Vice Provost McMath leaving to join University of Arkansas

Bob Harty
Institute Communications and Public Affairs

The month who literally wrote the book on Georgia Tech announced last week that he is leaving Tech to become the dean of the Honors College at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. McMath, a professor in the School of History, Technology and Society and vice provost for Undergraduate Studies and Academic Affairs, will join John White, former dean of Tech’s College of Engineering, who has been chancellor of the Fayetteville campus since 1997.

“The University of Arkansas has an amazing opportunity to create something very special through its new Honors College,” said McMath. “Georgia Tech has been my life for 35 years, and I will leave with a great deal of sadness. But the opportunity that has been presented to me at the University of Arkansas is the chance of a lifetime, and Linda and I are excited about giving it our best shot.”

McMath, 60, joined the faculty in 1972 after receiving his doctoral degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He has taught at Georgia Tech since then, and was named an honorary alumnus in 2004.

As vice provost, McMath oversees student academic services and coordinates campus-wide initiatives to improve the teaching and learning environment for undergraduates, including the design of a new undergraduate learning center. He continues to teach undergraduate courses and supervise graduate students. He has received the George W. Griffith Award for Outstanding Teaching and the Dean James E. Dull Administrator of the Year Award, as well as the Governor’s Award for the Humanities.

“Quiet leadership is often the most effective,” said Provost Jean-Louis Chameau. “Bob has proved it through his unparalleled leadership for undergraduate education and faculty excellence. Tech is losing an outstanding administrator, and I am losing a trusted advisor and friend.”

McMath said that the decision to move to Fayetteville was not an easy one. “I have so many wonderful friends at Georgia Tech and so many memories of this outstanding institution. We have made so much progress over the last 30 years, and I know that progress will continue,” he said.

“In my job as vice provost, I am supposed to wake up every morning and think, ‘how can we make teaching and learning better for our undergraduates today?’ and then go find good people who have the ideas and determination to bring about positive change. Although I’m sad to be leaving some important tasks unfinished, I do so knowing that they are in very capable hands with members of the Tech community — faculty, staff, and students — who will see them through. I hope to come back one day for the opening of the Undergraduate Learning Center.”

McMath will assume his new responsibilities at Arkansas on August 1. In the meantime, there is a lot of work to do in packing up more than 30 years of memories and materials. McMath is the author or co-author of seven books and numerous articles on American history and the history of the American South. He co-authored and edited "Engineering the New South: Georgia Tech, 1885-1985," which was published as part of Georgia Tech’s centennial celebration.

The book has been widely praised among historians as one of the best scholarly studies of American universities.

McMath hopes to bring the lessons of his Tech tenure to Arkansas to meet their undergraduate education challenges. The opportunity to have an impact on undergraduates is considerable and he feels that his work throughout his career here has prepared him well.

“I want to thank Wayne Clough and Jean-Louis Chameau for giving me a tremendous opportunity to lead and to develop new capabilities here at Georgia Tech. Whatever value I bring McMath continued, page 3

Biomedical engineering gets $11.5 million grant to explore nano cardiology

Research to focus on early detection of plaque formation

Megan McRainey
Institute Communications and Public Affairs

Despite the fact that cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in the United States, there is a lack of understanding of the fundamental molecular biology behind the disease and how certain genetic factors contribute to plaque build-up in blood vessels. But biomedical nanotechnology might help shed light on the molecular mechanisms responsible for one of this country’s deadliest diseases.

The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), a component of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), has awarded researchers from Georgia Tech and Emory University $11.5 million to establish a new research program focused on creating advanced nanotechnologies to analyze plaque formation on the molecular and detect plaque at its early stages. Plaques containing cholesterol and lipids may build up during the life of blood vessels. When these plaques become unstable and rupture they can block the vessels, leading to heart attack and stroke.

The multidisciplinary program, part of NHLBI’s Program of Excellence in Nanotechnology, is headed by Gang Bao, a professor in the Department of Biomedical Engineering at Georgia Tech and Emory. The program includes 12 faculty investigators from both institutions and will be based at Emory.

“This program is only part of a larger-scale biomedical nanotechnology effort at Georgia Tech and Emory,” said Larry McIntire, Wallace H. Coulter Chair in the Department of Biomedical Engineering. “We are

Grant continued, page 3
New Food Processing Technology Building enhances collaboration

Jane Sanders
Research News

Researchers and industry leaders working to make food processing safer and more efficient got a boost recently with the opening of a new building designed for collaborative technology development at Georgia Tech. Eight years in the making, the 36,000-square-foot first phase of Tech’s $9.4 million Food Processing Technology Building opened its doors on March 1. An official opening ceremony, with a dedication from Governor Sonny Perdue, was held last week.

The facility houses offices and research laboratories for automation, information, and environmental technology development, a prototyping area and a 48-seat auditorium. A lower lobby exhibitor area is being designed to entertain and inform visiting student groups and others about the growing role technology is playing in food and poultry processing.

The new building serves as headquarters for the Food Processing Technology Division of the Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI).

Through the division, GTRI conducts significant industrial research under two major programs: the Agricultural Technology Research Program (ATRP) and Georgia’s Traditional Industries Program for Food Processing, which is managed through the Food Processing Advisory Council (FoodPAC).

Funding for the $7.3 million Phase I building was coordinated through FoodPAC and the Georgia Poultry Federation. State bonds provided $4.73 million with the balance provided by private sources that included pledges and donations from companies that manufacture food products or offer equipment and technological support to the industry.

A Phase II addition to the building will add 10,000 square feet for offices and laboratories for human factors, food safety and bioprocessing research. A campaign to raise the remaining $2.1 million needed for this addition is underway.

On May 24, Georgia Tech will honor nearly 100 faculty and staff during the annual Retirement Dinner. The Whistle extends its appreciation to each of the retirees for their tireless effort in the name of Georgia Tech and wishes them well in their future endeavors.

Thomas C. Brown (1964-2004) Georgia Tech Research Institute
Marcus J. Murr (1965-2004) Psychology
Helmut J. Britz (1968-2005) Physics
Donald F. Cobe (1968-2005) Mechanical Engineering
Ferdinand K. Levy (1972-2005) Management
Lana M. Duncan (1973-2005) Architecture
Jana E. Huffman (1974-2004) Biotechnology and Biosciences
O. David Asbell Jr. (1975-2005) Georgia Tech Research Institute
Gail J. Dalton (1975-2005) Enrollment Services
Howard M. Deutch (1975-2004) Chemistry and Biochemistry
Robert C. Michelson (1975-2004) Georgia Tech Research Institute
Teddy L. Reed (1975-2004) Georgia Tech Research Institute
George R. Whitley (1975-2005) Georgia Tech Research Institute

Donald E. Clark (1976-2005) Georgia Tech Research Institute
Brenda E. Ball (1977-2005) Library
James E. Clark (1978-2004) Georgia Tech Research Institute
Fred L. Elias (1978-2004) Earth and Atmospheric Sciences
Curis J. Wellbrock (1978-2005) Distance Learning and Professional Education
Judith F. Dryer (1979-2004) Campus Recreation Center
David C. Flowers (1979-2004) Georgia Tech Research Institute
Martin E. Harmon (1979-2005) Georgia Tech Research Institute
George H. Morgan (1979-2004) Facilities
Robert J. Samuels (1979-2004) Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering

William J. Waters (1979-2005) Printing and Copying Services
Gloria W. Wood (1979-2005) Procurement Services
James P. Coleman (1980-2004) Georgia Tech Research Institute
Theodore J. Dull (1980-2005) Georgia Tech Research Institute
Mary E. McKenna (1980-2005) Georgia Tech Research Institute
Garyneth J. Dalton (1981-2005) Georgia Tech Research Institute
Marla J. McIver (1981-2005) Registrar’s Office
pleased to add cardiology to our growing breadth of nanomedicine research.”

Healthy, undamaged cells lining the vessel wall do not attract platelets or cause a build-up of plaque. In a diseased blood vessel, however, cells lining the vessel wall may have certain cellular and molecular characteristics that make them stickier, causing platelets to adhere to the vessel wall, which can lead to a blockage that obstructs blood flow.

The program’s work will focus primarily on detecting plaque and pinpointing its genetic causes with three types of nanostructured probes: molecular beacons, semiconductor quantum dots, and magnetic nanoparticles. In addition to this cardiovascular nanotechnology award and an ongoing cancer nanotechnology travel guide to the eastern shore of Virginia and Maryland.

But it is his impact on students that will be McMath’s greatest legacy. “Bob has had a remarkable career at Georgia Tech: historian extraordinaire, teaching virtuoso, and Renaissance man of education,” Chameau said. “His impact on our educational programs is unequalled.”

The Governor has signed the FY 2006 budget, but issued a line-item veto on the bond funding for the Old Civil Engineering Building. The action was part of a number of minor projects that were not recommended by Governor but added by the General Assembly.

The bond would have provided Tech with $5 million to fund the renovation, with repayment scheduled over the next 20 years, and was one of several projects on the capital budget list of the Board of Regents. In a statement, the governor indicated he believed a more thorough process needed to be developed to evaluate and prioritize projects of this type.

“After carefully reviewing the bond projects included in this budget, I vetoed the projects that were not priorities for the state agencies,” he said. “This reflects my belief that we base our funding decisions on the real needs of Georgia citizens and not on political power or influence.”

In all, Governor Perdue vetoed 12 bond projects worth approximately $34 million.

IN BRIEF:

Governor vetoes Old CE Building renovation

The Georgia Tech Academic Advisor Network sponsors a daylong event that will focus on strategies for creating efficient and effective academic advising systems. Presenters from Georgia Tech and other metro Atlanta colleges and universities will offer suggestions on reaching students through innovative advising methods.

Presentations will be grouped into categories, including advising technology, advising administration and strategy, linking career and academic advising, and general student services. The event will consist of several 30-minute presentations throughout the day and lunch is provided. Final date, registration information and directions for submitting proposals to present are listed at www.gtaan.gatech.edu.

GTAAN Best Practices event announced

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CAMPUS EVENTS

Arts & Culture

May 27
Deadline for registration for the Fersit Center for the Arts Drama Camp for kids ages 4-15. For the application or more information, visit www.ferstcenter.gatech.edu.

June 13
The American Museum of Papermaking hosts “Weaving Fabric from Paper (Shifu),” a demonstration by artist Deepak Shrestha, at 5 p.m. in the Institute of Paper Science and Technology. For more information, visit www.ipst.gatech.edu/amp.

Brown Bags/Conferences/Lectures

May 26
The Office of Information Technology hosts a seminar on “Information Security: What Every Business Manager, Faculty and Researcher Should Know,” providing an overview of the Georgia Tech architecture with a focus on preventive and reactive measures for protecting data, from 9:11 a.m. in room 242, Rich Building. To register, visit www.trainsweb.gatech.edu.

June 2
The Office of Information Technology hosts a seminar on Georgia Tech’s information security efforts for the layman in both business process and technical terms, from 9-11 a.m. in room 242, Rich Building. In addition, this course will provide specific information on securing unit-level business processes that rely on information technology and information that is required to be shared with external entities on the Internet. To register, visit www.trainsweb.gatech.edu.

June 15
The Office of Organizational Development hosts a brown bag on “Creating a Safe Environment,” to address concerns about violence in the workplace, from 11:30 a.m. in room 308, Savant Building. Participants will have time to ask questions and to discuss concerns. To register, visit www.trainsweb.gatech.edu.

Faculty/Staff Development

Ongoing
Faculty, staff, alumni and graduate students are invited to join Georgia Tech’s chapter of Toastmasters International, which meets every Thursday at 7:30 a.m. in room 102 of the Petit Microelectronics Research Center. For more information, visit www.techmasters.gatech.edu.

Miscellaneous

May 25
To mark its 25th anniversary, the Advanced Technology Development Center (ATDC) hosts an open house, featuring 2005 graduate companies CardioMEMS, Neurostar Solutions and Vocalocity, at 2:15 p.m. in the Technology Square Research Building.

May 28
The last day to register for a Summer Options enrichment course. Discounts apply for faculty and staff. For a list of classes, visit www.fun.gatech.edu/SummerOptions.

May 30
Campus closed for Memorial Day.

June 1-2
A representative from the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association-College Retirement Equities Fund (TIAA-CREF) will be on campus for one-on-one consultations concerning asset allocation and strategies. To schedule an appointment, please visit our Web Center at www.tiaa-cref.org/moc or call Michael Odom at 800-882-2005.

June 30
The last day to register for permit parking. Visit www.appyparking.gatech.edu for details.

CLASSIFIEDS

AUTOMOBILES
1980 MGB convertible. Runs well, sky blue exterior, leather camel interior. Good condition, 178,000 original miles. $4,800 OBO. Call 209-8500 or e-mail edharrett@yahoo.com.

1992 Honda Civic DX sedan. White, 4-door, PS, PW, PL, cruise, CD player. $2,500 OBO. Call 678-787-2904.

1995 Nissan Maxima GLE. Leather interior, Bose stereo, automatic, air and more. 106,000 miles, one owner. Priced below bluebook at $4,000. Call 404-894-3098.

1996 Acura Integra. Red, body kit, 17-inch wheels, custom interior. Too many modifications to list. $7,200. E-mail karen@willibray.gatech.edu.

1992 Subaru Legacy Wagon. 5-speed stick-shift with all-wheel drive. 97K miles. Burgundy exterior and gray cloth interior. Very reliable. $2,000 OBO. Call 404-723-6855 or e-mail mishi@mindspring.com.

FURNITURE
Wanted: extra-long twin bed or two twin beds with headboards. E-mail brenda.woods@pss.gatech.edu.

REAL ESTATE/Rooommates
2BR/1.5BA townhouse. Brick w/deck, totally renovated with new appliances, roof, HVAC, hardwoods. Walk to Smyrna Village Green. $129,900 OBO. Call 404-725-1716 or e-mail rachelengram@juno.com.

2BR/2BA townhouse in Decatur. Large fenced backyard with deck. Covered parking, convenient to MARTA. No pets. $957/month. Call 404-433-8017.

3BR/1.5BA house in McDonough. New interior and exterior paint, flooring and appliances, close to all major stores. $975/month. Call 404-533-8017.

2BR/2.5BA townhouse in Smyrna near I-285 and Atlanta Road. Hardwood floors on main floor. Garden tub with skyline. 11 miles to Tech. Offered at $1,049. Email lindy@celt.gatech.edu.

3BR/2.5BA house in Smyrna near I-285 and Atlanta Road. Hardwood floors everywhere. Large fenced yard with deck. Close to MARTA. Asking $1,150/month. E-mail karen@willibray.gatech.edu.

3BR/2.5BA brick house in Decatur. Large fenced backyard with deck. Covered parking, convenient to MARTA. No pets. $957/month. Call 404-433-8017.

3BR/2.5BA renovated, furnished terrace apt. in Morningside. Off-street parking. No pets, non-smoker. $755/month, includes DSL and satellite TV; gas not included. Available August 1. Call 404-873-2052.

Sublet available from late June through October in the Brookhaven area. Great for couple or single person. No other roommates. $700/month, W/D, no cable, a/c. Call Janna at 770-355-3281.

Female roommate needed to share 3BR/2BA home in Porthlace-Tucker area. No smoking. Available beginning October 1. Rent is $555/month plus utilities. Call 894-0240 or e-mail mary.morder@coa.gatech.edu.

1BR/1BA condo for rent in the Historic Forest Park building off Peachtree Street. Skyline views, located across street from the Fox Theater. Consigned and secured assigned parking space included. Deposit and references required. Call Nelly, 678-575-9514.

$300/2.5BA brick ranch near the Marietta square. $274,900. Also, 2BR/1BA farmhouse on 1.5 acres, $140,000. www.owners.com/ddflS53. E-mail em106@mail.gatech.edu or call 404-452-2352.

$200/2.5BA house in a great school district in East Cobb (Walton, Dodgen, Timberidge). Two-car garage offered at $1,600/month. Call 404-862-2648.

Wanted for 2BR/1BA apartment in gated community off Collier Road, $650/month + utilities. Pool, free parking, lease term is 1 year, starting June 4. Clean, non-smoking, quiet, willing to negotiate. E-mail mishkat@psu.rochester.edu or call 404-275-3697.

Miscellaneous
Stout upright piano with heater and bench. Good condition, $250. Call 770-586-5181.

*Star Trek* magazines. 23 ST:TNG and ST:D/S9 magazines from 1992-1995. $75 OBO. E-mail andrea.goldblum@vpss.gatech.edu for list of titles and dates.

 FOUND in the area of the ISyE complex: a silver necklace. Call 894-8039 and describe.

AKC Old English Sheepdog puppies. Raised using New Skete methodolo- gy. Health guarantee; all shots. Males and females, $600-$800. Call 404-271-6900 or e-mail widwe@ mindspring.com.

Email job to editor@cga.gatech.edu.