‘Proud history, promising future’
Petersen officially installed as Tech’s 11th president

President Bud Peterson was officially installed as Tech’s 11th president during the Institute investiture ceremony held Sept. 3. Students, alumni, faculty and staff—along with representatives from other institutions around the state and country—attended the ceremony.

Alumnus Bill Todd, president and CEO of the Georgia Cancer Coalition, welcomed the crowd to Alexander Memorial Coliseum and introduced the major speakers throughout the event. Ceremony, Todd said, is an “important ritual that allows [the Institute] to look back while looking forward. This place is filled with leaders of all types—some are leaders today, and others are the leaders of tomorrow.”

Gov. Sonny Perdue, the first speaker, told the crowd how impressed he is with Peterson professionally and personally. “Bud [Peterson] has an incredible record of service,” Perdue said, citing the excitement and anticipation of his taking the helm of Georgia Tech. “He has become a leading voice in higher education and in the research community.” He added that the state is entrusting “one of its crown jewels in higher education” to the right individual.

Joseph Evans from the Alumni Association, Distinguished Professor Robert Nerem, Senior Director of Employee Relations Pearl Alexander, Graduate Student Government Association Student President Linda Harley and Undergraduate President Alina Staskevicius each spoke.

INVESTITURE, continued on page 2

Planning ahead
Campus community joins in Institute’s strategic vision process for 2035

Faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends of Georgia Tech gathered Sept. 3 to participate in forming the Institute’s master plan in the near and long term.

Photography by Jennifer Tyner

GLOBAL
Costa Rican president praises Georgia Tech logistics center
Tech formally launched a logistics center in the Costa Rican capital that will help the country realize its trade goals while paving the way for Tech to expand its influence in Latin America. (Global Atlanta)
http://tinyurl.com/kwxduo

NEWS
Suniva expands solar cell production, boosts efficiency
Silicon solar cell startup Suniva is on its way to triple its manufacturing capacity, which would enable it to better compete with competitors with much larger factories. (GreenTech Media)
http://tinyurl.com/1gazrz9

RESEARCH
Tech studying tidal currents
Scientists at Georgia Tech Research Corp. are using an ocean circulation numerical model to predict tidal currents in the U.S. and to compute power densities. (HydroWorld)
http://tinyurl.com/lgzrx9

EVENTS
ARTS & CULTURE
September 11–20
DramaTech Theatre presents the sixth annual Black Box Improv Festival at the DramaTech Theater. This year’s festival features 50 performances. http://atlantaimprov.com/bbif/

September 12
“The 11th Commandment: Thou Shall Laugh,” featuring comedians Willie Brown and Woody, Small Fire and Marcus D. Wiley, will be at 7 p.m. in the Ferst Center for the Arts. Tickets are $27.50 to $42.50. (Tickets purchased in August are 10 percent off.)
www.ferstcenter.gatech.edu

September 25
The Ferst Center for the Arts presents jazz keyboardist Keiko Matsui at 8 p.m. Tickets are $36 and $46, $28.80 and $36.80 with a subscription.
www.ferstcenter.gatech.edu

CONFERENCES/LECTURES
September 8
Emory University Professor Paul Doetsch presents “A New Paradigm for Regulation of Eukaryotic DNA Base Excision Repair via Dynamic Compartimentalization,” at 3 p.m. in room 3201A of the Molecular Science and Engineering building.
www.chemistry.gatech.edu

http://www.whistle.gatech.edu
Events

September 9
Emory University Professor Tilman Klumpp presents “Open Access and Dynamic Efficiency,” from 3:30 to 4:45 p.m., in room 204 of the Old Civil Engineering building. www.econ.gatech.edu

September 10
University of Chicago Professor Milan Miskisch presents “Tailored Substrates for Cell Biology,” from 3 to 4 p.m. in room G011 of the Molecular Science and Engineering building. www.chemistry.gatech.edu

September 12
The panel discussion “The Zombie Perceived: Religion, Media and Society,” will be held from 1 to 3:45 p.m. in the Ciery Theater of the Student Success Center.

September 16
Physics Professor Walter de Heer presents “The Optical Graphene: Designing a New Electronic Material,” at 3 p.m. in conference room 1116 of the Marcus Nanotechnology building. www.physics.gatech.edu

Kristen Grimm, founder and president of Spiffle Strategies, will be the IMPACT speaker of this week, at 4:30 p.m. in the LeCraw Auditorium in the College of Management. Dennis Sadlowski, president and CEO of Siemens Energy and Automation Inc. will speak Sept. 23. www.ile.gatech.edu

September 21–23
The Center for Advanced Communications Policy hosts a Wireless Emergency Communications State of Technology Conference, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the Georgia Tech Research Institute Conference Center. Cost to attend varies. http://set.wirelessrec.org/

Faculty/Staff Development

September 8
The Office of Sponsored Programs presents “Proposal Preparation and Submission,” from 9 to 11:30 a.m. in the Research Administration building seminar room. “Budgeting, Budget Justification and Templates” is offered Sept. 10. “Grants and Contracts Accounting” is offered Sept. 15 and “Public Responsibility and Research Commitments” is offered Sept. 22. www.oosp.gatech.edu/workshops

September 9
Georgia Tech Police Department Crime Prevention Officer Ian Moretti presents “Crime Prevention 101,” from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in the Police Department training room. Register through the Office of Organizational Development Web site. www.ogrdev.gatech.edu

Ongoing
Georgia Tech Training Services offers a Web-based tutorial on the basics of using a state purchasing card (p-card). www.ogrdev.gatech.edu/training/

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w elcoming Peterson and his wife, Val, on behalf of the alumni, faculty, staff and students. “In spite of the current economic and budget crisis, the faculty are ready to take the next step forward,” Nerem said. “With a spirit of cooperation on behalf of the faculty, the best is yet to come.”

UNG Board of Regents Chair Robert Hatcher and School of Public Policy Professor and USG Executive Vice Chancellor Susan Herbst addressed the audience, after which Chancellor Erroll B. Davis Jr. thanked Regent Willis Potts and the Presidential Search Committee for presenting Peterson as a finalist. “Dr. Peterson has completely immersed himself in the Institute, in the city and in the state,” Davis said, referring to Peterson’s extensive tour of Georgia to learn how Tech can better assist with current and future challenges. “He is the right person to lead Georgia Tech. After receiving the symbolic mace and medallion to enthusiastic applause, Peterson expressed his gratitude to the Tech community for the warm reception he and Mrs. Peterson had received since his arrival in Atlanta. Turning the focus from himself, the newly installed president reflected on the Institute’s history and reputation.

“We can all be proud of Tech’s reputation as one of the nation’s top 10 public universities, with outstanding programs in engineering, architecture, computing, liberal arts, management and the sciences,” he said, going on to recount the Institute’s numerous superlatives: $525 million in annual research expenditures; its more than 52 billion impact on the economy; its athletic tradition; its faculty, staff and students; and its 121,000 alumni around the globe.

He recounted his participation in Tech’s physical growth, witnessing the opening of the Marcus Nanotechnology Building, the Zelnak Basketball Practice Facility ground-breaking and construction of the G. Wayne Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons.

“Higher education is an investment in the future,” he said. “In addition to preparing graduates, our institutions of higher learning contribute to society [by] helping with needed research, assisting in commerce and strengthening our communities through outreach. Clearly, it is our universities—in particular, our research universities—that are preparing the next generation of people who will identify and resolve the problems of the future.”

Peterson credited the state of Georgia—“its people, the regents and the legislature”—with understanding the importance of and contributing to higher education. Using the state’s HOPE scholarship as an example of this commitment for families, Peterson spoke of Tech’s G. Wayne Clough Tech Promise program, which provides a debt-free education to qualified students. “At its best, higher education connects what is going on in academia with the rest of the world,” he said. “And while here at Georgia Tech we have the Tech Tower that serves as a symbol of our proud past, we have never been restricted to existence in an ivory tower.”

Peterson spoke of the Institute’s leadership in its biomedical engineering collaboration with Emory University, in its nanotechnology research and even in its ability to peacefully integrate in 1961. “Here at Georgia Tech we’re not only solving problems for today, we’re also designing the future,” he said. “That is why we initiated a strategic planning process to develop a 25-year strategic vision, a plan that will envision what Georgia Tech should look like on its 150th anniversary.”

He invited the faculty, staff, students, alumni and other friends of Tech (“who know the Institute best”) to join in the process and help shape the future, starting with afternoon strategic planning sessions in the Global Learning and Conference Center. He encouraged those in attendance to participate in the process throughout the coming months.

“As we design our future, we will embrace the values that have made Georgia Tech what it is today,” he said. “While our influence and reputation will increase, the culture upon which our reputation has been built — will remain steadfast and serve as the foundation as we strive not only to define, but to be the technological research university of the 21st century and to educate the leaders of a technologically driven world.

“It is a privilege and an honor to serve as your president in such an exciting and pivotal time in the history of the Institute and of our society. I am absolutely convinced that together we can accomplish anything.”

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Archived issues of The Whistle can be accessed electronically through the Georgia Tech Web page, or directly at www.whistle.gatech.edu.

Georgia Tech is a unit of the University System of Georgia.

Gov. Sonny Purdue (clockwise, top left), Joseph Evans from the Alumni Association, Distinguished Professor Robert Nerem and Pearl Alexander with the Office of Human Resources addressed the audience attending Peterson’s Investiture Ceremony.

Left: Val and Bud Peterson, from left, School of Public Policy Professor and Executive Vice Chancellor Susan Herbst listen to University System of Georgia Chancellor Erroll B. Davis Jr. address the audience. Right: Distinguished Professor Robert Nerem leads the procession following the ceremony.
Strategic Vision process

PLANNING, continued from page 1

to Tech's statewide and global role. From 2 to 5 p.m., the Global Learning and Conference Center played host to the strategic planning public forums.

“Dr. Peterson made it clear when we started this process that it is to be driven by the Georgia Tech community,” said Vice Provost for Academic Affairs Associate Professor Vicki Birchesfield.

The “Emergency Preparedness” certificate program, which consists of several smaller courses, including “Fire Safety” and “Facilities Hazard Training,” provides campus faculty and staff with valuable information in case of a campus emergency.

The “Defining Customer Service” certifi-
cation program prepares campus groups and employees with the foundation for offering exemplary service, to those both on and off the campus. Four required courses and two electives are offered.

MISCELLANEOUS

September 9

The Advanced Wood Products Leadership program’s “3-Day WoodExpo,” to be held at the Global Learning and Conference Center.

September 10

The Office of Emergency Preparedness will conduct a full-scale test of Tech’s emergency messaging systems, including the Georgia Tech Emergency Notification System (GETENS), the System to Create and Relay Emergency Action Messages (SCREAM), the Georgia Tech Cable TV Alert System (GTCTAS) and the outdoor siren warning system, from 11 to 11:30 a.m.

September 15

The Georgia Tech Leadership Challenge Course will hold its grand opening, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the corner of Ferst Drive and Hemphill Avenue.

September 16

Faculty wives and women faculty are invited to attend the annual Georgia Tech Faculty Women’s Club Open House, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the President’s Residence.

September 17

The Office of Organizational Development presents the Brown Bag seminar, “Atlanta Habitat for Humanity International Meeting,” from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Press Room A of the Student Success Center.

Ongoing

CAITE (Center for Assistive Technology and Environmental Access) seeks full-time employees with a mobility disability to take part in its summer internships. Part-time and volunteers will be reimbursed. Call Claire Yang at 385-8569 or e-mail her at haiyang-ya.yang@coe.gatech.edu.

For a more comprehensive listing of events updated daily, visit www.gatech.edu/calendar.

John Carter Jr., president and CEO of the Georgia Tech Foundation, leads a discussion during a break-out ses-
tion at Thursday’s strategic planning session.

In their recent student engagement and response to leadership educa-
tion and technology to predicting how best to think 25 years into the future. We have addressed this concern by developing scenarios of alternative futures. I think specifically for Tech, but of the world in which Tech will have to succeed. According to Rouse, who holds a joint appointment in the College of Computing, the Institute’s direction for the next 25 years, regardless of the world that exists at the time.

"Public dialogue about the future circumstances we are likely to encounter, as well as the future circumstances we hope to create, will be very important and invaluable element of the community’s involvement in the process,” he said.

"It is an exciting time for Georgia Tech and a fun time to be here."
Students will be nearly two months into the fall semester as Tech opens its doors to welcome parents of students as part of Family Weekend, an annual event that has become a substantial campus tradition.

Family Weekend 2009, Sept. 25 and 26, offers parents and family members of Georgia Tech students the opportunity to experience what makes Georgia Tech such an exciting place to be. Family members can attend seminars, tour Tech’s colleges and schools and take gazing from the Georgia Tech Observatory. Social events include breakfast with Dean of Students John Stein, an evening trip to Six Flags Over Georgia and a concert at the First Center for the Arts, all culminating in a tailgate party before Saturday’s football game.

Friday’s events will run for most of the day. Morning and early afternoon seminars take place at the Global Learning and Conference Center (GLCC), while tours of and presentations from the colleges and various schools will be in the afternoon. President Bud Peterson will deliver his State of the Institute address from 12:50 to 1:30 p.m. in the GLCC.

Also early Friday afternoon, New York Times reporter and author Warren St. John will speak about his book, “Outcasts United,” which depicts the story of a soccer team in Clarksboro that is comprised of refugee children. The event has garnered more than 200 RSVP’s from parents planning to attend. Kimberly Sterritt, director of the Parents Program, encourages faculty and staff members to get involved during the weekend and interact with parents as much as possible. “Academics and the overall learning environment are top of mind for these parents,” she said. “Family Weekend, in particular the academic receptions, provides a fantastic venue for us to take part. It will be a fun weekend!”

On Saturday, the week-end culminates with a tailgate party, complete with a barbecue, prior to the Yellow Jackets game against the University of North Carolina. So far, attendees have bought more than 1,800 tickets to the game. As of Sept. 2, more than 2,100 parents—568 families—had registered.

Program Coordinator Officer Rachel Pocklington said this places the event on track to meet or exceed the number of participants who attended last year.

For Director Kimberly Sterritt and Peterson, this is the first year they are flying “solo” for this event. Last year, the Parents Program was moved to the Division of Student Affairs, as the department was previously part of the Alumni Association. For Family Weekend 2008, both the Association and Student Affairs collaborated on the event. “We have had some very big shoes to fill,” Sterritt said. “[The Alumni Association] is indeed a tough act to follow. While taking this event on, Sterritt says she and Pocklington are glad to build on the strong foundation established by the Alumni Association. “Thank goodness for [their] meticulous planning and knowledge on event execution.” Nearly 100 Student Affairs staff members will assist in the weekend’s events.

We are seeing an increase in registration for Friday’s seminars,” she said. Included in the registration fee, seminar titles range from “What’s Next for Your Tech Student?” and “How to Be Successful at Tech” to a history of the Institute and information about this year’s InVenture Prize Competition.

A challenge for the office is to increase the participation of a broader spectrum of parents. “Almost 60 percent of attendees in the past have been parents of fresh- men students,” Pocklington said. “Some of the seminars and other programming are designed to speak to parents of older students. The challenge is keeping it fresh, because we want people to come back. This program can be meaningful to parents of all students, not just freshmen.”

To bring back parents of upperclassmen, Sterritt is seeking to expand the weekend’s offerings in the future. “We’re changing up some of the seminars, adding to the events and developing some programming for Friday evening that continues to showcase the amazing happenings on campus and continues to encompass the spirit of Georgia Tech,” she said. “It may be fun to incorporate the Campus Recreation Center’s Leadership Challenge Course next year, for example.”

For more information
www.studentaffairs.gatech.edu/parents

In Brief . . .

Budget town hall held
President Bud Peterson and other members of cam- pus leadership shared budget and furlough infor- mation to the campus community during a town hall-style meeting at the First Center for the Arts on Aug. 19.

Peterson explained the state budget shortfall during the town hall, and more information was given regarding the mandatory furlough days for faculty and staff.

The town hall is available in video form on the Institute’s budget update Web site. www.gatech.edu/budgetupdate

Hurst addresses students
Georgia Tech’s President’s Scholarship Program hosted 126 students at its annual fall lun-cheon on Sept 1.

Featured speaker Mark Hurst, author of “Bit Literacy: Productivity in the Age of Information and E-mail Overload,” addressed a group of stu- dents, faculty and staff about issues of information and time management in an increasingly digital world.

Hurst is a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and founder of Creative Good and Good Experience. He is also the son of Georgia Tech’s Prestigious Scholarship advisor for the Truman and Rhodes Scholarships, Paul Hurst.

Among his suggestions for increasing productiv- ity, Hurst included advice on cleaning one’s inbox every day, maintaining a “to do” list, and learning how to type properly.

SGA holds crime awareness forum
Civil engineering major Patrick Whaley kicked off a crime preven- tion awareness meeting, held in the Student Center ballroom the evening of Thursday, Aug. 27.

Officers from the Atlanta and Georgia Tech Police Departments addressed a stand- ing-room-only crowd at the hour-long event organized by the Student Government Association.

Holding his own experience as a shooting victim in an armed robbery, Whaley wanted to deliver a message to students: “You are not invincible, and we must band together to be a strong com- munity.”

Georgia Tech Police Chief Teresa Crocker and Crime Prevention Officer Ian Mayberry addressed the crowd before answering questions from the audience. Crocker and Mayberry, noting that the major crime on campus is theft, wanted students to know that the department is not oblivious to the more serious crimes around the campus. “Last Friday, Patrick said—there are people out there who want to make you their target,” Crocker said. “A lot of the theiefs [at Tech] are from people coming onto the campus.”

Armed robberies on campus are down 43 percent from last year, and are down 20 percent in Zone 3, according to Mayberry. But, he acknowledged that perception equals reality for students. “Crime remains a part of our society,” he said. “If you choose to be out at a.m. and don’t take advantage of our services, then you become a victim waiting for a perpetrator.”

Mayberry went on to suggest students with bicycles should invest in U-locks and that people should not leave laptops unattended in the library, in classrooms or in coffee shops. “We [GTPD] do our best to be everywhere in the area, but it’s impossible. A strong community is the best crime deterrent there is,” Mayberry said, echoing Whaley’s sentiment. He also told students they could sign up for GTPD Crime Alerts and the Georgia Tech Emergency Notification System (GTENS) on the GPD Web site.

“Georgia Tech is the greatest place on earth,” Whaley said. “We need to stand tall and stand united.”

For more information
www.police.gatech.edu

CLASSIFIEDS

AUTOMOBILES/ MOTORCYCLES

2006 Nissan Sentra SE 4-dr: 41 K miles. One previous owner. Exc. condition. $8,600 OBO. E-mail Michael.Kromhass@ gatech.edu for more info.

2006 Kia Rio XL 4-cyl, 5 spd. man, 45K miles. Like-new condition. $6,990 f.o.m. Serious inquiries only. Call 770-617-0885 or e-mail william.pierce45@ housing.gatech.edu.

2004 Toyota Corolla. Silver, gray interior. Minor scratches. Navi ready. 64K miles. Airbags, ex. maintenance history. $7,000 OBO. E-mail harpertj54@ gatech.edu.

REAL ESTATE/ ROOMMATES

28R, 2-story town home for lease in Inman Park. 2.5 miles from campus. Lease for one year; minimum: Reduced: asking $1,350 OBO. Call Rodney Cook at 404-237-8662 or e-mail rcook54@earthlink.net for more info.

For rent: 1BR/1BA Midtown, 8th floor condo at Windsor On Peachtree. Newly painted, maple kitchen cabinets, parquet floors. Pool, fitness center w/ cardio equipment, 24-hr concierge, secure parking. Utilities incl. $950 per month. Free month rent with signed lease. Call 404-865-8500.

1BR/1.5BA 2-story contemporary loft with garden patio. Office, nursery or extra sleeping area. Lots of light and privacy. 2BR, 2BA. 4th Floor. 1.7 miles to campus, near MARTA stop. $234,900. E-mail at debbie.leshane@harrynorman.com.

1BR, terrace apartment. Springlake neighbors. Quiet and Publix between Howell Mill Rd. and Northshore Dr. Parking and private entrance. Contact 404-826-8500.

For sale: 3BR/1BA in Henry County with 10 acres. Brick ranch, fireplace, HW floors, detached garage. 1-acre pond, 2 creeks, handcrafted stone walls. 30 minutes to Tech, close to I-20, I-285 and I-475. Call Susan at 404-494-4380 or e-mail susanh74@gmail.com.

For rent or sale: 2BR/2.5BA town home in M-West, minutes from Tech. 1,600 sq. ft; 2-car garage, brick yard, Gated, low HOA fees. Three levels, balcony/patio on each. Upgraded HW floors, granite, SS appliances, washer/ dryer. Call Michael at 404-578-8599 or e-mail mikesyjm50@hotmail.com.

SPORTS/RECREATION

Take a sabbatical along the Southern Outer Banks! Cottage with a View. For more information visit http://travel.ajc.com/ ads/105. E-mail jude@ready@gatech.edu.

MISCELLANEOUS


For sale: 3-wheel electric medical scooter (Go Go Elite Traveler). Ex. condition. Other models: $250. OBO or pay e-mail glen.hickman@bellsouth.net.

Apple G4 QuickSilver 800MHz PPC, 1.5GHz RAM, two 80GB HDD. DS O X Technology, 10.4, DVDRW, CD-RW, Airport Wi-Fi, M-Audio 7.1 USB surround card, Kaybol & Mouse, 17” Apple Cinema Display, CD-RW. For more info, call 770-497-0970 or e-mail smartinfobell@gmail.com.

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