Accreditation committees seek input from campus

Michael Hagearty
Institute Communications and Public Affairs

After more than a year of preparation, the Office of Assessment has begun to seek a wider range of expertise as part of the long and arduous process of preparing a national research university for an accreditation review. At Georgia Tech, the Council for Institutional Accreditation Program Review and Accreditation has been working to provide leadership and guidance in all internal and external evaluations, reviews and accreditations. The committee’s mission is to demonstrate that the academic mission of the Institute is being met, while also showing a commitment to continuing to improve its learning environment.

Every 10 years, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) requires each institution under its jurisdiction to file a comprehensive self-evaluation based upon criteria consistent with the standards for higher education in the United States. It’s an immense undertaking, touching everything involved with education.

SACS continued, page 3

Chief reports campus crime reduction of nearly 4 percent

Dan Treadaway
Institute Communications and Public Affairs

Georgia Tech Police Chief Teresa Crocker was pleased to present some very good news at the Feb. 3 joint meeting of the General Faculty and Academic Senate: the campus crime rate fell by nearly 4 percent during 2003.

Crocker said that the rate of violent crimes, which by federal law must be reported to the U.S. Department of Education, fell 3.9 percent for the year. Coupled with this good news, however, is the reality that the volume of property crimes continues to pose a challenge for the campus police.

Thefts — especially motor vehicle thefts, thefts from motor vehicles and bicycle thefts — are a particular area of concern, Crocker said. The most popular vehicle makes for thieves on campus last year were the Jeep Cherokee, Dodge minivans, Chevrolet Blazer, and various makes of Hondas.

Crocker outlined a number of initiatives to further reduce campus crime, including the Residence Hall Adopt-A-Cop program, an increase in the number of crime awareness and prevention activities sponsored by campus police, posting crime data on the department Web site, an increase in demand of Library services, and the creation of a Physical Security Team in the Police Department.

Furniss also discussed the “Smart Permit” program, a discount of nearly 4 percent during 2003.

President Wayne Clough praised Crocker and her staff for their efforts, particularly last year’s first-ever “campus safety walk.” Crocker said that the rate of violent crimes, which by federal law, must be reported to the U.S. Department of Education, fell 3.9 percent for the year. Coupled with this good news, however, is the reality that the volume of property crimes continues to pose a challenge for the campus police.

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Meeting continued, page 3
One of Georgia Tech’s newest faculty members, Robert Braun joined the School of Aerospace Engineering as an associate professor last fall after spending 16 years at the NASA Langley Research Center. While at NASA, Braun worked on robotic missions to Mars, including the Mars Pathfinder and the Aerial Regional-scale Environmental Survey (ARES) Mars Scout. He also served as a consultant to NASA for the recent Mars Spirit Rover and the Mars Global Surveyor, Mars Polar Lander and Mars Odyssey.

Braun’s research at Tech involves studying planetary exploration technologies that could be applied to future robotic or human missions.

“I’m most interested in integrating the robotic and human exploration programs. The robotic programs are great precursors for human exploration,” he said.

The trip to Mars takes about six months. And because Mars and Earth only line up every 26 months, astronauts would have to stay there for about two years, or leave after only a month. Either way that’s a lot of food, water and air for the astronauts to produce.

“One idea involves sending a robotic craft first that would create oxygen and fuel for the return home,” said Braun. While on the planet, astronauts could take over and combine hydrogen brought from earth with carbon dioxide from Mars’ thin atmosphere to make oxygen and water, he added.

Library providing greater access to its rare books

The Library and Information Center is hoping to give its rare books some added attention by opening the Neely Gallery.

As a research university, it is no coincidence that many of the works deal with the applied sciences (see sidebar, right). Subjects covered in the collection include mathematics, the history of science and technology, the history of textiles and science fiction.

Visitors may be interested to see the evolution of some of these disciplines. Jody Thompson, the acting head of the Department of Archives and Records, encouraged professors and faculty to use the rare books by setting up an appointment for class demonstrations or tours of the Neely Gallery and the Archives.

Marilyn Williamson, who serves as the Institute’s rare book librarian, said that a library’s prized holdings are more often due to happenstance.

“One book is not acquired as rarities,” she said. “Rather, they become rare as time passes. From time to time, librarians find books purchased at the time of publication and placed in the open stacks that have become rare books due to the passage of time and the increased importance of the author or the edition.”

The Neely Gallery, located on the first floor west, is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

If you go...

Key holdings in the Library’s collection feature works by Sir Isaac Newton, notably the first three editions of “Principia Mathematica,” as well as a first edition of “Opticks,” and “Universal Arithmetick”, librarian Marilyn Williamson called Joan Blaeu’s “Grand Atlas of the World,” “the most sumptuous publication of the seventeenth century.”

Early engineering and technology works include Carl Schramm’s “Historischer Schauplatz” (1735), and “Il Teatro de gli’instrumenti e Machine” (1582), by Jacques Besson.
Council of Institutional and Academic Program Review and Accreditation

Tom Akins, executive director, Division of Professional Practice
Doug Allen, associate dean, College of Architecture
Richard Barko, associate dean, Ivan Allen College
Nate Bennett, associate dean, DuPree College of Management
Gail DiSalvatore, dean of students and interim vice president of Student Affairs
Joseph Hoey, director, Office of Assessment
Hal Irvin, director, Office of Organizational Development
Rich LeBlanc, professor, College of Computing
Charles Littos, vice provost, Research and Dean of Graduate Studies
Jack Lohmann, associate provost [council chair]
Francois Malassenet, director, Georgia Tech Lorraine
Robert McMath, vice provost, Undergraduate Studies and Academic Affairs
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Ralph Mobley, director, Career Services
John Mullin, chief information officer, Office of Information Technology
Bill Slaya, professor emeritus, School of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Anderson Smith, associate dean, College of Sciences
Kathy Tomajko, assistant to the dean of Libraries
Bill Wepfer, vice provost, Distance Learning and Professional Education

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substantial federal resources are at stake. “A successful review is not assured just because ‘we’re Georgia Tech.’ The review needs to be taken seriously. We need everyone’s help.” Because the U.S. government has no centralized authority over colleges or universities, a peer-review system known as accreditation evolved to ensure a level of quality in educational institutions. SACS is the regional accrediting body for about 800 colleges and universities in 11 states and Latin America. “The penalty for non-compliance is severe. Without accreditation, schools lose their ability to confer degrees or receive federal funding.”

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environment. Joseph Hoey, who directs the subgroup focused on complying with these criteria, said they are now ready to begin soliciting input from academic and administrative units on campus.

“We’re at the point where we can do as much as we can with the knowledge base we have,” he said.

“Anybody in an office that is connected to the academic mission of Georgia Tech – whether directly in an academic department or indirectly in a support or administrative role – should expect to be asked to participate in this process,” Hoey added.

Reports of self-assessment have already begun to circulate. Offices will be asked to review and comment upon select reports that apply to their responsibility over the areas covered by SACS’ requirements. “It’s going to be a pretty intensive process,” Hoey said, “but at the end of the day, we will have a report that accurately represents where we are vis-a-vis the requirements of the Southern Association.”

Though this effort will require extra work for many people associated with the College of Computing, Jack Lohmann, who chairs the leadership council and acts as the Institute’s SACS liaison, pointed out that the process is too important not to take seriously.

“SACS accreditation is important to Georgia Tech,” he said. “It is among the ways we demonstrate accountability to our constituents and exert leadership in higher education. And, of course, our reputation and substantial federal resources are at stake. “A successful review is not assured just because ‘we’re Georgia Tech.’ The review needs to be taken seriously. We need everyone’s help.”

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Center decks as early as this fall.

Undergraduate research
Leigh Bottomley, coordinator of the President’s Undergraduate Research Awards program, gave a brief presentation on the state of undergraduate research on campus.

“There is already quite a bit of undergraduate research happening on campus,” Bottomley said, “but recently it’s been getting a lot more student attention, and President Clough has added resources to the program that will lead to even more growth.”

Bottomley said that during any given academic year, approximately 2,000 undergraduates participate in research activities, either for pay, course credit or on a strictly voluntary basis. While the most prevalent format for undergraduate research is the relatively informal pairing of a student with an individual faculty member, Bottomley said that some colleges and schools have well-developed, more formalized programs. She also reminded faculty that including an undergraduate research component in grant applications satisfies the educational outreach requirement of many granting agencies.

The undergraduate research process will become even more formalized next year, Bottomley said, with the anticipated adoption of a uniform course number proposal. That plan would designate 2699 and 4699 as course numbers for paid undergraduate research in all schools and colleges (hours earned would be billable, not refundable). Course numbers 2699 and 4699 would be designated for undergraduate research offering academic credit in all schools and colleges except Electrical and Computer Engineering, which already had its own designated course numbers for undergraduate research.

“Undergraduate research is a very important part of the teaching mission of a research university,” said President Clough. “Students across the board tell us that they enjoy the experience, and they are grateful to have it available to them.”

For more information...
Campus crime statistics: www.police.gatech.edu
Parking policies and issues: www.parking.gatech.edu
Undergraduate research: www.undergradresearch.gatech.edu

Lifelong learning at GLCC
Tech2Nite offers unique personal enrichment classes in Georgia Tech’s new instructional facility, the Global Learning and Conference Center. The Spring Series examines the relationships between technology, communication, art, business and culture. Faculty and staff from Georgia Tech, as well as industry professionals, will explore these issues in a series of 12 classes. The instructors, each an expert in a particular area, will pose questions and show examples through demonstration, lecture, and discussion.

Classes meet Tuesday nights from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. for six weeks. Members of the Georgia Tech community receive a special discount. For more information, visit www.pe.gatech.edu or call 385-5542.

New class of football recruits
Wide receiver Calvin Johnson and defensive lineman David Brown, Darrel Robertson and Darryl Richard and Darrell Robertson headline Georgia Tech’s 2004 football signees, a group of 25 prospective student-athletes who signed national letters of intent with the Yellow Jackets last week.

Defensive line, wide receiver and offensive line were three areas of emphasis for us, and we think we were able to get some quality players at those three positions,” said head coach Chan Gailey, who is entering his third season at Tech.

Eleven signees are from the state of Georgia, while eight other states are represented, including Florida (three), Alabama (two), Texas (two), Pennsylvania (two), Louisiana (one), Missouri (one), Rhode Island (one), and Nebraska (one). Eight of Tech’s 11 Georgia signees were named by the Atlanta Journal-Constitution to either the Super Southern 100 or the Top 50 in Georgia.

All signees are fully qualified academically.

Seminar for working mothers
Linda Nason, founder and chairman of Bright Horizons Family Solutions and author of “The Working Mother’s Guide to Life,” will be hosting a seminar on Monday, Feb. 23 at noon in the GCATT Building, located at 250 14th Street.

Georgia Tech students and employees can park at GCATT free if a Georgia Tech parking permit is displayed. For more information, e-mail jean.fuller@ohr.gatech.edu.

Training session
Two training sessions are scheduled for interest-ed library staff to learn the basics of Endnote, a citation management program available through the Office of Information Technology. The ses-sions will be held Feb. 16 and Feb. 17 in the Homer Rice Center from 9 a.m. to noon. For more information, e-mail cathy.carpenter@library.gatech.edu.

Scholarships available
For the third year, Auxiliary Services is sponsor-ing the Impact Scholarships program for stu-dents who have had a positive effect on the Georgia Tech community. Using monies collected from the sale of official Georgia Tech licensed merchandise, these $3,000 scholarships are awarded to full-time students in good academic standing.

The deadline for applications is Feb. 23. For more information on the requirements, visit www.importantstuff.gatech.edu.

WWW.WHISTLE.GATECH.EDU
### Campus Events

#### Feb. 13
The bookstore hosts science-fiction author William Gibson, who will sign his New York Times bestseller, “Pattern Recognition,” at 7 p.m. For more information, call 894-1624 or e-mail gijg.winrich@ibks.gatech.edu.

#### Feb. 13
The Women’s Resource Center presents the second annual production of Eve Ensler’s “The Vagina Monologues” starring Georgia Tech students, staff, and faculty. The performance begins at 8 p.m. and is supporting Grady Rape Crisis Center and Men Stopping Violence. Tickets can be purchased at the Student Center box office.

#### Feb. 14
The Ferst Center for the Arts welcomes Peter Schickele (and his alter ego F.D.Q. Bach) for an 8 p.m. performance. Faculty and staff receive a 10 percent discount. To purchase tickets, call 894-9600.

#### Feb. 19
The bookstore hosts author Calvin Johnson, who will discuss his book “Exit to Freedom,” and the 16 years he spent in prison falsely convicted of rape, at 7 p.m. For more information, visit www.bookstore.gatech.edu.

#### Mar. 3
The Office of Sponsored Programs hosts a brown bag on “Intellectual Property,” at noon in the Research Administration Building. To register, call 894-6945 or e-mail nadia.zitman@osp.gatech.edu.

### Classified Ads

#### Autos

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<th>Condition</th>
<th>Mileage</th>
<th>Color</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tr>
<td>1993 S-10 Blazer, Red</td>
<td>4-door, automatic</td>
<td>87,000</td>
<td>Black</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
</tr>
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<td>1995 Honda Accord Ex</td>
<td>Automatic</td>
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<td>Green</td>
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<tr>
<td>1999 Pontiac Grand AM GT</td>
<td>4-door, gold, good condition</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>$4,000 OBO</td>
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<tr>
<td>1996 Mazda 626</td>
<td>Excellent condition, automatic transmission</td>
<td>60,000</td>
<td>White</td>
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<tr>
<td>2001 red Kawasaki ZR-7S motorcycle</td>
<td>Excellent condition</td>
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#### Furniture

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<td>Like new</td>
<td>$150 OBO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dining table</td>
<td>Like new</td>
<td>$125</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children’s outdoor playhouse</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>$250</td>
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#### Miscellaneou

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<th>Item</th>
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<tr>
<td>Two brass table lamps with silk shades</td>
<td>Like new</td>
<td>$250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Push-button phone and fold-down stovetop with clicking knobs</td>
<td>Like new</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office chair with hood, cloth cover with navy blue</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>$100</td>
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### Brown Bags/Conferences/Lectures

#### Feb. 12
The School of Biology welcomes William Arden of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on “Can Captive Breeding Programs Help Restore Endangered Salmon Populations?” at noon in the Suduth Seminar Room of IBS.

#### Feb. 17
The School of Materials Science and Engineering welcomes Sanjay Sampath, professor at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, on “Direct Write Thermal Spraying of Mesoscale Electronics and Sensor Structures,” at 3 p.m. in room 185, Love Building. For more information, call 894-2845.

#### Feb. 18
The DuPree College of Management’s IMPACT Speaker Series hosts “A Roundtable of Venture Capitalists,” at 4:30 p.m. in the LeCraw Auditorium.

### Faculty/Staff Development

#### Feb. 18
The Center for Assistive Technology and Environmental Access (CATEA) hosts a lunchtime discussion on methods for creating PowerPoint presentations that are accessible to people with disabilities. Lunch will be provided, but registration is required. E-mail barbara.christopher@coa.gatech.edu.

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