



THE Whistle



ASK AWAY

? Will the campus Chick-fil-A serve the spicy chicken biscuit?

According to Staci Heck, retail operations director for Tech dining, at this time the campus location won't be offering the biscuit, as it is an item that is being tested in traditional stores first. But everyone should be happy to know that the Tech Chick-fil-A has received approval to start serving the spicy chicken sandwich, which will be rolled out during spring break.

If you have a Tech-related question that you'd like answered, e-mail it to editor@comm.gatech.edu.

EVENTS

ARTS & CULTURE

January 27

The Hidden Treasures: Marbling from the Permanent Collection exhibit will open at the Robert C. Williams Paper Museum. The exhibit runs through March 2011.

www.ipst.gatech.edu

January 29

The Ferst Center presents Step Afrika! at 8 p.m. Call 404-894-9600 for tickets.

www.ferstcenter.gatech.edu

February 12

The Ferst Center presents Jon Faddis Jazz Orchestra of New York at 8 p.m. Call 404-894-9600 for tickets.

www.ferstcenter.gatech.edu

CONFERENCES & LECTURES

January 25

A Young Innovators in Biomedical Engineering Seminar featuring Joel Collier of the University of Chicago will be held at 11 a.m. in room 1103, Whitaker Building. The title of the lecture is "Peptide Assemblies: From Cell Scaffolds to Immune Adjuvants."

www.bme.gatech.edu

The School of Chemistry and Biochemistry welcomes Bradley S. Moore of the University of California as he lectures on "Exploring the Chemistry of Biological Favorskii Rearrangement" at 4 p.m. in room G011, Molecular Science and Engineering Building.

www.chemistry.gatech.edu

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Tech Creates 21st Century Universities Center

MIKE TERRAZAS
COLLEGE OF COMPUTING

At a time when online enrollments are growing at as much as 10 times the rate of traditional campus enrollments, Georgia Tech has announced the creation of the Center for 21st Century Universities, to be directed by former College of Computing Dean Rich DeMillo.



Rich DeMillo

The center, which will be based in the College of Computing and will include faculty from Management, Public Policy and Industrial Systems and Engineering, will focus on the role of disruptive technologies such as social networking and innovations such as open courseware. It will serve as a living laboratory for testing new ideas. "While technology is not the only enabler of change in higher educa-

tion, it is on the critical path to all foreseeable change," said DeMillo, who is currently a distinguished professor in the colleges of Computing and Management. "The goal is to use the output of this living laboratory to drive innovative, diverse — perhaps competing — visions of higher education in the 21st century."

While serving as dean, DeMillo oversaw the overhaul of the College of Computing's undergraduate computer science curriculum, moving to a contextual, specialized approach called "Threads," which has been hailed as a groundbreaking development in higher education.

The center, "C21U," will not only explore technological opportunities for innovation, but also examine some of academia's long-held assumptions about knowledge and skill delivery.

Reimagining those models, DeMillo said, could mean the difference between institutional success and failure in an educational environment that yields annual market share to nontraditional and international competitors.

"We've got to figure out how to scale a Georgia Tech education to a much larger population of students, while retaining every bit of the intellectual rigor that makes that experience what

it is," said Steve Cross, executive vice president for research. "The last decade has shown us that different models of education delivery can not only work but also succeed. Given our nature and history as a technological university that responds extremely well to the shifting demands of industry, it's appropriate that Georgia Tech help lead the way toward a thriving system of higher education in the 21st century."

DeMillo added that the center hopes to develop a spirit of experimentation among its faculty affiliates, challenging them to innovate in curricular design, while working with national and international groups also engaged with higher education reform.

The first item on the center's agenda is developing a seed grant program that will identify and provide funds for promising early proposals.

"Rich DeMillo is the perfect choice to lead this center because he has a passion for education and he understands that in today's environment — both in technology and in education — you have to innovate or you will get left far behind," said Zvi Galil, John P. Imlay Jr. Chair and dean of the College of Computing.

www.cc.gatech.edu

IEEE Promotes 6 Faculty Members to Fellow Status

LIZ KLIPP
COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

Six Georgia Tech faculty members have been elevated to Fellow status by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), the world's leading professional association for the advancement of technology.

The IEEE grade of Fellow is conferred by the board of directors upon a person with an extraordinary record of accomplishments in any IEEE field of interest. The promotions went into effect on Jan. 1.

The following faculty members were honored:

- Mark G. Allen, Regents' Professor and Joseph M. Pettit Professor in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, received his IEEE Fellow citation "for contributions to micro and nanofabrication technologies for micro-electromechanical systems."
- Mary Jean Harrold, professor in the School of Computer Science in the College of Computing, earned her IEEE Fellow status "for contributions to software systems."
- Jay Lee, an adjunct professor in the School of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, was elevated to IEEE Fellow status "for contributions to model-based predictive control

FELLOWS, continued on page 3

School of Architecture Appoints Johnston as Chair

TERI NAGEL
COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE

Professor George B. Johnston, a registered architect and noted cultural historian, has been appointed chair of the School of Architecture. A 26-year member of the architecture faculty, he is the first to hold this newly created position after the College of Architecture reorganized into five schools.

As chair, Johnston will provide leadership and direction for all academic and administrative affairs in the school. In addition to expanding relationships with other disciplines in the College of Architecture and across campus, he also has been tasked with reforming undergraduate and graduate education to best prepare graduates for dramatic changes in architectural practice.

"Dr. Johnston is without doubt the most capable person to



George B. Johnston

JOHNSTON, continued on page 3

Faculty Women's Club Celebrates 90th Year

It's one of Georgia Tech's most valuable resources for female faculty members and spouses and partners of faculty members, yet it's perhaps one of the better kept secrets.

"It's very difficult for us to reach our potential membership," said Lynne Wepfer, president of the Tech Faculty Women's Club. "Part of this can be attributed to the fact that we're not affiliated with any specific department, and we don't have an office on campus."

The group was founded in 1921 to foster a sense of community among the wives of faculty members. But as women's roles have evolved, so has the group.

In the early 1990s, membership was opened to female faculty members, and now the group encompasses women from all ages and walks of life, Wepfer said.

She was drawn to the club in the 1980s, when her husband, Bill Wepfer, accepted a job at Tech.

"I didn't know anyone, and this club kind of scooped me up," Wepfer said. "I found out that I was pregnant with my first child shortly after we arrived, and I needed that kind of support."



Members of the Faculty Women's Club enjoy a meal during their visit to the Serenbe community.

Over the years, her participation in the club has ebbed and flowed, but that is what she thinks makes the organization so valuable to anyone — whether she's a faculty member or a spouse or partner.

"It's there when you're ready for it," she said. "Our activities let you come in and contribute without an obligation."

Each year begins for the club in September with an open house hosted by First Lady Valerie H. Peterson.

Events are then held monthly and include everything from visits to Rhodes Hall to the Serenbe community.

If you are looking for a way to contribute to the community, the group participates in service activities, such as a morning of work at the Atlanta

Community Food Bank that is scheduled for Feb. 22. Activities for the year always come to a close with a luncheon.

Members also may join a variety of interest groups that include two thriving book clubs, lunch and dinner clubs and a group that focuses on making wise investments.

Annual dues are \$35. If you have any questions regarding membership, contact Jan Gaylord at gaylord.jan@gmail.com.

www.gtfwc.gatech.edu

Scholarships Available to Children of Tech Employees

Since the early 1990s, the Tech Faculty Women's Club has provided scholarships for the children of Tech employees who are studying at the Institute. The club is now accepting applications for five \$1,000 scholarships.

Undergraduates who have a parent or guardian employed at Tech and who have a GPA of 2.75 are encouraged to apply at www.gtfwc.gatech.edu (see "Scholarships").

Applications are due by March 1.

FELLOWS, continued from page 1

applications."

- John Papapolymerou, professor in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, was awarded the IEEE Fellow citation "for contributions to flexible, microwave and wireless components and systems."
- Gabriel Rincón-Mora, associate professor in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, earned the IEEE Fellow citation "for contributions to energy- and power-integrated circuit design."
- Ellen Zegura, professor and chair of the School of Computer Science in the College of Computing, was elevated to IEEE Fellow status "for contributions to disruption-tolerant networking."

www.ieee.org

JOHNSTON, continued from page 1

carry out the mission of this school and best to prepare our graduates for a future that will see dramatic changes in architectural practice," Dean Alan Balfour said. "Given the new administration and a very adventurous strategic plan, this new chair must be able to take control and act quickly."

"The division of knowledge and expertise between the fields of architecture and engineering that served so well in the industrial age is giving way to a new model of integrated knowledge in the digital age. Who better than Georgia Tech is so well positioned to bridge this divide?" Johnston commented. "The digital-age practice of architecture will rise on creative contact between design and research across fields and disciplinary boundaries. And it will require flexibility and an enterprising spirit that comes from engaging the world through community action and international exchange, from weighing the human benefits and environmental costs in all we do. Georgia Tech has every reason to be ambitious in charting this new direction."

Johnston joined the faculty of Georgia Tech in 1984 and was promoted to the rank of professor in 2010. He earned a Bachelor of Architecture degree from Mississippi State University in 1979, a Master of Architecture degree from Rice University in 1984 and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in American Cultural History from Emory University in 2006.

New VP for Institute Diversity Welcomed at Reception



A reception was held on Jan. 19 to formally introduce Archie Ervin, Tech's first vice president for institute diversity, to the campus community. Ervin comes to Tech from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he served as the associate provost for diversity and multicultural affairs from 2005 to 2010.

EVENTS

MISCELLANEOUS

January 29

"Spectacle is Not Development: A Tour of Atlanta Neighborhoods" will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event will explore how the spectacle of development does not necessarily translate into equitable growth for urban communities and will include presentations at the Georgia Hill Community Center, followed by a guided bus tour of Atlanta's surrounding neighborhoods. Tickets are \$5 for students and residents and \$10 for all others. Register at <http://tinyurl.com/4k9p4w2>

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

CLASSIFIEDS

AUTOMOBILES/ MOTORCYCLES

2001 Acura Accord EX Coupe. Gold with tan leather. Automatic. Meticulously maintained by Honda dealership. 181,000 miles. \$4,200. Original owner. E-mail january15@bellsouth.net.

REAL ESTATE/ ROOMMATES

Buckhead condominium 1BR/1BA with balcony (936 sq. ft.), 16th floor. Additional storage available. Immediate access to GA-400. Short walk to Buckhead MARTA and Terminus. Close to malls. Private parking, hardwood floor, floor-to-ceiling windows, stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, concierge, fitness center, pool, spa, private lounge, wine cellar and valet. Available Jan. 1. \$1,300/month. E-mail jennifer.brown@esl.gatech.edu.

5BR/4BA home in Inman Park. Recently renovated kitchen, stunning master retreat and upstairs bedrooms. Walk to restaurants and shops. Unique architectural accents throughout. Terrace level with full kitchen and potential for rental income. \$889,000. Visit www.tinyurl.com/2ad5cpe.

Two-story house w/ basement, 4BR/2.5BA. Off Hwy. 78 between Stone Mountain and Snellville, 24 miles from GT. Much desired Gwinnett Co./ Brookwood schools. Renovated, new systems, new carpet and SS appliances. Wooded and lovely fenced back yard. MLS # 2934085. Reduced price \$179,900. Contact trcon@isye.gatech.edu or trudy.cron@yahoo.com.

Exceptionally located, professionally decorated/landscaped house near Northside/St. Joseph's Hospital complex. 4BR/3BA, library/office, gourmet kitchen, great entertainment space and deck. Full basement. \$2,600/mo.; \$560K sale price. Contact georgegarcia46@gmail.com or marta.garcia@dev.gatech.edu or 404-275-5640

Very cool 2BR/1BA. \$1,550, utilities included. End unit in quiet concrete building, hardwood parquet floor, gated, tennis courts and pool. Glazed porch doubles as separate dining area or office. Located very close to Tech. Contact jude.leblanc@coa.gatech.edu or 404-894-1883.

Classifieds continue on page 4

Tech Grad Found His Niche in Public Policy

Rather than become a bookbinder, piano-tuner or point guard — all back up careers that Richard Barke considered — he chose to go into public policy, a realization that occurred while he was attending Tech as an undergraduate student majoring in physics.



Richard Barke

“I wanted to know who paid for our research, how they chose my professor and what they would do with our results,” said Barke, an associate professor in the School of Public Policy. “I realized that much of what happens in science is related to politics and policy.”

Now, after 30 years of teaching, if he had to explain his field of study to a fifth grader, it might go a little something like this:

“Science and technology are totally awesome — or whatever it is that fifth graders say today,” he said. “They affect the world in many ways and most of them are good. But the world affects science and technology, too. I think about questions like, ‘Why do we

study some things rather than others?’ and ‘What happens when scientists disagree?’

Recently, The Whistle sat down with Barke to learn more about his experiences at Tech and as an instructor. Here’s what he said:

How did you end up at Tech?

I started out here, went to grad school in Rochester, NY, then moved from the freezer to the sauna (to teach at the University of Houston). Finally, the long invisible rubber band pulled me back to Tech in 1987.

What are three things everyone should do while working at Tech?

Attend one of the free sporting events. Learn all of the words to the “Ramblin’ Wreck.” Go to an event at the Ferst Center that you’re sure you won’t enjoy (for me, it was Taiko — Japanese drums), and discover the joy of being totally wrong.

Where is the best place to grab lunch (on or off campus), and what do you order?

Mostly Junior’s these days, and I get the burger basket, but until recently it was the Classico Cuban sandwich at Kool Korner.

Tell us about a professional accomplishment that you are most proud of.

I was a consultant for the Carnegie

Commission on Science, Technology, and Government, where I was most involved with issues regarding how the U.S. Congress allocates money for scientific research fields and how it solicits and uses advice from scientists and engineers. Some of this work was continued with agencies in Belgium and China.

What are three things that you do to make learning more engaging for students?

I occasionally interject lyrics from rock songs, I challenge students to disagree with the assigned readings and (in large classes) I have them design policies from scratch.

What is the greatest challenge you face associated with teaching, and how have you dealt with it?

Some Tech students arrive with a very cynical attitude about policy, government and politics. It’s not hard to understand why. My challenge is to show them that the system actually works rather well much of the time.

What piece of technology could you not live without as an instructor?

The book.

Tell us something unusual about yourself.

I nearly fell off Stone Mountain when I was 14. Seriously.

Apartment w/ large master BR, free Internet, walk-in closet, private bath and hardwoods. Kitchen w/ new appliances, island. Patio/deck, parking, gated. Washer/dryer. \$675/mo. West midtown. 713-560-7460.

3BR/2.5BA townhouse for rent with fenced back yard. \$1,200/month. For additional info and contact numbers, go to tinyurl.com/3ypgpb2.

Built in 2005, 3 BR/large bonus room/2.5 BA. 2,543 sq. ft. house on cul-de-sac in quiet neighborhood. Only \$139K. Due to BRAC, seller pays \$4,000 closing costs w/full-price offer closing on/before 02/28/11. Hardwoods, neutral plush carpet, privacy-fenced backyard, vaulted living and dining rooms, master and laundry on main. Only 17 miles from Tech off I-20. Enter MLS# 4152742 on realtor.com or call 678-504-1566 to view.

FURNITURE/APPLIANCES

Leather sofa and love seat. Set is less than 2 years old, smoke free/pet free environment. \$750 (cash or money order only) or best offer. Must pick up. Located in Cumberland Mall area. E-mail jennifer.jacobs@mgt.gatech.edu.

Like new Maytag commercial quality electric washer and dryer set w/ extra large dryer capacity and stainless tub. All hoses included and units look and work perfectly! \$550. Call 404-939-1048.

Like new, 3-piece Macy’s chocolate microsuede queen sleeper sofa, chair and storage ottoman. Sleeper bed has never been slept on! \$750. Call 404-939-1048.

Heavy-duty swivel TV stand for both CRT and flat panel TVs. Can hold more than 100 lbs, has a divider shelf for stereo/DVR/VCR components with glass door and side storage shelves for DVD/VHS. Some scratches and scuffs from normal wear. Call 404-939-1048.

Dinette set with six chairs. Rectangle table (w/ leaf) measures approx. 66 in. by 40 in. In good shape. Medium oak with farmhouse style design. Pictures upon request. \$100. Call 404-385-3898 or e-mail rita.brown@nrc.gatech.edu.

MISCELLANEOUS

Eureka “The Boss” SmartVAC vacuum. Top-rated by Consumer Reports. Carpet and floor selection, like new, 18 months old. \$50 OBO. Call 404-894-1390 or e-mail bruce.henson@library.gatech.edu.

Free yellow jacket nest removal. Nests to be used for research at Georgia Tech. Call 385-6311 or e-mail michael.goodisman@biology.gatech.edu.

HP 12c financial calculator — hardly used w/ case. \$35. E-mail lks@gatech.edu.

Speakers for sale: Mirage FRx-7 floorstanding speakers, \$500/pair. Mirage OM-C3 center channel. \$200 or \$500 for all three. Call 404-717-9186.

Pro-Form 485EX Treadmill. Elevates, odometer, in good condition! \$75. Call 770-386-3181.

Gorgeous Calico cat looking for a good home. Gentle, loving temperament coupled with a playful personality. Please call Marlit Hayslett at 404-550-2372 or e-mail her at marlit@gatech.edu.

Ads appear and run for three issues in the order in which they are received. E-mail submissions to editor@comm.gatech.edu.

RAMBLIN’ THROUGH TIME

Alumni Building Once Home to YMCA

In honor of Tech’s 125th birthday year, we’re partnering with the Georgia Tech Alumni Magazine to highlight a piece of Tech history. This issue’s topic: the history of the Alumni Association building.

The following excerpt is number 12 on the list “125 Pieces of Tech History,” featured in the September/October 2010 issue of Georgia Tech Alumni Magazine:



The building at 190 North Ave., now home to the Alumni Association, was constructed to house the YMCA. In 1910, John D. Rockefeller gave \$50,000 to build the facility. That was the largest gift Georgia School of Technology had received. Another \$25,000 was raised for construction, and the YMCA opened on June 7, 1912.

Functioning much like a student center, the building housed the Blueprint and Technique staffs, a post office, barbershop, lunchroom and auditorium. On the third floor were rooms rented to students. Early residents dubbed themselves “Rockefeller Apartments Roomers.”

The YMCA hosted many a play, musical performance, movie and often held casual dances (pictured above) on Friday evenings. The Y staff would put a standing sign out on the sidewalk in front of the building to let the students know there would be a dance, according to Marilyn Somers, director of Tech’s Living History Program.

Campus Meetings Offer Weight Loss Support

After two months of endless sweets and goodies, you’re seriously considering joining Weight Watchers. But given your schedule, how would you find time for the meetings?

As a Tech employee, you’ve got a convenient option. Meetings are offered during lunch hours on Wednesdays at the Campus Recreation Center (CRC).

“It’s easy and fun,” said Dave Wagner, web developer at Georgia Tech Savannah. “Best of all, it works.”

Meetings begin at 11:45 a.m. with a weigh in. At noon, the program begins and the group discusses topics such as how to control emotional eating, finding a likeable exercise program and managing holidays. At 12:30 p.m., a Getting Started Session is offered for new members.

Although spring semester meetings began on Jan. 19 (and will run through May 18), it’s never too late to join. New participants pay a prorated amount if they begin after the start date. The program cost is \$200.

To learn more, e-mail Melissa Moore, the campus Weight Watchers leader, at melissa.moore@gatech.edu, or Christie Stewart, the Weight Watchers campus contact at the CRC, at christie.stewart@crc.gatech.edu.

Employees Must Disclose State Business Activities

The deadline for faculty and staff to submit State Business Transaction Disclosure Reports for 2010 is Jan. 31.

State law requires that all public officials and employees disclose all business transactions occurring during the previous calendar year in which the individual has (1) transacted with the state of Georgia and any agency of the state of Georgia for himself or on behalf of any business, or (2) any business in which the individual, or any member of his/her family, has a substantial interest.

Questions regarding this requirement may be directed to the Office of Legal Affairs at asklegal@gatech.edu or 404-894-4812. The disclosure reporting form and instructions are available at the following website:

<http://tinyurl.com/49wkc4v>