



The Whistle

Work and Life at Georgia Tech Monday, Aug. 17, 2026



COMPLIANCE



Biannual Compliance Training Launching Soon

All faculty, staff, and students who are active employees as of Aug. 21 will be required to complete the training by Monday, Sept. 21.

LEADERSHIP



Elliott Named Interim Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer

Karin Elliott, vice chancellor for Human Resources for the University System of Georgia, has been named the interim vice president and chief human resources officer for Georgia Tech, beginning Sept. 1.



Getting to Know You



Meet the Utilities Maestro

While often unnoticed, the work of Jermaine Clonts and the Utilities Management team is essential to delivering the utility services that power teaching, learning, research, and campus life.

[Meet Jermaine](#)

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Campus Updates



Student Job Postings Move to CareerBuzz

CareerBuzz creates one central location where students can find job opportunities and departments can connect with student employees.



Sonnenberg-Klein to Lead Undergraduate Research

Julie Sonnenberg-Klein will provide strategic leadership for undergraduate research across campus and administrative oversight of the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program.



In Memoriam



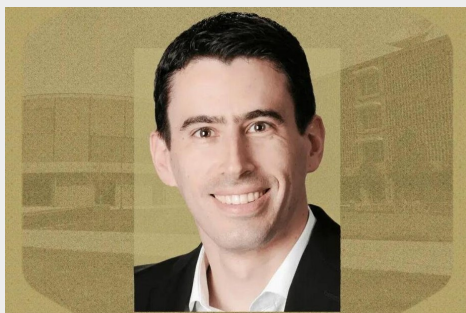
Barry Branch

Branch, the Robert H. Ledbetter Sr. Professor of the Practice of Real Estate Development in the Scheller College of Business, died Aug. 6. He left a legacy of industry leadership, program building, and dedication to his students.

Remembering Barry



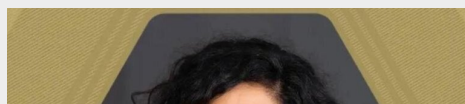
Faculty/Staff Achievements



School of Electrical and Computer Engineering Professor **Matthieu Bloch** received the 2026 IEEE Communications Society and Information Theory Society Joint Paper Award.



Saumya Jain, assistant professor in the School of Biological Sciences, has received a \$300,000 grant from the Whitehall Foundation to support research examining how genes influence the brain's wiring and how these neural connections shape behavior.



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Tushar Krishna, associate professor in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, has received the 2026 ACM SIGARCH Maurice Wilkes Award, one of computer architecture's highest honors for mid-career researchers.



The National Science Foundation named School of Electrical and Computer Engineering Assistant Professor **Divya Mahajan** a recipient of its Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Award.



Matthew McDowell, Carter N. Paden Jr. Distinguished Chair in the School of Materials Science and Engineering, has been appointed to a National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine committee to explore current and next-generation battery energy storage technologies for defense applications.



School of Computer Science Assistant Professor **Ahmed Saeed** has received a CAREER Award from the National Science Foundation to support his research on improving data center efficiency.



The **Retention and Completion Initiatives team** has received the 2026 Office of Undergraduate Education and Student Success Employee Excellence Award, recognizing its dedication to supporting student success.



Upcoming Events

Aug. 19

Talk It Out: Skills for Conflict Communication

1 – 3 p.m.

Online

ATL CleanTech Connect

4 – 6:30 p.m.

The Kendeda Building for Innovative Sustainable Design

Aug. 20

Techmasters (GT Chapter of Toastmasters) Meeting

7:30 – 9 a.m.

Pettit Microelectronics Research Center and Online

U.S. LEED Leadership Building

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11 a.m. – noon
Online

Aug. 23

New Student Convocation

4 – 5 p.m.
McCamish Pavilion

Aug. 24

First Day of Classes

Georgia Tech Campus

Get Started With Perusall

11 a.m. – noon
Online

Aug. 25

Leading at Tech: Impactful Conversations

1 – 3 p.m.
Online

[More Events](#)



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