Construction on Highland Bakery Location Is Under Way

AMELIA PAVLIK
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

From the signature sweet potato biscuits to the made-to-order breakfast sandwiches with all the fixings, the baked goods and delicious dishes of Highland Bakery will soon be served at the restaurant's new campus location.

The bakery, which is set to open in early 2013, will take up residence in the Bradley Building where Junior’s Grill was located.

“We knew that the restaurant that filled that space had to be special,” said Rich Steele, senior director of Auxiliary Services. “Highland Bakery is an Atlanta institution, and we’re glad it will be making a more permanent home on the Georgia Tech campus.”

Tech’s partnership with the bakery began in the late 1990s when kiosks in the College of Architecture and College of Computing opened. The first Highland Bakery restaurant on Highland Avenue opened in 2004, and locations in Midtown and Buckhead have opened in recent years.

While the kiosks carry the bakery’s grab-and-go sandwiches, coffee and pastries, the new Tech location will be a full-service bakery.

The booths in the old Junior’s Grill have been removed as work begins to clear space for the new Highland Bakery location, set to open in early 2013.

The free English composition, physics and psychology MOOCs, being created for Coursera with funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, will be offered starting in January 2013.

The Gates Foundation awards address one of higher education's most pressing problems: bending the cost curve and improving learning outcomes for introductory courses,” said Rich DeMillo, director of C21U. “The Georgia Tech courses being funded by these grants all represent innovation in pedagogy, teaching and technology. If we are successful, courses like these will be a shift in both quality and cost for the vast majority of American college students.”

Professor Rebecca Burnett and Assistant Professor Karen Head in the School of Literature, Media and Communication will lead First-Year Composition 2.0. School of Physics Professor Michael Schatz will offer Your World is Your Laboratory: College-Level Introductory Physics, and School of Psychology Professor Richard Catrambone will lead Introduction to Psychology as a Science.

Charitable Campaign Donation Deadline Is Nov. 30

The deadline to contribute to the 2012-2013 statewide Charitable Campaign is Nov. 30. Learn more about your donation options at tinyurl.com/e715dh8

RSVP for Online Learning Town Hall

A second town hall discussing online learning will be held on Dec. 6 at 11 a.m. in room 1116, Klaus Advanced Computing Building. To RSVP for the event, go to tinyurl.com/bhbfk88

Tech Alumna Named Rhodes Scholar

Joy Buolamwini, a 2012 computer science graduate, has been named a Rhodes Scholar. Read more at tinyurl.com/c7hnhdy

FOR COMMUNICATIONS QUESTIONS, CONTACT THE GEORGIA TECH RESEARCH CORPORATION, 6868 West Peachtree Street, Atlanta, GA 30332-0415.

JASON MADERER
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

In October, Georgia Tech’s first Coursera massive open online course — or MOOC — was launched, attracting more than 50,000 enrollees. And thanks to a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, courses in English composition, physics and psychology will soon complement Tech’s more specialized MOOCs.

Unlike many existing MOOCs, which tend to feature advanced topics, these introductory courses are meant to target those who have yet to pursue or complete a college degree. They will be available free through Coursera beginning in January. The Georgia Tech Research Corporation received the grant and will work with the Center for 21st Century Universities (C21U), the College of Sciences and the College of Computing Building. To room 1116, Klaus Advanced

Introduction to Psychology as a Science.

Professor Richard Catrambone will lead First-Year Composition 2.0. School of Physics Professor Michael Schatz will offer Your World is Your Laboratory: College-Level Introductory Physics, and School of Psychology Professor Richard Catrambone will lead Introduction to Psychology as a Science.

In the weeks to come, most of us will spend spare moments at a supermarket or the mall choosing the perfect gift for our sibling or significant other. So while you’re out, why not pick up something to bring a little holiday cheer to a child or adult in need?

During the holiday season, groups across campus host a variety of donation drives. Read on for details about four donation opportunities you might want to consider.

PROJECT HEALTHY GRANDPARENT

DETAILS: Each year, the Women’s Resource Center adopts a family that is headed by a grandparent raising his or her grandchildren. This year’s grandparents is a grandmother raising four grandchildren ages 7, 10, 11 and 16.

WISH LIST: The family’s list includes jackets, pants, shirts, socks, undergarments, pots and pans, full-size sheets and blankets (sizes available upon request). Monetary contributions will also be accepted.

DEADLINE: Bring donations to the Women’s Resource Center, located in the Student Services Building, by Dec. 5.

DONATIONS, continued on page 3

GATES, continued on page 2
Improving Voting Accessibility for Injured Vets

Liz Klipp
Institute Communications

More than 50,000 men and women have been wounded in military service in Iraq and Afghanistan — and many are in rehabilitative centers where they face barriers that prevent them from voting independently and securely.

“Veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan have different types of injuries than the general population with disabilities,” said Brad Fain, head of the Human Systems Engineering Branch at the Georgia Tech Research Institute. “The range of accommodations they need to participate in elections differs. We need to better understand the barriers faced by veterans with disabilities to make the electoral process more accessible.”

After two years of study and hundreds of interviews with recently wounded vets, Fain and the research team found veterans with disabilities are likely to experience difficulty voting with because of inaccessible polling places, complicated ballot design and voting technologies that are not compatible with their needs. Traumatic brain injury, the “signature injury” of troops returning from Iraq and Afghanistan, can impact cognitive ability, independence, memory and attention span. Other common injuries among service members include mobility impairments or amputation of limbs, vision and hearing loss, sensation changes and post-traumatic stress disorder, all of which can affect voting activities. Researchers recommend taking simple steps to improve the voting process such as simplifying the ballot design and removing distractions.

They also recommend implementing a portable, tablet-based voting system with numerous control options. Fain is developing a marking tool that would be able to read the ballot in a format the individual could understand, allow the person to mark the ballot and then export it to the voting commissioner in an acceptable manner.

While this innovative technology shows potential, the researchers point out that advancements in technology alone will not solve the problem of voting accessibility for wounded veterans.

“A technology solution is not going to be useful unless we have the policy solutions, security issues and support services that allow people to vote privately, securely and independently,” Fain said.

Georgia Tech researchers will continue to study these issues in a larger study on voting among the general population with disabilities.

“It’s an honor to help solve this problem so all Americans with disabilities have the best opportunity possible to cast a private, secure and independent vote, especially veterans, since those injuries were obtained in service to their country,” Fain said.

www.gtri.gatech.edu

TechArts Seeks Proposals for Spring Festival

OFFICE OF THE ARTS

The 2013 TechArts Festival, an event slated for April 11-13, seeks proposals from students and faculty interested in participating in this new celebration of the arts on campus.

“The TechArts Festival is a singular event designed to celebrate the creative arts spirit on campus,” said Aaron Bobick, chair of the Council of the Arts. “It’s intended to showcase that music, dance, theater, literary arts and visual/digital media arts not only flourish in the midst of our technological research university, but also inspire and reflect both research and education.”

The festival, which will be sponsored by the Office of the Provost, the Council of the Arts and the Office of the Arts, will feature a variety of arts experiences. Featured work will be independently produced by students or faculty affiliated with Georgia Tech or produced as part of an academic or research project. Projects will showcase the convergence of art and science/technology, or will be solely artistic.

“This is a Georgia Tech arts festival, so while we expect some projects will feature the very talented musicians or visual artists who are part of the Tech community, other projects will showcase the coming together of arts and technology,” said George Thompson, director of the Office of the Arts and Festival producer.

Submit proposals by Feb. 15 at www.arts.gatech.edu
Public Policy Course Embraces Problem Solving

AMELIA PAVLIK
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

Destiny Cobb stepped outside of her comfort zone when she enrolled in a philosophy and public policy class on the topic of neuroethics — and she couldn’t be happier that she did.

“It’s been nice to go from a class of 100, where I am passively taking in information, to an active group discussion among six or seven people.”

The class Cobb is talking about is Biotechnology Law, Policy and Ethics and is taught by Roberta Berry, an associate professor in the School of Public Policy. Berry first learned about the problem-based learning (PBL) approach that she uses in the course from Wendy Niewiater, director of educational research and innovation for the College of Engineering.

Before Berry met Niewiater, she’d been thinking a lot about what she calls “fractious problems” in bioscience and biotechnology policy — such as issues related to embryonic stem cell research and end-of-life technologies.

Berry observed five things that seemed to be common to these types of problems that explained why they generated such unproductive debates: they are novel, complex, ethically fraught, public and divisive.

In her 2007 book, “The Ethics of Genetic Engineering,” Berry used these five features to outline a navigational approach to policymaking.

“What was so striking to me about the work that Wendy and others were doing in PBL — bringing together teams of learners to resolve complex problems that crossed disciplinary boundaries — was the strong family resemblance to the decision-making processes in law and ethics that I had drawn from in developing my proposed navigational approach to policymaking for fractious problems,” she said.

In 2009, the two began working together on a three-year National Science Foundation grant project related to PBL, and one component of the project was to formalize the navigational approach so that it could be used in learning environments.

The result is “Six Skills for Addressing the Characteristics of Fractious Problems” that Berry now uses in the course that Cobb enjoyed. (See box at right.)

In this semester’s course, Berry is teaching 19 students who are divided into four teams for the first problem and three teams for the second.

About 11 weeks of the course are devoted to allowing teams to work on the problems, while the other four are used for class meetings to teach the students about subject matter related to the problems.

This semester’s problems included one examining issues surrounding memory-dampening drugs and post-traumatic stress disorder in U.S. military service members. The other focused on using neuroimaging technology to identify students who are at risk for committing acts of violence.

“The most challenging part of the problems we discuss is their complexity, so we span a range of fields,” said Cobb, who wrote about her experience in the class this semester for Charged Magazine. (See box at end of article.)

For each issue, we have to look at everything policy, ethics and technology. My group has found it helpful to split up the knowledge-building portion of the problem and share our research during our group sessions. When it’s time to tackle the problem and come to a consensus, we use Dr. Berry’s skills for addressing fractious problems.”

This semester, Berry worked with three graduate students who served as co-designers of the course, as well as team facilitators. Ruchir Karmali, a master’s student in public policy, and Sharon Norman and Jason Wang, both PhD students in bioengineering, are now working with Berry to design a spring 2013 course that will use PBL but will be taught to a large class of 180 undergraduate students.

“PBL offers the opportunity to acknowledge the full dimensions of the complex problems that Georgia Tech students from all disciplines will encounter in their professional lives, and it prepares our students to be leaders in addressing them,” she added.

For More Information...

Email Roberta Berry at robertaberry@policy.gatech.edu. Read Destiny Cobb’s full article about her experience in Berry’s class in Charged Magazine at tinyurl.com/429px24

November 29

The Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning invites faculty members interested in participating in a new project related to massive open online courses and other innovative, technology-enhanced instructional strategies to join a discussion on Nov. 29 at 11 a.m. in room 102, Clough Commons. www.cetl.gatech.edu

December 1

The American Medical Student Association and Ripple Effect are teaming up to host their 1st Annual AMSA Day 5K Run. The run begins at 8 a.m. in the Biotechnology Quad. The cost of registration is $10 for students and $20 for others. Register at tinyurl.com/boneg8d

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

Classifieds continued on page 4

PEDiATRIC AIDS HoLiDay GiFT DiVE

DETAILS: AID Atlanta Women and Children’s Program will hold its annual Pediatric Holiday Party, which is a celebration for families affected by HIV/AIDS.

WISH LIST: Gifts are for children age 16 and younger, costing between $10 and $15. Presents should be wrapped. (Indicate if gifts are for a boy, girl or either, and for what age.) Gift cards for older children and monetary donations will also be accepted.

DEADLINE: Deliver gifts to Office of Information Technology/Enterprise Information Systems, 811 Marietta St., by Dec. 7.

MORE INFORMATION: Email Greg Phillips at greg.phillips@oit.gatech.edu.

WiNTER ClOThiNg DiVE

DETAILS: The student chapter of the American Helicopter Society is holding a winter clothing drive for the homeless.

WISH LIST: Clean winter coats and blankets.


MORE INFORMATION: Email Sylvester Ashok at sylvester_ashok@gatech.edu.

ToYS FOR TOTS

DETAILS: The U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Campaign Drive is collecting toys for children ages 2-16 in the Atlanta area.

WISH LIST: New and unwrapped toys. Monetary donations will also be accepted.

DEADLINE: Gifts may be delivered to locations across campus until Dec. 21.

MORE INFORMATION: Contact Steven McDaniel at 404-894-1110 or 404-894-0044.

CAMPUS NEWS

COMING SOON... Helicopter Society is holding a winter clothing donation drive for the Atlanta AID Atlanta Women and Children’s Program. The drive will accept donations of clean winter coats and blankets for children ages 0-16. Donations can be dropped off at the BioGates in room G13 in the Engineering Science and Mechanics Building until Dec. 7. Contact Steven McDaniel at 404-894-1110 or 404-894-0044 for more information.

DONATIONS, continued from page 1

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MORE INFORMATION: Email Sylvester Ashok at sylvester_ashok@gatech.edu.

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6 Skills for Addressing Fractious Problems

Associate Professor Roberta Berry has outlined the following six skills for students to consider as they analyze difficult problems in bioscience and biotechnology:

• Consider multiple and diverse perspectives.
• Consider historical analogies to similar or related problems.
• Consider the predicted future impacts of possible understandings and policy resolutions on all stakeholders.
• Employ imagination and flexibility to expand the range of possible understandings and policy resolutions.
• Consider social understanding and policy resolutions as part of a dynamic, incremental, iterative, ongoing process requiring persistence.
• Strive to identify limited, noncomprehensive, consensus guidelines that capture shared understanding and policy resolutions adequate to a persistent process.

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

CLASSIFIEDS

REAL ESTATE/ROOMMATES

3BR/3BA condo in Vinings, 15 to 20 minutes to Tech. Unfurnished amenities, parquet level, two parking spaces, upgrades and spectacular views. $499,000. Contact Enas at 404-931-9922.

For a more comprehensive listing of events updated daily, visit www.gatech.edu/calendar.
Prevention Is Key to Protecting Against Pneumonia

AMELIA PAVLIK INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

When most of us think about pneumonia, we don’t think of it as being contagious; however, there is a strain of the infection — better known as “walking pneumonia” — that can wreak havoc on a college campus if the right precautions aren’t taken.

“We’ve seen about 60 cases since this semester started,” said Gregory Moore, senior director of Stamps Health Services. “While this infection can be treated with antibiotics, prevention is always best.”

Typical symptoms of the pneumonia, which is caused by a mycoplasma infection, include fever, cough, bronchitis, sore throat, headache and fatigue. For most, symptoms begin two to three weeks after exposure and may persist for a few days to more than a month.

“Students are the most likely group on campus to become infected with this type of pneumonia due to their age and the fact that they live in close quarters with one another,” Moore said. “Although this tends to be a young adult disease, that doesn’t mean that students are the only members of the campus community at risk.”

Faculty and staff members should learn the symptoms of the infection and practice the following precautionary measures:
- Eat well and get enough sleep.
- Don’t smoke.
- Sneeze and cough into the crook of your elbow.
- Wash your hands frequently or use sanitizer.
- Dispose of used tissues properly.
- Stay home and seek medical care if you become sick.

“Taking these measures is a great way to safeguard yourself and others against this disease,” Moore said. “But remember, if you develop a cough and fever that just won’t go away, please seek medical care and don’t come to work until the infection is under control.”

For more information about walking pneumonia, visit the Stamps Health Services Q&A page at tinyurl.com/a2vpksp.