Yellow Jacket Football Honored at Capitol

Georgia Tech Football Coach Paul Johnson and former star quarterback, Joe Hamilton (HTS ‘07), were both recognized in the State Senate and House of Representatives last week. Coach Johnson was recognized as the ACC Coach of the Year, and Joe Hamilton was recognized for his recent induction into the College Football Hall of Fame.

Priorities:

Senate approves budget including Georgia Tech priorities

Last week the State Senate passed its version of the FY16 general budget, supporting several key items for Georgia Tech and the University System of Georgia. Updates on these priorities are listed below.

Thank you to the Capitol Jackets who shared the importance of Georgia Tech’s priorities with their Senate members: David Jackson, Per Holtze, Tom Gurley, Glenn Durrence, and Bird Blitch.

- Added $865,000 in bonds

Overview

For nearly a century, the Holland Plant has worked to provide Georgia Tech students, faculty, and administration an adequate indoor environment for teaching, working and learning. Today the Holland Plant supports roughly 75 of Georgia Tech’s 200 campus buildings, including the Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons, the Price Gilbert Library/Crosland Tower, the Campus Recreation Center, as well as several residence halls and academic buildings. Georgia Tech has consistently maintained and made continuous improvements to the Plant, but outdated equipment must be replaced and capacity must be increased in order to address future demands.

Maintaining Compliance

This project builds back needed equipment redundancy to efficiently meet the needs of the area. It will allow the Plant to provide cooling in a more flexible and dependable manner and is key to the future replacement of an existing cooling tower that is reaching the end of its useful life.

PROJECTED COST: $5M

Government and Community Relations

A. French Building, Suite 15
Atlanta, GA 30332-0392

Dene Sheheane, Vice President | sheheane@gatech.edu | 404.894.1238

Betsy Jackson, Associate Director | betsy.jackson@gatech.edu | 404.894.1238

Casey Aultman, Legislative Advocacy Mgr. | casey.aultman@gatech.edu | 404.894.5186

QUICK FACTS

- Added $865,000 in bonds to the House recommendation of $4.135 million for a total of $5 million for the Holland Plant modernization and expansion
- Returned ATDC expansion funding back to the Governor’s original recommendation of $415,900
- Maintained new formula funding for the University System and $60 million in bonds for major repair and rehabilitation funds
Legislative Roundup

Updated Bills and Resolutions from our Watchlist

HB 3 ................................................................................Passed House; Assigned to Senate Higher Education Committee Provides sanctions for persons that enter into or solicit transactions with student-athletes that result in sanctions to the student.

HB 18 ..............................................................................Passed House; Passed Senate Regulated Industries committee Exempts defense, aviation, space, and aerospace companies from regulations relating to professional engineers and land surveyors.

HB 57 ..............................................................................Passed House; Passed Senate Regulated Industries Committee Provides financing for and allows the use of solar technology in the generation of electric energy.

HB 76 ..............................................................................Awaiting Conference Committee Appointees General appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2016.

HB 237 ............................................................................Passed House; Assigned to Senate Finance Committee Extends the angel investor tax credit for three years.

HB 255 ............................................................................Passed House; Assigned to Senate Agriculture Committee Requires equal credits be given to certain forestry certification systems when using green building standards in state construction projects.

HB 259 ............................................................................Passed House; Assigned to Senate Government Oversight Committee Creates the “Georgia Business Act” providing for an exemption for certain state purchasing from competitive bidding procedures.

The following bills have no movement to report since recent issues of Capitol Buzz: SB 2, SB 58, HB 320

Study Committees on our watchlist:

HR 71 Creates the House Study Committee on the HOPE Scholarship Program Award Amount for Critical Fields of Study.

HR 642 Creates the Joint Study Committee on Postsecondary Education and Employment Options for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

SR 114 Creates the Joint Entrepreneur in Residence Study Committee.

SR 360 Creates the Senate Data Security and Privacy Study Committee.

SR 467 Creates the Senate Higher Education Access and Success for Homeless and Foster Youth Study Committee.

SR 479 Creates the Senate Ending Campus Sexual Assaults Study Committee.

The General Assembly will be in session every day this week through Friday, legislative day 38.

Next Tuesday is legislative day 39 and the General Assembly will convene on Thursday, April 2, for Sine Die.