Navy’s Johnson named new Tech football coach

On Friday, Dec. 7, Tech Athletic Director Dan Radakovich announced that U.S. Naval Academy football coach Paul Johnson had accepted the position of the Yellow Jackets’ new head football coach.

Johnson, who becomes the 12th head coach at the Institute, coached six successful years at Navy (45-29) and coached five seasons at Georgia Southern (62-10), winning back-to-back 1-AA National Championships in 1999 and 2000.

Radakovich described Johnson as the “best fit, the best choice and the best man” for the position, after saying he had met with many qualified individuals during the last 10 days.

“President (Wayne) Clough and I are convinced that Johnson will be the steady leader, the principled teacher to our student-athletes and the point-producing conductor that will energize our fans and fill our game days with excitement,” Radakovich said.

He compared Tech’s rigorous academic discipline to the Naval Academy’s, and touted Johnson’s achievement as one of four Division I coaches who won 50 games in four seasons. “He looks at his talent and maximizes it, using what it takes to win games.”

Johnson, who was named the Bobby Dodd National Coach of the Year in 2004, thanked President Wayne Clough, Radakovich and his wife and daughter along with “the entire Georgia Tech family” as he stood before the podium.

“It’s truly humbling to be here.”

Johnson said, “When I met with the committee, it seemed like a match made in heaven. There’s not another program I would have left the Academy for. From an academic standpoint, the two institutions are very similar. We’re looking for the total package (in student athletes).”

The Jackets’ new coach faced the Atlanta press for roughly 20 minutes, answering questions on what offense will be used, how will he tackle recruiting and what membrane assistant coach will replace him.

Paul Johnson continued, page 3

Coulter Foundation program encourages major expansion

Nolly Croft
Department of Biomedical Engineering

Wallace Coulter, recognized as one of the most influential inventors of the 20th century, has made many important contributions to the field of industrial automation and the field of industrial fine-particle. His “Coulter Counter,” a blood cell analyzer, is used to perform one of medicine’s most informative diagnostic tests, the complete blood count.

Coulter derived satisfaction from the knowledge that his work had improved the quality of life for millions of people. Throughout his life, he was a visionary, entrepreneur and innovator. After his death in 1998, the Wallace H. Coulter Foundation selected the Wallace H. Coultercontinue, page 3

Molly Croft
Department of Biomedical Engineering

HR’s Grovenstein takes position with Board of Regents

Robert Nesmith
Institute Communications and Public Affairs

After nearly 26 years at Georgia Tech, Human Resources Benefits Director John Grovenstein has accepted the position of associate vice chancellor for health and life benefits at the Board of Regents with the University System of Georgia (USG), effective January 1, 2008.

In his new position, Grovenstein will be responsible for the plan design and administration of all system-wide benefit programs and provide assistance to the human resources departments of all 35 members of the USG, in Grovenstein continued, page 3

Navy’s Johnson named new Tech football coach

Brady gift to support MGT faculty

Dan Treadaway
Institute Communications and Public Affairs

A luminary Charles W. Brady long has understood the impact of seizing emerging opportunities at just the right moment. As a result, the College of Management’s faculty will reap some of the benefits from Brady’s decisions.

While working for a large Southern bank in 1978, Brady envisioned the pivotal role that could be played by a broad, international market for asset management. Along with eight partners, Brady purchased the pension management department of his employer, moved to a modest Atlanta office, and launched the company that would manage nearly $500 billion with more than 5,000 employees in 40 offices worldwide.

Today this company, INVESCO, holds a significant presence in the institutional and retail markets across North America, Europe and the Asia-Pacific region, with more than $400 billion in assets under management. Along with eight part-

Brady continued, page 3

Recognition of a job well done

Awards Ceremony on Nov. 30. Some of the major milestones realized during the last year include two new detectives added to the Criminal Investigations team, a new captain named and a K-9 officer added to the Training/Special Operations division, and more than 1,000 new Tech football coach

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Four Tech research scientists—Yuhong Fan, Melissa Kemp, and Ming Yuan—are among the 29 across the state to be selected as Georgia Cancer Coalition Distinguished Cancer Scholars for 2008. As assistant professors, each scientist is funded at $50,000 annually for five years. Coalition support for their research efforts totals $1 million. The Coalition selects scientists engaged in the most promising areas of cancer research. “We are very proud of the four Georgia Tech researchers who were selected as Georgia Cancer Coalition scholars,” says President Wayne Clough. “We’re grateful to the Georgia Cancer Coalition for their generous support of Georgia’s efforts to attract the world’s top scientists and researchers not only to Georgia Tech, but also to other Georgia universities and organizations.”

Fan received her doctorate in cell biology from Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York, where she earned the Outstanding Postdoctoral Scholar Award of the Bellefer Institute. She was recruited to Georgia Tech’s School of Biology in January 2007, where she joined the ovarian cancer epigenetics initiative. Her research is expected to provide crucial analysis and study in search of markers that can improve diagnosis and treatment of one of the leading causes of cancer deaths in women.

Kemp was recruited to the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering at Georgia Tech and Emory University in August 2006. She earned her doctorate in bioengineering at the University of Washington in Seattle, and conducted a postdoctoral fellowship at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Her research takes a cross-disciplinary approach, combining systems biology, cancer biology, computer science and engineering to provide insights into appropriate drug targets for cancer cells, uncover novel indicators of drug-resistant cancer cells and look at the appropriateness of pharmaceuticals alone or in optimal combinations. The ultimate goal is to develop individualized therapy strategies, especially for drug resistant cancer patients. Kemp has played an active role in the development of Georgia Tech’s Integrated Biosystems Institute.

Storici was named a School of Biomedical Assistant Professor in August 2007. She attended the University of Trieste in Italy, where she qualified as a biologist and earned her doctorate in molecular genetics from the International School for Advanced Studies. She was recruited from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences in North Carolina, where she was a research fellow. Her research involves new approaches that have implications for defining the impact of DNA repair in the origin of cancer, for developing novel gene targeting technologies as research tools to understand cancer mechanisms, and for the development of cancer-free strategies of gene therapy.

Yuan, an assistant professor in the School of Industrial and Systems Engineering, holds a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering and information science; a masters in probability and statistics and computer science. He earned his doctorate in statistics at the University of Wisconsin. In the study of breast cancer, Yuan is developing novel computational and mathematical approaches using a wide variety of data sources to stratify breast cancer into biologically distinct types and correlate them with outcome and therapy response. Yuan has developed revolutionary bioinformatics techniques to successfully address questions related to aging and diabetes.

The Coalition cooperates with Georgia’s research universities, medical schools, hospitals and nursing programs to recruit research scientists with the goal of strengthening the state’s research talent, capacity and infrastructure. Sponsoring institutions must provide at least a dollar-for-dollar match. The review committee examines the scholars’ history of grants, publications and patents and considers the researchers’ potential for attracting future funding. Since its inception in 2001, the Coalition has named 113 Distinguished Scholars, 12 of whom have been from Tech.

In fiscal year 2007, Georgia Cancer Coalition Distinguished Scholars were responsible for securing $47 million in privately and federally funded research grants to the state of Georgia. Scholar selection is based on how the applicant’s research relates to the goals of the Coalition, the research priorities of the National Cancer Institute and the strategic plan of the sponsoring institution.

Georgia Tech researchers recognized by Cancer Coalition

For more information:
Yuhong Fan
Francesco Storici
www.bme.gatech.edu
Melissa Kemp
www.biology.gatech.edu
Ming Yuan
www.isye.gatech.edu
Georgia Cancer Coalition
www.georgia-cancer.org
come with him, as well as will he do what it takes to "sell the program" and energize the fan base. "I feel that's just part of being a football coach at any major program," Johnson said. "The way to achieve (excitement for the program) is to win games. If you have a good program, people will come. If you win, people will leave excited."

Johnson said he will not be involved with Tech's appearance in the Humanitarian Bowl, nor will he be involved as a prototype for the Foundation's development of a nationwide translational research grant program in biomedical engineering. "I think that's a unique niche since each proposal must have two co-investigators—a biomedical engineer from Tech's College of Engineering and a clinician from Emory's School of Medicine," Johnson said. "Proposals are reviewed by an Oversight Committee, which includes the EMIE department chair and representatives from the medical field, and our people."

Because Tech and Emory were successful with projects that resulted in patents issued, companies launched and follow-on capital raised, the Foundation decided in 2005 to launch its national program and has recently increased the endowment amount at the shared program to $10 million. A priority now is to increase the endowment for translational research from other funding sources, which would allow a broadening of the program so all College of Engineering faculty members conducting healthcare-related translational programs can be eligible to apply.

EMIE Professor Gang Bao, one of the first grantees, found a new company based on the results of research from his grant. "Before this program, my goal was to publish in the best journals," said Bao. "Now, I am able to make an impact on a human life. It's not just about putting together a top-flight staff, a top recruiting class, and meet with every player one-on-one."

Brady, who began his collegiate coaching career at the University of Hawaii from 1987 to 1994. At Navy, his team defeated rival Army six years in a row—the record number of consecutive wins from either team in their meetings.

For more information... Georgia Tech Athletic Association www.rblineweek.com

Counter, cont'd from page 1

Department of Biomedical Engineering (EMIE) at Georgia Tech and Emory University to serve as the pilot to be used as a prototype for the Foundation's development of a nationwide translational research grant program in biomedical engineering. "We have gone from typewriters to laptop computers, from memoran-
dums to e-mail, receptionists to voicemail and from microfilm to imaging," he says. "Historically, dur-
ing the last week of open enroll-
ment, employees would be lined up outside the door waiting to make changes to their benefits," he said. "Often the changes were substantive, and employees would spend most of the next month filling out (paperwork) so that Payroll could key the changes into the computer. Now, employee changes may be accom-
plished online in minutes."

"John's responsibilities have been to understand the benefits, manage the administration of the benefits, and then consult with all employees," said Clist Demetriou, senior director of Total Compensation in Human Resources. Demetriou said that while Grovenstein's skills will be missed, his move is still a plus for the Institute.

"Health insurance is a key part of the benefit package for Tech employees, and John will be able to drive increased effectiveness in the plans," Demetriou said.

Grovenstein, cont'd from page 1

addition to other duties. He also will serve as the chairperson for several advisory committees, including the Board of Regents Optional Retirement Plan Advisory Committee and the Student Health Insurance Advisory Committee.

While both the department and the college have changed since Grovenstein was hired in 1982 as an employment interviewer for the Plant Operations division, he says the most important of these would have to be the evolution of office technology.

"We have gone from typewriters to

Brady, cont'd from page 1

Pacific region. Brady retired in 2006 after serving at various times as the firm's executive chairman, president, CEO and other leadership positions. When it comes to supporting his alma mater, Brady applies that same philoso-

As a member of the Campaign Georgia Tech Steering Committee, he not only is working hard to motivate don-
ers to support the Institute, but also has made a major investment in Tech him-
self in recognition of his 50th class reunion. Brady's seven-figure commit-
ment will create the Brady Family Faculty Endowment in the College of Management and provide unrestricted support for the Institute via Alumni Roll Call. "Having a world-class business school requires truly world-class faculty mem-
bers who continually enrich and sustain their students and each other," said College of Management Dean Steve Salbu. "Major commitments such as Charlie Grovenstein's are helping us to attract the finest faculty and support their work—inside and outside the classroom—once they're on campus. We are very grateful to Charlie not only for this particular commitment, but also for his ongoing support of the College and his boundless enthusiasm for our mission and our people."

"The College of Management is a source of immense pride for me and my fellow alumni," Brady said. "Steve Salbu has made impressive strides in a short period of time. Our national rankings and our general level of prestige have never been stronger, and I think the entire Georgia Tech community is anticipating still more growth in quality and recognition. I hope the Brady Family Faculty Endowment will play a key role in bringing about that future."

"In addition to my commitment for Management," Brady continued. "I also wanted to demonstrate my strong sup-
port for the Alumni Roll Call program. Georgia Tech has countless ongoing operational expenses that must be fund-

Demetriou said

John Grovenstein

IN BRIEF:

Techwood Drive closing

As part of the 14th Street Bridge Improvement Project, Techwood Drive will be closed from 16th Street to 10th street, starting in mid-


Originally scheduled for March 2008, the clo-
sure is to aid in a 10 percent reduction of traffic through Midtown at peak times during the bridge's construction. Traffic engineers will close the segment between 16th and 14th streets first, with the road between 14th and 10th closing soon after. Techwood Drive is scheduled to reopen June 2009. For more infor-
mation, visit www.14thstreetbridge.com.

Invoice deadline approaching

According to Procurement Services, all invoices, check-requests forms, travel expense statements and Purchasing Take Action Requisitions are due by noon on Dec. 14 for processing prior to the end of the calendar year.

Thursday, Dec. 20, will be the final day for check
issuances. Emergency payment requests must be hand-delivered to a manager for front processing. Visit Procurement Services at www.procurement.gatech.edu.

Distinguished Professors named

On Dec. 1, the Institute named College of Computing professors Gregory Abowd and Santosh Vempala Distinguished Professors of Computing. Abowd's research is concentrated on software engineering and human-computer interaction. He currently is affiliated with the School of Interactive Computing and the Graphics, Visualization and Usability Center. Vempala is director of the Algorithms & Randomness Center ThinkTank. His research interests include algorithms, randomness and geometry. For more information, visit www.cc.gatech.edu.

Sigma Xi nominations sought

The Georgia Tech Chapter of Sigma Xi seeks nominations for faculty and student research aw-

nominations, which should be submitted to Marlene White at submit@mse.gatech.edu.

Salary for Techwood Drive closing

December 10, 2007

WWW.WHISTLE.GATECH.EDU