Library to Begin Next Phase of Construction

RACHAEL POCKLINGTON
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

The Price Gilbert and Crosland Tower renewal project, known on campus as Library Next, will begin its first major phase of construction in late July. This phase will focus on the Crosland Tower renovation and includes the removal of the connecting bridge, stairs, and walkways between the two library buildings.

Construction on Crosland Tower is expected to finish in fall 2018, at which time Crosland Tower will reopen and function as the main library while Price Gilbert undergoes its renovation. The entire Library renewal project is scheduled to be completed and fully open in early 2020.

This month, construction fencing will be in place for the safety of the Georgia Tech community, and wayfinding signage will be installed at appropriate locations around the construction site.

Major impacts will include the elimination of far-flung staff in GTRI-Cobb County, or whether you’re here on campus or part of the staff they feel are beneficial.”

“We are here to serve as the voice of the staff to communicate concerns, issues, and ideas to upper administration,” said Staff Council Chair Laura Pusateri, special events manager in Institute Communications. “And we want to provide solutions and changes with staff members, as well as through our Twitter account (@GTStaffCouncil).

Council members are accessible to staff through weekly office hours, town halls, monthly general meetings, and a new vice chair, and secretary, and includes committees on employee engagement, employee health and well-being, campus physical environment, compensation and benefits, and communications. Nearly 150 employees have served on a committee since the Council’s inception.

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Staff Council: It’s a Two-Way Street

STACY BRAUKMAN
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

Eighteen months after Georgia Tech established the first Staff Council in its history, how is it doing? In many ways, the group’s success is tied to employees’ willingness to reach out, speak up, and get involved.

“We are here to serve as the voice of the staff to communicate concerns, issues, and ideas to upper administration,” said Staff Council Chair Laura Pusateri, special events manager in Institute Communications. “And we want to provide solutions and changes for the staff that they feel are beneficial.”

In order to accomplish that, everyone who works at Georgia Tech — regardless of what department you’re in, what shift you work, or whether you’re here on campus or part of far-flung staff in GTRI-Cobb County, Savannah, or Metz, France — is encouraged to get to know Staff Council.

Made up of 20 members representing five employee classifications who serve three-year terms, the group is headed by a chair, vice chair, and secretary, and includes committees on employee engagement, employee health and well-being, campus physical environment, compensation and benefits, and communications. Nearly 150 employees have served on a committee since the Council’s inception.

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Human Resources Simplifies Onboarding for Graduate Students

BETHANY SCHUSTER
HUMAN RESOURCES

Georgia Tech Human Resources is offering a convenient opportunity for all new graduate student employees — GRAs, GTAs, and GAs — to complete new hire paperwork in a one-stop shop.

This year’s Graduate Student Employee Processing event (GSEP) will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 16, and Thursday, Aug. 17, on the third floor of Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons.

On both days, students will be able to submit documents and ask questions about the onboarding process. Representatives from the U.S. Social Security Administration, as well as a select group of banks, will also be in attendance should students require their assistance. Students can come at any time either day.

Attendance of incoming graduate student employees is expected to exceed 500 over the two-day period. To limit processing time, Human Resources recommends that students complete compliance paperwork online prior to the session. Necessary forms and information, including a GSEP Student Checklist, are available at ohr.gatech.edu/graduateprocessing.

Georgia Tech Human Resources encourages incoming graduate students to review the website and acquire needed documentation.

NEWS BRIEFS

Georgia Tech is 13th Largest Atlanta Employer

The Atlanta Business Chronicle’s recent list of the 25 largest area employers counts full-time employees for Atlanta companies and organizations. See the full list at c.gatech.edu/atlemployers

Delta Opens Advanced Manufacturing Pilot Facility

The new facility, part of the Georgia Tech Manufacturing Institute, will enable students, faculty, staff, and researchers to develop products in collaboration with Delta. The facility is located off 14th Street and was once part of the Atlantic Steel plant.

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From Students to Employees, Harrington Switches Gears

VIC ROGERS
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

While most Georgia Tech seniors are eager to “get out,” many Institute employees spend seasons of their career here, including Kim D. Harrington.

Harrington is the associate vice president of Georgia Tech Human Resources. Since her arrival in 2001, she has served Georgia Tech’s campus, its students, and employees in impactful leadership roles. Harrington spent 14 years supporting the student experience through her role in the Student Center. When Paul Strouts, vice president of Campus Services, asked Harrington to take the helm of Human Resources as interim AVP in 2015, it was with the understanding the appointment would only last a couple of months.

“No one in a million years did I envision this opportunity,” said Harrington, who holds a master’s degree in counseling and educational psychology from the State University of New York at Buffalo and a doctorate in educational psychology from Georgia State University. Strouts selected Harrington for the interim role based on her diverse higher education experience, team orientation, and leadership ability. Confident HR was in capable hands, Strouts spent the following months determining the qualifications and experience necessary for a candidate who could lead the department permanently.

After about six months in the role at HR, Harrington asked Strouts about returning to her post at the Student Center. However, Strouts had received positive feedback from HR and the campus – they wanted her to stay.

Harrington served as the interim AVP for roughly 10 months before participating in 13 rigorous Institute-wide interviews for the permanent role. Strouts officially appointed her the new AVP of HR in November 2015. Today, Harrington thoroughly enjoys the job and the unique perspective afforded to her.

The shift from students to employees may seem inconceivable. But for Harrington, it meant a complete change in perspective. Although intensely familiar with the Institute through her work with students, viewing Georgia Tech through the lens of faculty and staff represented a wonderful new learning opportunity.

“My unexpected departure from the Student Center provided that team an exciting chance to demonstrate their sound leadership abilities and strong team characteristics,” Harrington said. “As a leader, I want my team to feel empowered and I prioritize transparency. I don’t hold secrets or withhold information whenever possible.”

That mindset of teamwork and empowerment became entrenched at the Student Center. During just a few months, that same mindset had already begun to cultivate and take hold at HR.

“I am fortunate to work with HR experts who are passionate about their profession and work hard to assist and support employees every day,” she says of her colleagues in HR. “HR is rich with talented, dedicated subject matter experts, and I rely on them to help us move forward,” said Harrington.

So, what exactly does the head of Human Resources do? “No two days are the same — ever,” she said. “My job is coordination. I spin a lot of plates and do a lot of firefighting. Nonetheless, this role provides tremendous optics into faculty and staff, and how they experience the Institute. It helps me understand the commitment, pride, and talent that exists across the campus — from the point of entry, all the way through transition or retirement,” said Harrington. “We have a responsibility to make sure those interactions are smooth, efficient, and executed with excellence.”

Harrington lives west of Atlanta, is married with three children, and considers herself an amateur photographer. She is also the proud aunt of two nieces and one nephew currently enrolled at Georgia Tech. So, what’s next for this AVP? She said her original career goal was to be a vice president of student affairs. But, like her trajectory at Georgia Tech, that, too, has shifted course. “I certainly have continued leadership aspirations; however, my current focus is helping GTHR to be the sought-after resource that supports the Institute in meeting our strategic goals through people.”
Steam Whistle Testing Underway This Week

With the fall semester just a few weeks away, campus is moving full steam ahead in preparing for classes. This semester, that means adjusting the schedule of the steam whistle to coincide with a new class schedule.

Testing on the whistle is underway and will continue through Aug. 4. Those on campus the next two weeks may hear intermittent whistles at irregular times. A Facilities Management steam outage will temporarily suspend the notifications on Aug. 5. The beloved whistle will be ready to sound on its new schedule when classes resume Aug. 21.

The new class schedule provides longer pass times of 15 minutes between classes and adjusts the length of classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The changes are part of a series of recommendations from a Classroom and Academic Scheduling Task Force convened by the Office of the Provost. See the full schedule online at c.gatech.edu/newschedule.

The Four Ethical Corners

Laura Pusateri

Laura Pusateri, a quarterly speaker series that provides staff with an open forum for asking questions, brainstorming solutions, and interacting with Institute leaders such as Director of Athletics Todd Stansbury and Chief of Police Rob Connolly. Though organized by Staff Council, the events are open to the entire campus, including faculty and students.

The date for the next Inform Georgia Tech session, on the topic of the new benefits administration system, OneUSG Connect – Benefits, will be announced soon.

“We want to help get everybody on the same playing field in terms of understanding what the issues are, not to stop the conversation, but to continue the conversation about what we can do collectively,” Pusateri said.

This summer, Staff Council is busy reexamining its bylaws in an effort to increase its own effectiveness, conducting a survey to assess employees’ awareness of the council, and planning outreach activities with at least 12 departments across campus.

As it moves forward, Pusateri explained, the council’s efficacy is a two-way street, and she wants every employee to consider getting involved, sharing, and engaging.

“We need people to feel comfortable engaging with us. We won’t know if we’re going down the right path or if we are working on issues that are important to the staff if they don’t let us know. We can only fulfill Tech’s motto of Progress and Service by working together.”

To learn more about getting involved in Staff Council, visit staffcouncil@gatech.edu or request to join its email list by contacting staffcouncil@gatech.edu.

CRC to Get New Flooring during Annual Closure

KATE O'NEILL

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

The Campus Recreation Center (CRC) will undergo its annual maintenance in the coming weeks, which will mean some closures and limited operating hours for members.

Hours of operation will be altered from July 29–Aug. 16. The entire building will close for a week for projects that otherwise could not be completed with patrons on the premises. The building will be open with limited facility availability from Saturday, July 29, through Friday, Aug. 4. Due to the replacement and upgrading of the floors in the fitness area, the entire fitness center will be closed during this time. Additionally, the fourth and fifth floors will close to complete floor refinishing and track floor renovations.

See a full schedule below, and read more about this summer’s maintenance at c.gatech.edu/crc.

CRC Closure Schedule

July 29 – Aug. 4
• Fitness center closed.
• Fourth and fifth floors closed.
• Limited fitness equipment available (rowing machines, bikes, ellipticals, and climbers in Freshens Café; treadmill, kettlesbells, mats, free weights, benches, resistance bands, Bosu balls, jump ropes in Room 249).
• Fitness classes, such as yoga and bootcamp, move to Room 249.

Aug. 5–13
• Entire facility closed.

Aug. 14–15
• Member services desk open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Aug. 16
• Freshens Café and Room 240 closed.
• Crawford Leisure Pool open.
• All other facilities closed.

Aug. 17
• All areas reopen.

TRAININGS AND WORKSHOPS

July 25–26
Learn how to leverage the capabilities of the new campus space reservation system through an online webinar at 11 a.m. or 3 p.m. The webinar will take place July 26 at 9 a.m., noon, and 3 p.m. at c.gatech.edu/space.

August 3
Workplace Learning and Professional Development hosts a live training class on The Four Ethical Corners, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Room 148, Global Learning Center. Register at: trains.gatech.edu

August 10
Workplace Learning and Professional Development hosts a training class on Discovering Your Personal Style: Myers Briggs Type Indicator, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Room 148, Global Learning Center. Register at: trains.gatech.edu

For a more comprehensive listing of events, or to add your own, visit calendar.gatech.edu.
Ads run for at least three issues in the order in which they are received.
Submit your 35-word-or-less ad to editor@comm.gatech.edu.

REAL ESTATE/ROOMMATES

2BR/1BA condo for sale. 1,100 sq. ft., hardwood floors, separate living and dining rooms, street level, beautiful courtyard, reserved parking and storage. Two blocks from Lindbergh MARTA station. Call 404-307-8182 for showing.


Second floor unfurnished condo w/ balcony overlooking quiet courtyard. 5 min. walk to Stinger Green Route. Unit comes with gated parking garage and reserved parking space, refrigerator, W/D, granite counters, custom closets, access to pool and gym. 24-hour security on property. Non-smoking unit, prefer no pets. Walking distance to Atlantic Station. Available for 1-year lease. $1,350/mo. Includes water, trash. Contact yangtzepirit@yahoo.com.

Male employee seeking roommate to share 1BR apartment near Lenox MARTA Station. Very quiet, near shopping. Contact Jose, 404-904-0202.

3BR/3BA plus bonus room on quiet cul-de-sac, 6 mi. from Tech near Lenox. $1,950/mo. Good credit and deposit ($3,000) required. Lawn service included in rent; utilities not included. Roommates are welcome. No smokers. Contact mrrobert@comcast.net or 404-315-6962. For a virtual tour and more information, visit 1732dunwoodyplace.com.

MISCELLANEOUS

Vintage 1960s Magnavox AstroSonic console stereo unit. Working turntable and radio w/ auxiliary input. Speakers need some work. Cabinet in excellent condition and has good sound. Asking $75. Call 404-735-7611 or email james.corbett@gti.gatech.edu.

Oak table, round, 48-in., four legs, w/ two 10-in. extensions and six fancy-back chairs. $170. Contact james.cagle@mse.gatech.edu.

New in box Maytag s/s kitchen appliances: 27 cu. ft. French door refrigerator, 6 cu. ft. convection double oven, 2 cu. ft. over-the-range microwave, s/s interior dishwasher w/ Powerblast. $3,000 for all. Call 770-652-9911.

Free yellow jacket nest removal. Nests to be used for research in the School of Biology. Call 404-385-6311 or e-mail michael.goodisman@biology.gatech.edu.

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of the pedestrian route between Bobby Dodd Way/Cherry Street and Fourth Street that passes between the library buildings. In addition, the alleyway between Hinman Courtyard and Bobby Dodd Way that passes between Crosland Tower and the Old Civil Engineering Building will be blocked off.

The Library Next renewal project embraces a user-centric approach with the goal of delivering state-of-the-art physical and digital spaces for students, faculty, and staff. Once complete, the Georgia Tech community will enjoy more collaborative spaces and enhanced digital experiences, with tools enabling the revolutionary scholarship of tomorrow.

Learn more about the full scope of the project and what to expect at librarynext.gatech.edu.