COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT LEADERSHIP SUPPORT
A YEAR OF CARING AND HEALING

It is always hard to know what any given academic year will include, aside from the many wonderful traditions and events that we celebrate each year. Some years are more challenging than others - this last year was one of those years. This annual report highlights the many wonderful accomplishments for the Division of Student Life. It celebrates the hard work of our students and staff. However, it is just a snapshot of a year that also required us to come together as a community and support each other in a deeper way than ever before. The tragedies of last year forced all of us to pause and reflect on how we as a community should move forward.

The Institute’s Path Forward Together Report offers some thoughts and recommendations and the Division of Student Life has and will play an important role in supporting and implementing many of those recommendations. I want to thank my colleagues in the Division of Student Life and others (faculty and staff) across campus who assisted in the response to last year’s tragedies. Their time, effort and caring helped in the recovery process that we are still working through today. Our students also played a pivotal role in supporting each other in a time of need and the Division of Student Life will continue to support and promote the Georgia Tech community as we move forward together.

The Division consists of an array of comprehensive student support departments that strive to promote the intellectual, social and emotional growth of our students. Our primary focus is to engage students throughout their college career in programs which promote:

- Student Leadership
- Healthy Lifestyles
- Student Transition and Success
- Cultural Awareness and Educational Growth
Civic Engagement
Promotes global awareness to nurture the development of responsible citizens who are committed to building community in a complex and diverse world.

Counseling Center
Offers a full range of mental health services to help facilitate personal development, promote mental health and prevent or reduce stress.

Disability Services
Helps ensure that students with documented disabilities receive the access and accommodations needed for a rich and engaging student experience.

Fraternity & Sorority Life
Advocates for and facilitates the education and holistic development of all members of our community, and promotes the core values of collaboration, equity, empowerment, and tradition.

Fundraising - Parents Fund
Through cultivating financial support for student programs, organizations, and activities, the Parents Fund helps ensure that Georgia Tech students continue to benefit from a vibrant campus environment.

Leadership Education & Development
Offers a thoughtful and intentional series of academic and co-curricular activities to help students prepare for leadership in a rapidly evolving global society.

LGBTQIA Resource Center
Coordinates a range of programs throughout the year aimed at educating faculty, students, and staff about LGBTQIA issues, and provides support for the LGBTQIA community.

New Student & Transition Programs
Coordinates a variety of programs and services to support the orientation, transition, and academic success of new students.
Office of the Arts
Leads, promotes, and serves efforts at the intersection of science, engineering, art and design; engages the campus with deep and broad arts experiences; and produces collaborative work created by artist and Georgia Tech faculty, staff and students.

Parent & Family Programs
Provides information, resources, and opportunities to the families of Georgia Tech students to stay connected and involved in campus life.

Research & Assessment
Collects, analyzes, interprets, and reports data to continuously improve departmental programs and services, guided by a commitment to evidence-based, data-driven change.

Student Diversity Programs
Furthers Georgia Tech’s strategic commitment to inclusive excellence by offering educational and co-curricular opportunities that enhance interaction and learning across diverse groups.

Student Integrity
Promotes and implements the Academic Honor Code and Student Code of Conduct to foster integrity and ethical conduct within the Georgia Tech community.

Student Media
Offers students practical experience in news gathering and dissemination, production, advertising, and media operations through work opportunities with the student newspaper, yearbook, literary magazine, undergraduate research journal, free speech publication, online media and an FM radio station.

Student Organizations
Promotes and strengthens student involvement and engagement through leadership development opportunities within more than 500 student organizations.

Student Organization Finance Office
Provides expertise and services to ensure the financial success of the Student Government Association and the more than 500 student organizations.

Veterans Resource Center
Provides comprehensive support services for students who are veterans, military, reservists, guard members and dependents, and enhances their academic experience.

Women’s Resource Center
Enhances the academic experience and personal development of women students by striving to create a more inclusive campus environment and promoting understanding among Georgia Tech’s diverse communities.
**HIGHLIGHTS: COMMUNITY**

**VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER HOSTS WOMEN’S CONFERENCE**

Conference was created so that veterans and student veterans could meet in an informal networking opportunity to educate, connect, and empower all service women and women veterans, and to invite civilians, male service members and veterans, corporations, non-government and government agencies for networking and additional resources.

**WRC FOCUSES ON GRAD STUDENTS**

The Women’s Resource Center hosted seven programs specifically for graduate women, including a field trip for a book reading, salary negotiation workshops, headshots for graduate women, networking lunches, and Women in the Wilderness programs.

**OFFICE OF THE ARTS HOSTS FACULTY STAFF ART EXHIBIT**

The inaugural Faculty and Staff Art Exhibition was held at the Ferst Center for the Arts this year, featuring work by 40 artists from across campus.

**PARENT & FAMILY PROGRAMS GROWS AMBASSADOR PROGRAM**

The Parent & Family Ambassador program, a parent volunteer program serving current and prospective Georgia Tech families, grew in its second year. There are currently 108 Parent & Family Ambassador from 18 states and 10 countries.

**LGBTQIA RESOURCE CENTER LAUNCHES LEVEL UP**

The LGBTQIA Resource Center launched Level Up, a new advanced allyship training program for faculty and staff. Each cohort filled with 25 members and graduates of the program were honored at Lavender Graduation.
WREK RADIO CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

WREK Atlanta 91.1 FM celebrated its 50th anniversary in March of 2018. The station organized a WREKtacular music festival and concert in early April to celebrate. The event featured 8 bands/artists.

CPC PARTNERS WITH DISABILITY SERVICES

The Collegiate Panhellenic Council of Fraternity & Sorority Life focused on furthering their relationship with Disability Services to make their organizations more accessible and welcoming to students with disabilities. This started with education on the accommodations chapters can incorporate and a charge to start the use of screen readers, closed captioning, and image descriptors on social media platforms.

OFFICE OF THE ARTS HOSTS FOUR TEAMS AT THE ACCELERATE FESTIVAL

Over 40 students competed for four final project spots at the ACCelerate Creativity and Innovation Festival, which celebrated the intersection of art, creativity and technology and was held at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington in October 2017.

OFFICE OF THE ARTS INSTALLS NEW WORKS OF PUBLIC ART ON CAMPUS

New works of public art were placed on campus, selected by the Public Art Committee of the Georgia Tech Arts Advisory Board, by artists Josh Garber, William Tucker, and Martin Dawe. Dawe’s sculpture of Rosa Parks titled “Continuing the Conversation” was celebrated with a large campus event.
**HIGHLIGHTS: ENGAGEMENT & LEADERSHIP**

**ALTERNATIVE SERVICE BREAKS (ASB) HOSTS RECORD 12 TRIPS**

ASB student organization hosted 12 Alternative Break trips during the 2017-2018 academic year, which is a record number of trips hosted in one year. The 12 trips included three fall break trips, one winter break trip, seven spring break trips, and one summer break trip. Three trips were international trips and two trips took place outside of the domestic southeastern United States.

**GREEK COUNCILS WIN AWARDS**

While attending the Southeastern Interfraternity Conference, the Georgia Tech Interfraternity Council (IFC) earned seven awards for its notable work in scholarship and service during the past year.

Thirteen awards were given to various chapters within the the Collegiate Panhellenic Council (CPC) from their peers in areas of both programming and academics.

**WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER HOSTS 20th ANNUAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE**

The 13 women on Women’s Leadership Conference executive planning committee raised approximately $30,000 to fund the conference which hosted 225 participants and featured 2 keynotes and 12 workshops.

- **New Chartered Student Organizations**: 71
- **Counseling Center Peer Coaches**: 11
TECHNIQUE WINS 13 AWARDS

The Technique, Georgia Tech’s student-run newspaper, took home 13 awards at the Georgia College Press Association’s (GCPA) annual awards ceremony. Among the honors were first-place prizes for Best Photograph – News, Best Photograph – Sports, and Best Campus Community Service – Editorial.

SPONSORING A SUCCESSFUL DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVITY MONTH

The Office of Student Diversity Programs collaborated with seven departments and offices to sponsor Diversity & Inclusivity Month 2018. Diversity Week debuted in 2008 with the theme “Latitude Adjustment,” and the Office has been using this theme every year expanding it now to a full month of events. Thirteen diversity related programs were offered during Diversity and Inclusivity Month 2018, and over 1,575 students, faculty and staff attended.

SIBLING ORIENTATION: DAY TWO

The Office of New Student & Transition Programs added a second day of programming for our first-year Sibling Orientation program during FASET Orientation. The program had 120 siblings sign up, this was an increase of 55 from last year.

6,000 Students Participated in Arts Events

188 Student Leaders

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HIGHLIGHTS: SUPPORT

In its 95th year, the Office of the Dean of Students at Georgia Tech became the first public university to announce an endowed Dean of Students chair. The endowment was established through the generosity of Georgia Tech parents Darlene and Eric Brandt and Julie and Lance Fritz. What spoke to them and inspired their gift, they said, were the “vulnerable populations” — students affected by problems such as homelessness, food insecurity, mental health issues, and substance abuse.

The commitment was announced by Georgia Tech President G.P. “Bud” Peterson at the October 2018 Georgia Tech Parents Board meeting. The couples committed $1.25 million each to endow the Brandt-Fritz Dean of Students Chair, which will generate an income of $100,000 a year to be used at the discretion of current Dean of Students and Vice President of Student Life John Stein and his successor, in perpetuity.

For 95 years, Office of the Vice President and Dean of Students has assisted students in the resolution of problems, provided information about, and referral to campus resources, and has promoted initiatives that address students’ needs and interests. The Brandt and Fritz families’ gift enables the Dean of Students to continue this service and now grow its focus on important initiatives related to student mental health and well-being that will benefit both current and future generations of Georgia Tech students.
DISABILITY SERVICES AWARDED NEILSON SCHOLARSHIPS

The Office of Disability Services at Georgia Tech was invited by the Craig H. Neilsen Foundation to submit an Institutional Application for the 2018 Neilsen Scholarship Program (NSP). The NSP supports students with spinal cord injuries. Funding provides scholarships for qualified students at the undergraduate or graduate level, in the curriculum of their choice. The scholarship award covers the cost of tuition, and an additional allowance for books, fees, and supplies. The Craig H. Neilsen Foundation Board of Directors has approved support for four Neilsen Foundation scholarships at Georgia Tech, totaling $159,569.

PEER COACHING PROGRAM ENDOWED

A Georgia Tech alumni stepped forward at the conclusion of 2017 and offered to provide a substantial gift to endow the Peer Coaching program. The proceeds from this endowment will fund the materials and supplies for the peer coaches, as well as team-building activities for the coaches for the coming years. The program continues to grow and will be training 11 new coaches this year.

PARENTS FUND IMPACT

This year, the Parents Fund was able to award $175,000 in sponsorships for 78 different student-led events and activities on campus, and provided $25,000 in grants to support 91 individual students as they attended leadership and education development experiences all over the country.

“\nThe Parents Fund truly empowers us to bring our ideas to life...it really has grown my love for Georgia Tech to know that I am supported.”  -- Annie (Art Matters at GT)

Division of Student Life Department & Staff Awards

- LGBTQIA Resource Center - recipient of the 2017-2018 Gift to Tech
- Abby Parsons, Director of the LGBTQIA Resource Center - Institute Excellence Award
- Laci Weeden, Director of Parent & Family Programs - Institute Spirit of Georgia Tech Award
- Karen Yiu, Coordinator of Student Diversity Programs - GT1000 Instructor of the Year