Vice President for Institute Diversity Named

Following a national search, President G. P. “Bud” Peterson has announced the appointment of Archie Ervin as Georgia Tech’s inaugural vice president for Institute Diversity. He will start January 1, 2011.

Ervin, who has served as the associate provost for diversity and multicultural affairs at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill since 2005, will be charged with oversight of all diversity-related matters at Georgia Tech, providing leadership to formulate goals and strategies in support of the Institute’s strategic plan. The position reports directly to the president and sits on the president’s cabinet.

“Dr. Ervin has dedicated his professional career to the advancement of diverse and inclusive communities,” Peterson said. “He is a welcome addition to Georgia Tech as we unify and focus our own diversity programs. I am looking forward to working with him to achieve the goals outlined in our strategic vision.”

In a public address on campus last month, Ervin outlined the responsibilities for the job: to provide dedicated leadership to the diversity mission and functions of the university; to elevate the visibility and establish the credibility of those functions; and to ensure the diversity goals and priorities of the institution are at every level of governance within the university structure. To be effective, he recommends the approach of a servant leader.

“Coordinate does not mean control,” he said. “There are capable people at every institution who have the talent, expertise and commitment to make valuable contributions to the diversity enterprise. My role will be to enhance the abilities of those around us because they are the ones who make things happen.”

Creating a culture of inclusiveness, he added, is a continuous process that must be embedded in the fabric of the institution. It is, in his mind, a strategic choice.

“If you want to be an excellent institution, then you must have the talent of the world at your doorstep,” he said. “Our challenge is to create a community of scholars and learners who feel valued, respected and welcomed.”

Search committee chair and Dean of Libraries Catherine Murray-Rust said, “This is an important position for Georgia Tech at a crucial time. My colleagues on the search committee and I are very excited to have found someone with the experience and enthusiasm of Dr. Ervin. He has a breadth and depth of understanding of diversity in all its forms and experiences working with faculty, staff and students. He will be an excellent fit for our unique institution.”

Ervin earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in political science from Appalachian State University, and his doctorate in educational policy studies from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

www.diversity.gatech.edu

Tech Marks 50th Anniversary of the Matriculation of Black Students

Last week, Georgia Tech celebrates the 50th anniversary of the matriculation of black students at the Institute. Ralph Long Jr., Lawrence Williams and Ford Green, the first three black students enrolled in 1961, will return to campus on October 8 and 9 to celebrate the anniversary.

According to Gary May, chair of Georgia Tech’s School of Electrical and Computer Engineering and chair of the 50th Anniversary Planning Committee, “Matriculation of black students at Georgia Tech took place during a time in the Deep South where desegregation was frequently met with extreme strife. Tech is relatively unique in that the enrollment of Long, Williams and Greene took place without violence or a court order.”

During the coming year, Georgia Tech will celebrate the contributions that African-American students, faculty, staff and alumni have made to the university.

50 YEARS, continued on page 3

Art Exhibit Celebrates 40 Years of Hand Papermaking

Howard and Kathryn Clark came from two different worlds — he was an engineer, and she was an artist. But the two found a way to combine their passions into a successful business venture that is still going strong after 40 years.

In 1971, the Clarks opened the first hand paper mill to operate in the United States since 1929. Currently, the Robert C. Williams Paper Museum is featuring an exhibit, Two Rocker/Forty Years of Hand Papermaking, celebrating their work.

Amelia Pavlik
Communications & Marketing

October 15
The Ferst Center for the Arts welcomes comedian Paula Poundstone for an 8 p.m. performance. For tickets, call 404-894-9600.

www.ferstcenter.gatech.edu

October 22
The Ferst Center for the Arts welcomes singer and songwriter Michael Bolton for an 8 p.m. performance. For tickets, call 404-894-9600.

October 28
The Ferst Center for the Arts welcomes dance company Diavolo for an 8 p.m. performance. For tickets, call 404-894-9600.

www.ferstcenter.gatech.edu

The Robert C. Williams Paper Museum is featuring an exhibit, Two Rocker/Forty Years of Hand Papermaking, celebrating their work.
**Vempala Named to Magazine’s ‘40 Under 40’ List**

Georgia Trend magazine has named Santosh Vempala, distinguished professor in the School of Computer Science, to its 2010 “40 Under 40” list of outstanding individuals under 40 from around the state.

The selections are meant to recognize Georgians who are making their marks on their professions, their communities and their state.

Vempala, who specializes in theoretical computer science, directs the Algorithms & Randomness Center (ARC) & ThinkTank, which seeks to apply theory to problems and issues from across the range of engineering and the sciences. He also is one of the driving forces behind the College’s Computing for Good initiative, which centers on the concept of applying computing to social causes and improving quality of life.

“I am thrilled that research in the theory of computation makes it to a list that encompasses education, business, science, and arts,” Vempala said. “The College of Computing at Georgia Tech is a terrific place to be, with exciting research in fundamental science as well as in applying computing ideas to make a positive difference in the world around us.”

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**Drexel University Recognizes Work of Provost Bras**

Provost and Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs Rafael L. Bras, a leading authority on soil-vegetation-atmosphere system modeling, has been named the recipient of Drexel University’s 2010 Anthony J. Drexel Exceptional Achievement Award. Named for the university founder, the award was created to recognize collaborative, multidisciplinary research focused on real-world solutions that change society.

Bras’s research in hydrology and hydroclimatology has contributed to solving important societal problems by describing and forecasting floods and precipitation. He has also made major contributions to the study of deforestation’s impact on the hydrologic cycle.

“Dr. Bras exemplifies the translational researcher, applying theoretical models to real-world situations. His focus is not only toward intellectual pursuits but also toward developing solutions,” said Drexel University Provost Mark Greenberg.

Bras currently chairs a panel of experts that supervises the design and construction of a multibillion-dollar project to protect the City of Venice from flooding during unusually high tides. The project is scheduled for completion in 2014.

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**Football Sponsor Honors Faculty During Games**

This season, one company is making a special effort to recognize members of the faculty who are earning recognition for their contributions to both the Institute and their field of study.

During each home football game this season, Subaru will name one outstanding professor from each college at Georgia Tech. This year’s honorees include professors Reggie Desroches, Ellen Dunham-Jones, Michael Goodisman (above, right), Chuck Mulford, Adam Stubberg and Andrea Thomaz.

For more on the program, visit ramblinwreck.cstv.com/subaru.

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**Women’s Leadership Conference Open to Faculty and Staff**

**WHAT:**

Women’s Leadership Conference 2010

**WHEN:**

October 29-30

**WHERE:**

Georgia Tech Hotel and Conference Center

**COST:**

$10 for Tech students

$5 for volunteers

$25 for all others

From October 15-22

$15 for Tech students

$10 for volunteers

$30 for all others

**Event Details:**

The 2010 Women’s Leadership Conference is organized to bring women on campus and practitioners to discuss ways to improve quality of life. The conference, planned for October 29-30, will be offered during the three Saturday sessions that focus on everything from fitness to goal setting.

Volunteers are always needed, whether they are faculty, staff or students. Riggle said. Most volunteer for two hours or more, and in return, receive a discounted registration rate.

If you don’t have time to volunteer or attend, you can always donate to the cause.

“We rely on the generosity of our sponsors and donations to keep the registration fees low,” Riggle added.

**www.gtwlwc.com**
HR Plans New Job Classification and Compensation Structure

NICOLE STEPHENS
OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Georgia Tech will move to a new compensation program, effective January 1, 2011. The new program will provide classified staff employees with a new job structure and classification system that is based upon a redefined compensation philosophy and supporting policies.

The goal of the new compensation philosophy and job structure is to increase consistency across the Institute in three ways: establishing well-defined job descriptions, titles and salary grades; developing clear policies to for consistent practices; and driving to more data-based decision making.

“Segmenting Georgia Tech’s large and diverse workforce into multiple salary grade structures will allow the Institute to better respond to marketplace trends and provide a framework for career movement for employees,” said Robert McIntosh, director of compensation in the Office of Human Resources.

Upon implementation, classified staff employees will now have: updated and online job descriptions reflecting employee responsibilities, new job grades based on job type, and salary structures that reflect the job function.

Human Resources will use also use a more robust source for market data when evaluating jobs and reviewing the new job structures. The goal is for Georgia Tech jobs to be aligned with the market and allow leaders and managers to make more informed pay decisions.

Over the next few months as Georgia Tech moves toward implementation, training will be provided for campus managers to better understand the new policies, classification system and job structures. For more about compensation and job classification at Georgia Tech, visit:

www.ahr.gatech.edu/compensation

OIT Issues Warning on Increased Phishing Attacks

Over the past several weeks, Georgia Tech’s Office of Information Technology (OIT) has seen an increase in phishing attacks against Georgia Tech students, staff and faculty. OIT reminds users to always check suspicious messages out before opening them.

Messages that appear to come from Georgia Tech asking for account or password information will never be valid messages. Messages that come from entities outside Georgia Tech — banks, Netflix, shipping companies, etc. — should be verified before clicking on any links or opening any attachments.

The attacks are taking various forms such as:

• A message that appears to come from Georgia Tech about a “server upgrade” and asks for the user’s name, password and date of birth. The reply address is not a Georgia Tech address. This goes against Georgia Tech policy, which never asks users for their passwords or account information, especially over e-mail.

• A message that appears to come from Netflix reporting a lost disc problem, or FedEx reporting a missing shipment. However, the links point to a malicious website (hover your mouse over them to see, but do not click on the link), or the attachment (zipped) contains malware.

• A message coming from a bank (e.g. Bank of America) that looks legitimate, but clicking on the attachment sends the user to a phishing website.

• A message that appears to come from a legitimate friend claiming to be stuck overseas and needing $500 to pay for a hotel bill. OIT has posted information on the FAQ website to help users differentiate between legitimate and phishing websites as well as how to get rid of spam/phishing emails.

faq.oit.gatech.edu

The receipt above is an example of the kind of methods that are currently being utilized to trick unsuspecting users into providing personal data for exploitation. The Office of Information Technology is reminding the Tech community to treat such solicitations with caution.

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Community

A Friendly Face in the Registrar’s Office

DAN TREADWAY
COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

Luis Ocasio is manager of the One-Stop Shop in the Office of the Registrar. Before coming to Georgia Tech in 2008, he served as an admissions officer at the University of Maryland, College Park (where he earned a bachelor’s degree) and as senior assistant director of International Admission at the University of Miami, Coral Gables (where he earned a master’s degree).

The job title on your e-mail signature is “Manager, One-Stop Shop, Office of the Registrar.” What responsibilities are included in that?

Prior to the creation of the Registrar One-Stop Shop (ROSS), there were several points of entry for students, faculty, staff and the public when visiting the Office of the Registrar. Our visitors were being directed to the various departments within the office for assistance. Thanks to the recent physical remodel of the office, we are now able to assist our visitors at one central location. The Customer Service Team is responsible for staffing the front counter, phone bank and e-mail communication area. My responsibility as the ROSS manager is to assess and supervise our ROSS staff in order to provide top quality customer service to all who communicate with the Office of the Registrar.

How did you first become interested in making the switch from admissions work to the Office of the Registrar?

As a former admissions officer for both domestic and international departments, I gained valuable experience working alongside students, parents, high school counselors and my colleagues in academic advising with one goal in mind: find the right fit (in terms of college and major) for our prospective seniors. Where I lacked experience my first ten years in higher education administration was understanding the process of enrolling, registering and graduating college students. Although I enjoyed being the advisor to three successful and popular student organizations at “The U” (University of Miami), I gradually became interested in assisting currently enrolled students. I did not hesitate to jump at the opportunity to work in the Office of the Registrar at Georgia Tech. I am now part of a team that’s at the forefront of providing assistance to students seeking registration, advising and degree certification information.

What is the most rewarding aspect of advising students?

The most rewarding thing is recognizing students at Commencement and seeing their faces before they walk out to the main floor and then onto the stage to shake President Peterson’s hand. Being witness to one of their proudest moments in life is simply priceless.

Can you recall a truly unique experience from your years of interacting with students?

One experience that really stands out from a previous job is meeting with a former judge of the Superior Chamber of National Accounts from the Dominican Republic and his wife to talk about their daughter’s college selection process and what to expect from that. I had a scheduled afternoon appointment in Santo Domingo with a high school senior. I became concerned and very nervous when the student whom I was to interview arrived not only with her parents, but also with a small entourage/security force. I had no clue as to whom I was meeting with until I was properly introduced. Meeting with this high-profile family was a pleasant and enjoyable experience. The student’s outstanding academic credentials and overall application presentation were more than enough to gain admission. I have been in higher education administration for more than 12 years and there have been times when I was truly excited about what I do for a living. Meeting this family and being part of their daughter’s enrollment process was such a moment in my career.

What role do you play in the production of the Commencement program each semester?

Once our Degree Certification Department completes the initial audit and name verification process, I am responsible for downloading the names of all active degree candidates that are to be listed in the Commencement program. I also review the initial layout of the program, check for inconsistencies (name spelling, designators, majors, etc.) and approve the final draft before it is sent to the Communications and Marketing Department.

Is there anything else you’d like to mention?

If you have not seen the remodeling of the Office of the Registrar space in the Tech Tower, come see us. It would be more than happy to show you around. I would also like to say that the Georgia Tech community has made me feel welcomed and I appreciate the opportunity to work with my colleagues at the Institute.

Walking with purpose

During the month of October, members visiting the Campus Recreation Center may notice two pink poodles in the fitness center. They are part of a fundraising event: for each mile recorded during the month, the manufacturer will make a donation toward breast cancer research.

At an event marking the start of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, members of the campus community — including President Bud Peterson and First Lady Lady Peterson — took Tech’s first steps. For more information on how to participate, speak with a CRC employee or visit www.crc.gatech.edu.

EXHIBIT, continued from page 1

“Kathryn and Howard are important contributors to this community,” said Teri Williams, exhibit curator. “This museum is home base for them. So, it just makes sense for this exhibit to be here.”

The Clark’s began their papermaking venture while living in San Francisco. However, when Howard’s father passed away in 1972, they relocated to Howard’s family farm in Brookston, Ind., to care for his grandmother and build a new mill.

“The Clark’s really embraced handmade papermaking,” Williams said. “They wanted to make really good and consistent paper.”

Over the years, Twingricker’s clients have been primarily artists, fine print makers and a group of fine art presses that manufacture limited edition, almost completely handmade books. The exhibit features many examples of these publications, as well as artwork and other media that were created on Twingricker paper.

Visitors also have the opportunity to watch “The Mark of the Maker,” an Academy Award-nominated documentary about the mill.

The exhibit is open now through December 17, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

www.ipst.gatech.edu/amp

The Registrar’s Office is responsible for maintaining the official academic record for Georgia Tech students. Ocasio manages the customer service end of the operation.

FURNITURE/APPLIANCES

Cherry wood dining room table and matching china cabinet for sale, $250. Table measures 40 inches by 30 inches. Delivery available. Call 404-391-7165.

Must sell immediately. Two bookshelves, table, micro, vase, chair, lamp, pots and gardening. Less than 1 year old. Willing to negotiate price. Pics available; must pick up. E-mail anamaria.conat@mgf.gatech.edu.

Bedroom set consisting of captain style bed, chest of drawers, desk and headboard. In good condition. Brand name is Grant Hill Collection. Price available, asking $300 or all. Call 404-385-3898 or e-mail nita.brown@mgt.gatech.edu.

Full-sized, 3-section couch with large, overstuffed matching chair. Both are in good condition. Pics available. Call 404-488-3205 or e-mail cary8698@gmail.com.

Bedroom set consisting of king size bed, dresser, mirror, chest of drawers, desk and lamp. Brand name is Bombay. Price available, asking $600 or all. Call 404-385-3889 or e-mail nita.brown@mgt.gatech.edu.

MISSILECIOUS

Dell Alienware M17X-R2. Intel Core i7-620M Processor, Dual 500GB drives, 4GB RAM, 1GB HD Radeon Mobility HD 5870, 17-inch Wide UXGA. Delivered June 2010. $2,700 value, sell for $2,000. Call 404-610-9090 or e-mail chuck@nrc.gatech.edu.

Full-sized, 3-section couch with large, overstuffed matching chair. Both pieces are in good condition. Pics available. Call 404-488-3205 or e-mail cary8698@gmail.com.

Front porch, unfurnished. $1,500/month. Call 404-385-3898 or e-mail rita.brown@mgt.gatech.edu.

2BR/1BA with additional shower. $1,300/month. Call 678-637-5527.

Large kitchen, W/D included, new central HVAC, near deck and back yard, large front porch, unfurnished. $1,500/month rent or $2,050/month sale. Call 404-523-9767.

3BR/2 Bath, 17-inch Wide UXGA. Delivered June 2010. $2,700 value, sell for $2,000. Call 404-610-9090 or e-mail chuck@nrc.gatech.edu.

HVAC, rear deck and back yard, large kitchen, W/D plumbed, new central HVAC, for rent. 2BR/2.5 BA townhouse in Smyrna, 9 miles from Tech. Two-level, end unit, two-car garage, nice community with pool. Call 404-779-8562.

For information, $899,000. Visit www.tinyurl.com/2ae5cpe.

CLASSIFIEDS

EDITOR@COMM.GATECH.EDU

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