Falcon View is Finalist in Worldwide Competition

A GTRI research project is one of five finalists in the Sixth Annual Windows World Open Competition. Falcon View, a mapping system for flight planning that runs on portable, low-cost laptop computers, was entered in the competition by its sponsor, the U.S. Air Force. The international contest recognizes developers and their companies for creating breakthrough custom Microsoft Windows applications that effectively solve business problems, says Falcon View project director John Pyles (TTTL).

"Being chosen as a finalist is a great honor that only a handful of developers and organizations in the entire world can claim," he said.

Falcon View development was led by the Air Force Reserve and the Air National Guard with support from the Air Force. This PC notebook-based system provides pilots a Windows 95/NT base for mission planning digital maps and imagery. It also has been adopted by the 80th Wing for its moving map capability, which is used for situational awareness on executive support missions. There are now an estimated 13,000 Falcon View users worldwide.

Falcon View is competing in the largest category, “Core Business Systems.”

Reclaiming Brownfields for Communities

By Lea McLees, BCT, and Ellesh O'Neil Lane, EOEML

At first glance, the rectangular, vacant lot in the Boulevard Heights community just south of Grant Park is just a debris-littered expanse covered by a web of kudzu and surrounded by modest, neat homes.

But community activist Scott Petersen and others in the neighborhood see a future park on the lot — perhaps offering walking trails, a recycling demonstration and maybe some sports fields.

Bob Schmitter and Ellesh Lane (EOEML) are using Georgia Tech’s expertise and resources to help make visions like that of Peterson and his community a reality in urban, economically disadvantaged areas. They recently completed work on a brownfields initiative, “Overcoming Environmental Injustice Through Brownfields Redevelopment,” that proposes a four-phase strategy for dealing with issues such as brownfields in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods.

A brownfield is typically defined as abandoned land which is contaminated or perceived to be contaminated. In 1995, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency launched its nationwide brownfields initiative. To date, 78 states, cities (including Atlanta), towns, counties and tribes have received federal funds to investigate brownfields issues. Atlanta received a modest grant in June 1996 and proposes

Did You Know...

The energy released by a large earthquake may be equal to that released by 200 million tons of dynamite — 10,000 times more powerful than was given out at the detonation of the first atomic bomb.

One 75-watt bulb gives more light than three 25-watt bulbs.

--from 2210 Fascinating Facts by David Louis
Meet the Management and Project Support Group

This month we will meet members of the Management and Project Support (MAPS) group who support researchers in the Centennial Research Building (CRB). Under the direction of group manager Carolyn Mahaffey, MAPS provides centralized business and accounting support to all GTRE labs. The CRB MAPS group, which is led by manager Jim Allison, assists project directors with all of their administrative needs—from tracking deliverables to managing overruns. The group also helps with proposal preparation and provides summary data on laboratory performance.

CRB MAPS manager Jim Allison has worked in GTRE for 17 years. He started his career in GTRE Accounting, where he worked for seven years before moving to the Cobb County Research Facility (CCRF). There he worked as a project and division accountant. In 1989, he moved to the Information Technology and Telecommunications Laboratory (ITTL) as an assistant project director. Three years later he joined the MAPS group, first as a program specialist and then as manager of the CRB MAPS office. Jim is responsible for overseeing project support activities of the Arlington Research (ARL), Electronic Systems (ELSYS) and Signatures Technology (STL) laboratories.

Jim grew up in Indiana and attended Indiana University in Bloomington, where he received a degree in management. He lives in Dahlah with his wife of 17 years, Pat, a teacher, and their son Nick, 15. In his free time, Jim enjoys playing golf and tennis.

Project support analyst Judy Fitzpatrick has worked for GTRE for 10 years. She started work as a staff assistant to Rod Sears in CAD (now ELSYS) and later moved to the MAPS group. As a project support analyst, Judy provides decision support information to project directors by helping determine answers to their “what if” questions. She also assists in preparing proposal budgets and project management reports. Prior to working for GTRE, Judy worked for public school boards in her home state of West Virginia and in Kentucky. She later moved to Baltimore and worked for a travel agency and an investment firm before coming to Atlanta.

A graduate of Georgia State University in Atlanta, Judy has a degree in business and humanities. When she is not working, Judy is a professional organizer and helps people get organized in their homes and businesses. She is also the president of the board for the Brookhaven-area condominiums where she lives. In her free time, Judy enjoys doing aerobics, visiting with her neighbors and going to yard sales and flea markets. And she has three “somewhat spoiled” cats, Galle, Jessie and Cranky.

Cindy Eichenlaub is a project support analyst in the CRB MAPS group. She assists researchers in ELSYS and STL with project planning and preparing proposal budgets. She monitors project budgets and assists in project close-out. Cindy started working at Georgia Tech 16 years ago as the assistant to the Dean in the School of Management. Five years later, she left Tech to move to Pittsburgh, Pa. There, she attended the University of Pittsburgh and

SELECTED MARCH 1997 AWARDS

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Title</th>
<th>PI/Laboratory</th>
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<td>Northrop Grumman</td>
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GTRI Thanks Truly for Service

By Lea McEvers, RCT

GTRI bids its director for the past 4 1/2 years a fond farewell at an April 11 reception.

Approximately 150 GTRI employees and Georgia Tech administrators and school/college representatives stopped by the Wardlaw Building to thank Truly for his leadership and offer good wishes.

The former director of the National Renewable Energy Lab in Golden, Co.

“He gave us 4 1/2 years of outstanding leadership,” GTRI’s interim director Ed Reedy said of Truly.

Provoost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Mike Thomas agreed, recalling the Georgia Tech-hosted conference at which he realized Truly might be a good candidate for GTRI director.

“We were able to attract Dick back. It is one of the best decisions I think we’ve made here in a long time,” he said.

Truly first came to Georgia Tech in the 1950s as a college freshman from Mississippi, who “did not know a single person in the whole State of Georgia.” He returned in 1992 as GTRI’s director, having served as NASA administrator for three years and completed a 30-year Navy career that included three space shuttle missions.

Under Truly’s leadership, GTRI’s annual research awards reached a record $98.7 million in 1995. GTRI also streamlined its vehicle fleet, improved business processes, developed better financial management and produced a written policies and procedures manual. For the past six months, GTRI has averaged a 90 percent on-time rate for 2,000 deliverables.

Reedy, who has led GTRI research operations for four years, notes that Truly leaves GTRI better than he found it.

“On behalf of GTRI and its staff, I express thanks for that,” he said.

Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies Jean-Lou Chameau credited Truly for his ability to listen, his high expectations of people, his tenacity, and his understanding that people and the work they do are the most important ingredients in a successful organization.

“He has done so well for GTRI and Georgia Tech — GTRI will do well after he leaves, as a result,” Chameau said.

Thomas noted that GTRI may very well exceed its previous research awards record this year.

“That is due, in large part to the people in GTRI who write the proposals, meet with the sponsor, and do the research,” he said. “But Dick Truly opened doors in Washington, D.C., got people pointed in the right direction, and used his good sense to make things work well. He’s done a fantastic job.”

Although he is looking forward to his new responsibilities at NREL, Truly says he will miss Georgia Tech.

“I wish I could do this job and the other job,” he said. “I’ve learned an immense amount in the last 4 1/2 years...the people I worked with at GTRI are people of quality, intellect, integrity, and a bunch of the best entrepreneurs I’ve ever met.”

And he predicts that good things are ahead for GTRI.

“Georgia Tech is immensely well-positioned nationally and it wouldn’t be what it is without GTRI,” Truly noted. “I think that is recognized in the Carnegie Building, and among the leaders around campus. I think GTRI is going to break another record — this year backlog is way up, and prospects are better than that.”

He also credited his wife, Cody, for her influence — particularly for reminding him that “people are more important” — and for her part in their “magic career” of 38 years together.

Reedy and Janice Porter (Administration) presented Truly with a montage of photos of his experiences at GTRI, from visiting GTRI labs to trading places with a student for a day and working with GTRI’s Advisory Council. Truly also was presented a montage featuring the GTRI annual report covers he selected. Cody Truly was presented a crystal vase filled with flowers.

Porter and colleagues organized the reception. Kay Lindsey (SDL) and John Toon (RCT) created the gifts for Truly, and Gregory Golson (Music) played the piano.

Internal Communication Survey Results Are In

Thank you to all employees who responded to the Research Communications Office’s Internal Communication Survey during January and February.

Approximately 34 percent of GTRI employees surveyed told us what they prefer to read in The Connector, what kind of information they use the Web to retrieve on the job, and what they think about special communications programs such as brown bag lunches and the summer 1996 GTRI Connected Web site on Olympics information.

RCT will use this information to plan internal communications content, methods of distributing information and future special projects.

Among the information respondents shared:

• What do you like to read? Personal and professional news are the most popular items in The Connector, read by 62 percent of respondents. These are followed in popularity by

Search Committee Formed; Reedy is Interim

GTRI is well-represented on the committee that will lead the search for a new vice president and director. Committee members are:

Krish Aluja, GTRI/AERO
Jean-Lou Chameau, Vice Provost for Research (chair)
Mike Cummins, GCATT
Trent Farill, GTRI/EOEML
Margaret Lopez, GTRI/ITTL
Jeff Sitterle, GTRI/SDL
Ward Winer, Mechanical Engineering

Chameau, Chuck Donough (COHR) and Charlie Brown (ISF, GTRC) will hire a search firm to support the committee, and Cindy Roberts GTRI will serve as support staff for the committee.

While the search is in progress, Ed Reedy (Research Operations) is serving as interim director. Reedy joined GTRI in 1970 as a research engineer, and has led branches, divisions and laboratories during his 27 years here. For the past four years, he has directed Research Operations and provided management oversight of GTRI’s program development and advanced concept operations.

He also is an adjunct faculty member of the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, directing several graduate level special problems courses; helping to organize graduate courses in radar technology, and helping develop a Management of Technology Certificate Program at Georgia Tech. Reedy holds bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees in electrical engineering from the University of Tennessee.

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Falcon View  
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So far in this group perform “fundamental operations that are critical to a company or organization to carry out its primary mission,” according to Janet Church and Associates, Inc., the management firm for the Windows World Open.

The finalists will compete on a floor show at the Windows World Open pavilion during Comdex/Windows World '97 in Atlanta, June 2-5. Finalists will take part in the Windows World Open Awards Ceremony and be presented with a trophy by Bill Gates immediately following his keynote speech on June 3.

GTRI's role as a solution provider was visible to the thousands of Comdex attendees, Pyles noted.

"In addition, GTRI will be listed as the solution provider for a finalist in an advertisement in Computerworld and in other high technology industry publications," he said. "GTRI also will be named as the solution provider for a finalist in a press release distributed on Businesswire, and sent to the Windows World Open VIP press list. Falcon View will be highlighted in a special supplement published in Computerworld, as well."

GTRI employees who have worked on the project are Brian Barnes, Eric Beebe, Kevin Brown, Cynthia Fellors, Rob Gue, Kathryn Knox, Rohit Kumar, David Pope, John Pyles, Jim Rhodes, Jay Smith, Vinny Sollicito, Billy Stark and Thuy Tran.

Entries will be judged by a panel of industry and information systems experts knowledgeable of Windows development. Among the panel members are Charles Babcock, Computerworld technical editor; Rich Hehda, First Chicago vice president; Brent Williams, Applications Development Technical Research Center, Gartner Group, research director; Larry A. Bobbitt, Andersen Consulting associate partner; Ray Hamann, EDS Client Server Integration chief technologist; Patrick Marshall InfoWorld, The Seattle Times, technology columnist; and Tony Uphoff, Information Week publisher.

Georgia Transportation Institute Funded

By Joey Goddard, OCA

The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) has provided start-up funding to Georgia Tech for a new multi-disciplinary center on campus. The center, which will be called the Georgia Transportation Institute (GTI), will conduct research, development, education and technology transfer pertaining to all forms of transportation in the State of Georgia. The role of the Institute will be to coordinate and enhance the involvement of Georgia Tech and other state universities doing research in transportation.

"Transportation-related research has been a strategic area at Georgia Tech for several years," said Jean-Lou Chameau, vice provost for research and dean of graduate studies. "We have seen a significant increase in those activities, including the successful completion of the Atlanta Short Haul Transportation System fund during the Olympics. Another example is the multi-year, multi-million dollar project sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to develop a new model for estimating automobile and pollutants. The Georgia Transportation Institute will help us foster and enhance those activities, and serve the state better in an area critical to its economy and future."

"Our goal is to bring together the people doing transportation research in the state," said Bob Cassanova, director of GTRI's Aerospace and Transportation Laboratory (AERO). "The GTI makes it possible for our sponsors to tap into all of the resources that Georgia Tech has to offer, as well as the expertise of researchers from other universities in the state."

The existing transportation center on campus, the Transportation Research and Education Center (TREC), will be absorbed by the GTI.

Michael Meyer, director of TREC, noted, "GTI is a natural evolution of the efforts made several years ago to develop an interdisciplinary approach to transportation research and education. GTI establishes a strong link to GDOT and puts transportation and logistics research in a much broader context than has occurred to date."

The GTI will be managed through the Office of Interdisciplinary Programs, and Cassanova will act as interim director while the search for a permanent director is underway.

The GTI was the suggestion of GDOT Commissioner Wayne Shackleford, who believed that the state needed to consolidate transportation resources.

"We felt that the Institute would be a good way to expand transportation research in Georgia by having one organization that could oversee research for the entire state," said Lamar Caylor, Chief of the Research and Development Branch for GDOT. "Other states, like Texas and Virginia, have had similar organizations for a long time. The GTI will make Georgia more competitive in the area of transportation research."

Cassanova agrees.

"As Georgia Tech began to focus more and more on transportation research, we realized the importance of a strong working relationship with the state's Department of Transportation," he said. "The GTI gives Georgia Tech and other state universities an advantage because of its affiliation with GDOT."

"We thought that Tech would be an ideal place to house the GTI," said Caylor. "As one of the nation’s premier engineering colleges, they have the resources to do the job."

"Locating the Institute at Tech makes sense given our strengths in programs such as logistics, civil and environmental engineering, city planning, aerospace, materials and others, both in the Colleges and GTRI," added Chameau. "Although the GTI will be based at Tech, we expect and will encourage strong participation from other universities in the state, and obviously from the Georgia Department of Transportation, which is a key partner in this initiative."

Cassanova said there are no plans to model the GTI after any particular state-wide transportation center.

"We’re going to be looking at all of them and picking up the things that work," he explained. "But it will come down to doing whatever it takes to get the job done."

Although the initial funding for the center will come from GDOT, the GTI’s research will not be limited to projects for the state.

"GDOT had a laundry list of projects that they want to complete, but much of our funding will come from sources that we already have, such as the FHWA (Federal Highway Administration) and industry," Cassanova said.

Charles Babcock, Computerworld technical editor; Rich Hehda, First Chicago vice president; Brent Williams, Applications Development Technical Research Center, Gartner Group, research director; Larry A. Bobbitt, Andersen Consulting associate partner; Ray Hamann, EDS Client Server Integration chief technologist; Patrick Marshall, InfoWorld, The Seattle Times, technology columnist; and Tony Uphoff, Information Week publisher.
Library Databases Available

Following is a list of selected databases that may be of interest to GTRI faculty and staff. These databases can be provided through use of the Georgia Tech Library's Home Page, located at the web address http://www.library.gatech.edu, under the heading "Databases." In addition to being grouped alphabetically, databases are also grouped by access category — GTEL, Gateway, Galileo and CD-ROM (Library's IAN only).

You may e-mail Bette Finn, GTRI research librarian at gatech.edu or call her at (404) 894-1790, for informational assistance such as citation verification, searches in any of the databases available through the Library’s Home Page, and searches in hundreds of databases offered through commercial vendors. Fee-based vendors include the Defense Technology Information Center for classified or limited distribution reports, Knight-Ridder’s Dialog, STN (chemistry, etc.), NASA/RECON and others.

* * * * * * *
Books and Serials, Catalogs and Directories
Books in Print—GTEL’s BIP; books in print and out of print.
Georgia Tech Electronic Catalog—GTEL’s GTEC (Ga. Tech Library).
Georgia Libraries Journal List (GOLD)—Galileo.
PALS Across Georgia Union Catalog/OLLl—Gateway database.
Publishers Address File—GTEL’s PADB; directory of publishers.
WorldCat—Galileo, 35 million bibliographic records of books and other types of materials catalogued by OCLC libraries, 2150 B.C. to present. Covers all disciplines.

* * * * * * *
Business and Company Information

Survey

feature articles on research projects, read by 57 percent of respondents. Tied for third are human interest articles about colleagues and news about services/policies, each read by 54 percent of respondents. The chart of selected new awards is reviewed by 38 percent of respondents.

* Do you have Web access at work?
  Almost all respondents — 99 percent reported having Web access at work. Most, 71 percent, use it to search for information about external organizations, such as potential sponsors. A total of 53 percent search for Georgia Tech information: 44 percent look for GTRI information; and 37 percent use the Web for other purposes, 96 percent of which are related to project research.

A total of 92 percent of respondents use Netscape to explore the Web. Eight percent use Microsoft Internet Explorer, and 2 percent use Mosaic.

* In what form do you like to read The GTRI Connector? Most respondents, 65 percent, prefer reading it on paper. However, 7 percent read The Connector on the Web. 10 percent would prefer to read it on the Web, and 26 percent are willing to read it on the Web, but have no preference.

* Was GTRI Connector helpful to you during the Olympics? Forty-six percent of respondents accessed GTRI Connector, the Web compilation of information about working on campus during the Summer 1996 Centennial Summer Olympic Games. Of those who accessed GTRI Connector, 81 percent said they found it helpful, mostly because the information was accurate, reliable and accessible. The 6 percent who did not find it helpful were located off-campus during the Olympics. Most accessed the site less than once a week (39 percent), with 29 percent accessing it once a week, 10 percent accessing it daily, and 12 percent checking it every other day.

* Are you interested in brown bag lunch programs? Opinions on brown bag lunches were evenly split. Fifty percent of those surveyed say brown bag lunches are helpful to employees, and that they would be willing to attend one if the topic were of interest to them. Those who are not supportive of brown bag lunches cited logistics, time constraints and the need for personal time during the day.

Brown bag lunch topics suggested by respondents included HR and other policies, career enhancement, personal development, the proposal process, research at sister schools and in industry, a “state of the institute” update, employment benefits and options, labs, and management goals. Speakers suggested included GTRI’s director, Georgia Tech president Wayne Clough, GTRI management, lab directors, researchers and project managers.

Ed Edgar, ARL director, presents Ron Smith with a letter of thanks from Vice President Al Gore. Smith serves on the White House Commission on Aviation Safety and Security, offering expertise on widebody aircraft and aircraft self-protection measures. In February, Gore thanked Smith on behalf of President Bill Clinton for “the extremely valuable advice he offered, which made a significant contribution to the success of the Commission.”
Supply Services Makes Changes

The Supply Services Department has consolidated and realigned assignments to better use its resources and serve its customers. Following is a quick summary of contacts for your Supply Services needs.

Deliveries
Brenda Hill, manager of Facilities Services, is responsible for all deliveries. New responsibilities for her include a) mail delivery, headed by Teddy Reed and formerly reporting to Evan Chastain, and b) shipping and receiving, at the GTRI Warehouse, headed by Billy Boner and formerly reporting to Martha Farley.

Reed will manage mail distribution, adding to his group’s responsibilities courier service and some shipping/ receiving at the Cobb County Facility.

Boner will continue managing shipping and receiving, staging (moving and storage of furniture, including office moves, for example) and surplus equipment staging and delivery. The Warehouse is now totally responsible for returning damaged goods to vendors — it formerly split that job with Supply Services. Pickup and delivery of electronic equipment for repair and calibration by the Instrumentation and Calibration Team also will be handled by Boner’s unit.

Administration
All administrative personnel in Supply Services will report to Brenda Hill. The Facilities Services administrative unit will handle administrative support for Supply Services, as well as operational administrative support for Facilities Services (such as the help desk, work order assignment and tracking, etc.) DeAnn Reese will lead this unit.

State Property
Paul Hawley, previously of Research Property, will join Facilities Services and report to the administrative unit. Hawley will continue his previous job supporting GTRI units in controlling state property. He will add to his duties administering, coordinating and managing surplus state property processing, as well as managing the GTRI vehicle fleet.

Facilities Maintenance
Rusty Embry, who previously supervised just CGCR maintenance workers, will supervise all GTRI maintenance workers. His supervision of campus workers is in an acting capacity, meaning someone will eventually be appointed to handle that responsibility.

Supply Services
Martha Farley will continue managing support of acquisition of goods and services for GTRI. She also will assume responsibility for managing property leases, which was formerly split between Facilities Services and Supply Services.

Congratulations to our Winter 1997 Grads!

Kevin Massey (AERO) earned a Ph.D. in aerospace engineering from Georgia Tech. His dissertation addressed “Flow-Acoustic Coupling in Heated and Unheated Free and Ducted Jets,” and his advisor was Krish Aluja (AERO). Kevin began work at GTRI in 1989 as a sophomore co-op student. He has worked on various projects involving measurement and reduction of jet noise, as well as managing a group of undergraduate and graduate students on various tasks.

Matthew Clark (SEAL) completed a master's degree in electrical engineering from Georgia Tech. As a GRA, he has been working in the Radar Systems Division.

Chris Reynolds (EEOEM) earned a bachelor’s degree in computer science from Georgia Tech. As a student temp and a co-op, he did programming, now working full-time with Schlumberger in Norcross.

Tim Strike (EELVS), completed a master’s degree in technical management from Southern Polytechnic State University in Marietta. Tim, the head of the Advanced Technology Applications Branch of the System Engineering Division, recently completed 18 years of work at GTRI.

Brownfields
From page 1
To fund an inventory of brownfields located within the city’s Empowerment Zone; encourage industry involvement in brownfields redevelopment; provide environmental justice planning and develop sustainable communities. Atlanta is unique compared to other brownfields pilot recipients, in that one does not find typical brownfields sites here like those in industrialized cities like Detroit or Baltimore. “When most people think of brownfields, the image of rusted-out steel mills and chemical plants sitting idle come to mind,” Schmitter says.

OIT Field Services Moves to Post-Olympic Permanent Home

By Toni Mills, OIT

The Office of Information Technology (OIT) is ready for business in its permanent home at 811 Marietta Street. The microcomputer repair facility had moved from the Georgia Tech Bookstore Mall to a temporary location, 500 Tech Parkway, before the 1996 Atlanta Centennial Olympic Games. Field Services (FS) new home is also a convenient off-campus location. The customer entrance at 811 Marietta Street is at the back of the building (the front of the building faces the Georgia Tech Aquatics Center). However, if leaving your office is not an option, FS provides a pickup and delivery service.

FS provides hardware support services for Georgia Tech faculty and staff for personal computers, printers, monitors and peripherals. Hardware support services include, but are not limited to, the following:

- diagnosis and repair
- warranty authorized service for IBM, Dell and Apple platforms
- monitor repair (all brands)
- laser printer repair (all brands)
- personal desktop systems (all brands)
- laptops, including Apple laptops.

Additionally, FS provides network support services including, but not limited to, the following:

- network card interface (NIC) installation/configuration
- Windows NT
- Windows 95
- Novell 3.12
- Service is available on a time and material basis or via a service contract which provides support coverage on an annual basis. Once a system is placed under contract, all parts and labor are covered for that fiscal year. The FY 97 rate for time and materials is $49 per hour.

Students and faculty who need hardware service may bring their personally owned systems to the Georgia Tech Computer Store in the Bookstore Mall.

For more information, you may contact FS manager John White at john.white@oit.gatech.edu or 404-894-7177.
Ergonomics: Taking Care of Your Bod on the Job

By Joey Goddard, OCA

Warning: Working can be hazardous to your health. Although performing tasks in a lab or office may not seem strenuous, the work that you do each day takes its toll on your body. Fortunately, you can mitigate much of that daily wear and tear by using ergonomics, says Randal Hawley, environmental safety maintenance technician in the Office of Environmental Safety and Health.

“Good ergonomic design can help relieve the tension that can be caused by repetitive motion,” he said.

Ergonomics is the study of how people interact with their work environment. It takes into account the design and function of everything in the work environment to help reduce stress on the body.

“Any type of movement that is performed repeatedly day after day can lead to injury,” Hawley continued. “Adjusting the way that you do your job, even slightly, can have a great effect on your well-being.”

The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) estimates that ergonomic illnesses and injuries cost more than $20 billion a year in workers’ compensation. According to OSHA, these illnesses and injuries also cost employers in terms of productivity and employee turnover.

One of the most common injuries caused by poor ergonomic design is cumulative trauma disorder, a condition caused by repetitive motion in the wrists.

“Cumulative trauma disorders can be easily avoided simply by adjusting the height of the keyboard to keep from bending the wrists,” said Hawley. “Most of the solutions for these problems are really very simple,” he added. “In many cases, people already have ergonomically designed work stations, but they are not being used properly.”

The Office of Environmental Safety and Health offers the following suggestions for creating an ergonomically correct work station:

- The top of the computer monitor should be at eye level or slightly below eye level.
- The computer monitor and keyboard should be directly in front of you to avoid twisting the neck or wrists.
- Position source documents next to the monitor at the same height and viewing distance to eliminate constant head turning and refocusing of the eyes.
- Use a chair with armrests to support the elbows and relax the shoulders.
- Arms should hang comfortably with forearms at a ninety degree angle from the body when typing.
- Chair height should be adjustable and the chair should be capable of supporting the lumbar area of the back.
- Feet should rest firmly on the floor to help support the back.
- Use a gel-filled wrist rest to prevent injury due to the pressure received from resting on a hard surface.
- Take frequent breaks to give muscles and joints a chance to rest and recover.

The Office of Environmental Safety and Health will evaluate the ergonomic design of the work stations in your office upon request. For more information, call Randal Hawley at 894-4635.
**Professional Activities**

**Aerospace and Transportation Laboratory**

The 1995 International Aerial Robotics competition organized by Bob Michelson was featured in a Scientific America. Frontiers special on robotics. The program aired Apr. 9 on PBS. AIC News aired footage of Michelson’s “Emotor,” a robotic insect, Apr. 18 on the Discovery Channel.

**Electro-optics, Environment and Materials Laboratory**

*Dara O’Neil* and *Steve Thomas* gave a presentation on “Multimedia Development in the Real World” at the Microcomputers Online with Education conference at Georgia State University on Mar. 14.

*Chris Thompson* co-chaired a workshop at the recent ACM Chi conference held in Atlanta. His presentation addressed “Research Issues in Wearable Computing.” Larry Najjar also attended.

**Skinny Sensors and Electromagnetic Applications Laboratory**

*Mark Clarkin* presented an invited paper titled “Conversion of MATLAB Simulation to Khosor,” at the Khosor Symposium ’97 March 24-26 in Alburquerque, N.M. Mark was also an invited panelist for a technical session, “The Use of Integration Platforms in the Development of Machine Vision Products,” at the conference.

**Personal Notes**

**Crude Roll**

Lori and Mark Mitchell (SEAL) welcomed a son, Beau Standridge, on Mar. 24.

**Wedding Bells**

*Todd Deterding* (EOEM) and *Stephanie Kaminski* were married Mar. 22 in St. Louis, MO.

**Our Sympathy...**

...to Forrest Williams (BSI), whose brother died April 14.

**After Hours**

James “Danny” Wilson (STI) is planning a May 24 lunch for the homeless from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Cosmopolitan AME Church on the corner of Vine and Foundry streets, near the Georgia Dome. Hamburgers and hotdogs will be served. The lunch is one of several events that Danny is organizing this year, continuing a tradition begun by his late wife, Sherry. Danny would like to recruit approximately 30 volunteers to grill food and direct, serve and host guests. He hopes to serve at least 3,000 people.

If you would like to volunteer to serve or donate supplies, you may contact Danny at (404) 691-7760 or (404) 894-7745.

**Forrest Williams** (BSI) daughter and son-in-law, Lisa Williams Carter and Eric Carter, appeared in a Head-and-Shoulders shampoo advertisement in a recent Rolling Stone magazine! Lisa and Eric, along with other members of the Zion Choir of Roswell, GA, were featured because they sang in the choir that performed at the Closing Ceremonies for the Summer 1996 Centennial Olympic Games. The group is giving to their church the majority of the fee they received for participating.

**Reminder: Festival Behind the Fence Planned for May 17**

You’re invited to spend May 17 at a festival filled with fun, food and games. Festival Behind the Fence (FBF) is for families, students and administrators associated with Georgia Tech. The fun begins at noon — carnival rides, games, live bands, cultural entertainment, competitions and a dunking tank are planned. Attendees can feast on low-cost hamburgers, cheeseburgers, chips and soft drinks.

Event sponsors are Tech’s Residence Hall Association, hall councils, Student Foundation and Student Government Association, as well as many outside corporations.

For more information, visit the FBF website at <http://info.gatech.edu/~fbf/>, or contact Meredith Moore, vice president of RHA, at x2408@prism.gatech.edu.

**Brownfields**

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vision of what it would like to have done, but it may not have the experience to go get the funding. They need help and re sources to put together a plan. Ultimately, they must be on board if an idea is to be successful and sustainable.

“We can come in on the ground floor and say, these are your options,” Schmierter said. “We can give them the resources and knowledge they need to move forward on their own, and they’ll still have access to Georgia Tech afterward.”

Schmierter and Lane recently visited the site in Boulevard Heights with Petersen to learn more about the lot. As they picked their way through vines and dirt littered with half-buried and rusted car frames, cans, old tires, bricks and more, Lane asked questions. What kinds of environmental tests have been done on the land at this site? What are the communities that surround the site, and which organized groups are interested in its future? The researchers also determined that resolving drainage issues would be an important part of reclaiming the lot.

The Georgia Tech Brownfields Redevelopment and Community-Based Environmental Health Partnership is designed to assist local government, as well as public and private community development organizations. Through it, Georgia Tech would help communities:

- Identify and assess environmental impairment at brownfields sites
- Perform environmental and health risk assessments
- Develop and maintain a Geographic Information System database of pertinent information for site identification, remediation, and redevelopment
- Provide technical assistance for remediation strategies
- Assist in long-range land-use and economic development planning necessary to return brownfields to productive and viable properties that foster community revitalization.

Lane and Schmierter will continue to pursue additional funding for other brownfields projects. For now, they are focused on helping communities develop visions for redevelopment. They also are collaborating with faculty in the School of Architecture’s City Planning Program — professor Nancy Green Leigh and Ph.D. student Sarah Coffin — and the Economic Development Institute. Lane and Schmierter hope that the ESI collaboration will allow the two of them, and the community, to identify business development opportunities that will enhance economic growth within the Empowerment Zone communities.

The School of Civil and Environmental Engineering is interested, as well, in Lane and Schmierter’s effort.

“The success of our nation as a whole depends on the success of inner city neighborhoods, such as those located within and adjacent to Atlanta’s Empowerment Zones,” Lane said. “These communities are suffering from environmental injustice issues, such as brownfields and pollution, crime, poverty and unemployment. Those more fortunate are quick to discard these issues as ‘not our own.’ Yet, we are all ultimately affected. Addressing the issue of brownfields is just one way university experts can contribute to sustainable, healthy communities.”