INSTITUTE DIVERSITY
FACES OF INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE
2017
About This Publication

Institute Diversity is proud to publish Faces of Inclusive Excellence each year. The publication recognizes a diverse group of faculty, staff, and students who are committed to advancing a culture of inclusive excellence at Georgia Tech and who have distinguished themselves in their research, teaching, and/or service.

Each year, Faces of Inclusive Excellence is distributed at Georgia Tech’s Diversity Symposium. The theme of this year’s Ninth Annual Diversity Symposium is “Building Inclusive Communities,” which will explore the impact and implications of race and class on individual success and community engagement in higher education.

Congratulations to this year’s honorees – the real faces of inclusive excellence.
The honorees featured here, whether they are senior or junior faculty, staff members, or graduate or undergraduate students, all share one thing in common: The excellence that characterizes their research, teaching, and/or service has earned them distinction from their peers as exemplars in their chosen fields.

When you drill deeper into the foundation of Georgia Tech’s greatness, this diverse group of faculty, staff, and students reveals the true image of inclusive excellence.

We are pleased to honor them by recognizing their accomplishments, and we look forward to cheering on their future successes as we all work together to continue building an inclusive community at Georgia Tech.

Archie W. Ervin
Vice President
Institute Diversity
Dear Honorees:

Georgia Tech’s global reputation stems not just from our students, who come from 117 countries and all 50 states, but also from the work of the diverse community that calls the Institute home. We are strengthened by the presence of individuals with wide-ranging backgrounds, perspectives, and areas of expertise.

Through this publication, we are celebrating the diversity of your accomplishments. You, along with hundreds of others, are excelling in research, teaching, and/or service and making a tremendous, positive impact on our campus and society.

We congratulate you and encourage you to continue serving as an inspiration for Georgia Tech’s inclusive journey.
**Maryam Alavi**  
Dean and Stephen P. Zelnak Jr. Chair  
Ernest Scheller Jr. College of Business  

Led the diversification of the Ernest Scheller Jr. College of Business Advisory Board and the creation of the Ernest Scheller Jr. College of Business Diversity Council

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**Meltem Alemdar**  
Associate Director for Educational Research and Evaluation  
Center for Education Integrating Science, Mathematics, and Computing  

Received the 2016 Leadership Excellence Award

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**Caleb Amy**  
Graduate Research Assistant  
George W. Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering  

Named president of the Energy Club and received the Campbell Fellowship

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**Maithili Appalwar**  
Undergraduate Student  
H. Milton Stewart School of Industrial and Systems Engineering  

Received the Love Jr. Philanthropy and Campus Services Award and launched the Home for the Holidays initiative
Sybrina Atwater
Assistant Director of Outreach Initiatives
OMED: Educational Services

Served as the director and facilitator of the African American Male Initiative

Sioces Barness
Program Director
Center for Education Integrating Science, Mathematics, and Computing

Led the Horizons program to encourage students from low-income families to realize their full potential

Terry Blum
Director, Institute for Leadership and Entrepreneurship
Tedd Munchak Chair and Professor
Ernest Scheller Jr. College of Business

Led efforts to grow the Expanding Career, Education, and Leadership for Students with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (EXCEL) program

Jennifer Bonnett
General Manager
Advanced Technology Development Center

Highlighted in the Huffington Post as one of “25 People Positioned to Scale Atlanta’s Growing Inclusive Technology Startup Ecosystem for Black Americans and Beyond”
Jeffery Bridges
Air Conditioning Mechanic II
Facilities Management

Served on the Staff Council and Employee Relations Committee

Madison Cario
Director
Office of the Arts

Received the Georgia Tech Staff Performance Award in Entrepreneurship and Creative Loafing’s “People to Watch” Award

William Carrouthers
Graduate Student
Ernest Scheller Jr. College of Business

Co-founded and served as the inaugural head of development for the Blacks in Business Club

Colleen Chen
Undergraduate Student
School of Materials Science and Engineering

Served on the executive board of the Best Buddies program and as a coach to three students in the EXCEL program
Jacqui Chew  
Marketing Catalyst  
Advanced Technology Development Center  

Named a “Diversity Game Changer in Technology” at the Seventh Annual Technology Association of Georgia Diversity Awards

Kim Cobb  
ADVANCE Professor and Georgia Power Faculty Scholar  
School of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences  

Appointed as the ADVANCE Professor for the College of Sciences

Baratunde A. Cola  
Associate Professor  
George W. Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering  

Established the Advanced Research and Leadership Network to improve networking among traditionally underrepresented minority engineering faculty and researchers

Layla Darian  
Undergraduate Student  
School of Chemistry and Biochemistry  

Hosted the Nowruz celebration on campus for Persian New Year
Audrey Duarte
Associate Professor
School of Psychology

Participated in the Adaptive Leadership Workshop, the Office of the Provost’s Emerging Leaders Program, and the Mental Health Working Group

Diego Dumani
Ph.D. Student
Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering

Received the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering’s Outstanding Community Service Award and the Center for Engineering Education and Diversity’s Most Outstanding Mentor Award

Lynn M. Durham
Assistant Vice President and Chief of Staff
Office of the President

Helped drive the Office of the President’s listening sessions to elicit ideas for enhancing gender equity and inclusion

Bobbie Eicher
Ph.D. Student
College of Computing

Co-founded Nerdy Bones, the Online Master of Science in Computer Science’s first extracurricular organization
**SHOSHANNA ENGEL**
Associate Athletic Director for Compliance
Georgia Tech Athletic Association

Appointed as the Title IX coordinator and established a diversity, equity, and inclusion working group for the Georgia Tech Athletic Association

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**JACQUELINE FAIRLEY**
Research Engineer II
Georgia Tech Research Institute

Served as the program coordinator for the Summer Undergraduate Research in Engineering/Sciences program and a technical volunteer for Black Girls Code

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**NIHAD FAROOQ**
Associate Professor
School of Literature, Media, and Communication

Co-led the diversity working group for the School of Literature, Media, and Communication

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**FLAVIO FENTON**
Associate Professor
School of Physics

Received the Outstanding Undergraduate Research Mentor Award and the Geoffrey G. Eichholz Faculty Teaching Award
MARY FRANK FOX  
ADVANCE Professor  
School of Public Policy  

Received the Undergraduate SGA Faculty of the Year Award and the Ivan Allen College Distinguished Faculty Research Award

JILDA GARTON  
Vice President for Research and General Manager  
Georgia Tech Research Corporation  

Received the National Council of University Research Administrators’ 2017 Julia Jacobsen Distinguished Service Award

SHEREE GIBSON  
Coordinator of Assessment and Research  
Department of Housing  

Mentored staff and led discussions on micro-aggressions and difficult conversations

LEAH GIVARZ  
Undergraduate Student  
Ernest Scheller Jr. College of Business  

Participated in the Ernest Scheller Jr. College of Business Diversity Council and founded the Interfaith Dialogue and Engagement Alliance
**Rebecca Grinter**  
Professor  
School of Interactive Computing

Served on the reappointment, tenure, and promotion committee for the College of Computing and helped facilitate the Diversity and Inclusion Councils.

**Joyelle Harris**  
Director of the Engineering for Social Innovation Center  
School of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Established the Engineering for Social Innovation Center for engineers, especially traditionally underrepresented minorities, to use technical skills to meet social needs.

**Marnie Harris**  
Academic Coordinator for EXCEL  
Ernest Scheller Jr. College of Business

Fostered inclusion of students with disabilities through the EXCEL program.

**Comas Haynes**  
Principal Research Engineer  
Georgia Tech Research Institute

Served as the principal investigator for IMPACT, which pairs underrepresented minority junior faculty with emeriti faculty and is funded by the National Science Foundation.
**DILEY HERNANDEZ**
Senior Research Scientist
Center for Education Integrating Science, Mathematics, and Computing

*Led efforts to steadily grow the GoSTEM program and helped increase the visibility of Georgia Tech’s commitment to Hispanic/Latino STEM education.*

**JILLANN HERTEL**
Academic Professional and Creative Director
School of Literature, Media, and Communication

*Founded the interdisciplinary social justice minor in partnership with the School of History and Sociology and served on the steering committee of Transformative Narratives.*

**JENNIFER HIRSCH**
Director
Center for Serve-Learn-Sustain

*Launched the Environmental Justice Series with a focus on structural racism.*

**KAYE HUSBANDS FEALING**
Chair and Professor
School of Public Policy

*Received a National Science Foundation grant to establish a program, in collaboration with the Center for Advanced Communications Policy, that broadens veterans’ participation in STEM.*
Tia Jackson
Assistant Director of the Center for Engineering Education and Diversity
College of Engineering

Served as a team leader for the Diversity and Inclusion Fellows Program

Ronald Johnson
Professor of the Practice
H. Milton Stewart School of Industrial and Systems Engineering

Participated in the Diversity and Inclusion Fellows Program and Mission Possible

DeAndre Jones
Graduate Student
Ernest Scheller Jr. College of Business

Co-founded and served as the inaugural president for the Blacks in Business Club

Julie Kim
Associate Chair and Associate Professor
School of Architecture

Received the National Science Foundation’s 2017 ADVANCE Program Women of Excellence Award
ARKADEEP KUMAR
Ph.D. Student
George W. Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering
Co-founded the Georgia Tech chapter of Asha for Education and helped lead the chapter to being awarded the best new student organization

ROGER LASCORZ
Graduate Research Assistant
Aerospace Systems Design Laboratory
Founded the Physics and Aerospace Are Awesome organization and served as a mentor for the Summer Undergraduate Research in Engineering/Sciences program

VINCENT MARTIN
Ph.D. Student
School of Psychology
Served as the advisor to an InVenture Prize finalist, as vice president of the Georgia Radio Reading Service, and was a gubernatorial appointee on the advisory board of the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

ERICK MAXWELL
Principal Research Engineer
Georgia Tech Research Institute
Developed an Engineering-Educator Program with the Georgia Tech Research Institute’s Electronic Systems Laboratory and Maynard H. Jackson High School
Julie McCallum  
Undergraduate Student  
H. Milton Stewart  
School of Industrial and Systems Engineering  
Served as the vice president of the Georgia Tech Lorraine Bureau des Étudiants

Akansha Menon  
Ph.D. Student  
George W. Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering  
Received the Graduate Student Fellowship from the Center for the Science and Technology of Advanced Materials and Interfaces, the VentureLab Innovation Award, and the Environmental Leadership Award

Mark Mitchell  
Director of the Advanced Concepts Laboratory  
Georgia Tech Research Institute  
Served as a member of the Georgia Tech Research Institute’s Diversity Council and trained as a facilitator of the Implicit Bias Workshops

Marcela Moreno  
Research Project Coordinator II  
Strategic Energy Institute  
Received the Georgia Chapter of the Air and Waste Management Association Scholarship, and was named a Protecting Streams and Communities from Industrial Pollution Fellow and a Serve-Learn-Sustain Energy Systems for Sustainable Communities Fellow
**Elizabeth Mynatt**  
Professor and Executive Director  
College of Computing and Institute for People and Technology  

Hired and mentored a diverse staff at the Institute for People and Technology

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**Tia Pope**  
Graduate Student  
College of Computing  

Co-founded Nerdy Bones, the Online Master of Science in Computer Science’s first extracurricular organization

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**Nga Lee (Sally) Ng**  
Associate Professor  
School of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering  

Received the 2016 Whitby Award for Aerosol Research

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**Dana Randall**  
ADVANCE Professor  
School of Computer Science  

Co-directed the Institute for Data Engineering and Science and co-led the planning for the CODA building
Arianna Robinson
Program and Operations Manager
Ernest Scheller Jr. College of Business

Served as the staff advisor for the Blacks in Business Club

Sheri Russell
Program and Operations Manager
Pediatric Technology Center

Served as the principal staff/faculty liaison for the Women of Georgia Tech Employee Resource Group

Mark Sandidge
Graduate Student
Ernest Scheller Jr. College of Business

Co-founded and served as the inaugural head of development for the Blacks in Business Club

Jade Sims
Senior Admission Counselor
Office of Undergraduate Admission

Championed the naming of the Black Student Recruitment Team and served as the advisor for the African American Student Union
CHAOWEN TING
Assistant Professor
School of Music

Named the 2016
Dallas Opera Institute
for Women Conductors
Fellow

L. BERIL TOKTAY
ADVANCE Professor and
Brady Family Chair
Ernest Scheller Jr.
College of Business

Co-led the Diversity and
Inclusion Fellows Program
and the Demystifying
How Georgia Tech Works
series and co-founded the
Ernest Scheller Jr. College
of Business’ Diversity
Council

STEVEN VAN
GINKEL
Research Associate II
School of Civil and
Environmental
Engineering

Partnered with
Veterans Rising Above
Poverty Farms to
serve, learn from, and
sustain the Atlanta
community

NITRA WISDOM
Academic Advisor II
School of Architecture

Hosted film screenings
and panel discussions
as a member of the
Serve-Learn-Sustain
Environmental Justice
Planning Committee
**Craig Womack**  
Assistant Dean and Director of Undergraduate Programs  
Ernest Scheller Jr. College of Business  

Encouraged entire staff in Undergraduate Programs to attend the LGBTQIA Resource Center’s Safe Space training.

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**Karen Yiu**  
Coordinator for Student Diversity Programs  
Division of Student Life  

Coordinated the Diversity Ambassadors Program and co-taught a specialized section of GT 1000 on social justice and equity.

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**Perry Yang**  
Associate Professor  
School of City and Regional Planning  

Appointed Covestro (Bayer Material Science) Chair Professor at UNEP-Tongji University.

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**Ellen Zegura**  
Stephen Fleming Chair and Professor  
School of Computer Science  

Led the Quality Enhancement Plan initiative that formed Serve-Learn-Sustain to focus on creating sustainable communities.
Ying Zhang
Associate Professor
School of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Secured National Science Foundation funding to support the Opportunity Research Scholars program teams
National Rankings

In addition to being consistently ranked among the top 10 public universities in the United States by *U.S. News & World Report*, Georgia Tech has established a record of first-class rankings in the realm of diversity. According to the 2016 rankings from *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education*, Georgia Tech is ranked:

- No. 1 for awarding bachelor’s degrees in engineering to all underrepresented minority students.
- No. 1 for awarding doctoral degrees in engineering to all underrepresented minority students.

According to the American Society of Engineering Education, Georgia Tech also awards more undergraduate engineering degrees to women than any other university.