MEDIA ADVISORY: GEORGIA TECH AND EMORY UNIVERSITY TO SPONSOR BIOMEDICAL IMAGING CONFERENCE

The Georgia Institute of Technology and the Emory University School of Medicine will host a "Visualization in Biomedical Computing" (VBC) conference, set for May 22-25 in Atlanta. Leading scientists plan discussions on specific imaging techniques as well as general issues relevant to this emerging field of technology.

Increasingly, methods for visualizing the human body using three-dimensional computer images are allowing doctors to diagnose problems while contributing to a better understanding of physical events, explained Dr. Norberto Ezquerra of Georgia Tech, chairman of the conference planning committee.

Other biomedical imaging systems produce animated pictures of fluid flow or biomolecular structures, he added. Meanwhile, Ezquerra said, scientists have stepped up efforts to determine the factors that influence human perception and interpretation of these images. He hopes the conference will lead to continued improvements in these imaging technologies.

A senior research scientist, Ezquerra is developing a methodology to help doctors integrate many diverse sources of patient information, using high-resolution computer graphics and visualization techniques. He hopes the methodology will improve diagnostic procedures by establishing consistent guidelines for evaluating information. (Please see the graphics included on page two of this release.)

Those involved in the VBC conference include Drs. Ronald Arkin and Larry Hodges of Georgia Tech; Dr. Gabor Herman of the University of Pennsylvania; Dr. Ed Catmull of PIXAR; Dr. Henry Fuchs of the University of North Carolina; Dr. Azriel Rosenfeld of the University of Maryland; and Dr. Calvin Nodine of the University of Pennsylvania, along with many others.

EDITOR’S NOTE: For information about attending the conference, please call Ginger Pinholster or John Toon at (404) 894-3444. Copies of selected conference proceedings are also available.

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CUTLINE -- Scientists at the Georgia Institute of Technology and Emory University are developing new methodology to help doctors integrate diverse sources of patient information using high-resolution computer images such as the heart shown above. The research will be described during the upcoming "Visualization in Biomedical Computing" conference in Atlanta. (Color photo available.)