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THE WHISTLE

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THE GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

President Bush talks homeland security in campus speech

Watches first response scenario utilizing GTRI technology

Michael Hagearty
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The gymnasium in the old O'Keefe building hasn't seen an audience this raucous since ... well, maybe ever.

A packed house of about 2,000 invited guests greeted President George W. Bush with thunderous applause, nearly drowning out the music that signaled his entrance.

In town for a fund-raiser on behalf of his fellow Republican, Congressman Saxby Chambliss, the President stopped at Georgia Tech to watch a first response scenario and give a speech emphasizing the importance of preparedness and vigilance in the face of new terrorist threats.

The speech did nothing to dim



President Bush gets briefed on the procedures while emergency personnel tend to mock victims during an emergency drill involving unknown chemical agents.

either the enthusiasm of the crowd or the esteem with which they held him. During his 20-minute address, President Bush expounded on the themes that have to this point defined his presidency: homeland

security, the war on terrorism and the unifying strength of the citizenry.

"The American people understand the cause," Bush said, speaking from a raised platform behind a large banner bearing the Georgia Tech name.

"They understand the need. They understand that history has called us into action, and we must not blink. And we must not grow weary. Because, I repeat, we fight for freedom. We fight for values we hold so dear and precious."

In familiar homespun fashion, the President also joked that those who orchestrated terrorist attacks against the United States may have underestimated the country's resolve.

"You know, when they hit us, they must have thought we were so self-absorbed and so materialistic, that we would sue them," he said to peals of laughter and applause, adding, "They're wrong."

The audience was mostly made up of emergency responders — police, fire and medical technicians — and their families. Local and state officials, as well as Governor Roy Barnes, were also in attendance. The remainder consisted of students, faculty and staff from Georgia Tech.

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'Totally new' engineering college pays visit to GT Lorraine

Created by students, Boston school now looks to study abroad

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Take a look at the recruitment material for the "totally new" Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering near Boston and you realize this isn't a typical school.

"You Can't Get Into Our College ... Because We Don't Exist — Yet," a pamphlet screams in bold red. Apparently aliens stole the school's glossy recruitment brochures, according to a tabloid-style newspaper included in the student recruitment packet.

"The truth is, things here at Olin change so quickly that most anything we write is outdated before the ink dries," said Duncan Murdoch, Olin's vice president for external relations

and enrollment. "So we didn't bother with a viewbook this year."

The Olin College of Engineering has yet to graduate a student or hold a class. The campus is still being built. But last fall, 30 students — all on full scholarship — came to Olin College as "partners" to help design the curriculum, campus layout and honor code system.

This fall, those partners as well as 45 additional students will begin classes at Olin College, a private, undergraduate engineering school that has big ideas about changing the landscape of engineering education.

The concept has caught on. Scores of articles have been written about the 30 students who turned down prestigious offers to take an opportunity to start a school from scratch. And in Newsweek's recent "How to Get Into College" guide, Olin College was named one of nine "hot schools" for 2002, alongside Vanderbilt University, the University

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Former President Carter provides global perspective during Founder's Day celebration

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President Jimmy Carter's moving speech crowned an enlightening Founder's Day Celebration on March 22 for Ivan Allen College. The Founder's Day planning committee led by Associate Dean Ken Knoespel planned events focused on the theme, "An Open Society in an Age of Terrorism."

Carter, who had recently returned from a trip to Africa to learn more about the AIDS epidemic in South Africa, Nigeria and Kenya and how those countries are handling the health crisis, contrasted the September 11 tragedy in the United States to the current conditions in Africa.

"Eighteen-hundred people per day, in South Africa alone, contract AIDS," he said. "Just to put Africa into perspective, we all grieve over the 3,100 people who died in the terrorist attacks in the fall that shocked our country. In Africa, that many people

die of AIDS every 12 hours."

Carter emphasized that most of the world is not obsessed by terrorism and suggested caution in using the word terrorism or terrorist.

"There's a natural inclination to brand as terrorist people with whom we disagree," said Carter.

The most poignant moment came when Carter described when he, Nelson Mandela, and philanthropist Bill Gates Sr. visited an AIDS clinic in South Africa. He recounted his memory of holding a baby that made him think of his daughter Amy's baby; then, he realized the baby had a 50 percent chance of developing AIDS.

President Carter opened his remarks to the capacity crowd in the Student Center Ballroom after receiving the Ivan Allen Prize for Progress and Service. The Prize is named in honor of the College's namesake, former Atlanta Mayor Ivan Allen Jr., who helped to ease racial tension in Atlanta during his two terms as mayor and, among other things, represents

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**“QUOTE—
UNQUOTE”**

“You couldn’t help but feel you were looking at a very well oiled construction site, and it lulled you into thinking that. But suddenly, everything would stop, and a family group would come in, walk up a rubble pile with police and firemen, and a little service would occur. Those injections of private events were what made you realize this is very different.”

—David Frost, professor in the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, on the time he spent in New York collecting data at Ground Zero. (InformationWeek)

“Fundamentally, we may be in one of those transition periods where we need to rethink not only what functions leaders perform, but also how much of a load they’re supposed to carry.”

—Donald Fedor, associate professor in the DuPree College of Management, on the shrinking pool of workers typically considered to be emerging leaders — people aged 35 to 44 — as Gen X begins to replace Baby Boomers in the workforce. (Atlanta Business Chronicle)



Photo by David Ferraso

Georgia Tech’s Student and Teacher Enhancement Partnership (STEP) Program Fellows Al-Khalique Hamilton (right) and Stephanie Shorter compare notes with Stone Mountain High School Science Chair Jerry Stallworth at Tech’s Celebrating Teaching Day Poster Presentations, held last month in the library. The program has two objectives: to improve the teaching-related communication and leadership skills of graduate students, and to utilize their expertise to assist in increasing the mathematics and science performance of high school students. Each year the STEP program sends 12 graduate students to teach in area high schools.

This year, Hamilton and Shorter taught physics at Stone Mountain High School. STEP is sponsored by the National Science Foundation and is a joint program between Georgia Tech’s Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning, the Center for Education Integrating Science, Mathematics and Computing (CEISM) and the College of Engineering.

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the essence of “the new South.”

“I grew up in the deep south, where my formative years were shaped to a great degree by 100 years of racial prejudice,” said Carter. “There were a few, a very few, courageous people who broke that shell that we had built around ourselves. One of them was Ivan Allen. ... In Douglas, Ga., and Plains, Ga., the name Ivan Allen was a beacon light for us breaking the darkness, and I’m personally grateful to him. I probably would not have become President if not for Ivan Allen and Martin Luther King Jr.”

Carter also reminisced about his days as a Tech student and how he’s always loved Georgia Tech. He noted his old dorm has been torn down, but he does remember his roommate and remembered how they didn’t get along.

During the question and answer session, Carter discussed his support of Bush’s actions in Afghanistan, discussed his own actions as President during the Iran Hostage crisis in 1979-80, and gave his opinion that the balance of freedom and security has not been affected permanently by recent events.

Security versus personal freedom

That morning, Ivan Allen College and the College’s Student Advisory Board organized a panel discussion on “Civil Liberties in an Age of

Terrorism” moderated by Miles O’Brien, a news anchor at CNN. The panelists’ diverse background and opinions challenged the audience to examine the issues of human rights, personal freedom, profiling, privacy, security and terrorism in new ways.

Honorable Marvin Shoob, Senior Judge, United States District Court, asked, “Is it necessary to abandon our principles in order to survive?”

Shoob expressed concern that the prisoners be treated humanely, but felt the U.S. must take steps to win a war against an unknown enemy – the worst type of war.

Adbullahi A. An-Na’im, Emory Law School, provided a strong humanitarian perspective as a scholar of Islam and human rights, and former executive director of Human Rights/Africa.

“If we want peace, then do justice,” stated An-Na’im. He pointed out that it is instructive to look at the biggest terrorist attack in the United States before September 11 – the Oklahoma City bombing. An-Na’im noted that in that case every level of due process and every safeguard were taken.

Gunther Latsch, department editor for a major German news-

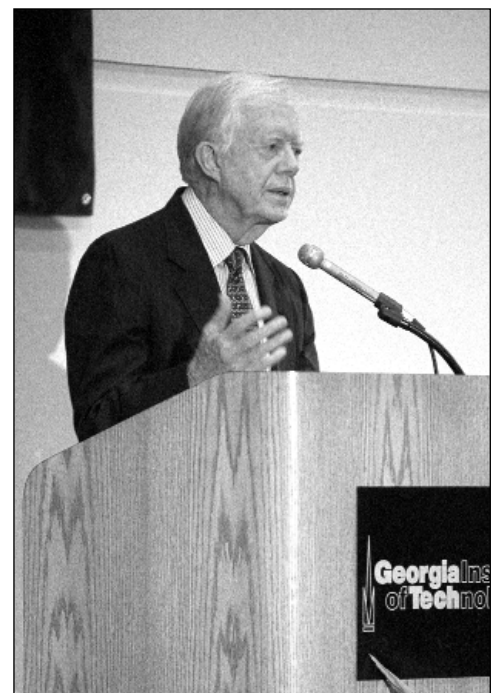


Photo by Stanley Leary

President Carter spoke candidly about the need to increase foreign aid, saying that the United States gives roughly one-tenth of 1 percent of its Gross National Product, lowest among the 22 industrialized nations.

magazine, offered a European perspective and noted that the “age of terrorism” began earlier in Europe and Israel. He expressed concern over the “foolish gambling of civil liberties,” and stated that one strategy of terrorism is to get the government in power to over-react.

GT Lorraine, cont’d from page 1

of Michigan and Vassar College.

Last month, Tech’s European campus in Metz, France — Georgia Tech Lorraine — was host to the 30 student partners, as well as eight faculty members and student life officers from Olin. The visit fulfills a portion of the school’s mission: to provide its students with an international experience.

Olin administrators initially approached Tech about the possibility of holding its first international program at GT Lorraine, which has 200 graduate and 120 undergraduate students in addition to the 50 Tech faculty members who have

been assigned there.

“Olin is recognized as the most innovative experiment in engineering education since World War II and it is exciting that they have decided to partner with Georgia Tech — the largest engineering school in the country — thanks to Georgia Tech Lorraine,” said Hans B. Püttgen, president of GT Lorraine and Georgia Power Distinguished Professor at Georgia Tech. “From an education standpoint, one of our interests is to see how some of the Olin experiments could be scaled up for large institutions.”

During their four-week European program, the Olin students not only got a feel for an international academic partnership program, but also

a taste of the local culture involving language lessons and history seminars.

The trip is a trial run as Olin explores partnerships for a study abroad program, said Rod Crafts, dean of student life at Olin College. “I wouldn’t be surprised if this turned into a regular program,” he said, adding that it probably won’t take shape until after Olin’s inaugural year is complete.

For more information...

Georgia Tech Lorraine
www.georgiatech-metz.fr

Olin College
www.olin.edu



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Shortly before his address, the President watched as members of the Atlanta and DeKalb County fire departments coordinated efforts in staging an environmental disaster. Travelling with Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge, Bush witnessed an emergency response drill involving unknown chemical agents. Rescue workers, equipped with oxygen tanks and wearing bio-hazard suits, entered the hot zone, performed field diagnostics and transported the mock victims to a decontamination site. From there, medical personnel were able to ascertain the type of hazard using technology developed at Tech.

This scenario was similar to an on-campus exercise conducted by the U.S. Marine Corps and Tech's Center for Emergency Response Technology, Instruction, and Policy (CERTIP) in November 2000. That scenario was part of a partnership known as Project Atlanta, between the Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI) and the Marines' Warfighting Lab in Quantico, Va., designed to help officials develop command and control procedures that would be in place should there ever be a biological or chemical disaster. The devices used involve a mixture of new technology and existing systems.

"For example, the ReachBack system (see sidebar, right) is commercial, off-the-shelf technology," CERTIP Director Tom Bevan said. "It's a matter of taking things and putting them together to use for a specific task."

Bevan also coordinates the Institute's homeland defense research programs and related initiatives, a position created by President Wayne Clough at the end of 2001. The director is responsible for developing and coordinating campus security policies and procedures, which includes updating existing security procedures put in place when Tech served as the Centennial Olympic Village during the 1996 Olympic Games.

Clough, who spent some time with Bush during his visit to campus, said the exercise was well received. "The President complimented Tom Bevan and the CERTIP team for the excellent demonstration he had seen and indicated this was the first time he had been able to see such technology at work. The CERTIP team made a great impression on the President as well as Governor Ridge and Congressman Chambliss."

Clough also praised the campus for its ability to pull off such an event given such a short timeline.

"I felt pride in the way the Tech team worked under short notice to put together a great show that made us look good to those who attended as well as on local and national television," he said. "Not only were the demonstrations impressive, but every thing else went off without a hitch. Within three days, GTRI, parking, physical plant, governmental affairs, communications and development did a remarkable job to cover all of the bases."



photo by Stanley Leary

Standing in front of hundreds of emergency responders in the O'Keefe gymnasium, President Bush said, "I want to thank all who work at the Center for Emergency Response Technology, Instruction and Policy. I have just seen a demonstration that helps prepare the emergency firefighters and the police take care of a disaster or an attack; how best to protect the citizens. This is an innovative training center. And I want to thank all those involved with the Center for your hospitality and for the chance to see firsthand how Atlanta and the state of Georgia are preparing for any possible attack." Together with Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge (seated, left), Bush said such demonstrations are necessary in developing a strategy that utilizes national, state and local resources to protect American citizens.

CERTIP technology demonstrated during President Bush's visit:

- The ChemBio Decision Aid (right), a chemical-biological device similar to an electronic checklist for emergency responders: Emergency personnel might carry the hand-held device onto the scene of a chemical release. A small screen provides a series of questions that help responders identify medical symptoms and appropriate triage.



photo by Stanley Leary

- Optoelectronic Chemical/Biological Sensors, technology that can detect and identify chemical and biological agents at the scene of an accident: These are being developed in the laboratory to provide affordable sensors to first responders.



photo by Sheree Collins

- The Medical ReachBack System (left), a network of portable computers that transmit information to a server at a remote command post: It is used to send data back and forth on a chemical release situation and potential victims. Emergency personnel and command officials might use this system to transmit vital information on chemical agents, plan an emergency response or to retrieve and send medical information to and from remote locations.

When President George W. Bush appeared at Tech last week, the event momentarily put the campus directly in the national spotlight. But Bush's visit wasn't the first by a sitting president in the Institute's 117-year history.

These are a few of the U.S. Presidents who have graced Tech's campus over the past century.



Georgia Tech Archives & Special Collections

The first President to visit was Theodore Roosevelt, who came to Tech on Oct. 20, 1905. Roosevelt (center) spoke on the steps of the Administration Building about the importance of technological education.

"America can be the first nation only by the kind of training and effort which is developed and is symbolized in institutions of this kind," he said.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt came to the Institute on Nov. 29, 1935. He attended several Homecoming events and a football game at Grant Field alongside Georgia Tech President M.L. Brittain. President Roosevelt also signed a "message of greeting" to the students and dedicated the Techwood Homes Project — the first low-income housing project in the nation.



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