



THE WHISTLE

WORK AND LIFE AT GEORGIA TECH • January 4, 2022

Georgia
Tech.

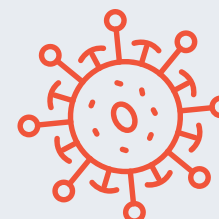
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TECH WINS COMMERCE GRANT



Photo by Rob Felt

Georgia Tech was awarded a grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration as part of its \$1 billion Build Back Better Regional Challenge. Georgia Tech is one of 60 entities to be awarded funding to assist communities nationwide in their efforts to accelerate the rebuilding of their economies in the wake of the pandemic. As a leader in artificial intelligence, manufacturing research, and innovation-led economic development, Georgia Tech will utilize the grant for technical assistance to plan the Georgia Artificial Intelligence Manufacturing Corridor. Learn more at news.gatech.edu.



Free Campus Covid-19 Testing Continues

All campus Covid-19 test sites have reopened for the spring semester. Faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to continue to participate in asymptomatic Covid-19 testing on a weekly basis. Testing is saliva-based, fast, and free.

Find a test site at
health.gatech.edu/coronavirus/testing.

MLK Celebration Events Begin Next Week

TAMARA BALLOU
INSTITUTE DIVERSITY

Georgia Tech's commemoration of the life and work of Martin Luther King Jr. encompasses an ambitious slate of events organized by faculty, staff, and students. Our 2022 MLK celebrations will include virtual and in-person educational programs and service opportunities to encourage active participation from the campus and nearby communities.

As an academic institution dedicated to advancing a culture of inclusive

excellence, we reflect upon the contributions of Martin Luther King Jr. during our annual celebration. Georgia Tech recognizes the ongoing global struggle for social justice, social courage, and the need for sustainable social change.

As part of Georgia Tech's 2022



Hrabowski

Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration, the 11th Annual MLK Lecture will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 12, featuring Freeman Hrabowski, president of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. The virtual event is free to attend.

Other events include community supper conversations, student arts performances, a live podcast recording, and nonviolence training.

See a full list and RSVP for events at diversity.gatech.edu/2022-mlk-celebration-and-commemorative-event-series.

NO RAIN ON THIS PARADE



Photos by Allison Carter and Rob Felt

Graduates at Georgia Tech's Fall Commencement didn't let rain get in the way of their celebration. Though the bachelor's ceremony was cut short because of lightning, graduates processed as long as they could. President Ángel Cabrera and Engineering Dean Raheem Beyah reconvened with graduates at Tech Tower after the rain to take photos with those who did not get to walk across the stage. Gary May, former dean of the College of Engineering, delivered the bachelor's Commencement address.



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GT Georgia Tech.

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Development Vice President Barrett Carson Retires

JENNIFER CARLILE
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

Barrett H. Carson spent a quarter of a century at the helm of Georgia Tech's Office of Development. During that time, Carson managed two highly successful multiyear capital campaigns — three, if you count Initiative 2020, a two-year fundraising venture that will function as the quiet phase of the next campaign. He served three presidents; raised three children — two of whom graduated from the Institute — with his wife, Carolyn; and, along with his staff, transformed Georgia Tech's approach to fundraising.

"Barrett has been instrumental in the stellar growth of the Institute over the last quarter of a century," President Ángel Cabrera said. "Today we serve more students, conduct more research, provide more scholarships, and contribute more to the economic vibrancy of our state than ever before, and that simply would not have been possible without the philanthropic support secured by Barrett and the exceptional team of development professionals he built."

Carson began his career in development in 1977 at St. Andrews Presbyterian College in North Carolina. He held subsequent development positions at the College of William & Mary, Virginia Tech, and the University of Alabama at Huntsville prior to joining Georgia Tech in 1997.

It was at Virginia Tech that Carson met President Emeritus G. Wayne Clough, who later hired him to head Georgia Tech's Office of Development and to direct a much-needed capital campaign. In *The Technological University Reimagined*, Clough describes the vice president for Development position as one that "demanded incessant travel; attendance at innumerable events, dinners, and meetings; knowledge of the welter of options in making gifts to universities; an ability to remain coherent while alcohol was served; and an understanding of how to

cultivate all manner of donors and their families." Clough wrote that he had met and worked with the ideal candidate at Virginia Tech: Barrett Carson.

"Our first national campaign was also Georgia Tech's first," Clough said.

"Barrett Carson was crucial in bringing the discipline and hiring the right people, which allowed it to succeed.

He knew his business like few others did, and we were kindred spirits in spite of his being a Yankee and me a southerner," Clough said. "Barrett Carson is smart, able to communicate with anybody, and has a good heart."

Carson took over leadership of the Campaign for Georgia Tech, which had launched in 1996. By December 2000, Georgia Tech had raised \$712 million — more than double the initial \$300 million goal. This philanthropy resulted in 54 new endowed chairs, 233 endowed undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships, and significant investment in the construction of 11 new buildings.

Although not part of the campaign, the G. Wayne Clough Tech Promise Scholarship Endowment, which is available to in-state students who have profound financial need, is another result of successful private philanthropy — and of which Carson is particularly proud. "I was at the table when this program was envisioned, and we knew that it was going to be transformative," Carson said. Since its launch in 2007, 199 students have received a Tech Promise Scholarship.

Georgia Tech's second national campaign, which ran from 2009 to 2015, was even more successful. Several of Georgia Tech's buildings and facilities are the direct result of private philanthropy raised during the campaign. Tech Square, the Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons, and the Krone



Carson

Engineered Biosystems Building are three examples. Russ Chandler Stadium was significantly renovated thanks to funds raised through the campaign, as were locker room facilities for the football and basketball teams. More than 20 facilities were either constructed or renovated. When the books were closed in December 2015, the campaign had funded 104 endowed chairs and professorships, raised \$354 million for undergraduate and graduate student support and \$276 million for intercollegiate athletics, and generated \$958 million for the Institute's Colleges and Schools — with every College meeting its fundraising goals.

Campaign Georgia Tech's initial fundraising goal was \$1.5 billion; the total amount raised came in at \$1.8 billion. The Institute's 11th president, G.P. "Bud" Peterson, worked closely with Carson on this campaign. He credits much of its success to Carson's "ability to connect and relate to so many of Tech's alumni. Aside from the actual donors themselves, few people at Georgia Tech have had as significant an impact on Tech's philanthropy as Barrett Carson."

Because fundraising doesn't end when a campaign does, Georgia Tech launched Initiative 2020 in 2018 to ensure that the Institute had sufficient resources to grow and thrive. By December 31, 2020, donors had raised \$588 million — \$63 million above goal — to support intercollegiate athletics, Institute capital and program purposes, and students. The Edge Center renovation was fully funded and is now in design, while Chandler Stadium's planned renovations were also fully funded, and the playing field was renamed the Mac Nease Baseball Park.

"Barrett Carson has been a faithful steward for Georgia Tech," Cabrera said. "He led us through the successful completion of two comprehensive campaigns and now he has led us through this successful fundraising initiative that will provide the foundation for the next campaign."

GTPD Awarded College Police Department of the Year

BLAIR MEEKS
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

The Georgia Tech Police Department (GTPD) has been recognized by a national law enforcement publication as the college department of the year for 2021. In its inaugural recognition, LAW Publications is calling attention to departments across the country for efforts in community engagement.

In addition to department of the year, the group also gives awards for community spirit, collaboration, and community impact.

LAW Publications recognized several GTPD-led programs, including community coffee gatherings, an adopt-a-cop program with area business and student organizations, and a care package drive for homeless people in neighboring communities.

"I believe giving people the opportunity to engage with officers in their community will give them a chance to see beyond the badge," said GTPD Sergeant Jessica Howard in the award recognition. "We enjoy the interactions just as much."

Learn more at lawpublications.net.



Captain Troy Walcott talks with student-athletes at a Community Engagement Day event in November 2021.

TECH TOWER TREE REMOVED



Standing 103 feet high and almost as iconic as Tech Tower itself, this majestic white oak, or *Quercus alba*, has reigned over campus for more than a century. Unfortunately, the oak was deemed hazardous, which means the tree possessed a significant defect and the potential for falling on a building, car, or pedestrian. The removal of the white oak will make for a clearer view of Tech Tower and new trees will take its place with their own opportunity to grow and flourish.

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View TECHtimonials From December

If you missed this TED Talks-style event featuring campus employees, you can still enjoy it. Watch December TECHtimonials at c.gatech.edu/decTECHtimonials.



Farm Share Option Returns to Campus

Rise 'N Shine Organic Farm has added Georgia Tech to its dropoff locations beginning this month. Participants can choose what size box they would like to receive and how frequently. All boxes contain organic fruits, veggies, grains, meats, and more. Learn more and sign up at risenshinefarm.com.