Tech maintains top 10 stature in national undergraduate rankings report

Matt Nagel
Institute Communications and Public Affairs

For the seventh consecutive year and the eighth time in the past decade, U.S. News and World Report has ranked Georgia Tech as one of the top 10 public universities in the nation. Tech was ranked ninth among the nation’s public universities for undergraduates and 57th among all American universities, up four slots from last year.

“Over the last decade, Georgia Tech has shown the consistency in performance that reflects the quality of this institution,” said Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Jean-Lou Chameau. “I’m pleased to see that excellence continue, despite the challenges that we face in today’s competitive higher education marketplace.

“We’re especially proud of our ability to maintain an elite status among public universities during a time when our state funding has decreased,” Chameau continued. “I’m hopeful that a rebounding economy will provide better dollars for higher education in the future.”

Among academic disciplines, the College of Engineering held steady with a ranking of 6th. Among Tech’s highlights this year is the ranking of the Biomedical Engineering program, which climbed two slots to 4th. Engineering had five of its programs ranked in the top five among specializations. And for the third year in a row, Georgia Tech’s Co-op program was ranked among the magazine’s “Academic Programs to Look For” for internships and co-ops.

“Our engineering programs continue to maintain the highest standards,” said Chameau. “Biomedical Engineering made a significant improvement, while the other programs continue to receive high marks. While such rankings certainly cannot convey the depth and breadth of the high-quality education Georgia Tech provides, it is nonetheless quite gratifying to have our ongoing efforts recognized.”

Tech also continues to have some of the most generous alumni. The percentage of Tech graduates contributing to the Institute is the highest among any public university in the top 50.

Robinson’s lead commitment propels M Building project

A $5 million gift to advance molecular science and engineering

Dan Treadaway
Institute Communications and Public Affairs

The word “pioneer” is tossed about somewhat lightly in today’s culture, but it truly fits Glen F. Robinson Jr. In 1951, Robinson was one of seven entrepreneurs — all affiliated with Georgia Tech — who each invested $100 to start a new company called Scientific-Associates Inc., which later became Scientific-Atlanta. Today, the company has 6,500 employees in 70 countries around the globe, holds 411 U.S. patents and approximately 500 foreign patents. Robinson was the only member of the original group who took a full-time position at Scientific-Atlanta, where he served as president and chairman for 27 years.

Now, Robinson has brought his pioneering prowess to bear on a key project for Georgia Tech’s future: the Molecular Science and Engineering Building, or “M” Building. Robinson recently announced a $5 million commitment for the facility, which followed a $1 million gift from Scientific-Atlanta presented at the building’s April groundbreaking.

“Glen Robinson has been a great friend to Georgia Tech for many, many years, and this very generous commitment to the project is a wonderful expression of that friendship and the confidence Glen has placed in our people,” says President Wayne Clough. “The M Building not only represents a huge leap forward for Georgia Tech’s research infrastructure, but also projects a bright ray of hope through the development of techniques such as improved cancer treatments.”

The fourth and final structure in Tech’s Biotechnology Complex, the $60-million, 200,000-square-foot structure will further the shared goal of the first three facilities — fostering interactions between scientists and engineers whose research interests intersect. Research in the facility will focus on materials and the molecular basis of their structures and properties.

A prominent example of this type of research currently being conducted at Tech is a developing technique called optical biopsy, a non-invasive procedure that can provide images and chemical maps of deep tissue. This technique holds vast potential for diagnosing and treating disease.

“The thinking that has gone into the conception and design of the M Building is truly innovative and visionary,” says Robinson, “and that is par for the course at Georgia Tech. I am delighted to make an investment in this facility and the people who will populate it because I know the returns for the region, the nation, and the world will be incalculable.”

The Scientific-Atlanta gift and Robinson’s commitment have propelled the M Building project past the $16 million mark toward its minimum private fundraising goal of $20 million.

Slated for completion in summer 2006, the building will house 60 faculty members and their students. No state funds are anticipated for the project.
Architecture’s Industrial Design program names new director

Matt Nagel
Institute Communications and Public Affairs

The Georgia Tech Industrial Design program has a new director, Abir Mullick joins the program this fall from State University of New York at Buffalo, where he was a professor in its Department of Architecture and director of its Center for Inclusive Design and Environmental Access. He succeeds Lorraine Justice, who left Tech to become head of the design school at Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

“We are delighted to have Abir Mullick as our new director of Industrial Design,” said College of Architecture Dean Thomas Galloway. “Abir is a perfect fit; he brings a combination of interdisciplinary collaboration along with his experience in universal design that will enhance both the Center for Assistive Technology and Environmental Access (CATEA) as well as the academic programs within the College of Architecture.”

Mullick says he is excited to be at Georgia Tech and, after consulting with faculty, staff and students, hopes to create a new vision for the Industrial Design program.

“I would like to see Industrial Design move in a collaborative way,” said Mullick. “I’d like to see us expand the program and create bridges across campus. We can redefine ourselves and make the most of the wonderful resources we have available to us.”

Much of Mullick’s research has been in the universal design area. One of his more recent projects is the sponsored research he did on universal bathrooms. During the course of his research, Mullick designed a dynamic bathroom with moving parts to accommodate people with disabilities.

“My research had a lot to do with what we call person-environment fit. We are not able to find the kind of fit between the user and the environment and therefore it becomes handicapping,” said Mullick. “The universal bathroom allowed those who needed space to have more space. Different parts of the bathroom moved up and down and side to side, allowing for more flexibility and a more comfortable environment.”

Mullick holds master’s degrees in industrial design and city and regional planning, from The Ohio State University. He received his bachelor’s degree from the National Institute of Design in Ahmedabad, India.

Paper outlines career strategies for women in academia

Elizabeth Campbell
Institute Communications and Public Affairs

In order to remain technologically and scientifically competitive in an increasingly global society, the United States needs all the brainpower it has. But according to a paper in the Aug. 19 issue of the journal Science, a significant brain drain is taking place, as bias has created a significant barrier to women and other underrepresented groups from pursuing technological or scientific careers.

“We need to encourage people, not discourage them, from pursuing studies and careers in the sciences,” says Sue Rosser, dean of the Ivan Allen College and one of the paper’s co-authors. “The issue is not the innate ability of men versus women, but the social climate factors which over time have been shown to turn away women and underrepresented groups.”

The paper pulls together a large body of evidence of barriers throughout the faculty pipeline process and provides specific strategies to address these problems. In some disciplines, such as computer science and engineering, the low number of women faculty is attributable to the low number of women trained in those fields. However, in fields such as biology, the gender balance is disparate despite the fact that women win almost half of the doctoral degrees granted (see table, right).

Further along the pipeline, evidence shows that women faculty members are more often asked to provide campus service on committees and as student advisors, not necessarily the best activity to win tenure approval in research institutions. To assist junior faculty in managing their pre-tenure activities, Georgia Tech ADVANCE Professor Jane Ammons in the College of Engineering developed a “speed mentoring” workshop in which junior faculty consult with tenured case reviewers, who examine their curriculum vitae and offer suggestions on how to strengthen their tenure case. At Tech, speed mentoring has been used on a campus-wide basis.

Unconscious bias is another barrier to increasing female faculty numbers. This was clearly made a subfield factor, Georgia Tech developed a Web-based tool kit called Wardlaw Center
177 North Avenue
Atlanta, Georgia 30324-1810

Georgia Tech is a unit of the University System of Georgia.

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Access (CATEA) as well as the academic programs within the College of Architecture.

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*Data on Ph.D. and faculty from the same “Top 50” departments for each discipline. Departments are ranked by number of research expenditures in that discipline. Top 50 departments are those who receive 100 or more in 1999 faculty grants (2). These grants are in 2002 except Astronomy (2001) and Chemistry (2000).
Georgia Tech welcomes its newest faculty members

Aerospace Engineering
John-Paul Clarke
Erik Ferin
Mitchell Walker

College of Architecture
Benjamin Flowers
Don Immegardt
Aibi Mullick
Brian Stone
Jiwon Yang

British Fellow
Ashok Savitri
Scott Barville
Andrew Cooper
Michael Fournier
Ahmed Hafliz
Karan Head
Caroline Kimberly
Stephen Levin
John Mahon
Brian McGrath
Derek Merrill
Melissa Stevenson
Kent Still
Cyni White
Jennifer Wunder

School of Biology
Lisa Adams
Mirjana Brockett
Liu Jiang
Jennifer Leavy

Department of Biomedical Engineering
Johna Tanenoff

School of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
Hong Lu

School of Chemistry and Biochemistry
Nik Knorrer
Achilles Ryzas Oyler
Jake Soper

School of Civil and Environmental Engineering
Dominic Assimaci
Jim Span
Ahmad Youvan

College of Computing
David Badar
Nick Feamster
Alexandar Gray
Rebecca Griner
Xiangyin "Jian" Jiao
Hasan Park

School of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences
Andrew Newman
Andrew Stamm

School of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Ayanna Howard
Abdollah Ougazzaden
Shih-Chang Shen
Patricio Vela

School of History, Technology and Society
Laura Elizabeth Bar

School of Industrial and Systems Engineering
Yuan Mei
Arshad Nawrrookie
Nikolai Petrin
Valerie Thomas
Ming Yuan

School of International Affairs
Michael Bear
Don Brennitz

School of Literature, Communication and Culture
Alexandra Mazalak
Andrew Usaskie

Library and Information Center
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Robby Cross
Christine de Cantanzaro
Karan Glavre
Julie Griffln
Lisa Li
Brian Mathews
Jody Thompson
Bouree Tepina
Bing Wang
Kent Woywodski

College of Management
Marco Caccagnoli
Matthew Higgins
Jason Kuoang
Nicholas Lurie
Son Lee
Suzanne Lee
Mingjiang Li
Ravi Subramanian
Beril Tuktey

School of Materials Science and Engineering
Kenneth Gail

School of Mathematics
Yury Bakhtin
Jenifer Blyk
Pedro Caputo
Cinzia Ella
John Etnyre
Julia Garibaldi
Marcio Bameiro

School of Materials Science and Engineering
Kenneth Gail

School of Mechanical Engineering
Mohamed Cherkaoui
Rudolph Ghione Jr.
Ting Zhu

School of Modern Languages
Jennifer Clark

School of Music
Jason Freeman
Leslie Stafford Gordon
Cybelle McFadden Wilkens
Kelly Comfort

School of Polymer, Textile and Fiber Engineering
Dong Yao
Yonathan Thio
Meisha Shofner
David Bucknail

School of Public Policy
Robert Pikowsky
Jennifer Clark

School of Psychology
Richard Barke, who returns to the faculty in the School of Public Policy.

Ivan Allen names associate dean

Peter McGuire, a professor in the School of Literature, Communication, and Culture, has been named as associate dean in the Ivan Allen College. He fills the position formerly held by Richard Barke, who returns to the faculty in the School of Public Policy.

“I am very pleased that Peter McGuire has agreed to accept this responsibility,” says Sue Ross, dean of Ivan Allen College. “His expertise in the analysis of digital media, multimedia project management, and distance learning will prove to be an invaluable asset to the College. In addition, his lengthy experience as a faculty member at Georgia Tech also provides him with a keen awareness of the needs of the College’s undergraduates and curriculum.”

“Liberal arts education is an idea that’s come of age at Georgia Tech,” McGuire says. “I am excited to be a part of an expanding initiative involving curriculum, undergraduate studies, and information technology.”

Pritchett tapped for endowed professorship

Aerospace Engineering Associate Professor Amy Pritchett has been appointed as the David S. Lewis Associate Professor of Cognitive Engineering. This new position will enable her to expand her research and education in the design and operation of interactive technology that supports human cognitive performance.

Pritchett, who has been a faculty member at Tech since 1997, holds a joint appointment in the School of Industrial and Systems Engineering.

Show off your college colors

In a new promotion that encourages fans, alumni and students to wear apparel of their favorite college throughout the day of Sept. 2, the Georgia Tech bookstore is participating in a nationwide event — College Colors Day — by offering a 20 percent coupon for licensed merchandise during the week of Aug. 29. More information, including the printable coupon, is available at www.importantstuff.gatech.edu.

IN BRIEF:

Extending our reach

College of Management Dean Terry Blum recently led a five-member group of faculty members to China to meet with administrators from three of that country’s most prestigious universities: Peking University and Tsinghua University in Beijing and Shanghai Jiao Tong University in Shanghai. “All three universities expressed strong enthusiasm in collaborating,” Associate Professor D.J. Wu said, noting that their interests included partnerships in executive education and research as well as student and faculty exchanges.

In addition, a delegation of management and engineering faculty members recently visited India on a mission to explore possible models and locations for educational opportunities. Associate Professor Sabyasachi Mitra said, “The response we got to the idea of a Georgia Tech presence in India was overwhelmingly positive.”

Tech’s tentative plans call for a standalone campus focusing on graduate education, similar to that of Georgia Tech Lorraine in France.

Initially, the program would offer a single, multidisciplinary master’s degree in systems sciences and engineering, including a specialization in management.

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Art & Culture
Ongoing
The Hewitt Collection of African-American Art will be on display in the galleries of the First Center for the Arts, Tuesday-Saturday from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Sundays from noon - 6 p.m. The galleries are closed on Mondays. Admission is free. For more information, visit www.firstcenter.org.

Aug. 26
The First Center for the Arts welcomes "Saturday Night Live" cast member Horatio Sanz and his sketch comedy troupe for an 8 p.m. performance. For tickets, call 894-9600.

Brown Bags/Conferences/Lectures
Aug. 30
The College of Management and the School of International Affairs welcomes IMPACT speaker Imam Peisal Abdul Raluf, founder and CEO of the American Society for Muslim Advancement and Imam of Masjid AlFarah, and author of "What's Right with Islam: A New Vision for Muslims and the West" at 3:30 p.m. in the LeCraw Auditorium.

Sept. 6
The School of Chemistry and Biochemistry hosts a colloquia with Christine Payne, a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard, at 4 p.m. in Biggs B6A.

Aug. 24
The Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Assistance Program of Georgia and the Technology Association of Georgia host a one-day workshop at the Technologie Square Research Building in "SBIR Phase I Proposal Preparation." Early registration fees available until Sept. 2. For more information, visit www.sbir-georgia.org/training.html.

Sept. 13
The NanoTech Volunteer Researcher Group welcomes GTRI Research Engineer Jud Ready for a lecture on the latest in carbon nanotube research at noon in room 102A, MiRC. E-mail paul.turgeon@mirc.gatech.edu as space is limited. Contact Diana Palma at 894-1541 with questions.

Faculty/Staff Development
Aug. 29
The Georgia Tech Language Institute's English as a Second Language (ESL) program begins. The six-week sessions are held Mondays and Wednesdays from 6 - 8 p.m. until Oct. 5. A second six-week session begins Oct. 31, and Tech employees are eligible for a 50 percent discount. For more information, visit www.pe.gatech.edu and search keyword "ESL" or call 385-5500.

Sept. 6
The Office of Organizational Development hosts a one-day workshop on "Time Mastery," in room 308, Savant Building. To register, visit www.trainsweb.gatech.edu.

Miscellaneous
Aug. 24
Sign-ups begin for Options, the non-credit enrichment courses sponsored by the Student Center Programs Council. Open to all. For more information, visit www.fun.gatech.edu/FallOptions.

Aug. 31
"Meet and Eat" with the Georgia Tech Women's Forum at our Annual Social and Membership Drive from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Student Center, room 319. Learn about the organization and browse a collection of plant cuttings (or bring your own to share). A light buffet will be provided. RSVP to maude.robinson@business.gatech.edu.

Aug. 31
Georgia Tech's NSF ADVANCE program is sponsoring a free Nursing Mom's Workshop, featuring a lactation specialist from Northside Hospital, at 1 p.m. in the Student Center Commons' Piedmont Room. There will also be information on GT's lactation rooms and hormone/breast pumps. E-mail angela.sharton@oars.gatech.edu.

Sept. 9
The Student Government Association invites everyone connected with Georgia Tech for an exclusive night at Six Flags Over Georgia. Discounted tickets and free shuttle service available. For more information, visit www.sixflags.gatech.edu or call coordinator Patrick Cook at 404-592-8628.

Sept. 15
Georgia Tech is organizing a team to participate in the annual "Faiser Permanente Corporate 5k Run/Walk." Employees may register at www.kpcorporateunwalk.com. For additional information, call 385-6538 or e-mail susan.paraska@care.ge.gatech.edu.

APPLIANCES
Kenmore washer/dryer, less than 1 year old, 4 wash cycles, gas dryer with 5 temperature settings, $550 OBO. Hairdryer portable dishwasher, 1.5 years old, $125. E-mail lucia.huosaka@gtri.gatech.edu or call 385-2248.

AUTOMOBILES
1993 VW Bug, 1600cc motor. Daily driver for past year, father/son did automatic, PS, PL. Good campus car $27,000. Call 404-234-7412 or e-mail dhoff86@att.net.

1999 Mercedes S420. Black w/tan interior, 146K miles. Asking $2,600. E-mail joanie.chembars@coa.gatech.edu or call 404-502-9597.

1987 Mercedes 300E, 163K miles, $2,700. Call 404-524-4481.

1982 Volkswagen Rabbit convertible. Excellent condition, 100K miles, 32 mpg, new alternator, convertible top, windshield/gasket, Nichilen tires, $1,500 OBO. E-mail dhoff86@att.net or call 770-846-8911.

1989 Honda Accord DX coupe. White, automatic, PS, PL, Good campus car w/great gas mileage, $1,500 OBO. Call 678-913-5591.

1982 Volkswagen Rabbit convertible. Excellent condition, 100K miles, 32 mpg, new alternator, convertible top, windshield/gasket, Nichilen tires, $1,500 OBO. E-mail dhoff86@att.net or call 770-846-8911.

1994 Ford Bronco, K5 Blazer, or full-size 4x4 truck. Call 770-846-4763.

Furniture
Twin-size bed, night stand and lamp, dresser, mirror, $242,000 or $1,150/month. Great campus car.

Twin-size bed, night stand and lamp, dresser, mirror, $242,000 or $1,150/month. Great campus car.

REAL ESTATE/HOMES/RENTALS
$500/3BR/2BA renovated Victorian, perfect intown location, includes maid and yard care, no smoking or pets, available August for one-year lease, $2,995/mo. E-mail steve@innmanparkeredevelopment.com or call 404-600-1521.

$250/1BR/1BA Midtown condo for rent, $790/month, W/D & reserved parking, A great location at Piedmont & 7th, short walk to Tech & Piedmont Park. E-mail papajol@fece.gatech.edu.

2BR/2.5BA townhouse in Smyrna near I-285 and Atlanta Road. Hardwood floors on main. Garden tub under sky-light in bathroom. Eleven miles to Tech. Listed at $149,000. E-mail cliff.lje@clltech.gatech.edu.

3BR/2.5BA home with off-street parking and large back yard deck. $242,000 or $1,150/month. Great access to Tech, 285/75 and intown. Has only 4 years old. Call Gary at 770-855-3596.

SPORTS/fitness/RECREATION
Two-person hot tub with cover. Separate jet controls for each seat. Kept inside, in very good condition. $600 OBO. Call 770-528-5623 or e-mail josh.freeman@grl.gatech.edu.

Go-kart. Black, 5.8hp Briggs and Stratton motor, good condition, $250 OBO. Call 770-846-8911 or e-mail dhoff86@att.net.

MISCELLANEOUS
Sweet 3-year-old female black cat needs a good home. Spayed, UTD on shots, has claws, $30 negotiable. E-mail shumarkel@gtri.gatech.edu.

Igloo style dog house. $25. Call 678-678-7884.

Free, 2-year-old Toy Fox Terrier. Housebroken, great w/children. Loves outdoors. Shots up-to-date. Includes doghouse, bed, cage, etc. Pictures available. E-mail lp129@mail.gatech.edu.

Old upright piano, free if you move it. Manufacturer is "Bennington, New York." Condition is fair: two or three keys are broken off, needs tuning, Candler Park area. E-mail mk_away@yahoo.com.

Baby clothes for sale. Boys, mostly 18-24 mo. For pictures and prices, visit www.coa.gatech.edu/jtc. E-mail joanie.chembars@coa.gatech.edu.

Italian tutor wanted for two primary school-aged children. Must be native speaker. Price and hours negotiable. Must be able to travel to in-town location for lessons. Call Jim at 404-524-4481.