The general Fiscal Year 2014 budget, including Georgia Tech’s top priorities, was passed out of the House of Representatives with overwhelming support. The $19.8 billion budget reflects a 2.65 percent increase from the 2013 budget and now goes to the Senate for their consideration. This version includes $5 million to finish and equip the Engineered Biosystems Building and $1.875 million for the renovation of the Lloyd W. Chapin Building – a cornerstone of Georgia Tech’s history.

“We are very grateful to the House of Representatives for their support and will continue to work with Senate leaders as they craft their version of the FY 2014 budget,” said Dene Sheheane, Executive Director of the Office of Government and Community Relations.

The budget also includes new formula funds as well as dollars for major repair and renovations. We expect the Senate version to be released late this week.

For more information, please visit the House Budget Office at http://tinyurl.com/amwv3ru.

**HILL HAPPENINGS**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- March 20-22: Legislative Days 35-37
- March 25, 26, 28: Legislative Days 38, 39, 40

**IN THIS ISSUE**

- GT Priorities Supported in House Budget
- Capitol Spotlight: GT Interns at the Capitol
- Legislative Round-up
OLIVIA WATKINS
Olivia is a fourth year senior, scheduled to graduate from Georgia Tech this upcoming May with a degree in International Affairs & Modern Languages (Spanish). This semester she is working as a GLIP intern at the State Capitol. She is working in the office of Senator Bill Heath along with his Administrative Assistant, Allison Hughes.

“The most rewarding part about this internship so far has been the amazing people I have met as well as the knowledge and experiences I have gained throughout my time working in this historic Capitol building,” said Olivia.

To learn more about the Georgia Legislative Internship Program and how to receive first-hand experience of the Georgia General Assembly, please visit http://www.legis.ga.gov/intern/en-US/default.aspx.

ROMA AMIN
Roma is a third year Public Policy student. She is working as a legislative intern for Cornerstone Communications Group, a highly regarded lobbying firm. Her work involves attending committee hearings and meetings of the Georgia General Assembly, conducting policy research and analysis, and monitoring and tracking Georgia legislation for the firm’s clients.

“This internship has provided me with an excellent opportunity to meet state legislators and be a part of the complex, lively environment at our State Capitol,” said Roma.

Legislative Round-up
Bills and Resolutions from our Watchlist

HB 45 .............................................................................. House Passed, Assigned to Senate Appropriations Committee
The “Carry Forward” measure would allow the University System of Georgia to carry a small amount of funds from one fiscal year to the next.

HB 105 .............................................................................. Conference Committee Report Adopted
Amended Fiscal Year 2013 appropriations bill

HB 106 .............................................................................. House Passed, Assigned to Senate Appropriations Committee
General appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2014

HB 232 .............................................................................. House Passed, Assigned to Senate Retirement Committee
This measure would allow the Board of Regents to determine the employee contribution rate for the Optional Retirement Plan.

HB 287 .............................................................................. House Passed, Assigned to Senate Higher Ed. Committee
This legislation would transfer the Division of Archives to the Board of Regents.

HB 324 .............................................................................. House Passed, Assigned to Senate Higher Ed. Committee
This bill removes the requirement for potential HOPE scholars to fill out the FAFSA form.

HB 481 .............................................................................. Assigned to the House Judiciary Committee
This bill would limit certain scientific research with regard to certain genetic material.

HB 512 .............................................................................. Passed House, Assigned to Senate Judiciary Non-Civil
This bill would remove certain carrying restrictions in places of worship, bars and college campuses.

HB 516 .............................................................................. Assigned to House Retirement Committee
This bill would allow members of the Optional Retirement Plan to switch one time to the Teacher’s Retirement Plan.

GETTN’ BUZZY CALLS TO ACTION
In this regular section you will find specific ways that you as a Capitol Jackets member can stay involved in active advocacy for Georgia Tech.

- The Senate is reviewing the FY 2014 budget. If you have not already, please write your state senator or state representative and ask them to support Georgia Tech. Specifically, $1.875 million for the renovation of the Lloyd W. Chapin Building. The Chapin building is one of the oldest on campus and once served as the Institute infirmary.

Find your legislators and their district mailing addresses by visiting www.gov.gatech.edu and selecting “Find Your Legislator” from the “Important Links” on the right. We would appreciate notification of any communication with our state leaders so we can better track our advocacy efforts.

Capitol Buzz is a biweekly publication of the Georgia Tech Office of Government and Community Relations distributed to the Georgia Tech Capitol jackets on the first business day of every other week during the Georgia General Assembly’s legislative session. Email k.wright@gatech.edu to subscribe.