have made a significant contribution to Atlanta through French language and culture or by being a global ambassador for the city.

FACULTY AND STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

Shatabakesh Dhongde, assistant professor in the School of Economics, has been named a research affiliate by the The Institute of Research on Poverty, the national original pov- erly research center and one of three National Poverty Research Centers sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Beth Mynatt, executive director of the Institute for People and Technology, was named vice chair of the Computing Community Consortium. The organization was established by the Computing Research Association and National Science Foundation and helps put future computing research into motion.

Jacqueline Royster, dean of the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, has been selected by the Alliance Française d’Atlanta as its 2014 Global Ambassador. The award recognizes local com- munity leaders who have made a significant contribution to Atlanta through French language and culture or by being a global ambassador for the city.

FACULTY AND STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

Shatabakesh Dhongde, assistant professor in the School of Economics, has been named a research affiliate by the The Institute of Research on Poverty, the national original pov- erly research center and one of three National Poverty Research Centers sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Beth Mynatt, executive director of the Institute for People and Technology, was named vice chair of the Computing Community Consortium. The organization was established by the Computing Research Association and National Science Foundation and helps put future computing research into motion.

Jacqueline Royster, dean of the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, has been selected by the Alliance Française d’Atlanta as its 2014 Global Ambassador. The award recognizes local com- munity leaders who have made a significant contribution to Atlanta through French language and culture or by being a global ambassador for the city.

FACULTY AND STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

Shatabakesh Dhongde, assistant professor in the School of Economics, has been named a research affiliate by the The Institute of Research on Poverty, the national original pov- erly research center and one of three National Poverty Research Centers sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Beth Mynatt, executive director of the Institute for People and Technology, was named vice chair of the Computing Community Consortium. The organization was established by the Computing Research Association and National Science Foundation and helps put future computing research into motion.

Jacqueline Royster, dean of the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, has been selected by the Alliance Française d’Atlanta as its 2014 Global Ambassador. The award recognizes local com- munity leaders who have made a significant contribution to Atlanta through French language and culture or by being a global ambassador for the city.

FACULTY AND STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

Shatabakesh Dhongde, assistant professor in the School of Economics, has been named a research affiliate by the The Institute of Research on Poverty, the national original pov- erly research center and one of three National Poverty Research Centers sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Beth Mynatt, executive director of the Institute for People and Technology, was named vice chair of the Computing Community Consortium. The organization was established by the Computing Research Association and National Science Foundation and helps put future computing research into motion.

Jacqueline Royster, dean of the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, has been selected by the Alliance Française d’Atlanta as its 2014 Global Ambassador. The award recognizes local com- munity leaders who have made a significant contribution to Atlanta through French language and culture or by being a global ambassador for the city.

FACULTY AND STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

Shatabakesh Dhongde, assistant professor in the School of Economics, has been named a research affiliate by the The Institute of Research on Poverty, the national original pov- erly research center and one of three National Poverty Research Centers sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Beth Mynatt, executive director of the Institute for People and Technology, was named vice chair of the Computing Community Consortium. The organization was established by the Computing Research Association and National Science Foundation and helps put future computing research into motion.

Jacqueline Royster, dean of the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, has been selected by the Alliance Française d’Atlanta as its 2014 Global Ambassador. The award recognizes local com- munity leaders who have made a significant contribution to Atlanta through French language and culture or by being a global ambassador for the city.

Emergency Preparedness Offers Response Training

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

September is National Preparedness Month, and the Office of Emergency Preparedness acknowledges it by equipping campus with the knowledge needed in a crisis situation.

Faculty and staff, as well as students, can become members of the Campus Emergency Response Team (CERT) by participating in a series of training sessions throughout the fall. “CERT is about readiness, people helping people, rescue safety, and doing the greatest good for the greatest number,” said Frank Stanley, emergency preparedness program coor- dinator.

Participants will learn how to manage utili- ties and put out small fires; treat the “three kill- days) and duties ranging from confirming museum reserva- tions to liaising with the Dean of Students regarding student disci- plinary issues, the role is not for the faint at heart.

“The Oxford Program is defi- nitely not a vacation for the group leader,” said Brett Hulst, area manager for Residence Life and group leader veteran. “It’s more work than you can imagine some days. However, every day is an adventure and is filled with amaz- ing sites and stories.”

Group leaders will need to commit to being on the program from May 25 – June 29, 2015. To apply, visit oxford.gatech.edu and click on the “Group Leader” tab. The deadline for applications is Oct. 15.

oxford.gatech.edu

September 11

The Library hosts a crash course in web design. Participants will learn techniques in Adobe Dreamweaver, WordPress, Joomla, and other open source alternatives. 4 p.m., Library, Free. Register at: c.gatech.edu/crashwebsept11

MISSISSIPPI

September 4

The Georgia Tech Observatory will host a public night. Primary targets of interest will be the Moon and Saturn. Public nights are free and open to all, but contingent on clear weather and will be cancelled if there are too many clouds. 9:30 p.m., GT Observatory, Howey Physics Building, astronomy.gatech.edu

September 8-9

Students of all majors will participate in the fall Career Fair at the Campus Recreation Center. career.gatech.edu/careerfair

September 12-13

The Georgia Tech Parents Program hosts its annual Family Weekend. More than 2,000 guests are expected on campus. familyweekend.gatech.edu

September 13

Georgia Tech Football hosts Georgia Southern University at home in Bobby Dodd Stadium. Kickoff is at noon. ramblercrewc.com

September 16

The Office of Human Resources hosts a 4th Well workshop about resources available at the Walmart Pharmacy in Tech Square. Noon, Room 301, Student Center. Register at: c.gatech.edu/beweellmart

September 19

Postdoctoral researchers will pres- ent their work at the inaugural Postdoctoral Research Symposium. 2:30 p.m., Petit Institute Atium. c.gatech.edu/postdorsym

September 19

The Student Center Programs Council hosts Georgia Tech Night at Six Flags. Tickets for faculty and staff are available for $26. Purchase tickets at: c.gatech.edu/gtnightat6fl

For more information, or to request a free listing of events updated daily, visit calendar.gatech.edu

w w w . w h i s t l e . g a t e c h . e d u

Emergency Preparedness Offers Response Training

SCORE CERTs by opening airways, controlling bleeding, and treating for shock; provide basic medical aid; search for and rescue victims safely; and organize themselves and spontaneous volun- teers for effective emergency management.

“The program is a positive and realistic approach to emergency and disaster situa- tions where citizens will be initially on their own and their actions can make a difference,” Stanley said.

Training begins Sept. 23 and continues through Nov. 13. Participants can choose from two time slots to attend a session once a week. Attendance at all sessions, as well as a final drill, is required for graduation from the course.

To learn more about the program, visit c.gatech.edu/gtcert. For more information and for instructions on signing up, contact Stanley at frank.stanley@ep.gatech.edu

Students, faculty, and staff pose in Salzburg, Austria, during the travel portion of the 2013 Oxford Study Abroad Program.

As football season begins, leaves start to change, and the cooler weather arrives, summer may be more of a fading memory than a to-do-list item. But, every fall, Georgia Tech students begin the application pro- cess to spend their summer on Georgia Tech’s Oxford Study Abroad Program.

This year, Georgia Tech staff members will also have the opportunity to apply for a role in the program that has been introduc- ing Georgia Tech students to Europe for 20 years.

The program allows students to take Georgia Tech classes while visiting major European cities, studying in the UK and expand- ing their global perspective. It also gives Georgia Tech staff, who accompany the students as group leaders, an opportunity to leave the Atlanta campus and experience new cultures, all while helping Georgia Tech students have a safe and successful experi- ence. With a grueling schedule (the Europe portion spans eight continental European cities in 30

Emergency Preparedness Offers Response Training

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

September is National Preparedness Month, and the Office of Emergency Preparedness acknowledges it by equipping campus with the knowledge needed in a crisis situation.

Faculty and staff, as well as students, can become members of the Campus Emergency Response Team (CERT) by participating in a series of training sessions throughout the fall. “CERT is about readiness, people helping people, rescue safety, and doing the greatest good for the greatest number,” said Frank Stanley, emergency preparedness program coor- dinator.

Participants will learn how to manage utili- ties and put out small fires; treat the “three kill-
Registration Open for Annual Kaiser Permanente Run/Walk

Each year, more than 16,000 people gather downtown for the culmination of a weeklong health and fitness program at the Kaiser Permanente Corporate Run/Walk.

The event is designed to get employees at companies across Atlanta engaged in regular physical activity, and provides a chance for them to participate in such an activity together by signing up for the race. Last year, more than 400 Atlanta companies participated in the 5K. While approximately 16,000 runners participated in last year’s event, Tech’s own Victor Breedveld, associate professor in the School of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, won the race with a time of 16:40. Winning unit the reason to sign up, though.

Elisha Smith, fitness coordinator of G.I.T. FIT Programs and organizer of the Tech team, encourages all faculty and staff to sign up, along with their friends and family, no matter their level of walking or running.

Barrone has made it to five races. ‘I like challenging myself to run faster each year,’ he said. ‘My advice for others is to set a personal fitness goal and don’t be nervous or intimidated. Just go at your own pace, and have fun.’

Registration for this year’s race, which takes place on Sept. 11 at 6 p.m., is $33 and is open through Sept. 10. Participants receive a Georgia Tech team T-shirt. Tech employees are encouraged to sign up and join the Georgia Tech team at kpcorporaterrunwalk.com.

Deal Proposes High School Computer Science Option

Georgia Governor Nathan Deal visited campus Aug. 25 to propose that state educators encourage students to take computer programming courses by allowing those classes to satisfy core high school diploma requirements. Under the governor’s proposal, the programming classes could satisfy requirements for math, science, or foreign language. Deal was joined by Chris Klaus, a Tech alumnus and donor, Provost Rafael Bras, and University System of Georgia Chancellor Hank Huckaby as he made the announcement at the Klaus Advanced Computing Building. Read more at c.gatech.edu/dealsc.