



# THE WHISTLE

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## Institute Address Highlights Tech's Success, Growth

VICTOR ROGERS  
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

President Ángel Cabrera delivered the annual Institute Address on Thursday, Sept. 1, to an audience in the Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons and to another 550 viewers on YouTube.

He talked about the Institute as a high return on investment for academic degrees, a research powerhouse, and a driver of growth. He said that work done over the past decade to strengthen the student experience has paid off.

"Our six-year graduation rates, an industry standard, are now among the country's best." They are also key to a strong return on investment for students. Because of the Institute's graduation rates, relatively low tuition, and great career outcomes, independent ratings of student ROI consistently place Tech near the top in the nation.

"I am delighted that over the last three years not only haven't we increased tuition, but, thanks to state investments, enrollment growth, and fiscal prudence, we have been able to reduce it."

With these outcomes, demand for a Georgia Tech education is at an all-time



Photo by Allison Carter

President Ángel Cabrera delivers his annual address in the Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons on Thursday, Sept. 1.

high. Amid a national decline in college enrollment, this year Tech broke a new record with more than 50,000 students applying for first-year admission.

"This year we just welcomed nearly 3,700 new first-year students. With another 1,400 students transferring in from other universities, this is our largest incoming class ever. Add to

this the continuing expansion of our online graduate programs, and our overall enrollment now sits at more than 46,000 students. That is the largest number of students we have ever served," he said.

*This story has been edited for length. Read the rest of the story at [news.gatech.edu](https://news.gatech.edu).*

## Explore Georgia Tech President's Report, Research Report

DOUG GOODWIN  
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

The Georgia Tech community is invited to experience and share two complementary digital annual reports, which highlight Tech's work and achievements in academics, research,

campus life, and community engagement over the past year.

The 2022 President's Report showcases how Georgia Tech is delivering on its mission to develop leaders who advance technology and improve the human condition. View it at [report2022.president.gatech.edu](https://report2022.president.gatech.edu).

The Research Report takes readers further into Tech's technological innovation, with research impact stories from all six academic units, 11 Interdisciplinary Research Institutes, and the Georgia Technology Research Institute. View it at [report.research.gatech.edu](https://report.research.gatech.edu).



## Football Returns to The Flats

The Yellow Jackets opened their season against Clemson University at Mercedes-Benz Stadium during Labor Day weekend. They have four remaining home games at Bobby Dodd Stadium this season. To purchase tickets, visit [ramblinwreck.com/tickets](https://ramblinwreck.com/tickets).

**University of Mississippi**  
Saturday, Sept. 17  
3:30 p.m.

**University of Virginia**  
Thursday, Oct. 20  
7:30 p.m.

**Duke University**  
Saturday, Oct. 8  
TBA

**University of Miami**  
Saturday, Nov. 12  
TBA

## FACULTY AND STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

With his eighth and ninth papers published in this year's *IEEE International Symposium on High-Performance Computer Architecture*, **Tushar Krishna** has been inducted into the organization's Hall of Fame. Only 10 members of the HPCA community were inducted this year — a significant distinction reserved for researchers with eight or more papers appearing in the proceedings of the symposium.

The Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) recently announced the naming of **Tim Lieuwen**, Regents' Professor and David S. Lewis Jr. Chair in the Daniel Guggenheim School of Aerospace Engineering and executive director of the Strategic Energy Institute, as chair of its Advisory Council.

EPRI's Advisory Council provides advice and comment on the economic, social, political, and international trends that should be considered in setting the institute's research priorities, while also ensuring EPRI's balance in serving the public interest.

School of Computer Science Professor **Moinuddin Qureshi** was recently named the winner of the 2022 ACM SIGARCH Maurice Wilkes Award. The annual award is one of the most prestigious mid-career awards in computer architecture and recognizes contributions to the community. Qureshi earned this year's distinction for work he's done to advance high-performance memory systems since earning his Ph.D. in 2007.

## CAMPUS IS BUZZING



Photo by Joya Chapman

Jennifer Leavey, assistant dean for faculty mentoring in the College of Sciences and principal academic professional in the School of Biological Sciences, works with honey bees atop The Kendeda Building for Innovative Sustainable Design. Leavey is also director of the Georgia Tech Urban Honey Bee Project ([bees.gatech.edu](https://bees.gatech.edu)).



# Economic Development Administration Awards Tech \$65 Million for AI Manufacturing Project

Grant is largest ever awarded to a coalition led by Georgia Tech

PÉRALTE PAUL  
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

Georgia Tech has been awarded a \$65 million grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA) to support a statewide initiative that combines artificial intelligence and manufacturing innovations with transformational workforce and outreach programs. The grant will increase job and wage opportunities in distressed and rural communities, as well as among historically underrepresented and underserved groups.

The Georgia Artificial Intelligence Manufacturing Technology Corridor (GA-AIM) effort is one of 21 winning projects the White House announced today under the Biden administration's \$1 billion Build Back Better Regional Challenge. The award follows a \$500,000 Phase 1 feasibility grant the project received in 2021.

"Georgia Tech is honored to lead this vision of collaborative innovation and economic development across all regions of our state," said Georgia Tech President Ángel Cabrera. "This award underscores the Institute's commitment to leverage our resources and expertise to address great challenges, serve our state and nation, and amplify our impact on the world."

The selected awardees represent projects in 24 states with grant amounts ranging from \$25 million to \$65 million.

The GA-AIM project is led by Aaron Stebner, associate professor in the George W. Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering and the School of Materials Science and Engineering; Donna Ennis, director of Diversity Engagement and Program Development in Georgia Tech's Enterprise Innovation



Photo by Rob Felt

Aaron Stebner (left) and Tom Kurfess are among the leaders of GA-AIM, a \$65 million grant that focuses on manufacturing and AI in the state of Georgia.

Institute and also director of its Georgia MBDA Business Center; and Thomas R. Kurfess, executive director of the Georgia Tech Manufacturing Institute.

"The ability to integrate our discoveries and innovations here at the AI Manufacturing Pilot Facility with novel workforce programs and transformative outreach experiences is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to do something greater in ways that increase opportunity and prosperity for all Georgians," Stebner said. "Through an equitable AI manufacturing innovation focus, the assembled coalition of partners and stakeholders across the state will build a more prosperous and resilient Georgia and set a nation-leading example."

The AI Manufacturing Pilot Facility, which will allow for government and industry pilot trials, cybersecurity games, and workforce training for AI manufacturing technologies, is just one component of Georgia Tech's support for the project.

Two of Georgia Tech's commercialization programs —

VentureLab and I-Corps South — will create a center for the commercialization of AI manufacturing technologies into local and regional startups through training built on the National Science Foundation's I-Corps curriculum.

The Enterprise Innovation Institute, Georgia Tech's economic development arm, will engage in focused outreach and technical assistance to small and mid-sized manufacturers and minority business enterprises through its Georgia Manufacturing Extension Partnership (GaMEP) and Georgia MBDA Business Center programs. Other Enterprise Innovation Institute programs include the Economic Development Lab, the Partnership for Inclusive Innovation, and ATDC, which will focus on outreach and engagement in distressed and underserved parts of the state, create workforce development programs and implementation strategies, and attract outside investment.

This story has been edited for length. Read the full story at [news.gatech.edu](https://news.gatech.edu).

# USG Shares Benefits Information for 2023

UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA  
HUMAN RESOURCES

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia (USG) recently approved 2023 healthcare plans and premiums for active employees and pre-65 retirees, as well as USG funding for the Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) for retirees 65 and older.

There will be no employee premium increases for 2023.

To lower overall plan costs, there will be plan design changes in all of the USG healthcare plans and an increase in the employer portion of the premiums to cover the rest of the increase.

There will be an increase in the plan surcharges, and the plan design changes include increases in deductibles, out-of-pocket maximums, or copays.

A few important items to note:

- Tobacco use and working spouse surcharges will increase from \$100 to \$150.
- There will be one surcharge for all dependent children 18 and older who use tobacco.
- You must complete the certification of your tobacco use and working spouse (if applicable) each year during Open Enrollment. If you take no action during Open Enrollment, you will default to the surcharge. Check your Open Enrollment confirmation statement to make sure you completed the certification. Corrections can be made through the end of the year through OneUSG Connect – Benefits at 844.587.4236.

The **tobacco cessation** option will continue to be available during Open Enrollment for employees/dependents who are tobacco users to provide an opportunity to participate in a tobacco cessation program, complete the program, and have the tobacco surcharge removed. Information about tobacco cessation options is available



on the USG Well-Being website under Tobacco and Smoke-Free.

The **working spouse surcharge** will apply to employees who cover their working spouse under the USG plan when the spouse has an offer of coverage from their own employer.

Enrollees may change/update your surcharge status at any time during the year through OneUSG Connect – Benefits. The change will be effective at the first of the next month.

Earn up to \$200 **well-being credit** for 2023. New this year is a points-based system with additional earning activities. The new program year begins Oct. 1, 2022. To register, visit [ourwellbeing.usg.edu](https://ourwellbeing.usg.edu).

**Diabetes management, prevention, and weight management programs** continue at no cost. Programs are provided for healthcare enrollees who meet program criteria. Information is available at [ourwellbeing.usg.edu](https://ourwellbeing.usg.edu).

A summary of the approved plan design changes and premiums are available at [benefits.usg.edu](https://benefits.usg.edu).

2023 Open Enrollment will take place from **Oct. 24 through Nov. 4, 2022**. Active employees will begin receiving Open Enrollment information in late September by mail. Complete your 2023 enrollment elections and certifications at [oneusgconnect.usg.edu](https://oneusgconnect.usg.edu) no later than Nov. 4, 2022.

## Benefits Fairs

Attend an in-person or virtual benefits fair for more information about USG benefits programs. A Georgia Tech in-person fair will be held Tuesday, Oct. 18. More information including time and location will be announced soon. Flu shots and biometric screenings will also be available on the day of the fair.

## USG Benefits

More information on 2023 plans is available at [benefits.usg.edu](https://benefits.usg.edu).

The USG virtual benefits fair with live presentations and chat will be offered throughout the Open Enrollment period, from Oct. 24 through Nov. 4. Employees will receive a registration email in October for the virtual benefits fair.

## Retirees

Pre-65 retirees and pre-65 dependents will remain on the same plans as active employees. As in the past, there will be separate pre-65 retiree premium rate charts for the 2023 plan year.

Medicare-eligible retirees 65 and over and Medicare-eligible dependents age 65 and older will continue to enroll in their supplemental healthcare coverage through the Retiree Health Exchange. Medicare Part A and B will provide primary coverage. USG will also continue to provide an annual contribution into a Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) for retirees and/or dependents to use toward premiums and other eligible out-of-pocket healthcare expenses. The Board of Regents approved the USG HRA funding to remain at \$2,736 per year, per 65 and older Medicare-eligible retiree and any 65 and older Medicare-eligible covered dependent(s). To receive the 2023 USG HRA funding, the retiree and/or dependent must purchase coverage through the Aflac Retiree Health Solution. The Medicare enrollment period is Oct. 15 through Dec. 7, 2022, for coverage to begin Jan. 1, 2023.