Tech Parkway Improvements to Begin This Spring

Michael Hagerty
Institute Communications

Updates and improvements are coming to Georgia Tech’s main southwestern thoroughfare.

Plans are underway to convert Tech Parkway from its current four-lane divided highway state to a two-lane road that incorporates bicycle and pedestrian paths along the southern edge. Construction is anticipated to begin this spring and continue through the end of 2016, and will also include sidewalks and other improvements.

The project is in accordance with the Campus Master Plan, as well as the recently completed Bicycle Master Plan. The project will reduce traffic volume on the western border of campus and result in a more pleasant travel experience for all forms of transportation that use this corridor. The project is funded in part by the local nonprofit PATH Foundation.

For cyclists, the bike path will continue across North Avenue and connect with a planned cycle track on Luckie Street, providing bike connectivity all the way to Centennial Olympic Park.

More information about construction and parking impact will be made available in the coming weeks.
**ARTS & CULTURE**

**April 4**
The Center for Music Technology's Web Audio Conference hosts a free Live Coding Concert featuring real-time music improvisation using computer code. The concert begins at 8 p.m. at the Historic Academy of Medicine at Georgia Tech. [www.mit.edu](http://www.mit.edu)

**HEALTH & WELLNESS**

**April 10**
The Georgia Tech chapter of Alpha Delta Pi raises funds for Ronald McDonald House Charities through its annual Run for Ronald 5K race. This event begins at 8:30 a.m. at the Kessler Parcille. Registration is $25. [www.ohr.gatech.edu/finferonald](http://www.ohr.gatech.edu/finferonald)

**April 30**
The Georgia Tech Alumni Association hosts the 44th annual Pi Mile Road Race, one of the longest continually held 5Ks in Atlanta. The event begins at 7 a.m. at the Activity Center. [www.c.gatech.edu/pimile2016](http://www.c.gatech.edu/pimile2016)

**TRAINING**

**April 6**
The Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning hosts a session on leveraging slides to support student learning, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Crescent Room, Student Center. [www.c.gatech.edu/cetlworkshops](http://www.c.gatech.edu/cetlworkshops)

**SEMINARS & LECTURES**

**March 30**
Francine Berman, Edward P. Hamilton Distinguished Professor of Computer Science at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, discusses “Building a Sustainable Ecosystem for Data Driven Research” from 11 a.m. to noon in Room 1116 East, Klaus Advanced Computing Building. [www.cc.gatech.edu](http://www.cc.gatech.edu)

**March 31**
Nagesh Singh, Consul General of India in Atlanta, discusses the importance of India-U.S. relations in the context of global challenges from 3 to 4:30 p.m. in Room 314, Scheller College of Business. [www.inta.gatech.edu](http://www.inta.gatech.edu)

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**FLC proposals are cohort of eight to 12 faculty members who meet regularly over the course of a semester or year to engage in collaboration and discussion about teaching and learning, based on a specific theme or topic.**

For the first time, the Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning (CETL) is inviting proposals from the Georgia Tech community for teaching-related topics and projects for FLCs. For example, an FLC might be focused on adapting teaching methods to transform the learning environment to support all students, incorporating learning analytics into teaching, or understanding the impact of gun laws in the classroom.

Each FLC will receive a small budget for supplies and project development (around $2,000), and support from CETL consultants in the quest to reach their goals. FLC sessions will be facilitated by faculty and/or CETL consultants, depending on the needs and nature of the group.

The deadline to submit a proposal is Friday, April 29. Following submissions, FLCs will be listed online and faculty may apply to participate. The deadline for participation applications will be May 31.

CETL will also continue to host its three core FLCs for Junior Faculty Teaching Fellows, Senior Faculty Teaching Fellows, and EVP Research Faculty Teaching Fellows. To learn more about submitting a proposal or FLCs themselves, visit [www.c.gatech.edu/faculty/flc](http://www.c.gatech.edu/faculty/flc).

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**HR UPDATES**

**Using Your Leave for Welcoming New Children**

The Office of Human Resources will cover this topic in a Be Well session on Wednesday, April 13, from noon to 1 p.m. in Room 301 of the Student Center. Learn important facts and must-dos for coordinating your employer-paid time off and Family Medical Leave (FMLA) when welcoming a child through birth, adoption, or foster placement. Learn more at [www.ohr.gatech.edu/bewell-maternity](http://www.ohr.gatech.edu/bewell-maternity).

**Bank at Work Day**

This annual event will take place on Wednesday, April 27, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Room 219 of the Student Center. Bank of America, Georgia United Credit Union, and Wells Fargo Bank will offer mini-seminars on the topics of Budgeting and Saving, Women and Retirement, and Understanding Your Credit. Registration is not required. Learn more at [www.ohr.gatech.edu/bankatwork](http://www.ohr.gatech.edu/bankatwork).
Portrait of an Artist/Architect

Construction Services Director Brings Artistic Sensibility to Work

MARGARET TATE
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

Fifty to 100: At any given time, that’s how many construction projects — big and small, indoors and out — are typically underway on Georgia Tech’s campus. Frank Lamia watches over this ever-changing scenic view while painting a few of his own.

A registered architect and avid watercolorist, Lamia is associate director of Construction Services in the Design & Construction Department of Facilities Management. He is now in his 15th year at Georgia Tech, after 23 years in private practice.

Back in those days, he traveled quite a bit to job sites. Working at Georgia Tech, he also travels to job sites — just not as far.

“It’s all right here — you can walk to almost everything,” Lamia said. “To see construction in process every day, that’s very satisfying.”

About 25 people work in Design & Construction, and Lamia oversees 12 managers on the construction side. “I work with a really good group of people,” he said. “All of them are smarter than I am — the best thing I did was hire smart people!”

Most projects are contracted out, Lamia said, and they can run from replacing a door to constructing facilities, such as the Engineered Biosystems Building, from the ground up.

Regardless of size and scope, Lamia said, their job is to manage the process and make sure projects are completed on time, within budget, and with minimal disturbance to campus operations.

“Construction is disruptive — whatever you do, it’s going to impact somebody,” he said. “So we really try to minimize the impacts.”

Lamia likens Tech to a small city, and streetscapes are his favorite type of project because they have the “biggest visual impact.”

In his time at Tech, he has worked on projects ranging from construction of the 5th Street Bridge to the Architecture Building Auditorium.

“I think we’ve made the campus a lot more livable — much better looking and easier to access, particularly for pedestrians,” he said.

Originally from Michigan, Lamia earned his degree in architecture from Lawrence Technological University near Detroit. He has enjoyed art classes in high school and saw architecture as a practical way to pursue that interest.

“I don’t know of too many curriculums that require you to take a certain number of art classes and calculus and physics,” he said. “So you get a balance of those things.”

One course Lamia particularly enjoyed was watercoloring. He continued to dabble in it for many years after he got his degree, but as the drafting table gave way to computer-aided design, and as detailing duties gave way to management responsibilities, his “off and on” hobby became more “on.”

“I like to draw,” Lamia said. “That’s why I do watercoloring — you’ve got to draw it, then paint it.”

The great thing about watercoloring, Lamia pointed out, is that it easily fits into his busy schedule, which, in addition to working full time and then some, includes jogging regularly and traveling here and there with his wife, Maggie, who also works at Tech.

“There’s no real setup to it,” he said of the medium. “It’s not like oils where to make it really productive you’ve got to devote a block of time. With watercolors, you can just sit down and do it, walk away for three days, and come back.”

Lamia has a website to showcase his work (www.custwatercolor.com), but he has done little to promote it. “I’m not at a point where I can,” he said. “I’m here, I’m working. I did it so people who ask what kind of work I do can go and look at it. I’ll start promoting it when I have time, when I retire, but not right now.”

Lamia’s not ready to hang up his hardhat just yet. Retirement is several years off. For now, he’s still fascinated with his part of Tech’s ever-changing landscape.

“This is a great opportunity because of the variety and the wonderful nature of the work,” he said. “I feel very fortunate to be here.”

When the Whistle Blows

Georgia Tech’s Remembrance Ceremony

Nothing can replace the joy a loved one or cherished friend brings to our lives, so the Georgia Tech family is always deeply saddened when we suffer the loss of members of our own community.

Each spring, we honor the memory of the students, faculty, and staff who passed away in the previous year. Join us as we pay tribute to these individuals who have touched our lives and contributed to our community.

Monday, April 11, 5:15 p.m.
Harrison Square
(Rain Location: Gordy Room, William C. Wardlaw Jr. Center)
THE HOLLAND PLANT

The Holland Plant, located at 680 Power Plant Drive behind the A. French Building, has been producing steam since opening in 1917. In addition to being the home of the Georgia Tech steam whistle, the plant's steam keeps many buildings heated and cooled, and it provides hot water for some showers and dining halls. Take a look inside.

1. The plant is named for Archibald Dinsmore Holland, who received a master's in mechanical engineering from Tech in 1930. In the 1940s, he served as the Institute's superintendent of buildings and grounds, and later became a professor in the School of Mechanical Engineering.

2. Michael Herriott, stationary engineer, researches timetables for chemical testing.

3. Philip Schroeder is a stationary engineer with a master's degree from Tech's School of Building Construction. He occasionally gives tours of the facility to students and researchers.

4. The boiler room has four boilers, including one that is all electric. A ceiling vent allows heat to escape in the summer, when the room's temperature often reaches 100 degrees. A large part of campus uses distributed steam created at the Holland Plant.

5. This is a propane tank monitoring station, dubbed "the Christmas tree" because of the colors.

6. The whistle, atop the Holland Plant, blows at five minutes before the hour from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. every weekday. The whistle also blows to celebrate touchdowns and home football victories.

7. Although the Holland building has been modified over the years, it retains its overall architectural and historic character, including a few pieces like this timer.

See more photos from inside the Holland Plant at www.c.gatech.edu/holland.

Hidden Georgia Tech is a photo essay series highlighting places on campus that may largely go unnoticed but are sometimes hidden in plain sight. If you know of a place worth exploring, email editor@comm.gatech.edu. View more Hidden Georgia Tech stories at www.c.gatech.edu/hidden.