NEWS BRIEFS

Tech Again Serves as Movie Backdrop

The Georgia Tech campus continues to be a popular backdrop for the silver screen. From Wednesday, May 6, through Saturday, May 9, production and camera crews from Paramount Pictures will be filming around the Boggs Chemistry Building, Bumber-Henry Building, and central campus walkways. Lot W21 (Physics/Boggs/Mason) and the Area 3 Visitor Lot will be used for production parking. Parking permit holders in these areas will receive an email from Parking & Transportation Services with details about alternative parking options.

Graduate Student Wins Pi Mile

Chris Douglas, a Ph.D. student in mechanical engineering, beat more than 1,000 runners in this year's on-campus 5K on Saturday, April 18, with a time of 17:02.

Air Force Research Director Visits Tech

Thomas Christian, a Tech alumnus and director of the Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR), visited campus April 20–21. Christian toured the Georgia Tech Research Institute, Georgia Tech Manufacturing Institute, Institute for Electronics and Nanotechnology, and Institute for Materials. He also participated in a discussion with faculty and staff on attracting graduate students to post-doctoral work at the AFOSR. Read more about the visit at c.gatech.edu/AFOSR.

TechWorks, Georgia Tech’s employee portal, is getting a makeover. The updated, easy-to-navigate interface will be more visually appealing and will provide users with faster access to tools and relevant information. Plus, it will be compliant with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act to accommodate individuals with disabilities.

TechWorks started in 2004, as many of Georgia Tech’s administrative

Faculty Senate Approves Degrees, Policy Changes

KRISTEN BAILEY
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

At its April 21 meeting, the Faculty Senate approved new degrees and minor programs, changes to the Academic Calendar, and policy modifications.

The Senate approved two new minor degree programs out of the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts. The School of History, Technology, and Society and School of Literature, Media, and Communication (LMC) will partner on a new interdisciplinary minor in social justice. LMC will also offer a new minor in science fiction studies.

Two new programs will provide opportunities for earning degrees from Georgia Tech via distance learning. One is a Professional Master’s in Sustainable Electrical Energy, targeted toward working engineers in the electrical energy and power industries. The other is a Professional Master’s in Manufacturing Leadership.

“These new degrees are products of the continued collaboration between Professional Education and our colleges,” said Provost Rafael L. Bras. “They are another example of how we continue to use technology to provide broader access to higher education, as well as our commitment to providing lifelong learning opportunities.”

The Senate also approved items from the Student

Employee Portal Gets Overhaul

TechWorks Down May 6–11 during Transition

RACHAEL POCKLINGTON
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

Students spin inside a large kinetic top on the northwest side of the Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons. As part of a partnership with the Midtown Alliance, the top is one of seven around Midtown Atlanta that are part of a new art exhibition called Los Trompos by Mexican designers Héctor Esrawe and Ignacio Cadena. There are 40 more tops located in the Sifly Piazza at the High Museum of Art.

see TECHWORKS, page 4

President to Address Staff

President G.P. “Bud” Peterson will talk with staff and answer questions at the annual Staff Town Hall on Thursday, May 7, at 11 a.m. in Room 152, Clough Commons. Staff may submit questions ahead of time via email to townhall@gatech.edu. For those unable to attend, the event will be recorded and made available online at www.president.gatech.edu.

see SENATE, page 4
School of Architecture Welcomes New Chair

LAURA DIAMOND
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

Scott Marble, adjunct associate professor of architecture at Columbia University, will be the new chair of Georgia Tech’s School of Architecture. His appointment begins July 1.

As both a practicing architect and an educator, Marble embraces the change of new and developing technologies. His book — Digital Workflows in Architecture: Design, Assembly, Industry — explores the role of technology in the profession, building on the work of his practice and his 20 years of engagement with digital design and technology at Columbia University.

Marble said he was attracted to the position because Georgia Tech understands technology’s great potential for solving problems in new and innovative ways. Today’s architects must be technologically savvy and embrace collaborative and interdisciplinary models, he said.

For nearly 30 years, Marble has had his feet both in the academy and practice, witnessing a growing divide between the two. At Georgia Tech, he aims to establish a strategic and strong connection to industry that will create graduates who can become thought leaders in industry.

As chair of the School of Architecture, Marble will maintain partnership in Marble Fairbanks Architects, an award-winning practice in New York City whose work is a part of the permanent collection of the Museum of Modern Art. Marble holds a Bachelor's of Environmental Design from Texas A&M University and a Master of Architecture from Columbia University.

ONCE UPON A COMMENCEMENT

(Top) Nearly 100 years ago, it wasn’t just the graduates wearing hats at Georgia Tech Commencement. This photo shows the setting for the ceremony on June 11, 1917. (Bottom) Leonard Wood delivered the Commencement address. Wood is best known for being commander of Teddy Roosevelt’s Rough Riders during the Spanish-American War and serving as chief of staff of the Army. Before that, though, as a young officer stationed at Fort McPherson, he enrolled at Georgia Tech to coach and play on the newly organized football team. He helped Tech defeat the University of Georgia in the first meeting of the schools in 1893 (Tech won 28-6). Georgia Tech celebrates its 249th Commencement this weekend.
The Office of Human Resources hosts an information session about the University System of Georgia transitioning its Medicare-eligible retirees to a private health care exchange. The info session takes place at 11 a.m. in the Student Center Theater.

chr.gatech.edu/benefits

Georgia Tech Baseball hosts the University of Pittsburgh at 7 p.m. at Russ Chandler Stadium.
rambilweck.com

The Symposium on Design and Wearable Technology features speakers, panels, workshops, and a reception focused on the role of design in wearable technology. The symposium takes place at the College of Architecture.

ipdi.gatech.edu/wearablex2015

Georgia Tech Baseball hosts the University of Pittsburgh at 1 p.m. at Russ Chandler Stadium.
rambilweck.com

First day of summer classes.
registrar.gatech.edu

As part of National Employee Health and Fitness Month, GO T.E.CH. hosts the President’s Campus Walk beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Campus Recreation Center. Choose from one of three routes: one mile, two miles, or the Pi Mile.
gatech.gatech.edu

The Staff Council will host its first Town Hall event from noon to 1 p.m. in the Student Center Theater.
staffcouncil.gatech.edu

For a more comprehensive listing of events, or to add one of your own, visit calendar.gatech.edu
Growing an Office Garden

Ben Wright
College of Engineering

Sheyil Taylor has a plant for nearly every year she’s been at Georgia Tech.

The business administrator for research in the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering (BME) is known around the office as the “plant lady.” Taylor came to Tech in 2003 and worked for the Georgia Tech Research Institute and School of Biology before joining BME in 2006. Her green thumb has been with her in all those roles, as her office plants will attest. She’s even played a rescue role to coworkers’ plants over the years.

Sheyil recently shared some of her best advice for those looking to bring a little green into the white and gold of their office space.

What should people consider when choosing plants for their office? If you don’t plan to be very attentive, you need to choose your plants carefully. People buy plants because they look pretty, but a lot of times the ones with really nice colors require a lot of extra attention. The African violet is one that people like the look of, but there’s a special way to water it and feed it. They require a lot of attention and maintenance.

On the other hand, I have one in a pot in my office that I call a Florida philodendron, and that thing is wild. It’s in a small clay pot, and it grows all over my shelves. It just keeps growing and growing. It doesn’t need much attention.

What advice do you have for people who would like to have plants in their office? I like to fertilize them three or four times a year. I give them some type of plant food. Some people use eggshells either on the soil or mixed in. I also like to water them with rainwater. If you can collect rainwater and use that, I think it makes a big difference. To me, though, the most important thing is talking to them. You need to talk to your plants. They like it. They like attention. I talk to them when I’m watering them, just like you’d talk to an animal. I name my plants too.

I also use sunlight lightbulbs in my office. It’s a much more natural light, and if you have an office without much natural light, they’re good for the plants and for you. You also want to re-pot your plants occasionally, especially if they’re getting too big for the pot. Some people do it very regularly, but I do it every few years. I like them to have a good, established root ball before I move them.

When it comes to indoor plants, it’s best to have a system for watering. I water mine every Friday. They get a nice big drink. Having a schedule is easier for you and for the plants.

Where does your interest in plants come from? My mother and my grandmother fostered my love of plants — even my great grandmother. It’s just always been in our family. My great grandmother had a plant from the philodendron family called a split leaf. You can take pieces and grow more plants off of them, so everybody in our family got a piece of that plant, and it was kind of a family tradition. I still have plants that came from that one plant.

What should people be doing this time of year to get ready for outdoor gardening? By the beginning of April, you want to have most of your seeds in the ground. It’s been a wet spring, so the soil is nice and soft. I’ve planted all the plants in January, though, so if you haven’t started, it’s not too late.

Vegetables can be planted now, depending on what they are. People should be cleaning out their gardens, turning over the soil, putting nutrients or fertilizers in, and that type of thing. I’m planting tomatoes, cucumbers, and onions. Be careful not to over water your plants and vegetables. If they get too much water, the roots will rot.

Whatever you do, make sure you enjoy it. It’s a great time of year to be enjoying the weather outside and getting your hands dirty. Gardening is great for your soul.

Sheyil Taylor, purveyor of office plants, poses in her office in the U. A. Whitaker Building.

Photo courtesy of the College of Engineering

Campus News

SENA  page 1

Regulations Committee. One item was the approval of proposed changes to the Academic Calendar that will be phased in during the next two years. Changes include alterations to the Dead Week policy and final exam schedule, as well as the addition of class holidays around Thanksgiving and July 4.

Additionally, the Senate approved minor changes to the wording of the Student Code of Conduct to reflect Georgia Tech’s Sexual Harassment and Misconduct Policy. This policy previously addressed only students, but now addresses all campus populations. The Sexual Harassment and Misconduct Policy was previously known as the Student Sexual Harassment and Misconduct Policy.

The policy changes were, in part, introduced to comply with the Title IX law from the Department of Education. Two modifications to the Faculty Handbook were approved, with one requiring a vote by the faculty in the fall.

During the meeting, Bras honored Ron Bohlander for his nine years of service as secretary of the faculty and previous service to faculty governance in other positions. Bohlander was given a wooden chair bearing the Georgia Tech seal.

TECHWORKS, page 1

functions became Web-based,” said Paul Strouts, vice president for Campus Services. “Today, with thousands of users — equating to more than 1,000 sites visits a day — the portal remains essential to Institute business processes and warranted an upgrade to improve the user experience.”

The portal will continue to host personal employee information such as compensation, benefits, and TimeOut, as well as work-related tools like Financials, BizMac, and Travel & Expense. Site enhancements such as a Georgia Tech news and events feed, a Georgia Tech seal, and a wooden chair bearing the Georgia Tech seal.

-campus.com/471371.

A Cottage with a view: 3BR/2BA, peaceful furnished, waterfront cottage with private beach and sundeck along the southern outer banks (Manteo, NC), $750/wk or $2800/mnt. WIFI, central A/C, W/D, rocking chairs, hammocks, excellent fishing from 430’ dock. Boat slips. No smoking or pets. www.vrbo.com/571844

Lakefront vacation home rental on spectacular Lake Chatuge in the mountains of North Georgia. Features 3BR/2BA, dock, game room, large deck on spacious 4+ acres with great mountain and lake views. Details at www.vrbo.com/471571.

For years our place in the North Georgia mountains, only 1.5 hours from hwy, was our affordable personal and family retreat — a place to relax, read, walk, and enjoy recreational activities. Nine it your course. See www.1770valleyview.com.

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Georgia Tech Memory and Aging Lab seeking males ages 18-30 for a two session psychology research study. Study pays $40. Lab is located in the Center for Advanced Brain Imaging at 831 Marietta St. Contact 404-385- 3600 or technomemlab@gmail.com.

Items for sale: 3-sater 5-meter ivory color Rooms to Go couch, one year old, very comfortable, $330 OBO. Used Lack side tables, black, 3 for $15. Used black chairs, 3 for $12. Black leather desk table $40. Transitional vanity, white, 20” x 26” flat screen Sanyo TV, antennas, DVD player, all for $100. All from clean, smoke and pet-free house. E-mail gbrotny@gmail.com for more info and photos.

Ad for rent: 3BR/2BA appliances in Sought-after Oak Grove subdivision, 5BR/3BA, 2,200 sq ft, easy access Emory/Georgia Tech. Hardwood floors, open floor plan, many windows. 0.5 acres top of-the-hill lot. For Rent: 4BR/3BA, 3,400 sq ft, spectacular Lake Chatuge in the mountains of North Georgia. Features 3BR/2BA, dock, game room, large deck on spacious 4+ acres with great mountain and lake views. Details at www.vrbo.com/471571.

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Available beginning Aug. 15 or Sept. 1. Contact 404-385-3600. Details of building and unit at https:// youtu.be/7iM3LZXYjEc Contact masракis@gatech.edu.

For years our place in the North Georgia mountains, only 1.5 hours from hwy, was our affordable personal and family retreat — a place to relax, read, walk, and enjoy recreational activities. Nine it your course. See www.1770valleyview.com.

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