**NEWS BRIEFS**

**Police Department Releases Annual Safety Report**

The Georgia Tech Police Department released its Annual Safety Report that catalogs statistics from the previous three years. The report is available online at [police.gatech.edu/documents/safetyreport.pdf](http://police.gatech.edu/documents/safetyreport.pdf).

**Taste of Atlanta Takes over Tech Square**

The annual Taste of Atlanta will bring food and chefs from more than 90 restaurants to Tech Square from Oct. 24–26. The Tech community can save $5 off tickets with promo code TECH at tasteofatlanta.com.

Traffic will be diverted in the area as early as Thursday, Oct. 23. To plan accordingly, see details at pts.gatech.edu.

**AMAC Forms New Center for Students with Disabilities**

The AMAC Accessibility Solutions and Research Center, part of the College of Architecture, earned a grant from the Department of Education, worth $3.8 million over four years, to create the Center for Accessible Materials Innovation. The center, which will target students at minority-serving institutions, will expand access to digital content for students with disabilities, with the goal of improving retention and graduation rates. Learn more at: c.gatech.edu/amagrant.

**BRINGING YOUR WORK HOME**

**Hosts Sought to Provide ‘Home for the Holidays’**

**Kristen Bailey, Institute Communications**

Members of the Tech community have long welcomed international students into their homes during the holidays. Now, a group of students is making it easier to connect those interested in sharing an international Thanksgiving.

Home for the Holidays is an effort to join international students not going home for Thanksgiving with faculty, staff, and other students who would be up for treating them to a festive American meal.

Last year, Brandie Banner, vice president for the undergraduate Student Government Association (SGA) and resident advisor in Housing, hosted two of her residents at her parents’ Alpharetta home. “My family loved having them and hearing about their culture, and they kept saying how happy they were to get off campus during the break and have a taste of an American home,” the civil engineering major said.

Maria Silva-Willson, a fourth-year industrial engineering major, has spent all her Thanksgiving breaks away from her family in Venezuela. She spent the first with new friends from Tech, gathering in a dorm for a traditional menu of turkey, cranberry sauce, sweet potato casserole, and pumpkin pie. They followed dinner with a capital ‘H’ — a Home for the Holidays.

Claire Batten (center), a student from Newnan and peer leader in Housing, invited two of her international residents to Thanksgiving at her family’s home last year. “Instead of remaining on campus without any sense of family, they got to spend time with a family that was eager to meet and learn about them,” Batten said. Her guests helped dress the turkey, learned about Thanksgiving, and even had the experience of holidays with a pet dog.

**Alumna Hosts Art Exhibit in Stubbins Gallery**

Catie Newell, a 2003 graduate of the College of Architecture, and R. Joseph Roper set up Newell’s exhibit, After Curtew, in the Stubbins Gallery in the Architecture East building. Newell is now an assistant professor at the Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning at the University of Michigan. Newell’s work captures spaces and material effects, focusing on the development of atmospheres through exploration of textures, volumes, and the effects of light. The exhibit will be on display through Nov. 7 and is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Panel Hits on Issues facing the ‘Sandwich Generation’**

Caring for family poses universal challenge

**Kristen Bailey, Institute Communications**

If you fall into the group of people who are caring for an aging parent while still supporting a child, you may not realize it, but you’re part of the Sandwich Generation.

This group is broadening as both the aging population grows and people have children later in life. At Tech, a panel discussion this month will address this topic and discuss the idea of “Managing Your Role as Caregiver.”

“We’ve heard a lot of interest voiced in this topic,” said Sandy Simpson, director of initiative advancement in Strategic Consulting and principal empowerment officer for the women’s Employee Resource Group, where the idea for the event began. As Simpson’s group explored the issue, they realized it’s a universal challenge for everyone, not just women, and not just for those with elderly parents, but all who unexpectedly end up in the role of caregiver.

The panel will be made up of three professionals who

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**www.whistle.gatech.edu**
Central, North Campus See Improvements

John Caddell, who graduated from Tech with a degree in building construction in 1952, went into the construction business “because you get to see the results of what you’ve done.” He’ll get that gratification on campus with the completion of his namesake building.

The School of Building Construction is getting a new home in the center of campus thanks to a gift from Caddell and his wife Joyce. Demolition on the current facility began in August, and construction should be finished in February 2015. “Our gift will lead to an increase in both the size and quality of the program’s facilities, and hopefully that will translate into a stronger educational experience and even better career prospects for our graduates,” Caddell said. With demolition complete, interior framing has begun.

OTHER PROJECTS
Projects at the Chapin Building, Price Gilbert Grove, and inside Tech Tower are also in progress. Between Fert Drive and 10th Street, two other areas are under construction.

Atlantic Drive Promenade and Engineered Biosystems Building
The stretch of Atlantic Drive between Fert Drive and 10th Street will eventually become a full-fledged pedestrian thoroughfare. The north section, from 10th Street to the North Campus Parking Deck, is now closed during construction. Access for service and emergency vehicles, bicycle, and pedestrian traffic will be rerouted to either State Street or Fowler Street. Connectivity between the BioTech Quad and the North Campus Parking deck will remain, but the entrance to the deck will move to the south end of the deck. Construction is scheduled for completion in February 2015.

The promenade is being phased in during construction of the Engineered Biosystems Building (EBB). Inside EBB, interior buildout is underway, and the building is still on track to be finished in spring 2015.

Russ Chandler Stadium
Funds from a baseball team alumni will be used to improve the stadium’s clubhouse spaces. Decoration of the areas is now complete. The project includes renovation and expansion of the team locker room, showers, study lounge, and training space. A weight room will also be added. Construction is expected to be finished in early 2015.

France-Atlanta brings Euro Collaboration to Campus

For the fifth consecutive year, Tech will welcome friends from France as it hosts 10 events during France-Atlanta.

The series of events is presented by Tech and the Consulate General of France to showcase Franco-American collaboration in business, scientific, cultural, and humanitarian endeavors.

From Oct. 16–31, the Tech community will be able to attend events that include art exhibits, intellectual discussion, and scientific symposia.

Other events will take place at locations across Atlanta, including Georgia State University, the High Museum of Art, and the Atlanta BeltLine.

The collaboration reflects Tech’s strategic goal to expand the Franco-American collaboration to improve education, to develop opportunities available to researchers from anywhere in the world, and to develop new technologies. The collaboration is meant to benefit teachers and students, and to expand the academic capabilities of the Atlanta area.

France-Atlanta Events

Photo Exhibition: The Goldsmiths of Light by Vincent Moncorgé
Oct. 16–31

Drones and Autonomous Avionics: Innovation, Markets, and Regulations
Oct. 16, 9 a.m.—3:15 p.m.

Aerospace Systems Design Laboratory

Destination Europe
Oct. 17, 8 a.m.—5:45 p.m.

Global Learning Center

Seminar on French-English Immersion Education
Oct. 28–29

Creissant Room, Student Center Commons

Explore the objectives and advantages of early language learning in an immersion context.
Campus News

Signups Open for TEAM Buzz Day of Service

KRISTEN KAILLEY INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

Each fall, TEAM Buzz provides a chance for the Tech community to give back to surrounding neighborhoods through hands-on voluntarism. This year, student organizers expect around 2,000 volunteers to meet at the Kessler Campanile on Saturday, Oct. 25, before spreading out across the city, and they hope to see many faculty and staff members participate, too.

Project signups open Tuesday, Oct. 14, at teambuzz.org. Projects include activities such as planting, park cleanup, tutoring, sorting books and other media, and caring for animals. Those interested can sign up alone, with a co-worker, or with family, and choose from more than 40 projects around Atlanta.

This year, TEAM Buzz is providing free child care to children of faculty and staff to enable their participation. Qualified students will serve as childcare providers for the day and be stationed at the Student Center. Children will also participate in service activities, including making crafts and writing letters to hospital patients. The event runs from around 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Learn more at teambuzz.org.

Home for the Holidays

Hosts: Complete the form at c.gatech.edu/homeforetholidays by Saturday, Nov. 1.
Questions? Contact gtahomefortheholidays@gmail.com

Students, faculty, and staff work together at Bright Futures on Atlanta’s Westside during a past TEAM Buzz event. The Day of Service dispatches members of the Tech community to more than 40 sites around Atlanta.

CAREGIVER, from page 1

CAREGIVER panelists will discuss how to start some of the difficult conversations that come with aging, how to keep yourself healthy while caring for others, and the logistics of keeping everything going at once. “Sometimes we don’t pay attention until these things are happening to us,” said Simpson, who advised that even those who don’t currently find themselves in this situation should attend to begin planning for the future.

Simpson hopes this event will be the beginning of a more long-term conversation on campus about this topic. Those planning to attend the panel should register online.

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Say Farewell to This Year’s Retirees

The 2014 Retirement Dinner will take place Tuesday, Nov. 4, at the Historic Academy of Medicine, and faculty and staff are invited to join in honoring this year’s retirees. Tickets are $25 per person. Submit your RSVP by Wednesday, Oct. 22.

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OPEN ENROLLMENT 2015

Materials will be mailed to every employee’s home the week of Oct. 20, including a guide of all benefits offered through Georgia Tech and the University System of Georgia (USG).

While not everyone must re-enroll in benefits plans to maintain coverage, it’s important to review current selections to ensure they are still the best choices for the coming year. A few things to know about this Open Enrollment season include:

**MEDICAL, DENTAL, AND VISION PLANS**

The same medical plans are being offered as for 2014, but premiums and plan designs have changed. Premiums for the Consumer Choice HSA (formerly HSA Open Access POS), BlueChoice HMO, and Kaiser HMO plans have increased, but the premiums for the Comprehensive Care (formerly Open Access POS) plan have decreased.

Premiums for Delta Dental Base and Delta Dental High will increase. The premiums for Delta Care (formerly Open Access POS), BlueChoice Access POS) plan have decreased.

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**PHARMACY PROVIDER**

Express Scripts will be replaced by CVS/Caremark. No action is required by employees with this change.

**TOBACCO SURCHARGE**

This year, the monthly tobacco surcharge increases to $75 per month for users. Both users and non-users must certify their status in TechWorks during Open Enrollment. If you do not, your status will default to tobacco user.

For those interested, Stamps Health Services is offering cessation programs as part of Tech’s transition to a tobacco-free campus. You may also contact your insurance provider for additional assistance. Learn more at tobaccofree.gatech.edu.

**HELP LINE**

A phone line has been set up to connect employees with assistance during the Open Enrollment period. Representatives will be on hand on Oct. 27 – Nov. 14, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., at 404-894-4THR (4847).

**IMPORTANT DATES**

- **OCT. 20**
  - Materials Mailed to Employee Homes

- **OCT. 23**
  - Benefits Fair
    - 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., Student Center Ballroom

- **OCT. 27**
  - Phone Help Line Opens
    - (404) 894-4847

- **OCT. 29**
  - Info Session 9:45 a.m., Student Center Theater

- **OCT. 28**
  - Info Session 10 a.m., LeCraw Auditorium, Scheller College of Business

- **OCT. 30**
  - Info Session 2:30 p.m., Student Center Theater

- **OCT. 30**
  - IPad Drawing Deadline

- **NOV. 3**
  - Open Enrollment Opens

- **NOV. 9**
  - Information Session 9:45 a.m., Student Center Theater

- **NOV. 14**
  - Open Enrollment Ends

**REAL ESTATE/ROOMMATES**

- **Georgia Tech staff professional seeking male or female roommate for 2BR/1BA small house ~4 miles west of Tech. Front and back yard, quiet and safe neighborhood, back deck. $500 a month w/o utilities. Looking for graduate students or Tech staff. $1900/month, East Cobb top school district. 3BR/2BA plus carriage house. Fenced and gated, swimming pool. Call 404-894-7644; jud.ready@gatech.edu.**

**OTHER CHANGES**

- **Short-Term Disability**
  - In 2015, the USG will implement a new leave coordination policy that lets employees either use sick and vacation leave or receive disability payments — but not both — after the elimination period for disability. This will be in coordination with the MetLife Disability plan.

- **Spouse Questionnaire**
  - All employees enrolled in a USG medical plan will be asked to complete a mandatory spouse questionnaire through TechWorks during enrollment in benefits.

- **Coverage for Graduate Research Assistants (GRAs)**
  - GRAs will be offered health care coverage through the USG beginning Jan. 1, 2015. The plan and enrollment will be separate from this Open Enrollment session.

**FOUR STEPS FOR A SMOOTH ENROLLMENT**

1. **Review your current benefits plans.** Reflect on whether or not they met your needs during the past year.

2. **Review USG/Georgia Tech offerings for 2015.** Consider whether any other options are better for you and your family.

3. **Talk with your spouse or family.** Review offerings from your spouse’s employer if he or she is eligible.

4. **Make selections at techworks.gatech.edu.** This includes your declaration of tobacco usage.

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**THREE WAYS TO GET YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED**

- Visit ohr.gatech.edu/openenrollment or email openenrollment@gatech.edu.

- Attend an information session.

- Call the help line at 404-894-4THR (4847).