COVID-19 and the Georgia Tech Community

The current public health crisis has affected each of us in countless ways. As we navigate uncharted waters to the conclusion of the semester and beyond, the best source for all things COVID-19 is health.gatech.edu/coronavirus. Here you will find up-to-date news and information as well as an archive of Institute announcements and changes, University System of Georgia (USG) guidelines, frequently asked questions, and links to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Be sure to visit the site regularly.

The Institute has moved to full-time distance learning, and there will be no in-person classes through the end of the semester. Campus remains open during this time, but operations will be limited and people will be physically onsite only at minimally required levels.

All Georgia Tech-sponsored events through the end of Spring semester, including athletic events, are canceled, postponed, or will move to a virtual format.

If you are in charge of an event and need help communicating to the audience or moving to a virtual format, visit specialevents.gatech.edu/virtual to this Hosting Virtual Events guide, or reach out to the events team at events@comm.gatech.edu.

Like many of our peer institutions, we are ramping down all on-campus research laboratory activities. Very limited access to laboratories will be maintained so that critical activities can continue. Laboratory activities in support of COVID-19 response efforts will also continue. All faculty members should work with their laboratory personnel (research faculty, students, postdocs, and staff) to ramp down operations as soon as practicable.

For operational updates and a Research-specific Compliance Training March 16 – April 13

All employees are asked to complete data governance, data security, and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) compliance training, which will be available from Monday, March 16, to Monday, April 13. Moving forward, this training will be required on an annual basis for all employees.

Training is available through the Brightspace/D2L Course Catalog, which can be accessed by visiting training.hr.gatech.edu.

For instructions on how to access the training, visit b.gatech.edu/datatraininginstructions.

The web-based training course, which takes approximately 30 minutes, is designed to prepare employees for the upcoming policy changes and new data protection standards outlined earlier this month. To learn more, visit oit.gatech.edu/data-security-policy-training-resources.
Changes in On-Campus Services: What You Need to Know

MORGAN MILLER
CAMPUS SERVICES

COVID-19 has changed the way our on-campus services operate. We understand how uncertain these times are, and we are working to accommodate the needs of our campus community, which continues to depend on these services.

To better support a reduced student, faculty, and staff population on campus and follow recommended social distancing guidelines, here is what you need to know about Campus Services changes.

Postal Services
The Georgia Tech Post Office continues to operate. The postal services team has enhanced its daily cleaning of both the Post Office and 711 Mail Processing Center in accordance with CDC guidelines and has provided personal protection equipment for staff at both locations.

- Post Office, Student Center 1st Floor:
  Monday – Friday
  10 a.m. – 3 p.m. (retail window)
  10 a.m. – 4 p.m. (package window)
- 711 Mail Processing Center (711 Marietta St.)
  Monday – Friday
  10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Faculty and staff should call 404.385.4174 and arrange for package pickup at the Mail Processing Center as soon as possible. To ensure the health of our team, all mail and packages will be delivered curbside.

For questions about package pickup, mail forwarding, or for alternate arrangements, email postofficeask@po.gatech.edu or visit postoffice.gatech.edu.

Parking and Transportation
Parking permit registration has been rescheduled to accommodate the on-campus changes to our services.
- Permit Renewals: June 1 – 10
- Wait List Awards: June 12 – 17
- General Permit Sales: June 19 – July 10

Visit pts.gatech.edu for more information.

MARTA Transit Pass
Until further notice, monthly MARTA passes will not be available for purchase from the PTS office. Customers who want to purchase passes for May and beyond should work directly with the transit provider. Customers who purchase monthly MARTA passes via payroll deduction will receive a pass for April, as these have been already processed by Human Resources.

Learn how to purchase MARTA passes online or cancel payroll deduction at pts.gatech.edu. Questions about MARTA passes may be directed to commute@gatech.edu.

Operations
The PTS office is now closed. The PTS Customer Service team will be available to assist customers via email at info.parking@gatech.edu during normal business hours (7:30 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday – Friday). Parking account management is available at driverseat.gatech.edu.

Bookstore
Barnes & Noble @ Georgia Tech is closed until further notice.
- Online orders: We will continue to fulfill online orders within a 24- to 48-hour period. We will offer store pickup via appointment only Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. We will notify you to schedule an appointment. Orders to be shipped will not be affected and will continue to be sent via ground shipping.
- Ph.D. regalia orders: All Ph.D. rental orders will be canceled. Ph.D. custom regalia purchases will be fulfilled and are not returnable.
- Faculty textbook orders: Faculty should continue to place their book orders for Summer and Fall via facultyenlight.com.
- Mac service and repair: We will continue to offer repairs for Mac and iPad via appointment. Please send an email to techstore@gatech.edu to schedule an appointment.
- Starbucks: Our Starbucks cafe is now closed to the public as well.

For more information, visit gatech.bncollege.com/shop/gatech/page/customer-service.

Campus Recreation Center (CRC)
The CRC has closed all recreational facilities and programming until guidance is given for it to reopen.

A full list of closures is available at crc.gatech.edu/resources.
Support the Student Relief Fund

The Division of Student Life, the Alumni Association, and the Office of Development are partnering to collect and distribute emergency funds to support students in need.

The Student Relief Fund will offer financial assistance to Tech students who have been affected by the COVID-19 crisis and campus closures. Funding is available to all enrolled Georgia Tech students and can be used for travel assistance, housing assistance, medical expenses, moving costs, financial support, food insecurity, and much more.

Students in need of financial assistance should complete the application form, and the Office of the Vice President and Dean of Students will contact them to coordinate the assistance through the Office of Financial Aid. The maximum amount of each grant is $1,000.

Funds are limited, but three campus departments are working together to raise money for the Student Relief Fund. Parents can make a gift through the Georgia Tech Parents Fund, alumni can make a gift through Roll Call, and faculty and staff can make a gift by visiting development.gatech.edu/student-emergency-funding and following the instructions.

All gifts, regardless of the dollar amount, will make a difference in the lives of young people who are facing unprecedented challenges as the Georgia Tech community grapples with coronavirus.

NOW MORE THAN EVER

The Clough Art Crawl opened March 12, just before Tech’s operations were dramatically altered by the coronavirus pandemic. This year’s show, Identity, Community, and Belonging, features student artists exploring themes that are now more timely, relevant, and urgent than ever before.

While campus remains open during this time, people are physically onsite only at minimally required levels. But when life returns to normal at Tech, the show will go on — and the Clough Art Crawl, coordinated by Georgia Tech Arts in partnership with the Library, will resume.

For more information, contact info@arts.gatech.edu.
In 2000, Dori Pap came to the United States to play volleyball for the Yellow Jackets, and she never left. Today she is the assistant director for Georgia Tech’s Institute for Leadership and Entrepreneurship (soon to be renamed the Institute for Leadership and Social Impact).

“I have been in Atlanta 20 years, which is incredible,” Pap said. “I never thought I’d stay this long, but it grew on me.”

Pap (pronounced “pop”) was born in western Romania, in a region called Transylvania. She usually doesn’t mention that because “it stops the conversation” and starts a new one about vampires or The Rocky Horror Picture Show.

“I grew up during communism, so there were no outside pop culture references at all,” she said, explaining how the American fascination with vampires and a particular film character were new to her when she arrived in the U.S.

Back in Romania, Pap’s love of athletics started early. Her dad was a rally race car driver and a sports enthusiast.

“My dad put me on skis at three years old,” she said. She also participated in fencing, handball, and track. She was introduced to volleyball at age nine.

“I was walking down the street with my sister. A gentleman, who was a volleyball coach, came up to us and asked me, ‘How tall are you?’ Then he asked, ‘How tall are your parents?’ I answered him, and he said, ‘Let’s go talk to your parents.’”

Pap is 6 feet 2 inches tall and has been that height since she was 13.

Three years later, she began playing professional volleyball, although it was not considered professional by U.S. standards. She moved to Bucharest and played there for a couple of years. Then she moved to Hungary and played for a few more years before being recruited to play at Georgia Tech in 2000.

From Hungary to Midtown Atlanta

“Coach Shelton Collier recruited me,” Pap said. “He was a great coach. I’m grateful that he saw something in me that was worth the trip to Hungary and worth extending a full ride to Georgia Tech. He really changed my life and played a big role in where I am today.

“Volleyball was great. It was great to be in a beautiful gym and in nice, new outfits with girls who were excited about the same things that I was and spoke the same language,” Pap said.

And she made lifelong friendships with her fellow players.

“I probably value my friendships more than any of the outcomes of the games. After 16 or 17 years that is what matters,” she said. “Being at Georgia Tech was always more than just being on the court and winning.”

Pap earned a bachelor’s degree and a master’s degree in international affairs from the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs. She also earned an MBA. Now she is pursuing a doctorate in higher education administration at the University of Georgia.

Life at Tech

Pap has been with the Institute for Leadership and Entrepreneurship (ILE) since 2006. She went to work with Terry Blum, former dean of the Scheller College of Business, until she figured out what she wanted to do with her life. That was 14 years ago.

“So, I either haven’t figured out what I want to do with my life yet, or this is what I want to do,” she joked. “It has been a very rewarding experience. Terry is one of those outstanding mentors who knows when to push you and when to support you. I have been very lucky to grow under her mentorship.”

ILE facilitates a study abroad program that takes undergraduates to Hungary, Austria, and the Czech Republic and exposes them to the nonprofit sector in that part of the world. The center also manages the Ideas to Serve competition for students who are passionate about social issues and want to create a better, more humane society. And the center presents the Impact Speaker Series, bringing in leaders and entrepreneurs.

Pap also teaches the Capstone Course for the leadership minor at Georgia Tech.

“I very much enjoy working with students,” she said. “It’s the hardest part of my job. It takes a lot of mental and emotional preparation to make sure that I’m doing it well and to the best of my abilities.”

With a full-time job, academic pursuits, and a family, Pap has a very busy life that no longer includes volleyball.

Today Pap is into tennis and yoga. “As a former college athlete, struggling to touch your toes or balance on one leg keeps you humble,” she said with a smile.