Meyer retires from library

Robert Nesmith
Communications & Marketing

After eight years as dean of libraries at Tech, Richard Meyer will step down at the end of August, retiring to South Carolina with his wife, Clare. He began in September 2000, coming from Trinity University in San Antonio where he served as library director for nine years. When he started, library use was declining year over year, due in part to changing trends in higher education. “I had no agenda to initiate when I came here, other than to figure out what needed to be done,” he said. “I very quickly began asking questions, meeting with every single employee in the library, to get a sense of what we were doing that we didn’t need to do, and what we weren’t doing.”

Tech’s provost begins tenure as interim president

A new era begins as G. Wayne Clough begins serving as the secretary of the Smithsonian Institution. Prior to his leaving, Provost Gary B. Schuster was named interim president. The Whistle caught up with Schuster and asked a few questions regarding his new role.

Who decides on the interim president? How were you chosen? Do you intend to be a candidate for institute president?

Interim presidents for units of the University System of Georgia are selected by Chancellor Erroll Davis. When Wayne Clough was named secretary of the Smithsonian Institution in March, Chancellor Davis solicited input from the Georgia Tech community, and then asked me if I would serve as interim president. According to University System Policy, a person accepting the position of interim president is not eligible to be a candidate for that institution. So, when I agreed to serve, I also agreed not to be a candidate.

Interim president and provost: Sounds like a lot. How or why was it decided not to appoint an interim provost? How will you personally balance the two, and will there be any significant reassignments in the short term within the two offices?

I am fortunate to work with an outstanding team of leaders in both the President’s Cabinet and the Office of the Provost, as well as a knowledgeable and energetic staff who worked for Dr. Clough for many years in the Office of the President. Rather than cause a domino effect of

Taking the reins

“Tech’s next president should be passionate about education, research and discovery. An effective president will also be a good listener, a ‘doer’ and, most importantly, someone who understands and can support our outstanding faculty, students and staff.”

Joint degree offered at UWPI in South Africa

The Georgia Water Resource Management Institute (GWRI) and the University of Pretoria Water Institute (UPWI) have launched a Master of Science in Water Resources Management degree. The new joint degree program is offered through Georgia Tech and the University of Pretoria in South Africa.

“Sustainable water resources development and management are key to economic development and societal change in Africa,” said School of Civil and Environmental Engineering Professor Aris Georgakakos, also the director of GWRI. “This is because water resources are the basis of agricultural activities which, in Africa, employ more than 80 percent of the labor force and generate more than 50 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP). Moreover, water resources support hydropower development, which powers industrial growth.”

Understanding water-related issues and disciplines has a vital impact on environmental and socio-economic change, according to Georgakakos. “The joint degree program was created with these needs in mind,” he noted. “This educational and applied research program combines the expertise and strengths of the two water institutes with the goal of creating qualified specialists who will ably serve African governments, industries and academia.”

“Currently the world is experiencing a water crisis,” said Professor Eugene

Ragauskas named to Fulbright Chair

Robert Nesmith
Communications & Marketing

In an effort to foster collaborative, international alternative energy research, the Fulbright Program named Professor Arthur J. Ragauskas the first recipient of the newly created Fulbright Distinguished Chair in Alternative Energy Technology. The position will be located at Chalmers University of Technology in Gothenburg, Sweden.

A professor of chemistry and biochemistry and a research faculty member of the Institute of Paper Science and Technology at Georgia Tech, Ragauskas has researched lignocellulosics since 1989 when his studies were primarily concerned with the conversion of woody material to pulp and paper. Events of recent years, however, have evolved the field to include alternative energy applications. “Starting in 2003, when the IPST merged into Georgia Tech, we dramatically broadened our research to include the conversion of woody materials to biomaterials, biofuels, bioenergy and biochemicals,” Ragauskas said. Through partnerships with Oak Ridge National Laboratories, Imperial College London and other Scandinavian institutions, Ragauskas, his colleagues and students have made significant strides. He served as a visiting professor at Chalmers in 2001, and from 1997 to 1998 he taught at the Royal Institute of Technology (STI) in Stockholm in 1997.

The professor’s research efforts at Chalmers will center largely upon characterizing the changes in woody biomass structure during both the biological conversion of wood to ethanol and the gasification of wood and related materials to biofuels. The award provides a stipend of $125,000, one of the largest in the international exchange program’s history. As Fulbright Chair, Ragauskas will address three key challenges:

- Development of new breakthroughs in green science and technology, working to provide economically sustainable biofuels and bioenergy.
- Education of future leaders and society in general on the opportunities, challenges and benefits of sustainable biofuels and energy.
- Creating international
Correction

In the June 30 issue, the incorrect phone number was listed for POGS. The correct phone number is 404-974-3200. The Whistle regrets the error.

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"The conventional internal combustion engine is a good candidate for this. We simply decarbonize the fuel in a reformer before it reaches the engine. This separates the carbon from the hydrogen. In the engine, we're burning the resulting hydrogen and releasing heat, water and nitrogen."

—Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering Professor Andrei Fedorov speaking on his research for removing carbon dioxide emissions from cars. (Automotive News Europe)

"Every member of the American Chemical Society has a story. Every member of the ACS is unique. But we also have something in common. And that is: we love chemistry. And why do we love chemistry? Because it offers us problems that are interesting, that we want to solve, and that, in turn, give back solutions to society."

—School of Chemistry Associate Professor Rigoberto Hernandez, in the 2007 American Chemical Society Annual Report.
Meyer refused an offer for a retirement party from the Office of the Provost because he felt “the library has so many resource needs.” In lieu of a gathering, the Office prepared a check that he could use for the library in any way he saw fit. After speaking with his colleagues—Bob Fox, Tyler Walters and Kathy Tomajo—Meyer put the funds toward a staff lounge. “We wanted to do something we would not otherwise be able to do,” he said.

Establishing an institutional digital repository required that internal resources be restructured. Within six months of Meyer’s arrival, the library’s public services department was moved to better support the emerging agendas—institutional repositories and undergraduate success. The library merged services points, which freed up people and resources for a digital initiative. “We had four catalogers today; we have two, and that’s sufficient because the technology is available to replace some of that work,” Meyer said. “Over the last several years, we’ve had a continual process of restructuring to make better use of our resources.”

With a joint purchasing program in place with the other research universities in the state, the library, in some cases, has now access to nearly 400 percent more publications at a incremental increase in what normally was paid. These databases are now a significant resource for faculty.

Fullbright, cont'd from page 1

partnerships that foster academic, economic and public policy development in the field of sustainable biofuels and energy development. In addition to sharing his lignocellulosic biofuels and biorefinery expertise with faculty, students and researchers in Sweden, the chair will aid Ragauskas in developing a new partnership in communicating the need for an international push in developing sustainable cellulosic biofuels. Conventional tools, including classroom instruction and industry workshops, along with podcasts and other Web-based resources, will be used to further enrich this collaborative effort. “The conversion of wood to biofuels is entering a different phase,” he said, adding that several demonstration plants are currently under construction, and more efficient technologies are rapidly being developed. “Our research team and others on the Tech campus are helping to bring about this ‘green industrial revolution.’”

Citing a kinship in how citizens of both the United States and Sweden relate to their natural forest resources, Ragauskas said positioning the垢rehouse in Africa as an expert in cellulosic biofuels, bioenergy and related fields, including water-related information and know-how is therefore a priority.

Meyer’s involvement in Africa spans more than 20 years. UW— Madison currently has 45 students enrolled at the master’s and doctoral levels, including students from Kenya, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, Nigeria, Canada, Germany and Mozambique.

For more information...
**ARTS & CULTURE**

**July 16**
The Flicks on 5th Summer Film Series presents "Superbad" (2008) on the outdoor screen at Technology Square in Midtown. "21" (2008) will be shown July 23. Screenings begin at nightfall, roughly 9 p.m. For more information, visit www.flickson5th.gatech.edu.

**July 24-26**
Dramatech theater presents Georgia Tech's improv troupe Let's Try This! at 8 p.m. Faculty and staff tickets are $8. For more information, visit www.dramatech.org.

**ONGOING**
The School of History, Technology and Society presents the Robert C. Williams Paper Museum exhibit "How Do They Spend It?" through Sept. 2. Formed by Professor Gus Gibelhaus and students from IHT 4001, the exhibit examines money and images to Tech, from 10 countries. For more information, visit www.ipst.gatech.edu.

**Conferences & Lectures**

**July 30**
The Parker H. Petit Institute for Bioengineering and Bioscience will host a biosensor workshop, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., in 885 building room 1128. Learn about the various biosensor projects developing across Georgia institutions in an effort to build collaborations and partnerships. For more information, visit www.ibb.gatech.edu.

The National Association of Asian-American Professionals presents U.S. Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. in the College of Management's LeCraw Auditorium. The event is sponsored by the College, the Institute for Leadership and Entrepreneurship, and the National Association of Asian-American Professionals. Seating is limited. For more information, visit www.naaap.org.

**AUGUST**

**July 24**
The 2nd floor studio of the Mayfair Tower, DLS, cable, washer/dryer, fitness center, parking. $1,000 per month (negot.), non-smoker, no pets. Avail. as of June 1. Call Paula Peche, 404-281-6730.

**August 12-14**
The Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning (CETL) presents New Faculty Orientation, starting at 8 a.m., in the Warfleaw Center. The first two days will introduce new faculty members to current community members, and the Office of Human Resources will provide benefits and services orientation on the third day. For more information, visit www.cetl.gatech.edu.

**Ongoing**
The Office of Organized Development presents a Brown Bag session on "Everyday Creativity," a video presentation hosted by photojournalist Dewitt Jones. The seminar is offered from 11:50 a.m. to 1 p.m. in room 508 of the Savant building. For more information and other available times, visit www.trainweb.gatech.edu.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**July 22-23**
The Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Assistance Program for the State of Georgia, part of the Enterprise Innovation Institute, presents the 10th annual Technical Institute of Health SBIR/STTR (Small Business Technology Transfer) Conference, "Transforming Medicine through Innovation," at the Omni Hotel and CMT Center. Registration fee is $150. For more information, e-mail Connie Rufniner at connie.ruffner@innovate.gatech.edu.

**July 24-25**
The Supply Chain and Logistics Institute presents the course "Developing Supply Chain Strategies for Small and Medium-Sized Businesses," starting from 8 a.m. to 2:50 p.m. in the Global Learning Center. Fees vary. For more information, visit www.scl.gatech.edu.

**CLASSIFIEDS**

**AUTOMOBILES/MOTORCYCLES**

2001 custom softail, 1,500cc. Only 6,000 miles, always garaged. Unique paint job. Fully chromed. Original cost: $34,000, asking $10,900. E-mail stan.broome@ecrecreation.gatech.edu for pics.

**REAL ESTATE/ROOMMATES**

4BR, 4.5BA, 3-year-old cluster home in Buckhead, Springline Village高档, neighborhood, 5 min. from Tech, ideal for faculty & family. $795,000. Call Leslie, 404-457-2673.

2BR/2.5BA townhouse, 5 miles from Tech. Symmetrical community w/clubhouse, private patio overlooks pool. Fresh paint, new appl. and laminated hardwoods. 172,000 (furnishings neg.). Call 404-723-1716 or e-mail cgrum@juno.com.

For rent: 2BR/2BA condo in Buckhead, 6 miles to Tech. Park-like, gated community w/ 24-hour security and clubhouse/pool. Washer/dryer incl. Utilities incl. basic cable and water. $1,300 + deposit, 1 yr. lease. Email mvh14_1@hotmail.com for info.

**For sale:** Downtown studio. Large windows, hardwoods, new kitchen. Hall block from MARTA's Five Points station for easy access to airport or Midtown. $95K. Visit www.summet.com/condo or call 404-784-6046.

For rent: 3BR/2BA ranch in Marietta area, near 75/285. Master includes a sitting area and walk-in closet. Screened deck, 15 to 20 minutes from Tech. No pets, $1,100 + deposit. July 1 move-in. Call 678-757-5122.

For sale/rent: 3BR/2BA house in Riverside, Built 2003, 2-car garage, fireplace, kitchen w/ upgraded appliances, hardwoods, drapes, washer/dryer optional. $349,900, or $1,800 /month + deposit, 1 yr. lease. Quick move-in, no smokers or pets. 10-15 min. drive to Tech. Call 404-822-6915 or e-mail pachy@bellsouth.net.

2BR/1BA for sale in Jefferson Park. $169,900. Fenced back yard, basement and attic storage. 1.5 miles to East Point and Lakewood/Ft. Mac MARTA stations and easy access to I-75/85. Pics. Info. at http://tinyurl.com/3539kw. E-mail Jason.barringer@eco.gatech.edu.

3BR/2.5BA traditional 4 y.o. home in Berkeley Park for sale or rent. Hardwoods, LR w/ fireplace, separate DR and den area. Open kitchen w/ granite counters. 2-car drive underbasement. Minutes to Tech. $479,000, or $2,100 /month for 12 months or $2,250 for 6. Call Christy Claunch, 678-205-6551. Visit www.berkeleypark.org.

2BR/1BA on the Chattahoochee River property for sale or rent. Hardwoods, LR, deck, washer/dryer, fitness center, pool, close to Perimeter Mall. RA renovated, interior painted, carpets cleaned. $159,000. Condo assoc. fee: $210/mo. Call 770-619-9843, 404-407-6412 or e-mail lynchen@southsnet.net.

**SPORTS/FITNESS/RECREATION**


Above-ground pool, 5 ft. deep, includes ladder and privacy. Only used twice. $300 or best offer. E-mail jae.collins730@yahoo.com.

**FURNITURE/APPLIANCES**

Futon, sofa, coffee table, end table, lamp, rug $875. For more information, visit www.trainweb.gatech.edu.

**ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ASIAN-AMERICAN PROFESSIONALS**

The "Defining Customer Service" certificate program provides campus groups and employees with the foundation for offering exemplary service to those both on and off campus. For more information, visit www.trainings.gatech.edu.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

July 14, 2008

Modern antique sofa. $200 OBO. Call Marisol at 678-665-0184 or e-mail mvh14_1@hotmail.com for pics. info. Oak, 5-drawer dresser and changing table. Euc. condi. Purchased for $500, asking $150. E-mail Sheila.willis@ece.gatech.edu for info and pics.

**MORE ADS ARE AVAILABLE AT WWW.WHISTLE.GATECH.EDU.**