Welcome to our campus, and our Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons, which was made possible by a joint investment of the state and private philanthropy.

Since we opened Clough Commons a year ago, there have been 2.1 million visits here, or 12,000 student visits each day. They are taking advantage of resources for collaboration. You can find students here just about any time of the day or night. (Kevin Riley story: “What are they doing here at 1 in the morning?” “They’re studying. This is Georgia Tech.”)

If you had been here a month ago you might have thought you were in Google headquarters, or the Googleplex, in California. Tech agreed to allow the movie “The Internship” to be filmed on campus. Transforming the Tech campus into Google was an interesting experience. For the set we had a spaceship suspended from the ceiling, a slide in the lobby and Google logo colors everywhere. We did it for the intangible benefits we anticipate after the film is released, and to support the Georgia film industry.

It is easy to see why the film company would want to film at Georgia Tech. Our campus is impressive, and through a combination of philanthropy and state and industry support, we have a number of new or renovated facilities this year. This month we are opening McCamish Pavilion. We will have our new Ken Byers Tennis Complex in January. The new Carbon Neutral Energy Solutions, or CNES building is designed to set a new standard for sustainable design for buildings of its type. Construction has begun for the new Engineered Biosystems Building, made possible
because of a commitment from the state as well as institutional and private funds, will provide a competitive edge and economic boost to the state by fueling Georgia’s growing biomedical research industry.

You may have noticed tailgating on the 5th Street Bridge today. The bridge links Tech’s west campus with the east campus, or Technology Square. Tech Square has become an Innovation Hub or Innovation Ecosystem for the Southeast, bringing together needed resources, expertise and opportunities for collaboration that creates an exciting environment for innovation to flourish. Last May, Panasonic announced its new auto innovation center in Centergy One in Tech Square, creating an incubator for next generation automotive infotainment technologies. A driving factor was the company’s interest in enhancing its partnership with Georgia Tech, including the Enterprise Innovation Institute, or EI², Tech’s economic development center headquartered in Tech Square. The Centergy building is home to numerous high-tech companies, and several other companies and organizations are exploring having a presence in Tech Square.

We emphasize innovation with our students, who often become entrepreneurs while they’re still in school. Tech’s student body includes 21,500 undergraduate and graduate students including the largest, best qualified, and most diverse freshman class in Georgia Tech history. The average SAT of the new freshman class is 1394, and the average GPA is 3.89. Many have been involved in leadership activities before they step foot on campus. Tech’s freshman class includes 35 percent women students, which is a record. Overall, Tech’s student body is 30 percent women. This year we’re celebrating the 60th anniversary of women enrolled full-time at Georgia Tech.
Even with increased student cost sharing, a Tech education is a real value. This past spring BusinessWeek ranked Georgia Tech number two in the nation, and first in the state of Georgia, in annualized return on investment.

None of this could be possible without your support. I would like to thank all of you as local, state and federal leaders and for your ongoing support of higher education, and specifically, helping to keep Georgia Tech a top ten public university in the nation for 14 years.

**Today’s game:**

- We should have a good ballgame today. Virginia is 2-0, and Tech is 1-1 with an “almost” at Virginia Tech. I was there, and it was a nail biter — a 20-17 overtime loss.
- This is one of the ACC’s most even rivalries. The Jackets and Cavaliers are meeting for the 35th time, and the series narrowly favors Virginia 17-16-1. Georgia Tech has won two of the last three meetings, but Virginia beat Tech 24-21 last season in Charlottesville.
- The Yellow Jackets are 3-1 in ACC home openers under Coach Johnson.
- Tech is facing three ACC Coastal Division opponents in September, including Miami next week. And, through a Twitter feed, we learned that Tech’s non-conference schedule is rated the eighth most difficult in the nation by the Daily Oklahoman.
- At halftime today, the Tech will honor the 1951 and 1952 Yellow Jacket football teams. This marks the 60th anniversary of the 1952 National Championship team. I had the honor of meeting many of them yesterday. They, along with others who played under legendary coach Bobby Dodd, call themselves the “Dodd’s Boys.” They contributed to a statue of Bobby Dodd that was unveiled
yesterday in Callaway Plaza at the north end of Bobby Dodd Stadium. I hope you get a chance to see it.

- Senior Quarterback Tevin Washington enjoyed one of the most productive seasons ever by a Tech quarterback last year, and he’s picking up this season right where he left off. He’s second in the ACC in rushing at 80 yards per game, has thrown for two scores and broke off a career-long 58-yard touchdown run vs. Presbyterian last week. He is now in the top 10 in five career stat categories at Tech.

- If you see a different No. 40 on the field each week, it’s because Georgia Tech is playing tribute to former linebacker Julian Burnett this season by rotating jersey No. 40 among senior players each game in the season. Burnett was a star linebacker and leader on the field before suffering a career-ending injury last season. (Senior DT T.J. Barnes wore No. 40 during the season opener and senior CB Rod Sweeting wore it last week.)

- Thank you for joining us today, and thank you again for your ongoing support. Go Jackets!