Move-In Activities Begin Next Week

Early move-in for first-year students attending the last two FASET orientation sessions will be Aug. 10 for FASET 6 and Aug. 12 for FASET 7. Regular move-in for first-year students will take place Thursday and Friday, Aug. 15–16, which is when traffic will be at its peak.

Returning students will do their regular move-in that weekend, Aug. 17–18. Those on campus should expect heavier traffic and congested paths and roadways, as well as restric-

DRIVING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Registration Open for Diversity Symposium

In September 1961, Ralph A. Long Jr., Lawrence Williams, and Ford C. Greene (pictured above) became Georgia Tech’s first African American students. In June 1965, Ronald Yancey (pictured below) became the Institute’s first African American graduate.

The 11th Annual Diversity Symposium will feature a morning panel conversation with these four men, exploring the racial history and progress of the campus community. This year’s symposium will highlight “Georgia Tech’s Racial Diversity Journey: Recognizing Our Past, Acknowledging Our Present, and Charting Our Future” on Wednesday, Sept. 4, at the Georgia Tech Global Learning Center.

These trailblazers will also be honored with the dedication of bronze statues on campus to mark their significance in the history of Georgia Tech.

For more information on the Diversity Symposium, and to register, visit diversity.gatech.edu/diversitysymposium.

Microwaves, mini-fridges, and shower shoes — oh my. Students will soon begin moving in for the fall semester, and as they do, campus traffic will likely become congested.

TechWorks, TimeOut to Require VPN for Access

Beginning Thursday, Aug. 8, access to TechWorks and TimeOut will be limited to Georgia Tech campus networks and VPN (virtual private network). The change will add an extra layer of security for web-based services used to send and receive data.

c.gatech.edu/vpn

President Emeritus Authors New Book

G. Wayne Clough recently talked with Georgia Public Broadcasting about his new memoir, Things New and Strange: A Southerner’s Journey through the Smithsonian Collections. Listen to the interview at:

c.gatech.edu/newandstrange
New Software Helps Track Promotion and Tenure Process

This year Georgia Tech faculty members going through promotion and tenure will have a different experience from their predecessors. For the first time, the process will be tracked from beginning to end in PROMOTE, software that enables candidates for tenure to upload their promotion package and monitor its progress through each stage. Erin Nagle, faculty affairs administrative manager for the College of Sciences, manages the promotion process for tenure-track, non-tenure track, and research faculty. She works closely with the College's associate dean of Faculty Development and with the Reappointment, Promotion, and Tenure (RPT) administrators in the schools.

“Our RPT administrators are directly involved in uploading the candidate's documents, and this software offers a visual reminder of what is left to seek from the candidate,” Nagle said. “It’s been a welcome change for me because I can see where in the process each school is, and I can jump in and help because I am seeing the dossier’s creation in real time. I can easily monitor how far along everyone is and how close we are to teaching a school’s submission deadline.”

The implementation of PROMOTE is a significant change from when Autumn Peppers, manager of Faculty Affairs, came to Tech in 2014. “At the time the colleges were submitting two hard copies and a PDF of each candidate’s dossier,” Peppers said. Each dossier — which includes a summary, background, curriculum vitae, examples of creative contributions, teaching scores, and names of external reviewers — has 50 to 100 pages. “Any updates would have to be made in three places, so the process wasn’t very efficient,” she added. Peppers suggested switching from piles of paper to an electronic system. The idea was supported by the provost and the executive vice president for Research. A couple of software companies with promotion and tenure platforms presented their capabilities to a group of Tech faculty, administrative staff, and school chairs.

“None of the systems could do exactly what we needed unless we changed our processes,” said Peppers. “So, we asked Ira Bragg, director of Tech Applications Group, to submit a proposal to build an in-house system that would meet our standards and also allow for the flexibility we needed.”

The Tech Applications Group (TAG) has experience developing custom software such as GT-TRACS, a tool which tracks the hiring of faculty on campus. TAG collaborated with GTREI and with Faculty Affairs on that system.

At the end of 2017 TAG began developing the promotion and tenure software, presenting models along the way to get feedback from administrators to make sure they were building what the campus needed. “We’re an agile team, and we like working directly with our customers,” Bragg said. TAG worked with Faculty Affairs to form a PROMOTE steering committee, including end-users from all over campus. We listened to the customer, gave them some wireframes, and asked if it would meet their needs,” Bragg said. The group also hosted a series of show-and-tell meetings around campus to demonstrate the software’s capabilities and to get input.

Certain modules in PROMOTE have been in use for more than a year. Now that it is in full use, TAG will continue to make changes based on customers’ needs.

So, how are the changes being received? “The biggest improvement is the transparency,” said Nagle. “It’s great that all of the key players in the promotion process have access to the same documents at the same time.”

Another improvement is standardization. The uploaded documents are locked, so everyone reading and evaluating the documents — from the external evaluators to the Institute’s committee — is viewing the same documents. Significant updates to a candidate’s dossier can be made in an addendum field.

“This first year is a big learning curve for all of us,” said Nagle, “but I can see in future years that PROMOTE will simplify the process, and most administrators will be used to the system by then. Change is always hard, but this change is definitely worth the effort.”

Erin Nagle (standing), faculty affairs administrative manager for the College of Sciences, talks with Leslie Dianne White (left), administrative manager in the School of Psychology, and Kristie Clark, assistant to the chair in the School of Psychology. The three worked closely with faculty members on tracking the promotion and tenure process, including in the new PROMOTE system.

MOVE, from page 1

Tions on parking in East Campus areas. Traffic restrictions will be in place at the end of the week as volume increases. On Thursday, Aug. 15, vehicular traffic on Techwood Drive between Fourth Street and North Avenue will be restricted only to those who are moving into residence halls in that area of campus. Those traveling southbound on Techwood will be routed down Fourth Street toward Peters Parking Deck if they are not involved in move-in. Vehicles coming from North Avenue will be sent further west to access campus from Cherry Street or Tech Parkway. Regular access to Techwood will resume Thursday evening.

Returning students will primarily move in beginning Saturday, Aug. 17. Some students opt to arrive earlier for an additional cost if they are participating in specific programs that require them to be on campus.

Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to leave extra time to get to campus and when traveling within the campus corridors, whether in a car, on foot, on a bike, or another mode of transport.

The campus population will be back at its peak by Monday, Aug. 19, when classes resume for the fall semester. As the fall approaches, remember to keep an eye out for new Yellow Jackets and their families who may look lost and need a little assistance, particularly during move-in.

For more information, visit housing.gatech.edu.
Implicit Bias Workshops Return for Faculty for Fall

More than 600 Have Participated in a Workshop to Date

COURTNEY HILL
INSTITUTE DIVERSITY

Institute Diversity and Georgia Tech’s ADVANCE Program, in collaboration with the Office of the Vice Provost for Graduate Education and Faculty Development, are offering four 90-minute Implicit Bias Workshops to faculty members this fall.

The workshops are designed to increase consciousness of cognitive processes that influence decision making and implement specific approaches to minimizing the impact of implicit bias on evaluations, ratings, and interactions.

“I have developed, with input from faculty, and conducted implicit bias workshops at Georgia Tech for several years now,” said Julie Ancis, associate vice president for Institute Diversity. “Evaluations have consistently demonstrated the impact of the workshops on awareness, and faculty have described numerous ways in which the workshops influenced their approach to search and other evaluation-based committees.”

Each workshop provides an introduction to the concept of implicit bias and how these unconscious mental processes may affect behaviors, including the evaluation of candidates during faculty searches and reappointment, promotion, and tenure decisions.

This fall’s workshops will be facilitated by Ancis; Paul Benkezer, senior associate chair and professor in the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering; Harris Dimitropoulos, associate professor in the School of Architecture; Robert Kirkman, associate professor in the School of Public Policy; Mark Mitchell, associate professor in the School of Public Health; Dimitropoulos, associate professor in the School of Biomedical Engineering; Harris Dimitropoulos, associate professor in the School of Architecture; and Michelle Rinehart, associate dean for Academic Affairs and Outreach in the College of Design.

Workshops for this fall are scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 29, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Friday, Aug. 30, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Friday, Sept. 6, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; and Friday, Sept. 27, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

To learn more and to register, visit advance.gatech.edu/implicit-bias-workshops.

Mark Your Calendar for Fall Institute Events

Below are several Institute events that will take place during the fall semester. Faculty and staff are encouraged to mark their calendars, share within their departments, and note these dates for the timing of other events. More information about these events is available at specialevents.gatech.edu.

Annual Events

New Student Convocation
Sunday, Aug. 18
5 to 6 p.m.
McCammish Pavilion

Graduate Student Convocation
Friday, Aug. 23
4 to 5 p.m.
Ferst Center for the Arts

Institute Address
Thursday, Sept. 5
11 a.m.
Ferst Center for the Arts

Retirement Dinner
Tuesday, Oct. 1
6 to 9 p.m.
Historic Academy of Medicine

Fall Commencement
Ph.D. Ceremony
Friday, Dec. 13
9 to 10:30 a.m.
McCammish Pavilion

President’s Graduation Celebration
Friday, Dec. 13
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Student Center Ballroom

Master’s Ceremony
Friday, Dec. 13
3 to 5:30 p.m.
McCammish Pavilion

Bachelor’s Ceremony
Saturday, Dec. 14
9 to 11:30 a.m.
McCammish Pavilion

For questions or to inquire about volunteer opportunities, contact Special Events and Protocol at 404-385-2639 or events@comm.gatech.edu.
Howey Physics Building Lecture Halls Undergo Multiphase Renovation

CATHY BRIM
FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Originally constructed in 1967, the Howey Physics Building is undergoing a major renovation for the first time in more than 50 years. With an emphasis on respecting the historic character of the structure while balancing the needs for improved instructional space, the renovation efforts (which began on four of its lecture halls in May) will occur over several semesters.

“Being an older building with heavily used instructional spaces for large lecture courses, it is expected that this renovation will be a welcome change for students and faculty alike,” said Sabrina Miller, assistant registrar for Academic Scheduling in the Office of the Registrar.

In the first phase of construction, which will last through mid-August, much of the older infrastructure will be addressed with the replacement of the water piping and the HVAC system. Additional renovations during this time will include addressing a structural problem with the floor slab, replacing lobby masonry, and updating and expanding the restrooms, including creating a gender-inclusive restroom.

Because the Institute is focused on ensuring that courses scheduled in the building are a good fit for capacity and accessibility, the renovation project will be halted at the end of the summer to allow for Fall 2019 classes to resume in all four halls of the building.

The project will resume during the Spring 2020 semester, with a focus on lecture halls 3 and 4. During that time, hall 2 will serve as a construction noise buffer, and hall 1 will remain open for classes. During the Summer 2020 semester, all four lecture halls will undergo renovation. At the end of the summer, work in lecture halls 3 and 4 will be complete, and construction will shift to lecture halls 1 and 2 during the Fall 2020 semester. The entire renovation project should be completed in time for classes starting in January 2021.

Further updates will be available as the renovation progresses.

Humanity's Triumph in Technology and Failure in Human Relationships

Rafael L. Bras, provost and executive vice president for Academic Affairs and the K. Harrison Brown Family Chair, shares his thoughts on the recentoliniest of humanity.

July 20 marked the 50th anniversary of the most extraordinary technological feat that the world has ever seen. It was a day like today that Apollo 11 took off on its historic spaceflight to the moon. On July 20, 1969, at 3:17 p.m. EST, astronauts Buzz Aldrin, Neil Armstrong, and Michael Collins landed on the moon. At 9:56 p.m. EST, Armstrong stepped onto the moon for the first time. Aldrin followed 19 minutes later. It was a spellbinding, thrilling moment. All of us alive then remember exactly where we were when we watched that first step. I can tell you that my girlfriend at the time had no chance of prying me away from that black-and-white television at her house! In my opinion, we have not surpassed that engineering and technical feat and will not until humans return to the moon, still some five years away.

I was struck by a recent statement from a news anchor who posed that if we could land on the moon 50 years ago, is there anything we can't accomplish? By a technological and scientific perspective, I believe that there is almost nothing we can't achieve. The pace of new knowledge and new technology is breathtaking. Unfortunately, even over centuries, our mastery of human relations has not made that much progress.

One thousand years ago the Crusades pitted Christians against the Muslims who controlled Jerusalem. In the 16th century Galileo challenged the idea that we were the center of the universe, and he barely survived the Inquisition. In the same century Michelangelo painted The Last Judgment in theistine Chapel, a wonder of artistic interpretation that, at the time, some called scandalous. The Chinese Cultural Revolution destroyed countless pieces of art and religious representations because they were considered unacceptable to its dogma. In the late 1970s, the Khmer Rouge destroyed all vestiges of Buddhism in Cambodia by destroying symbols and art but also through mass execution, forced labor, and famine. The Holocaust during World War II is one of the darkest moments in human history. Millions of Jews and other “undesirables” were persecuted because they were seen as threats to the Nazi ideology. The Hutus left the same disdain for the Tutsis they killed during the Rwandan genocide. I could go on forever, unfortunately.

All of the above, from genocide to condemnation of art and science, is rooted in fear and ignorance. That members of the same human race that took us to the moon can exhibit such levels of ignorance, disdain of other humans, cruelty, and basic intolerance for different ideas is baffling to me. I can only wish that the future will bring us as much respect, tolerance, and understanding of each other’s ideas as new knowledge of technology and science.

To read more thoughts from Bras, who blogs monthly, visit provost.gatech.edu/about/bras-blog

CLASSIFIEDS

REAL ESTATE/ ROOMMATES

For rent: 2BR/BA condo in Cross Creek. 40 miles Branchon School District. Updated, hardwood floors throughout, golf course view. No smoking, no pets. Available Sept. 2019. 1-4 mi. from Tech, no expressway driving. $1,700/mo. 404-656-9961. Email fran.buser@iay@gatech.edu.

2BR2.5BA beautiful condo for sale in The Atlantic at Atlantic Station. Spectacular 14th-floor view over downtown Atlanta. Overview from Georgia Tech. $599k. Lease possible. Contact Phil, provbrooks@cox.net.

For rent: 3BR/3.5BA spacious house in West Midtown. 2 mi. from campus w/ 2-car garage, bonus room. Perfect for a family, Flagman in neighborhood. Text 559-961-7497 or see https://tinyurl.com/1199-fostel.

For rent: Beautiful 4BR/3BA 2,300 sq. ft., easy access to Emory/ CDC/Georgia Tech. Hardwood floors, open floor plans, many windows. 0.5 acres, top-of-the-hill kit, trea/ view. Sought-after Oak Grove Elementary School district. Wonderful neighborhood. Minutes to In-86/285, shops, restaurants, Farmer Ben, 404-964-4111, bulent62@gmail.com.

2BR/BA apartment in Midtown available now until December for sublease. High ceilings, hardwood floors, walk-in closets. Amenities include rooftop lounge, business center, pool, gym. $2,650/mo. Serious inquiries only. Contact Lakia. lakianelaispears@gmail.com, 404-536-7058.

For rent: Tech faculty-owned 2BR/2BA home on 16th Street in Atlantic Station. Available Aug. 1. Walkable to campus. Great roommate floor plan. $2,100/mo. Contact Janak, jrodesai18@gmail.com.

For sale: Tech professor’s personal home since 2014. 2BR/2BA on 1/2 acre flat lot. 4-sided brick. Sarah Smith Elementary School. Quality finishes. Conveniently located near Georgia Tech, Chattahoochee Park, Lenox Square and Phipps Plaza, and Path 400. Contact smalikhavakubavana.com, 404-931-9202. View listing at sites.gatech.edu/real_estate/classifieds.

MISCELLANEOUS

10 ft. trailer w/ ramp and lights. Registered with the state, no tag. $650. Contact Glenn, 678-516-4534.

Couch for sale – light tan microfiber, 2-seater couch, excellent condition. $175 OBO. Pickup in Morningside. Contact Joy at joy@kwltd.org.

Tepal Kakanam Ruggized 3-person, 4-season pop-up tent, orange w/black rainfly. Brand new, $1,150. (Same tent currently selling at REI for $2,149) Can arrange delivery. Call or text 404-939-0395.

Seeking photos of the 1996 Olympic aquatic events for an upcoming renovation. Do you have film or slides? Seeking donations of sewing machines, fabric, and notions to benefit the Amari Women Center in Clark, Texas. Send photos from the Enterprise Innovation Institute work with the center to teach sewing skills that enable refugees and women in emerging wage. Contact bosh@atdc.org.

Adb run for all three issues in the order in which they are received. Submit your 35-word-or-less ad to editor@comm.gatech.edu.