Cabrera Named 12th President of Georgia Tech

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia (USG) has named Dr. Ángel Cabrera president of the Georgia Institute of Technology. He will assume the role before September 15, 2019. “Georgia Tech will continue to excel under the leadership of Dr. Cabrera,” said USG Chancellor Steve Wrigley. “His experience, skillset and deep ties to his alma mater will serve the campus community well, and his vision for the future will help lead Georgia Tech to new heights. I am grateful to the Board of Regents and the search committee for their time and effort in this selection process, and I congratulate Dr. Cabrera on his new role.”

Cabrera has served as president of George Mason University System of Georgia.

Leadership Provides Update on CAR

As the process continues for the University System of Georgia (USG)’s Comprehensive Administrative Review (CAR), campus leadership shared the status of the initiative in a town hall on June 20.

President G.P. “Bud” Peterson opened the session, emphasizing that the CAR process is an opportunity to evaluate how efficiently Georgia Tech is operating. Georgia Tech is the first research institution to undergo the systemwide process.

Staff Council Implements 5-Year Anniversary Recognition

Starting July 1, 2019, the Georgia Tech Staff Council will implement a new recognition program for employees who have reached their fifth anniversary of service at Georgia Tech. This program follows on the Council’s implementation of a one-year recognition program in July 2017.

“In the five years Staff Council has been operating, a common theme we hear from the community is the value and importance of employee recognition,” said Byron Fitch, chair of the Staff Council Employee Engagement Committee. “Recognized employees are happy employees, and how long a staff member has been at Georgia Tech is a reason to celebrate and say ‘thank you’ to them for all they do.”

In collaboration with Georgia Tech Human Resources and led by the Staff Council Employee Engagement Committee, the five-year recognition program has been developed to show appreciation Staff achieving their five-year mark will receive a congratulatory email from Staff Council with details on how to claim their recognition.

Campus Center Construction Continues through Summer

Work on the Campus Center project continues to progress this summer, and the next few weeks will entail some of the most significant disruptions to campus during the first phase of construction.

To support the utility needs of the new facilities, infrastructure work on stormwater and sanitary sewer drains will take place in front of the Ferst Center for the Arts beginning in July. Fencing will be installed to provide barriers around construction activity near the Ferst Center. The Dean Griffin statue will be shielded during this work, and the Ovation statue has been temporarily relocated to prevent damage. Pedestrian pathways will be diverted, but accessible pathways will be maintained from the parking lot in front of the Flag Building to the Ferst Center. Fencing will be installed to provide a barrier around construction activity near the Ferst Center. The Dean Griffin statue will be protected during this work, and the Ovation statue has been temporarily relocated to prevent damage. Pedestrian pathways will be diverted, but accessible pathways will be maintained from the parking lot in front of the Flag Building to the Ferst Center.

As part of the utility work happening in front of the Ferst Center, one of Georgia Tech’s most iconic artworks has been temporarily relocated. The Ovation statue is now in a temporary home on the Instructional Center Lawn.

Dining Services Transition Brings Temporary Closings

Some campus dining locations will have altered hours during the next two weeks as Georgia Tech’s dining services provider changes over to Aramark on July 1. Check what’s open before you go:

dining.gatech.edu

Workday Launches July 1

Mandatory training sessions are scheduled this week for those with particular roles, and optional trainings are available on demand for all users. Learn more and prepare at:

transformation.gatech.edu/training

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whistle.gatech.edu
CABRERA, from page 1

University (GMU), a top-tier research institution and the largest public university in Virginia, since 2011: “Dr. Cabrera is an excellent choice to lead Georgia Tech as its next president,” said Board of Regents Chairman Don Waters. “I am confident that he will work diligently on behalf of students while advancing Georgia Tech’s growth, priorities and world-class reputation. On behalf of the Board of Regents, I welcome Dr. Cabrera back to Georgia Tech and look forward to working with him.”

During Cabrera’s tenure, GMU accounted for more than half of all enrollment growth in Virginia, launched student academic strength and outcomes, and joined the top tier of research universities in the Carnegie classification. It has established the School of Policy & Governance, the Institute for Biohealth Innovation, a U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security Center of Excellence, the Potomac Center of Environmental Studies, the Point of View Center for Conflict Analysis and Resolution and a campus in South Korea. Under Cabrera’s leadership, the university has established partnerships to expand online programs and international recruitment, built several new facilities, adopted a new budget system and received a credit rating upgrade. Philanthropic contributions have more than doubled, and a $300 million campaign was successfully completed in December with a total of $690 million.

Cabrera serves on the boards of the National Geographic Society, the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond (where he chairs the Federal Reserve System National IT committee), the BankerFoundation for Innovation, the Northern Virginia Technology Council, and Inovio, a publicly traded biotech company. He sits on the Georgia Tech Advisory Board (which he chaired in 2013) and the Council for the International Exchange of Scholars (Fulbright program). He is also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and has served on the board of NSF’s Education and Human Resources Directorate, the academic board of Tec de Monterrey, as chairman of International Initiatives of the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities and past chairman of Virginia’s Council of Presidents.

Cabrera earned his Ph.D. and M.S. in cognitive psychology at Georgia Tech — which he attended as a Fulbright Scholar — and his B.S. and M.S. in computer and electrical engineering at Universidad Politécnica of Madrid, which has awarded him an honorary doctorate. Prior to becoming president of GMU, Cabrera led Thunderbird School of Global Management (now part of Arizona State University) and IE Business School in Madrid. He has been recognized as a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum, a Henry Crown Fellow by the Aspen Institute, and as a Great Immigrant by Carnegie Corporation. He is married to management scholar and Georgia Tech classmate Beth Fraser Cabrera and is the father of Alex (a recent graduate from Georgia Tech and incoming Ph.D. student at Carnegie Mellon University) and Emilia (a rising junior at Harvard). He is the first Spanish-born president of an American university.

A Letter from Angel Cabrera to the Georgia Tech Campus Community

June 14, 2019

I just returned to Fairfax, Virginia, from a brief and emotional visit to campus with my wife Beth on Friday and I wanted to let you know that I am thrilled to have been selected as your next president. As you may have read, Beth and I met at Georgia Tech while pursuing our doctorates. Last month, our son Alex earned his BS in Computer Science at Georgia Tech as well. For about a decade, I have served on the Georgia Tech Advisory Board and visited often. So when we walked in front of Tech Tower last week, it felt like coming home — back to where it all began. (We have a daughter too, Emilia, who’s a rising junior at Harvard and is feeling left out these days as the only member of the family without a Georgia Tech degree — an issue that, we have suggested, she can try to correct in the future if she so chooses.)

I first came to Atlanta 28 years ago from Spain, with two suitcases and big dreams, a solid engineering education from Universidades Politecnica of Madrid and a generous Fulbright Scholarship that made it possible. Four years later, I entered a different person: transformed intellectually and confident to start an academic career and make a difference. Never in my wildest dreams, though, did it occur to me that one day I would be asked to return as president. But what I know is that everything I have been able to achieve can be traced back to my experiences at Georgia Tech.

I am very excited to be back not just for personal reasons, but also for what Georgia Tech means for the world. There will soon be $8 billion of us on this planet, and we have to figure out how we’re going to make it work for all of us. How we are going to feed everyone; provide health and education; create economic opportunity; build just, free, and peaceful societies; and protect the natural environment our life depends on. We have our work cut out for us; we need new and better technologies to tackle these challenges, new and better policies and business models, and a deeper understanding of the human impact, the benefits and risks, of the technologies we develop. I see Georgia Tech not only as a strategic asset for Atlanta and Georgia and an invaluable national resource, but also as one of the essential hubs of innovation in the world that holds the key to its industrial success and pressing global challenges.

As I begin my transition, I feel a deep sense of gratitude to my current school, George Mason University, which is Virginia’s largest, first growing, most diverse university, and the nation’s youngest Research 1 institution. I leave wonderful colleagues behind who are driving a unique story in American higher education. As Georgia Tech prepared me for my presidency at George Mason University, I feel George Mason has now returned the favor by having prepared me for Georgia Tech. A special word of heartfelt thanks to my two predecessors, presidents Wayne Clough and Bud Peterson. Together they have led Georgia Tech through a remarkable 25 years. It is an honor to follow in their footsteps.

“I see Georgia Tech not only as a strategic asset for Atlanta and Georgia and an invaluable national resource, but also as one of the essential hubs of innovation in the world.”

I’m reminded of then-Attorney General Dick标的actory's legendary postcard convoca
tion speech when he quoted Newton’s “If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants.” We do stand on the shoulders of giants: the thousands of faculty, students, and staff and the leaders, alumni, and supporters who have made Georgia Tech what it is today. If we can now see and reach further, it is because of them. And we have an obligation to do just that.

I am very much looking forward to meeting and working with you.

Sincerely,

—Angel

CABRERA, from page 1

June 27–29

DramaTech Theatre presents The Web of Brilliance Introvert at 8 p.m. nightly. After suffering a major loss, two roommates infuriate, bewilder, and ultimately teach each other. The show looks at how two outsiders like coming home — back to where we belong. Atrium of the Petit Institute.

CULTURE

June 27

The College of Sciences and iGniTe Summer Launch Program present Halloween in June at 5 p.m. in the Juniper Student Center. Atrium of the Petit Institute.

CULTURE

June 28

Atrium of the Petit Institute.

ARTS AND CULTURE
details on how to pick up their gift during the first two weeks of every month at Staff Council’s office in the Campus Recreation Center. The five-year gift bundle will include a Georgia Tech-branded retro lunchbox, a coupon for $5 off any dining location in the Student Center, and other tokens of appreciation.

The Staff Council has been able to recognize more than 900 staff members since the inception of the one-year recognition program.

“Staff members continue on their career journey at Georgia Tech, we hope to show our appreciation by fueling them through a collection of symbolic recognition gifts to mark their milestones along the way,” said Joscelyn Cooper, member of the Employee Engagement Committee. Those employees with a five-year anniversary as of Jan. 1, 2019, and later will be contacted by Staff Council over the next six months to receive their gift.

The Staff Council exists to understand perspectives that represent the broad population of staff about matters of institutional importance, and to communicate those perspectives — along with advice and suggestions — to the Institute president and executive officers at regular intervals.

The Council meets the third Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. Meeting location varies but is scheduled to be implemented in Spring 2020, although some could take effect sooner.

While the review has identified a need for increased centralization, Peterson shared that it could look different for different areas. In feedback sessions, participants have been asked what services or resources they believe could work for them at a centralized level, and responses have reflected a shared desire for quality services that are appropriate for their needs.

“The collaborative solution workshops helped identify what is working well, and what we can replicate in other units,” said Sonia Alvarez-Robinson, executive director for Strategic Consulting and CAR working group facilitator.

Peterson emphasized that, while the evaluation is ongoing, hiring will continue, though vacancies could provide an opportunity to assess whether a position is best serving the Institute’s needs.

The CAR is happening in concert with system changes on campus, including the launch of Workday on July 1 and the Human Capital Management transformation.

An archived stream of the June 20 town hall is available online. To learn more about the CAR and read the April 2018 report, visit president.gatech.edu/car-report.

RECOGNITION, from page 1

CAR, from page 1

review. Both the USG office and the University of West Georgia have already conducted similar reviews, and all USG institutions have received an initial CAR report.

The CAR working group is reviewing various inputs for the project, which will continue into the fall as specific transition plans are made. Recommendations are scheduled to be implemented in Spring 2020, although some could take effect sooner.

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EVENTS

July 8
The End Suicide initiative hosts a QPR Training session from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Room 117, Smithgall Student Services (Flag) Building. Register at: c.gatech.edu/qpr

July 12
What are GTARC and GTRC? Learn more about the two 501c3 organizations to understand Georgia Tech’s research administration. This session welcomes new hires as well as seasoned staff and will take place from 10 a.m. to noon in the Seminar Room, Research Administration Building. Register at: training.esp.gatech.edu

July 15–18
The Center for Teaching and Learning hosts the 2019 Teaching with Technology Summer Institute on the theme of Deep Dive into Teaching with Canvas. The four-day institute will go beyond the Canvas basics to leverage the full potential of Canvas for online learning. Learn more and register at: ctl.gatech.edu

July 16
The LGBTQIA Resource Center hosts a Safe Space training from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Register at: lgbtqia.gatech.edu

July 19
The End Suicide initiative hosts a QPR Training session from noon to 2 p.m. in Room 131, Clough Commons. Register at: c.gatech.edu/qpr

July 19
The Library hosts a workshop on Mendeley Reference, a bibliographic management tool that can help with the research process, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. in Classroom 2130, Crosland Tower. Register at: library.gatech.edu

MISCELLANEOUS

June 24–25
FASET New Student Orientation will take place in the Student Center, Fert Center for the Arts, and surrounding areas. Other sessions will take place June 27–28 and July 11-12. See a full list of FASET dates at: transitionsprograms.gatech.edu

June 27
The Something Old, Something New Boutique Wedding Show will take place from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Historic Academy of Medicine at Georgia Tech. Register at: academy.gatech.edu

July 4
Campus closed in observance of Independence Day.

July 5
Campus is open but classes will not meet.

For a more comprehensive listing of events, or to add your own, visit calendar.gatech.edu.
Skyrocketing Stature, Global Impact Highlight Galil’s Legacy

ALEX CLAYCOMBE
COLLEGE OF COMPUTING

Zvi Galil, dean and John P. Imlay Jr. Chair in the College of Computing, will step down from his position after 20 years of transformative achievement and numerous successes at the College. He will return to the faculty to teach, research, and serve as an ambassador of Georgia Tech’s online programs.

Galil’s deanship was marked by accomplishments on many fronts. Under his leadership the College has risen into the top eight nationally and top seven internationally — the only top 10 computer science program to rise either in rank or in score in the last ranking (2018).

In a measure of the College’s public perception, applications to the College have grown ten-fold, and enrollment in on-campus degree programs has nearly doubled during Galil’s tenure as dean.

The College’s reputation among employers and alumni has risen as well. The Computing Career Fair regularly sets attendance records, with more than 160 companies participating (and nearly 20 companies last-attended) this year. Several hundred students from across campus attended the four-day event.

Meanwhile, more companies are also participating in the College’s corporate affiliates program (CAP). During Galil’s tenure as dean, CAP grew from 14 companies generating $280,000 in membership fees in 2010, to 63 companies raising $1.13 million in the current academic year.

The successful fundraising provided the resources for continued investment in the College and its faculty, and also helped fund four Interdisciplinary Research Institutes and four Interdisciplinary Research Centers led by the College. Under Galil’s tenure, the number of endowed senior faculty chairs doubled to 10, in addition to four new junior faculty chairs. Faculty rose from 83 to 102, with at least six more to join later this year.

It is a testament to the values and productivity of the College’s faculty that, with just 8% of Georgia Tech faculty, the College of Computing teaches about 18% of the Institute’s credit hours (about 13% of undergraduate and about 24% of graduate credit hours).

OMICS

Creating the College’s new famous Online Master of Science in Computer Science (OMICS) program took years of labor from dozens of faculty and staff members.

One of the most significant aspects of the program is its admission policy. Instead of admitting only a few of the highest-achieving applicants, Galil insisted that the program be open to anyone who meet the requirements. Those online students have been just as successful as the on-campus students admitted through a much more selective process.

Now, five years after its founding, the online master’s has nearly 9,000 students and an international reputation for changing the game in online education.

“OMICS offers wider access to the high quality of our residential program at a substantially lower cost,” Galil said. “It helps realign today’s workforce with the requirements of the 21st-century economy. This is a fundamental, revolutionary shift from the prevailing paradigm of higher education, in which a brand is bolstered by exclusion and high tuition fees.”

Building a Community

“Being a dean is about community building, about involvement, support, and empowerment,” Galil said. “You’re closer to students, you’re closer to staff and faculty. I view my role as dean as working to inspire our community by helping them to connect, encouraging them to excel, increasing their confidence.”

Galil has made particular efforts to integrate staff members into the College’s community — through regular meetings and an annual staff retreat — and is well known for matching high standards with a collaborative approach and approachability.

“Zvi pushes for excellence in a way that stretches everyone,” said Alan Katz, assistant dean for finance and administration. “He believes in sharing information, serving others, and providing incentives — he’s a carrot person, not a stick person.”

“You would never know Zvi has such a high status because he’s so down to earth,” said Pam Ruffin, director of human resources for the College. “You can walk up to his door and he’ll take time to talk to you.”

Even those who don’t make it to his office hear from Galil regularly, through a steady stream of e-mails he sends out to the entire computing community. Although he is known as “the e-mail dean,” he almost never mentions himself in his missives. “I love to brag about the achievements of faculty, staff, and students,” he said. “I want everyone to know they are the most important part of the College.”

Charles Isbell, professor and executive associate dean of the College of Computing, has been named the next dean and John P. Imlay Jr. Chair in the College of Computing, effective July 1.

This story has been edited for length. Read the full story at c.gatech.edu/zvi.

What Has Happened So Far

• The bus turnaround reshaping is underway. Upon completion, bus service will resume with construction ongoing to reconfigure adjacent sidewalks.
• The Student Center parking deck has been reconfigured for permit holders and visitors to utilize. This is a credit card only deck for non-permit holders.
• ADA parking spaces serving the Student Center and Ferst Center have shifted to the southeast of the Student Center.
• Utility duct work across Ferst Drive has been inspected and the roadway has been restored. No further disruption is expected across Ferst Drive.
• Tree removal to clear the site for further work has concluded. Several trees were relocated, with landscaping plans calling for the replacement of as many trees as possible.

Center, from page 1

on the Instructional Center Lawn and will be replaced in Phase II of the project. Looking ahead, the next wave of activity will include work along the path between Ferst Center and the Smithgall Student Services Building (near the pecan grove).

Similar to the construction work in front of the Ferst Center, accessible alternative pathways will be available, but the community is encouraged to exercise particular caution when navigating through this area.

After this work, which is expected to conclude before the start of the fall semester, the main fencing footprint for Phase I will be established and will not change until spring of 2020. The entire Campus Center project is on schedule for completion in late 2022.

For more information on the Campus Center project, visit studentcenter.gatech.edu/reinnovation.

REAL ESTATE/ROOMMATES

2BR/2BA apartment in Midtown available now until December for sublease. High ceilings, hardwood floors, walk in closets. Amenities include rooftop lounge, business center, pool, gym. $2,380/mo. Serious inquiries only. Contact Laisa.

For rent: Tech faculty-owned 2BR/2BA townhome on 11th Street in Atlantic Station. Available Aug. 1. Walkable to campus. Great roommate floor plan. $2,800/mo. Contact Janak. jdesai18@gmail.com.

For sale: Tech professor’s personal home since 2014. 2BR/2BA on 1-acre flat lot, 4-sidewalk, Sarah Galbraith Smith Elementary School. Quality finishes. Conveniently located near Georgia Tech, Chastain Park, Lenox Square and Phipps Plaza, and Path 400. Contact ens@enasbazaraa.com. 404-831-9822. View listing at ensbaraza.com.

Georgia Tech staff member seeking room to rent on weeknights to minimize commuting. Contact Naideem. 404-291-3151.


MISCELLANEOUS

Couch for sale — light tan microfiber, 2-seat couch, excellent condition. $175 OBO. Pick up required. Contact Joy at joy@atdc.org.

Tepal Kukeren Ruggeldized 3-person, 4-season rooftop tent, orange w/black rainfly. Brand new. $1,475. (Same tent currently listing at REI for $2,149.) Can arrange delivery. Call or text 404-931-0939.

Seeking photos of the 1996 Olympic aquatics installation. Do you have film or slides from the aquatic center in 1996? We would love to swirl. Contact Edward. egaltony@gatech.edu.

Seeking donations of sewing machines, fabric, and notions to benefit the Amari Women Center in Clarkston. Tech staff from the Entrepreneurship Institute work with the center to teach sewing skills that enable refugee women to earn a living wage. Contact tess@technet.edu...

Seeking scrap unused paper for arts project. All sizes, colors, textures accepted. Old unused notebooks, exploded company manuals, construction paper, copy paper, all paper the size of a letter or smaller. Contact Aircraft. Email Edward at gamy@bellsouth.net.

For sale: 2002 430S Mercedes-Benz, 26,900 mi. as well photos available. $3,000 OBO. Contact reyngerene1167@bellsouth.net, 404-867-5035.