Trash or Treasure? Sharing Resources through Campus Swaps

KRISTEN BAILEY
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

The Petit Institute atrium will become a treasure trove of lab supplies next week during what Colly Mitchell describes as a big, free yard sale.

The Petit Institute’s Lab Cleanup and Swap-O-Rama started in 2014 as a way to encourage labs to report their annual chemical inventory and clean out supplies. That annual deadline has since changed, but the summer swap continues as a way for researchers to clean out unwanted supplies, get new ones they need, and even pick up other hidden gems that have been tucked away.

“Labs don’t ever slow down, but summer still has been a good time for us to do it,” said Mitchell, events manager in the Parker H. Petit Institute for Bioengineering and Bioscience. “You see all kinds of things show up there, and it’s really fun.”

Though only labs in the Petit Institute can donate to the swap, anyone on campus is welcome to stop by and take from the donations.

“It’s gratifying to see people find something they really need among all these boxes of tubes and pipettes,” Mitchell said.

Welcome New Graduate Student Employees at GradHiring

BETHANY SCHUSTER
HUMAN RESOURCES

Georgia Tech employees: Human Resources needs your help.

Each year Georgia Tech Human Resources (GTHR) brings its onboarding process right to the middle of campus. More than 500 graduate students will start jobs at Georgia Tech this fall, a flocking that would normally exceed HR’s capacity. To meet the demand, GTHR will be bringing the hiring process directly to the new employees by hosting a two-day onboarding event called GradHiring (formerly called Graduate Student Employee Processing) in Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons.

At GradHiring, students who have been offered employment will be walked through their hiring process en masse, including the completion and submission of new hire documents. They will also have the opportunity to meet with representatives from Global HR, the U.S. Social Security Administration, and a select group of banks.

If hosted at GTHR’s 500 Tech Parkway office using the regular onboarding process, it would take an estimated 5,000 hours. By hosting GradHiring, and with the help of campus volunteers, the processing time is reduced to fewer than 100 hours.

In 2016 the Marcus Foundation awarded resources to establish the Marcus Center for Therapeutic Cell Characterization and Manufacturing, or MC3M. A ribbon-cutting took place Wednesday, June 6, for the new center, with Bernie Marcus and other Marcus Foundation guests in attendance and a showcase of related research that is already taking place. Learn more about MC3M at cellmanufacturing.gatech.edu.

Inclusive Excellence

If you know someone who has distinguished themselves in research, teaching, or service during the past year, nominate them for this year’s Faces of Inclusive Excellence. The honor will be highlighted at the 10th Annual Diversity Symposium on Wednesday, Sept. 3.

Faces of Pride

USA Today recently highlighted one person from each state for an LGBT Pride Month feature, and Georgia’s is a Tech student and Pride Alliance president Genevieve Onyike-Kennedy. Read the full feature at c.gatech.edu/facesofpride

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COMMUNITY GARDENS SPROUTING ON CAMPUS

In April, employees of Procurement and Business Services realized a long-held vision when they transformed the grassy area behind their office on Marietta Street into a community garden.

Through the leadership of staff and the help of volunteers, raised beds were constructed, soil was poured, and fruit and vegetables were planted over the course of a Saturday afternoon.

“This has been a priority that has finally come to fruition,” said Frans Barends, senior director of Procurement and Business Services. “The vegetable garden is not only a sustainability initiative, but an opportunity for people to bond together outside of the office.”

The finished garden was made possible by a community effort. Staff from Facilities Management constructed the raised beds and provided the compost, staff from Procurement and Business Services volunteered the top soil and plants, and Campus Services coordinated the effort. Further, Matthew Ritch and Isabelle Musmanno, students from the campus organization Students Organizing for Sustainability, shared their expertise in managing a community garden by volunteering at the planting.

Joy Crawford, analyst with Procurement and Business Services, reflected on the value of the collaboration.

“The garden shows how teamwork adds strength to our campus,” she said. “The dedication of Procurement and Business Services to the garden goes beyond the desire to beautify the space. As part of both the Office of Campus Sustainability’s Work Green and Health Initiatives’ Certified Healthy programs, the department is committed to providing a work environment that is environmentally friendly and that supports employee health and happiness.

The garden will provide access to sustainable, locally grown produce while providing a place for employees to gather while getting a bit of exercise and fresh air.

“The garden was also created with the intent of serving as a campuswide model for establishing requirements to build and maintain such a resource.

“The example being set by Procurement and Business Services in their community garden will set the standard for similar gardens across campus,” said Malte Weiland, senior sustainability project manager with Campus Services. “Through research and benchmarking, the garden management team has developed comprehensive processes that can be easily replicated at other sites. Simultaneously, they have pursued a garden design that is clear and visually appealing, further promoting this model for future gardens.”

MEILING LING Received Regents’ Professor and Associate Chair of Academics in the School of Materials Science and Engineering, will receive the HTM Outstanding Achievement Award from the Electrochemical Society at the fall Electrochemical Society meeting in Cancun, Mexico.

The American Society of Civil Engineers recognized Spyros Pavlostathis 30 years of teaching, research, and mentoring this spring by naming him a fellow of the Society. Pavlostathis is a professor in the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

SUDHAKAR YALAMANCHILI Received Professor and Joseph M. Pettit Professor in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, and Matthias R. Bloch, associate professor in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, were announced as theEta Kappa Nu Outstanding Teacher Awards honorees on April 13 at the annualEta Kappa Nu Spring Picnic. The recipients of these awards are determined by a majority vote of the ECE graduating class. Yalamanchili is the recipient of the W. Marshall Leach, Jr./Eta Kappa Nu Outstanding Teacher Award, and Bloch received the Richard M. Bass/Eta Kappa Nu Outstanding Teacher Award.
10 Years of Touring

President Embarks on 10th Annual Summer Tour

KRISTEN BAILEY
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

Ten years ago, President G.P. “Bud” Peterson and first lady Val Peterson set off on his first tour around the state to meet with alumni, stakeholders, and friends of Georgia Tech.

This year, they’ll return to some of the places they visited that first year, as well as several others around the state. The 2018 tour begins Monday, June 18, with a stop in Milledgeville, continuing through June 21 with stops in Hawkinsville, Fort Valley, Macon, Sandersville, Augusta, Evans, Elberton, Athens, Carnesville, Toccoa, and Gainesville.

Since 2009, the summer tours have covered nearly 7,500 miles and almost all of Georgia’s 159 counties, with around 250 events and meetings in more than 100 cities. The map at right shows where the president and first lady have been the past 10 years.

This year’s tour traverses 615 miles and 25 counties. For event details, visit c.gatech.edu/tour2018.

Past Summer Tour Stops

2016: Macon, Locust Grove, Mansfield, Steliville, Duluth, Alpharetta, East Cobb, Douglasville
2015: Peachtree City, LaGrange, Carrollton, Cartersville, Ringgold, Dalton, Big Canoe, Blue Ridge, Young Harris, Dahlonega
2014: Augusta, Sandersville, Dublin/Valdalia, Hawkinsville, Warner Robins, Perry, Griffin
2013: Brunswick, Savannah, Statesboro, Greensboro/Lake Oconee, Athens, Gainesville/Lake Lanier
2012: Columbus, Camilla, Pelham, Bainbridge, Jesup, Valdosta, Savannah
2011: Dalton, Rome, Carrollton, Peachtree City, Newman, LaGrange, Gainesville
2010: Young Harris, Athens, Watkinsville, Greensboro, Perry, Warner Robins, Fort Valley, Lyons, Valdalia, Albany
2009: Columbus, Macon, Savannah, Brunswick, Augusta

An attendee browses the Petit Institute Lab Cleanup and Swap-O-Rama in 2016.

DOES YOUR Lab HAVE TOO MANY BEAKERs?

Petit Biotechnology Building Annual Summer Lab Cleanup & Swap-O-Rama

June 20-25, 2016

It’s that time of year... "Clear out your lab... bring your items to the cleanup & come & take items up to 10% Trades or wind up with new supplies on every shelf."

Please join us to encourage reading for pleasure and to build a sense of community by coming together to pick out books," Wright said. The COE Cares team consists of a representative from each school and two co-chairs.

Campus swaps also take place each year at the annual Earth Day festival, where clothes and office supplies are collected for exchange among departments and students.

For those thinking of holding this kind of event in their department, Mitchell said it just takes a few dedicated people to make it happen. She encouraged organizers to work with their building and facilities managers since those staff members help with cleanup following the event.

"It works great to have a common place to host it like our atrium," Mitchell said. "Have fun with it. Make some signs, tell people it’s coming, and make it a regular thing. It doesn’t take much effort and even becomes a community-building activity. It gets people out of their offices and labs, and into the atrium together and chatting."

EVENTS

June 28

International Education celebrates the summer solstice with Midsummer Holiday, a celebration with traditions rooted in northern European culture. In honor of the holiday, stop by Tech Walk from 1 to 3 p.m. for pretzels and lemonade.

eie.gatech.edu

MISCELLANEOUS

June 13

FASET Orientation will take place for incoming summer first-year students.

transitionprograms.gatech.edu

June 15

Last day of Early Short Summer session.

June 15, 29

The Center for Teaching and Learning hosts book club discussions about Creating Wicked Students: Designing Courses for a Complex World from noon to 1 p.m. in Room 466A, Clough Commons. Refreshments will be served.

ctl.gatech.edu

June 18–19

Final exams for Early Short Summer session.

June 20

Classes begin for Late Short Summer session.

June 22

Phase I registration ends for new summer transfer and graduate students for Fall 2018.

June 26–27

FASET Orientation will take place for incoming fall first-year students. Additional FASET dates include:

• July 9–10
• July 13–14
• July 23–24
• July 28–29
• August 2–23
• August 14–15

transitionprograms.gatech.edu

July 3

Classes will not meet.

July 4

Campus is closed for Independence Day.

Ongoing

The Georgia Tech Staff Council hosts office hours on Monday/ Wednesday/Friday from noon to 1 p.m., Tuesday from 6 to 7 a.m., and Thursday from 4 to 5 p.m. All sessions take place in Room 204, Campus Recreation Center.

staffcouncil.gatech.edu

For a more comprehensive listing of events, or to add your own, visit calendar.gatech.edu.
June 2 marked National Trails Day, and the Campus Recreation Center (CRC) staff members celebrated by compiling their top hiking sites in the Atlanta area.

Although Georgia Tech is in the heart of Midtown, faculty and staff members are fortunate to have several wooded regions, parks, and trails in the greater Atlanta area that have been preserved for environmental stewardship. These places make for a nice outing for backpacking, walking, or even biking. For outdoor adventurers of any level, CRC’s Outdoor Recreation is open Monday through Thursday from 2 to 7 p.m., stop by to rent supplies for camping, cooking, backpacking, or other outdoor activities.

Here are the top five suggestions from CRC staff members:

**Northside Trail**
The Northside Trail is located in Tanyard Creek Park within the Atlanta BeltLine network. It was the first publicly accessible portion of the BeltLine during its early development. The trail has open and grassy areas with beautiful scenery and paved trails. The trail’s spaciousness also makes it a great place to enjoy a leisurely trek during National Trails Day weekend. The wetlands are located in Piedmont Park in Midtown, just north of Lake Clara Meer.

**Cochran Shoals Trail**
The Atlanta area is largely landlocked, but there are still aquatic beauties to be found, including as Cochran Shoals Trail. The expansive trails near the shoals make them a great spot for both hiking and biking. For general recreation, Cochran Shoals has a handful of picnic areas, side streams, ponds, and even ruins for opportunities to relax and explore. This area is located along the Chattahoochee River off Columns Drive, just outside 1-285.

**Six Springs Wetlands**
The Six Springs Wetlands is a small park that is considered by some to be a hidden gem unknown by even locals. It is serene, ensconced in greenery, and quietly noted despite its Midtown location. It’s tucked off Peachtree Street behind the Museum of Design Atlanta, near 15th Street in the Ansley Park neighborhood.