

# CAPITOL BUZZ



Georgia Tech Updates from the State Capitol  
VOLUME X, ISSUE VII – Thursday, March 30, 2017

## General Assembly adjourns Sine Die



Tonight, the 155th Georgia General Assembly adjourned Sine Die. All bills passed this legislative session now await Governor Deal's review and have until May 9, 2017 to be signed into law.

*Photo: Georgia House of Representatives*

## Final FY 2018 budget approved by House and Senate

Last Wednesday, March 22nd, the House and Senate gave final passage to the Fiscal Year 2018 budget. The FY18 budget now awaits Governor Deal's signature.

*Final budgetary items for Georgia Tech and the University System of Georgia:*

- \$47 million in bond funding to construct phase one of the Price Gilbert/Crosland Tower Library Renewal Project

- \$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

- \$66.7M in formula funding for the USG

- \$49.3 million in new funds awarded to the Georgia



Student Finance Commission to increase the award amount for HOPE scholarships by 3%

## Letter from the President

Dear Capitol Jackets:

As the General Assembly adjourns Sine Die for the 2017 legislative session, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to you, the campus community, and the many alumni and supporters throughout the state who support Georgia Tech and help us achieve our legislative priorities.

The efforts of our Capitol Jacket community are instrumental in helping to achieve our goals and position Georgia Tech as a strong partner to the State of Georgia. In particular, I extend my utmost appreciation to the Capitol Jackets Steering Committee Chair, Per Holtze, and to the committee members who worked to ensure Tech's priorities received funding.

Your support and thoughtful approach to advocacy has an impact far beyond this legislative session. Thank you for your support and commitment to furthering Georgia Tech's impact across Georgia.

Sincerely,



G. P. "Bud" Peterson  
President

## LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP

### *Final status of bills and resolutions from our watch list:*

- HB 44** ..... **Passed; Sent to Governor**  
*General appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2018.*
- HB 51** ..... **Will not move forward this session**  
*Provides regulations related to the reporting of certain crimes and investigation by officials and employees of postsecondary institutions.*
- HB 218** ..... **Will not move forward this session**  
*Provides that an eligible University System employee may revoke his or her election to participate in the Regents Retirement Plan in lieu of the Teachers Retirement System.*
- HB 229** ..... **Will not move forward this session**  
*Provides that the annual rate of inflation be used for calculating maximum tuition rates for the upcoming academic year.*
- HB 280** ..... **Passed; Sent to Governor**  
*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, college and career academies, classes in which high school students are enrolled, faculty/staff/administrative offices or rooms where disciplinary proceedings are conducted.*
- HB 471** ..... **Will not move forward this session**  
*Establishes free speech policy guidelines for institutions of the University System of Georgia and specifies payment of certain student activity fees.*
- SB 71** ..... **Will not move forward this session**  
*Contains amended language to include HB 51 language as passed by the House of Representatives.*
- HR 753** ..... **Passed**  
*Commending Georgia Tech Men's Basketball Team Head Coach Josh Pastner on being named 2017 ACC Coach of the year.*