Increased resources, education recommended to improve academic integrity on campus

Dan Treadaway
Institute Communications and Public Affairs

Aiding more staff to focus on issues of academic integrity and increasing the pool of faculty and staff to serve on academic misconduct hearing panels were among the recommendations presented by the Academic Misconduct Review Committee at the Sept. 17 joint meeting of the Academic Senate and General Faculty Assembly.

The committee began its work nearly a year ago in the wake of nearly 200 students in the introductory computer science course being accused of academic misconduct by collaborating on homework assignments. Addressing the resulting litany of hearings requested by many of those students was a part of the committee’s focus, and Chair Cheryl Contant, director of the City College of Architecture, said recommendations to add more faculty, students and staff to the process should help to address that issue.

The committee’s work, however, went well beyond the issue of misconduct hearing logistics to address broader issues of the role of academic integrity in Georgia Tech’s campus culture. Among the committee’s recommendations is a resolution that the Academic Senate “create a new Committee on Academic Integrity. This committee would work in parallel with the current Student Honor Advisory Council (but at the faculty level) to ensure that the Honor Code becomes a more integral part of academic values at Georgia Tech.

“The idea is that the Committee on Academic Integrity would think more proactively about broader academic integrity issues,” Contant said. “The committee felt very strongly that we need a group of people to continually focus on the grander concepts of integrity, as opposed to the specifics of particular cases of alleged misconduct.”

The committee also recommended the creation of a mandatory non-credit course on academic integrity for first-time offenders, which would be imposed along with all other academic sanctions resulting from an investigation and/or hearing. “The Dean of Students office, faculty members, students and other stakeholders would participate in the development and planning of the course,” the recommendation states. “We also recommend that faculty members at the Institute teach such a course. This would place it into an educational context, rather than be seen as simply a punitive measure.”

President Wayne Clough expressed appreciation for the committee’s work and support of their recommendations. Clough specifically cited a recommendation that “the current process should be altered to allow and encourage the option for a three-way, face-to-face meeting between the student, the faculty member and a member of the faculty members, students and other stakeholders would participate in the development and planning of the course,” the recommendation states. “We also recommend that faculty members at the Institute teach such a course. This would place it into an educational context, rather than be seen as simply a punitive measure.”

President Wayne Clough expressed appreciation for the committee’s work and support of their recommendations. Clough specifically cited a recommendation that “the current process should be altered to allow and encourage the option for a three-way, face-to-face meeting between the student, the faculty member and a member of the faculty members, students and other stakeholders would participate in the development and planning of the course,” the recommendation states. “We also recommend that faculty members at the Institute teach such a course. This would place it into an educational context, rather than be seen as simply a punitive measure.”

President Wayne Clough expressed appreciation for the committee’s work and support of their recommendations. Clough specifically cited a recommendation that “the current process should be altered to allow and encourage the option for a three-way, face-to-face meeting between the student, the faculty member and a member of the faculty members, students and other stakeholders would participate in the development and planning of the course,” the recommendation states. “We also recommend that faculty members at the Institute teach such a course. This would place it into an educational context, rather than be seen as simply a punitive measure.”

Students, professors gather to thank Goizueta Foundation for its support

David Terraso
Institute Communications and Public Affairs

Earlier this month, President Wayne Clough and Provost Jean-Lou Chameau, along with faculty, staff and students, got together to celebrate Tech’s Hispanic community as the Institute’s fastest growing population. This fall, according to statistics provided by the Office of Undergraduate Admission, 30 percent more Hispanic students enrolled as part of Tech’s freshman class compared with last fall, thanks in part to a $4.25 million grant from The Goizueta Foundation. The grant was awarded last year to help Tech recruit and retain the best and brightest in the Hispanic community. The reception was a chance for the first faculty and students helped by the grant to say thanks.

Competition for these students is tough and Tech is far from the only university actively recruiting Hispanics. Other schools include the Universities of Maryland, Massachusetts, Vermont and South Carolina, as well as MIT, Stanford University and the California Institute of Technology. In fact, it’s harder to find universities that aren’t recruiting Hispanics than to name those that are. “This gift allows us to recruit and...”

Goizueta continued, page 2
Margaret Loper may not have a familial connection to breast cancer, but that isn’t what motivates her. She’s working to make sure it never happens.

“If only one woman in eight women will be affected by breast cancer in her lifetime,” she said. “When I lost my own family at my mother, sister, daughter and niece, there are more than eight of us. One of us could get this disease I decided that I need to take a stand and change those odds, so I chose to walk.”

Her first Avon three-day walk for breast cancer research was two years ago, when 2,600 participants walked 62 miles from Lake Lanier to Piedmont Park, an experience for which she was “totally unprepared.” Though it was “tangible to walk in wolf shoes,” she said the spirit of the walkers can never be lost, she庆典ed her second walk this month.

“We were a lot of somediasers. I loper recalled. You’re constantly inspired by the people around you. As tough as it was — whatever the weather — these people just had a great spirit.”

As a cancer survivor, Margaret Loper says the statistic that one in eight women will be affected by breast cancer in her lifetime is something she cannot ignore. She decided to take a stand and change those odds, so she participated in her first Avon three-day walk for breast cancer research two years ago. The experience was “totally unprepared,” but the spirit of the walkers inspired her.

**What I find most rewarding about my job:**

Retaining outstanding faculty members and students so they can be successful at Georgia Tech, said Clough.

**Civil and Environmental Engineering Professor Carlos Santamarina accepted The Goizueta Foundation Faculty Chair, while Rigoberto Hernandez, an associate professor in the School of Chemistry and Biochemistry, was named to The Goizueta Foundation Junior Faculty Rotating Chair.**

Tech also named seven incoming freshmen as Goizueta Foundation Scholars and five graduate students as Goizueta Foundation Junior Faculty Members. One is finishing his Ph.D. computer science major from Marietta, Georgia. He is a great teacher and his parents wanted him to come here, without The Goizueta Foundation scholarship, he might not have come to Tech.

It’s students like Estrada that the admissions hired last November explained Giselle Martin, an assistant director of undergraduate admissions. “These are very smart kids who can go to MIT, Stanford, or any other university in the country. Their presence on campus helps raise the academic profile of Tech, and the cultural experiences they bring help our students get an education outside the classroom as well.”

In 1990, Hispanics comprised 9 percent of the United States population. That number jumped to 12.5 percent in 2000. By the next census in 2010, the numbers are more dramatic: 20 percent of the U.S. population. Patricio Pichardo who, after getting his Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley, said, “but sadly, Hispanics still make up too small a percentage of our students.”

One talent I would most like to have: To be able to sing.

What I consider my greatest accomplishment: There are several things I consider great accomplishments. One is finishing my Ph.D. while juggling a family (I have two children) and a career at Goizueta Foundation. Another is completing two Avon 3-Day walks (50 miles each) and raising more than $5,000 for breast cancer research.

**What I most value in my friends:**

Emotional support.

My pet peeve is: People who are disrespectful.

My day would not be complete without: A Tab (the original diet drink).

My grandmother got me hooked on them when I was young.

**Margaret Loper**

*Civil and Environmental Engineering Professor* at Georgia Tech.

*Faculty/Staff SPOTLIGHT*

| Full Name: Margaret Guillard (Middleton) Loper |
| Occupation: senior research scientist in the Information Technology and Telecommunications Lab at GTRI |
| Years at Tech: 7 |
| Education: Bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering from Clemson University (1983) and a master’s in computer engineering from the University of Central Florida (1993). |
| Middlebury Running, walking, kayaking and spending time with my children. |
| Another occupation I'd like to try: Child psychologist |
| My first paid job: Gymnastics coach making $100 a month. |
| What I most value in my friends: Emotional support |

Since 1990, Georgia’s Hispanic population has grown more than 400 percent and in the Atlanta metro area it’s grown 500 percent. Universities that don’t look to recruit Hispanics may find themselves missing out on a population that is quickly becoming an economic and political powerhouse.

More lenient that better than Santamarina. “This chair is the greatest honor I’ve had. It’s also a tremendous responsibility.” This gives me the position to reach this group of students more effectively, he explained.

**Gonzalo Foundation Fellow** Patricia Pichardo who, after getting her bachelor’s degree at Tech in May returned to get her Ph.D. in mathematics, said students can be role models as well. “There is a lack of Hispanic role models in the United States that’s a position that Tech alumni can fill. If young Hispanics see that someone with the same background as theirs can be successful as a scientist or an engineer, they may think they can, too, she said.

**Goizueta, cont’d from page 1**

retain outstanding faculty members and students and to help them be successful at Georgia Tech,” said Clough.

Civil and Environmental Engineering Professor Carlos Santamarina accepted The Goizueta Foundation Faculty Chair, while Rigoberto Hernandez, an associate professor in the School of Chemistry and Biochemistry, was named to The Goizueta Foundation Junior Faculty Rotating Chair. Tech also named seven incoming freshmen as Goizueta Foundation Scholars and five graduate students as Goizueta Foundation Fellows.

While efforts to recruit talented Hispanic students over the past year has been successful, President Clough acknowledges that Tech still has a way to go. “Tech is one of the largest producers of Hispanic engineers in the United States,” he said, “but sadly, Hispanics still make up too small a percentage of our students.”

The coming years will see Tech continue to attract more and more Hispanic students and faculty to campus, he added, and this gift will help to make that happen. Freshman Serjio Estrada, a computer science major from Marietta, said even though Tech is a great school and his parents wanted him to come here, without The Goizueta Foundation scholarship, he might not have come to Tech.

It’s students like Estrada that the scholarships are designed to help, explained Giselle Martin, an assistant director of undergraduate admissions. “These are very smart kids who can go to MIT, Stanford, or almost any university in the country. Their presence on campus helps raise the academic profile of Tech, and the cultural experiences they bring help our students get an education outside the classroom as well.”

In 1990, Hispanics comprised 9 percent of the U.S. population. That number jumped to 12.5 percent in 2000. By the next census in 2010, Hispanics are expected to be the largest minority group in the country. In Georgia and the Atlanta area, the numbers are more dramatic:

Since 1990, Georgia’s Hispanic population has grown more than 400 percent and in the Atlanta metro area it’s grown 500 percent. Universities that don’t look to recruit Hispanics may find themselves missing out on a population that is quickly becoming an economic and political powerhouse.

More lenient that better than Santamarina. “This chair is the greatest honor I’ve had. It’s also a tremendous responsibility.” This gives me the position to reach this group of students more effectively, he explained.

Gonzalo Foundation Fellow Patricia Pichardo who, after getting her bachelor’s degree at Tech in May returned to get her Ph.D. in mathematics, said students can be role models as well. “There is a lack of Hispanic role models in the United States that’s a position that Tech alumni can fill. If young Hispanics see that someone with the same background as theirs can be successful as a scientist or an engineer, they may think they can, too, she said.

**Goizueta, cont’d from page 1**

retain outstanding faculty members and students and to help them be successful at Georgia Tech,” said Clough.

Civil and Environmental Engineering Professor Carlos Santamarina accepted The Goizueta Foundation Faculty Chair, while Rigoberto Hernandez, an associate professor in the School of Chemistry and Biochemistry, was named to The Goizueta Foundation Junior Faculty Rotating Chair. Tech also named seven incoming freshmen as Goizueta Foundation Scholars and five graduate students as Goizueta Foundation Fellows.

While efforts to recruit talented Hispanic students over the past year has been successful, President Clough acknowledges that Tech still has a way to go. “Tech is one of the largest producers of Hispanic engineers in the United States,” he said, “but sadly, Hispanics still make up too small a percentage of our students.”

The coming years will see Tech continue to attract more and more Hispanic students and faculty to campus, he added, and this gift will help to make that happen. Freshman Serjio Estrada, a computer science major from Marietta, said even though Tech is a great school and his parents wanted him to come here, without The Goizueta Foundation scholarship, he might not have come to Tech.

It’s students like Estrada that the scholarships are designed to help, explained Giselle Martin, an assistant director of undergraduate admissions. “These are very smart kids who can go to MIT, Stanford, or almost any university in the country. Their presence on campus helps raise the academic profile of Tech, and the cultural experiences they bring help our students get an education outside the classroom as well.”

In 1990, Hispanics comprised 9 percent of the U.S. population. That number jumped to 12.5 percent in 2000. By the next census in 2010, Hispanics are expected to be the largest minority group in the country. In Georgia and the Atlanta area, the numbers are more dramatic:
Assistive technology expert to help Tech research center

Sean Selman
Institute Communications and Public Affairs

Earlier this month, Stephen Sprieger, the director of the Center for Rehabilitation Technology in New York, joined Georgia Tech as an associate professor of the Institute for Assistive Technology and Environmental Access (CATEA), a unit within the College of Architecture, development and the environment, and assistive technology — devices designed to allow or improve performance of activities of daily living or work for the disabled.

“This is an excellent pairing for both the Center and the College,” said Thomas Gashlawy, dean of the College of Architecture. “Dr. Sprieger’s background in biomedical engineering and his experience addressing unique challenges affecting the disabled community will prove to be strong assets to the College.”

In addition to his duties as CATEA’s director, Sprieger will assist in the development of the School of Applied Physiology and will continue a collaborative research relationship with The Shepherd Center, an Atlanta-based catastrophic care hospital that treats patients with spinal cord injuries, multiple sclerosis and other neuro-muscular illnesses.

“For someone who has spent his career in both rehabilitation research and service delivery, CATEA’s position and mission represent a fantastic opportunity for me,” Sprieger said. “CATEA is quite unique in that its scientific role of being within an excellent university, but its mission includes significant interaction and service within the disability arena.”

MiniMedical School surveys field of biomedical engineering

Beginning Oct. 1, Emory University’s MiniMedical School will feature scientists from Georgia Tech’s Department of Biomedical Engineering, a joint program of the Emory University School of Medicine and Tech’s College of Engineering, explaining the latest medical advances made possible through the union of medical research and engineering technology. Designed for the general public, this course will also be of interest and value to anyone interested in the latest advances in science. No scientific background is necessary, and course topics are followed by short discussions. Tuition includes a course book.

Classes are held on the Emory University campus in the Woodruff Health Sciences Center Administration Building. Online registration is available at www.emory.edu/my/ or by calling the Emory Center for Undergraduate Learning at 404-727-6000.}

Faculty, cont’d from page 1

Tenure Review Policy

“While the committee has been doing a review of the process,” said McMath, “which we hope will tell us how well this type of assessment has worked,” he said that while the process of post-tenure review is mandated by the University System Board of Regents, one of the ways the university can find ways to make the process “more of a review and a supportive experience for tenured faculty.”

While the committee recommended retaining the faculty-driven, peer evaluation process and replacing the faculty/non-faculty decision of the faculty peer reviewers is final, the group recommended a name change from Post-Tenure Review (PTR to Periodic Peer Review (PPR), and replacing the PTR’s Special Recognition feature with a Program for Faculty Development.

Mistree said the Special Recognition element, designed to “recognize and reward outstanding faculty members via financial rewards and development opportunities,” has proven difficult to fund and applies only to the individual faculty member receiving the recognition.

For Faculty Development, by contrast, helps identify areas and strategies for improvement that can potentially apply to all faculty members in a given unit. Resources may be allocated to assist faculty in reaching the goals outlined in their development plans.

Both Mistree and McMath said the Periodic Peer Review Policy shifts the focus from faculty evaluation and assessment faculty development, especially mid-career development. After brief discussion, the committee’s recommendations were unanimously adopted.

Aging classrooms

In other business, the Senate and General Faculty heard a proposal from the Academic Services Committee to “endorse a new emphasis on resource allocation for the renewal and sustained support of common assets serving the entire campus,” initially focused in the areas of existing classroom space and the academic commons area of the Library and the planned Innovative Learning Resource Center (ILRC).

The proposal prompted discussion on the issue of renovation and maintenance of older classroom space. A number of faculty members cited the issue of aging classrooms as the most frequent area of student complaints in regard to their learning experience.

President Clough said that classroom space in new buildings that will be coming online over the next year or so will allow older space to be taken offline for renovation and updating. The new space will also help with overcrowding in older classrooms, he said.

The committee’s resolution was unanimously adopted.

Among the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee’s resolutions was the addition of two bachelor’s degrees in the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts: a BS in Economics and International Affairs and a BS in Global Economics and Modern Languages. Both degrees were approved.

The next meeting of the General Faculty Assembly is scheduled for Oct. 8, at 3 p.m. in the Student Center Ballroom. President Clough will give his annual State of the Institute address at that meeting.

OIE seeks new director

Office of International Education seeks new director

The search is on for the new director of the Office of International Education. The search committee, chaired by Doug Allen, associate dean in the College of Architecture, will begin reviewing applications in October. Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies and Academic Affairs Robert McMath said that he hopes to have someone named by the winter break.

“In addition to finding someone who can manage our ongoing activities in support of international students and study abroad programs, we are looking for an individual who will interact effectively with both the faculty in the future internationalization of the campus and of our students,” McMath said.

“Task on timetable will also place some demands on the new director. As of January 30, OIE will have to have the Immigration and Naturalization Service’s Student Exchange and Visitor Information System (SEVIS) up and running. OIE will use SEVIS to notify the INS electronically of any change in an international student’s status or address.

“The new director will be arriving at a time when we face new challenges in complying with new INS State Department requirements for providing data on our international students. Fortunately, the staff in OIE are already working with campus leaders to prepare us for these changes, and I do not anticipate any problems in this area,” said McMath.

At 2:40 p.m. — an increase of 300 over last year — Tech has ties for the second year for international students in the state of Georgia. Approximately 35 percent of Tech’s international students participate in study abroad or other international programs at some point during their tenure at Tech. Within the next three to five years, Tech will build two new facilities that will give OIE and its international students more space.

Freeman, SECME honored by Congressional Black Caucus

On September 13, the Georgia Institute of Technology’s School of Architecture, the Emory University Comprehensive Center for Brain Health Education Braintrust and The Education Technology at Tech (ETT) honored five women as the first recipients of the “Women Opening the Pipeline” Award during the 32nd National Black Engineering Conference in Washington, D.C. Among the awardees — drawn from government, education, non-profit, and philanthropy — Yvonne Freeman, executive director of Georgia Tech’s SECME Alliance, was recognized for her leadership in expanding the reach of SECME to developing and implementing minority student programs.

Freeman, who offers pre-college programs for educators, educational leaders and students in science, technology, engineering and math through a network of 43 engineering universities, 110 school systems in 17 states and the District of Columbia, and more than 70 corporate investors. She was also honored for SECME’s programmatic expansion into the area of parent empowerment through its program, “Empowering Parents to Excel at Parenting.”

"SECME is proud to share in this important congressional recognition," Freeman said. From its beginning in 1975 here at Georgia Tech, SECME has been committed to enlarging and diversifying the nation’s technical talent pipeline — and to achieving educational excellence.

“Our goal is to create more and better opportunities for all young people, so that the face of engineering will mirror the diversity of our changing society and the full spectrum of its abundant human resources.”