

CAPITOL BUZZ



Georgia Tech Updates from the State Capitol
VOLUME X, ISSUE VI – Monday, March 20, 2017

FOLLOW

Today marks the thirty-sixth legislative day.

Next Thursday, March 30th, is Sine Die and will conclude the 40-day legislative session for the Georgia General Assembly. The final issue of 2017 *Capitol Buzz* will be sent when the legislature adjourns at midnight.

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



Georgia Tech alumnus, Rep. Buzz Brockway, is pictured right with Rep. Chuck Martin after a friendly “tie” wager based on the Georgia Tech vs. UGA football game. Rep. Martin’s GT tie reads, “I lost a bet with Buzz.”

House interns meet with Speaker Ralston



University System students serving as legislative interns in the House of Representatives this session recently enjoyed a luncheon with Speaker David Ralston in appreciation of their service. This session, Georgia Tech has three interns in the House: Annie Grohovsky pictured first row third from the left, Rachel Weber pictured first row second from the right, and Austin Kirk pictured to the right of the Speaker.

Senate passes Fiscal Year 2018 budget, supports Georgia Tech priorities

On Wednesday, March 15th, the Senate passed its version of the Fiscal Year 2018 budget including \$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 Senate 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

The Senate also retained \$49.3 million in new funds awarded to the Georgia Student Finance Commission to increase the award amount for HOPE scholarships by 3%.

Please thank Senate members for their support of higher education and Georgia Tech.



» In Progress and Service

Each year, the General Assembly passes several Resolutions honoring Georgia Tech and members of the Yellow Jacket family. A few of the 2017 resolutions relating to Georgia Tech are listed below for reference:



HR 17 by Rep. Buzz Brockway honoring Georgia Tech Athletic Director Todd Stansbury

HR 563 by Rep. Earl Ehrhart honoring GT alumni Admiral Sandy Winnefeld and General Philip Breedlove

SR 122 by Senator Fran Millar recognizing USG Research Institutions Day at the Capitol

SR 199 by Senator Fran Millar commending GT student Sara Dada as USG Outstanding Scholar

SR 300 by Senator P.K. Martin honoring GT alumnus and golfer Matt Kuchar for Olympic Bronze medal

SR 360 by Senator Brandon Beach commending 50th year of the GT Basic Economic Development Course

Intern Spotlight



Rachel Weber is a Business Administration major from Buford, GA. This session Rachel is working for House Health and Human Services Committee Chair Sharon Cooper (R-43).

LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP

Updates on selected bills and resolutions from our watch list:

HB 44 Passed Senate; Assigned to Conference Committee
General appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2018.

HB 51 Assigned to Senate Judiciary Committee
Provides regulations related to the reporting of certain crimes and investigation by officials and employees of postsecondary institutions.

HB 280 Passed Senate Judiciary 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, student housing or college and career academies.

SR 410 Passed Senate Science and Technology Committee
Creates the Senate Study Committee on Information Technology Corridors in Georgia.