



CAPITOL BUZZ

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

FY 2013 Budget Approved by House on Crossover Day

GOV'T AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

A comprehensive spending plan for FY2013 was passed by a vote of 151-21 in the Georgia House of Representatives last week on Legislative Day 30 or Crossover Day. This budget plan is applied to the state's agencies, organizations and departments including the legislature and the executive branch. The House was able to fulfill their constitutional duty of passing a balanced budget without much debate. In their final committee meeting before voting the budget out, Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee Terry England (R-Auburn) noted that this budget is

"positive affirmation that we are recovering slowly."

Our number one priority, securing \$59 million in bond funding for the construction of the Engineered Biosystems Building, was included in the House version. "We're very grateful for the support the House of Representatives has shown Georgia Tech," said President G. P. "Bud" Peterson. "Their actions demonstrate that investing in Georgia Tech is an investment in the future success of Georgia."

The University System of Georgia and Georgia Tech priorities received strong support in the House budget. The House version includes \$113.8 million in new formula funds for the USG and \$45 million for repair and rehabilitation of facilities on System campuses



throughout Georgia.

The budget totals \$19.2 billion, and will now go to the Senate Appropriations Committee for review before heading to the full Senate for consideration.

Crossover Day: The last day a bill can pass from one chamber to the other for consideration during the current legislative session.

For more information on the House Version of the FY2013 budget, please visit: <http://tinyurl.com/House-FY13>.

CAPITOL NOTES

- **Governor Nathan Deal** visited campus earlier this month and spoke to the quarterly meeting of the Georgia Tech Foundation Board of Trustees.
- Vice President of the Enterprise Innovation Institute (EI²), **Stephen Fleming** recently presented a report to the House Science and Technology Committee on the support of technology entrepreneurs in Georgia.

GT Partnership with Barrow County Schools Shaping the Future of Education in Georgia



Students and teachers in Barrow County utilize teleconference technology to learn about various research sectors.

Georgia Tech and the Barrow County School System have forged a relationship during the past six years to operate a unique K-12 research partnership. The system, working with Tech, earned a \$1.7 million Race to the Top Innovation grant to expand Direct to Discovery (D2D), intended to cultivate teaching collaborations between researchers and middle and high school students and teachers.

This partnership was celebrated recently at "Collaboration Day." President Peterson and Rep. Terry England, Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, were recently hosted by Barrow County Superintendent Wanda Creel to recognize the hard work of all those involved at Collaboration Day.

HILL HAPPENINGS

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 12 - 14	Legislative Day 31 - 33	Senate/House Chamber
March 13	House Higher Ed Meeting - GHEFA	406 CLOB
March 19 - 22	Legislative Day 34 - 37	Senate/House Chamber

IN THIS ISSUE

House Approves FY 2013 Budget	p. 1
Barrow County Schools	p. 1
Capitol Notes	p. 1
Legislative Round-up	p. 2
Get to Know Your State Capitol	p. 2

Legislative Round-up: Crossover Edition

Bills and Resolutions from our Watchlist

HB 741 *Passed Senate, waiting for Conference Committee*
This bill is the amended budget for Fiscal Year 2012.

HB 742 *Passed House, in Senate Appropriations Comm.*
This bill is the Fiscal Year 2013 budget.

HB 863 *Passed House, in Senate Govt. Oversight Comm.*
This bill changes certain provisions regarding state purchasing.

SB 302 *Passed Senate, in House Higher Ed. Comm.*
This bill would raise the bond capacity of the GA Higher Ed. Facilities Authority.

SB 402 *Passed Senate, House Comm. Favorably Reported*
This bill would allow the state to invest up to 5 percent of the Employee Retirement System's assets in alternative investments, like venture capital.

SB 458 *Passed Senate, in House Judiciary Non-Civil Comm.*
This bill would ban undocumented immigrants from attending GA's public colleges.

SR 1053 *In Senate Rules Committee*
This resolution creates the Senate Science & Tech. Innovation Study Commission.

Thank You to our Capitol Jackets

We would like to say thank you to several of our dedicated Capitol Jackets members who recently shared with us a copy of their correspondence to their legislators explaining the importance of supporting our legislative priorities.

Stan Anderson

Dan Blitch

Bob Mason

Patrise Perkins-Hooker

GETTIN' BUZZY

CALLS TO ACTION

In this regular section you will find specific ways that you, as a Capitol Jackets member, can become involved in active advocacy for Georgia Tech.

- Engage your representative to thank them for supporting Georgia Tech's priorities in the FY13 budget.

- Reach out to your state senator and request their support in the Senate version of the FY13 budget.

- For support documents, please visit www.gov.gatech.edu and click on Capitol Jackets and then on Legislative Priorities & Contacts.

- Please fax or mail a copy to us at (404) 894-6475.

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.

Get to Know Your State Capitol: GT Alums and Reps. Mike Dudgeon and Buzz Brockway

GOV'T AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Georgia Tech alumni hold a special role in the success of Georgia. The unique, yet valuable skills earned while working toward a degree at Georgia Tech are often rare to find in politics. As one of the only two Georgia Tech alumni in the State House of Representatives, Rep. Mike Dudgeon, EE '89 (R-Suwanee), believes that this skill set of "logical or linear thinking is useful to solve the complex problems of the state." Dudgeon is in his first term as a state representative along with Rep. Buzz Brockway, MGT '90 (R-Lawrenceville).

Both representatives agree that being freshmen and the only two Georgia Tech alumni in the House has created a special relationship even though they took different paths to holding their current office. Brockway had been interested in politics for a long time. He says he had a "passion to help



Rep. Buzz Brockway

the community" and believed it was "time to do something about it." Dudgeon was serving on his local school board and says he became interested in running for office when he realized that "a lot of the education decisions were made at the state level." Like Brockway, he says he is also a "huge believer in giving back to the community."

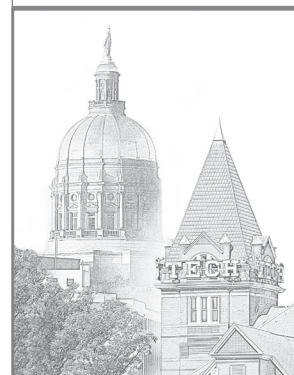
Georgia's legislature is considered a part-time legislature, meaning that most of the members have full-time jobs outside of their elected duties. Brockway is a small-business owner in Lawrenceville, which he says has helped him to look at legislation very critically. He says we "need to take a harder look at ways to stimulate small business



Rep. Mike Dudgeon

growth, especially in the technology sector." Dudgeon has worked in the technology sector his whole career, most recently as an entrepreneur, which he believes has given him "an understanding of high-tech business and how critical it is to build the high-tech community." He says his experience has helped him "to advocate for policies that aid in bringing those high-tech jobs to Georgia."

For more information on Reps. Brockway and Dudgeon, including sponsored legislation, please visit www.house.ga.gov.



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.



Georgia Institute of Technology
Government and Community Relations

GT Office of Government and Community Relations

237 Uncle Heinie Way, Suite 015 - Atlanta, GA 30332-0392

Dene Sheheane
Executive Director
sheheane@gatech.edu

Betsy Jackson
Assistant Director
betsy.jackson@gatech.edu

George Ray
GCR Associate
george.ray@gatech.edu

Katie Wright
Mgr, Advocacy Programs
k.wright@gatech.edu