Danny Karnik Serves Dual Roles
ASHLEE GARDNER
ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING

Danny Karnik gets to exercise the left and right sides of his brain on an almost-daily basis.

As a research engineer in the Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI), he flexes his engineering muscles. Outside of office hours, Karnik captures the action on the field and court as Georgia Tech’s official sports photographer.

Karnik also holds two Georgia Tech degrees. He received his bachelor’s in electrical and computer engineering (ECE) in 2007, and a master’s in the same field in 2016.

Karnik talks about his day job doing applied research for electronic warfare systems for the Department of Defense, how his love of gadgets led him to photography, and what it was like being in the end zone during the “Miracle on Techwood Drive.”

What are your day-to-day duties at GTRI?

The day-to-day job duties vary wildly. One day I might be working on designing a circuit card, testing a piece of hardware the next, writing a report another day, or traveling to the test range or military base in support of a field test. The projects vary depending on current contracts, but often it is in support of a system that protects our troops overseas, and I take great pride in knowing that I’m helping them to make it back home.

How did you end up working for GTRI? What is your first job after graduating?

After my first semester at Tech, I decided I should look into the co-op program and began applying for jobs in my second semester. I didn’t know much about GTRI, but it was one of the available employers for my major. After my initial interview, which gave me an overview of GTRI, I had a follow-up interview with the Electronic Systems Laboratory and was offered a co-op position. I co-oped there for six full semesters and worked part-time the other semesters in between classes.

Why did you decide to study electrical engineering?

I’ve always been interested in electronic gadgets. Growing up, I would often take apart old VCRs or stereo equipment to look at the circuit boards, so it seemed like a natural fit.

Who was your favorite professor in ECE?

My favorite professor was Tom Gaylord. He

see KARNIK, page 3

Engineer by Day, Photographer by Night

Danny Karnik Serves Dual Roles

Photography by Brett Davis

May 30, 2017

IN THIS ISSUE

NEWS BRIEFS

Susan Margulies Named BME Chair
Margulies comes to Tech from the University of Pennsylvania. Her appointments in the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering are effective Aug. 1.
c.gatech.edu/bmecticher

Employee Discounts Offered for Basketball Camps
Children of Georgia Tech employees can sign up for day camp with the MacHelle Joseph Basketball Camps and Josh Pastner Basketball Academy. Camps will focus on character development and skill practice in a number of areas.
c.gatech.edu/bballcamp

IN THIS ISSUE

Faculty and Staff Achievements 2
OneUSG Transition Coming in June 3
Making the Leap from Professor to Dean 4

USG Issues Campus Carry Guidance; BOR Approves Degree Programs, Projects
KRISTEN BAILEY
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

The University System of Georgia provided guidance last week to all its institutions on the implementation of House Bill 280, commonly known as the “campus carry” legislation. The law goes into effect July 1.

Georgia Tech officials are reviewing the information. To view the USG guidance, visit c.gatech.edu/usghb280. For information on Georgia Tech’s implementation, which will be updated in the future, visit the police.gatech.edu/campuscary.

The Board of Regents met on May 16. At its meeting, the Board approved fiscal year 2018 operating and capital budgets for the University System of Georgia, approximately $8.842 billion, which includes funding from all unrestricted and restricted sources and the allocation of state funds as approved by the Board last month.

What to Add to Your Summer Reading List
VICTOR ROGERS
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

Memorial Day was the unofficial start of summer, meaning it’s time for a trip to the beach, the lake, or just to a favorite spot in the back yard — accompanied by a good book or two.

Several Georgia Tech librarians offer recommendations, which range from a humorous story about a medieval studies graduate who takes a job in a crematory, to a post-apocalyptic fantasy where some people are born with the ability to control seismic activity.

see BOR, page 2

see READING, page 2

 What to Add to Your Summer Reading List

NON-FICTION

Smoke Gets in Your Eyes:
and Other Lessons from the Crematory
By Caitlin Doughty, W.W. Norton and Company (2014)

What happens if you graduate into the financial crisis with a degree in medieval studies? Doughty’s story of working in a crematory is both funny and

see BOR, page 2
EVENTS

June 7
The Techniques Symposium is a two-day scientific training event offering seminars and hands-on workshops on laboratory techniques, software analysis, and scientific communication for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows in the burgeoning bioscience research fields. The symposium takes place from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Petit Institute and the U.A. Whitaker Building.

techniques.gatech.edu

June 8
The MARTA Civic Tech Summit will bring together business leaders, government officials, civic technologists, and interested citizens to talk transit and technology from 8:30 a.m. to noon at The Garage at Tech Square.
c.gatech.edu/martatech

SEMINARS & LECTURES

June 6-7
Serve-Learn-Sustain hosts the Integrated Network for Social Sustainability Conference, with a focus on Smart, Connected Cities, in Room 1005, Engineered Biosystems Building.

serve-learn-sustain.gatech.edu

June 7
Jeremy Fishel of SynTouch Inc. presents The Future of Machine Touch promoted by the Healthcare Robotics Lab at Gatech. The event will take place from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. in Room 3115, U.A. Whitaker Building.

June 19
A half-day workshop will provide an overview of Commercialization Resources for the Georgia Tech Researcher, including ATDC, I-Corps, VentureLab, and FlashPoint. The workshop takes place from 9 a.m. to noon in Room 334, Global Learning Center. RSVP at:

c.gatech.edu/commercialize

MISCELLANEOUS

May 31
The Atlanta Dream hosts the San Antonio Stars at 11:30 a.m. at McCamish Pavilion.
dream.wnba.com

EVENTS continued on page 3

READNG, from page 1

engrossing. Her initial curiosity about the funeral industry turns into a compassionate exploration of what the fear of death and dying means for modern Westerners. It is a light-hearted beach/cemetery read for those of us who do have favorite tombstones.”
—Liz Holdsworth, STEM Librarian

Capital in the 21st Century

“This important book is a superbly researched addition to the conver-
sation on inequality and wealth distribution. Piketty weaves his interdisciplinary knowledge of economics, history, literature, and sociology with scientific data to write a complex and insightful book with specific policy recommendations that may seem radical now but may be what we need for the future sustainability of democracies. A long book that is still worth reading even for those who skip over some chapters.”
—Cathy Carpenter, head of Campus Engagement and Scholarly Outreach

FICTION

The Mandibles: A Family, 2029-2047
By Lionel Shriver, Harper Collins (2016)

“An economic catastrophe has hit the United States. A head of cabbage costs $20. A fast food lunch is $53.49. Children mug other

children for groceries. Tuition at an art school is $400,000. The internet still works.

“The family at the center of the story is the Mandibles. They were considered middle to upper class at one time, but now most of them have been laid off or are working to pay the high costs of utilities and food. However, the rest of the world is doing well economically and visits the U.S. for vacation — until the tourists start getting mugged by hungry people.

“This novel explores how different generations deal with the changes and who has the best attitude to survive the new reality. There are moments of levity, such as when teenager Willing tries to convince his elders to give up something for the survival of the group.”
—Isabel Alamivano, Engineering Librarian

Humanties Librarian Karen Viars recommended three books:

Everything I Never Told You
By Celeste Ng, Penguin Press (2014)

“When the Lee family, living in a small town in Ohio in the 1970s, discovers that their daughter has drowned in a nearby lake, her death illuminates the fault lines running through her family, school, town, and the people who loved her. The narrative, compas-

sionate to all the charac-
ters, changes points of view between family members, exploring the delicate balancing act that keeps a family and community together — and can tear it apart.”
—Ange Thomas, The Hate U Give

By Angie Thomas, Balzer + Bray (2017)

“Sixteen-year-old Starr lives in a neighbor-
hood where violence is all too common. After a friend dies in a drive-by shooting, her parents enroll her in a private prep school. Starr balances these two worlds until she witnesses her childhood best friend Khalil shot and killed by a police officer. Now, Starr is part of the trial — both in a court of law and public opinion — and has to weigh how telling the truth affects her family, friends, and community.”

The Fifth Season (The Broken Earth)
By N.K. Jemison, Tor Books (2015)

“In a world of constant earthquakes, orogenes are the people born with the skill to control seismic activity. While they are necessary for humanity to survive the darkness and famine following a major seismic event, they are hated and feared. Told in three

interwining narratives, this book touches on motherhood, family, government, power, and — above all — survival in a post-apocalyptic fantasy with amazing world-building and characters.”

FACULTY AND STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

The School of Electrical and Computer Engineering’s Christine Bourgeois, senior academic professional, and Elliott Moore II, associate professor, were honored withEta Kappa Nu Outstanding Teacher Awards at the annual Eta Kappa Nu Spring Picnic in April. Recipients are determined by a vote of senior electrical and computer engineering students.

Alper Erturk, associate professor in the George Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering, earned the 2017 C. D. Mote Jr. Early Career Award from the American Society of Mechanical Engineering for excellence in his research on vibration and acoustics.

Stuart Goldberg, associate professor of Russian in the School of Modern Languages, has been awarded a fellowship by the American Council of Learned Societies.

Jechiel (Jeff) Jagoda, professor and associate chair for administration and finance in the Guggenheim School of Aerospace Engineering, was named Most Valuable Professor by the Sigma Gamma Tau honor society for aerospace engineering.

Geoffrey Li, professor in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, has been chosen for the 2017 IEEE Communications Society Award for Advances in Communication.

A. Fatih Sariglug, assistant professor in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, was named to the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation’s 2017 class of Beckman Young Investigators.

Marlyn J. Smith, professor in the Guggenheim School of Aerospace Engineering, has been elected southern regional director for the American Helicopter Society International. The two-year appointment begins July 1.

Lauren Stuart, assistant professor in the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, was named a rising star in the May 2017 issue of Civil + Structural Engineer magazine.

Lena Ting, professor in the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering, received a Hidden Gem Award from the Emory University School of Medicine.

Jeff Wu, Coca-Cola Chair in Engineering Statistics and Professor in the H. Milton Stewart School of Industrial & Systems Engineering, received the 2017 Box Medal Award from the European Network for Business and Industrial Statistics.

Shannon Yee, assistant professor in the George W. Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering, has been selected to receive the American Society of Mechanical Engineers’ 2017 Pi Tau Sigma Gold Medal Award.

BOR, from page 1

Christina Shalley was appointed to the chair.

• Establishment of the Julius C. “Bud” Shaw Professor in Sports, Society, and Technology in the School of History and Sociology. Johnny Smith was appointed to the professorship.

• Appointment of Yu “Jeffrey” Hu to the Sharon A. and David B. Pearce Professorship in the Ernest Scheller Jr. College of Business.

• Appointment of Peter Swire as the Elizabeth D. and Thomas M. Holder Chair in the Ernest Scheller Jr. College of Business.

Committee on Real Estate and Facilities

• The Board approved a request to the State of Georgia for a June 2017 Bond Sale, including $47 million for the Croelton Tower/Price Gilbert Library Renewal.

• The Board approved the following consent items:

  • Authorization of the National Electric Energy Testing Research and Applications Center (NEETRAC) Building Expansion in Forest Park, Georgia.

  • Appointment of Construction Management Firm HITT Contracting Inc. for Cola interior fit-up (floors 3-16).

• The Board approved the following item:

  • Authorization of the Dalney Street Parking Deck and Office Building. See full agendas and minutes at usg.edu.
taught me so much about optics and is a great professor. He also has a great sense of humor that I really enjoyed.

How did you get into photography? Is it a hobby or a side job?

My dad had a Pentax film SLR that we would take to airshows, and I really enjoyed taking photos with that. I decided when the technology progressed enough, I’d get a DSLR. In 2007, an engineer at GTRI brought in her Nikon D80 and showed it to me, and I knew that the time had come. I ordered mine online the next day and began taking pictures of whatever I could. In the 10 years since then, I’ve probably taken over a million photos, and have upgraded my equipment numerous times to take advantage of technological advances and to get better optical performance. My photography began as a hobby but now is a side job. In reality, it’s probably a second full-time job with the amount of time I dedicate to it.

How did you start taking photos for Georgia Tech sporting events?

The first year I had my camera, I got to a football game early to get in the front row. It was Georgia Tech’s game against Samford University, and the Jackets won 69-14, so there was a lot of offense to be seen. I had such a blast that I took my camera to the rest of the games that season. One of our linebackers at the time, Gary Guyton, was working in research security at GTRI and had seen my photos. He mentioned that I should talk to the Sports Information staff at the Athletic Association to try and take photos for the Jackets. I went over and spoke with them, but was turned down.

During the 2008 season, I would buy a regular ticket and then sneak into the student section to make sure I could still take photos. In 2009, I was able to buy season tickets in the front row of the end zone and continued shooting from there. As I was renewing the tickets the following season, I was speaking with a former offensive lineman, A.J. Smith, and he mentioned again that I should talk to Sports Information. With an expanded portfolio and a name of someone to speak to, I started exchanging emails about the possibility of shooting for Tech. I was able to shoot a spring football practice, and then the spring game, but was told that the sidelines were too busy for the 2010 season. I was given a pass for the game against Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) on Oct. 16, 2010, and was also told I could photograph Georgia Tech volleyball. I began shooting volleyball, which I discovered was really entertaining. When I got onto the sidelines for the MTSU game, it was one of the greatest days of my life. The experience was so wonderful that I hoped I could do it again. Luckily, Athletics was pleased with my photos, and offered me passes to the rest of the games that season. After that, I began shooting all the other sports, and in 2012 they made me their official photographer.

What’s the best part of taking photos for Georgia Tech?

The best part is really the relationships. Being able to work so closely with our student-athletes, coaches, and staff members has given me a number of friendships with great people that I wouldn’t have otherwise. Of course, it’s also really cool to be present for great moments in Georgia Tech sports history, and to be responsible for capturing those moments forever. Sometimes, I even get really involved in those moments, like during the Florida State game in 2015 — the Miracle on Techwood Drive — when [Defensive Back] Lance Austin returned the blocked kick for the game-winning score and literally ran it right to me in the end zone. I was crushed against the wall by Lance and the rest of the team in the celebration, but what a memory to have for the rest of my life.

See more of Karnik’s photos at c.gatech.edu/athletics/photos

Transition to OneUSG for Benefits
Under the University System of Georgia (USG), all state institutions are engaging in OneUSG — a collective initiative designed to streamline policies, procedures, and technology solutions. The first priority of OneUSG is to align and consolidate human capital management (HCM) systems. HCM includes functions such as benefits and payroll administration, performance management systems, and time tracking. Georgia Tech’s HCM transition is a six-year process that is projected to be complete in 2020. The Institute is currently in phase two of three, which focuses on benefits administration.

Out of the 28 USG schools, 25 are supported by the same benefits administration system (ADP), while three — University of Georgia, Augusta University, and Georgia Tech — use independent systems. All 28 schools will transfer benefits administration to OneUSG Connect. For Georgia Tech, this change will be effective Monday, June 26.

Employee benefits are not changing. For active and retired employees, OneUSG Connect will manage USG benefit enrollments and eligibility. It will also manage premium payments for retired employees only. Georgia Tech Human Resources will continue to manage enrollment for retirement plans, supplemental savings plans, and Georgia Tech Identity Theft, as well as onboarding for new hires. Transferring Georgia Tech’s benefits administration to OneUSG Connect will simplify new hire benefits enrollment, the family status change process, and the open enrollment experience.

As part of the transition, employees will have two new ways to access health and group benefits:

- OneUSG Connect — Benefits A new, secure website providing 24/7 access to benefits and resources
- OneUSG Connect – Call Center A call center with representatives available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, beginning June 26.

Georgia Tech Human Resources will continue to provide benefit counselors for in-person consultations and customer service for all Tech employees both before and after the transition. More information will be posted at ohr.gatech.edu/OneUSG. For related questions, contact 404-894-4847.

Events

June 2
Applications are due for the Center for Teaching and Learning’s 2017-18 Faculty Learning Communities. Learn more and apply at c.gatech.edu/ctlfcc

June 5
Withdrawal deadline for Early Short Summer session. registrar.gatech.edu

June 14-15
Summer first-year students will be on campus for FASEB orientation. Additional sessions will take place throughout the summer nasp.gatech.edu

June 15
The Serve-Learn-Sustain Summer Book Club hosts its first meeting to discuss the book This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. the Climate. Discussion begins at 5 p.m., followed by a screening of the accompanying documentary at 6 p.m., both in Clough Commons (room to be announced). serve-learn-sustain.gatech.edu

June 17
Atlanta United hosts Columbus Crew F.C. at 7 p.m. at Bobby Dodd Stadium, atlutd.com

Health & Wellness

June 6
Human Resources hosts a Be Well session on Leaves of Absence. The session will cover important facts and needs for Family Medical Leave (FMLA), disability, sick, or military leave, and will take place from noon to 1 p.m. in Room 203, Scheller College of Business. ohr.gatech.edu/bewell

June 10
Health and Well-Being hosts a Wellness Walk at Sweetwater Creek State Park beginning at 7:30 a.m. Learn more and sign up at c.gatech.edu/walks

June 13
The Office of Human Resources hosts a Be Well session on TAP/ STRAP Education Assistance Programs from noon to 1 p.m. in the Student Center Theater. ohr.gatech.edu/bewell

June 24
Health and Well-Being hosts a Wellness Walk at Red Top Mountain State Park beginning at 7:30 a.m. Learn more and sign up at c.gatech.edu/walks

For a comprehensive listing of events, or to add your own, visit calendar.gatech.edu.

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Making the Leap from Professor to Dean

LINDSEY LEWIS
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Supportive colleagues.
Interdisciplinary research.
Valuable mentorship opportunities.

These are just a few of the reasons listed by former College of Engineering professors about what makes the college a great place to work. Over the past few years, those former faculty members have all accepted dean roles at other universities, demonstrating that the college also offers an excellent foundation for leadership.

“I truly appreciate the commitment that Georgia Tech has to undergraduate learning and to innovation in engineering education,” said Steve DeWeerth, now dean of the P.C. Rossin College of Engineering and Applied Science at Lehigh University. While at Georgia Tech, he held posts including associate chair for graduate studies at the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering and associate dean for research and innovation.

Tech’s focus on interdisciplinary research and innovation shaped DeWeerth’s vision for Lehigh. One of his first orders of business there was to initiate an “envisioning process” for his college. This faculty-led advancement of Lehigh engineering focuses on enhancing research impact and interdisciplinary endeavors.

“People are really committed to the university,” said: “Georgia Tech is such a wonderful place that way.” — Steve DeWeerth

“I have been lucky to have been able to assemble an outstanding leadership team,” said Barbara Boyan, who became dean of the College of Engineering at Virginia Commonwealth University in 2013. “Watching [former Engineering Dean] Don Giddens and Gary May as role models, I learned to trust my team.”

Boyan spent more than a decade at the College of Engineering, and she ended her tenure there as associate dean for research and innovation. While at Georgia Tech, she helped spearhead the Institute’s relationship with Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta, and she directed the Translational Research Institute for Bioengineering and Science (which led to the creation of the master’s program in biomedical innovation and development).

“The leadership team empowers faculty and staff at all levels to be the best that they can be,” she said.

That fact might make it difficult to leave Georgia Tech at all, but new opportunities always beckon. Bobby Braun, who was a professor in the School of Aerospace Engineering until 2016 (and spent a year as NASA’s chief technologist), saw a dean role at the University of Colorado Boulder as a chance to “integrate the leadership and management skills I developed at NASA with the academic and scholarly experiences I had matured at Tech.”

Like other faculty members, Braun highlights the influence his colleagues had on his career. He names Ben Zinn, David S. Lewis Jr. Chair in Aerospace Engineering, and Aerospace Engineering Chair Vigor Yang as two of his foremost mentors.

“I certainly learned the significance of interdisciplinary research at Georgia Tech,” Braun said. “Just as significant, I learned the importance of true scholarship, collegiality, personal respect, and the need for open and complaint communication.”

Sometimes, taking a position as dean can give a faculty member the chance to build on an emerging legacy. Gilda Barabino served as Georgia Tech’s first vice provost for academic diversity (in addition to the Coulter Department’s associate chair for graduate studies). Now that she is a dean, Barabino says she continues her work opening doors to more diverse students.

“My position as dean of The Grove School of Engineering at The City College of New York affords me the opportunity to lead one of the most diverse engineering institutions in the nation,” she said. “CCNY’s historic mission of access to excellence appealed to me and my desire to ensure that the talent pool for engineering is fully tapped and that a diverse cadre of engineers are trained to creatively solve societal problems.”

Her interdisciplinary collaborations at Tech, as well as the administrative posts she held, helped guide her as dean.

“Opportunities for leadership and professional development are critical to the advancement of faculty and to the advancement of the institution,” she said.

Joseph Hughes, who spent nine years at the College of Engineering, can speak with a unique authority about how the lessons of Georgia Tech translate to dean roles. He recently stepped down as Drexel University’s dean of engineering.

“My job as dean at Drexel was a dream come true,” he said. “Challenging, Rewarding, Frustrating. Exciting. New, every day.”

While at Georgia Tech, he served as Karen and John Huff Chair of the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering (and briefly as the Tellepsen Family Chair of Engineering). He appreciated the respect and freedom granted to Tech faculty members — as well as the sense of accountability.

Those qualities extended beyond faculty members, he notes. At Drexel, he thought back on two particular Georgia Tech mentors who embraced some of the Institute’s best qualities.

“Whenever I questioned my compass as dean, I said to myself, ‘What would Don Giddens do?’ He was a remarkable dean and is a great human being,” Hughes said. “Second, I would recall something that Wayne Clough instilled in me: I had just given a great talk to the Georgia Tech board (or so I thought!), and Wayne pulled me aside and said to me, ‘You never said the word student. Never do that again. He was not happy with me. I have never forgotten the lesson.’

This article was originally published in the Spring 2017 issue of the Georgia Tech Engineers Magazine. Read more from the magazine at magazine.coe.gatech.edu.