

THE IMPACT OF PHILANTHROPY AT GEORGIA TECH

WINTER 2023

Campaign

Quarterly



Celebrating
Georgia Tech
Women

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McEver
Supports
Archaeology

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Family
Establishes
Scholarships

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Graduating students gathered at Bobby Dodd Stadium for Fall 2022 Commencement ceremonies in December.



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For information about giving to Tech, contact the Office of Development at **404.894.1868**. To share your comments about Campaign Quarterly, contact **Anne Stanford** at **404.894.6701** or **anne.stanford@dev.gatech.edu**.

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COVER PHOTO: Tech Tower at dusk in the winter. Photo by Danny Karnik.

A Message From Jen Howe



Jen Howe
Vice President
for Development

Transforming Tomorrow: The Campaign for Georgia Tech took center stage in December 2022 with two on-campus launch events, both in Exhibition Hall. We welcomed leadership donors to a preview event on a Friday night followed by a campuswide open house the following day. In addition to highlighting the goals and objectives of the comprehensive campaign, these activities provided an opportunity for attendees to interact with undergraduates, graduate students, and alumni who showcased their companies developed through CREATE-X and their innovative work with robotics and artificial intelligence. Attendees also heard directly from members of our community — students, alumni, and administrators — about their personal stories and the profound ways in which Georgia Tech has shaped their lives.

In early 2023, we are bringing the campaign message to alumni and friends in a series of gatherings. Last month, President Ángel Cabrera, Beth Cabrera, Provost Steve McLaughlin, and I traveled to Huntsville, Alabama, where we met with a small group at the home of Linda Smith, a great friend of Georgia Tech and wife of the late Mark C. Smith, EE 1962. Our conversation focused on updates from campus in addition to sharing how the campaign will enhance support for our students, advance our research and innovation, strengthen Georgia Tech and our community, and expand our impact at home and beyond. Later this spring, we will travel to Florida, California, Washington, and the Carolinas, among other locations, to continue meeting with key constituencies about this endeavor.

These conversations are energizing and uplifting in many ways. However, the most moving ones are where we meet with individuals and learn how their time at Georgia Tech remains a pivotal, life-changing experience. Their stories reaffirm the importance of the work we do every day to support current and future generations of talented, motivated students — ensuring that they, too, may benefit from a Georgia Tech education. And, they validate that one of our top

priorities of this campaign — expanding access for students from Georgia, the U.S., and around the world — is a core institutional value.

To that end, *Campaign Quarterly* Winter 2023 features a story on the expansion of the G. Wayne Clough Georgia Tech Promise program. Over 1,000 students from our home state — qualified, bright students from families without the means to afford Georgia Tech — have been able to attend the Institute and graduate debt-free because of Tech Promise. With donor support for need-based aid programs like Tech Promise and others, we will be able to provide more outstanding students with the opportunity to earn a Georgia Tech degree, forever altering the trajectories of their lives.

The following pages also include stories that highlight the ever-expanding impact of philanthropy across Georgia Tech. In addition to campaign updates, learn about a family's collective effort to fund a Dean's Scholarship in the College of Engineering; an endowed chair in archaeological studies in the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts; alumni coming together to memorialize and perpetuate the legacy of a beloved member of the Georgia Tech community; the resounding success of the Competitive Drive Initiative in Athletics; and how campus will be forever altered by a forthcoming permanent installation celebrating women from Georgia Tech.

It is an exciting time on North Avenue. Each day, I witness how philanthropy provides the critical resources necessary for Georgia Tech to realize our mission of developing leaders who advance technology and improve the human condition. Whether it is through support for students, faculty, and staff, campus enhancements, or research, your philanthropy makes a difference. Thank you for all you do for Georgia Tech.

With gratitude,
—Jen

Transforming Tomorrow:

The Campaign for Georgia Tech

STEERING COMMITTEE *as of December 31, 2022*

Honorary Chairs

Mary R. Brock, HON Ph.D. 2016,
and John F. Brock III, ChE 1970,
M.S. 1971, HON Ph.D. 2016
Atlanta, Georgia

Shawn S. and Brook Byers,
EE 1968, HON Ph.D. 2010
Menlo Park, California

Sarah L. and Thomas A. Fanning,
IMGT 1979, M.S. IMGT 1980,
HON Ph.D. 2013
Atlanta, Georgia

Penny P. and William W. George,
IE 1964, HON Ph.D. 2008
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Elizabeth H. and Francis S.
"Bo" Godbold, IE 1965
Tierra Verde, Florida

Billi and Bernie Marcus,
HON Ph.D. 2015
Atlanta, Georgia

Roberta R. and Ernie Scheller Jr.,
IM 1952, HON Ph.D. 2013
Naples, Florida

E. Roe Stamps IV, IE 1967, M.S.
IE 1972, HON Ph.D. 2014, and
Elizabeth Ann Stamps-Ridgeway
Miami, Florida

Suzanne S. and Michael E.
Tennenbaum, IE 1958,
HON Ph.D. 2016
Rio Grande, Puerto Rico

Alfred P. West Jr., AE 1964,
HON Ph.D. 2010
Coatesville, Pennsylvania

At Large Members

Michelle L. Adkins, IMGT 1983,
and Rodney C. Adkins, EE 1981,
M.S. EE 1983, HON Ph.D. 2013
Miami Beach, Florida

Kelly H. Barrett, IMGT 1986,
and Rick L. Barrett, IE 1985
Atlanta, Georgia

Richard L. Bergmark,
IMGT 1975, HON Ph.D. 2022
Houston, Texas

José M. Bern, CE 1995
Doral, Florida

Kathy S. and G. Niles Bolton,
ARCH 1968
Atlanta, Georgia

Sarah R. and James R.
Borders, ME 1983
Atlanta, Georgia

Sarah Beth Brown
Marietta, Georgia

Tricia F. and Kenneth G. Byers Jr.,
EE 1966, M.S. EE 1968
Atlanta, Georgia

Elizabeth J. Cabrera,
M.S. PSY 1993, Ph.D. PSY 1995
Atlanta, Georgia

Donna C. de la Guardia, IMGT
1982, and Mario M. de la Guardia
Jr., IMGT 1982
Amelia Island, Florida

Kara and Walter G. Ehmer,
IE 1989
Atlanta, Georgia

David D. Flanagan, IE 1976
McLean, Virginia

Beth and Daniel F.
Flowers Jr., ME 1983
Houston, Texas

Alessandro S. Hatami, CE 1983
London, U.K.

Thomas M. Holder, IMGT 1979
Atlanta, Georgia

Helen B. and Roger A.
Krone, AE 1978
Annapolis, Maryland

Megan B. Langley, IE 2009,
and Garrett S. Langley, EE 2009
Atlanta, Georgia

Andrea L. Laliberte,
IE 1982, M.S. IE 1984
Jacksonville, Florida

John A. Lanier
Atlanta, Georgia

Jenny K. and Michael G.
Messner, CE 1976
Atlanta, Georgia

Bonnie and Charles W. "Wick"
Moorman IV, CE 1975
Charlottesville, Virginia

Jean Marie F. Richardson,
MGT 2002, and Harry L.
Richardson, BIOL 2002
Brookhaven, Georgia

Patricia D. and Carl D. Ring,
ME 1978
Memphis, Tennessee

Wayne Sellers and Teresa M.
Smith, IMGT 1983
McDonough, Georgia

Jacquelyn R. Schneider,
BC 2006, MBA 2018
Brookhaven, Georgia

G. Leigh Teixeira, ID 2001,
and Mark C. Teixeira, BA 2022
Austin, Texas

Karen and Alan C. Warren,
PHYS 1978
New York, New York

Mary and James A.
Winnefeld, AE 1978
McLean, Virginia

Ex Officio Members

G. Wayne Clough, CE 1963,
M.S. 1965, HON Ph.D. 2015
President Emeritus

G.P. "Bud" Peterson
President Emeritus

Michael K. Anderson, IE 1979
*Chair, Georgia Tech Foundation
Stewardship*

Gregory J. Owens, IMGT 1982
Chair, Georgia Tech Foundation

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*Chair, Georgia Tech Alumni
Association*

David P. Rowland, IMGT 1983
*Chair, Georgia Tech Foundation
Development*

Peter E. Silas, M.D. and
Stephanie B. Silas, M.D.
*Chairs, Georgia Tech Parents
Advisory Board*

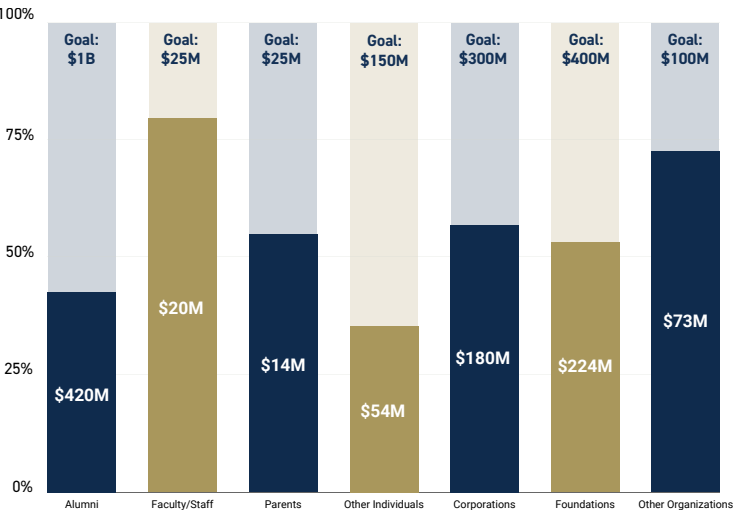
Federico M. Stubbe, CE 1970
Chair, Georgia Tech Advisory Board

CAMPAIGN UPDATE

The accounting period for Transforming Tomorrow: The Campaign for Georgia Tech is January 1, 2018, through December 31, 2027. The following update reflects progress toward goals through December 31, 2022.

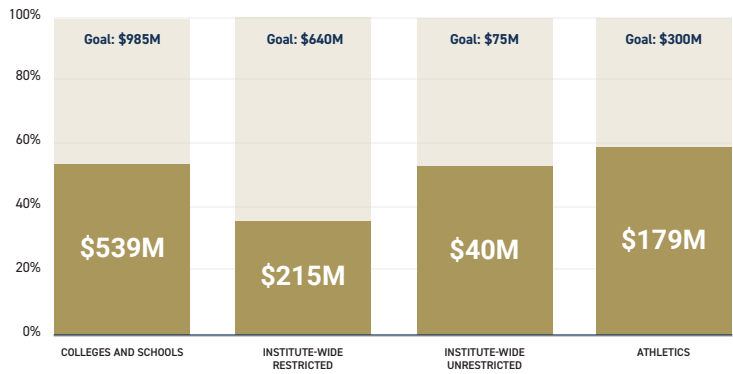
Funds by Source

Progress to recommended goals



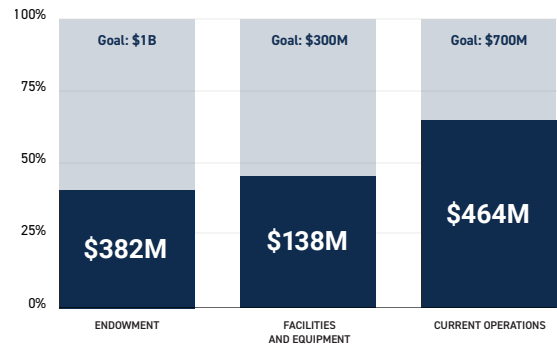
Funds Raised by Program

Progress to recommended goals

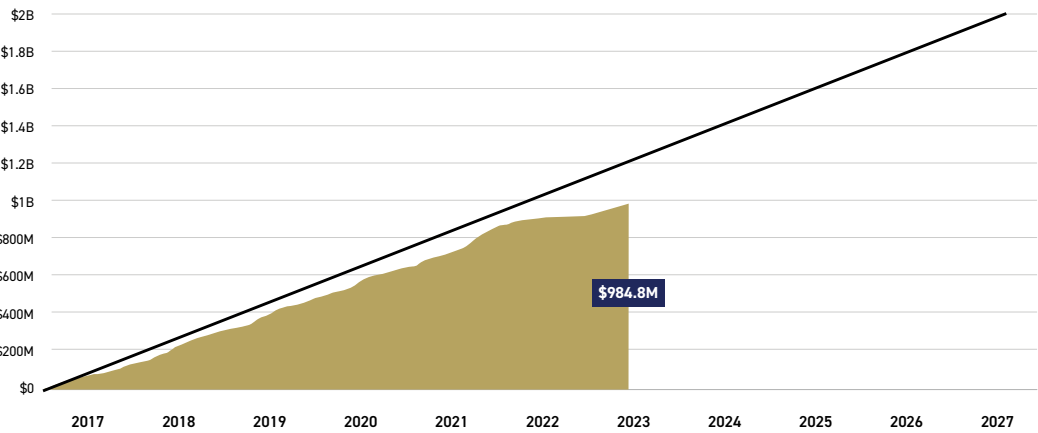


Funds by Use

Progress to recommended goals



Funds Raised vs. Average Required





Rising Up

CELEBRATING
WOMEN FROM
GEORGIA TECH

When Andrea Laliberte, IE 1982, M.S. IE 1984, was on Georgia Tech's campus in the late 1970s and early '80s studying industrial engineering, women had been allowed admission as full-time undergraduates for less than three decades and only accounted for less than 20% of the student population.

In recent years, the Institute has made significant strides in attracting and retaining women at every level, and the number of female undergraduate and graduate students has increased — steadily, but in the big picture, slowly. Women were first admitted in 1952, but 72% of all women who have graduated from Georgia Tech did so since the year 2000.

Laliberte returned to campus in 2013 and spent five years as the Edenfield Executive-in-Residence in the H. Milton Stewart School of Industrial and Systems Engineering (ISyE). During this time, she served on several Georgia Tech boards and was chair of the Alumni Association in 2016-17. "I met so many amazing people — from astronauts to Olympians to CEOs — but what really struck me was how many

impressive alumnae we have," she said. "Their stories are amazing."

What also struck her were stories from women students and graduates that revealed their experiences often were not that different from her own — from decades earlier. She noticed, too, that there was no visible sign on campus of recognizing or celebrating women's accomplishments. She had a realization: "There are, and have been, amazing women here, but no one knows about them."

Laliberte came up with a solution: to tell the stories and celebrate the history of women from Georgia Tech in a public, visually compelling way through a transformative structure in the heart of campus near the John Lewis Student Center.

The design process included input from faculty, staff, and students. It was brought to life by Merica May Jensen, MGT 2008, M. ARCH 2011, the lead project designer and a partner at obj, a New York City design firm. As she described it, "The proposal works with transformation, reflection, mosaics, networks, and tension to create a piece that highlights both the individual and the movement. The evolving structure expresses collectivity, journey, and celebration."



Imagery courtesy of obj

“ The proposal works with transformation, reflection, mosaics, networks, and tension to create a piece that highlights both the individual and the movement. ”

— Merica May Jensen, MGT 2008, M. ARCH 2011

The design has three components. The ground level centers on history and highlights what women have done while at Tech, including faculty and staff members such as Dorothy Crosland, the Georgia Tech librarian who began in 1927, rose through the ranks to director, and retired in 1971. It will include a table and seats for gathering and reflecting.

The next piece celebrates the accomplishments of women who graduated from Georgia Tech. It moves off of the ground and extends upward, with hundreds of honeycomb or hexagonal shapes, each telling one woman's story — a collective constellation across the campus treeline.

The final piece rises into the air until it reaches the upper corner of the John Lewis Student Center, with a canopy of reflective fabric that invites visitors to contemplate their own future, and the future of women at Tech and beyond. In Jensen's words, “Poetic snippets of history, faculty and staff, communities, events, and alumnae stories are embedded in the physical work. A complementary explorative website provides each fragment's deeper story and highlights connections within the mosaic.”

President Ángel Cabrera shares Laliberte's enthusiasm for the project. “Women from Georgia Tech have overcome challenges and succeeded across disciplines and professions, making an indelible impact on the Institute, our state, our nation, and the world,” he said. “This installation tells their stories — offering examples of courage, talent, and resilience for today's Tech students, and for

future generations of Tech students. We are grateful to Andrea Laliberte for sharing her vision and generosity in making this commemoration a permanent part of the Georgia Tech campus.”

Laliberte's career spanned many years with Coach, where she was the senior vice president of distribution when she retired in 2010. At Tech, she has established a scholarship for out-of-state, female undergraduates in the College of Engineering, an endowed fund that provides unrestricted support for ISyE, and a women's basketball scholarship, as well as numerous other gifts across the Institute.

Currently, she serves as a trustee for the Georgia Tech Foundation and is a member of the Alexander-Tharpe Board, the Engineering Advisory Board, and the steering committee for *Transforming Tomorrow: The Campaign for Georgia Tech*. She has served on the Georgia Tech Advisory Board and the ISyE Advisory Board.

Now, she is focused on telling Georgia Tech women's stories and making them visible — to celebrate, to educate, and to inspire.

A formal dedication will take place in the fall, though, as Laliberte noted, “We are leaving space in the installation to add future stories.” ///



Laliberte hopes her gift will inspire other women to give in support of Georgia Tech. For more information about the installation and about making a gift or commitment to the Institute through academic and athletic scholarship support, faculty support, or program enrichment, contact any Development officer or visit development.gatech.edu.

Lifelong Interest in Archaeology Inspires Gift

Throughout his accomplished career, business leader and author H. Bruce McEver, IE 1966, has remained true to an abiding and “sincere interest” in archaeology, a fascination that began with his childhood explorations of the Native American mounds on his uncle’s property in Gainesville, Georgia. A former member of the Archaeological Institute of America, McEver had long been thinking of ways to promote Georgia Tech’s potential to lead the world in archaeological research. A visit a few years ago to the prehistoric Great Serpent Mound in Peebles, Ohio, with his friend James B. Lanford Jr., an archaeologist and member of the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts Advisory Board, heightened McEver’s intention to amplify Georgia Tech’s commitment to archaeological research, culminating in his recent gift to the School of History and Sociology in the Ivan Allen College.

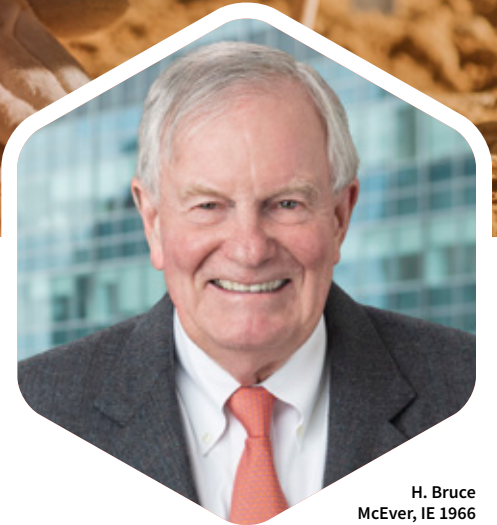
The H. Bruce McEver Chair in Archaeological Science and Technology establishes a first-time presence for Georgia Tech in working to develop and apply new technologies to advance the field of archeological science. The aim of the endowed position is to establish, encourage, and support the interdisciplinary field of archaeological science and technology, socio-historical inquiry, and related research and programs at Georgia Tech.

Over the past two decades, there has been a sea change in the role of technology in archaeological research, making Georgia Tech the natural home for this investment, according to McEver. Ground

penetrating radar, genomics, and other advanced geophysical surveying methods have revolutionized the field, leading to more efficient and cost-effective techniques than traditional excavation-and-shovel tests. These innovative techniques are also far less destructive and more environmentally friendly. Georgia Tech and the Ivan Allen College, with its accomplished record of deploying emergent technologies to fashion new approaches to the humanities and social sciences, can bridge these gaps and achieve regional and global prominence in this domain. McEver hopes that this chair will provide the opportunity “to do a service and have a real impact.” The gift will have far-reaching implications for the work of the humanists and social scientists in the College who study the dynamics of human societies.

“This gift is an exciting opportunity to welcome archeology to Ivan Allen College and Georgia Tech,” said Kaye Husbands Fealing, dean of the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts and Ivan Allen Jr. Chair. “As the College increasingly integrates science and technology with social science and the humanities, we’re uniquely positioned to bring both technological and ethical expertise to the field of archeology.”

McEver graduated from Tech with a degree in industrial engineering in 1966 and has remained close to the Institute ever since. He went on to earn his MBA from Harvard Business School in 1969 and later returned to Harvard to earn his master’s degree in theological studies in 2011. The author of three books of poetry



H. Bruce
McEver, IE 1966

and a recent memoir, *Many Paths*, that details his enduring passion for archaeology, McEver is chairman of Berkshire Capital, which he co-founded in 1983, and directs the long-term strategy, business development, and marketing efforts of the company. He has served as a professor of practice within the Ivan Allen College and currently provides volunteer leadership and service to his alma mater through his involvement on the Georgia Tech Arts Advisory Board, the Georgia Tech Foundation Board of Trustees, and the Ivan Allen College Advisory Board. McEver previously served on the Georgia Tech Advisory Board and encouraged his classmates to support Georgia Tech through his roles on milestone reunion committees.

He has directed previous integral philanthropy for faculty as well as programming in the Ivan Allen College. Building upon his longstanding relationship with Georgia Tech, McEver said this latest commitment represented “a chance to really do something” to place Georgia Tech at the forefront of archaeological research and technology. ///

To inquire about making a gift to the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, contact Director of Development **Jada Marcum** at jada.marcum@gatech.edu or 470.363.9506.

Giving Back as a Family

Jane and Randy Walker, EE 1987, M.S. EE 1993, and their daughter Ciera Gillis, IE 2013, are grateful to be a Georgia Tech family. The daughter

of a proud Tech alumnus, Michael Bayer, M.S. IE 1960, Jane shares Randy's enthusiasm for his alma mater, and the couple is thrilled Ciera and their nephew Colton Walker, EE 2024, have continued the family tradition on North Avenue. They hope that Ciera's children will one day attend the Institute and the next generation will similarly benefit from a Tech education. Randy remains involved in the life of the Institute through his volunteer leadership and service on the College of Engineering Advisory Board.

Demonstrating their deep appreciation for Georgia Tech, Randy, Jane, and Ciera have pooled their resources to give back to the Institute, focusing on undergraduate student support through the establishment of the Walker Family Dean's Scholarship Endowment Fund in the College of Engineering. The College's Dean's Scholars Program awards a \$10,000-per-year scholarship, for up to four years, to promising, highly qualified undergraduate students across all engineering disciplines. Dean's Scholars have access to a cohort-based environment to grow their professional skills and networks. This programming is especially important to Ciera, who credits Tech for many of her career accomplishments. "I feel that Tech has set me up for success in a more hands-on way than a lot of people that I work with," Gillis said. "Tech has cool programs where they really think about how you apply these skills to the real world, and that's something that makes me want to keep giving back to Georgia Tech." She is applying the lessons she learned at Tech in her position as a key account executive in media and entertainment at Google, a career she loves, and that has enabled her to give to the family's scholarship fund through matching funds from her employer.

Increasing the number of endowed Dean's Scholarships is one of the College of Engineering's top priorities for *Transforming Tomorrow: The Campaign for Georgia Tech*. "This program changes



"Tech has cool programs where they think about how you apply these skills to the real world, and that's something that makes me want to keep giving back to Georgia Tech."

— Ciera Gillis, IE 2013

the lives of our students and allows them to plan for their future rather than merely dreaming about it," said Raheem Beyah, dean of the College of Engineering and Southern Company Chair. "The gifts from the Walker family and other friends of Georgia Tech provide pathways for our students to study abroad, expand their research, and have experiences that otherwise would not be possible."

For Jane Walker, this tangible and direct benefit to students' lives was the most important component of the gift. "I got behind it and excited about it when Raheem said that we would get a chance to meet the person who gets the scholarship and follow their journey,

and hopefully their success," she said. "I especially hope we promote more women in engineering." The Walkers opted for their scholarship to give preference to underrepresented minority and women engineering students in the hopes of expanding access.

The family has personal experience with Tech's support for students with financial need. To cover the costs of his Tech education, Randy participated in the Co-op program as an undergraduate. A recipient of the Hope Scholarship, Gillis also was inspired to give by some of her friends from Tech who were first-generation college students on need-based scholarships. "I'm still friends with them," she said, "and see what they've been able to accomplish because of these scholarships."

The Walker family considers this a valuable investment in students because of the quality of a Georgia Tech degree. "It's a degree that gives you a lot of flexibility to do different things," said Randy. "And it just keeps getting stronger over time." The family is excited for the day they are able to meet the recipients of this scholarship, which will continue to support students for years to come. ///

To inquire about making a gift or commitment to a Dean's Scholarship, contact College of Engineering Executive Director of Development **Brad Hastings** at brad.hastings@coe.gatech.edu or 404.385.0128.

MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT HONORS BILLIEE PENDLETON- PARKER

Billiee Pendleton-Parker, a beloved community member and honorary alumna of Georgia Tech, was a powerful engine of change during her 30 years of service to the Institute. Known for always having an open door and open mind, she made her office a space of safety, inclusivity, welcome, and warmth for all students to find what they needed: candy, advice, or even a couch on which to sleep. Pendleton-Parker was a guide and a home for students who felt alone, scared, or unsure. She died in January 2021.

An endowment celebrating the life and work of the late Pendleton-Parker will support three areas she championed: the MLK Day of Service, the LGBTQIA Resource Center, and the Women's Resource Center.

Alumni George Ray, MGT 2009, PUBP 2009, and Anna Pinder, ME 2003, are two of the many who were positively affected by Pendleton-Parker during their time at Georgia Tech. They have worked alongside others to establish and raise awareness about the endowment fund created in her memory. Ray said, "It is difficult to identify any singular way Billiee impacted my life or the lives of so many others — because she changed us completely. From empowering us to be true to ourselves to instilling in us the value and importance of empathy and service to others, Billiee changed our entire approach to life."

Rick Clark, assistant vice provost and executive director of Undergraduate

Admission, said, "Billiee's true gift was simply being present. Amid everything students juggle, Billiee was a calming and reassuring oasis. Her office was a bedazzled sanctuary where students went for respite because they knew they would be safe, accepted, and loved. She was incredibly genuine as a person and earnest as an educator. Her mark on Georgia Tech is indelible."

Pinder said, "This endowment is meant to reflect Billiee, her love of Tech students, and her love of campus. With this fund, we're supporting campus causes that were meaningful to Billiee because they were meaningful to students."

One portion of the endowment will go toward establishing an emergency fund for the LGBTQIA Resource Center. Pendleton-Parker was known widely for her unwavering and unconditional allyship to the LGBTQ community and was a needed friend to students who were coming out for the first time in the '80s and '90s.

Funds from the endowment will also be directed to the MLK Day of Service. Pendleton-Parker, a lifelong volunteer, believed that MLK Day is a day on, not a

day off, and people should use their time away from work or class to give back to their community. Additionally, the endowment fund will support the Georgia Tech Women's Resource Center. Pendleton-Parker advocated for the creation of the center, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year.

To date, alumni, staff, and friends have given approximately \$425,000 for the memorial endowment. Pinder said the goal is to continue to grow the fund to "meet more of the needs of these and other student-focused programs that are life-sustaining and in some cases life-changing, just like Billiee was for those lucky enough to have known her."

Pendleton-Parker said that people "need to strive for significance" because "significance has a ripple effect that never ends." This memorial endowment fund is a way for individuals to honor Pendleton-Parker's significance and to make meaningful change at Georgia Tech. ///

*To inquire about making a gift or commitment to the Billiee Pendleton-Parker Memorial Endowment, contact Director of Development **Emily M. Wong** at emily.wong@dev.gatech.edu or **404.385.0527**.*

*Photo by Randy McDow,
IE 95, M.S. PP 03*

TRANSITIONS

Institute Development Staff Updates



Kat Collier returns to Georgia Tech as director of Development Stewardship, having previously served as senior associate director for Advancement and Alumni Services at Emory University's Goizueta Business School and a donor relations officer at UNC Chapel Hill. She also has held roles in Development Stewardship and Gift Planning in the Office of Development at Georgia Tech. She is a graduate of Wake Forest University.



After more than 34 years with Georgia Tech, **Barb Dockweiler** has retired as the associate director for Development and Stewardship for Athletics. She began working in Athletics as a receptionist and was promoted to roles including office manager and director of special events. She was a founding member of the Event Coordinators' Network at Georgia Tech.

Jim Hall has been named senior associate vice president for Major Gifts and Next Generation Philanthropy in the Office of Development. With more than 24 years of service to the Institute, he has cultivated extraordinary relationships with donors and other stakeholders

across the Georgia Tech community, most recently as the associate vice president for Development (athletics) and executive associate Athletics director. Hall came to Georgia Tech from Indiana State University, where he was responsible for all intercollegiate athletics fundraising activities, as well as the letterwinners association.



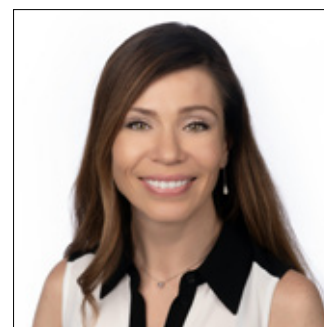
Jaimie Hayes has been named senior director of Development in the George W. Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering. She returns to Georgia Tech from the J. Mack Robinson College of Business at Georgia State University, where she served as

senior director of Development. Previously she served as corporate relations coordinator in the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering. She holds a bachelor's degree in English literature (with honors) and a master's degree in public administration from Valdosta State University.

After nearly 30 years of service, **Susanna Printz** has retired as director of Development Research and Prospect Management. During her time at Tech, she played an integral role in Georgia Tech's and the Office of Development's success over the course of three comprehensive campaigns. A trusted, dedicated colleague, friend, and mentor to many, she prioritized the needs of the Institute, the Office of Development, and that of her team and colleagues.



Beverley Sylvester has been named senior writer/editor for Development Communications. She comes to Georgia Tech from Out Front Theater Company, where she was a teaching artist. She holds a bachelor's degree in music composition and playwriting from Emory University.



Lana Gilyalova Simkins has been named senior director of Development for the College of Computing. For the past 10 years, she has served as director of Regional Development for Georgia Tech, managing 16 states and representing the entire Institute. She previously held fundraising positions at Emory University, Saint Joseph's Mercy Foundation, and March of Dimes. She has a bachelor's degree in journalism and public relations from Troy University.

Campus Celebrates Launch of Transforming Tomorrow Campaign

The on-campus launch events for *Transforming Tomorrow: The Campaign for Georgia Tech* took place at Exhibition Hall on Dec. 9 and 10. Hundreds of attendees from across the Georgia Tech community had the opportunity to interact with and hear inspiring stories from students, faculty, administrators, and alumni.

The Friday evening event included interactions with students and alumni as they described their startups developed through CREATE-X as well as students who showcased their work in robotics and artificial intelligence. The night culminated with the voices of undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, administrators, and alumni in a special presentation.

The community-wide campaign launch the following day was an open house-style event for all alumni, students, faculty, and staff. Attendees enjoyed interactive experiences and engaging alumni speakers. The speaker lineup included Jenny Moore, AE 2005, an F-35 Training and Operations subject matter expert, flight instructor, and fighter pilot, who talked about her personal journey from Georgia Tech to flying fifth-generation fighter jets. Senior Director of Business Development at Skanska Jimmy Mitchell, CE 2005, spoke on building sustainability through progress and service. Tom Fanning, IMGT 1979, M.S. IMGT 1980, HON Ph.D. 2013, chairman, president, and CEO of the Southern Company, shared how energy security breeds economic security, which in turn breeds national security. Founder and CEO of iFOLIO Jean Marie Richardson, MGT 2002, described her path from Georgia Tech to launching her rapidly growing tech company, encouraging others to set their intentions on building the future. President Ángel Cabrera closed out the speaker portion of the event by talking about the comprehensive campaign and how it will build a foundation for advancing the Institute and its impact for decades to come.

In June, Georgia Tech announced the public phase of *Transforming Tomorrow*, a more than \$2 billion comprehensive campaign that will conclude in 2027. The involvement and support of the Georgia Tech community will allow the Institute to shape the future for the better.

Learn more about our goals at transformingtomorrow.gatech.edu.





Students, alumni, faculty, and staff joined President Ángel Cabrera in a special presentation.



Jenny Moore, AE 2005



Mike Pullen, BME 2021, and Matthew Quon, BME 2019, MBA 2024, spoke about LZR D Tech, their company developed through CREATE-X.



Velin Kojouharov, ME 2024, described his robot.



Tom Fanning, IMGT 1979, M.S. IMGT 1980, HON Ph.D. 2013



Check out the launch event recap video on YouTube:



UPDATE

Competitive Drive Initiative a Success

Thanks to extraordinary support from donors, the **Competitive Drive Initiative** — a unified endeavor by Georgia Tech, the Georgia Tech Foundation, Georgia Tech Athletics, and the Alexander-Tharpe Fund to accelerate funding for student-athlete scholarships — surpassed \$4.9 million raised in the final two months of 2022. The Competitive Drive Initiative nearly doubled its initial \$2.5 million goal, resulting in more than \$9.9 million directed to Tech student-athletes, thanks to a dollar-for-dollar match from the Georgia Tech Foundation.

Launched on Oct. 27, the Competitive Drive Initiative had an initial goal of raising \$2.5 million in new gifts to Georgia Tech's Athletic Scholarship Fund by Dec. 31. The Athletic Scholarship Fund is the A-T Fund's top priority for annual gifts, as it directly provides scholarship funding for Tech student-athletes.

Tech announced on Dec. 5 that the initial fundraising goal had been reached, with a gift from football Head Coach Brent Key and his wife, Danielle, pushing the total past the \$2.5 million mark, and the goal was extended to \$3.5 million. In all, more than 1,750 donors contributed to the Competitive Drive Initiative.

"It is rewarding to watch the young men and women develop and grow as they pursue a challenging degree from Georgia Tech while participating in the highest level of Division I athletics," said former CEO of Delta Air Lines Ron Allen, IE 1964, who gave to the initiative. "It is an honor to help them along the way with a gift for athletic scholarships."

J Batt, Georgia Tech director of Athletics, said, "We are so appreciative for the generosity of Georgia Tech fans and their commitment to accelerating the impact that they make on our student-athletes."

He added, "On behalf of our student-athletes, our coaches, and our staff, we thank everyone who contributed to the Competitive Drive Initiative. We're also very grateful to President Cabrera and the Georgia Tech Foundation, who matched the funds raised dollar-for-dollar, which allowed donors to double the impact of — and receive double the benefits for — their contributions. Thank you once again to everyone for your support of Georgia Tech student-athletes!"

Yellow Jackets baseball player and president of the student-athlete advisory board Ben King, BIO 2023, said, "The student-athletes of Georgia Tech can't express our gratitude enough for the unbelievable support from Yellow Jacket nation for the Competitive Drive Initiative. A scholarship to Georgia Tech is a life-changing opportunity, and our programs wouldn't be able to function without the financial support of our alumni, donors, and fans."

Philanthropic support directed to this initiative will have a lasting impact on Georgia Tech student-athletes for generations to come. All gifts to the Competitive Drive Initiative are included in *Transforming Tomorrow: The Campaign for Georgia Tech*.

For more information or to make a gift in support of scholarships for student-athletes, please contact Director of Annual Giving for Athletics **Nick Parsons** at nparsons@athletics.gatech.edu or **404.894.5390**.

Photo by Danny Karnik

“My father was instrumental in my joining the Co-op program because my family could not afford all the out-of-state costs of sending me to Tech.”

— James A. McKenzie, EE 1979



James A. McKenzie, EE 1979, credits his experiences as a Co-op student for the direction of both his career and his personal life.

“I worked for the Georgia Tech Engineering Experiment Station, which later became GTRI,” McKenzie said. He describes his Co-op time as “a social experience akin to a co-ed fraternity — I belonged to the Co-op Club, which provided a small, on-campus base of inclusion, socialization, and service to Tech during school quarters.”

Although he came to the Institute “with math skills and an interest in electronics and aviation,” McKenzie said his Co-op experience “helped me select upper-class electives that allowed me to step comfortably into my first semiconductor role right after graduation.” He spent 41 years as an analog semiconductor product developer and retired as a senior design engineer in 2020.

Through his Co-op job, McKenzie also met the woman he would later marry. “Sheila had been working in the chemistry department at Tech to fund her own education at Georgia State University,” he said. “After she graduated, she became the secretary for a newly formed GTRI group.”

McKenzie established a Charitable Gift Annuity that will provide some retirement income for himself while also creating the Sheila W. McKenzie Scholarship in his wife’s memory. The scholarship will support female Co-op students in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering. According to McKenzie, although his wife was happy in her choice to be a full-time homemaker, she regretted “not being made aware at an early age of all the career choices she could pursue. I hope this scholarship will help deserving young women understand all their educational options.”



**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: 404.894.4678 • giftplanning@dev.gatech.edu • plannedgiving.gatech.edu



Office of Development
Atlanta Georgia 30332-0220

More Promises Kept

The Georgia Institute of Technology is furthering its commitment to enrolling talented Georgia students from low-income families by expanding the **G. Wayne Clough Georgia Tech Promise Program** to include even more students with financial need. Thanks to this expansion, more Georgia students than ever before will be able to graduate debt-free from Georgia Tech.

The first program of its kind offered by a public university in Georgia, Tech Promise mitigates financial barriers by providing a debt-free degree to hundreds of remarkable and ambitious students who, without financial assistance, may not be able to achieve their dream of graduating from Georgia Tech.

Under the new program guidelines, Tech Promise will now assist qualified families whose annual estimated income is \$55,500 or less.

Since 2007, more than 1,000 students from 103 Georgia counties have benefited from Tech Promise. The program fills a gap in the financial aid support system by picking up where other scholarships and financial aid options leave off, covering a student's full cost of attendance.

Tech has had a tradition of providing access to financially disadvantaged students, beginning first with low tuition and fee charges, coupled with available scholarships, student loans, and the nation's largest voluntary co-op program. Because of these programs, Georgia Tech has opened the doors of opportunity for many students — some who were first-generation college graduates.

Philanthropic support for scholarships and fellowships provides the critical resources necessary for Georgia Tech to recruit the brightest, most talented students from around our state, the nation, and the world.

To learn more, contact Vice President for Development **Jennifer L. Howe** at jen.howe@dev.gatech.edu or visit development.gatech.edu.

Tech Promise Scholars Marquetta Griffin, ME 2023, and Marteisha Griffin, BIO 2022



Tech Promise Scholar
Nicole Schuster, BA 2020



Tech Promise Scholar
Stephen Webber, BA 2013

