Freshman Move-In Begins Aug. 18

KRISTEN BAILEY
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

The Tech community can anticipate increased traffic, some road closures, and a general heightened sense of excitement as the next class of first-year students begins moving in to campus housing Thursday, Aug. 18.

Though some students will begin moving in earlier that week, Aug. 18 is the official first day for freshman move-in, which will continue throughout the weekend. Returning students will primarily begin moving in that weekend, beginning Saturday, Aug. 20.

Those on campus should expect heavier traffic and congested paths and roadways, as well as restrictions on parking in East Campus areas. Beginning at 6:30 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 18, vehicular traffic on Techwood Drive between Fourth Street and North Avenue will be restricted only to those who are moving into campus housing. Those traveling southbound on Techwood will be routed down Fourth Street toward Peters Parking Deck if they are not involved in move-in.

Vehicles coming from North Avenue will be sent further west to access campus from Cherry Street or Tech Parkway. Regular access to Techwood will resume at 6 p.m. Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to leave themselves extra time to get to campus and travel within the campus corridors, both in vehicles and on foot or bicycle.

The campus community is also encouraged to provide direction and a friendly welcome to new students and their families as they make their way around campus.

For more information about move-in, visit housing.gatech.edu.

CRC to Close for Annual Maintenance

KATE O'NEILL
CAMPUS RECREATION CENTER

Due to maintenance, hours at the Campus Recreation Center (CRC) will be altered through Aug. 17. The entire building will also close completely for a short period of time to prepare for the new academic year and ensure the CRC remains one of the best collegiate recreation facilities in the nation.

The building will be open with limited facility availability through Friday, Aug. 5. The CRC will be closed Saturday, Aug. 6, through Sunday, Aug. 14. During this time, the Member Services desk will be open with limited hours of operation, but all other areas will be closed. The Member Services desk will be open Monday, Aug. 8, through Friday, Aug. 12, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The building will reopen with limited facility availability on Monday, Aug. 15. The fitness center, sauna, activity rooms, Crawford Leisure Pool, and locker rooms will be open. The Member Services Desk will return to summer hours of operation at this time. All other facilities including the climbing wall, McAuley Aquatic Center, and fourth and fifth floors will remain closed.

All areas will reopen Thursday, Aug. 18. Fall hours of operation will begin Monday, Aug. 22.

O’Connor to Depart from Tech

Jim O’Connor, vice president for the Office of Information Technology and chief information officer, will soon leave Tech to assume the role of chief information officer for Auburn University.

O’Connor has been at Georgia Tech for 22 years, originally coming to manage technology for the Olympic Village. He has served in his current role for six years.

“Throughout his tenure, Jim has focused on the importance of people and strategy in helping the Institute achieve its academic, research, and administrative missions,” said Steve Swiant, executive vice president of Administration and Finance. “I appreciate Jim’s dedication and contributions to Georgia Tech, and his humble but strong service leadership. We will miss him greatly.”

Read more at cgatech.edu/connor.

For Georgia Tech, it’s easy being green.

It’s easy being green.

Tech Community Sends Off Swimmers, Divers

The McAuley Aquatic Center hosted the U.S. Olympic Diving and Swimming teams over the past two weeks for their final training sessions leading up to the 2016 Games. See videos and photos of both teams on campus at news.gatech.edu.

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Willa Chatman Goes Beyond Green

When you have finished reading this paper, please recycle it—if not for the planet, then for Building Services Operations Manager Willa Chatman.

Chatman is on a personal and professional mission to reduce paper usage—and that’s above and beyond her dedication to Georgia Tech’s green cleaning program. “I talk green all the time to everybody,” she said.

Chatman is quick to stress that she is not a one-person crusade. “There are some people who are better, and everyone in our group has a hand in preserving the environment—it’s not just my idea,” she said. Still, she is on the alert for any lapses.

“The best way to get in trouble with me is for me to open a closet and find something that is not department-issued,” she said. “Those who were kind enough to bestow awards on us can withdraw them just by somebody doing the wrong thing.”

In 2016, Tech joined five other higher education institutions in the nation to have earned the Green Seal Standard for Cleaning Services, and the campus has also earned the Grand Award in Green Cleaning for Schools and Universities.

One of the new cleaning methods Chatman swears by is an “ionator,” which electrifies water so that, when applied to a surface, it breaks down dirt and germ molecules and wipes up without leaving a residue. “That actually makes the custodian’s job easier,” Chatman said. “When you use something that has a soapy residue, it attracts dirt. Also, like on our chrome elevators, all that greasy stuff used to require a lot of rubbing to make it look good.”

Chatman had to learn about these new ways of tidying up just like her custodial staff, but no worries — she is always up for learning new things. In the 11 years she has been at Georgia Tech, she has taken well over 50 classes — seminars, workshops, Lunch & Learns, etc.— often on her own time and her own dime.

She has a big stack of certificates on topics ranging from crime prevention, to management, to defensive driving, to “Survival Spanish.” Most of these she keeps in a file folder, but the bookshelf in her office displays one in particular: her paper for CERT Campus Emergency Response Team training. “Once you become a CERT you can become a student at FEMA,” Chatman pointed out. “I’m currently a student at FEMA online. You never know when there’ll be a disaster and you’re going to need to help somebody.”

Chatman paid her dues for many years, working first the swing shift, then the night shift, but since 2014, her typical day has started at 6:15 a.m. She meets with a supervisor from the previous shift to find out if there are any situations she needs to address, then goes on to manage and schedule staff as well as check on buildings and equipment to make sure “things are as they should be.”

Of course, not every day is typical. The Georgia Tech Police Department has her number and has used it to summon her after hours for messes that could affect campus safety, such as icy patches and water leaks. She’ll also pitch in when special events call for more hands on deck. After a recent wedding in the Klaus Advanced Computing Building, for instance, she went over and helped clean. “I’d run in a heartbeat if it’s necessary,” she said.

Chatman’s favorite part of her job is quality control. “Knowing it’s done so well that the customer recognizes it—that’s really when I’m so happy,” she said.

Her least favorite part is having to let someone go, but that’s rare, especially considering she manages around 100 employees. She credits HR for sending over people who share her passion for excellence. “It’s like they know when they look at the applications that this person has that Tech way,” she said. “Occasionally, someone won’t work out, but they’ll leave here on their own, usually. They don’t want all the dedication and goodness they’ll leave here on their own, usually. They don’t want all the dedication and goodness you see at Tech.”

There is one place, apparently, where Chatman will tolerate a mess. When she’s not working or engaged in lifelong learning, she likes to shop for treasures at yard sales, then turn them for a profit. “I have taken over a room in my house with e-Bay stuff,” she said. “My husband’s like, don’t bring anything else in here! But it’s only in my possession for a moment.”

Bus Route Changes Could Affect Employee Metro Transit Passes

Starting in September, two common commuter bus routes are switching transit agencies: from Cobb County Transit (CCT) and Gwinnett County Transit (GCT) to Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA).

The change will affect some customers who purchase transit passes through payroll deduction. Routes affected include:
- Cobb County Transit Route 481 from Town Center to Midtown.
- Gwinnett County Transit Route 412 from Sugarloaf Mills to Midtown.

Both routes are switching to GRTA beginning Sept. 6. Customers using either of those routes will now need to purchase GRTA passes rather than CCT or GCT passes. All changes to payroll deduction purchases must be made in Techworks by Aug. 4 in order to take effect for September passes.

Questions can be referred to the payroll department in the Office of Human Resources at 404-894-4614. Other routes are also undergoing changes beginning Sept. 6. For a complete list of changes and to see how they may affect your commute, visit xpressga.com/2016servicechanges.

To learn more about alternative transportation and commuting options provided via metro transit, visit c.gatech.edu/metrotransit.
EVENTS

Aug. 11
The Staff Council hosts an Inform Georgia Tech session on wellness and parking/transportation initiatives from 11 a.m. to noon in the Student Center Theater.
staffcouncil.gatech.edu

Aug. 12
The GRIOT Employee Resource Group hosts “The Skin I’m In” from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Student Center Ballroom. Participants will discuss “colorism” as something to emerge from rather than a phenomenon to perpetuate. Learn more and register at g.gatech.edu/skin

Aug. 17
Graduate Student Employee Processing takes place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the third floor of Clough Commons.
c.gatech.edu/gradproc

Aug. 18
Freshman move-in begins.
housing.gatech.edu

Aug. 18 – Sept. 20
Events will take place throughout the month for students during Welcome Home Month.
nssp.gatech.edu

Aug. 19
As part of this year’s Project One activities, the Center for Academic Enrichment hosts a free showing of The Martian at 8:30 p.m. at the Ferst Center for the Arts.
c.gatech.edu/p1

Aug. 21
New Student Convocation takes place from 5 to 6 p.m. at McCamish Pavilion.
specialevents.gatech.edu

Aug. 22
Classes begin for fall semester.
registrar.gatech.edu

Aug. 25
President G.P. “Bud” Peterson will host the 2016 Institute Address from 11 a.m. to noon in Room 152, Clough Commons.
president.gatech.edu

TRAINING

Aug. 15
The Center for Teaching and Learning hosts its Fall Teaching Kickoff from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Room 102, Clough Commons. The day will include interactive workshops aimed at getting instructors ready for the first day of class. Register at c.gatech.edu/teachingkickoff

For a more comprehensive listing of events, or to add your own, visit calendar.gatech.edu.

RAMBLIN’ TO RIO

Georgia Tech will be well-represented at the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Watch for these Yellow Jackets as the Games get underway Aug. 5.

Andrew Chetcuti, a Tech swimmer who graduated in May with a bachelor’s degree in biology, will swim for his home country of Malta. Chaunté Howard Lowe, a former Tech track and field athlete, graduated in 2008 with a degree in economics and finance. She will compete in the high jump for the U.S. at this year’s games, which will be her fourth Olympics. Matt Kuchar, former Tech golfer who won The Players Championship in 2012, will play for the U.S. in the first Olympics featuring golf in 112 years. He is ranked No. 15 in the world. (Lowe and Kuchar were inducted into Tech’s Athletics Hall of Fame in 2010 and 2015, respectively.) Gal Hero, who studied economics, and Keren Siebner, who studied industrial and systems engineering, will swim for Israel. Steven Bohlemann, a graduate student in mechanical engineering, will compete as midfielder for U.S. Soccer’s Men’s Paralympic National Team in the Paralympic Games in September. Cassie S. Mitchell, assistant research professor in the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering, will compete for the U.S. Paralympic Track and Field Team. Her events are the F51 club throw and the discus throw, for which she ranks second and third in the world, respectively.
CIVIL & STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING

Baabak Ashuri, manager for Institute Diversity, has been elected as a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Lemelson Foundation.

Kristen Laquidara, academic advisor in the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering, was named the Team Builder Award at the College of Engineering’s second annual staff awards. The award honors an engineering staff member who fosters a work environment that supports others, passes on knowledge and experience, demonstrates flexibility, and helps the group achieve productive results.

Aerospace Engineering Professor Timothy C. Lieuwen has been selected to fill the David Lewis Endowed Chair in the Daniel Guggenheim School of Aerospace Engineering.

James D. Meindl, professor emeritus in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, was elected to membership in the Academia Sinica, the highest honor bestowed on scholars of Chinese origin. He has also been selected to give a lecture during the AIAA Space and Astronautics Forum and Exposition (SPACEX2016), which will take place in September.

FACULTY AND STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

Mark Costello, David Lewis Professor of Autonomy in the Daniel Guggenheim School of Aerospace Engineering, has been elected a fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

John C. Crittenden, director of the Brook Byers Institute for Sustainable Systems and Highpower Chair and Georgia Research Alliance Eminent Scholar in Environmental Technologies, has been elected as a Fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). The ASCE is a leading provider of technical and professional conferences, continuing education, publications, and codes and standards.

Michael Davis, associate professor in both cardiology and biomedical engineering in the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering, has been named the Department’s associate chair of Undergraduate Studies.

Reginald DesRoches, Karen and John Huff School Chair in Civil and Environmental Engineering, was selected to serve as vice president of the Atlantic Coast Conference for the 2016-17 academic year. He has served as Georgia Tech’s faculty athletics representative since 2014.

Jonathan Elwell, executive chef in Dining Services, earned a silver medal at the National Association of College and University Food Services’ National Culinary Competition on July 14.

Annette Filliat, communications manager for Institute Diversity, earned the Shining Star Award from the Georgia chapter of the Public Relations Society of America. The award honors demonstrated leadership among those with eight to 15 years of professional experience.

Ayanna Howard, Professor and Linda J. and Mark C. Smith Chair in Bioengineering in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, was named to the Invention Ambassadors Program, sponsored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Lemelson Foundation.

Lagrina Denise Simmons, food service worker in Dining Services, won the Hero of Everyday Life Award from the Sodexo Foundation for her volunteer work packing and distributing meals for people experiencing homelessness in her community.

John Toon, director of Research News in Institute Communications, was elected vice president of the University Research Magazine Association.

Eric Vigoda, professor in the School of Computer Science, was named of Georgia Tech’s Algorithms and Randomness Center.

The International Association of Advanced Materials awarded the honor of 2016 Advanced Materials Laureate to Z.L. Wang, Highpower Chair in Materials Science and Engineering and Regents Professor. Wang will receive the award during a ceremony this month at the European Advanced Materials Congress in Stockholm, Sweden.

Vigor Yang, Daniel Guggenheim School of Aerospace Engineering Chair, was elected to membership in the Academia Sinica, the highest honor bestowed on scholars of Chinese origin. He has also been selected to give a lecture during the AIAA Space and Astronautics Forum and Exposition (SPACEX2016), which will take place in September.

Participants in the Paths to Social Sustainability conference tour the Emerald Corridor, a seven-mile stretch of woodland abutting Proctor Creek, located west of the Georgia Tech campus.

Serve-Learn-Sustain is an institutional effort to equip Georgia Tech students to learn and serve around the theme “creating sustainable communities through engaging with content and context. The initiative was developed as a Quality Enhancement Plan, as a key component to Tech’s refictionalization of accreditation in 2015.

Learn more at serve-learn-sustain.gatech.edu/csls-blog.

REAL ESTATE

Owner looking for professional, graduate student, or visiting professor to share a large, furnished Buckhead condo, conveniently close to Tech campus. $750/mo. includes utilities, cable, internet, Private bedroom, bath. Have leased to Tech PhD student; also terms for graduate housing. Available Aug. 5. Very clean and private. Referenda on request. Contact 404-514-7862, neba.darr@gmail.com.

Lovely garden apartment in Ansley Park. Two BR, 2 BA, 1,500 sq. ft. One parking. 2 mi. from Tech near bus/ train lines. Across from Piedmont Park and Atlanta Botanical Garden. Available Sept. 1. $1,600/mo. but negotiable. Contact 404-992-1426 or theprojectapart@gmail.com. One of the themes of the conference was “Meeting community leaders face to face in our city.” Many people, even those who have been at Tech for some time, did not even know the Emerald Corridor was there, much less have an awareness of its current or potential uses. “Many community leaders and hearing directly from them brings awareness and perspective about life near Georgia Tech that is not apparent from news outlets or politicians,” said Linda Wills, associate professor in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering who participated in the conference.

The conference also featured keynote addresses by sustainable community experts, roundtable discussions, and cross-site panels broadcast live online. Small group sessions gave participants the opportunity to identify key actions to work on moving forward. Takeaways included exploring the creation of a community-based Institutional Review Board so Institute research projects could be vetted by the community and incorporating social sustainability into K-12 curricula.

“The panels and the working sessions were particularly insightful and engaging because of the dialogue that occurred,” Wills said.

The next step for the Center for Serve-Learn-Sustain will be to create a draft agenda for social sustainability in the Southeast — and Atlanta in particular — and then to support working groups for implementation. The Center for Serve-Learn-Sustain also hopes to connect faculty with surrounding communities and resources for their courses and research.

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Read more thoughts from conference participants at the Center for Serve-Learn-Sustain blog. servlearn-sustain.gatech.edu/vcs-blog.