



## Infrastructure and Sustainability

# Inside I&S

October 2021 - January 2022



- **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.**

## Our Values

### Meet Maria Cimilluca

Maria Cimilluca joined Infrastructure and Sustainability (I&S) as the inaugural vice president on January 17. Hailing from Syracuse, New York, Maria has a broad and extensive career in higher education. Maria was gracious enough to share with us both professional and personal information, as well as her goals and aspirations for I&S. Maria, we are excited to have you on board!

#### **Where did you get your degrees and in what fields?**

I have a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture from Syracuse University in partnership with the College of Environmental Science and Forestry at the State University of New York. A Masters in Engineering Technology from East Tennessee State University and an MBA from Cornell in partnership with Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, Canada.

#### **Can you share the places you've previously worked?**

I've worked for some wonderful institutions including Syracuse University, Johns Hopkins, Cornell, and now Georgia Tech. I think what is more important than where I worked, is having a network of mentors who helped me achieve my leadership goals and professional aspirations. Navigating the path to leadership has given me broad perspective about the type of leader I want to be and what is most beneficial for a happy, healthy organization.

Also, I could not have achieved my goals without the support of my family. They have provided the safe haven and strength I needed through every evolution and time of growth in my career and personal learning.

#### **What inspires you?**

The strength possessed by emergency responders, the people who work in facilities, acts of kindness, and advances in science.

#### **What do you most look forward to at Georgia Tech?**

Getting to know the staff in I&S and creating an environment and culture that embraces and enhances the talent of our team. I also look forward to the opportunity to have a broad impact at Georgia Tech.

#### **And finally, another tidbit about you that folks would be surprised to know?**

I am a certified innovation manager and a tenant of design thinking - a creative, problem solving strategy. And, I bake to relieve stress!



# Anniversaries, Promotions & New Hires

## 10 year

Terence Bowens, Maintenance Worker I

Anthony Craft, Custodian II

Henry Samuel, Custodial Supervisor II

## 5 year

Kevin Ellis, Tree Surgeon

Mitchell Shelton, Construction Project Manager II

Bogna Grabicka, Haz. Materials Manager, EH&S

Berhanu Sebsba, Custodian I

## 1 year

Dorothy Gbadamosi, Custodian I

Jerry Neal, Custodian I

Samantha Vorhees, Procurement Coordinator

## Promotions/Transfers

Whitney Bartlett, Reg. Architect III

Berikisu Bashiru, Custodial Supervisor II

Jeffery Bridges, A/C Mechanic III

Emma Brodzik, Campus Sustainability Proj. Mgr.

Crystal Cox, Custodian II

Ahmad Daftarian, Electrician I

Maria Dorantes-Martinez, A/C Mechanic II

Shawn Dunham, Waste Mgmt. Operations Manager

Joe Garrett Jr., Custodial Supervisor II

Sandra Garvin, Admin. Pro. III

Efrem Gedlu, Custodian II

Vincent Grier, Campus Recycling Specialist II

Tony Harrison, Bldg Services Inspector

Scott Hayes, Building Rep I

Barbara King, Financial Analyst II

Owen McGarvey, A/C Mechanic II

Daniel Powell, Construction Proj. Mgr. Sr.

Jamie Ready, Assoc. Dir. Building Engineering & Energy Strategies (BEES), no longer interim

David Stevenson, Lab & Chemical Safety Specialist

Theresa Warner, Accountant III

Nazia Zakir, Sr. Assoc. Vice President, Strategy & Compliance

## New Hires

Jeraim Bennett-Williams, Fire Safety Spec.

Abdullatif Bepary, Custodian I

David Chandler, RBW Facilities Prof.

John Cook, Plumber I

Aniya Dawson, Custodian I

Robert Dunton, Custodian I

Jackevia Fletcher, Custodian I

Larisa Freeman, Fleet Coord. & Truck Mechanic

David Gennaro, Assoc. Dir. Landscape Svcs.

Ashley Grier, Custodian I

Donald Henderson, Custodian I

Karmen Jordan, Admin. Pro. Sr.

Michael Key, Custodian I

Teresa Pinkney, Custodian I

Sabrina Ross, Custodian I

Jose Sanchez, Equip. Operator I

Shane Sanders, Custodian III

Tyone White, Groundskeeper I

Horace Williams, Custodian II

Tussia Williams, Custodian I

## Retirees

Gary Jelin, Interim Asst. VP, D&C - 10 years

Ronald Neal, Painter I - 10 years

Andy Sheffield, Area 5 Maint. Mgr. - 28 years



# Awards/Certifications

Congratulations to Kynthia Gaines, Sr. Construction Project Manager, on receiving her Masters in Real Estate from Georgia Tech in 2021.

## Material Health Open Invitation 2021 Presentation Award -

Maria Del Mar Ceballos, BIM/VDC, received the award for her efforts supporting a presentation on the material health standards for the Georgia Tech Yellow Book .

## The Price Gilbert Memorial Library Collects Four Awards for Reimagining and Renovation

The library, which finished its decade-long renovation, received multiple awards for its efforts in historic preservation, architecture and lighting design. Read more about the awards [here](#).

Building Services achieved 2021 ISSA CIMS-Green Building with Honors and the GS-42 Green Seal recertification for their Green Cleaning Program. Read more about the [Green Cleaning Program](#).



# I&S Enables Symptomatic Testing

Georgia Tech is truly an inspiring place to work. It's good to have strategic values, but it's even better that those values are already lived everyday by the teams we have across units. That willingness to share resources is what makes Georgia Tech the place where "we can do that!" - JulieAnne Williamson, Ex. Dir. Sustainability and Bldg. Ops.

- Partnerships across I&S, Campus Services, and GTPD made the site possible.  
The site opened Jan.12 in response to increased need for symptomatic testing, particularly among employees.
- The site is a drive-thru, but walk-ins are welcome. There has been a bicycle and a golf cart drive thru!
- Juan Hunt's team (Area II) found a power solution because the only outlets nearby were disconnected.
- Parking shared the ground floor of the deck. Sherry Davidson, Sr. Dir. Parking & Transportation, also opened their break room and bathroom to the site workers, to get in out of the cold throughout the day.
- Landscape Services provided a propane tank heater – the only warmth that first morning!
- Emergency Preparedness did a huge lift to get the materials for the site together and set it up – tables, signage, etc. in partnership with Sustainability and Building Operations and Alex Ortiz, Consultant II. Will Burke, Coordinator, Emergency Preparedness, worked the site the first few days, even coming early to get the site set up.
- GTPD provided two public safety officers to direct traffic and help with flow. They stood outside all day long with our site workers and help keep those cars safely moving in and out!
- Our drivers from Building Services added an extra stop without a complaint. Greg Williams, Custodian III, even brought his own gloves for a site worker who was freezing cold that first morning!

(Photo: Alex Ortiz helps the GTPD set up a tank heater.)





## ►EVENTS

# Farewell Old Friend



In early January, a large white oak tree was removed from the hill in front of Tech Tower. Its precise age is unknown, but some experts suggest it was more than 170 years old. The tree was in failing health and Landscape Services, as responsible stewards, supervised its removal. The suitable wood was salvaged and will be milled for future use in campus projects. [Read more](#)



## CPSM Collaborates with Students

In mid-November, the office of Capital Planning and Space Management (CPSM) collaborated with the Student Government Association to provide tours to interested students of the Carnegie Building, the Chapin Building and the Holland Plant. Organized by Linda Daniels, Interim Assoc. Director of CPSM, tours were facilitated by faculty, staff, and affiliated architects and construction managers. A presentation on the Campus Historic Preservation Plan was also shared. More than 100 students and guests participated in the event.



Photos L-R: Students enjoy a presentation on the Campus Historic Preservation Plan. Wesley Harding, Stationary Eng. II, explains how the Holland Plant powers campus. Gerald Benjamin, Mech.Shop Foreperson explains system controls inside the plant. Lana Sorotka, Campus Fac. Planner, and Amber Chellis-Omedo, Reg. Architect II, advise a student. (Photos by Jeff Wiley, IT Prof. I)



# Gary Jelin Retires

Gary Jelin has been a registered architect for more than 30 years. He spent the last 10 years at Georgia Tech, retiring from his role as Interim Asst. Vice President, D&C. Gary was an integral force in more than 30 capital projects such as The Kendeda Building, the Krone Engineered Biosystems Building, the renovation of the third floor of the O'Keefe Building, West Village Dining and the Price Gilbert/Crosland Tower project, to name just a few. Thank you, Gary, for your commitment and dedication to I&S Design & Construction.



# Robert Manchurian Drops Album



**Bob Manchurian in the Studio | Album**  
**Bob Manchurian**

UPC: 665275567322  
Instrumental

📅 25 nov. 2021 ⌚ 01:18:10 🎵 11 songs >

## Praise & Appreciation

I'd like to take a moment to commend the excellent quality of work **David Graham, Painter I**, provides to the Old Civil Engineering building. The School of History and Sociology has had a number of recent projects which included the need to have entire rooms, offices, and other various walls repaired and painted. Each time, David has met with either myself or one of my colleagues to ensure we understood the process, discussed timelines and expectations, collaborated with his colleagues on our behalf, and followed up with us once the project had been completed. Needless to say, we are extremely impressed with the craftsmanship and communication. We look forward to future projects where David Graham is involved. Sincere Regards, **Robert Hampson, Administrative Manager, Georgia Tech | School of History and Sociology**

**Billy**, many thanks for your quick work on handling this and getting water to our student dorms! Best, **Nazia Zakir, Sr. Assoc. Vice President, Strategy & Compliance**

Thank you **Billy Baxter, Plumber II**, for staying over with the contractor. Your efforts are greatly appreciated. - Thank you, **William Varnado, Mechanical Shop Foreperson**

**Nazia**, I was elected an At-Large member in the National Conference of State Fleet Administrators. During the first meeting in November I will learn more about the responsibilities involved. - **Sam Evans, Associate Director, Fleet Services**

**Ovida Reeves, Business Analyst I**, and **Amanda Jones, Senior Planner, Capital Planning and Space Management**, both of you are doing an amazing job with the Access Policy working groups. I'm very impressed with how you have organized the groups and kept them on task. Thanks for all you are doing on this! - **Nazia Zakir, Sr. Assoc. Vice President, Strategy & Compliance**

**Steve Sywak, Dir. IT**, it hit me today just how awesome your team has been recently.. I have had to reach out to **Doug Sims, Systems Supp. Engineer Sr.**; **Pat Ficenic, IT Supp. Professional Sr.**; **Jeff Wiley, IT Supp. Profesional I**; and **Anjum Khan, Database Admin. Sr.** for some reason or another and they have all just been so quick, helpful, and attentive. Pat, especially, has had to deal with me and my anxiety more than her fair share and I am so appreciative. Thank you to you and your awesome team! **María del Mar Ceballos, AIA, LEED Green Associate, BIM / VDC Manager**

Robert Manchurian, Custodian I, was featured in our Quarter 2 edition of *Inside I&S* as part of the "People of I&S: Living Our Values" section. Manchurian has a long and storied history in the Motown music business prior to joining Georgia Tech in 2018. In that feature, he revealed that he was working on an album. "Bob Manchurian In the Studio" has now been released and can be found at [junodownload.com](http://junodownload.com).

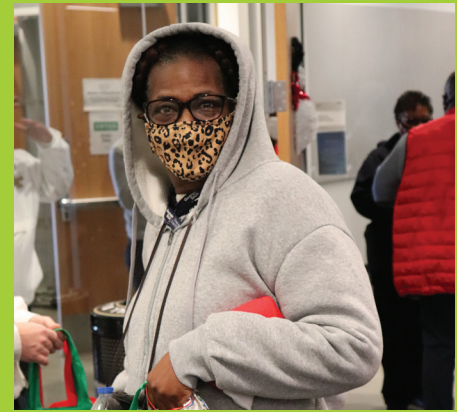


# Holiday Fun at the Exhibition Hall



The Holiday Party was a huge success despite the challenges of the pandemic. Cheryl Kelley and the committee planned a buffet lunch, goodie bags, a gift raffle and an ugly sweater contest. The group photo features Larissa Freeman, Brittiana Banks-Green, Karmen Jordan, Cheryl Kelley, Dianna Halabi, Adizatu Brimah, Vanessa Sanders, Daniel De'Saussure, Kyara Thompson, Justin Dawson, Natasha Carter, Juanita Slaton, Arlene Smith, Chikaya Bolton and Jeff Wiley. There were five entries in the Ugly Sweater Contest. Photos L-R: Natasha Carter, Fleet; Betty Irby, Custodian I; Lynn Ellis, Ops./Maint. Proj. Coord.; Deborah Miller, Custodian III; and Lolita Ringfield, Cust. Sup. II. Natasha was this year's winner! (Photos courtesy of Jeff Wiley, IT Support Professional I.)





Photos L-R: I&S holiday elves at work. D&C team members Jennifer Disotell, Special Projects Manager, Mark Wood, Construction Project Manager I, and Blake Baklini, Construction Project Manager I, with their holiday gift bags. Heart Lamar, Admin. Pro. Sr. waves hello and Sandra Butler, Custodian II, enjoys the event.

## Praise & Appreciation (Cont.)

Nazia, I was in the GLC yesterday and checked in with a co-worker that has an office on the Garden Level. He reported that he hasn't smelled anything since the pipe was capped a couple of weeks ago. Thanks to you and your team for your diligence in solving this decades-old problem. All of the staff greatly appreciate it. Thanks again. - **Dominique Ennis Sierra, Director of General Operations, Professional Education**

Great teamwork in solving this issue! **Will Vanadoe, Mechanical Shop Foreperson; Alicia Wood-Jones, Lab & Chemical Safety Manager; David Tate, Interim Assoc. Dir. Area Maintenance; David White, Plumber I; Jerel Harris, Interim AVP, EH&S; Federico Del Risco, Utilities Engineer II.**



I wanted to let you know how impressed I was with what **Philip Walls, A/C Mechanic II** did with our garbage cans! They look fabulous and I wanted you to know how much I appreciated his work and efforts. He was very conscientious about keeping us informed and letting us "take a look" when he was finished. We most certainly appreciate all YOU do for our building **David Tate, (interim) Assoc. Dir. Area Maintenance.** Your attention to detail and follow-through does not go unnoticed. We are truly lucky to have you! - Best, **Tracey Huddleston, Executive Assistant to the President, Office of the President - Andrew Carnegie Building**

# Staff Council Welcomes New I&S Members For 2022

Heading into its eighth year of operation, the Georgia Tech Staff Council welcomed three new members from Infrastructure and Sustainability. Kalah Byrd, Biosafety Specialist, EH&S and Sam Evans III, Associate Director, Fleet Services, both will serve three-year terms beginning in January.

As a result of four vacancies in 2021, Jeneen Parker-Mosley, Administrative Professional, EH&S, will serve a temporary term based upon receiving the next highest number of votes from the 2020 and 2021 Staff Council elections.

Byrd (pictured top) will serve as secretary and Parker-Mosley will serve as parliamentarian.

To learn more about the Georgia Tech Staff Council, visit [staffcouncil.gatech.edu](https://staffcouncil.gatech.edu).



## Charitable Giving Reaches Goal

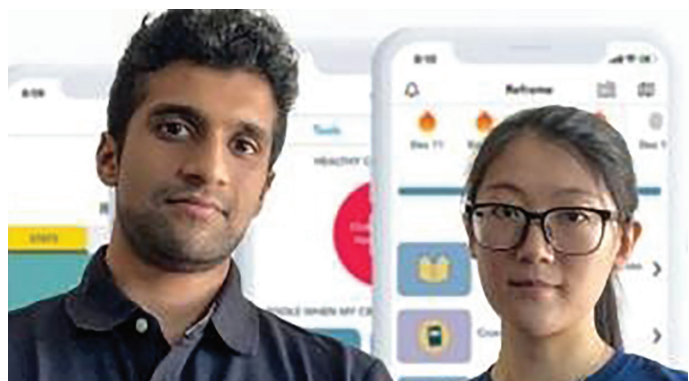


The 2021-2022 Georgia State Charitable Contribution Program (GaSCCP) raised more than \$233K this year - 40% more than its original goal. Georgia Tech faculty and staff have consistently been leaders in raising money for this annual campaign, having won the Governor's Cup 13 years in a row. The campaign ran from

September 16 to November 16, 2021, with an original campaign goal of \$165,000. Whether a donation provides groceries to a family in need or helps a child with cancer - every dollar donated helps a worthy cause. In addition, overall participation numbers were greater than those of the past three years (2018-2020), proving that the Georgia Tech community, even in difficult times, continues to be one of compassion and generosity.

## Engineering Alumni Create Mobile App to Reduce Alcohol Abuse

As studies show that the stress of the Covid-19 pandemic significantly contributes to rising alcohol consumption, two Tech graduates invented an at-your-fingertips solution to curb or eliminate alcohol abuse: a sobriety app called Reframe. [Read more here.](#)





# Johnny Rand In Memorium

Johnny Rand, Recycling Spec. II, worked in I&S for 3 years. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his friends and family.



## Mask Distribution

Masks were distributed to students and faculty via a collaboration among EH&S, Building Managers, Sustainability and Building Operations and Emergency Preparedness.

**Jerel Harris, Interim AVP, EH&S and Christina Tabor, Health Physicist Sr.**, I wanted to express my appreciation of the quick turnaround for mask distribution. Angus Wilkinson, Professor of Chemistry and BioChemistry, expressed his appreciation at the Task Force meeting and his surprise that we were able to deliver so quickly. Thanks again and keep it up! - **Nazia Zakir, Sr. Assoc. VP, Strategy & Compliance**

To date, quantities delivered:

**\*\* 135,000 surgical masks**

**\*\* 15,000 KN95 masks**

## Tech at the Airport

You may notice a familiar brand the next time you head to the airport! You'll find ads featuring Georgia Tech on concourses A, B, and C. It is exciting to see the Institute represented at such an important Atlanta location.



## Design & Construction

### Campus Center - Take A Look!

During the fall semester, the Design & Construction department offered guided tours of the campus center construction site. With enormous floor to ceiling windows, exposed concrete, and three terraces, the John Lewis Student Center is sure to be a campus favorite. Work is on track for a Fall 2022 completion.





# Praise (Cont.)

I wanted to express my appreciation to **Clayton Patterson, Turf Maint. Mgr.**, **Lionel Barrett, Groundskeeper II**, **Alowou Amouzouvi, Irrigation Specialist**, and **Steve Place, Horticulturalist II**, for their hard work in these cold and wet conditions to keep Georgia Tech safely operating. And for **Karmen Jordan, Admin. Pro. Sr.**, to monitor the hotline over the weekend. Thank you for going above and beyond!  
- **Nazia Zakir, Sr. Assoc. VP, Strategy and Compliance**

Agree wholeheartedly with Nazia's sentiments. Thank you! - **Maria Cimilluca, Vice President**

**Cathy Brim, Comm. Off. II**, I wanted to thank you for your assistance! I had significantly higher turn out with the training classes this week than I did the previous week, so I will continue to add these to the campus calendar instead of just the EH&S calendar.- **Taylor Porterfield, Lab & Chem. Safety Specialist, EH&S**

Thank y'all for sacrificing your time off - **Billy Baxter, Plumber II**, **Eric Williams, Maint. Worker II**, and **Sully Settlemires, Steam Equip. Mech. II**. **Gerald Benjamin, Mech. Shop Foreperson**, begin normal operations of the plants. Even though the temps are expected to be 40 F at noon please use extreme caution traveling home. I appreciate everyone's TEAMWORK and stepping up to ensure the continuous operation of the essential equipment that we maintain. Thank you - **Will Varnado, Mechanical Shop Foreperson, Infrastructure and Plant Operations**

Extending my appreciation to the team that volunteered without hesitation to work the inclement weather operations. Thanks. - **Gerald Benjamin, Mech. Shop Foreperson**

Many thanks and I greatly appreciate the time you took away from your families to keep GT operating! - **Nazia Zakir, Assoc. VP, Strategy and Compliance**

**Whitney Bartlett, Reg. Arch. III** and **Mitchell Shelton, Con. Proj. Mgr II**, thank you so much for your hard work making the MBID move from TEP a success. Both of you went the extra mile to make sure this project completed on time. I know you both took time over the holiday to make sure construction work, moves, AV, etc. happened as planned. Even though there were a few bumps, you were flexible and able to adapt. The job couldn't have been done without you and I am very grateful. Thanks again for your hard work. - **W. David Stoutamire | College of Engineering**

I'll add my thanks! We appreciate your support Whitney and Mitchell. - **Raheem Beyah, Dean and Southern Company Chair, College of Engineering**

## ► I&S IN ACTION



Photos L-R: Steve Place, Hort. II, welcomed a compost container at The Kendeda Building. Betty Irby, Custodian I, celebrated the Braves World Series win. Marvin Carter, Stationary Engineer II and Marilyn Brown, Georgia Tech Professor and Researcher, discuss the Holland Plant's chilled water system. Lynn Ellis, Ops & Maint. Proj.Coord. may appear sometimes on campus in a T-Rex costume. Donald Read, Tree Surgeon Asst. and Johnathan Cummings, Groundskeeper III enjoy their 25th anniversary luncheon.



# Thanks Nazia!



## 25 Years with Georgia Tech!

Wesley Harding, Stationary Engineer II, Donald Read, Tree Surgeon Assistant, and Johnathan Cummings, Groundskeeper III, celebrated 25 year anniversaries during the fourth quarter of 2021. Congratulations and thank you, gentlemen! (Photos courtesy of Jeff Wiley, IT Support Pro. I).





# People of I&S: Living Our Values

*This section of Inside I&S aims to recognize an employee who embodies the values we uphold at Georgia Tech. This employee strives to live these values both in their work within I&S as well as their lives beyond the Institute. In this issue, we feature Amanda Jones, Senior Planner, Capital Planning and Space Management (CPSM).*

## **What is your role within Capital Planning and Space Management? Explain your responsibilities and how long you have worked at Georgia Tech.**

I am a Senior Planner with CPSM and I am the only planner that works in both of our focus areas: Campus Capital Planning (planning for new buildings or full building renovations) and Facilities Planning (planning projects to improve our existing 17 million square feet). I began working with CPSM while I was a graduate student in the Master of Architecture program. I transitioned into a planning role following graduation and have been full-time with CPSM for over 11 years.

## **You are active in several volunteer organizations. Tell us about them.**

There are a few organizations that I typically partner with when volunteering. I have worked for many years with Habitat for Humanity, both internationally and with local affiliates. Now when I volunteer, it is with the Northwest Metro or Atlanta affiliates on their Saturday build days. I also have good friends that run a ministry in Comali, Honduras, and my family typically visits them annually to volunteer with their House of Today Ministries.

## **How did you begin your volunteer activity?**

I started volunteering on construction teams in high school with an organization called World Changers, that organized repair work on homes of low-income or elderly individuals. I participated in three trips in the Southeastern United States. Then in college, I participated in a month-long trip to Costa Rica with International Student Volunteers on my first trip working with Habitat for Humanity International. Since then, I have volunteered and traveled with several different organizations in Central America and around the Southeast. A few of the trips have been medical mission trips, but the trips focused on construction projects are my favorite. Over the past several years, I had the opportunity to lead a few home improvements projects with Ocoee Outreach in Ocoee, Tennessee and to serve as a Crew Leader with the NW Metro Habitat affiliate.

## **Describe the types of trips you participate in and why?**

Central America is one of my favorite places to visit and volunteer. I love the people and the food and I am not too bad at Spanish (not great either)! I also like serving on local trips in and around Georgia. The projects have ranged from building a bed or a wheelchair ramp, to replacing a roof, to building entirely new homes. In Honduras, we also constructed a playground for an elementary school. The trips to Central America usually involve giving in other ways as well, such as providing food or medicine to local residents or helping to install water filtration systems. It didn't take me long to get hooked on trips like these, because they combine my passions for architecture, outdoor hands-on activities, travel and helping others. I was raised a DIY'er, and was excited to find a way to put those skills to use to benefit others.

## **What benefits do you see for yourself and others?**

I volunteer my time because God has provided my family with so much and we are called to take care of others that are in need, and to share the love of Jesus with the world. It is always a very rewarding experience to get a chance to connect with people in other locations or other cultures. It also strengthens my relationships with the team members I work with, whether they are my friends, family, or new acquaintances. Another benefit to me personally is that I have found that my leadership skills come out more naturally when working on a construction site. It is a great way to gain experience in leading others toward a common goal while encouraging the talents of others. There is always a job available for everyone and each person contributes toward and takes pride in the final product.

## **If others wanted to do something similar, where could they go for more info?**

It is really easy to get involved with Habitat for Humanity through local affiliates. You can sign-up as an individual volunteer for most of their builds - you do not have to be affiliated with a sponsor or a group. Most recently, I volunteered with the Atlanta Women's Build, which was a new and fun experience. An organization I recommend within Georgia Tech is ASB - Alternative Service Breaks, which organizes student teams that volunteer their time during breaks in the academic calendar. I served as a staff advisor with that group on a spring break trip working with Habitat for Humanity in Jacksonville, Florida. It was a great opportunity to connect with Georgia Tech students.

In her active volunteerism, Amanda embodies many of the values we uphold at Georgia Tech - celebrating collaboration, nurturing the wellbeing of community, and connecting globally. Thank you Amanda for sharing your story and your talents with I&S.



Photos L-R: Amanda working as a Crew Leader with Habitat for Humanity's NW Metro Atlanta affiliate to install siding on a home; Amanda and her son measure beans for food bags to be distributed in a Honduran village; Georgia Tech Alternative Service Break group trip. (Photos courtesy of Amanda Jones.)