Campus Partners Play Key Role in Student Recruitment

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The Office of Undergraduate Admission is finalizing its review of applications for the 2019 first-year class. During a recent meeting, Admission staff presented an update for Campus Partners, a group comprised of faculty and staff who support Tech’s undergraduate student recruitment efforts.

For 2019, the overall first-year application total came in just under 37,000, up slightly from 35,600 last year and setting another record for Georgia Tech in terms of applications. The total number of Early Action applications was 20,291.

“Our goal is to bring in a new first-year class of 3,000, which is smaller than last year,” said Rick Clark, director of Undergraduate Admission. “Because we keep our undergraduate population at approximately 60 percent from Georgia, 30 percent from U.S. (non-Georgia), and 10 percent from abroad, this year will probably be the first in Georgia Tech history that our admit rate will be less than 20 percent, making Tech one of just four public universities in the country at that level of selectivity.”

Clark said the three factors primarily driving applications nationally are: a heavy STEM focus, a solid return on investment, and location.

“In a lot of ways, Georgia Tech has never been in a healthier position, largely because of our standing with those three factors,” Clark said.

Admission and Campus Partners: A Team Effort

The Campus Partners meeting takes place twice a year to allow Admission to give updates on the recruitment and

Learn the Ropes of Policing at Tech

Applications Now Open for Spring Citizens Police Academy; Begins March 7

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Georgia Tech’s Citizens Police Academy is a five-week program designed to educate and inform the Tech community about issues related to law enforcement efforts on campus and how the Georgia Tech Police Department (GTPD) operates. The Academy, which is accepting applications for spring, is open to all Tech faculty, staff, and students.

“If you have questions about the operations of the department, the type of training the officers receive, the day-to-day function of the department, or if you just want to have a better understanding of law enforcement — this academy is for you,” said Georgia Tech Police Officer Jessica Howard, Academy coordinator.

The training, which begins March 7, includes classes on investigations, Clery Act, K-9, law enforcement technology, firearms, emergency preparedness, and crime prevention. All classes are held from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. The program is free, but participants must commit to attend all sessions. Class size is limited to 12, and there are only a few slots remaining.

Applicants must submit an

Bringing the World to North Avenue

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Allison Noffsinger is the assistant director of On-Campus Internationalization in the Office of International Education (OIE), a role she seemed destined to fill.

She was born in Virginia, moved to Colorado, then grew up mostly in a college town in Mississippi. After graduating from high school, she moved to Arequipa, Peru, for a year as a Rotary Youth Exchange Student where she lived with a host family and attended a local high school and university. Following that year, she returned to the U.S. to attend college at Western Kentucky University, where she double-majored in public relations and Spanish, and double-minored in international business and Latin American studies.

While in college, Noffsinger studied abroad in Seville, Spain, for a semester and also used her summer vacations to independently backpack around Europe and the Americas, visiting more than 25 countries before graduating. After graduation, she moved to Tel Aviv-Jaffa, Israel, for a year as a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar, where she took classes at Tel Aviv University, interned at an Arab-Jewish community center, and toured the country speaking to rotary clubs. Upon returning to the United States, she began working in international education full time for a few years before attending graduate school at Florida International University in Miami to study international relations. After completing her degree, she worked as an international student recruiter for Hult International Business School. She was based in Miami, but worked most of the time in Colombia. In 2015, while in a coffee shop in Cali, Colombia, she received

Nie Selected as General Counsel and VP for Ethics and Compliance

Ling-Ling Nie joins Georgia Tech from Panasonic Corporation of North America, where she has been since 2012. She will assume her new role with Tech in March.
At its meeting in Atlanta on Feb. 12, the Board of Regents (BOR) of the University System of Georgia (USG) heard and approved several items of business related to Georgia Tech.

From the Committee on Academic Affairs, the Board approved the establishment of a Master of Sustainable Energy and Environmental Management in the School of Public Policy.

From the Committee on Real Estate and Facilities, the Board heard information on the proposal of a multiyear door access control hardware upgrade program that would involve replacing access control hardware on more than 2,200 doors across campus. The project would improve the ability to manage the assignment and revocation of access privileges and enhance the overall security of campus facilities. It would be completed over a four-year period.

The Board approved authorization of the Cobb County Research Facility — Special Access Program Facility Expansion, which will renovate, update, and increase space used by the Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI). The project will be paid for through GTRI grant funds.

Lastly, the Board approved the Ground Lease and Rental Agreement for the Campus Center Student Center Expansion/Renovation. This is the next step in the ongoing Campus Center project, which includes the renovation and expansion of a student center complex that will total approximately 275,000 square feet, to be completed in two phases.

At the Feb. 12 meeting, students from the USG’s research institutions gathered for Research Institutions Day at the Capitol. Physics and aerospace engineering major Abigail McClain was recognized as Georgia Tech’s representative for the USG Academic Recognition Day.

The Board’s next regular meeting will take place in April in Savannah, with a special strategic planning meeting scheduled for March. More information is available at usg.edu/regents.

**ACADEMY**

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online application by Feb. 28 and undergo a limited background investigation.

**Strengthening Campus Connections**

Howard said the Academy helps to develop and foster positive relations between the community and GTPD through education.

“I believe giving people the opportunity to gain insight into how and why a law enforcement agency operates the way it does — from administrative positions to the officers in the field — brings better understanding, and, ultimately, long-lasting positive relationships,” said Howard.

Brenda Morris can attest to the development of relationships. Morris, corporate relations manager for the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering, completed the Georgia Police Academy in Spring 2018. She registered because she thought it would be an interesting way to learn about policing at Georgia Tech.

“The officers that interacted with us really gave us access to what they do,” Morris said. “They were very up-front, open, and happy to engage with us. They gave us a behind-the-scenes look at what they do and why certain things are the way they are.”

Morris, who has worked at Tech for more than 20 years, said a highlight of the experience was meeting fellow Tech employees that she never would have interacted with otherwise.

“I made a group of new colleagues and friends across campus that I can reach out to with questions,” she said. “It expanded my Georgia Tech network. That wasn’t the reason I went into it, but it was one of the best things I got out of it.”

Morris said being in the Academy was a good way for her to get to know the officers and to cultivate a deeper appreciation for what they do.

“It was good for me to see beyond the badge and to get to know the officers as people,” she said. “I would like to see more people go through the Academy.”

To participate in this spring’s session, complete the registration form at paper.gatech.edu/academy.
Campus Welcomes Gender-Inclusive, Single-Occupant Restrooms

Stemming from recommendations from the Path Forward’s LGBTQIA Community Support Action team, more than 150 single-occupant, gender-inclusive restrooms have been designated in 63 buildings on Georgia Tech’s campus.

Since late 2017, teams from Capital Planning and Facilities Management have been working to inventory existing single-stall bathrooms and other space opportunities on campus to convert select facilities into gender-inclusive, single-occupant restrooms, complete with user-friendly signage. The signage also helps designate which single-occupant restrooms are ADA-accessible and/or have other accessibility amenities.

Learn more about this and other related updates from A Path Forward — Together at president.gatech.edu/path-forward-together.updates.

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a job alert for a global internship advisor position at Georgia Tech.

“I was fascinated by it,” Noffsinger said. “The job looked interesting, and I was impressed that a university had the resources to dedicate to global internships.”

In addition to being interested in the job, she had already been thinking about moving to the Southeastern U.S. to be near her father. Months prior, she had also met her new husband, Ben Reed, at the 2014 FIFA World Cup in Natal, Brazil, and he just happened to live in Atlanta.

“So, all of the forces combined, and I applied for the job,” Noffsinger said. She worked as the global internship advisor in OIE for a couple of years, then transitioned to her current position in November 2017. She is responsible for the On-Campus Internationalization workgroup in OIE, which oversees: the Global Leadership Living Learning Community of 118 first-year, degree-seeking students; International House (or I-House), a living learning community for 46 students comprised of 50 percent exchange students and 50 percent degree-seeking students; and the International Plan, a globally focused degree designation program that develops students’ global competence within the context of their majors. She and her team are also responsible for International Education Week, TECHsplore, TECHsplore Summer, and additional intercultural learning opportunities.

“We focus on international opportunities that occur right here on campus. We bridge the gap between incoming international students and education abroad,” Noffsinger said. “There’s a lot of variety, and it’s exciting. There’s always something new. In one of the realms, something big is happening at any given time.”

Noffsinger said the most rewarding part of her job is seeing students evolve while at Tech. She likes seeing how much the students grow even within their first year, and seeing the choices they make regarding their major or what emphasis they will put on their careers.

She and her husband are on the board for Resurgence, an official supporter group for Atlanta United, and they are also in leadership roles for the American Outlaws – Atlanta Chapter, a supporter group for U.S. Soccer Through Resurgence, she has worked with local organizations such as Trees Atlanta, Meals on Wheels, and Soccer in the Streets, among others, to give back to the Atlanta community. Recently, she helped raise over $8,000 for Soccer in the Streets, through the second annual Resurgence Supporters Invitational, a soccer tournament held at the MARTA Stadium soccer fields in Atlanta’s West End Community.

“We’re expecting our first child in April, so we’re stepping down from the board of Resurgence. But we’ll still be very involved,” Noffsinger said.

She and her husband are already thinking about how they will travel to the next World Cup in Qatar in 2022 — with their baby in tow.
Valerie Thomas, assistant to the executive in the Office of the President, has a view of Tech Lawn from her office on the top floor of the Carnegie Building. The only office on the upper floor, the “bird’s nest” has been Thomas’ office since May 2015. Her favorite thing about the space is its abundance of natural light. “Some days, it is so bright I can turn off the lights and work quite comfortably with the sun as my only source. How’s that for sustainability?” she said. The Carnegie Building was renovated in 2016. See other interesting spaces where Tech employees get down to work quite comfortably without a doubt, that you are the ones who really help sell Georgia Tech and get students to commit.

One of the opportunities to convince accepted students to choose Tech will be upcoming Gold Carpet Days, on Feb. 18 and April 8. These programs feature all the Institute has to offer and the goals that are being set forth. Accepted students to choose Tech will be upcoming Gold Carpet Days, on Feb. 18 and April 8. These programs feature all the Institute has to offer and the goals that are being set forth.

Approximately 600 students will attend each event.

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