A Message from Campaign Chair
John F. Brock III

Philanthropy has been woven into the fabric of Georgia Tech since its founding 125 years ago, and private support has shaped the campus and created the qualitative advantages—in teaching, research, facilities, and student life—that elevate a good university to a great one. They are advantages that state appropriations alone cannot provide.

Our vision for the future is to define the technological university of the twenty-first century. This means leading in innovative research and the commercialization of products to improve the human condition. It means leading in the education of bright young scholars. And it means leading in addressing critical social, technological, and policy decisions of our time.

We are following the path forged by those who have come before us. Larry Gellerstedt, Erskine Love, Charlie Yates, Ivan Allen, Pete Silas, Al West—they have all sat where we sit today. These great alumni were consummate leaders and personal philanthropists. They were champions for Georgia Tech, and they have shown us the way. Now, it is our turn to step forward.

To seize the opportunities that abound, and to make the Institute’s vision a reality, we have launched Campaign Georgia Tech. With the support of our alumni and friends, we can achieve great things.

This is our time. This is our legacy.

Sincerely,

John F. Brock III, ChE 1970, MS ChE 1971
Chairman, Campaign Georgia Tech
A Message from School Chair
Joseph B. Hughes

I have been fortunate to serve as chair of the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Georgia Tech since 2003. In this role, I have developed relationships with peers, students, faculty, staff, and alumni, who have been vital to the success of our School and our programs.

As the challenges facing our globe, nation, state, and the city of Atlanta—aging infrastructure, urban sustainability, energy demands—escalate, there is a growing need for civil engineers capable of solving the problems of an industrializing world whose population will continue to increase dramatically over the course of this century.

With your support, we can ensure that the School maintains its preeminence in producing engineers who are versatile, adaptable, and more broadly educated to lead within a global marketplace. Developing tomorrow’s leaders is essential to our mission—to produce engineers who can assess risk and make decisions, demonstrate resourcefulness and flexibility, and help shape public policy.

We must now increase the number of endowed professorships—at all levels—to secure our long-term ability to continue recruiting and retaining the very best teacher-scholars. Enhanced support for undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships will open the doors of opportunity to the brightest, most talented students. And ensuring that we have first-rate, state-of-the-art facilities will provide the spaces in which great ideas can flourish.

In order to build on our impressive record, now is the time for action. We have a roadmap to chart success for the future, and we invite you to join us. Together, we will define a new era of leadership and tradition in civil and environmental engineering at Georgia Tech.

Sincerely,

Joseph B. Hughes
Karen and John Huff School Chair and Professor
Investing in People

The School of Civil and Environmental Engineering is one of the most prominent programs in the country. Its broad spectrum of research initiatives includes energy, the environment, health, infrastructure, sustainability, urban systems, and water. The philanthropic support of friends, alumni, foundations, and corporations will provide the resources to secure the people who will help shape the twenty-first century.

Investing in people is the School’s highest priority and the key to advancing the successes of the past century. The recruitment and retention of academic leaders is imperative, and increasing the number of endowed chairs and professorships will ensure that the School stays at the forefront of civil and environmental engineering. Establishing additional undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships will also enhance the ability to attract the brightest, most talented students.

“...It has always been my dream to attend Georgia Tech and earn the honor of receiving a Georgia Tech engineering degree. The Bechtel Scholarship has made that possible, by reducing my financial burdens and allowing me to focus on my studies. Bechtel’s support has made my dream one step closer to a reality.”

Amanda Wall, CE 2012

Associate Professor Hermann Fritz led International Tsunami Survey Teams in Indonesia, Sri Lanka, the Maldives, Somalia, Madagascar, and Oman in the wake of the devastating Indian Ocean tsunami of 2004 and the cyclone that struck Myanmar in 2008. His research is critical to the development of tsunami modeling and warning systems—which will ultimately save lives.

Assistant Professor Laurie Garrow (right) received the prestigious Faculty Early Career Development award from the National Science Foundation. She is developing innovative applications of engineering principles and transportation research to improve the airline industry’s performance and service to passengers.

Faculty and students in the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, with support from the National Science Foundation, are developing a new 3D imaging system that provides data on the condition of infrastructure more accurately and cost-effectively than existing technology. Private support through industry partnerships will further enhance this advanced research.
Professor John Crittenden (inset, left), the director of the Brook Byers Institute for Sustainable Systems and a Georgia Research Alliance Eminent Scholar, holds the Hightower Chair in the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering. Liz Minne (inset, right) is a PhD student and the recipient of the Ray Anderson Fellowship. The School is on the leading edge of research in sustainable energy and enhancing safety in existing energy technologies.
(Inset): Professors Kimberly E. Kurtis (left) and Susan Elizabeth Burns (right) are developing new building materials through the recycling of fly ash, a byproduct created during the combustion of coal that is normally stored at coal plants or placed in landfills. Private support for faculty provides the resources that make transformative research possible.
Leadership in a Changing World

The world-class faculty provides core engineering training and teaches students how to use their knowledge and skills to solve problems, both locally and globally. The School of Civil and Environmental Engineering is preparing students for leadership in a changing world—to excel in global markets, apply advanced technology, and create innovative real-world solutions to complex challenges.

To achieve this goal, the School is planning a Leadership and Entrepreneurship Program, which will be woven into the curriculum and will involve significant collaboration with industry and government. Private support will make it possible to fully staff the program and develop meaningful partnerships.

International experiences are also critically important. The School of Civil and Environmental Engineering seeks to enhance existing study and intern abroad opportunities and create new ones, to equip undergraduate and graduate students with the skills that prepare them for leadership in a global society.

Collaboration and Community

Fostering collaboration and community is an integral part of the School’s vision for the future. The challenges facing today’s—and tomorrow’s—engineers are interdisciplinary in nature. Researchers from the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering are working closely with faculty members at Emory University to solve problems at the interface of engineering and health, and with industries and corporations such as Georgia Power to advance research in critical areas.

Engineers are most successful when they work in teams and understand other disciplines, and joint-faculty positions play a crucial role in the School’s blueprint for the future. These positions create a multidisciplinary environment for students, draw new perspectives and skills into the classroom, and bring new techniques into laboratories. None of these programs and initiatives can flourish without the philanthropic support of those who share the School’s commitment to innovative partnerships that transcend disciplinary, university, and national boundaries.
Improving Infrastructure

By its very nature, CEE education and research require significant capital investment in facilities, classrooms, equipment, software, and laboratory space to ensure that students have access to the latest learning tools. Today, the School houses more than thirty laboratories, where professors and students conduct leading research in a number of critical areas, including accurately predicting floods and earthquakes in specific geographic regions. This requires sophisticated monitoring equipment and modeling software.

Researchers are also focusing on the potential use of sensors and sensing technologies to monitor and protect civil infrastructure systems such as buildings, bridges, tunnels, and dams. Using state-of-the-art sensing and control equipment as well as information technologies, this work has the potential to detect structural problems before they become catastrophic. Other research includes modeling and simulation tools for transportation control and air quality management, as well as sophisticated imaging tools for microstructure analysis.

Through technology-enabled laboratories and classrooms, students and researchers can collaborate with peers and colleagues around the world. Building on the School’s comprehensive infrastructure is essential to both the curriculum and the capacity for recruiting and retaining talented students and professors. Continuous improvements in information technology, equipment, facilities, and other resources will enable the School to enhance existing programs and ensure a superior learning environment for students, now and in the future.
Professor Michael D. Meyer holds the Frederick R. Dickerson Chair and serves as the director of the Georgia Transportation Institute. His research in transportation systems engineering, transit planning, and sustainable development and engineering design complement his leadership at the institute, which is committed to finding solutions to challenges facing transportation systems, including productivity, economic growth, and environmental sustainability.
Funding the Future

Civil and environmental engineering is a broad and diverse engineering discipline that, at its core, seeks to improve the human condition. From clean drinking water to efficient and safe transportation systems, from constructing buildings and bridges that survive seismic activity to building dams for hydropower and flood control, the School is producing engineers who focus on the needs of people and the issues facing an increasingly global society.

Strengthening the quality of research programs and facilities, as well as a community of world-class faculty and students, requires significant investment. Private philanthropy is the key to funding the future by ensuring that the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering remains a leader in seeking solutions to the challenges of this century and beyond.

The Path Forward

Georgia Tech has traveled breathtaking distances in a very short time. It is a highly ranked international research university, an incubator for innovation and economic growth, and a leader in engineering and technology, producing well-rounded graduates who go on to make an extraordinary mark on the world.

Today, it is forging a bold path forward. That path leads to a future in which Georgia Tech is known for its diverse, world-class students and faculty; for its innovative research and teaching; for being the institution that top decision-makers turn to in solving major problems; and for having the intellectual agility and vision not merely to face the future, but also to design it.

Georgia Tech is ready to accomplish all of this, and more, with the support and engagement of alumni, parents, friends, and all who share a passion for great ideas, courageous thinking, and the desire to shape the world to come.

One of the world's greatest challenges in this century will be access to clean water. The School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, led by water expert Professor Joseph B. Hughes, is training the next generation of leaders in technology that will enhance water quality and accessibility, improve human health, and lead to greater global economic prosperity.

Jenny and Michael G. Messner, CE 1976, have generously supported Red Fields to Green Fields, a project dedicated to reclaiming financially distressed commercial properties and transforming them into public parks and other sustainable development. Students from the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering must continue to have enriching opportunities outside of the classroom that make a meaningful impact on communities, locally and globally.
Gifts to Campaign Georgia Tech may be in the form of cash, securities, real estate, or personal property. In addition to outright gifts, donors are encouraged to consider multi-year pledges, generally over a five-year period, as well as planned gifts. Certain forms of planned gifts may not be applicable to meet immediate capital construction requirements.

Donors may participate through various life income agreements including charitable remainder trusts and charitable gift annuities. Charitable lead trusts, paying income to the Georgia Tech Foundation for a specified term of years, may be credited. Testamentary gifts in the form of documented bequest provisions and life insurance may also qualify for Campaign participation depending on the age(s) of the donor(s) or the insured. Certain deferred gifts may be discounted to present value in accordance with Campaign accounting guidelines.

All qualifying gifts and commitments to Georgia Tech and its associated foundation made between July 2004 and December 2015 are included in the Campaign. Gifts are deductible to the extent provided by law, and are subject to acceptance of the Institute or its associated foundation. Interested donors are encouraged to consult with their personal legal and financial advisors when contemplating a gift.

For more information about the Campaign or the form of a gift, please contact:

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