International Affairs undergrad named a Rhodes Scholar

Second Tech student in three years to be honored

David Terraso
Institute Communications and Public Affairs

For Jeremy Farris, going to college isn’t about getting good grades and a job. College is about the experience of education and an opportunity to expand the mind. It’s a sentiment that, while not surprising to hear from a student with a 3.94 grade-point average who’s just been named from a student with a 3.94 grade-point average who’s just been named from a student with a 3.94 grade-point average who’s just been named a college student, might be unexpected.

“They are the pieces that make you sufficiently human.”

Before coming to Tech in 2000, the Bonaire, Ga., native won a best of category award at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair for his discovery of a new pathogen that can control the invasive plant kudzu. As a result of the pathogen that can control the invasive plant kudzu. As a result of the pathogen that can control the invasive plant kudzu. As a result of the pathogen that can control the invasive plant kudzu. As a result of the pathogen that can control the invasive plant kudzu. As a result of the pathogen that can control the invasive plant kudzu. As a result of the pathogen that can control the invasive plant kudzu. As a result of the pathogen that can control the invasive plant kudzu. As a result of the pathogen that can control the invasive plant kudzu. As a result of the pathogen that can control the invasive plant kudzu. As a result of the pathogen that can control the invasive plant kudzu. As a result of the pathogen that can control the invasive plant kudzu. As a result of the

“Since then he has conducted research on the possibilities for post-Castro democratization in Cuba and traveled to Guatemala to work on reforestation projects and collect footage for a documentary on illegal immigration networks.

“The thing about Jeremy that is really amazing is his desire to understand how the world works,” said Kirk Bowman, assistant professor of international affairs and director of Tech’s study abroad programs in Latin America. “He studies international affairs, but he feels the need to know science and philosophy so he can understand how the pieces fit together.”

At first glance, Farris’ holistic approach to learning may seem at odds with Georgia Tech’s career-oriented, disciplinary tradition. But the continuing rise of liberal arts, management and the interdisciplinary focus of Tech’s science and engineering programs prove Farris to be a model of Tech’s future student body.

“We need to think of education as something very real and important in itself,” said Farris. “Georgia Tech can no longer be considered just a math, science and engineering institution.”

Farris credits Bowman and two other Ivan Allen College professors, Jon Johnston and Ken Knoespel, with changing his life. “Bowman introduced me to democratization. Knoespel and Johnston really stimulated the life of the mind for me,” he said.

Upon entering Tech, Farris became the recipient of the Stamps Family President’s Scholarship, which, along with the HOPE scholarship, paid for his education at Tech. “Had I not gotten that, I don’t know that I would’ve been able to come to Tech,” he said. “I’m absolutely thankful for the opportunity.”

Farris is the third Georgia Tech student to win a Rhodes Scholarship.

Scholar continued, page 3

Tech plans a best practices competition

Narita Sullivan
Office of Organizational Development

Georgia Tech is issuing an open call for the first Best Practices Challenge — an initiative to acknowledge the creative and innovative ways department s are improving processes, using information technology and motivating people.

The competition is seen as part of a key goal in Tech’s Strategic Plan — fostering a supportive, collaborative and effective administrative infrastructure — and was developed with the intent of promoting and disseminating new and innovative institute-level practices across campus. It also closely mirrors the Board of Regents System-wide competition, launched two years ago.

Tech has been recognized by the Regents in both years for its best practices. This year the Regents cited Internal Auditing for its Information System Incident Response Procedure in the Information Technology category.

“This Best Practices Challenge provides a great forum to showcase the talent across the campus,” said Hal Irvin, executive director of Organizational Development. “Departments will be able to share proven administrative solutions with colleagues who can put their ideas to work.”

The program provides a forum for the Tech community to create, share and adopt best practices related to any one of the following categories:

- People Strategies — hiring, development, retention and motivation of people including faculty, administrative, research and student staff
- Research, Finance and Institute Operations — daily management of research development, academics, facilities and administrative responsibilities
- Academic and Student Services — experience of and services provided to undergraduate, graduate, distance, study abroad and professional education students
- Information Technology — innovative, enabling applications of technology at the Institute

Entries will be accepted until Challenge continued, page 3
Report calls for pollution standards in Hong Kong and SE China

David Terraso
Institute Communications and Public Affairs

In one of the world’s fastest growing industrial regions, a study finding that a class of pollutants exists at levels four times that of U.S. air quality standards has prompted a Hong Kong public policy group to call for government standards on fine particulate matter.

The finding was released by Civic Exchange, a non-profit public policy think tank comprised of scientists as well as representatives from the power and oil industries, government and civic organizations.

The study measured levels of fine particulate matter and ozone, a major component of smog, across Hong Kong and its northern neighbor Guangdong Province. Fine particulate matter is made up of chemical particles less than 2.5 microns in diameter. The main sources of these particles are the burning of coal for energy, emissions from gasoline and diesel vehicles and the burning of other organic material such as vegetation and trash.

“By far, the highest levels in the region were found in Guangdong, where measurement sites showed levels of particulates as high as four times the U.S. National Ambient Air Quality Standard,” said Michael Bergin, principal investigator for the fine particulate segment of the study and associate professor in the School of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences and the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the class of pollutants has been proven to be harmful to human health, and long-term exposure can lead to reduced lung function, chronic bronchitis and premature death.

“Sites in Hong Kong were roughly twice the U.S. standards,” Bergin continued. “Overall it appears to us that, with regard to particulate matter, Hong Kong air quality is being seriously impacted by Guangdong province in mainland China just to the north.”

By comparison, Atlanta — which has some of the highest concentrations of fine particulate matter of any city in the United States — slightly exceeds the EPA standard. China does not have air quality standards for fine particulate matter.

Manufacturing a reason

Much of the pollution can be tied to the Chinese export market. “About 20 to 30 percent of the pollution in the region is due to manufacturing goods for export,” said David Streets, a senior scientist at Argonne National Laboratory who has studied pollution controls in China. “This includes not only manufacturing facilities, but also generating the electricity that goes into the factories and the trucks that transport goods to the ports. This contributes significantly to some of the high concentrations of pollutants to the region.”

Reducing those pollutants wouldn’t add too much to the cost of export goods, said Streets. Upgrading motor vehicle emission standards and placing emission controls on power plants and industrial smokestacks would add only three-tenths of a percent to the cost of each good. A $100 DVD player, for instance, would only cost 30 cents more after emissions standards were put in place.

While the report found that particulate matter in Hong Kong is largely originated in Guangdong, that wasn’t entirely the case with ozone levels.

“Many in Hong Kong thought almost all the ozone in the area was coming from mainland China,” said Bergin. “Our results suggest organic compounds that lead to ozone formation may have sources in and around Hong Kong. Hence, solving the ozone problem in Hong Kong indicates a combination of local control strategies as well as collaboration with Guangdong.”

In addition to recommending that both the governments of Hong Kong and Guangdong establish standards for fine particulate matter, the report called for more study to pinpoint the exact sources of the pollutants and their chemical precursors.

Clough named to top leadership post at the Council on Competitiveness

Last month, President Wayne Clough was named to succeed Charles Vest as the new university co-vice chairman of the Council on Competitiveness.

The Council on Competitiveness is a nonpartisan, non-profit organization whose members are corporation chief executives, university professors and labor leaders dedicated to setting an action agenda to drive U.S. economic competitiveness and leadership.

The Council is made up of three co-vice chairs, representing industry, universities and labor. Together, they make up the governing body of the Council on Competitiveness. Vest is stepping down from the position after recently retiring as president of NIT.

Clough, who has been involved with the Council for a number of years, recently helped the Council launch the National Innovation Initiative with co-chair Sam Palmisano, chairman and CEO of IBM. This Council Initiative is focused on keeping the United States at the forefront of innovation throughout the world.

Correction: An article in the Nov. 15 issue incorrectly stated the number of individuals honored during the College of Engineering’s annual alumni awards ceremony. In fact, the Academy of Distinguished Engineering Alumni recognized 18 alumni and another eight were inducted into the Council of Outstanding Young Engineering Alumni.
Students Center Commons named for alumnus

Student Center Commons named for alumnus

The first student was S. Alton Brown, who won the honor in 1951. The second was physics student Will Roper, who won the Rhodes in 2002. The Rhodes Scholarships pay for two or three years of study at Oxford University, just outside of London. The oldest international fellowships in the world, they were established after the death of British statesman Cecil Rhodes in 1902. This year, 52 American students along with students from 22 other countries are being chosen for their academic achievement, personal integrity and potential for leadership to become Rhodes Scholars.

Farris is scheduled to receive his bachelor’s degree in international affairs next month. He then plans to spend the summer as Bowman’s teaching assistant in the Argentina study abroad program. He’ll begin a two-year master’s of philosophy program in political theory at Oxford in October. His career goals are just as broad as his education. Aside from conducting research and teaching public policy, he’d like to work with the American Civil Liberties Union and the White House, should newly elected U.S. Senator Barack Obama run for President.

“His level of expertise is just stunning,” said Bowman. “As a professor, I spent a lot of time with Jeremy in a lot of different countries. I have learned more from Jeremy than he has ever learned from me.”

Student team earns berth in world programming finals

The Georgia Tech Student Chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery (GTACM) won first place at the 2004-2005 ACM International Collegiate Programming Contest (ICPC) held in Melbourne, Fla. After winning the Southeastern regional competition, the Georgia Tech team has earned a coveted spot at the World Finals in Shanghai, China, where 75 teams will compete in April 2005 at Jiao Tong University.

The contest is a five-hour battle of logic, strategy and mental endurance. Students solve complex problems using both traditional and new software development tools. The team is comprised of computer science undergraduates Charlie Reiss, Topraj Gurung and Chris Sidi.

Instructor evaluation resource open for student input

The course instructor opinion survey is now available for students online at www.coursesurvey.gatech.edu. Surveys will be available through finals week, ending on December 10. There will be short periods that the survey system is not available due to system back-ups. If the system is unavailable, try again about 10 minutes later — the system will not be shut down for long periods of time unless there is an unanticipated problem.

• The first 10 multiple choice questions are reported to the instructor’s school chair and college dean. All other responses only go to the professor.
• All responses are anonymous. The database that keeps track of GTID numbers to see if a student has completed a survey — regulating that only registered students complete surveys and that students submit only one survey — is completely separate from the database of actual responses.
• The multiple choice responses will be made available on the SQA course critique page (www.sqa.gatech.edu/critique) for any class with at least five responses and at least a 30 percent response rate.
• Results are available to faculty on Thursday during the first week of winter break. Visit www.coursesurvey.gatech.edu/login.cfm, go to the report submenu and choose single course/instructor survey report. Administrative reports will be available one week into the spring semester.

Holidays hours

Campus Recreation Center

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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>Dec. 13-17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 20-23</td>
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Library and Information Center

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IN BRIEF:

Call for nominations

Realizing the need for and importance of cultivating an environment where value is placed upon the broader concerns of all humanity, The Office of the President has re-established the Don Bratcher Human Relations Award to reward those members of our campus community who are engaging in exemplary human relations work.

The Office of Diversity Management and the Office of Diversity Programs has assumed responsibility for administration of this award.

Nomination forms are available at the Office of Diversity Management and the Office of Diversity Programs. Criteria and procedures for accepting nominations can be found at www.gtdiversity.gatech.edu.

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Individuals experiencing problems with the system should e-mail CETLhelp@gatech.edu with “C IOS Help” in the subject line.
CAMPUS EVENTS

Arts & Culture

Dec. 4
The Ferst Center hosts the jazz program “A Peter White Christmas with Rick Braun and Hindi Abari,” at 8 p.m. For tickets, call 894-9600 or visit www.ferstcenter.org.

Dec. 4
The American Museum of Papermaking hosts a Holiday Season Family Workshop with museum staff from 1 - 3 p.m. Full details are at www.ipst.gatech.edu/amp. Call Fran Rottenberg at 894-5726 for reservations.

Dec. 5
The Ferst Center presents the Celtic-themed holiday program “A Scottish Christmas,” featuring fiddler Bonnie Rideout at 8 p.m. For tickets, call 894-9600 or visit www.ferstcenter.org.

Dec. 18
The Ferst Center welcomes jazz pianist George Winston for an 8 p.m. performance. For tickets, call 894-9600 or visit www.ferstcenter.org.

Brown Bags/Conferences/Lectures

Dec. 2
The School of Biology welcomes Gregory Velicer, research group leader at the Max Planck Institute, on “Evolution of Cooperation and Conflict in the Social Bacterium Myxococcus Xanthus,” at 2 p.m. in IRB’s Suddath Seminar Room.

Dec. 3
The Program in Cognitive Science welcomes Gary Hardcastle, assistant professor of philosophy at Bloomsburg University, on “A Problem Solving Account of Scientific Explanation,” at noon in room 132, Whitaker Building. For more information, e-mail charmion@cc.gatech.edu.

Dec. 3
The School of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences welcomes Harvard University Professor Daniel Jacob for a discussion on “Interpreting Satellite Observations of Atmospheric Composition,” at 3 p.m. in room L105, ESB&T Building.

Miscellaneous

Nov. 29 - Dec. 3
The campus bookstore will hold a customer appreciation sale – 20 percent discount on most items in the store — for faculty and staff. For more information, visit www.importantstuff.gatech.edu.

Dec. 3
Last day of classes.

Dec. 7
The Georgia Tech Faculty Women’s Club hosts its annual wine and cheese party for all faculty and guests from 5 - 7 p.m. in the Global Learning and Conference Center Atrium.

Dec. 10
Deadline for students to submit a President’s Undergraduate Research Award (PURA) application for spring semester. For more information, visit www.undergradresearch.gatech.edu/institute-wide.htm.

Dec. 11
Fall commencement will be divided into two ceremonies, with undergraduates at 9 a.m. and graduates at 3 p.m. For more information, visit www.gatech.edu/commencement.

Dec. 13
A Fidelity Investments retirement counselor will be conducting confidential consultations. To schedule an appointment, e-mail trey.s.higgins@fmr.com or call 404-259-7503.

Dec. 1 & 15
The VOICE Initiative invites you to learn more about how you can play a role in ending sexual violence at Georgia Tech. One-hour orientations will be held Dec. 1 at 1 p.m. and Dec. 15 at noon. To sign up, e-mail ann.frazer@health.gatech.edu or call 894-9810.

Dec. 27 - Jan. 3
Campus closed for the holidays.

Jan. 10
Spring semester begins.

CLASSIFIEDS

AUTOMOBILES

1993 Mazda Protege, good daily, dependable driver. $1,300 OBO. E-mail shoba.king@coe.gatech.edu or call 285-2382.

1997 Convertible Pontiac Sunfire. Red and black, brand new rebuilt engine, good body condition, good tires and brakes. Very well maintained by owner. $6,300, negotiable. E-mail cher@casea.org.

1999 Mitsubishi Mirage, green, 42K miles, excellent condition, impeccably maintained. $3,800 OBO. Call Maria at 404-372-7697.

1997 Convertible Pontiac Sunfire. Red and black, brand new rebuilt engine, good body condition, good tires and brakes. Very well maintained by owner. $6,300, negotiable. E-mail cher@casea.org.

COMPUTERS

Sun USB keyboard (Type 6). Part number 320-1273. Includes wristrest, $15. E-mail ccorp@gatech.edu.

Sony laptop w/bag and accessories, $400; HP iPAQ Pocket PC H1945, $225; Nokia 3900 T-Mobile phone and accessories, $60; HP CD-Writer, $20; Contact llbarta@yahoo.com.

35-inch Sony Trinitron KV35V35 with matching stand, $550. Matching media cabinets, $100/ea. Octagonal brass and glass coffee/end tables, $75. Call 404-385-1696 or e-mail bob.schultz@gti.gatech.edu.

REAL ESTATE/ROOMATES

5BR/3BA for sale in Smyrna/Vinings area. Multi-level, home on cul-de-sac. Just inside I-285, $1,500/month. Call George, 404-303-3857 or e-mail igetstuff@hotmail.com.

2BR/1BA condo in Midtown. Large upgrades. Low association dues. Gym, pool, covered parking, security, storage unit. $169,500. Call 404-386-2350 or e-mail igetstuff@hotmail.com for pictures.

FURNITURE

Contemporary glass-topped dining room table (round, 4 feet in diameter) with 4 matching chairs (in stainless steel and black), brand new, looks like wood. $250. Olympic weights (310 lbs.) w/bench, $100. E-mail bob.lang@police.gatech.edu.

SPORTS/FITNESS/RECREATION


LitterRaid automatic cat litter box. New. Includes 12 litter trays and sanitizer. Asking $70 OBO. Call 404-900-653 or e-mail eileengram@juno.com.

Baby boy clothes; 3 - 12 months. Go to www.coa.gatech.edu/jfc/clothes for pictures and contact information.

Beautiful 9-foot Fraser Fir Christmas tree. Will bring to campus. Paid $325, sell for $225. Photos upon request. Used for 2 years. Looked smaller in the store! Call 894-4888 or e-mail becky.fitzibbons@arch.gatech.edu.

Free black and female orange male cats (siblings, approx. 5 years old). Excellent health, affectionate, fixed and de-clawed. Call 770-845-1821.

Free yellow jacket/wasp nest removal. Nets to be used for research at Georgia Tech. Call 404-651-1100 or e-mail michael.goodisman@biology.gatech.edu.

MISCELLANEOUS

LitterRaid automatic cat litter box. New. Includes 12 litter trays and sanitizer. Asking $70 OBO. Call 404-900-653 or e-mail eileengram@juno.com.

Air Jordan sneakers size 10.5. Excellent condition. $80. Contact llbarta@yahoo.com.