

## **ANNUAL REPORT of PROGRESS 2006-2007 OFFICE of RESEARCH and INNOVATION**

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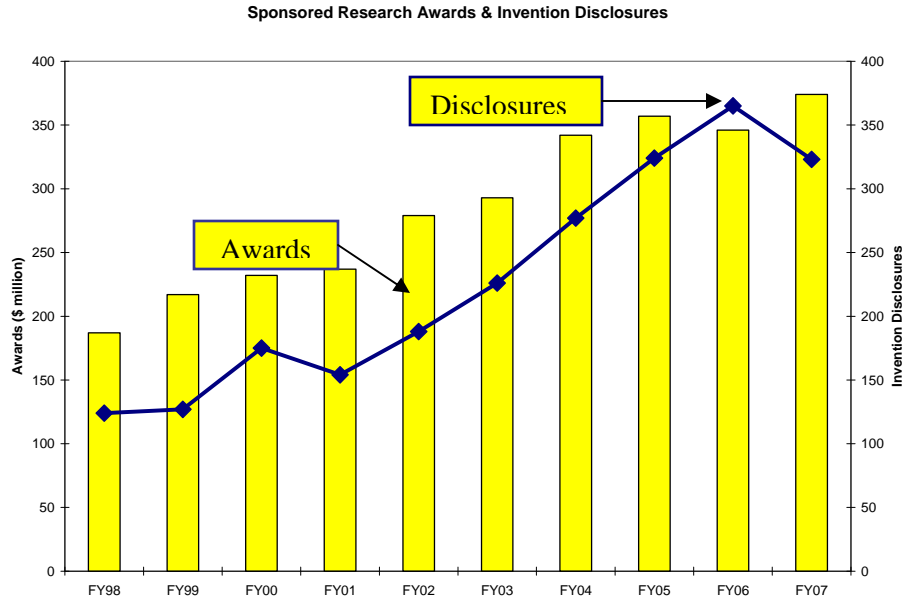
### **OUR VISION**

This year, the Office of Research and Support was reorganized into the Office of Research and Innovation (SVPRI), reflecting a desire to better guide the investment of Institute research and innovation resources and to nurture the development of faculty researchers and their programs. The Office remains a valued partner of faculty, researchers, and graduate students who pursue and conduct cutting-edge research programs focused on architecture, computing, engineering, management, the sciences, and the technological aspects of the humanities and social sciences. These partnerships are fostered through policies and actions that attract and retain leading scholars, provide the best facilities and laboratories, and promote economic development through commercialization of research results. The reorganization furthers this interaction by incorporating Institute commercialization under this office thereby providing a more effective means for nurturing ideas from inception to marketplace. This Office supports a research environment that continues to seek opportunities to advance society and the global economic competitiveness of Georgia and the Nation.

*“One of the benefits of our reorganization is uniting the interdisciplinary research enterprise with the commercialization enterprise at Georgia Tech. Recognizing that commercial products are a logical end development of scientific and engineering research, we now have the structure to enable our researchers to conduct their work seamlessly anywhere along this spectrum” ~ Mark Allen, 2007*

### **RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION in the ERA of e-COMMERCE, INDUSTRY FUNDING, and GROWING COMPLIANCE DEMANDS**

Georgia Tech was awarded \$374,113,587.09 in sponsored research awards in Fiscal Year 2007! Ten years ago in Fiscal Year 1998, awards totaled \$187 million. The funding has doubled in a decade and, by all measures, Georgia Tech’s research programs are growing strongly. Indicators including biomedical research, compliance protocols, and invention disclosures reflect this expansion and point to areas where research administration, and the infrastructure to support it, is becoming more complex. As e-commerce has evolved and the regulatory environment has changed, Georgia Tech’s research administration has adapted. This year, three areas were restructured: the Office of Technology Licensing, the Office of Research Compliance, and the Office of e-Commerce. Each of these efforts to reorganize and improve services is ongoing.



Research administration is managed by the following units and divisions:

- Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP), which includes
  - Industry Contracting Office (ICO)
  - 5 Divisions: Department of Defense, Federal, Non-Federal, Industry Under Government Prime, and Subcontracting
  - Office of e-Commerce
- Office of Research Compliance (ORC)
- Georgia Tech Research Corporation (GTRC) which includes
  - Office of Technology Licensing (OTL)
  - Operations
  - Accounting
- Georgia Tech Applied Research Corporation (GTARC)

### **Office of Sponsored Programs**

The Office of Sponsored Programs presided over a record year for awards and expenditures for research at Georgia Tech. As the portfolio of research has shifted from GTRI to Resident Instruction over the past ten years, there has been a concomitant shift in the base of sponsors. Biomedical research has blossomed and now accounts for about \$48 million per year in research expenditures having grown 35% between 2004 and 2007. Industry funding accounts for \$80.5 million in contract awards or about 22% of the total. According to the Association of University Technology Manager's 2005 *U.S. Licensing Survey*, nationally about 7% of the funding for research and development in U.S. universities comes from industry.

Globalization has come to Sponsored Programs. With campuses in both France and Ireland and innumerable collaborative research and educational programs around the world, global concerns have assumed center stage in contract negotiations. Not only must individual agreements be negotiated but the infrastructure, policies and procedures to manage such projects and relationships must be developed. Each of the overseas campuses has unique organizational features and each is developing its own procedures and business practices suitable for their countries. Here in Atlanta, OSP is working with the Office of Legal Affairs, Human Resources,

Research Compliance, International Education, Distance Learning and Professional Education and others to develop a suite of policies and procedures for managing international programs. These include but are not limited to:

- International Visitors Policy
- Export Control Policies and Procedures
- Intellectual Property Management
- *Ex patriot* Employee Policy

A number of significant international research agreements including master agreements were negotiated this year.

In Fiscal Year 2007, the office formerly known as “Research Administration, Compliance, Technology and Training” was divided into two offices: the Office of e-Commerce focuses on electronic research administration and training, and the *Office of Research Compliance*, which supports faculty and administers compliance in a number of important and increasingly complex areas of regulation.

### **The Office of e-Commerce**

The Office of e-Commerce was created in Fiscal Year 2007 and it proved to be a productive inaugural year. The office, which is part of the Office of Sponsored Programs, was formed to bring together the expertise necessary to respond to proliferating electronic proposal submission systems, web-based interfaces, and on-line systems necessary to propose and administer sponsored research. This office is also responsible for training and informational programs offered to faculty and research administrators. Highlights of the year include development of a new staff directory, a Grants.gov Proposal File Upload System, a training registration and tracking system and two major Oracle implementations. Other major activities include:

- Supporting the Contract administration Database which has over 40 in-house users. More than 3,000 project initiation and modification packages were reviewed and over 200 new sponsors were added to the database.
- Obtaining digital certificates to allow the DOD team to access secure websites.
- Delivering OSP training and informational seminars, workshops, brown bags, and other classes attended by over 600 peoples.
- Organizing the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual CAREER Panel presentation for young faculty which had over twenty attendees this spring.
- Graduating nine school and college administrators from the Departmental Certification Program in Sponsored Programs Administration. Of the 51 graduates of the program to date, the following departments are represented: Architecture, Distance Learning and Professional Education, Institute Communications and Public Affairs, Biomedical Engineering, College of Computing, Public Policy, Electric and Computer Engineering, Mathematics, Grants and Contracts Accounting, Chemistry, Physics, GTRC, Biology, Aerospace Engineering, MARC, Economic Development Institute, GCATT, Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, OSP, Student Health and College of Sciences. There are 353 individuals now enrolled in the curriculum.
- In collaboration with the Office of Information Technology, a Grants.gov proposal upload application has been made available to campus principal investigators.

### **Office of Industry Contracting**

Improving relationships with private industry has been a “front-burner” activity this year as Georgia Tech continues to be at the forefront of universities in securing industry funding for research. The Industry Contracting Office, working with GTRC’s Office of Technology Licensing, has exercised flexibility in finding opportunities to leverage intellectual property for

research funding and economic development while balancing the need to protect intellectual property, student research, and opportunities for faculty entrepreneurship. ICO and OTL have worked with the Enterprise Innovation Institute and the Office of Industry Relations on specific industry opportunities and in development of new coordinated outreach activities. Working as a team on industry opportunities has proven to be a beneficial approach. “Pure industry awards” – those that are not a subcontract under a federal prime award – now exceed \$42.5 million.

The Industry Contracting Office is nationally recognized as a leader in improving university-industry relationships. The Innovation Summit, a successful dialogue with information technology companies, including IBM, Intel, Cisco, and Hewlett Packard, and seven universities, including Georgia Tech, continued its work this year to develop principles for collaborative research released under the title, *Free Participant Use Principles*. Georgia Tech has signed this companion to the *Open Source Collaboration Principles* and has started using them as a basis to improve contracting with industry.

The Government University Industry Research Roundtable sponsors the University-Industry Demonstration Partnership which is patterned after the Federal Demonstration Partnership. Georgia Tech, through GTRC and OSP is a member of both organizations. The Industry Contracting Office and the Office of Technology Licensing both have representatives working on UIDP task forces.

## **Office of Technology Licensing**

### ***Technology Transfer***

The number of executed licenses and options increased by more than sixty percent this year; while, after five years of unprecedented growth, the number of invention disclosures “leveled off.” The Office of Technology Licensing signed a record high 42 licenses and options. Georgia Tech’s researchers disclosed about one invention for every \$1.15 million in awards, an impressive rate that compares very favorably nationally. The Association of University Technology Managers stated in its 2005 *U.S. Licensing Survey* that \$2 million in research expenditures is correlated with one invention.

Office of Technology Licensing Metrics		
Invention Disclosures		323
Patents Issued		58
Licenses and Options Executed		42
Licensing Revenue		\$2.02 million
Other Agreements	Inter-institutional Agreements	3
	Non-disclosures executed by OTL	56
	Material Transfer Agreements (after 4/2007)	15

Georgia Tech received national recognition for its technology transfer program in Fiscal Year 2007.

- Georgia Tech was ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in “Pure” software patents and 8<sup>th</sup> in software patents overall in the Duke Law School Science, Technology, and Innovation Research Paper Series – Research Paper No. 20, July 2007.
- Georgia Tech was ranked 11<sup>th</sup> overall for technology transfer and commercialization in the Milken Institute report *Mind to Market: A Global Analysis of University Biotechnology Transfer and Commercialization*, September 20, 2006.

Several companies formed to commercialize Georgia Tech intellectual property achieved significant milestones this year.

- Radatec, Inc., a GTRC startup company, was purchased by Meggit-USA.
- CardioMems, Inc., a GTRC faculty startup company, announced FDA clearance of its EndoSure™ Wireless AAA Pressure Measurement Systems for measuring intrasac pressure during thoracic aortic aneurysm repair.
- EG Technologies closed a Series C financing round of \$8.5 million.

### ***Restructuring***

Georgia Tech undertook a restructuring of technology transfer activities in Fiscal Year 2007. Managing, protecting, reporting and licensing Georgia Tech's intellectual property are the primary responsibilities of the Office of Technology Licensing, but a number of other research administration functions are interwoven into these primary activities and duties. OTL provided major support to industry contracting initiatives. Much of Georgia Tech's noteworthy success in working with industry is attributable to creative and flexible intellectual property positions adopted by GTRC in its comprehensive approach to research relationships. However, Georgia Tech also has an historic strength in supporting the entrepreneurial activities of its faculty and, given the remarkable number of invention disclosures produced by its faculty, there is a pent up need for more aggressive marketing of the intellectual property portfolio. GTRC's Office of Technology Licensing worked with Georgia Tech's Commercialization Services to create a new model for evaluating, marketing and commercializing the Institute's research results.

Development of the plan is ongoing in Fiscal Year 2008 and features:

- Development of a *Commercialization Roadmap* to formalize the process of evaluating, marketing and commercializing the Institute's technology.
- Writing a *User's Guide to Technology Transfer* for faculty and other inventors.
- Finalization and execution of a *Services Agreement* between OTL and Commercialization Services.
- A quantitative initial licensing term framework to standardize proposed licensing terms and conditions. These research-based licensing norms will be part of both the *User's Guide* and *Services Agreement*.
- Web-enabled access to information about intellectual property for all Georgia Tech's internal stakeholders.

The restructuring had an internal stewardship component as well as the external services oriented component. Fiscal management has been restructured with GTRC Accounting and Operations now supporting OTL in financial management including billing and collections. Within the office, leadership positions were created and a mentorship program established to support professional development through the span of licensing associates' careers. Finally, OTL acquired the responsibility of material transfer agreements. A new procedure to streamline the MTA process is being implemented.

Exciting challenges face the Office of Technology Licensing. Coupled with new U.S. Patent Office rules taking effect November 1, 2007, the most significant may be patent reform as described in HR 1908, the Patent Reform Act of 2007, if passed by the Senate and signed into law. As commercialization at Georgia Tech matures, the Institute and its faculty will confront the need to improve the rate of reimbursement of patent expenses. In addition, such routine matters as developing a web-enabled material transfer agreement interface to facilitate interactions among the researchers, OTL, those responsible for export review and EH & S will require continued attention. Significant effort will be required to coordinate intellectual property protection as

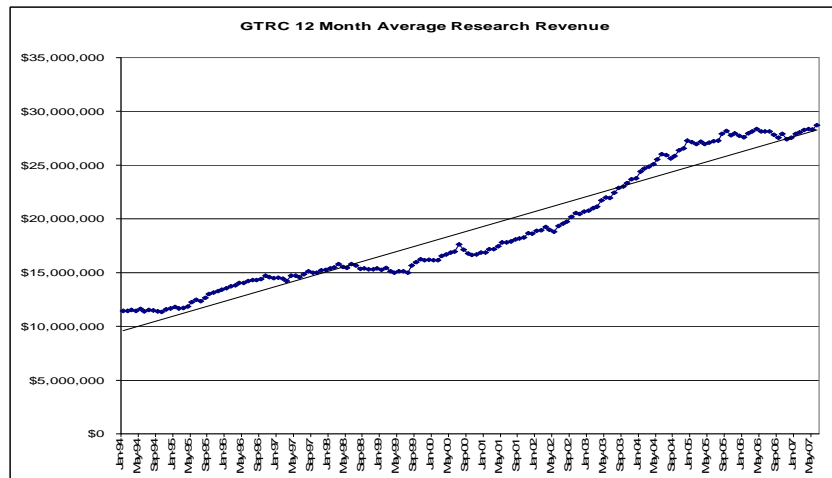
GIT's research efforts become more global. OTL will continue to work to develop intellectual property policies for the global contracting and licensing environments.

### GTRC Operations

GTRC Operations also restructured to improve oversight and efficiency. A new supervisory position was created in receivables and cash management in part to recognize the growth of the activity but also to accommodate the new duties in collecting accounts receivable that originate from licensing activities. Operations has been actively engaged in working with the Office of e-Commerce to support development of specifications for new systems, web interfaces, and secure electronic communications. Operations has also maintained accounts receivables within the control limits established by GTRC's Board of Trustees as the volume of research expenditures has grown steadily.

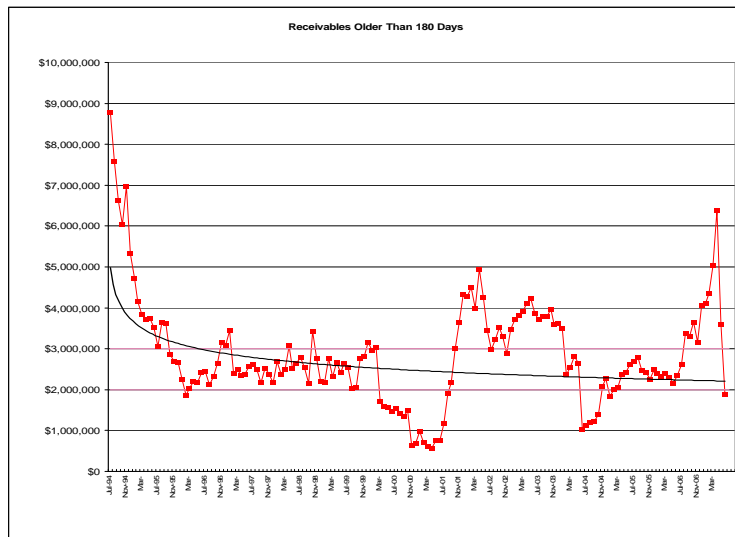
### Revenue

Fiscal 2007 saw GTRC/GTARC revenue continue to grow. The 12 month running average revenue numbers throughout the year, and particularly towards the end, continued to grow above the traditional trend line.



### Collections

This past fiscal year brought unique new challenges to GTRC/GTARC collections. With the intent of operating leaner, the Defense Finance Accounting Service (DFAS) made a series of changes which delayed payments at the end of fiscal year 2006 and, paired with higher than ever revenues, caused GTRC/GTARC receivables to accumulate to high levels during the year. While the fiscal year ended with the highest revenue month in GTRC history for the fourth consecutive year, (just over \$38.2 million), receivables more than 180 days in arrears (just under \$1.9 million) closed the year not just within, but under, what is considered the normal range. The graph of *Receivables Older than 180 Days* (left) clearly outlines the struggles along with the



eventual victory. In addition, regardless of the increase in revenue towards the end of the fiscal year, the accounts receivable older than 120 days also stayed within the acceptable range.

### ***Information Technology***

Operations is responsible for maintaining the hardware, servers and networks that enable the work of GTRC, GTARC, OSP and ORC. Keeping these systems up-to-date and performing optimally in a dynamic information technology environment is both challenging and exciting. GTRC continues to emphasize planning for business continuity in the event of disruptions while upgrading to meet the needs and demand of researchers and sponsors. This year's activities included:

- Upgrading policies and implementing regularly scheduled network security tests.
- Implementing a system of monthly reporting on project activity and balances to Grants and Contracts Accounting.
- "Doubling up" on firewall protection.
- Acquiring and installing SAN equipment and other hardware to provide GTRC/OSP with in-house server redundancy and installing a Microsoft Exchange backup server.
- Purchasing disaster recovery SAN equipment to be deployed in Fiscal Year 2008.
- Implementing the use of dTrade in cooperation with Georgia Tech's Office of Legal Affairs and the Office of Research Compliance.
- Establishing a credit card program to facilitate SENSIAC's e-business.
- Upgrading an Agyllisys document imaging system and extending access to GTRC documents to OSP and Grants and Contracts Accounting.
- Automating acquisition of Automatic Clearing House (ACH) detail information.
- Expanding use of electronic banking systems with reporting functions that allow staff to find details of ACH transactions on-line.

### **Accounting**

GTRC Accounting has continued to implement more efficient methods of posting sponsor payments. Previously, only lock box information was available on-line but with Automated Clearing House payments now on-line, reconciliations are faster and more accurate. The next goal is to have wire information on-line within a year.

As accounting guidelines are revised, GTRC and GTARC have incorporated the practices into their financial systems. GASB 39 and the Pension Protection Act of 2006 have been the catalyst to change the format of the financial information from FASB to a hybrid GASB.

### **Office of Research Compliance**

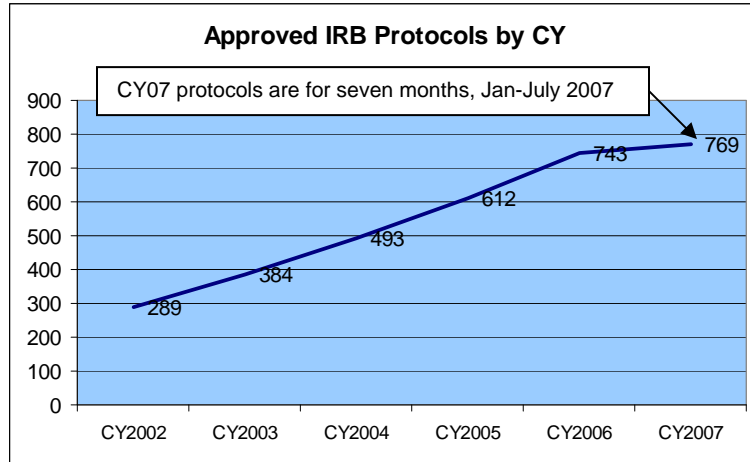
Over the past twelve months, the Office of Research Compliance (ORC) focused its attention on those scholarly and research activities involving human participants, animal subjects, rDNA, embryonic stem cells, and export controls. The creation of the Office of e-Commerce has permitted ORC to focus on meeting the demands of Georgia Tech's growing biomedical research activities. International research programs have also expanded rapidly with campuses and collaborations around the world. The reorganization has permitted ORC to concentrate on service to faculty in an increasingly complex regulatory environment.

### ***Institutional Review Board for Human Subjects Research***

The Institutional Review Board's Chair, Dr. Phil Sparling, announced his retirement from this Board, effective July 2007. Dr. Dennis Folds, a long time IRB member and Vice Chair, agreed to chair the board. With Dr. Folds' significant experience and training, the transition in leadership

has been smooth. Dr. Catherine Ross has also been appointed to the Board. Student member Gillian Hayes is being replaced by Erika Shehan, also a College of Computing student.

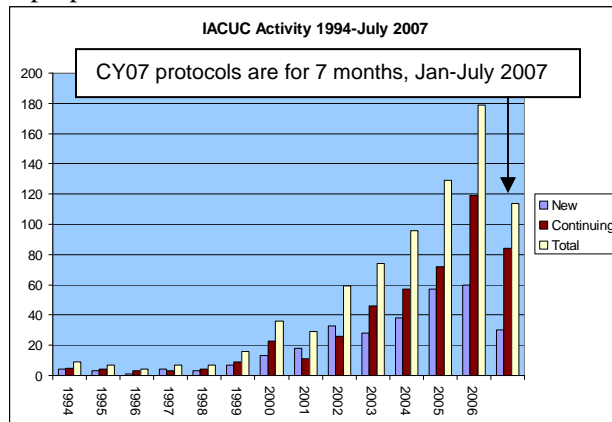
- The challenge presented by undergraduate student protocols continues. An expert consultant was retained to assist students in Biomedical Engineering's problem-based learning courses.
- Georgia Tech's second student subject pool was created. Modeled after the Psychology program, this pool will provide College of Management students opportunity to learn through volunteering in human studies. At the same time, it will offer faculty access to a subject population with an interest in research.
- As many protocols were approved in the first seven months of 2007 as in all of 2006. The Schools of Psychology and Computing submit the most protocols actions, with Architecture and Biomedical Engineering coming in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, respectively. 179 principal investigators submitted protocols this year.



***Institutional Animal Care & Use Committee***

Strategic planning was a major activity for the Office of Research Compliance in the past year. Former Provost Jean-Lou Chameau and Bob Thompson charged a Strategic Planning Task Force with the development of a functional description and analysis of future space requirements for research using animal models including consideration of distributed vs. centralized needs. Research Compliance collaborated with Capital Planning and Space Management on many aspects of the study. Interviews were conducted with school chairs and key researchers who utilize animal models, and their projected animal care needs for research and instruction over the near term (one-to-five years) and long term (five-to-fifteen years) were assessed. Last fall, the Strategic Planning Task Force hosted three focus groups of faculty currently conducting research with animals or using animals for instructional purposes. These facilitated discussions resulted in a report to (current) Provost Schuster and Mr. Thompson for their consideration.

The IACUC lost two valued members in recent months, with resignations from Bob Gregor and Jon Johnston who served 10 and 26 years, respectively. Stephen DeWeerth and Deidra Poucher have been appointed to the committee, effective September 1, 2007.



The rate of animal research protocol submission was steady, with some 30 new protocols submitted in the first seven months of calendar year 2007 and today there are 114 active protocols.

### ***Export Control***

In the past year, ORC refined the process and documentation system for screening proposals, material transfer agreements, technology licensing agreements and specialized services agreements for export controls issues. ORC is assembling and maintaining certain institute records, thus documenting that export control concerns related to sponsored programs have been appropriately addressed. Research Compliance negotiated a statewide license finalized in August 2007 for university system access to Visual Compliance. The growth in these activities has been phenomenal, with more than 250 cases recorded in the first eight months of calendar year 2007.

The application of export controls in universities in the United States has been a subject of national attention this year. While active nationally, Research Compliance has also been attentive to export concerns as they apply to Georgia Tech's research community. Increasing awareness and competencies throughout the campus has been a key element of ensuring compliance with export control laws and regulations. In the past year, Research Compliance has supported, organized, and/or delivered the following programs:

- Senior officials from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Department of Commerce presented an awareness workshop for Georgia Tech faculty and administrators, July 2006
- In November 2006, ORC hosted a one-day Federal Bureau of Investigation conference, *A Balancing Act: University Research and National Security*, for GT faculty and administrators. The nearly 100 attendees included representatives from other universities. Presentations were made by FBI Special Agent in Charge Gregory Jones from Atlanta and other senior FBI officials. Other speakers included Dr. James Mulvenon, Deputy Director for Advanced Study & Analysis, Center for Intelligence Research & Analysis, Inc; Dr. Dan Mote, Jr., President, University of Maryland; and Dr. Donald J. Fingleton, Department of Energy. The conference concluded with a panel discussion led by Dr. Bill Long; panelists included Dr. Sy Goodman and Dr. John Endicott from Georgia Tech and Dr. Gary Bertsch from the University of Georgia, plus representatives from the FBI and Department of Commerce.
- A series of educational brown bag seminars for Contracting Officers and Technology Licensing Associates was facilitated by ORC and led by Legal Affairs in January and February 2007.
- Written export control guidance was distributed to campus research administrators, deans, associate deans, school chairs, selected faculty, and lab directors.
- ORC worked with Human Resources, the Bursar's office, International Education, and the Office of the Provost in support of the Immigration Workshop, held in October 2006, and the Advanced Immigration Workshop in February 2007. These semiannual sessions are well attended by HR and financial administrators from campus units.
- ORC hosted quarterly meetings of the interdepartmental Export Process Group, comprised of representatives from Research Security, International Education, Human Resources, Legal Affairs, Distance Learning and Professional Education, Office of the Provost, Information Technology, and Research Compliance.

In May, ORC and GTRC had the privilege of hosting a meeting of the Deemed Export Advisory Committee which was convened to provide advice on federal export control policy to the Secretary of Commerce. Nearly 100 people attended the half-day public session; 85 sites from around the country connected to the remote live stream. Following the public session, the DEAC toured three Georgia Tech labs. This meeting was an extraordinary opportunity for Georgia Tech

faculty and administrators to inform the debate on future policy recommendations that the DEAC will make to the administration.

The Office of Research Compliance took advantage of the visitors' considerable expertise. ORC and GTRC arranged for staff from the Department of Commerce Bureau of Industry Security to present tailored training about deemed exports to Venture Labs and ATDC companies on May 3 and to Georgia Tech faculty and staff on May 4. David Brady from Virginia Tech, who presented one of the public comment sessions to the DEAC, subsequently met with Georgia Tech staff from Information Technology, Research Security Department, and Legal Affairs. He presented an overview of export controls compliance at Virginia Tech and shared his experience from his university.

Research Compliance staff and others have attended professional conferences in export controls in the past year:

- Back to Basics workshop, sponsored by the Society for International Affairs, July 2007
- Symposium on Export Controls at the National Academies, presented by the State Department, the Commerce Department, and the Federal Demonstration Partnership, May 2007
- Advanced ITAR Workshop presented by Vinson & Elkins in Washington, DC, April 2007
- International Assignment Management II: international human resources, August 2006

### ***Institutional Biosafety Committee***

The Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) replaced the Institutional Biosafety & Biohazards Board in the past year. IBC is now handling only those research and teaching activities that involve rDNA. The Office of Research Compliance and the evolving Office of Environmental Health and Safety are currently revising processes to facilitate the IBC's relationship with the newly created Institutional Biological Materials Safeguards Committee.

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## **FEDERAL RELATIONS**

### **Overview**

Over the FY 2006 – 2007 period, Georgia Tech's Office of Federal Relations (OFR) maintained its focus on advancing Institute research and education interests with the U.S. Congress and executive agencies, while also keeping faculty members informed of relevant policy changes and funding opportunities. In addition, the Office provided support to the President and other senior administrators in federal policy oriented activities, preparation for testimony and idea advocacy. Specifically the Director was the primary staff person assisting the President in a new role as a member of the National Governors Association Chairs Initiative on innovation. This involved attending Initiative meetings and coordinating comments on behalf of the President on various Initiative reports.

During the second half of the year, the Office of Federal Relations also initiated a substantial strategic planning effort with the support of the Provost to examine campus activities related to federal relations and calibrate whether these activities reflect the Institute's current federal relations agenda. Over 70 meetings with campus leadership produced a report for the Provost. Follow-up on the recommendations has already started and will continue into next year.

An ongoing function of the OFR is seeking legislative assistance for issues identified as campus priorities. This year, broad issue areas included supporting the America COMPETES ACT and advocating campus positions on issues such as patent reform, tech transfer, financial aid, study abroad and immigration. In addition, the Office was involved in supporting specific campus research funding issues in defense, microelectronics, biomedical research, textiles, economic development, energy and rural transportation.

Specifically, the Office of Federal Relations supports Georgia Tech's profile as a leading defense research university by advocating for specific defense items to the Georgia congressional delegation and participating in university led coalitions that defend the need for sustained investment in university based defense research. Specific issues areas included seeking final funding for the US Marine Corps sponsored ULTRA combat vehicle. For federal Fiscal Year 2008, the Office worked to continue support for the Focus Center Research Program and bioengineering for combat medicine as well as key Georgia Tech Research Institute projects involving missile defense and radar.

In the general academic research area, the Office of Federal Relations stepped up its efforts to advocate for the continuation of the National Textile Center. The Center's funding was jeopardized during renegotiated appropriations strategies that were the result of a new Congress and limits on Congressional directed funding in FY07 appropriations bills. The OFR worked diligently to educate the Georgia delegation on the importance of the NTC and seek their support for FY08 funding.

The OFR also worked with the Economic Innovation Institute (EII), to advocate for specific new initiatives and to help sustain federal funding for programs such as Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP). In early February, a new staff member joined the Office directly from a Legislative Director position on Capitol Hill. He initiated a new effort to create linkages between economic development activities in the state and research tied to industries that are important to Georgia and specific congressional districts. This effort to educate the delegation more specifically about Georgia Tech's role in helping state and local governments as well as business is already producing closer ties with several member offices. In addition, during the last half of the year, he organized and led several congressional staff visits to campus to learn more about Georgia Tech research projects.

The Office of Federal Relations continues to provide regular updates to campus administrators and faculty on Washington developments and over the past year has responded to numerous requests for information and assistance.

In addition, this year the Director was asked to extend her involvement in a special initiative with the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges to provide advice on its emerging competitiveness agenda. This effort is compatible with President Clough's continued engagement in national forums involving innovation and competitiveness and continues to expose Georgia Tech's leadership at the national level. A focus of this year's activities was the passage of a major piece of competitiveness related legislation, the America COMPETES Act, which was passed and signed into law in August 2007.

### **Highlights**

The following highlights specific examples of initiatives and issues that the Office of Federal Relations engaged in during the 2006-2007 period.

- Participated in search committee effort for the new Senior Vice Provost for Research and Innovation
- Participated in Provost's Interdisciplinary Study Group
- Managed process for creating Georgia Tech's FY2008 federal agenda
- Initiated federal strategic planning effort involving dozens of campus meetings and produced draft findings report for the Provost at the end of June 2007
- Organized separate congressional "walk arounds" of Georgia delegation for Georgia Tech staff and research administrators:
  - Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program
  - The National Textile Center (NTC)
  - Defense research
  - Nuclear Engineering
  - Prosthetics and Orthotics
- Developed and communicated numerous issue positions to the Georgia delegation regarding pending legislation and federal issues in areas such as:
  - High performance computing
  - Study abroad and immigration
  - Patent reform
  - Competitiveness
  - Support for basic defense research funding
  - Support for expanded National Science Foundation funding
  - Support for expanded National Institutes of Health funding
  - Higher Education Act reauthorization
- Managed DC-based student intern from Ivan Allen College during spring semester
- Publicized DC appearances by Georgia Tech faculty to the Georgia Congressional delegation staff.
- Leadership roles and participation in various higher education and university related associations and coalitions including:
  - National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC)
  - Task Force on the Future of American Innovation
  - The Science Coalition
  - Coalition for National Security Research
  - Coalition for National Science Funding
  -

## **SPACE PLANNING**

One element of the reorganization was the creation of a position to address space planning issues dealing with research needs at Georgia Tech. Space issues are often overlooked, but are critical to the recruitment of renowned faculty and researchers and to the successful execution and marketing of Georgia Tech research. As the year ended, options were being considered for the location of new major research laboratories associated with the recruitment of several top-ranked researchers and with the development of expanding several existing research areas and implementing new research initiatives.