

CAPITOL BUZZ



Georgia Tech Updates from the State Capitol
VOLUME X, ISSUE IV – Monday, February 20, 2017

FOLLOW

Tomorrow marks the twenty-first legislative day.

Please help Georgia Tech thank House members for supporting Georgia Tech and University System priorities in the FY18 budget. To find your House member, visit OpenStates.org for reference.

Follow [@CapitolJackets](https://twitter.com/CapitolJackets) on Twitter for updates throughout the week.



Tiffany Wilson, Executive Director of the Global Center for Medical Innovation at Georgia Tech, presented to the Senate Science and Technology committee on February 9, 2017.

Governor signs amended budget funding Georgia Cyber Innovation and Training Center



On Wednesday, February 15th, Governor Deal signed the amended Fiscal Year 2017 budget into law. The amended budget includes funds to establish the Georgia Cyber Innovation and Training Center to create a secure environment for cybersecurity education programs, testing and training. Georgia Tech will be a partner with other University System and Technical College System institutions.

House supports library renewal funding in Fiscal Year 2018 budget

On Friday, February 17, the House of Representatives passed its version of the Fiscal Year 2018 budget, and supported the Governor's recommendation for \$47 million in bond funding to construct phase one of the Price Gilbert/Crosland Tower Library Renewal Project.

Other Georgia Tech and University System priorities supported in the House budget include:

- \$40.1 million in new funds to the USG for merit-based pay

adjustments and employee recruitment and retention initiatives

- \$50 million in bond funding for Major Repair and Rehabilitation funds for the USG
- New formula funding for the USG

An additional \$49.3 million in new funds was awarded to the Georgia Student Finance Commission to increase the award amount for HOPE scholarships by 3%. Please thank House members for their support of higher education and Georgia Tech.

In Memory of Larry Toney



Larry Toney, a Capitol Jackets Steering Committee member, passed away on February 13, 2017, at Wellstar Kennestone Hospital in Marietta, Georgia. Mr. Toney was a 1960 Industrial Engineering graduate of Georgia Tech. He will be dearly missed by his Yellow Jacket family and friends. *Pictured above:* Larry Toney and his daughter, Michele Toney, in Big Canoe, Georgia.

Intern Spotlight >>>



Grace Huber is an International Affairs major from Evans, GA. This session Grace is working for the Senate State & Local Governmental Operations Committee Chairman John Albers (R-56).

LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP >>>

Updates on selected bills and resolutions from our watch list:

- HB 43** **Passed; Signed by Governor**
Amended Fiscal Year 2017 appropriations bill.
- HB 44** **Assigned to Senate Appropriations Committee**
General appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2018.
- HB 51** **No movement; Remains in House Appropriations Committee**
Provides regulations related to the reporting of certain crimes and investigation by officials and employees of postsecondary institutions.
- HB 280** **Passed House Public Safety Subcommittee**
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, daycare centers or student housing.
- HB 307** **Assigned to House Higher Education Committee**
Students from foster care or homeless situations are classified as in-state residents for tuition purposes.
- HR 318** **House Special Rules Committee**
Creates the House Study Committee on Inclusive Postsecondary Education.
- SR 199** **Passed**
Commends the University System of Georgia Outstanding Scholars for Academic Recognition