

Our Values

- Students are our top priority
- We strive for excellence
- We thrive on diversity
- We celebrate collaboration
- We champion innovation
- We safeguard freedom of inquiry and expression
- We nurture the wellbeing of our community
- We act ethically
- We are responsible stewards



► 2020 - A Year Like No Other

Congratulations on making it through a very difficult year! Thank you for your hard work. Thank you for your flexibility. Thank you for your commitment to Georgia Tech.

We welcomed Kelly Fox, executive vice president, Administration & Finance early in the year and bid farewell to Chuck Rhode, vice president of Facilities Management in mid-summer. Under the helm of Mark Demyanek, we combined several units and reorganized into Sustainability, Facilities & Safety. With the retirement of Demyanek in December, Nazia Zakir has now taken the reins as the vice president (interim) of Sustainability, Facilities & Safety. An additional reorganization at mid-level has shifted responsibilities that will improve operational efficiencies, strengthen communications and better align business processes. Amidst the background of a pandemic and a heated presidential election, we have rolled with these changes and are poised to greet 2021 head on.

This issue contains pages of praise and appreciation for employees going out of their way to get the job done. The daily displays of ingenuity and commitment within SFS far outnumber the challenges of 2020. We made significant progress in design & construction projects, maintained a high level of campus maintenance and operations, and provided top-notch health and safety measures for the entire campus community. Service prevailed and people noticed. We celebrated these achievements with several employee appreciation days.

Feel good about the work you did this year, the obstacles you overcame and let's look forward to a fresh 2021 and the opportunities that lie ahead.

Praise and Appreciation

"A HUGE thank you to Asst. to VP/HR Rep., Cheryl Kelley, along with Quinae Ford (Admin. Mgr. I, Fleet Services), Jeff Wiley (IT Support Prof. I) and Cathy Brim, (Comm. Officer I). This group came together to create a staff appreciation day. It was Cheryl who had the idea to request funds back from the Foundation and she spent many hours organizing the event and putting treat bags together. Thanks Cheryl and team!" - Jessica Rose, Associate Director, Analytics & Communications

"I want to give a shout-out to Amber Chellis-Omodo (Reg. Arch. II) and Bill Oswell (Assoc. Dir - Design Services) for their partnering in our planning efforts related to the president's house. This was a good reminder of how critical it is to partner on the front end of projects to get budgets right. I really appreciate Amber's insights on historic preservation and Bill's input on being realistic on the numbers." - Linda Daniels, Asst. Director, Capital Planning & Space Management

"I wanted to let you know how much my group enjoys working with Larry Labbe, the Georgia Tech Fire Marshall. I have meant to reach out for a while to let you know how much we appreciate his effort. You rarely find positive, professional, and knowledgeable people who are customer-service oriented. Please take this as a token of appreciation for Larry's work for the Institute for Electronics and Nanotechnology. Gary Spinner - Sr. Asst. Dir-Research Ops, The Institute for Electronics and Nanotechnology

"I am astounded at the forethought and effort GT has put into their COVID safety planning. I have good friends who work at 3 other USG institutions whose plans pale by comparison to ours. Thanks to you and all the GT leadership for understanding the danger of the situation and for taking decisive action to mitigate the risk for us all." - Chris Britt-Rogers, Library Service Center

"Jamie Ready (Assoc. Dir. BEES), Jammie Gaines (Area Maint. Mgr.) and James Harbour (Multi-Craft Foreperson)! - Thank you so VERY MUCH for sending over the cavalry of movers to help us get things put back together from the flood. The guys were awesome, so very helpful and we couldn't have done it without them! A pleasure to work with them, even though moving boxes is not necessarily their responsibility. A great group of guys - Gerry Green (Maint. Worker I), John Jackson (Maint. Worker II), Terence Bowens (Maint. Worker I) and Kenneth Osborne (Maint. Worker I)! Thanks again!" - Debra K Dorsey, Dir-Student Affairs Administration

"Kynthia Gaines is doing a phenomenal job at leading the expansion study effort for the Food Packaging Technology area for GTRI." -Dan Nemec, Assoc. Dir. Capital Planning & Space Management

"I wanted to give a shoutout to Lynn Ellis (O&M Proj. Coord.). My schedule was tight with meetings across campus, but I had to also make sure that I had iPad connectivity in the Rose Bowl Room for training that I was providing. Lynn provided the right adapter that I needed. She not only placed a service ticket with OIT to get their A/V team to come take a look, but followed through with them to make sure that the connectivity was fixed in time for my three training sessions. I'm grateful for her help in what was crunch time for me." - Jeff Wiley, IT Support Prof. I



Annual MLK Lecture

Join virtually for the 10th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Lecture featuring Nikole Hannah-Jones, January 14 at 3:30 p.m.

Hannah-Jones is the creator of the New York Times Magazine's "The 1619 Project," chronicling the history and lasting legacy of American slavery, for which her powerful introductory essay was awarded the Pulitzer Prize. She has also won a Peabody Award, two George Polk Awards, and is a three-time winner of the National Magazine Awards.

Join others at GT as we come together to learn more about our country's deep history. By knowing our history, we can build a better future together.

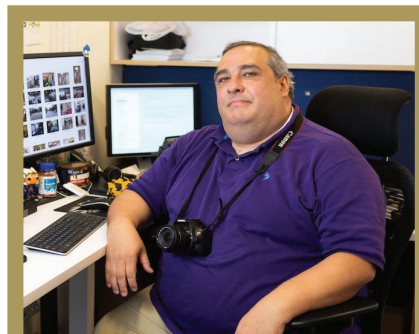
To register for the lecture, [click here](#) or visit diversity.gatech.edu/mlk-celebration

Staff Spotlights

Jeff Wiley, IT Support Professional I and Christina Fannin, Design & Construction Project Manager were both recently featured in the Daily Digest. Our staff is multi-talented, diverse and professional and we hope to see more features in 2021.

A hobbyist photographer for more than 20 years, Wiley appreciates that his colleagues are at ease with him taking their photo. "I love that our people trust me enough to tell their story. They are used to seeing me walking around with a camera slung around my neck at our staff events, and they usually don't shy away. That's a level of trust that I don't take lightly," he said. Read the entire article about Jeff [here](#).

Christina Fannin's job is to help campus departments make changes to their workspace. Once the design is complete, Fannin manages the construction project. "That is exciting for me," she said. "I like seeing the project come together from drawings. I am thrilled when a project is complete and the customer is happy. It doesn't matter if it's an office space, a lab, or a whole building." Fannin said her group, the Special Projects team is very supportive. "I'm around a lot of engineers and architects, and I like that. My team members are like brothers and sisters. We support each other. I love it here," she said. Read Christina's story [here](#).



Praise and Appreciation (cont.)

"I wanted to recognize David Tate (Area Maint. Mgr.) and his Area 4 team for all they do. During the last few months it has been especially challenging. David and his team are always quick to step up to the plate. I know there are times people focus on the negative and not the positive. We wanted to also recognize Andy Sheffield (Area Maint. Mgr.) and Area 5 for all they do for us as well. Thanks again!" - Kimberly (Kim) Mull, Sr. Director of Security, Facilities and Logistics, Library/Clough Commons

"Nazia (VP, SFS) and the EH&S team - thank you for your attention to improving air quality in DM Smith and Skiles. Very much appreciated." - Kaye Husbands Fealing, Ph.D., Dean of Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, Ivan Allen Jr. Chair

"I want to send a BIG THANKS out to John Jackson (Maint. Worker II), Albert Williams (A/C Mech II), John Winters (Painter I), Gerry Green (Maint. Worker I), and Terence Bowens (Maint. Worker I) for the help with the student PPE relocation. With this team we were able to move 7 pallets of student PPE from the GTPD to the Flags building in a little under 3 1/2 hours. This was not easy work and very hot in the back of the trucks. NOT one complaint. Thanks " - Brandon Ford, Facilities Staging

"Jeff Sheehan (Turf Maint. Mgr.), Thank you and your team for help with distributing the sand at Alumni Park. Your tireless commitment and leadership is greatly appreciated in making this campus look beautiful and today was no exception. In fact, you and your team enable the sand courts to be usable for our competitive sports program along with a well needed outlet for GT students to play volleyball. I am grateful for your help!" - Jonathan Hart, Assistant Director, Facilities and Operations, Campus Recreation

"Jessica Rose (Assoc. Dir. Analytics & Communications), the Air Quality Article in The Daily Digest was really good! Thank you for your work on it and it reflects well on SFS." - Nazia Zakier, VP (interim) - Sustainability, Facilities and Safety

"Kudos to the Holland Plant Operators for their tireless work to have the Plants running 24/7". - Casey Charepoo, CEF, Associate Director-Infrastructures & Plants Operations (retired)

"I am proud and simultaneously grateful to Ovida Reeves (Business Analyst I), for taking the ASPIRE program very seriously. The program encourages managers to be 'co-learners'. As such, I was fortunate to be able to grow alongside of Ovida in this very productive program. It has been a great learning opportunity for us both," - Jessica Rose, Assoc. Director, Analytics & Communications

Retirees - Thank You For Your Service



Ralph Ammerman - 26 yrs



Bob Babone - 18 yrs



Lynne Bentley - 30 yrs



David Calhoun - 14 yrs



Tony Carter - 13 yrs



Casey Charepoo - 15 yrs



Ivan Gyonev - 11 yrs



James Larry Harris - 11 yrs



Hyacinth Ide - 21 yrs



Scott Jones - 11 yrs



Ben Kendall - 30 yrs



Shirley Knowles - 11 yrs



Elvia Lam - 32 yrs



Cynthia Marshall - 10 yrs



Chalette Mitchell - 29 yrs



Mike Morse - 17 yrs



Billy Narramore - 12 yrs



Brenda Norwood - 19 yrs



Jerome Swanson - 25 yrs



Sim Tchedou - 15 yrs



Larry Turner - 16 yrs



Vernicer West - 18 yrs



Maurice Zellner - 16 yrs

A combined total of over 365 years of experience in our unit retired this year! We wish you all the best of luck!! Not pictured: David Chandler, (Elec. Eng. Sr.) and Debbie Chandler, (Fac. Contracting Officer)

More Praise...



David Tate (Area Maint. Mgr.), your team is A#1! - Vickie Brian, Assistant Director of Administrative Operations, Daniel Guggenheim School of Aerospace Engineering

"I wanted to thank Verol Baker, (Custodian II) and Vernicer West, (Custodian I) for getting my classroom in fine order. It was very clean, lots of sanitizing supplies were available, and we all felt

very safe. THANK YOU for doing this, it truly means a lot to walk in and straight away feel safe which I and the students did." - Professor Vinayak Agarwal, Assistant Professor, BioChemistry & Chemistry

"Brandon Ford (Staging Foreperson,) Alphonso Benson (Staging Specialist I), Derrick Jones (Staging Specialist II) John Mays (Staging Specialist III), I really appreciate all of your assistance with the PPE distribution. You have done an outstanding job and we could not have met the needs of research and our staff and faculty without them. Many thanks for all of your hard work through rain and shine, and maybe some confusion!" - Nazia Zakir, VP (interim), Sustainability, Facilities and Safety

"We had a flood on the second floor of Boggs from the result of a busted valve from a dishwasher. The water was all over the hallway and in three labs. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Adrienne Devezin (Custodian III), and her team of Shaneiqua Jordan (Custodian II), Crystal Cox (Custodian I), Alfred Blue (Custodian II), Tonia Epps (Custodian I), Bridget Michel (Custodian I), and David Kidd (Custodian III). They were all Johnny on the spot and attacked the flood immediately. Kudos to them all for a job well done". - Micheal Riley, Facilities Mgr II, Chemistry & Biochemistry

"I wanted to lift up one of the custodial staff in the Crosland/Price buildings Tijuana Smith (Custodian II). I forgot my phone at the water fountain and didn't realize my mistake until I was in the middle of a timed test. After finishing the test and receiving not much help from other resources, I saw Tijuana and asked for her help. She was the first person to greet me kindly, express concern and try to help. She called who she thought might have just finished cleaning on the 7th floor. She confirmed they had my phone in a locked office. I REALLY appreciated that Tijuana was helpful, even though it wasn't "technically" her job to help me. - Leah Pincus, student

"Lindsey Cottingham (Construction Proj. Mgr. Sr.) and Mark Wood (Construction Proj. Mgr. I)'s partnership with the Athletic Association has been invaluable over the past two years. Add in Dan Nemec (Assoc. Dir., Capital Planning & Space Mgmt.) and team, you now have a very high functioning group that have played a critical role in the capital project success we have achieved in these recent times." - Athletic Association

"Cheryl, I just wanted you to know I appreciate all of your assistance. I know you didn't have to include the ROTC units in the Covid vault testing. You made things much easier during this difficult time. I hope you have a Merry Christmas!" - M. Denice Shorter, Administrative Professional, Senior, Navy Reserve Officers Training Corps Unit

Setting The Commencement Stage

The staging crew performed an amazing feat for the December commencement ceremonies. Perfectly lining up 950 chairs on the field at Bobby Dodd stadium, after a football game the night before, is a true accomplishment!

"Brandon Ford (Facilities Staging) and Team (John Mays, Derrick Jones, Alphonso Benson) - So grateful for you all going the extra mile! It was recognized by the President and he was very appreciative and so were the students and their families. Extra efforts like these make GT stand out!" - Nazia Zakir, VP, Sustainability, Facilities & Safety



►STAFF APPRECIATION

Gratitude Goes a Long Way

Two separate events this year honored the hard work of Facilities staff. Employee Appreciation Day, October 6, featured goodie bags and GT swag, along with photo ops with Mr. Incredible and the Ramblin' Wreck. Jackets Appreciating Jackets, an event initiated by parents, provided a day of snacks, drinks and GT cookies. To view slideshows of each event - [Employee Appreciation Day](#) and [Jackets Appreciating Jackets](#).



Dear Building Services, Maintenance, Health & Safety, Landscape Services Staff,

We are a large GT parent group, who has been noticing all you are doing for our students and the entire GT community this unusual semester! We so appreciate the extraordinary efforts you have devoted toward keeping our campus safe and healthy, and open. We are all experiencing unprecedented demands during this global health crisis and the work you are doing is critical to the goal of getting campus life back to normal. We as parents, some very distant from our kids, know the vital part that you all are playing in helping to keep everything on campus thriving, as much as possible.

It is hard to know how to adequately express our deep gratitude, so we hope that you accept our small gesture, as an expression of a far greater appreciation for all that you continue to do.

Stay safe and healthy,

"Georgia Tech Current or Potential Parents"

#jacketsappreciatejackets

AWARE Program Expands Campus-Wide

The AWARE Program (Actively Working to Achieve Resource Efficiency) is an innovative waste minimization program. The program aims to make Georgia Tech students, faculty and staff aware of the critical role they play in waste minimization and encourages members of the campus community to make environmentally responsible choices regarding the waste they generate.

AWARE places the responsibility on individual employees to sort and empty their waste into larger bins located within their building. Custodial teams will no longer service desk-side containers.

[Register](#) for our virtual information session January 13th at 2pm to learn how to participate in the program expansion! Contact Emma Brodzik, at emma.brodzik@facilities.gatech.edu with any questions.

Institute Strategic Plan 2020-2030

OUR MISSION:

The Georgia Institute of Technology is a public research university established by the state of Georgia in Atlanta in 1885, committed to developing leaders who advance technology and improve the human condition.

OUR VALUES:

Students are our top priority.

We strive for excellence.

We thrive on diversity.

We celebrate collaboration.

We champion innovation.

We safeguard freedom of inquiry and expression.

We nurture the well-being of our community.

We act ethically.

We are responsible stewards.

OUR VISION:

Over the next decade, Georgia Tech will be an example of inclusive innovation, a leading technological, research university relentlessly committed to serving the public good; breaking new ground in addressing the biggest local, national, and global challenges of our time; making technology broadly accessible; and developing exceptional leaders from all backgrounds ready to produce novel ideas and create solutions with real human impact.



Landscape Services Partners with Students

The Georgia Tech Scouts Club recently partnered with Steve Place, Horticulturalist II, Landscape Services, on the removal of an invasive plant species. The Scouts pulled up english ivy in the forest fragment near Ferst Drive and Hemphill Avenue.



FREE BASKETBALL TICKETS

Georgia Tech staff will have access to complimentary tickets for the select men's and women's basketball games listed below. Visit ramblinwreck.com for more details or email tickets@athletics.gatech.edu with any questions.

Available Games:

MEN'S BASKETBALL

SUN JAN 3 VS WAKE FOREST
TUES JAN 12 VS PITT

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

SUN JAN 10 VS VIRGINIA TECH
THR JAN 14 VS SYRACUSE
SUN JAN 24 VS DUKE
THU FEB 4 VS CLEMSON
SUN FEB 7 VS WAKE FOREST
THR FEB 18 VS FLORIDA STATE
SUN FEB 28 VS PITT

2020 Sustainable Facilities Forum - Beyond Our Buildings

Over 150 individuals attended this year's virtual forum. Chaired by Maria Ceballos, (BIM, Design & Const.) and Malte Weiland, (Sustainability Proj. Mgr. Sr.), and in collaboration with the Office of Campus Sustainability, presenters from Facilities Management this year included Jerry Young, (Landscape Project Manager), Emma Brodzik, (Recycling Coord.), Wendy Welker (Operations Coord.), Jennifer Disotell (Const. Adm. Mgr.), Ryan Lisk, (Lab & Chem. Safety Officer), Greg Spiro, (Mech. Eng. Sr.), Kynthia Gaines, (Const. Proj. Mgr. II) and Jessica Rose, (Assoc. Dir. Analytics & Communications). Featured speakers from other universities included: Fahima Ahmed Bangert, Director of Sustainability and SEM Business Services, Stanford University; Kristen Lee, Sustainability Programs Manager, UC Santa Cruz; and Erin English, Senior Engineer and Practice Leader, Biohabitats

Below is a sampling of the twelve presentations available to attendees of this year's forum.

Kendeda Building: Operational Lessons Learned



Maintaining Green Cleaning in a Pandemic



Georgia Tech's Historic Preservation Plan



Eco-Commons Virtual Tour



Ecosystem Services: Monitoring & Data Collection



Smartlabs: Blending Safety and Savings



Hard to Recycle Materials



Kendeda Sustainable Water Resource Management



► HR CORNER WITH DERRICK MORSE, HR BUSINESS PARTNER

Season's greetings Team! It has been such a pleasure and an honor to serve as your HRBP this past year. Who knew we would have to contend with so much department, campus, state, and world changes at the same time? Such challenges in our community have created many stressful moments, as well as moments of optimism. All of us have been impacted by the Covid-19 virus. For those of you who have lost loved ones and friends, as I have, I offer my deepest condolences.



For those of you needing help, I recommend that you and your immediate family take full advantage of your GT Employee Assistance Program (EAP) for counselling and support services. Some of you have been impacted as a direct result of the essential functions of your profession, warranting you and your teammates to incur the risk of frontline responsibilities. We are grateful for your service. With pride, professionalism, and courage, we have met, and often exceeded, campus and surrounding community expectations. Thank you for your commitment to the GT students, staff, faculty, the city of Atlanta, and the state of Georgia. Looking forward, we are committed to developing leaders who advance technology and improve the human condition. With all that we have learned and achieved in 2020, we have a very optimistic future. We are going into 2021 with more than one vaccine for

the COVID-19 virus, a renewed commitment from campus leadership to promote and mandate diversity, equity and inclusion, and a promising focus on continued campus innovation. We have a bright future filled with promise, possibilities, and progress. Thank you again for allowing me to serve each of you. In 2021, if you are interested in helping world relief organizations, please consider supporting the following groups:

- [Center for Disaster Philanthropy](#)
- [World Central Kitchen](#)
- [AdoptAClassroom.org](#)
- [Bring Change to Mind](#)
- [Make-A-Wish Foundation](#)
- [Equal Justice Initiative](#)
- [Water.org](#)
- [IssueVoter](#)

Women's Basketball Locker Room

The Georgia Tech Women's basketball team has a new space to enjoy pre and post training sessions, practices and games. The renovated space includes staff, game, and nutrition lounges, as well as a hydrotherapy tub, custom-made lockers and a new recruiting cove. Lindsay Cottingham, (Const. Proj. Mgr. Sr.) managed the project which finished just prior to this year's first team practice.



Veterans Resource Center

The Veterans Resource Center is dedicated to serving students who are Veterans, Military, Reserve and Guard members, and their dependents by providing comprehensive support services that enhance and complement the academic experience. Thomas Schneider (Const. Proj. Mgr.) guided the renovation of this vital campus resource.



Eco-Commons

Quietly opening at the end of December, this eight acre greenspace is sure to please everyone on campus. Dedicated areas to engage, learn and reflect offer multiple opportunities to engage with nature. Jerry Young (Landscape Proj. Mgr.) has overseen the transformation of this former parking lot into a campus treasure. Read more about the Eco-Commons [here](#).



New Staff Council Member



Alicia Wood-Jones, Environmental Health & Safety - Associate Lab & Chemical Safety Officer is a newly elected member of Staff Council. Congratulations Alicia!

Anniversaries

10 Years

Christena Hammett, Admin. Pro. II
Lawrence Labbe, Fire Safety Mgr. EH&S
Rodney Levitt, A/C Mech. I
Robert Mendoza, A/C Mech. II
Alejuandro Hunt, Area Manager

5 Years

Patricia Anderson, Custodian I
Shikbath Choudhury, Custodian I
Obrena Chin, Groundskeeper I
Shonda Hartshorn, Custodian II
Monique Thornton, Custodian I

Sabrina Mackey, Custodian I
Anok Barj, Custodian I
John Duncan, Custodian II
Debra King-Pringle, Custodian I
Carla Barbour, Con. Proj. Mgr. Sr.
Erin Porterfield, Lab & Chem. Safety Spec. EH&S

1 Year

Alonzo Wilkerson, Custodian I
Ebony Cunningham, Admin. Pro. Sr.
Era Maskey, Lab & Chem. Safety Spec.
Tammie Brown, Business Analyst II
Daryl Huff, Custodian II
Thomas Schneider, Con. Proj. Mgr. I

►IN MEMORIAM

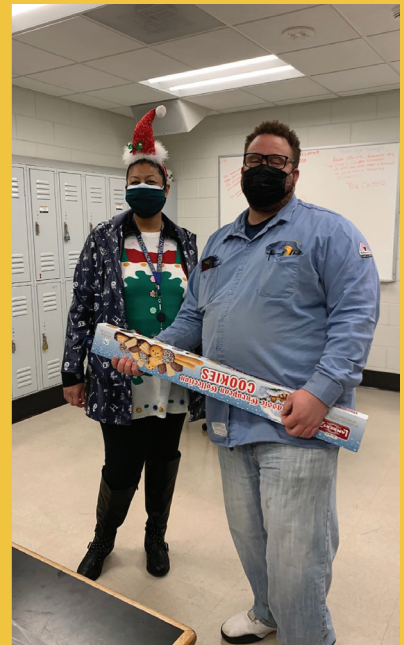
We are saddened to share that Billy Narramore passed away on December 31, 2020. Billy worked as an Area 2 Plumber for 12 years and had just recently retired. We are grateful for his service to Georgia Tech and extend our condolences to his family.



Asymptomatic Covid-19 Surveillance Testing Now Available in O'Keefe January - May 2020

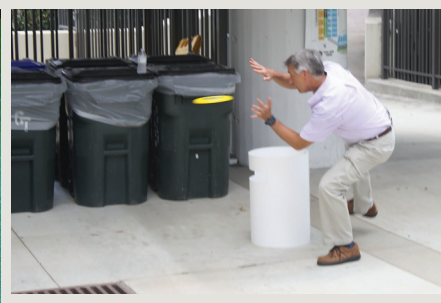
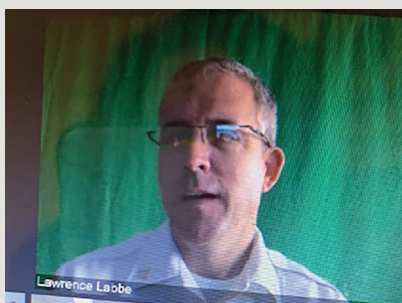
Building Services Break Room
Hours: Monday & Tuesday
1 pm - 3 pm

Staff in Action



Mark Demyanek Retires

Mark Demyanek, VP, Sustainability Facilities and Safety, with over 25 years work experience with GT and the USG, will retire Dec 31, 2020. An online farewell, complete with toasts and gifts, allowed colleagues to share their best wishes.



Wall of Heroes

Building Services Operations Manager, Willa Chapman, created a Wall of Heroes to inspire, support and encourage the over 250 Bldg. Svcs. departmental employees. The Wall of Heroes serves as a daily reminder for staff of their vital importance in maintaining a healthy and safe environment for all members of the Georgia Tech community. Thank you Willa for your thoughtfulness!



Student Engagement & Collaboration

Student Bryan Hare requested assistance from Facilities for guidance in the possibility of building a piezoelectric sidewalk on campus. He hopes to educate young students on novel, interactive energy technology and promote GT as a leading institution in this field.

Student Bernardo Perez contacted Facilities for information on the changes to custodian's daily job responsibilities to inform fellow students of how important they are to campus.

Much thanks to Jeff Wiley, (IT Supp. Prof. I) for providing photography for this issue. If you'd like to contribute ideas for future newsletter content, please email cathy.brim@facilities.gatech.edu.