Faculty, Staff Show Artistic Side

VICTOR ROGERS
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

Georgia Tech faculty and staff hail from varied backgrounds and often have artistic talents that are largely hidden at work. The Office of the Arts is showcasing some of that talent during the Georgia Tech Arts Faculty and Staff Art Exhibit, which opened Jan. 13 and runs through Feb. 23 at the Richards Gallery in the Fertz Center for the Arts.

Sixteen individuals from across campus submitted 27 entries for consideration. One piece from each applicant was then selected, including paintings, photography, and multimedia pieces.

Previously held in the fall, the art exhibit was moved to spring semester to give faculty and staff more time to create works that fit this year’s “Welcome Home” theme.

“There is a lot of ‘newness’ within the university — a new president, some new leadership at the college level, and our department has a lot of new people,” said Ben Dostal, operations manager for the Office of the Arts. “The theme of ‘home’ kept coming up, and we decided to tie it to the show:

Home isn’t necessarily meant as a physical house, but as what makes you feel welcome, included, and part of the community. It allows the artists to go in whatever direction they want.”

Kelly Pierce, marketing operations manager for the Georgia Tech Police Department (GTPD), added that the show is a way for the department to engage with the community and show another side of its members.

Upcoming Training
Thursday, Jan. 30
4:30 – 5:30 p.m.
Georgia Tech Police Department

Wednesday, Feb. 12
1 – 2 p.m.
Technology Square Research Building

Tuesday, Feb. 18
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Georgia Tech Police Department

GTPD Offers Training, Smartphone App to Help Campus Prepare for Active Shooter Scenario

JOSHUA STEWART
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

Recent national events have demonstrated that violence can happen anywhere, at any time. The Georgia Tech Police Department (GTPD) can provide resources to help students, faculty, and staff prepare for an active shooter situation so anyone is ready to respond.

“We are confident that GTPD is providing the best possible training to prepare for this kind of scenario,” said Police Chief Rob Connolly. “Training is just as important for the community as it is for our officers.”

GTPD offers a one-hour training course on basic active shooter response using the “run, hide, fight” approach. Campus departments and student organizations can request training for their entire group, or individuals can sign up on the GTPD website.

From State Department to Head of Georgia Tech Strategic Initiatives

JESSICA PALACIOS
SAM NUNN SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Frank Neville, Georgia Tech’s new senior vice president of Strategic Initiatives and chief of staff, recently interviewed Joe Bankoff, professor of the practice in the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs, who stepped down as chair in 2019. They talked about Georgia Tech’s technologically focused education and the need for students to learn both technical and essential skills in order to have a successful career.

Neville came to Georgia Tech in September and brings perspective based on 15 years as a diplomat in the U.S. State Department and 14 years in higher education.

Neville’s foreign service work followed a degree from Carleton College in political science. The early years of his career were spent in cities ranging from Taipei, Taiwan, to Chengdu and Beijing, China, to Guatemala City, Guatemala. When he left in 2004, Neville was the most decorated officer under the age of 40. He transitioned to work as vice president of Global Communication and Public Affairs at the Thunderbird School of Global Management (now part of Arizona State University). There, he met President Ángel Cabrera. The two also worked together at George Mason University.

Talk about your experience in statecraft working in the State Department. How has that been useful in your work trying to help universities?

I’m very committed to the idea of public service and working in government and being able to be on the front lines of international affairs. It was highly rewarding and frequently frustrating, but when you step back and look at it in the aggregate, a very rewarding experience. I appreciated the opportunity to serve this country and the values that it represents.

Being in public higher education, there’s a similar sense that we are stewards of the public good. We are here to educate the next generation. We’re also here to solve big problems, or contribute to the solving of big problems, to generate new ideas that can help benefit society. We’re here as engines of economic development for our communities, so that sense of commitment to the public and that spirit and mission of public service is something that I feel very strongly about. And I can tell even just in my short time here at Georgia Tech that this is a place very grounded in those values.

Business Disclosures Due Jan. 31

All state employees are required to disclose any business transactions made with the state of Georgia during the previous calendar year. Learn more about the requirements at c.gatech.edu/disclosures2020

Early Action Applicants Get Admission Decisions

More than 4,500 students received good news over the weekend about their applications to Georgia Tech for the next incoming class. Learn more about the Early Action admits and this year’s overall applicant pool at news.gatech.edu
EVENTS

WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING

Jan. 22
The LGBTQ+ Resource Center hosts Level Up, an advanced allyship training course, from 9 to 10:30 a.m. in Room 319, Student Center. The course is for those who have completed Safe Space training. Learn more and RSVP at lbgtqia.gatech.edu

Jan. 22
An Implicit Bias workshop will take place from noon to 1:30 p.m. in Piedmont Room, Student Center. Register to attend at: advance.gatech.edu

Jan. 23
Ian Bogost, Ivan Allen College Distinguished Chair in Media Studies and professor of Interactive Computing, will host a publications workshop on “Writing for General Audiences” from 11 a.m. to noon in Room 102, Stephen C. Hall Building. lmc.gatech.edu

Jan. 29
The Counseling Center hosts a QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) suicide prevention training from 3 to 5 p.m. in Room 271, Skiles Building. Register to attend at: suicide.gatech.edu

ARTS AND CULTURE

Through Feb. 23
The Faculty and Staff Art Exhibit features the artwork of Tech employees in the Furst Center for the Arts lobby galleries, weekdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and during performances at the Furst Center. arts.gatech.edu

Through March 16
The Robert C. Williams Museum of Papermaking hosts “Beyond Words: Visual Narratives from the Block Book to the Graphic Novel.” The museum is open weekdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. papers.gatech.edu

SEMINARS AND LECTURES

Jan. 22
The Impact Speaker Series hosts Sarah Higginbotham, cofounder of Common Good Atlanta, which connects universities with prisons. Higginbotham will discuss “College in Prison as a Common Good” from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. in Room 200, Scheller College of Business. scheller.gatech.edu/impact

A Guide to Filming and Photography on Campus

RACHEL POCKLINGTON INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

Georgia Tech’s 400-acre campus is an increasingly popular location for filming and photography. Since its big debut in The Internship in 2013, the campus has received location requests from a variety of sources ranging from major motion picture production companies, to student filmmakers, to everything in between. In 2019 alone, Tech received more than 100 filming and photography requests. As such, campus administrators work hard to balance being a good partner to Georgia’s film industry — while protecting Georgia Tech’s learning environment and appropriately promoting its research, economic development work, and reputation.

“We really try to accommodate all filming and photography requests that complement what we do as a teaching and research institution,” said Deborah L. Greene, campus use and film specialist, Office of Capital Planning and Space Management (CPSM). “However, the requests were coming from so many internal and external groups that it became clear we needed a more consistent process for reviewing requests and permitting filming and photography in the least disruptive manner to the campus.”

So, the Filming and Photography on Campus Policy (available at policylibrary.gatech.edu) was created in 2016 to define the rules of engagement for photographers and videographers to film on campus.

Last year, the policy was reviewed and revised to help clarify certain aspects. In addition, basic “how to” guidelines (available at space.gatech.edu) were developed to help outline the process.

Greene adds that no two requests are the same, and there are many nuances to how each request is managed. However, the following filming and photography ground rules will help ensure greater consistency and compliance while facilitating the review and approval process.

To Whom Do the Policy and Rules Apply?

• The policy applies to any third-party entity, company, or organization (for profit and nonprofit) as well as to all members of the Georgia Tech community (students, faculty, staff, and affiliated organizations) using a third-party vendor to acquire film footage. Third-party vendors, with whom Georgia Tech has a contractual agreement to perform facilities design and construction work on campus, also need to follow the policy but may not be charged the application fee; this is evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

• The policy also applies to students, faculty, and staff capturing their own footage for independent use or for school- or work-related activities. To protect their allowable intellectual property rights, students, faculty, and staff should complete a filming application so that the circumstances of the filming can be evaluated for applicable fees, related charges, and potential safety and security issues. The process is streamlined for film or photography projects initiated, managed, and implemented wholly by Georgia Tech campus communicators, their staff, or their designated staff or faculty representatives to film within the interior footprint of their college, school, or research areas.

• In addition, the policy applies to individuals who are not current students or employees, who wish to conduct incidental personal photography on campus (e.g., a Tech alumna taking wedding photos on Tech Lawn). While an application is required, the need for a location license agreement and proof of insurance will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

• In general, the policy does not apply to news organizations as defined by Institute Communications (IC). However, news organizations are required to coordinate all on-campus visits with Georgia Tech’s Media Relations team. In addition, news outlets often request to produce documentaries on campus featuring Tech’s faculty and their research. These types of filming requests require completed filming applications and generally require proof of insurance and location agreements.

How Do I Submit an Application and Begin the Approval Process?

• A Filming and Photography Application (available at space.gatech.edu) must be completed in its entirety and submitted to films@cpsm.gatech.edu before filming or photography requests are reviewed.

• Written approval, generally through an executed license agreement, must be obtained prior to filming or photographing on campus. CPSM reviews and approves the proposed project from a logistics viewpoint (i.e., location and proposed dates) and then forwards the proposal to the Institute Communications to review and approve. IC reviews the content from a brand reputation viewpoint, which requires a thorough understanding of the intent of the filming/photo shoot, questions to be asked (or script of scenes to be shot on campus), and distribution outlets. If the proposed filming or photo shoot are not in the Institute’s best interest, Georgia Tech reserves the right to decline the request.

• Georgia Tech is a state agency so, depending on the scope of the project, there may be additional compliance requirements to be met prior to gaining approval for filming or photographing on campus. These may include:

  • Vetting international film crews with the Office of the General Counsel.

  • Vetting intellectual property.

  • Verifying that the requester has required insurance.

  • Executing a Georgia Tech location license agreement. Georgia Tech employees are not permitted to sign any third-party agreement (i.e., confidentiality agreements, location license agreements) to film or photograph on campus. If agreements are required, they must be Georgia Tech agreements and must be reviewed by the Office of the General Counsel before filming or photographing on campus is approved.

• In addition, all requests for filming and photo shoots on Tech’s campus that involve the use of small unmanned aircraft systems (e.g., drones) must be submitted to and approved by the Georgia Tech Police Department.

Given the requirements and parties involved, sufficient time is needed to review requests and obtain necessary approvals. While smaller productions often require a minimum of 10 business days, major motion pictures, television episodes, and some advertising commercials require a minimum of six weeks. Staff in CPSM and IC will determine time requirements on a case-by-case basis within these parameters.

For more information on filming and photography on campus, including guidelines and FAQs, visit space.gatech.edu. Questions about the Filming and Photography Policy, including how it applies to your project, may be submitted to films@cpsm.gatech.edu.
SAFETY, from page 1

“In light of the frequency of these incidents in our world today, it’s important to consider what you would do if a situation occurred here on campus, or really anywhere you go,” said Deputy Chief Frank Trammer. “We hope it never happens, but if you prepare yourself ahead of time, you can maximize your ability to protect yourself.”

Trammer said a good first step is to watch a Run. Hide. Fight. training video. He also suggested downloading the LiveSafe smartphone app, which includes resources for all kinds of emergencies. The app generates safety alerts and notifications and allows users to anonymously report suspicious activity with text, photos, and videos. In an emergency, users can call police or send discreet messages, including their location, through the app.

Over the past four years, GTPD has delivered roughly three training courses a month across campus and conducted several tabletop exercises and full-scale active shooter scenarios. All GTPD officers undergo a 16-hour advanced training program for active shooter response, plus at least eight hours of training every year, so they’re ready to respond. Connelly said the department is developing a program to offer additional tactical training to several officers on each shift so they can lead the response to an active shooter incident.

“Our goal is the safety and security of our entire campus community, and the best way we can do that is working together,” Connelly said. “I encourage everyone to download LiveSafe, watch the Run. Hide. Fight. video, and then invite us to talk to your group about how you can prepare for an active shooter and other emergencies.”

ART, from page 1

“ART, from page 1

manager with the Office of the Arts, enjoyed seeing everyone’s interpretation of home. “We wanted the artists’ works to be personal, and not tied specifically to their work at Georgia Tech,” Pierce said. “It was nice to see them take that step.” Entries came from all over campus including the Georgia Tech Research Institute, Georgia Tech Professional Education, the Department of Housing and Resident Life, the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Institute Communications, and the School of Literature, Media, and Communication.

“It is interesting to see the creativity on campus — people who are technical by profession but also have this awesome creative side,” Dostal said. “As we talk about the future of Georgia Tech Arts and the plan to further integrate art across campus, it’s nice to see there’s already a foundation that leads to the spark we’re trying to create.”

The Faculty and Staff Art Exhibit is free and open during normal building hours of the Ferst Center for the Arts (Monday to Friday, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. and during performances). An artists’ reception will be held Thursday, Feb. 20, from 11 a.m. to noon in the Richards Gallery.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Artist Abhishek Singh set up shop in the Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons last week as part of a weeklong residency. Singh painted for about five hours, working on multiple forms of the elephant-headed god Ganesha in conjunction with the exhibit Transcendent Deities of India: The Everyday Occurrence of the Divine, on display at Emory University’s Michael C. Carlos Museum. Singh’s residency was sponsored by the Georgia Tech Library and the Leadership and Multi-Faith Program, a partnership between the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts and Emory’s Candler School of Theology.
Mark Your Calendar for Spring Special Events

With the spring semester underway, it’s time to plan for major Institute events. Mark your calendars for the dates below, and share them with your colleagues. Learn more about each event at specialevents.gatech.edu.

Annual Events

**Ivan Allen Jr. Prize for Social Courage Symposium**
Wednesday, Feb. 5
10 – 11:45 a.m.
Billmore Ballrooms

**When the Whistle Blows Ceremony**
Tuesday, April 7
5:15 – 6 p.m.
Harrison Square

**Ph.D. Ceremony**
Friday, May 1
9 – 10:30 a.m.
McCannish Pavilion

**President’s Graduation Celebration**
Friday, May 1
11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Tech Tower Lawn

**Master’s Ceremony**
Friday, May 1
3 – 5:30 p.m.
McCannish Pavilion

**Spring Commencement**
Bachelor’s Morning Ceremony
Saturday, May 2
9 – 11:30 a.m.
McCannish Pavilion

Bachelor’s Afternoon Ceremony
Saturday, May 2
3 – 5:30 p.m.
McCannish Pavilion

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**NEVILLE, from page 1**

One of the things from your State Department work that really would help us at Tech, and in the Nunn School in particular, is your experience in identifying from a real-world perspective some of the problems that need to be dealt with, being able to help us shape a focus on what are the real-world problems that are cultural conflicts, not just technology conflicts.

I’m glad you mentioned the cultural conflicts that often underlie problems because it’s often imperceptible from the other side of the table. You see somebody behaving differently, and you sort of assign your own interpretation of that behavior based upon how you would be behaving in this situation. Probably one of the most valuable lessons I learned was the skill of putting yourself in the other person’s shoes — not necessarily to agree with them, but to understand them and why they are behaving as they are, what are the motivating factors, what are the cultural influences — things as simple as justice and fairness and risk-taking. All those things vary tremendously by culture. If you’re an American going into a negotiation with somebody who has a different interpretation of those things, you can quickly get off track, and you won’t even realize it until you hit a dead end.

And part of it is that people go about making decisions in quite different ways, and that’s also quite cultural.

Right. For negotiators, American negotiators in particular, this is often a point of frustration. When I was at George Mason, one of the classes I taught was cross-cultural communication and management. I often had lots of Korean students in the classroom because there’s a very large Korean population, and we had an exchange relationship with Korea. I would say, OK, you’re an American businessperson negotiating a contract in Korea. You have a 12-hour day of negotiations and you think you reach a deal. The Korean negotiator leaves and comes back the next morning and says, “Everything that we agreed to yesterday, we need to rethink.”

What’s happening there? What we don’t understand is that Korea is a consensus culture, and the person sitting across the table from you is not necessarily authorized to make a decision by him- or herself. That decision has to be validated by the broader group that is part of the stakeholders involved. If you don’t understand that going in, it seems from an American perspective that the other side is being deceitful, so there’s a quick unraveling of the conversation if you apply an American approach, an American set of values, to that scenario.

What do you think is the value of a school like the School of International Affairs at a technology institute?

There’s a tremendous amount of value because international affairs operates in context. It’s a real-world context, it’s a complicated context, and so it’s not divided by discipline. To be effective in that context, the more holistic view you have and the greater mastery of all various disciplines and issues that are all sort of wound up in the situation, the more effective you’re going to be. So I think the advantage of having the Sam Nunn School here at Tech is that you have such a tremendously deep understanding of technology and science.

If you can then connect that into a real-world context, you can be much more effective than simply a technician without that broader international affairs context — or, conversely, an international affairs expert without the technological capability. And especially in today’s political environment, there are very few issues that don’t have a science or technology connection. The data explosion, the data revolution, the technology revolution that we are living now is transforming everything that we do, so bringing a strong technological grounding to any public policy issue, to any international affairs issue, is a tremendous strength.

We have a fair number of students in my class and others where we are drawing from the engineering, science, and design students from across the campus for parts of what we do. We are able to have faculty cross-appointed to the College of Computing, to the School of Mechanical Engineering, to the College of Design. There is a real fabric around Georgia Tech that allows us to have this kind of an integrated approach, but it’s kind of an integrated approach, but it’s an important for students because they’re thinking about, “Where do I go from here?” Can you tell us a little bit about your views on why there is an advantage to students to combine whatever may be a technology education with an understanding of global affairs?

The further along you go in your career, the less success is dictated by technical skill, and the more it’s about leadership, understanding context, dealing with people, understanding organizational behavior, and all these other things that come along with it. So, having that grounding through an understanding of things like negotiation or cross-cultural communication or international policy issues, right off the bat, is a tremendous asset because it prepares you for leadership positions well before you’re at the point of having to grapple with those things personally.