

CAPITOL BUZZ



Georgia Tech Updates from the State Capitol
VOLUME IX, ISSUE III – Monday, February 8, 2016

FOLLOW

Today marks the seventeenth legislative day.

On January 28, the House of Representatives passed its version of the Amended Fiscal Year 2016 budget.

Senate Appropriations subcommittees began meeting last week on the AFY16 budget, including the Senate Appropriations Higher Education Subcommittee.

For frequent budget updates, check [@CapitolJackets](https://twitter.com/CapitolJackets)

Together we swarm the State Capitol



More than 75 Georgia Tech students, along with faculty and staff, participated Feb. 1 in the annual Georgia Tech Student Day at the Capitol. Representative Bert Reeves and Senator P.K. Martin hosted Georgia Tech in the House and Senate chambers for an invite resolution.



Georgia Tech Student Body President, Jen Abrams, addresses members of the State Senate during an invite resolution honoring Georgia Tech students at GT Day at the Capitol.

House of Representatives passes HOPE Scholarship legislation

Last week the House of Representatives unanimously passed House Bill 801 following favorable passage by substitute from the House Higher Education Committee.

The bill sponsor, House Speaker Pro Tem Jan Jones (R-Milton), presented her HOPE Scholarship legislation from the House floor last Wednesday. Speaker Pro

Tem Jones highlighted the bill's provision directing the Board of Regents to assist in identifying specific courses in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) fields that are "academically rigorous and required for or leading to employment in high demand fields in Georgia." This bill would give students a half-point boost to their HOPE GPA calculation in identified STEM courses in which a B, C, or D letter grade is earned. The bill now moves to the Senate for consideration.

NEWS CENTER

campus and community

Tech Withdraws Library Budget Request

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Earlier this week, Georgia Tech withdrew its request for fiscal year 2017 state bond funds for the renovation of the Price Gilbert Library and Dorothy Crosland Tower.

A recent review of the project status revealed that more time is needed for work to be completed in the areas of building preparation and remediation. This time will also provide an opportunity to raise additional private funds to supplement the state’s investment.

President G.P. “Bud” Peterson stated that, following these additional preparations, Georgia Tech plans to resubmit the project for funding in fiscal year 2018.



The renovation project is part of Tech’s Library Renewal Project, which re-envision the role and design of a 21st century university library. The long-term project began in 2015 and progressed last month with the opening of the Joint Library Service Center with Emory University. The center is located near the Emory campus and has daily deliveries to Georgia Tech to fulfill requests for books and materials from the campus community.

Learn more about the Library Renewal Project at renewal.library.gatech.edu.

Intern Spotlight



Kate Richardson is a Biomedical Engineering major from Alpharetta, GA. This session Kate is working in the office of Senator Hunter Hill (R – 6), Chairman of the Senate Veterans, Military, and Homeland Security Committee.

LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP

There has been no movement on the following bills from last week’s issue of Capitol Buzz: HB 745, HB 751, HB 779, HB 792

Updates on bills and resolutions from our watch list:

HB 750.....Passed House; Assigned to Senate Appropriations Committee
Amended Fiscal Year 2016 appropriations bill.

HB 801..... Passed House; Assigned to Senate Higher Education Committee
Revises current provisions regarding the HOPE scholarship to include certain STEM-related courses as optional rigor requirements.

HB 859 Assigned to House Public Safety Committee
Changes current provisions to allow certain licensed firearm holders to carry weapons on college campuses and restricts those persons from carrying into buildings or property used for athletic sporting events or student housing.

HR 1190 and SR 803 House and Senate Adopted
Recognize February 1, 2016, as Georgia Tech Student Day at the Capitol and commends Georgia Tech students for their many contributions to the State of Georgia.

SR 855 Senate Adopted
Recognizes February 29, 2016, as REACH Georgia Day at the State Capitol and commends the REACH Georgia program coordinators, mentors, academic coaches, and supporters.