Today marks the seventh legislative day.

House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees are currently reviewing the amended FY 2018 budget.

The General Assembly adopted an adjournment resolution setting the legislative calendar through next Monday, day eleven. For updated adjournment resolutions, visit: www.legis.ga.gov.

A total of 18 Georgia Tech students are serving as interns in the Georgia Legislative Internship Program this session. This record number of students have all been placed in legislative offices throughout the Capitol, and are hard at work in their positions. Follow along as individual interns are highlighted in Capitol Buzz throughout the session.

Governor Nathan Deal addresses a joint session of the Georgia General Assembly in his eighth State of the State address. Source: Governor’s Office photography

In his eighth and final State of the State address on January 11th, Governor Deal referred to the state’s universities as a source of pride in state government. He pointed out that, according the U.S. News and World Report, “Georgia is currently one of only three states to have more than one higher education institution in the top 20.”

Immediately following the address, Governor Deal released his Fiscal Year 2019 budget recommendation including $30.6 million in bonds to construct phase two of the Georgia Tech Price Gilbert/Crosland Tower Library Renewal Project, and $5 million in bonds for dedicated equipment for the Georgia Advanced Biomanufacturing Center at Georgia Tech. The Governor’s budget also includes $51 million in new Formula Funding and $65 million in bonds for Major Repair and Rehabilitation funds to the USG. An additional $35.6 million in new funds was awarded to the Georgia Student Finance Commission to increase the award amount for HOPE scholarships by 3%.

Georgia Tech priorities included in Governor’s Fiscal Year 2019 budget recommendation

Record number of GT student interns
Bills and Resolutions from our watch list:

HB 686 ............................................................. Assigned to House Appropriations Committee
Amended Fiscal Year 2018 appropriations bill.

HB 688 ............................................................. Assigned to House Appropriations Committee
General appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2019.

HB 700 ............................................................. Assigned to House Higher Education
Expands current service cancelable educational loans to include graduate degree programs.

HB 702 ............................................................. Assigned to House Higher Education
Creates a service cancelable loan program for students in STEM fields working in federal civil service positions at defense installations in Georgia.

SB 399 ............................................................. Senate First Readers
Establishes requirements for free speech policies for institutions of the University System.

SR 592 ............................................................. Adopted
Resolution honoring Norcross Mayor Bucky Johnson, former head of the music department at Georgia Tech, for his outstanding public service to Gwinnett County and the State of Georgia on the occasion of his retirement.