

WINTER 2022

Philanthropy

THE IMPACT OF GIVING AT GEORGIA TECH

QUARTERLY



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For information about giving to Tech, contact the Office of Development at 404.894.1868. To share your comments about Philanthropy Quarterly, contact [Jennifer Carille](mailto:Jennifer.Carille@comm.gatech.edu) at 404.385.7422 or jennifer.carille@comm.gatech.edu. Copyright 2022 • Georgia Institute of Technology Institute Communications • N22C6001c This publication is printed on paper that is FSC Certified, made from premium pulps, is carbon neutral, and made with windpower. Georgia Tech is committed to environmental sustainability. Please recycle this publication.

Letter from President Cabrera



Ángel Cabrera
President,
Georgia Institute
of Technology

Dear Friends and Supporters of Georgia Tech:

I am honored to take the baton from my friend and fundraiser extraordinaire Barrett Carson in penning this opening letter for *Philanthropy Quarterly*. I have good news to share, but I first want to thank Barrett, who for many years used this column to update you on what all your philanthropy does to help Georgia Tech deliver on our important mission.

As he announced last year, Mr. Carson, as we like to call him around here, retired as vice president for Development after 25 years of exemplary service. The last campaign, which he ran through its successful completion in 2015, helped us build the Marcus Nanotechnology Center, the Kendeda Building for Innovative Sustainable Design, the Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons, the Roger A. and Helen B. Krone Engineered Biosystems Building, the Brock Football Practice Facility, the Zelnak Basketball Center, and McCamish Pavilion — plus a host of student, faculty, and research support programs, and the naming of the Scheller College of Business, adding up to \$1.8 billion. Before that, he helped us raise more than \$700 million toward a \$300 million campaign. More recently, *Initiative 2020* raised another \$588 million, a robust foundation upon which to launch our new campaign.

Mr. Carson has agreed to serve as a senior philanthropic advisor — until he and Carolyn take off on worldwide adventures. Throughout my years as an alumnus and GTAB member, then as a Tech parent, and now as president, Mr. Carson has taught me the joy of giving and of asking others to give. I am glad we will continue to travel together, visit donors, and strategize on how to best help you help the Institute.

While we search for a new vice president, I am delighted that our colleague Jim Hall agreed to take the lead. Many of you know Jim, as he has worked on the Athletic Association development team for more than two decades. Among his many contributions, Jim led the *Athletics Initiative 2020*, which raised more than \$175 million. Jim has hit the ground running for the new campaign, engaging the entire community, giving presentations to the Foundation board and other groups, and supporting the team of dedicated fundraisers across the Institute in preparation for a campaign announcement later this year. If you have not met Jim, I know you will be impressed.

Meanwhile, despite headwinds still prevailing in higher education, and the lingering effects of a pandemic, you should know that your Institute is forging ahead, continuing to grow and making a difference in the world, at unprecedented rates.

We are breaking new records in the number and quality of students we attract and serve and are proud to have surpassed 50,000 applications for our incoming first-year class. They are our most competitive and diverse pool ever, proving that we can increase the quality of the talent we attract while expanding access to people still underrepresented in science and technology — women, Black, Hispanic, first-generation, and low-income students. This remarkable pipeline of talent has not gone unnoticed by leading technology companies, many of which are choosing to grow their presence in Atlanta and throughout our state. Our growth at the graduate level also continues thanks in large part to our revolutionary online master's programs in computer science, cybersecurity, and data analytics.

The work of our researchers across campus and the Georgia Tech Research Institute also continues to reach new heights. In fact, Georgia Tech is now among the top 20 universities in the nation in research and development funding, and No. 1 among U.S. universities without medical schools — which account for about one quarter of all funding. This means that our contributions to science and technology are among the most impactful in the nation.

The discoveries in our labs, the lives transformed, and the innovations realized would not have happened without your support. Philanthropy helps us attract the brightest students regardless of their families' resources; recruit and equip world-class faculty; maintain a beautiful campus; and build state-of-the-art facilities and technology to support learning and discovery, support student athletes to perform at the highest level on the court and in the classroom, and build programs to help our students grow as global, creative, conscientious leaders.

Philanthropy allows you and each of us to play an active role in fulfilling our mission to develop leaders who advance technology and improve the human condition. Thank you for all you do for Georgia Tech.

In Progress and Service,
—Ángel

Former President's Scholar Gives Back

R. Thomas "Tom" Dyal, EE 1988, attended Georgia Tech on a President's Scholarship. "It was a unique program at the time," he said. "There weren't many schools in the country offering full, merit-based scholarships, and I was blessed to be a part of it."

After graduating from Tech and earning a master's at Stanford, Dyal began his career in the technology sector before co-founding Redpoint Ventures. The venture capital firm "invests in really interesting enterprise and consumer software technology companies," he said.

Now Dyal has come full circle, establishing his own Stamps President's Scholarship for students pursuing degrees in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering. "I was in one of the early cohorts — I believe the scholarship program was established three years earlier — and I feel that both Georgia Tech and the scholarship started me on a great path," he said.

The President's Scholarship Program was renamed the Stamps President's Scholars Program in 2016 in recognition of generous and continuing philanthropic support by E. Roe Stamps IV, IE 1967, M.S. IE 1972, HON Ph.D. 2014, and Penelope "Penny" W. Stamps, honorary alumna. The program currently funds 40 incoming first-year recipients and is renewable for up to eight semesters of study. In addition to providing full

funding that includes the cost of tuition and fees, room and board, and books, a Stamps President's Scholarship also covers expenses for academic enrichment, service opportunities, and even international experiences.

Although Dyal wanted his gift to support the scholarship program, he also had another goal for his philanthropy. "I want to help the Institute continue to offer programs that recruit the best students," he said. Full merit-based scholarships also "help bring in

students from other states and internationally, which is important."

Dyal said he decided to give now because "I'm a little further along in my career and with my family, and I thought it was time to focus more on philanthropy. And Georgia Tech has always been my No. 1 loyalty," he said. ///

*To establish a new scholarship fund, or to add to an existing fund, contact any development officer or Associate Vice President for Development **Phil Spessard** at phil.spessard@dev.gatech.edu or 404.385.1418.*



R. Thomas "Tom" Dyal, EE 1988

STAMPS PRESIDENT'S SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Stamps President's Scholarships are full, merit-based scholarships that cover tuition and fees, meals, housing, and books. Recipients also receive \$15,000 to be used for enrichment activities including academically oriented international travel and unpaid research or internships, plus an eight-day outdoor leadership trip for first-year students. An additional \$1,100 stipend for the purchase of a laptop is provided. For in-state students, a portion of the scholarship is expected to come from the Zell Miller/HOPE Scholarship. Out-of-state students receive aid packages that often include waivers that reduce overall costs to correspond with in-state student tuition. There are currently 168 Stamps President's Scholars. More than 2,000 students have participated in this scholarship program to date. Income from 104 named endowed scholarship funds supports the breadth of the Stamps President's Scholars Program.

ENSURING A COMPETITIVE EDGE:

Smith Supports Scheller and Athletics

Teresa M. Smith, IMGT 1983, appreciates competition in business and sports. The retired software and technology executive enjoyed a career spent leading and mentoring global strategy and operations teams working to solve complex issues in industries including public safety, defense and intelligence, utilities, transportation, manufacturing, and security.

“I would not have had those opportunities if I hadn’t spent time at Tech working on team projects and earning team grades,” Smith said. The art of working together while competing successfully against other teams was one that Smith learned through playing sports as a youngster, her undergraduate years at Tech, and her first “real” job out of college. “I love competition, and I thrive on it,” she said. “Competition helps prepare students for business and life.”

Smith, who in the past 42 years has only missed two Tech home football games, recently made an Estate provision that directs seven-figure gifts to both Athletics and the Ernest Scheller Jr. College of Business. She appreciates the excellent foundation she received as an undergraduate business student, but she also has tremendous respect for everything Athletics offers. “I played sports growing up, and I think it really prepares you in terms of how teams work. You learn so much about relying on other people, but also about individual contribution, accountability, and not letting others down,” she said.

Her support for Scheller is an investment to help the College — and Georgia Tech — remain competitive in the educational marketplace. Smith began serving as chair of the Scheller College Advisory Board in April 2019. “We had one in-person meeting that October, and then Covid-19 hit, and we didn’t meet in person for two years,” she said. The unprecedented demands on both institutions and students required “finding creative ways to continue funding many



Teresa M. Smith, IMGT 1983

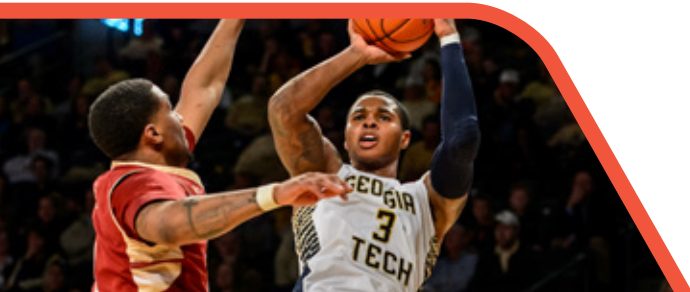
programs and areas, such as the Dean’s Innovation Fund. Having discretionary funding available to meet the needs of the past two years was vital.”

Ensuring that Scheller College has the funds to continue supporting innovation at the juncture of business and technology will help Tech continue along an upward trajectory.

Although she hasn’t made a final decision regarding how her gifts will be used, Smith is “leaning toward discretionary funding that will be available for what’s most needed at the time. I want to have a long-term, positive impact on Georgia Tech.”

Smith also encourages other alumni and friends to consider supporting the Institute. “Tech offers many opportunities to be engaged and recognizes what alumni bring to the table,” she said. Although her involvement as an alumna began years ago, Smith said, “I’ve stayed engaged so I can participate and contribute. The Tech community is a large ecosystem, and people play different roles, but we all want what’s best for the Institute, and that’s very rewarding.” ///

To inquire about making a planned gift, contact giftplanning@dev.gatech.edu or call 404.385.6716.



Exponent Establishes Dean's Scholarship for Engineering

In its first gift to Georgia Tech, Silicon Valley-based Exponent has established a Dean's Scholarship in the College of Engineering. According to CEO Catherine Ford Corrigan, the gift is designed, in part, to help increase the number of undergraduate students from underrepresented communities who study engineering and the sciences. "Georgia Tech has done a lot in regard to diversity, equity, and inclusion," Corrigan said. "And we've recognized that Georgia Tech's mission in that regard is aligned with ours."

Exponent, an engineering and scientific consulting firm, "helps clients by bringing together multidisciplinary teams to find solutions to their problems," Corrigan said. The firm has 24 domestic offices, plus operations in Asia and Europe, and employs several Georgia Tech graduates. "We have historical ties to Georgia Tech through our consulting services, and we have an Atlanta office."

The firm's gift to Tech is also a first in terms of what it supports: undergraduate education. "We usually focus on graduate-level support, but we chose to partner with Georgia Tech at the undergraduate level to help advance the study of engineering and the sciences — particularly with underrepresented students," she said. "We want to make an impact on the pipeline of undergraduate students — but also on communities that are underrepresented in engineering. Increasing the diversity of students coming through the pipeline is so important."

According to Raheem Beyah, dean and Southern Company Chair, "Supporting students from historically underrepresented backgrounds is imperative to the success of the College of Engineering, as it fosters an environment that encourages diverse

" Supporting students from historically underrepresented backgrounds is imperative to the success of the College of Engineering, as it fosters an environment that encourages diverse ideas and viewpoints. "

— Raheem Beyah, dean and Southern Company Chair, College of Engineering

ideas and viewpoints. I'm grateful to Exponent for establishing a Dean's Scholarship, which strengthens our existing initiatives to provide pathways for all students."

Beyond these goals, Corrigan hopes this formal partnership with Georgia Tech will "foster even more knowledge among students about the option of consulting" as a career path. "Much of the work we do is related to safety, human health, the environment, and sustainability," she said. "We want to create a safer, healthier, more sustainable world, and that aligns nicely with what Georgia Tech students value." ///

*To inquire about making a gift in support of the College of Engineering in general, or a Dean's Scholarship in particular, contact any development officer or Executive Director of Development **Brad Hastings** at brad.hastings@coe.gatech.edu or 678.296.3461.*

Alumni Honor Professors With Scholarships

Two new endowed scholarships aim to support tomorrow's leaders through what their sponsors describe as critical experiences at Georgia Tech. Kelly Kloster Hon, ME 2011, M.S. ME 2012, and Ryan Paul Hon, NRE 2011, M.S. NRE 2013, Ph.D. NRE 2016, have funded the Dr. Bettina F. Cothran Scholarship and the Dr. Carole E. Moore Scholarship, named after two of Kelly's Georgia Tech mentors. "We wanted to support programs we are connected to, so we saved our money over the years in order to create these long-term, personal investments for Georgia Tech," Kelly said.

The Dr. Bettina F. Cothran endowment honors the professor for her exemplary teaching skills, her dedication to graduating good global citizens, and her leadership of the German Language for Business and Technology (LBAT) program. Kelly, who participated in the program, said Cothran "taught with a well-rounded approach to language learning, not the same exercises over and over, while incorporating culture, history, and current events." The need-based scholarship is for engineering students who wish to participate in the German LBAT program but lack the means to do so. "I valued the program's incorporation of business and technology with language and cultural learning," Kelly said. "The summer I spent living and studying in Germany included visits to several German manufacturing facilities. It really opened my eyes to alternative professional paths I hadn't considered before."

The Dr. Carole E. Moore endowment honors Moore for her work with and for women students and her exemplary leadership in women's advocacy at Georgia Tech. Moore served as an advisor to Georgia Tech's Society of Women Engineers (SWE) section when Kelly was the treasurer. "She coached and encouraged our section leadership. We had the largest regional budget because she made sure we had sufficient and sustainable funding," Kelly said. Thanks to Moore's leadership, funding was in place "both to execute key programs and to sponsor as many students as possible to attend the annual and regional SWE conferences each year." The merit-based scholarship is for the top academic SWE member pursuing mechanical engineering and is designed to recognize academic excellence while supporting the advancement of women



in STEM fields. Kelly remains active in SWE today as the San Diego section president, where she empowers women to achieve their full potential in careers as engineers and leaders.

The Hons live in Southern California, where she is a research and development manager for Becton Dickinson, a global medical technology company, and he is a nuclear engineer for General Atomics, a defense and diversified technologies company.

"My husband and I benefited a lot from our time at Georgia Tech," Kelly said. "These two mentors and the programs they valued helped shape me into the change-maker I am today. They ensured that I had a diverse global perspective, varied academic experiences, a strong network, and a passion to give back to help the next generation. Ryan and I hope that these two scholarships will help mold their recipients into passionate, empathetic, generous global leaders." ///

To inquire about making a gift in support of scholarships, contact any development officer or Associate Vice President for Development Matthew Ryan at matthew.ryan@dev.gatech.edu or 404.894.4515.

THE RIGHT TIME FOR A **PROMISE** **SCHOLARSHIP**



Lawton M. "Mac"
Nease III, IM 1965

Lawton M. "Mac" Nease III, IM 1965, and his wife, Brenda, have given generously to Georgia Tech for many years, and they've chosen their gifts carefully. Their recent decision to endow a Tech Promise Scholarship has been at least a decade in the making.

"Brenda and I were at a dinner held at Grant Field about 10 years ago, and we happened to sit at a table with a young woman who'd received the Tech Promise Scholarship," Nease said. "She was a mechanical engineering major about to graduate, and she had just received a lucrative job offer. I was both impressed and touched by her story. So that was my face-to-face introduction to the Tech Promise program, and it was favorable."

It wasn't the Neases' introduction to supporting students, however. They established the Jane Pool and Lawton Nease Scholarship in honor of his parents "probably 36 years ago now. It's for students accepted to Georgia Tech from Effingham High School, which is where Brenda and I both graduated," Nease said. "Last time I checked, 94 students have received the scholarship, and with great results." The Neases also funded a scholarship at Coastal Georgia College in Brunswick, where Brenda Nease is a board member.

To inquire about making a gift in support of the G. Wayne Clough Georgia Tech Promise Scholarship Program, contact any development officer or Associate Vice President for Development **Phil Spessard** at phil.spessard@dev.gatech.edu or **404.385.1418**.

In addition, they have provided significant and longstanding support for the baseball program at Georgia Tech. In honor of their contributions, the home of Yellow Jacket baseball has been renamed the Mac Nease Baseball Park at Russ Chandler Stadium.

But Mac Nease said the idea of funding a Tech Promise Scholarship "has been incubating in my head since that dinner 10 years ago. I have been watching the program for a while, and I've been impressed with both the results and how the recipients are chosen. They have to meet the same admission requirements as any other student at Tech," he said. "And the discipline required to stay in the program — factoring in both the work requirement and the academic component — is rigorous."

More recently, Nease finished reading President Emeritus G. Wayne Clough's new book, *The Technological University Reimagined*, in which he discusses Tech Promise, and in Anne Clough's obituary this fall, he noticed "a mention that contributions could be made in her memory to the Anne Robinson Clough Promise Scholarship. I did that, but I decided that I wanted to do more."

His decision was based on three factors. "I have a long-term, positive history with Georgia Tech scholarship programs, including the small academic scholarship I received as a student," he said. "Plus, we've watched the success of our existing scholarship and the evolution of the Tech Promise program, which has been around long enough for its merits to be evaluated, and it has passed with high marks." Ultimately, though, "The time was just right to pull the trigger and do it." ///



Top left: Exterior rendering of the Stamps Student Commons and the John Lewis Student Center. Above: Renderings of the building's open spaces, both interior and exterior.

SUPPORTING THE JOHN LEWIS STUDENT LEADERSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND

On November 9, 2021, the Board of Regents approved the renaming of Georgia Tech's Student Center in honor of the late John Lewis, who served the constituents of Georgia's 5th congressional district in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1987 until his death in 2020. Lewis chaired the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNIC) from 1963 to 1966 and was heavily involved in the civil rights movement. Lewis lived his personal motto of engaging in "good trouble" to ensure that current and future generations have the freedom and opportunity that previous generations of Black Americans were denied.

The John Lewis Student Leadership Endowment Fund was established through private philanthropy to support programs, initiatives, and activities at the Institute that encourage and develop students' leadership skills.

*To inquire about making a gift or commitment, contact any development officer or **Emily Takieddine** at emily.takieddine@dev.gatech.edu or call **404.385.0527**.*

Gifts and commitments to the John Lewis Student Leadership Fund will be directed to a permanent endowment in support of student leadership. Gifts and commitments of \$25,000 and above qualify for donor listings on a commemorative plaque inside the John Lewis Student Center. Gifts and commitments of \$50,000 and above may be further recognized through additional naming opportunities within the Student Center.

“The John Lewis Student Center will serve as a powerful reminder of our commitment to improve the human condition, to embrace collaboration and diversity, and to nurture well-being and act ethically. I can't think of a better name to inspire future generations of Georgia Tech student leaders than the man who, as a student leader himself, led our nation in its journey towards equality and civil rights.”

— President Ángel Cabrera

Moormans Support Virginians, and More

Bonnie and Charles W. “Wick” Moorman, CE 1975, are no strangers to philanthropy. They’ve supported the G. Wayne Clough Georgia Tech Promise Scholarship Program, funded a civil engineering professorship through the Messner Challenge, and established a need-based scholarship for Virginia residents to attend Georgia Tech. They recently paid off their existing pledges early before making an additional outright, six-figure gift. “The sooner you pay them off, the sooner the money starts to flow out of the endowment for scholarships,” Moorman said. “We wanted to put the money to work as soon as we could.”

The Moormans’ gift is directed to the existing Virginia-based scholarship, which Moorman described as “Promise-like.” According to him, “We supported the Tech Promise Scholarship Program because Bonnie and I think it is a wonderful way to ensure that bright young people with very limited means can attend Georgia Tech, but it is only for Georgia students.” Moorman, who is from Mississippi, said he learned about scholarships established by Mary Rockett Brock, HON Ph.D. 2016, and John F. Brock III, ChE 1970, M.S. ChE 1971, HON Ph.D. 2016, that were designed for Mississippi residents to attend the Institute, “and that made us want to do something for young people from Virginia, where we are residents.”

Moorman enjoyed a long career with Norfolk Southern, retiring as Chairman and CEO in 2015. He currently serves on the Boards of Directors of both Chevron and Oracle.

The couple established the Bonnie W. and Charles W. Moorman Virginia Scholarship Endowment in 2019, and one scholarship has been awarded to date. “This new gift should



Bonnie and Charles W.
“Wick” Moorman, CE 1975

amplify that,” Moorman said. “We want to get to the place where we can fund a new scholarship each year, so that at any given time there are four of these scholarships being paid out at the same time.”

In addition to their philanthropic support for Georgia Tech, the Moormans have also established need-based scholarships at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, where Wick Moorman’s father was a dean. “Many of the recipients are first-generation college students who need additional support, which we are happy to provide,” he said.

The Moormans have a simple yet eloquent philosophy about philanthropy: “Live well, make sure the people you love are taken care of to a rational extent, give the rest away, and gracefully pass on as the last dollar goes.” ///

*To inquire about making a gift in support of scholarships, contact any development officer or Associate Vice President for Development **Philip Spessard** at phil.spessard@dev.gatech.edu or 404.385.1418.*

FACULTY HONORS

Lieberman Is First Pfeil Faculty Chair

Raquel Lieberman, professor in the School of Chemistry and Biochemistry and winner of the 2020-21 Gretzinger Moving Forward Award from the College of Sciences, has been named to the inaugural chair created by the Kelly Sepcic Pfeil, Ph.D Faculty Endowment Fund. The endowment is designed to increase the number of female faculty within the School and was the brainchild of alumna Kelly Sepcic Pfeil, M.S. CHEM 1992, Ph.D. CHEM 2003. Pfeil, who sits on both the College of Sciences advisory board and the Georgia Tech Advisory Board, and her husband, David, created the endowment in 2020.

Despite a successful career and several upper management positions, Pfeil remembers being the only woman involved in countless executive-level meetings. She wants to both encourage and assist women who are planning careers in fields that have traditionally been male dominated. “If young women and minority students don’t see more women in faculty positions, they may be discouraged from obtaining STEM degrees,” she said. “We need to build a pipeline for women in STEM, and that pipeline starts in academia.”

Pfeil spent 14 years at Coca-Cola before leaving in 2007 to become vice president for Frito Lay North America’s new product innovation and later vice president of PepsiCo’s global strategy and portfolio management teams for snacks. In 2015, she formed her own firm, ArrowInno, which provides product design and innovation consulting to food and beverage companies.

Raquel Lieberman says she is honored to have been named to the endowed chair. “Kelly Sepcic Pfeil attended graduate school at a time when there were far fewer female students and no tenured female faculty members, but she is one of our most successful Ph.D. graduates. Her decision to endow this position is terrific, and it expands upon involvement to tangibly improve the camaraderie and peer mentorship of female graduate students in our department.”

Lieberman researches protein folding and misfolding, particularly when it comes to proteins that are linked to early-onset, inherited forms of glaucoma. A second major project involves the study of membrane-spanning proteolytic enzymes that are related to those involved in producing amyloid-beta associated with Alzheimer’s disease.



Raquel Lieberman

“With this new role, I hope to grow my research program dealing with the molecular aspects of protein misfolding in human diseases and continue to mentor a diverse group of trainees,” Lieberman says. “I share Pfeil’s commitment and passion for doing what I can to ensure the next generation of scientists will better reflect the makeup of the general population. All of society will benefit.” ///

*To inquire about making a gift in support of the College of Sciences, contact any development officer or Director of Development **Ashley Coogan** at ashley.coogan@cos.gatech.edu or 404.894.3529.*



STUDENT PROFILE

Sofia Fernandez Chacin

Sofia Fernandez Chacin, CS 2022, will graduate this spring, but last fall she wasn't so sure. "My parents envisioned a plan in which they thought they could cover my education abroad, but their economic situation always got worse," Sofia said. Sofia's parents in Venezuela were dealing with hyperinflation, illness, and mounting medical bills. Her mother succumbed to cancer in 2020, leaving her father the only wage-earner. "What he earns doesn't cover the cost of regular items, nevermind the medical bills from my mom's illness and my educational costs," Sofia said.

Sofia applied for scholarships, looked for part-time work, and reached out to everyone at Georgia Tech who might be able to help. She tried to stay positive, but the situation looked grim. "I went home during Christmas break to visit my dad and sister, and I got a call from a development officer on Christmas Eve telling me that my last semester had been paid for," Sofia said.

A total of 9 donors from 4 countries and one territory contributed to cover Sofia's expenses. They represent the U.S., Puerto Rico, Panama, Cuba, and Peru.

"Most of these people haven't met me in real life, but they believed in me," Sofia said. "And later on when I'm able, I'm going to fund a scholarship for a student from Venezuela."

IN MEMORIAM

Remembering William W. Scott III, IE 1950

William W. Scott III, IE 1950, accomplished a great deal in 97 years. He graduated from Atlanta's Tech High School in June 1942 — just in time to join the Army. He saw combat in New Guinea and the Philippine Islands from 1943 to 1945. At the end of World War II, Scott received an honorable discharge and enrolled at Georgia Tech, where he earned a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering in 1950. He trained at AEC's Naval Reactor Engineering School in Pittsburgh and would later earn a master's in nuclear engineering from the University of Virginia.

Scott worked as a nuclear engineer for much of his career, in Newport News, Virginia; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Arco, Idaho; and Savannah, Georgia. Some of his career highlights include managing the shipboard installation of eight nuclear reactors aboard the USS Enterprise, directing a team of engineers designing nuclear systems for submarines and aircraft carriers, and supervising 200 workers constructing a water reservoir and pump station for the Savannah River Project in Aiken, South Carolina.

Tragically, Scott was killed during a home invasion in 2021 at his home in Decatur, Georgia. He was in good health and had hoped to live to 100. He valued his time at Georgia Tech, and he made an estate gift to support the Institute, requesting that it be used for a good purpose.



TRANSITIONS

Institute Development Staff Updates



Colin Cumming has been named regional director of development. Colin previously served as senior major gifts officer for the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. Prior to this, he was leadership giving officer for Annual Giving at the Georgia Tech Alumni Association. Colin holds a bachelor's degree from Michigan State University and a master's from Grand Valley State University.



Christina Cupello has been named assistant director of Annual Giving for Athletics. Cupello previously served as ticket operations coordinator. She was a ticketing assistant at the University of Maryland prior to her time Georgia Tech. Cupello holds a bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and is currently pursuing an MBA at Georgia Tech.



Leslie Roberts has been named associate director of development for the College of Sciences. She previously served as senior development assistant for the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering. Roberts was assistant director for event management at Columbia University in New York prior to joining the Institute. She holds a bachelor's degree from Virginia Commonwealth University and a master's from Columbia University.



David M. Zaksheske has been promoted from director of regional development to senior director of regional development, Western U.S.



Christi Tillery has been promoted from director of regional development to senior director of regional development, Florida and the Caribbean.



Mindy S. Hyde has been promoted from director of development to senior director of development, Athletics.



Gary A. Lanier has been promoted from director of development to senior director of development, Athletics.

“Georgia Tech is a very big part of where I am today and what I have been able to do.”

—Roxanne Drago Westendorf, ChE 1981



Born in a small Pennsylvania town, Roxanne Drago Westendorf first learned about Georgia Tech from her uncle. She began her “Georgia Tech journey” in the fall of 1977, graduating four years later with a degree in chemical engineering and a job offer from Procter & Gamble. “I was a principal engineer for 31 years focusing on the consumer-technology interface,” she said. Although based in Cincinnati, Westendorf was “able to work on two joint venture projects with other companies and traveled to many developing countries” as part of her work.

Now retired, Westendorf has made a point to give back to Georgia Tech — both in service and philanthropy — for many years. “I have been involved with the local Cincinnati Georgia Tech network since its inception, and

I served two years on the Network Leaders Roundtable,” she said. On July 1, 2020, Westendorf began serving on the Georgia Tech Advisory Board.

Outside of career interests, Westendorf’s life revolves around family, hobbies, and volunteering. She met her husband of 31 years while bicycle racing. Westendorf pursues several hobbies include homebrewing, cooking, and hiking. “I’m currently on the Board of Directors for the Brewers Association, and I am past chair of the American Homebrewers Governing Committee,” she said.

In addition to annual gifts benefiting both academics and athletics, Westendorf and her husband have made a bequest and beneficiary designations to Georgia Tech as part of their estate planning. “By planning now, I know that we are in control of our estate.”



**Georgia Tech.
Founders’ Council**

Founders’ Council is the honorary society recognizing donors who have made estate or life-income gifts of \$25,000 or more for the support of Georgia Tech. For more information, please contact: 404.385.6716 • giftplanning@dev.gatech.edu • plannedgiving.gatech.edu



Introducing the John Lewis Student Center

Georgia Tech's Student Center will be named in honor of John Lewis, the renowned civil and human rights leader and longtime U.S. representative from Georgia's 5th congressional district.

"The John Lewis Student Center will be the home of our Student Government and many other student organizations," President Ángel Cabrera said. "I can't think of a better name to inspire future generations of Georgia Tech student leaders than the man who, as a student leader himself, led our nation in its journey towards equality and civil rights."

"We are grateful for all Congressman Lewis did to support Georgia Tech during the 33 years he represented our district," President Ángel Cabrera said. "His example of leadership will inspire Tech students today and for generations."

