

CAPITOL BUZZ



Georgia Tech Updates from the State Capitol
VOLUME XI, ISSUE VII – Thursday, March 29, 2018

General Assembly adjourns Sine Die



Final budget report

Today the final FY 2019 budget was approved by the General Assembly including many Georgia Tech and University System priorities. A report on the final status is below pending the Governor's signature:

Georgia Tech Priorities

- » **\$30.6 million for Price Gilbert Library/Crosland Tower renewal project**
- » **\$5 million for the Georgia Advanced Biomanufacturing Center**

University System Priorities

- » **\$51.1 million in new Formula Funds for enrollment growth to be shared among all USG institutions**
- » **\$60 million in Major Repair and Rehabilitation Funds to repair aging facilities across the System**

Farewell to Betsy Jackson



Betsy is pictured second from right with fellow Georgia Tech colleagues.

As the 2018 legislative session adjourns, many members of the Georgia Tech family will begin to bid farewell to longtime colleague and friend, Betsy Jackson, Director of Operations in the Office of Government and Community Relations. Betsy will retire from Georgia Tech on May 1st, after serving in various capacities for nearly 40 years, spending the last 15 in the Office of Government and Community Relations. Her wisdom, professionalism and dedication to the institute will truly be missed. Please join us in thanking Betsy for her service and wishing her all the best in her upcoming retirement!

LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP

Updates on bills and resolutions from our watch list:

- HB 683** Signed by Governor
Amended Fiscal Year 2018 appropriations bill.
- HB 684** Passed; Sent to Governor
General appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2019.
- HB 700** Passed; Sent to Governor
Expands current service cancelable educational loans to include graduate degree programs.
- HB 787** Passed; Sent to Governor
Authorizes the Georgia Student Finance Commission to administer need based aid to certain University System students pending appropriated funds.
- SB 315** Passed; Sent to Governor
Establishes new provisions related to unauthorized computer access and penalties.
- SB 339** Passed; Sent to Governor
Establishes requirements for free speech policies for institutions of the University System.
- SB 348** Will not move forward this session
Reduces campus police jurisdiction from 500 yards to 500 feet beyond university property.
- SB 405** Will not move forward this session
Provides criteria for grants for certain eligible students with demonstrated financial need who are enrolled in an institution of the University System of Georgia.