Welcome to the newly revamped Inside I&S! Our upgraded format offers larger, more captivating visuals, while our clean and sophisticated layout elevates your reading experience. Enjoy!

SUMMER PICNIC
Due to a threat of rain, this year's summer picnic was held inside the O'Keefe Building. In typical Georgia summer weather fashion, the rain dissipated and tents were set up behind the building for employees to lunch outside. Many team members wore their new Georgia Tech branded caps for the day's event.

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

Senior Sustainability Project Manager Malte Weiland (pictured bottom left) was awarded the Outstanding Staff ANAK Award at the Faculty and Staff Honors Luncheon. The ANAK Award is presented annually to a faculty or staff member who have demonstrated outstanding service to the Institute and to the student body. This award is unique in that it is the only award given at the Faculty/Staff Honors Luncheon which is decided solely by students.

Also an award winner, Horticulturist II Steve Place, received the Leading By Example in Sustainability Award. Steve (pictured bottom right) achieved this award for his work with various student organizations primarily at The Kendeda Building maintaining the grounds and the rooftop gardens using regenerative ecological practices. Since receiving the award, Steve has transitioned into the position of Campus Sustainability Project Manager with the Office of Sustainability.

The EcoCommons won the Jury’s Choice award for Excellence in Landscape Architecture for General Design from the Society for College and University Planning.

The Kendeda Building won the American Council of Engineering Companies of Georgia Engineering Excellence Award and the Engineering Excellence Grand Prize.

Learn more about additional I&S awards and certifications.

NEW HIRES
(JANUARY - JULY 2023)

Kelsey Abernathy, Systems Support Engineer II
Larry Alexander, Custodian II
Timothy Alexander, Electrician I
Kira Allford, Estimator, Planning, Design and Construction
Hilanda Aguilar, Custodian I
Tommie Barbee, Custodian II
Janae Barker, Custodian I
Brookyn Beck, Facilities Manager Senior
Monni Begum, Associate BioSafety Officer, EH&S
Akpole Bile, Custodian I
Tabius Bush, Custodian I
Valerie Caldwell, Custodian II
Joey Elrod, Carpenter II
Aaron Castillo, Groundskeeper II
Tyrre Cherry, Groundskeeper II
Kyebe Cooper, Human Resources Consultant
Meija Darwin, Groundskeeper I
Roman Denbel, Custodian I
Brian Doles, Construction Project Manager I
Carrison Dow, Painter I
Sarah Ebert, Architectural Designer
Jason Ellis, A/C Mechanic I
Liam Ellis, Groundskeeper I
Michael Ellison, Groundskeeper II
Joey Elrod, Carpenter II
Samantha Flieden, Custodian I
Clinton Forbes, Custodian II
Ilaya Garner, Maintenance Professional I
Tatjana Goddard, Planner
Rebecca Graham, Lab & Chemical Safety Officer, EH&S
Jonathan Gray, Custodian II
Marquetta Gray, Custodian I
Vema Griggs, Custodian I
Amber Grimes, Custodian I
Hannah Galledge, Program Support Coordinator, Planning
Heather Hardie, Construction Project Manager II
Alan Henry, Fleet Automotive Mechanic III
Elizabeth Henry, Lab & Chemical Safety Specialist, EH&S
Ed Heil, Fleet Garage Attendant
Jaroris Hill, Custodian I
Dless Hill, Painter I
Debra Jackson, Custodian I
Khalil Jackson, Custodian I
Valecia Jackson, Custodian II
Clarence Jones, Custodian I
Justin Kale, Life Safety Equipment Tech. I, EH&S
Kaleela Kadir, Lab & Chemical Safety Specialist, EH&S
Daniel Kim, Facilities Manager, TSBB
Mario Lee, Custodian II
Demetria Lowe, Custodian I
Darian Martin, Custodian II
Darwin Mejia, Groundskeeper I
Sharma Meena, Custodian I
Khalif Merritt, Groundskeeper II
Johnnie Peters, Custodian II
Jackson Phillips, Financial Analyst II
Kenneith Richardson, Groundskeeper I
Cassandrell Richmond, Custodian I
Katrina Riley, Environmental Programs Specialist, EH&S
Patrice Robinson, Custodian I
Lawrence Sanford, Safety Specialist, EH&S
Carlos Santoyo, Groundskeeper I
Trenton Sartin, Groundskeeper II
Ashia Sealey, Admin. Pro. II
Aziz Senghore, Hazardous Materials Specialist II, EH&S
Janet Sharp, Custodian I
Cornell Simmons Groundskeeper III
William Smith, Facilities Manager, MARC and AMPF
Thomas Spell, A/C Mechanic II
Ramal Spruill, Fire Safety Specialist, EH&S
Vanessa Suarez, Sustainability Coordinator
Deion Sutton, Bldg. Coord., Tech Tower and Lyman Hall
Prog Resiive Workspaces
Jamaal Taylor, General Safety Manager, EH&S
Edgar Torres, Groundskeeper II
Brooke Vacovsky, Sr. Facilities Manager, The Kendeda Building
Mark Vanhook, Life Safety Equipment Tech. I, EH&S
Jorge Velez, Chiller Operator
Jeffery Vincent, Electrician II
Patrick Walker, Fleet Parts Attendant
Chris Williams, Construction Project Manager II
Rebecca Williams, Interior Designer III
Emilly Wirt, Registered Architect II
Jose Yanes, Painter I
LaFoya Zachary, Custodian I

GEORGIA TECH EARNS 2022 TREE CAMPUS HIGHER EDUCATION RECOGNITION

Georgia Tech is honored to have earned 2022 Tree Campus Higher Education recognition from the Arbor Day Foundation. This program celebrates colleges and universities for promoting healthy trees and engaging students and staff in the spirit of conservation. The Georgia Tech Landscape Services department provides constant care and nurturing of campus trees by operating a tree advisory committee, maintaining a tree care plan, investing in our tree inventory, and involving students in tree care and planting on a regular basis.

The photo above features Georgia Tech tree surgeon Quentin Holden (fifth from right) with Governor Brian Kemp and others at the state capital for the designation of February 28, 2023 as Arbor Day for the state of Georgia.
COMMUNITY WELLBEING

SPICY COMPETITION FOR CHILI COOKOFF 2023

An annual tradition for more than 30 years, the Chili Cookoff returned in full force this year.

Held at McCamish Pavilion, February’s Chili Cookoff provided an incredible 24 entries for best chili and 17 entries for dessert. A visual feast for the eyes as well, 20 individual groups and departments participated in a table or booth decorating contest. After a long hiatus because of the pandemic, I&S employees returned in full force dressing to accompany their booth design and chili theme. Photos (left to right): Area 5 wins 2nd place for their chili entry. Building Services participated with a Mardi Gras themed booth. Area 3 chose a carnival design while the Finance and Accounting group appropriately set up a “Bean Counter Cafe”. Building Services Zone 8 were the ultimate chili champions, while EH&S stunned with an elaborate Jurassic Park-themed booth.

IN THE NEWS

THE MAN BEHIND THE MAPS

If you’re looking for the nearest trash can on campus or if you’re interested in the type of heating system used in any given building, there’s a Georgia Tech map for that.

In a digital age, an endless amount of data is available at the tap of a screen. That accessibility allows Systems Support Engineer Senior Doug Sims to keep all 482 of Infrastructure and Sustainability’s (I&S) maps up to date for the campus community.

Sims arrived at Tech in 2008 as a utility analyst. With a background in civil engineering and the keen eye of a land surveyor, he began identifying ways to streamline operations using a geographic information system (GIS). At the time, Sims explained that GIS was seldom used outside of tax assessors’ offices, but he recognized its ability to connect lines on a page to valuable data.

“If you’re looking at a line for a pipe, you can click on the pipe and see that it’s a 10-inch pipe, and you can see what it carries, what it’s used for, and where it goes,” Sims said.

Over the past 25 years, Sims noted how GIS has exponentially evolved to map out entire countries. Georgia Tech is often described as a city within a city, and with the help of GIS, that presents an opportunity for the department to get a better lay of the land.

Now, Sims’ foresight to increase GIS application was a catalyst for the data sets that exist today. In his role, Sims continues to search for ways to capture additional data points and recognizes that the communal nature of a campus setting can provide opportunities for instantaneous collaboration.

Read more about Doug and his work at Tech here.

Tech Lawn and Garden

Each season, the Institute Communications Newsroom provides the campus community with lawn and garden tips provided by subject matter experts in I&S Landscape Services. Most recently, Ricky Walton, turf maintenance manager, shared basic lawn care advice for watering, fertilizing, aerating, and cutting your own yard. Learn more
FOCUSING ON SUSTAINABILITY

CHIRICO AT UN CONFERENCE

Associate Vice President for Sustainability, Jennifer Chirico, represented Georgia Tech at the United Nations in New York City during the 2023 Water Conference. The conference aimed to solidify the Water Action Agenda - which supports the UN Sustainable Development Goal 6 - “Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.” More than 2,000 government representatives, scientists, academics, civil society groups, indigenous peoples, members of the private sector, and youth delegates attended the conference.

Chirico presented at “Promoting Water Culture through Learning and Action,” an event hosted by the United National Institute for Research and Training which seeks to provide a venue for collaborative partnerships focused on delivering innovative training on large-scale water-related issues. This venue or “Water Academy” is a multi-stakeholder collaboration led by York University (Canada) in conjunction with other academic institutions and private sector partners.

OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY

Originally operating as the Office of Campus Sustainability, the department has grown and expanded into the Office of Sustainability with Associate Vice President Jennifer Chirico at the helm. The office is now comprised of I&S utilities analysts and engineers, building managers, and staff for The Kendeda Building for Innovative Sustainable Design. The group enjoyed a retreat to identify their 2023 strategic goals, participate in team-building activities, and celebrate accomplishments.

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

Georgia Tech’s Climate Action Plan (CAP) will serve as a roadmap for the campus community to achieve the Institute’s climate goals. In addition to focusing on operations and infrastructure, the plan will leverage Georgia Tech’s strengths in research and education. The entire campus community will inform the plan with leadership provided by the Office of Sustainability. The Sustainability Next Task Force, various campus working groups, and external consulting teams. A Carbon Neutrality Plan, which includes a technological analysis of data related to campus greenhouse gas emissions is also underway. Associated with this analysis will be recommended solutions specific to how to reduce scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions in half by 2030 and achieve full carbon neutrality by 2050.

CIMILLUCA ATTENDS WHITE HOUSE FORUM

The White House Forum on Campus and Community-Scale Climate Change Solutions, co-hosted by the University of Washington took place March 8. Speakers and panelists shared how innovative actions on climate change currently employed on college campuses can further benefit their surrounding communities and beyond.

Themes included:
• Making campuses more sustainable and resilient, including pathways to achieving net-zero emissions.
• Ensuring that students have the knowledge and skills to lead in the clean industries of tomorrow and to build and maintain the green and resilient infrastructure needed.
• Providing climate services to states, municipalities and indigenous communities.
• College and university campuses serving as proving grounds for new climate solutions and strategies to bring them into the innovation ecosystem.

Only one representative from each state was invited to attend which is a clear indication of the important work being done to address climate change by faculty, staff, and students at Georgia Tech. Maria CIMILLUCA, vice president of I&S, is pictured with other forum attendees on the Navy steps of the Eisenhower Executive Office Building, second row, second from left.
GEORGIA TECH LEADERSHIP JOINS U.S. DOE SECRETARY AT “INVESTING IN AMERICA” CLEAN ENERGY TOWN HALL

Vice President Maria Cimilluca and Senior Associate Vice President and Deputy Facilities Officer Jim Stephens attended President Biden’s “Investing in America” town hall hosted by the Atlanta Journal-Constitution featuring U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm. Held at The Kendeda Building, the invitation-only event focused on the future of clean energy including the impacts on manufacturing and jobs in Georgia. Georgia Tech plays an integral role in the collaborations on research, policy, and community engagement that are essential to enabling the transition to clean energy. Recently I&S and Georgia Tech’s Strategic Energy Institute signed a Memorandum of Understanding to collaborate on using the Georgia Tech built environment as a Living Campus for the deployment of clean energy technologies, to assist in reducing the campus carbon footprint, while also developing campus testbeds that can be accessible research assets. Learn more.

I&S CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER JULY LAUNCH

The new I&S Customer Service Center launched July 1, initially routing all maintenance calls through the center. More services will be added in the coming year. Stay tuned!

404-385-6000
ISCUSTOMERSERV@gatech.edu

CAREER FAIR

Georgia Tech Human Resources and I&S hosted a very successful hiring event in May. More than 50 attendees interviewed on the spot for open positions within the unit.
If you look closely in the words above you will see photos of the more than 40 I&S team members who were honored for their time and dedication during the January extreme weather event. Vice President Maria Cimilluca hosted a luncheon for these individuals to thank them for their commitment to I&S and to the Georgia Tech campus. Honored individuals include: Onkar Auzla, Billy Baxter, Robert Bomba-Ire, Jeff Bridges, Willa Chatman, Vincent Cooper, Michael Covington, Daniel De’Saussure, Robert Dunton, Lynn Ellis, Neil Fuller, Jammie Gaines, Joe Garrett, Shamir Graham, James Harbour, Wesley Harding, Jerel Harris, Michael Herriott, Calvin Hills, Eugene Holliday, Juan Hunt, Tom Jesnowski, April Kelly, Peter Kong-Quee, Joe Laneve, Gentle Lee, Tommy Little, Marilyn Lofton, Charlie Mason, Bridget Mourao, Tony Murray, Claude Nix, Yusef Osekre, Steve Place, Eddie Richardson, Sullivan Settlemires, Juanita Slaton, Alex Smith, Terrell Sykes, William Tucker, William Varnado, Jonathan Ware, Albert Williams, and Alicia Wood-Jones.

STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE

The state of Georgia Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner John F. King swore in fire safety personnel from throughout the state on Tuesday, February 7. The Georgia Tech Fire Safety team are the Authority Having Jurisdiction, as an extension of the Georgia State Fire Marshal’s office, empowered on campus to enforce the national, state, and local fire codes of the state of Georgia. Pictured (l-r) Fire Safety Coordinator and Deputy Fire Marshal Jake LeJeune, Fire Safety Manager and Campus Fire Marshal Bridget Mourao, Fire Safety Specialist Renee Lee-Starks, and Fire Safety Specialist Jeraim Williams.

FIRE SAFETY TEAM AT THE STATE CAPITOL

The state of Georgia Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner John F. King swore in fire safety personnel from throughout the state on Tuesday, February 7. The Georgia Tech Fire Safety team are the Authority Having Jurisdiction, as an extension of the Georgia State Fire Marshal’s office, empowered on campus to enforce the national, state, and local fire codes of the state of Georgia. Pictured (l-r) Fire Safety Coordinator and Deputy Fire Marshal Jake LeJeune, Fire Safety Manager and Campus Fire Marshal Bridget Mourao, Fire Safety Specialist Renee Lee-Starks, and Fire Safety Specialist Jeraim Williams.

I&S STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLEMENTATION PLANNING PHASE WRAPS UP

The strategic plan implementation planning phase resulted in a clear structure of action items needed to achieve the unit’s goals. The strategic plan clarifies the contributions I&S will make to Institute goals and outlines I&S priorities for the next 5 years. Supporting both the A&F strategic plan and the Institute strategic plan, the I&S strategic plan will become an integral part of the budgeting process as well as shape the performance goals for I&S employees. Learn more.

ANALYTICS & GIS RETREAT

Members of the Analytics department and the GIS (Geographic Information Systems) team hosted a retreat for a select group of I&S team members. Business Analysts Tammie Brown and Ovida Reeves presented the updated I&S Data Request Form. This form is available to all members of the campus community in support of the Living Campus initiative. Business Intelligence Developer Mayda Acosta presented on the improved Tableau data visualization dashboards and System Support Engineers Doug Sims and Kelsey Abernathy outlined what GIS is, the evolution of it within the context of I&S, and how it is used to map a variety of campus information. Lana Soroka, information systems manager, showcased the INSITE Space Database— the system of record for all campus space information. Director of Analytics Jimmie Hardin served as a lively host underscoring that both the Analytics and GIS teams are information brokers with data and services available to members of I&S and the entire campus community. Additional mapping and data tools are in development which will aid in future operations, maintenance, and space usage on campus. Learn more about I&S Analytics and Geographic Information Systems (GIS).
PRIORITIZING OUR STUDENTS

TECH BEAUTIFICATION DAY

Tech Beautification Day returned in 2023, smaller in scale, yet productive for students, the Landscape Services department, and the campus. More than 100 volunteers braved a soggy morning to help install native azaleas and other perennials, spread pine straw, and transplant trees. This day of service is organized by the Student Government Association and members of Greek organizations in collaboration with I&S. Students who volunteer can register their service hours and the campus environment benefits from their time and energy. In years past, volunteer numbers have reached more than 500. With a strong commitment to the event, the student organization leaders are hoping to achieve this level of attendance in the future. Pictured below, Landscape Services Department Administrative Professional II Tiara Ball takes a selfie with the student volunteers.

EARTH DAY

The celebration of Earth Day has evolved into Earth Week with a full schedule of events that provides educational opportunities and highlights campus sustainability achievements. This year’s theme “Invest in our Planet” allowed I&S departments and various campus organizations to showcase current sustainable programs and initiatives. Spearheaded by the Office of Sustainability, event leads (pictured top right) Abby Bower (Program Support Coordinator) and Jordan Barron (Program Manager) collaborated on a full schedule of events for the week. The Zero Waste department, (pictured bottom right) provided information on campus composting and recycling programs while the Landscape Services department, (pictured top left), showcased new electric equipment and sustainable grounds management practices.

Pictured right Groundskeeper III Alex Smith test drives an electric mower on campus. The Landscape Services department is actively researching new equipment in support of the goals outlined in the Sustainability Next Plan and the Climate Action Plan.
REIMAGINING THE CAMPUS ENVIRONMENT

RECK GARAGE
With the new Reck Garage—officially unveiled next to the John Lewis Student Center—Georgia Tech's iconic mascot now has a permanent prime parking spot in the heart of campus.

The garage includes a fully functioning repair station with a lift, workbenches, plenty of storage for tools, an outdoor car wash station, and dual entrances, making the space as functional as it is stylish. The crowning design piece though is a spinning turntable that allows for 360-degree views of the vintage car. When it's not rambling through campus sounding its distinctive horn, the Ramblin' Wreck can now be enjoyed almost 24/7 by its most loyal fans—students—via this new jewel-box like campus facility.

Read more about it here.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

The Community Garden, on the east side of the Instructional Center, reopened with a vine-cutting ceremony on April 21. The garden now has 20 individual garden planters, vertical planters, upgraded and accessible pathways, and ADA accessible plots. Additional fruit trees were planted in the orchard along with the installation of a new composting area, a storage shed, area fencing, and irrigation. The installation of cooking instruction tables and facilities will support future chef demonstrations. Pictured right, A/C Mechanic II Dexter Harper and Program and Operations Manager for The Kendeda Building Kamilah Roberts plant basil in the new raised beds. Landscape Project Manager Jerry Young managed the garden's transformation. Learn more about the community garden.

COMING SOON

WOMEN’S HISTORY

Construction began in the spring on an installation in the center of campus that celebrates the history of women at Georgia Tech. The site honors women's (faculty, staff, and alumnae) accomplishments and contributions to the Institute and to a wide range of fields in which they have made an impact. It will also allow space for reflection. Read more here.

DIVINE NINE

The Divine Nine are the nine historically Black fraternities and sororities that comprise the National Pan-Hellenic Council. This new campus site will feature a plaza area with nine distinct circular gathering spaces. Located adjacent to the Student Center parking deck, the plaza will include an 820-square-foot stage with terraced seating. Atlanta Mayor Andre Dickens and Georgia Tech President Cabrera joined student representatives from each of the organizations for the groundbreaking ceremony held April 23. Read more here.

NEW STUDENT HOUSING

Located on the west side of campus along Northside Drive between Eighth and Ninth streets, a nearly 191,000-square-foot residence hall will contain approximately 850 beds, which will aid in the housing of students who are relegated due to renovations on existing residence halls. The first new residence hall construction since 2005, this campus addition will help to accommodate first-year enrollment growth over the next 10 years. Read more here.