



The Whistle

WORK AND LIFE AT GEORGIA TECH • May 24, 2021



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Updated Guidance Issued for Summer, Fall

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently issued updated public health guidance. Along with that, Georgia Tech received updated guidance from the University System of Georgia (USG).

Partial updates are outlined below. View the complete update at health.gatech.edu/coronavirus/institute-operations.

Face Coverings, Social Distancing, and Cleaning Protocols

Summer plans for campus include social distancing, and that practice will continue inside classrooms to honor the schedules and classroom assignments that had already been set. Individuals who are vaccinated do not need to wear a face covering. Individuals who are not vaccinated are strongly encouraged to wear a face covering while inside campus facilities with limited exceptions.

Effective May 10, changes to campus cleaning protocols also went into effect.

Campus Vaccine Distribution

Georgia Tech's vaccine distribution clinic has administered 31,000 vaccines to date, and vaccine clinics are still available on campus. It has been expanded to include family members of Georgia Tech faculty, staff, and students. This applies to spouses, domestic partners, and dependent children ages 12 and older. Visit health.gatech.edu/coronavirus/vaccine for details on making a vaccination appointment for yourself or your family members.

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Photo by Allison Carter

Alana DeAngelis, pictured in the Coda Building in Tech Square.

Keeping Campus Connected: Meet Alana DeAngelis

VICTOR ROGERS
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

Alana DeAngelis is the collaboration and productivity solutions manager for OIT Digital Business, a six-person team that is the service owner for all of the collaboration tools on campus.

"My team and I are responsible for making sure your email works," she said. "We also make sure other tools such as Microsoft Teams, BlueJeans, and Webex work so you can have your online calls and conversations. We make sure you have the tools that you need to do your job."

The team works directly with customers across campus as well as with IT support professionals in the units so they can support

their customers.

DeAngelis' entire career has been in higher education, beginning as a student at Georgia Southern University in 2003, where she also worked for many years before coming to Georgia Tech in 2015 as an IT service delivery manager.

"I was looking for other opportunities, and Georgia Tech had a position that intrigued me," she said. "It was such a great opportunity to come up here, work on totally new software with new people, and just get a chance to grow my career in the IT profession."

Her first project was helping to change the campus email system from Zimbra to Office

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365. She moved into her current position after filling in when her manager left.

"I went from being part of the team to leading the team, and I couldn't have been happier," she said. "It was such a great move for me."

Because of the increase in online instruction during the pandemic, the work of DeAngelis and her team has become even more critical.

"We have to make sure that these services are up and running and stable for the learning environment. It was long hours in the beginning, but now we have helped our vendors make so much progress in the features that they offer and the services that we can support and provide to campus," she said.

DeAngelis enjoys working in higher education. The most rewarding part of her job is getting to interact with many different people.

"I will have a conversation with a literal rocket scientist one minute, and the next minute I'm talking to the facilities manager of our building making sure they have what they need," she said.

"I love hearing people's stories. So, being able to sit down with them, hear their stories, hear their problems, and be able to work for resolution is what I want to do in life. I want to be that helper person."

Away From Work

"When I'm not working, I usually spend my time being a nerd about everything,"

DeAngelis said. She participates in a live action role-playing game, LARPing, where the players physically portray their characters.

"Don't believe the movies that you see," she said, laughing. "I would recommend everyone give it a try. You get to dress up as your favorite person, and go pretend. Why would you not want to do that for a little while?"

DeAngelis also knits, crochets, and sews. She practices handwriting, loves baking cupcakes, and enjoys playing video games.

"I usually play farming simulator games like Animal Crossing," she said. "Super Mario Brothers 3 is my favorite game. I still play on my original Nintendo." Sometimes she likes to watch others play. "If I'm watching somebody else play I don't have to make decisions, and they can progress the story."

Her sewing skills come in handy when creating costumes for herself and for friends.

"We go to Dragon Con every year, so I make costumes for that. I've also sewn pillows," she said. And she has knitted and crocheted blankets, shawls, and little stuffed animals.

DeAngelis believes handwriting is a lost art, and she describes her handwriting as "atrocious."

"I love pens and I'm a huge fan of all writing utensils," she said. "Since the pandemic started I have expanded my pen collection, and I just practice handwriting. It's a form of faux calligraphy. You have pretty words on the page, but it's not cursive."

continued from page 1**Surveillance Testing**

Students, faculty, and staff who have not been fully vaccinated are encouraged to continue to participate weekly in Georgia Tech's surveillance testing program. Visit health.gatech.edu/coronavirus/testing for up-to-date times and locations.

Athletics

The Georgia Tech Athletic Association plans for a return to full competitive and fan engagement operations in Fall 2021 and will follow guidance from the NCAA, Atlantic Coast Conference, USG, and government health authorities.

Alternative Work Arrangements

The USG guidance ends all Covid-19-related work accommodations on June 30. All employees with Covid-19-related accommodations need to begin making transition plans with their managers.

Existing teleworking agreements — including those newly developed in 2020 that are not related to Covid-19 — remain valid and should be reviewed annually. Telework approvals are based on management discretion and should be granted based on what best serves students, lessons learned from the past year, and the overall institutional mission.

Future of Work

Employees have provided feedback for our Future of Work at Georgia Tech initiative created earlier this year to examine and design the optimal working environment for the Institute. As part of the Future of Work initiative, tools and resources are currently in development to assist employees with navigating a new approach to work that leverages the lessons learned over the past year and seeks to improve well-being and flexibility. In the coming months, Georgia Tech Human Resources and other departments will provide toolkits, training tools to assist with technology, and workshops to support employees during this transitional period.



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Summer Campus Events Guidelines

View more information at specialevents.gatech.edu/campus-events-guidelines.

As public health guidelines have evolved with the changing of the pandemic, Georgia Tech's event guidelines have also changed. These guidelines apply to any meeting, event, or gathering on campus that is not an academic class, non-credit courses offered by professional education programs (GTPE), or student and academic support services. Academic and instruction delivery resources are available at provost.gatech.edu/coronavirus-response.

Guidance is in place for any events on campus or at events or programs sponsored by Georgia Tech for purposes other than classes, professional education programs, or department meetings.

Space Capacities

We are returning to pre-pandemic event guidelines with a few exceptions.

Academic spaces hosting summer classes continue to require 6 feet of social distancing. Outside spaces, indoor event spaces, conference rooms, and classrooms used for non-academic purposes (e.g. summer camps) can return to full capacity. Please refer to the campus event reservation system to view a space's allowed capacity.

Review and Approval Process

Only outdoor events are required to go through the Event Logistics Committee. Indoor events may submit an event for review to consult with campus experts regarding logistics and safety protocols. Events that require a full review by the Event Logistics Committee must request their space at least two weeks in advance, and preferably four weeks in advance.

Safety Protocols

Face coverings are strongly encouraged for non-vaccinated individuals. Event staff and volunteers may not ask if an individual is vaccinated or require vaccination to participate.

Campus Visitors and Sponsored Visits

Departments hosting visitors, including research sponsored visits, are responsible for maintaining information about whom the visitors met with for at least four weeks after the visit.

Recruitment Tours

Departments hosting recruitment events and tours must refer to the On-Campus Recruitment Program Recommendations documentation and must coordinate with the Office of Undergraduate Admission or Graduate Affairs for requirements and best practices.

Tabling

Tabling may return to pre-Covid-19 guidance. Food sales (including bake sales) and food giveaways are not permitted unless the group holds a health inspection certification.

Campus Resources

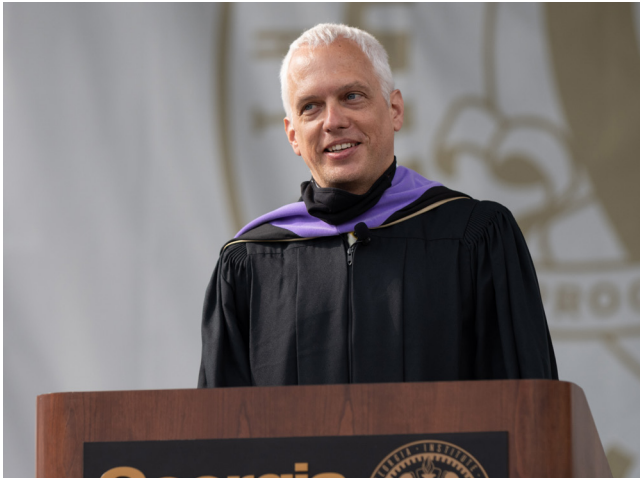
Departments across campus are ready to assist planners with any event modifications.

Environmental Health and Safety can provide PPE and hand sanitizer stands for events. To request supplies, visit ehs.gatech.edu/covid-19/request/event.

The Georgia Tech Legal Team is available for any questions regarding cancellation or rescheduling fees in your contract. Contact the legal team at asklegal@gatech.edu, and include a copy of your contract in your email.

COMMENCEMENT RETURNS TO BOBBY DODD

Commencement ceremonies took place in Bobby Dodd Stadium again this semester, recognizing graduates from Spring 2020, Summer 2020, Fall 2020, and Spring 2021. The guest speaker lineup included three Georgia Tech graduates — among them Ryan Gravel (top left), whose master's thesis conceived the Atlanta BeltLine. Raheem Beyah, dean and Southern Company Chair in the College of Engineering — and also a Tech graduate — celebrated his first Commencement in the role of dean (top right). View more photos from the weekend at [flickr.com/photos/georgiatech/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/georgiatech/).



Photos by Allison Carter, Rob Felt, and Christopher Moore