

# CAPITOL BUZZ



Georgia Tech Updates from the State Capitol  
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## Starting the right way: GT Student Day



More than 100 Tech advocates gathered to witness the first gavel in for the 2014 legislative session at our annual Student Day at the Capitol. President Peterson joined students in thanking General Assembly members for their support.

## FOLLOW

Get more frequent Capitol and campus updates on Twitter, @CapitolJackets, or online at [www.gov.gatech.edu](http://www.gov.gatech.edu)

Univ. System Chancellor Huckaby to Appropriations committee: "We are making the right decisions for students and the state" #HigherEd #GApol

@GovernorDeal on new Governor's High Demand Career Initiative: a partnership to prepare students for GA's workforce #GASateoftheState

## ADVOCATE

*for GeorgiaTech*

House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees are currently reviewing the amended FY 2014 budget. It is expected to move forward quickly.

The Governor delivered his annual State of the State address last week with several references to the University System.

Please take a moment to read through his remarks and recommendations online at <http://tinyurl.com/State-Address>



## Priorities:

### *Governor's Budget Recommendation Favorable to Georgia Tech*

Governor Deal's fourth annual State of the State Address has been regarded as the most optimistic yet since he took office in 2011. During his speech, the Governor announced his new "High Demand Career Initiative" that will partner the state's universities with high-level employers to stay at the forefront of educating Georgia's future workforce. Alongside the Georgia Dept. of Economic Development, Georgia Tech will be a key partner in this important initiative.



In compliment to the address, the Governor released his budget recommendations to the General Assembly for FY 2015. Georgia Tech's \$1.7M library renewal project request was included in the recommendations in addition to \$47M in new Formula Funds and \$60M in facility repair funds for the University System.

## Intern Spotlight



*Taylor Gray is a senior International Affairs major from Calhoun, GA. He is working this session in David Ralston's office, Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

Updates from GT interns' experiences are posted to the Twitter feed, @CapitolJackets.

## Positive Momentum

### *Tune in here for updates on past capital project success stories*

From parking lot to undergraduate learning center, Clough Commons enables collaboration. Thanks to the efforts of the Georgia Tech Capitol Jackets, \$60M was secured in generous state support in FY 2009-2011 to complete funding for the Clough Commons with a total project cost of \$93.7M. The facility officially opened in August 2011 and served more than 2.5 million visitors last year. Students benefit every day from collaborative learning, laboratory, and class-

room instructional space. The proposed library renewal project, upon completion, will meet the Clough Commons at the academic crossroads of Georgia Tech's campus to continue the Institute's commitment to transforming undergraduate education.



## Legislative Roundup

### Bills and Resolutions from our Watchlist

HB 516.....Assigned to House Retirement Committee  
Allows members of the Optional Retirement Plan the opportunity for a one time switch into the Teacher's Retirement System.

HB 745-746 .....Assigned to the House Appropriations Committee  
Amended Fiscal Year 2014 appropriations bill.

HB 747-748 .....Assigned to the House Appropriations Committee  
General appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2015.

HB 697.....Assigned to House Appropriations Committee  
Extends Technical College student HOPE grants to cover full tuition.