WRC to celebrate 10 years of community

Robert Nesmith
Communications & Marketing

Initially only a shared vision of a place where women at Tech would be able to have resources and a sense of community on campus, the Women’s Resource Center (WRC) celebrates its 10th anniversary in October. The idea began as the Women’s Student Union, proposed by two students. With the support of the then-recently named Associate Dean of Students Stephanie Ray, the WRC opened, operating under the auspices of that office, just prior to the end of spring quarter 1998.

For the first two years, a graduate student oversaw WRC’s operations. In January 2000, Assistant Dean of Students Yvette Upton was hired as the center’s first full-time staff member. She was named director of the center in 2002.

“When I first came to campus, I was told by some students that they were uncomfortable having programs to help them—there didn’t want to be perceived as being different,” Upton said. “After 2000, the Institute climate changed a lot.” As evidenced by the 1,800 people subscribing to the WRC weekly e-mail, Upton says that women on campus are more open to having a place and support opportunities. “I see women being involved and having support groups as a Tech student.”

WRC programs offer support for both the academic performance and the personal development of women at the Institute, as well as promote understanding and dialogue among Tech’s diverse community. “We work with all kinds of issues that might keep these students from academic success—family issues, relationship issues,” Upton said. “We want to be sure that women who want to be at Tech have the resources they need to succeed.”

Examples of the programs sponsored by the WRC include:

Women’s Awareness Month—During March, the WRC presents events and programming to help raise awareness of women’s issues and create a community for women at Tech. Started as a week, the event expanded to a month in 2002. During last year’s Take Back the Night, an annual event to bring awareness to and end sexual violence, turnout was rather large. “This year, we estimate we’ll have nearly 1,000 participants.”

Women’s Resources Fair—During Women’s Awareness Month, all WRC events are made available to the public. These events work to raise awareness of issues that might impact women. In 2002, when the WRC had a limited budget, an attempt was made to feature more public programming. In 2003, a women’s resource fair was created to feature more public programming.

Women’s Awareness Day—Women’s Awareness Day was created following the International Day of the Girl in 1995. The event was held on campus and was designed to provide women at Tech with a day of programming to raise awareness and open dialogue about issues that impact women.

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Institute reports record enrollment for semester

Tech’s total undergraduate and graduate enrollment has topped 19,500 for the first time. Approximately 13,000 undergraduates and more than 6,400 graduate students are enrolled for the fall semester. Nearly 2,600 new freshmen are enrolled. Of these, 250 started in the summer and more than 2,350 started in the fall.

Another 600 students are not enrolled in classes this fall, but instead are participating in a co-op or internship program this semester. They are not included in the enrollment figures. Georgia Tech also has its largest housing occupancy ever this fall. More than 7,800 single students signed up for housing, and approximately 400 applied for family housing.

Tech’s official occupancy for the fall semester won’t be final until mid-October when drops and cancellations have been recorded.

Engineers create bone that blends into tendons

David Terrasao
Communications & Marketing

Tech engineers have used skin cells to create artificial bones that mimic the ability of natural bone to blend into other tissues such as tendons or ligaments.

The artificial bones display a gradual change from bone to softer tissue rather than the sudden shift of previously developed artificial tissue, providing better integration with the body and allowing them to handle weight more successfully. The research appears in the Aug. 26 edition of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

“One of the biggest challenges in regenerative medicine is to have a graded continuous interface, because anatomically that’s how the majority of tissues appear, and there are studies that strongly suggest that the graded interface provides better integration and load transfer,” said

Bone continued, page 3

Recycling scores victory on game day

Georgia Tech football season has begun, as has the push for game day recycling. Prior to Tech’s game against Jacksonville State on Aug. 28, volunteers offered recycling bags to tailgaters and other campus partygoers. Attendees could place all recyclables in the bags, then leave them for Facilities to pick up later. According to Office of Solid Waste Management and Recycling Manager Cindy Jackson, 3.1 tons of clean recyclables were collected from game attendees. For more information, visit www.recycle.gatech.edu. On game day, Capital Planning and Space Management Director Howard Werheimer (left) and Undergraduate Student Government Association President Nick Welkamp (above) hand out bags.
Clarification

The article “Tech ranks 7th among publics for undergrads,” which ran in the Aug. 25 issue of The Whistle, states that the Institute’s “internship and senior capstone programs were cited as Programs to Look For. More specifically, Tech’s 96-year-old cooperative program, under the Division of Professional Practice, is a program that is emulated by other universities.

Aerial Robotics team wins international competition

The Georgia Tech Aerial Robotics (GTAR) team finished first in the 2008 International Aerial Robotics Competition at the McMinn Soldier Battle Lab facility in Fort Benning. Tech’s aerial vehicle completed the greatest portion of the prescribed mission, completing the first, second and part of the final phase of the mission.

Tech’s aerial vehicle, a redundant release mechanism, a bump switch to detect hitting a wall to enable retracts, a data-link relay and a mag-netometer to measure its twist. The rover system included a high-definition camera, a general-purpose computer to control driving and navigation, and infrared sensors to enable it to effectively move around rooms indoors.

The appeal of RealOpt is simple. No other system provides such an easy to use and produces meaningful results to the user,” said Bernard Benecke, a CDC staff member at the Coordinating Office for Terrorism Preparedness and Emergency Response. “It allows for complex optimization of PODs that cannot be determined by the naked eye.”

According to Benecke, RealOpt was used in several major exercises in 2007 and has been funded by the CDC again this year for on-site drills due to its usefulness to local planners in changing standard operating procedures and POD designs that maximize efficiency.

One exercise involved a multiple-site analysis that evaluated point of distribution sites for medications in the wake of a pandemic flu outbreak. “We learned that some local health departments had good plans in place, while others had more work to do,” noted Lee.

Besides pandemic planning, since 2004, Lee and her research team have participated in strategic planning and in-time-motion studies for anthrax and smallpox drills. In addition, RealOpt was successfully utilized by New Orleans in 2007 for a mass vaccination drill that actually provided residents with free flu shots. The program assisted in the clinic design and in determining optimal staffing rates. RealOpt was also able to pinpoint bottlenecks, and the numbers of individuals receiving flu shots proved to be close to what the system anticipated.

"RealOpt is the first system that looks at the design of strategic planning and operational response on the ground,” Lee said. “It gives policy makers a tool to assess their capabilities for handling large-scale medical emergencies and how they might handle scenarios ranging from local public health emergencies to a situation of national magnitude."

In addition to being robust, RealOpt is extremely accessible. As a result of Lee’s negotiation with the university, emergency planners can access the program free of charge.

Beyond biological and infectious disease outbreak emergency response, RealOpt is currently used by first responders in planning for a radiological crisis, especially in radiation contamination response and health monitoring. Lee also points out that the program is not confined to medical scenarios. It has been successfully deployed in manufacturing and industrial settings to help pinpoint where to locate manufacturing plants, personnel and other resources.

Despite the prospects for new applications, RealOpt has proven its worth in the emergency response arena.

"First responders are able to use RealOpt’s capabilities to design their own clinics and compare different optimization methodologies. Additionally, it allows the user to optimize staffing and deal with shifting clinic demands during a crisis event. No other modeling software that I am aware of is able to do this,” Benecke said.

Archived issues of The Whistle can be accessed electronically through the Georgia Tech World page, or directly at www.whistle.gatech.edu.
800 people,” Upton said. “We hold it more as an educational event. We still have survivor’s stories, but we also focus on the concepts of sexual violence and consent.” Women’s Awareness Month is organized by a student committee advised by the WRC, Upton said.

**Women’s Leadership Conference**—This annual two-day conference, chaired by a 15-member student organizing committee, develops leadership skills of current students and alumnae.

**Women in the Wilderness**—A partnership with Outdoor Recreation at Georgia Tech (ORIT), women learn empowerment in a non-competitive, supportive outdoor environment, such as camping and rafting.

The WRC also serves as a link for students and Institute academic programs, such as the National Science Foundation’s ADVANCE, the Society of Women Engineers, Women at the College of Computing, Women in Engineering, Women in Electrical and Computer Engineering, and Computer Science. A number of programs at the WRC are targeted toward graduate students, such as the National Science Foundation’s ADVANCE, the Society of Women Engineers, Women at Georgia Tech.”

In its third year, the WRC occupied a small physical space, holding its programs in different areas of campus. In 2004, the Women’s Resource Center moved into a permanent suite of offices in the Student Services building, which Upton says offers the best of both worlds: accessibility and privacy. “We’re in a central part of campus, but we’re not in a high-traffic area.” Offices are located at the end of a hallway filled with photos and images of women’s experiences at Tech in the 2003 exhibit “50 Years of Women at Georgia Tech.”

“Students helped paint the space themselves,” she said, explaining the varied colors and decor throughout the WRC that differs from most other Institute administrative offices. “Graduate students in the math program, for their first women’s group outing, came and helped us paint.”

According to Upton, women comprise roughly 27 percent of the student population. “For the last two years the freshman classes have trended 30 percent women,” she said. “It is not necessarily a 50-50 goal. We just need to create an environment where women can be successful at Tech choose to come here and stay.”

And she has seen that change first-hand. “I consistently have students come back after or as they are graduating, and they tell me they stayed at Tech because of something we did to support them,” Upton said. “It makes it much easier to do this job.”

“I think all of us on campus are making an impact, but few of us get confirmation,” she said.

For more information...

**Women’s Resource Center**

[www.womencenter.gatech.edu](http://www.womencenter.gatech.edu)

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**Prestigious college inducts Leigh**

The American Institute of Certified Planners has inducted Nancey Green Leigh, professor of City and Regional Planning, into the organization’s College of Fellows. Leigh is credited as one of the first researchers to link land-use patterns and zoning impact to rising inequality in her book “Stemming Middle Class Decline: The Challenges for Economic Development Planning.”

She also is one of the first to focus on rede-velopment of brownfields (abandoned or under-used industrial and commercial facilities) as well as the unintended consequences of envi-ronmental regulations for revitalizing inner cit-ies. For more information, visit [www.planning.gatech.edu](http://www.planning.gatech.edu).

**Students nab NASA scholarships**

NASA has awarded two College of Engineering undergraduate students its Aeronautics Scholarship. Aerospace Engineering students Tyler Sniff and Pierre Valdez are among 25 grad-uates and undergraduates chosen from nearly 400 applications. For more information, visit [www.coe.gatech.edu](http://www.coe.gatech.edu).

**HR launches Careers@Tech Web site**

Georgia Tech Human Resources has launched its new employment opportunities Web site, Careers@Tech. The site serves as a hub for prospective and current employees to learn more about employment at Tech—from benefits packages and examples of perks to interviews with Institute staff members—and view listings of open positions. For more information, visit [www.careers.gatech.edu](http://www.careers.gatech.edu).

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**Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering**

[www.me.gatech.edu](http://www.me.gatech.edu)

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September 14
Performance artist and musician Laurie Anderson will perform her new show, “Homeland,” at the Frenz Center for the Arts, at 5 p.m. For more information, visit www.frenzcenter.gatech.edu.

September 26
Atlanta-based Arrested Development performs at the Frenz Center for the Arts at 8 p.m. For more information, visit www.frenzcenter.gatech.edu.

Conferences & Lectures
September 10
Sociologist Jason Owen-Smith presents “Funding Human Embryonic Stem Cell Research: Science and Scientists in Congress,” at 1:30 p.m. in room 521 of the Student Center. For more information, visit www.inta.gatech.edu.

Patrick Eser, president of Cox Communications Inc., is the guest speaker for the College of Management’s IMPACT Speaker Series. A 5:30 p.m. in the College’s LeeCraw Auditorium. For more information, visit www.ite.gatech.edu/impact.html.

College of Architecture alumni Merrill Elam and Mack Scogin speak as part of the Architecture Centennial Lecture Series, from 6 to 7 p.m., in the Architecture Auditorium. The series, celebrating 100 years of architecture education at Tech, will be ongoing throughout the semester. For more information, visit www.coa.gatech.edu.

September 11
University of California, Irvine, Professor Reginald Penner presents “Ingredients: Metal Nanowires and Viruses—A Recipe for a Universal Biosensor,” from 3 to 4 p.m. in room G011 of the Materials Science and Engineering building. For more information, visit www.mse.gatech.edu.

September 17
Steve Lukash, distinguished Senior Research Fellow with the Center for International Strategy, Technology and Policy, presents “Rainbow’s Beginning: The Difficult Birth of Networking,” from noon to 1 p.m., in room 117 of the Smith Hall Student Services building. For more information, visit www.cistp.gatech.edu.

School of History, Technology and Society Assistant Professor William Winders presents “Locked Out? How the United States Limits Voter Participation.” at 2 p.m. in the Neely Lobby of the Library and Information Center. For more information, visit www.hts.gatech.edu.

Faculty, staff, post-doctoral scholars and graduate students are invited to attend an information session sponsored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Science and Technology fellowships, from 3 to 4 p.m. in room 5201-A of the Molecular Science and Engineering building. For more information, visit www.fellowships.aaas.org.

School of Biology Professor Jeannette Yen presents “Biologically Inspired Design,” from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Architecture Auditorium. For more information, visit www.coa.gatech.edu/id.

Faculty/Staff Development
Ongoing
The Office of Organizational Development offers an Emergency Preparedness certificate consisting of several courses. For more information on scheduling or for other classes offered, visit www.orgdev.gatech.edu.

Miscellaneous
September 17
Members of the Georgia Tech Presidential Search Committee will explain the process, receive input and answer questions in several one-hour sessions during a public forum, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the Student Center Theater. For more information on the sessions for faculty, staff and students, visit www.gatech.edu/president/search.

The Georgia Tech Faculty Women’s Club holds its fall open house lunch, “Celebrate the Past, Embrace the Future,” from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the President’s Home. All wives of Institute faculty, women faculty and newcomers are invited. For more information, visit www.gtfwc.gatech.edu.

September 18
A champagne and hors d’oeuvres reception will celebrate the naming of the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs as a European Union Center for Excellence, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in Thornton Atrium at the College of Management. For more information, visit www.inta.gatech.edu.

September 25
Join Georgia Tech’s team of the Kaiser Permanente Corporate Challenge 5K, 7 p.m. at Turner Field. Registration is open until Sept. 24 and the cost is $30 per person. Van transportation will be provided from the Campus Recreation Center. For more information, visit www.kpcc.gatech.edu/registration.

For sale: 4- or 5BR/3BA home in Duluth-Snellville for $275. Call MSolomon24@gmail.com.

2002 Acura 5.2 TL-S Pear with leather, Bose sound system, navigation system. Exc. condition. 100K miles, $9,500. Call 770-491-9512.

2001 silver Ford Focus ZTS, 109,909 miles. Clean history, gray leather int. Fls. $6,000. OBO. Call 678-431-4135 or e-mail dmasten@business.gatech.edu.

Real Estate/Rooms for Rent
Academic couple looking for short-term (fall and possibly spring semester) rental or house-sitting arrangement in a nice area (Decatur, V. Highlands, relatively close to a MARTA stop. E-mail alexander.ames@lrc.gatech.edu.

For rent: Condo in Inman Park. Lots of recent improvements, looking pond and private park, W/D, DW, secure parking, gnm. $1,500/mo. Call 404-259-5886 or Courtney at 404-550-5793.

For sale: 1BR/1.5BA condo in historic downtown Healey Building. Convenient to campus. Walk to MARTA, court houses, Centennial Park, library, restaurants and more. 404-313-5640.

For rent: 1BR/1BA, fully furnished garden condo, utilities incl. $825 per month. Easy access to Midtown from I-85 and Clairmont Rd. Call Rich, 404-635-1686.

For sale: 4- or 5BR/3BA home on shaded, level 1-acre lot in swim/tennis Princeton Square, Sandy Springs. HW floors throughout, new kitchen. Office/exercise room, screened porch. Great schools; near MARTA and Perimeter Mall. $359,900. For info, call 912-944-1455 or e-mail rickdhan@bellsouth.net.


Roommate needed: 3BR/2BA house in Duluth-Norcross area, 25 min. to Tech. 2-car garage, basement, custom sized garden, new appliances, HW floors, open floor plan. Private back yard w/ oversized deck and hot tub. Cul-de-sac lot, new Leaf Guard gutter, $234,900, will pay $2,000 in closing costs with full-price offer. Call Judy Brown, 770-841-4372 or 770-628-9247, or e-mail ds351@grl.gatech.edu.

For sale, rent: 1BR unit located on 1st floor of Spire Condo at Peachtree and 8th. For info, e-mail jmichelhal@comcast.net.

Sports/Recreation
Above-ground pool. 5 ft. deep. Includes ladder and pump. Used twice. $300 OBO. E-mail jae.collins507@yahoo.com.

Furniture/Appliances
Low-boy dresser, 5-foot by 5-foot, 9 drawers, with attachable 3-foot x 5-foot mirror. Dark brown wood. $40. Also, Entertainment center cube, 4-foot square with space for TV, VCR, bookshelves and storage. Dark brown wood. $20. E-mail rob.luch@gatechlibrary.gatech.edu.

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2.76 acres, near Ellijay w/ stream and cabin, only $54,000. Call Susan Shedd at 706-653-7041 or visit www.Appalachian-realty.com. For sale: Large studio/unique in Las Vegas at 7999. For info., call 702-610-6457 or e-mail greengreenjenny10@hotmail.com.

40BR/2.5BA house in Duluth-Norcross area, 25 min. to Tech. 2-car garage, basement, custom sized garden, new appliances, HW floors, open floor plan. Private back yard w/ oversided deck and hot tub. Cul-de-sac lot, new Leaf Guard gutter, $234,900, will pay $2,000 in closing costs with full-price offer. Call Judy Brown, 770-841-4372 or 770-628-9247, or e-mail ds351@grl.gatech.edu.

Call 404-610-6457 or e-mail greengreenjenny10@hotmail.com.

For sale: Roommate floor plan. Pool, fitness center, tennis beds incl. Pics, info at http://atlanta.crailogist.org/apa/71681676606.html. E-mail Msolonon24@gmail.com.

Roommate needed: 3BR/2BA house in Duluth-Norcross area, 25 min. to Tech. 2-car garage, basement, custom sized garden, new appliances, HW floors, open floor plan. Private back yard w/ oversized deck and hot tub. Cul-de-sac lot, new Leaf Guard gutter, $234,900, will pay $2,000 in closing costs with full-price offer. Call Judy Brown, 770-841-4372 or 770-628-9247, or e-mail ds351@grl.gatech.edu.

For rent: 1BR unit located on 1st floor of Spire Condo at Peachtree and 8th. For info, e-mail jmichelhal@comcast.net.

14-month-old Cane corso for sale. ARC Champion bloodline, neutered, housetrained, all vaccinations, $450. 15-year-old cat, free, good home. Call Katie at 706-833-6071 or e-mail katie.tuck@yahoo.com.

Magnum airless ProX7 paint sprayer w/ operational DVD and extra 50-ft. hose. Paid $595 in Jan. 08. Used once; sell for $275. Also, Alunm. 32-fl. extension ladder. Paid $519 in Jan. 08; sell for $150. Call 770-891-2485 or e-mail jguiter@spittat.gatech.edu.

Free yellow jacket and wax nest removal. Needs to be used for research at Georgia Tech. Call 912-653-6111 or e-mail michael.goodisman@biology.gatech.edu.

More ads are available at www.whistle.gatech.edu. Ads appear and run for three weeks in the order in which they are received. E-mail submissions to editor@comm.gatech.edu.