The Office of Institute Diversity is pleased to highlight some of the faculty, staff, and students who contribute to making Georgia Tech a world-class institution of higher learning.

These individuals come from all corners of the globe, reflecting a heterogeneous pool of talent that consistently delivers excellence – whether it’s in the form of groundbreaking research, teaching, service, or exceptional administrative support that enhances Georgia Tech’s innovative leadership.

We are exceedingly proud to honor them by recognizing their accomplishments and look forward to cheering on their continued successes as we all work together to elevate Georgia Tech to the next level of inclusive excellence.

Archie W. Ervin
Dear Honorees:

When thinking about Georgia Tech, many envision Tech Tower. While that is a cherished symbol, Georgia Tech’s global reputation can be traced back to people like you who make up a community of individuals with diverse backgrounds, perspectives, expertise, and spheres of influence.

Through *Faces of Inclusive Excellence*, we are celebrating your accomplishments. You, along with hundreds of others, are excelling in scholarship, research, and service and making a tremendous positive societal impact.

We congratulate you and encourage you to continue serving as an inspiration for Georgia Tech’s inclusive excellence journey.

G.P. “Bud” Peterson
President
Ghassan Al-Regib  
Associate Professor  
School of Electrical and Computer Engineering 

Director of the Center for Energy and Geo Processing

David A. Bader  
Professor and Chair  
School of Computational Science and Engineering 

Winner of the College of Computing Outstanding Senior Faculty Research Award (for over 20 years of foundational contribution and service)

LaDonna Bowen  
Academic Advisor  
School of History, Technology, and Society 

Recipient of the IAC Buzz Staff Award

Stacy Braukman  
Campaign Writer/Editor  
Office of Development 

Recipient of the Florida Historical Society’s Rembert Patrick Award and the Southern Association for Women Historians’ Willie Lee Rose Prize (for Communists and Perverts Under the Palms: The Johns Committee in Florida, 1956-1965)
Ellenor Brown
Graduate Student
School of Applied Physiology

Recipient of the Space Consortium Grant (to pursue her Ph.D.)

Simeon Bruce
Undergraduate Student and Georgia Tech Pride Alliance President
International Affairs and Modern Languages

Outstanding advocate for Georgia Tech’s LGBT community

Chris Burke
Director of Community Relations
Office of Government and Community Relations

Co-designer/co-teacher of Near Peer Mentoring: An Experience in Urban Education (a course challenging students to examine how socioeconomics have shaped the educational opportunities available in historically segregated urban communities)

Jasmine Burton
Undergraduate Student
College of Architecture

Member of the winning team of the InVenture Prize Competition
**Polo Chau**  
Assistant Professor  
School of Computational Science and Engineering  

*Winner of the Dean’s LexisNexis Award (for outstanding research and industrial interaction)*

**Aida Yoguely Cortés-Peña**  
Undergraduate Research Assistant  
George W. Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering  

*NASA Student Ambassador*

**Dimetra Diggs-Butler**  
Academic Program Coordinator  
George W. Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering  

*Outstanding provider of program support to the George W. Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering*

**Nan Du**  
Research Assistant  
School of Computational Science and Engineering  

*Winner of the 2013 Outstanding Paper Award at the Neural Information Processing Systems Foundation*
Joshua Ebin
Graduate Student
George W. Woodruff
School of Mechanical Engineering
Recipient of the 2014 College of Engineering Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher Award

Barbara J. Ericson
Director, Computing Outreach
College of Computing
Member of the executive committee for the National Center for Women in Information Technology’s K-12 Alliance

Erica Edwards
Financial and Administrative Manager
School of Applied Physiology
Outstanding provider of administrative services to the School of Applied Physiology

Richard Fujimoto
Regents Professor
School of Computational Science and Engineering
Co-winner of the Georgia Tech Institute Research Award

Joshua Ebin
Graduate Student
George W. Woodruff
School of Mechanical Engineering
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Financial and Administrative Manager
School of Applied Physiology
Outstanding provider of administrative services to the School of Applied Physiology

Richard Fujimoto
Regents Professor
School of Computational Science and Engineering
Co-winner of the Georgia Tech Institute Research Award
**Graham Goldberg**
Undergraduate Student
Scheller College of Business

Recipient of the John R. Battle Award for Student Excellence

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**Mark Guzdial**
Professor
School of Interactive Computing

Recipient of the 2012 IEEE Computer Society Undergraduate Teaching Award

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**Mauricio Guadamuz**
Ph.D. Student and Senior Engineer at Lockheed Martin
School of Aerospace Engineering

Recipient of the 2013 Virtuoso Award by MAES

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**Mimi Haley**
Graduate Program Advisor
School of Computational Science and Engineering

Winner of the College of Computing Shining Star Award (for outstanding service to students and faculty)
**Christian Huber**
Assistant Professor  
School of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences  

Proponent for exposing minority students from underprivileged Atlanta schools to science (by providing them with summer lab experiences)

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**Javier Irizarry**  
Associate Professor  
School of Building Construction  

Recipient of the National Teaching Award and the Associated Schools of Construction Outstanding Research Award

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**Dustin Hamilton**  
Facility Technician  
Division of Student Affairs/Campus Recreation Center  

Recipient of the Georgia Tech 2014 Service to the Community Award

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**Rigoberto Hernandez**  
Professor and OXIDE Director  
School of Chemistry and Biochemistry  

Recipient of the ACS Award (for encouraging disadvantaged students to pursue chemical science careers)

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**Faces of Inclusive Excellence 2014**
**CESUNICA IVEY**  
Ph.D. Student  
School of Civil and Environmental Engineering  
*Recipient of the EPA Star Fellowship, Sloan Fellowship, AWMA Fellowship (for outstanding Ph.D. work in the areas of air and waste)*

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**SUHRA R. KALIDINDDI**  
Professor  
George W. Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering; School of Computational Science and Engineering  
*Recipient of the Alexander von Humboldt Research Award (from Germany)*

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**SAMANTHA JAMES**  
Senior Administrative Professional  
George W. Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering  
*Bachelor's graduate in finance (from University of Phoenix)*

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**SHANA KERR**  
Academic Professional  
School of Biology  
*Leadership member of the Society for BioDiversity, which facilitates involvement of students of varied backgrounds in the areas of STEM*
Elias Khalil
Graduate Student
School of Computational Science and Engineering

Winner of the Marshall D. Williamson Fellowship (for balancing outstanding research with academic excellence and leadership)

David Knobbe
Assistant Director, Outdoor Recreation
Campus Recreation Center

Co-recipient of the 2014 Georgia Tech Staff Innovation Award

Seungyeon Kim
Ph.D. Candidate
College of Computing

Co-winner of a Best Paper Award at the 2014 International World Wide Web Conference

Joonseok Lee
Ph.D. Candidate
College of Computing

Co-winner of a Best Paper Award at the 2014 International World Wide Web Conference
Zhiyuan “Jerry” Lin
Undergraduate Research Assistant
College of Computing

Winner of the 2014 Sigma Xi Best Undergraduate Student Research Award (for work at the intersection of data mining and human-computer interaction)

Matthew Marcus
Outdoor Recreation Coordinator
Campus Recreation Center

Co-recipient of the 2014 Georgia Tech Staff Innovation Award

Alexei Nikonovich-Kahn
Undergraduate Student
Scheller College of Business

Winner of the Dow Chemical-P.C. McCutcheon Prize for Outstanding Student Achievement

Keith Oden
Director of Academic Diversity
College of Sciences

Recipient of the 2013 Georgia Tech Diversity Champion Award
JENNIFER PALMER
Research Engineer
Georgia Tech
Research Institute/
Sensors and
Electromagnetic
Applications Laboratory

Recipient of the
Junior Research Excellence Award

PARDIS PISHDAD-BOZORGI
Assistant Professor
School of Building Construction

Recognized in the
Atlanta Business Chronicle for Georgia Tech’s School of Building Construction

STEPHANIE L. RAY
Associate Dean of Students/Director,
Student Diversity Programs
Office of the Dean of Students

Recipient of the 2014 Georgia Tech Staff Leadership Award

SHATANESS REESE
Diversity Consultant
Georgia Tech Research Institute,
Talent Management Department

Serves as Diversity Consultant for GTRI

RECIPIENTS OF THE 2014 GEORGIA TECH STAFF LEADERSHIP AWARD

REGIONAL OFFICE OF INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE 2014
Sidhartha Sinha
Undergraduate Student
H. Milton Stewart
School of Industrial & Systems Engineering

Member of the Community Service Council

Marilyn J. Smith
Professor
School of Aerospace Engineering

Featured in the June 2014 edition of Aerospace America (for her work developing sling loads modeling and simulation aerodynamic models)

Patricia Smith
Events Coordinator
Scheller College of Business, Communications Department

Recipient of the Verlander Family Award for Staff Excellence

Le Song
Assistant Professor
School of Computational Science and Engineering

Winner of the College of Computing Outstanding Junior Faculty Award
**Serena Wallace**  
Event Coordinator  
Institute Communications  
Recipient of the  
International Association of Business Communicators of Atlanta Golden Flame Award (for coordination and execution of Spring Commencement - 2013)

**Andrea Soyland**  
Academic Program Manager  
Scheller College of Business, Executive Education  
Recipient of the Stephen P. Zelnak Jr. Award for Staff Excellence

**Ai-Lien Vuong**  
Graduate Student  
School of Architecture; School of City & Regional Planning  
President of the National Organization of Minority Architecture Students

**Michole Washington**  
Undergraduate Student  
School of Mathematics  
Outstanding leader in the recruitment and mentoring of first generation students and involved with the Center for Academic Success, African Recruitment Team, and OMED Educational Services
Kari Watkins
Assistant Professor
School of Civil and Environmental Engineering

Named among Mass Transit Magazine’s 40 under 40

Lewis A. Wheaton
Associate Professor
School of Applied Physiology

First African-American faculty member to be hired, promoted, and tenured in the School of Applied Physiology

Courtney Widjaja
Undergraduate Student
School of Biology

Leadership member of the Society for BioDiversity, which facilitates involvement of students of varied backgrounds in the areas of STEM

Kari Watkins
Assistant Professor
School of Civil and Environmental Engineering

Named among Mass Transit Magazine’s 40 under 40

Lewis A. Wheaton
Associate Professor
School of Applied Physiology

First African-American faculty member to be hired, promoted, and tenured in the School of Applied Physiology

Courtney Widjaja
Undergraduate Student
School of Biology

Leadership member of the Society for BioDiversity, which facilitates involvement of students of varied backgrounds in the areas of STEM

D.J. Wu
Professor
Scheller College of Business

Recipient of the Dean’s Award for Faculty Teaching Excellence
National Rankings

Georgia Tech has not only been consistently ranked among the top 10 public universities in the United States by *U.S. News & World Report*, the Institute has also established a record of first-class rankings in the realm of diversity. According to the 2013 rankings from *Diverse: Issues In Higher Education*, Georgia Tech is ranked No. 1 for:

- Bachelor’s degrees awarded to all minority students (engineering).
- Master’s degrees awarded to African-Americans (architecture).
- Doctoral degrees awarded to African-Americans (engineering).
- Doctoral degrees awarded to all minority students (engineering).

*Hispanic Business Magazine* also named Georgia Tech the Best Engineering Graduate School in September 2013.
Office of Institute Diversity
Georgia Institute of Technology
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WEBSITE
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