One of the major findings from Georgia Tech’s Climate Assessment Survey in 2012 was an expressed desire for targeted professional development efforts for staff women. At Georgia Tech, we value the brilliance and power of our people and their perspectives, putting it all to work to define what’s next. As such, we are dedicated to creating a community of leaders who will guide Tech in the 21st century—an institution committed to inclusive excellence.

With the support of the Office of the President, Institute Diversity is offering the Leading Women@Tech program to engage women leaders at Georgia Tech.

**Vision**

› In alignment with Institute Diversity’s strategic plan, specifically Goal Five, “Develop Institute collaborations that provide a pathway to excellence for women and underrepresented faculty and staff,” and Strategy Three, “Work with the Institute’s academic and administrative leadership to promote diversity and equity in the advancement and promotion of women and underrepresented staff employees,” the concept of the Leading Women@Tech program was conceived.

**Primary Responsibilities**

› Create opportunities for women leaders and build a community who will advance a culture of inclusive excellence at Georgia Tech.

› Strengthen leadership ability, enhance personal and professional growth, and support overall career development of the participants.

**Program Activities**

› Monthly program activities include skill building in the areas of efficacy, emotional intelligence, intercultural skills, mindful leadership, multiple role management, negotiation, and networking.

› The program will also include an optional coaching component that will deepen individual learning and empower participants to act on their career and life goals.
LEADING WOMEN@TECH CO-DIRECTORS

Julie Ancis, Co-Director

Julie Ancis serves as the associate vice president for Institute Diversity at Georgia Tech. She provides operational leadership and consultation for strategic planning and assessment to achieve Georgia Tech’s inclusive excellence vision and goals. Ancis is also an adjunct professor in the School of Psychology. As PI of a $3.8 million Department of Education First in the World Grant with AMAC, she oversees research on the impact of accessible instructional materials for students with disabilities in Minority Serving Institutions. Ancis also serves as co-Pi on a $2 million National Science Foundation grant with the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering on diversity and inclusion. In collaboration with Georgia Tech’s ADVANCE Program, she has developed and conducts faculty workshops on implicit bias and its impact on perceptions of competence.

Ancis is a fellow of the American Psychological Association (Divisions 17 and 35) and past-chair of the Society of Counseling Psychology’s Section for the Advancement of Women. She has received a number of awards and honors including the Woman of the Year Award from the Section on the Advancement of Women. Prior to joining Institute Diversity, Ancis was a counseling psychology professor at Georgia State University.

Her extensive scholarly publications include four books; approximately 100 journal articles, book chapters, and technical reports; and more than 200 professional presentations focused on diversity, multicultural competence, women’s professional development, and the legal system. Scholarly books include The Complete Women’s Psychotherapy Treatment Planner (Wiley Press), Culturally Responsive Interventions: Innovative Approaches to Working with Diverse Populations (Routledge Press), and Promoting Student Learning and Development at a Distance: Student Affairs Concepts and Practices for Televised Instruction and Other Forms of Distance Learning. Her co-edited book entitled Gender, Psychology and Justice: The Mental Health of Women and Girls in the Legal System (NYU Press) has recently been published.

Ancis completed an Executive Leadership Program at Harvard University and the American Psychological Association Leadership Institute for Women in Psychology. She is passionate about women’s leadership development and is excited to serve as co-director of this program for the fourth year.
Pearl Alexander serves as executive director of diversity, inclusion, and engagement at the Georgia Institute of Technology. A visionary and masterful coach, she has created an unprecedented presence as a thought partner with people at Georgia Tech and across higher education. Alexander serves leaders in reflective methods that guide them through personal discovery, self-mastery, uncovering talent, and shifting mindsets during times of change and transition.

Through her strengths as a change agent, she has catalyzed transformations in culture and organizational leadership practices – often called upon to solve some of the most sensitive and complex challenges of these times. Alexander is known for compassionately speaking truth to power. Sought-after by the C-suite for her abilities to excavate difficult stories, lead fierce dialogues, and coach self-acceptance and valued behaviors, she leads the evolution of diversity and inclusion strategy, learning curricular innovations, and engagement experiences to nurture global leadership capacity in administrators at Tech. Alexander serves as a senior advisor and confidante to the Institute’s chief diversity officer, organizational leadership teams, groups, and individuals.

Her career assignments have spanned from peace-builder to equity expert to spokesperson. Coaching members of the president’s cabinet, Alexander’s leadership has contributed to Georgia Tech’s first recognition as a thought leader and for implementing award-winning diversity and inclusion practices that have continued throughout her career.


Alexander selectively participates in international and national think tanks on the future of work, shaping leadership cultures and strategic talent practices. She chairs or serves as a consultant to professional development organizations and diversity and inclusion councils. Alexander is currently a member of Forbes Coaches Council, Columbia Coaching Learning Association, National Association for Diversity Officers in Higher Education, and the Moth Director’s Circle.

She delights in story listening, mentoring fellow introverted leaders of all ages, and practicing improvisational acting skills. Alexander is a social innovator who has navigated a progressive 30-year career. She integrates her expertise in diversity and inclusion principles within her coaching practice and consultancy services in hopes to inspire others to access their personal power and step into “wholeness.”
2019-20 LEADING WOMEN@TECH SCHEDULE

Kickoff Session
Lani Peterson, ArzenGroup
October 11, 2019
8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Georgia Tech Alumni House, Griffin Ballroom

Disarming the Saboteur
Michelle Goss, Michelle Goss & Company Inc.
February 13, 2020
10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Wardlaw Center, Poole Room

Mind-Body
Swami Jaya Devi Bhagavati, Kashi Atlanta
October 17, 2019
10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Student Center, Peachtree Room

Finding the Space to Lead
Janice Marturano, Institute for Mindful Leadership
March 11, 2020
8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Global Learning Center, Meeting Room 323

Self-Efficacy Applied - The Roles of Confidence and Courage in Leadership Success
Verna Ford, Ford Consulting & Coaching
November 6, 2019
8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Global Learning Center, Meeting Room 150

Intercultural Dialogue
Pearl Alexander and Dr. Julie Ancis, Georgia Tech Institute Diversity
March 26, 2020
8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Global Learning Center, Meeting Room 328

Power in Language
Gail Evans, Georgia Tech
January 16, 2020
10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Wardlaw Center, Gordy Room

Closing Program
April 24, 2020
9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Wardlaw Center, Gordy Room
Lani Peterson is a psychologist, executive coach, and workshop designer and facilitator with specific expertise in storytelling as a leadership skill. She has extensive practice working with individuals, groups, and organizations in the areas of leadership, emotional intelligence, and personal and team development. Drawing on her practice as a national-level public speaker, Peterson teaches executives and managers the skill of personal presence, and the development and delivery of high-impact communications. She specializes in the application of storytelling as a medium for personal growth, connection, and change.

Peterson’s professional training includes a doctorate in psychology from William James College, a master’s degree in counseling psychology from Lesley University, and a bachelor’s degree in literature from Smith College. She is a member of the National Speakers Association and National Storytelling Network, and serves on the executive committee of the Healing Story Alliance. Peterson taught “Communications Skills for Nonprofit Leaders” in the graduate program at Wheelock College for three years.
Mind-Body

Swami Jaya Devi Bhagavati
Executive Director, Kashi Atlanta

October 17, 2019
10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Student Center, Peachtree Room

Swami Jaya Devi Bhagavati is the founder and spiritual director of Kashi Atlanta, a nonprofit urban yoga ashram that has served Atlanta for 20 years. Through weekly classes and weekend immersions, she teaches her students how to consume the world and live from the deepest realms of the heart.

Bhagavati has studied yoga, meditation, and healing in-depth since 1985 and has since taught all over the world in settings ranging from international interfaith conferences to corporate offices to meditation centers and yoga studios. She is a monk in the lineage of Ma Jaya Sati Bhagavati. Bhagavati was given the title Yoga Acharya (master teacher of yoga) in 2007. She was a grand marshal of the 2015 Atlanta Pride Parade in recognition of decades of work with the LGBTQ and HIV/AIDS communities. The author of the Classical Yoga Teachers Training Manual, Bhagavati initiated the first Immune Yoga for AIDS and HIV in the Southeast and founded Kashi Atlanta’s Street Meals program that has fed more than 400 homeless individuals every week since 1998.

She is a registered yoga teacher with the Yoga Alliance at the 500-hour level as well as a certified yoga teacher through The Kundalini Research Institute, 3HO International Kundalini Yoga Teachers Association, and Amrit Yoga Institute. Bhagavati is a senior teacher of Kali Natha Yoga. Kashi Atlanta has been voted “Atlanta’s Best Yoga Studio” by Creative Loafing every year since 2000, and she has been voted “Best Yoga Instructor” since 2006.
Self-Efficacy Applied – The Roles of Confidence and Courage in Leadership Success

Verna Ford
Executive Consultant and Coach, Korn Ferry

November 6, 2019
8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Global Learning Center, Meeting Room 150

Verna Ford has extensive experience consulting with senior leaders on their professional development interests and their transitional career moves.

She excels at coaching executives and teams to uncover and leverage hidden strengths, building a bridge between business strategy and human performance, employee engagement and inclusion.

She is a published author and an experienced designer of professional development frameworks.

Power in Language

Gail Evans
Author and Professor

January 16, 2020
10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Wardlaw Center, Gordy Room

When it comes to the success of women in the workplace, Gail Evans is a leading source. She has appeared on "The Today Show," "Good Morning America," and CNN, and Evans has been featured in Businessweek, People Magazine, The New York Times, and USA Today.

Evans' status has been enhanced by her newest book, She Wins, You Win.

She has spoken and given lectures to many of the world’s leading companies, including AT&T, Exxon Mobil, Johnson & Johnson, GE, Microsoft, J.P. Morgan, Morgan Stanley, Wells Fargo, KPMG, Cisco, IBM, Thomson Reuters, Deloitte, Intel, Walmart, and McKinsey & Company, to name a few.

Evans began working at CNN at its inception in 1980. Since her retirement from CNN, Evans has been an adjunct professor at Georgia Tech’s Ernest Scheller Jr. College of Business.
Disarming the Saboteur

Michelle Goss
President, Michelle Goss & Company Inc.

February 13, 2020
10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Wardlaw Center, Poole Room

Michelle Goss, president of Michelle Goss & Company Inc., is an executive coach, trainer, speaker, and self-proclaimed “personal growth geek!” She is known for her lively, unconventional approach to leadership, and for guiding high-performance teams and individuals to bring out the very best in themselves and others.

Formerly an HR executive, Goss brings more than 25 years of experience in leadership effectiveness, business development, communication, change, productivity, and motivation. She conducts leadership talent assessments, designs and delivers action-learning and team-building events for executives, and teaches communication and feedback skills to leaders in major corporations. Goss draws on her practical experience and her passion for success when coaching, training, and consulting others to succeed.

She holds three coaching credentials: Professional Certified Coach, Certified Professional Co-Active™ Coach, and Master Lucid Living™ Coach.
Finding the Space to Lead

Janice Marturano  
*Founder and Executive Director, Institute for Mindful Leadership*  
*Author, Finding the Space to Lead: A Practical Guide to Mindful Leadership*

March 11, 2020  
8 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Global Learning Center, Meeting Room 323

Janice Marturano is the Founder and Executive Director of the Institute for Mindful Leadership, a non-profit organization dedicated to training and supporting leaders in the exploration of mindfulness and its impact on the cultivation of leadership excellence. She founded the Institute in January, 2011, after ending her 15-year tenure as vice president, Public Responsibility and Deputy General Counsel for General Mills Inc. Janice was a senior strategic leader within General Mills before leaving to dedicate herself full time to the Institute. As a certified teacher of mindfulness and an experienced former senior officer of a Fortune 200 company, she has brought the intensive training of mindful leadership to all forms of organizations-corporate, non-profit, academic, government and military. Janice’s work has been featured in the BBC, Huff Post Live, *NY Times*, *Financial Times*, *Time* magazine, *CEO* magazine and *Forbes*. She is the author of the award-winning, international best-selling book, *Finding the Space to Lead: A Practical Guide to Mindful Leadership* and a *Forbes* contributor.

Intercultural Dialogue

Julie Ancis  
*Associate Vice President for Institute Diversity*

Pearl Alexander  
*Executive Director of Diversity, Inclusion, and Engagement*

March 26, 2020  
8 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Global Learning Center, Meeting Room 328
Angela Ayers

Angela Ayers leads the research communications for the Petit Institute for Bioengineering and Bioscience at Georgia Tech along with working closely with the other 10 interdisciplinary research institutes in support of their marketing communication initiatives and events. Prior to joining the research side, Ayers worked for Georgia Tech Professional Education marketing over 1,000 courses annually. She has also taught GT1000 to incoming students. She has a master’s degree in marketing from Georgia State University and a bachelor’s degree in advertising from the University of Florida.

Shardonay Blueford

Shardonay Blueford has been a member of the Georgia Tech Athletics compliance staff since 2013. She came to Tech as assistant director of compliance, was promoted to associate director of compliance in 2017, and was named director of compliance in 2019. In her role, she assists with the daily operations of the compliance office that monitors 17 intercollegiate sports. She completed her master’s degree in sports studies at High Point University in December 2010. A 2008 graduate of Norfolk State University with a bachelor’s degree in exercise science, Blueford was an outside hitter on the women’s volleyball team from 2005-2008 and a member of the women’s basketball team during 2005-2006.

Carla Bradley

Carla Bradley is the director of the Georgia Tech Counseling Center. She is a licensed clinical psychologist and also holds a master’s degree in engineering (management). Since joining Tech in July 2018, Carla has been actively engaged with new programs and processes to address mental health needs on campus.
Suzy Briggs

Suzy Briggs is the director of business development for the Strategic Energy Institute and director of Corporate Relations at Georgia Tech, managing the partnerships with the energy companies across campus. In this role, she is responsible for the design and implementation of a comprehensive program for corporate relations, sponsored research, and private philanthropy related energy. Prior to this position, Briggs was the director of Development for the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering. Briggs has worked on many search committees across campus and was asked by the leadership of Georgia Tech to be an inaugural member of the Staff Advisory Council representing the Office of Development. She is a graduate of Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas.

Pamela Buffington

Pam Buffington is the associate director for Academic Technology with the Office of Information Technology in the Academic and Research Technology directorate. She has a joint role in the Center for 21st Century Universities as director of External and Faculty Engagement. She has extensive experience at Georgia Tech and has worked in a variety of roles and responsibilities since 1995 enabling innovative uses of information technologies in both research and academic/instructional capacities.

Tina Clonts

Tina Clonts is the director of Administration and Finance in Institute Finance Support where she oversees financial management for units of the president, executive vice president of Administration and Finance, and their direct reports. Clonts provides guidance and acts as a liaison to executives, staff, respective units and budget office. She has over 25 years of higher education experience. Clonts also serves as co-chair of Georgia Tech’s first Conflict of Interest Committee involving policy interpretations and recommendations regarding potential conflicts of interest. She also serves on Title IX panels where tribunal decisions are made.
**Stacey Connell**

Stacy Connell proactively leads the Institute’s health and well-being programs, services, and initiatives for students and employees through the functional areas of community nutrition, health and well-being education and sexual violence prevention and support services. Prior to her time at Tech, Stacy worked at North Carolina State University where she created their university-wide wellness strategy and initiatives for students and employees while leading a team of collegiate recreation professionals. Stacy holds active membership in NIRSA, NASPA, BHAC and ACHA, and also serves on the Campus Well-being Advisory Council for the American Cancer Society, Jed Foundation and Partnership for a Healthier America.

**Melanie DeMaeyer**

Melanie DeMaeyer serves as the assistant dean and director of the Georgia Tech Women’s Resource Center and has a decade of experience focused on gender equity and women in higher education. Prior to Georgia Tech, she worked as a children’s advocate and director of outreach and volunteer services for a nonprofit agency serving survivors of intimate partner violence. Additionally, she has held positions of leadership within the Women’s Center Caucus of the National Women’s Studies Association and serves as a Safe Space and Trans 101 facilitator. She holds a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Georgia College and State University and a master’s degree in women’s studies from The University of Alabama.

**Dominique Ennis**

Dominique Ennis joined Georgia Tech from the KIPP Vision Campus in May 2019. She serves as director of operations for the department of Professional Education at the Global Learning Center. Historically working in higher education, she specializes in operations, project management, special events, wellness education and programs, and risk management. Originally from Norfolk, Virginia, Dominique received her undergraduate and graduate degrees from Old Dominion University.
2019-20 LEADING WOMEN@TECH PARTICIPANTS

**Courtney Ferencik**

Courtney Ferencik is director of Development for the College of Sciences and engages alumni, foundations, and friends of Georgia Tech to secure philanthropic support for the College and advance the priorities of the dean and school chairs. Previously, Courtney served as director of development for the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering and the Petit Institute for Bioengineering and Biosciences. In this role, Courtney’s fundraising results exceeded $60 million in support of faculty research, including an eight-figure research grant from the Marcus Foundation; support for multiple endowed faculty positions and student scholarships; and program enrichment priorities, including CREATE-X.

**Patti Futrell**

Patti Futrell serves as director of Leadership Communications within the Institute Communications team. Her team provides communications support and counsel for Georgia Tech’s senior leaders, including the president, provost and EVP for Research. Before she joined Georgia Tech in 2009, she worked at Delta Air Lines for eight years, serving several roles in corporate communications including leadership and executive communications, airport customer service, Delta technology, HR, positive employee relations, and crisis communications.

**Sheree Gibson**

Sheree L. Gibson currently serves as the interim director of Residence Life for the Department of Housing. She is responsible for providing programmatic direction for the academic and social well-being of students living on campus. She has more than 10 years of experience as a facilitator and lecturer on college students and leadership development. Her research interests include students’ sense of belonging, identity, and black collegiate women. Gibson earned her doctorate in counseling and student personnel services from the University of Georgia.
2019-20 LEADING WOMEN@TECH PARTICIPANTS

Kathleen Gosden

Kathleen T. Gosden currently serves as a senior attorney specialist in the Office of Legal Affairs. Gosden received both her undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Georgia. She has an extensive background in litigation and constitutional, higher education, and employment law. After leaving private practice, Gosden joined the Georgia Attorney General’s Office. As a senior assistant attorney general, she represented state agencies in state and federal employment litigation. In 2011, Gosden joined Georgia Tech and advises on discrimination laws, employment matters, constitutional concerns, Title IX, and litigation issues.

Martina Hubbarth

Martina Hubbarth serves as executive director of Regional Development at Georgia Tech and is responsible for the design, implementation, and supervision of the regional development program. She has been with Georgia Tech’s Office of Development for over 12 years having worked with the Scheller College of Business and, in recent years, as director of development for Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE). During Campaign Georgia Tech, and along with the ECE development team, she was responsible for over $175M dollars raised, through outright and deferred gifts. She is a graduate of the University of Florida.

Ann Hoevel

Ann Hoevel is an information designer, digital content producer, strategic planner, editor, and writer. She is the director of communications for the College of Design and a Georgia Tech graduate (STC 1998). At the College of Design, she used her expertise in website planning to completely reinvent the College’s digital footprint. She managed the College’s name change process in 2016 and developed a new narrative for design at Georgia Tech. Hoevel helps the College resonate with broad audiences through content that focuses on novel and altruistic outcomes of design thinking.
Jennifer Hubert

Jennifer Bentson Hubert is currently the interim AVP for Institute Planning and Resource Management (IPRM) at Georgia Tech. The units within IPRM are focused on integrating planning, strategic resource management, financial oversight of Institute operations, and analytic support for decision-making. Hubert joined Tech in March 2015 as the chief of staff to the SVP, A&F. Prior to Tech, she was a director at a large consulting firm that focused specifically on higher education clients. She holds an MBA in finance from the University of Texas at Austin and a bachelor’s degree in international trade and finance from Louisiana State University.

Marissa Jules

Marissa Jules is the director of Architecture and Infrastructure at Georgia Tech. In her role, she oversees the Institute’s primary data centers, IT operations and engineering teams. She has over 20 years’ experience in IT infrastructure and service delivery crossing the higher education, advertising, and defense markets. This broad experience gives her unique perspective on many of the challenges facing technology leaders today. Marissa holds an MBA from Kennesaw State University and a bachelor’s degree from the University of Central Florida.

Tracey Reeves

Tracey A. Reeves is assistant vice president for News and Campus Communication. She leads a department that manages the Institute’s news production, media relations, campus communications and events, and leadership and research communications. Prior to joining Georgia Tech in September 2018, Reeves served for a decade as director of media relations at Johns Hopkins University. She arrived there from The Washington Post where she worked for 11 years as a bureau chief, editor and reporter covering such beats as U.S. Congress and the White House. She received a bachelor’s degree in mass communications from Illinois State University. She is a member of the executive committee of the Association of American Universities Public Affairs Network and a member of the National Association of Black Journalists.
Tina Rousselot de Saint Ceran  
Tina Rousselot de Saint Ceran serves as director of International Student and Scholar Services overseeing support for international students and scholars. She is a member leader for NAFSA: Association of International Educators as 2020 chair of the Knowledge Community for International Student and Scholar Services (KC-ISSS). She also serves as a NAFSA Trainer Corps trainer. She holds an MBA from Clemson University and a bachelor’s degree in foreign languages from Austin Peay State University.

Myrtle Turner Harris  
Myrtle Turner Harris is the director of Safety, Health and Environmental Services, a unit of the Georgia Tech Enterprise Innovation Institute and the Georgia Tech OSHA Training Institute Education Center. She provides related information and training to public, local, state, and federal agencies. Turner was instrumental in the development of the Georgia Tech professional master’s degree in Occupational Safety and Health. She has directed and instructed over 500 continuing education courses. She is a former board chair and president for the National Environmental Safety and Health Training Association Board of Directors.

JulieAnne Williamson  
JulieAnne Williamson has served for nine years as the assistant vice president for Administration and Finance. She returned to Georgia Tech in 1996 from private consulting, leading Georgia Tech’s Consulting Services team on projects for academic, research and administrative clients. Williamson has held several long-term interim leadership roles in campus services, campus sustainability, institutional resource planning and management, strategic consulting, and capital planning and space management. She holds three degrees in electrical engineering and industrial and systems engineering from Georgia Tech.
2019-20 LEADING WOMEN@TECH ADVISORY BOARD

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Errika Moore  
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John Stein  
*Vice President for Student Life and Brandt-Fritz Dean of Students Chair, Georgia Tech*
“Continuing to invest in programs like Leading Women@Tech is imperative to fostering equity and inclusion, and we are grateful for the Institute’s commitment. It was gratifying to witness the program cohorts come together at different points and build stronger relationships with each other.”

— Julie Ancis, associate vice president for Institute Diversity and co-director of Leading Women@Tech, Georgia Tech
“We appreciate the institutional support from the Office of the President, Institute Diversity, supervisors of the participants across the Institute, the excellence of our partners, and the stellar guidance of our advisory board members. This investment in fortifying and advancing women leaders is a visible commitment towards inclusive excellence. We must become even more intentional and expansive with such opportunities if we are to sustain our progress and live our values.”

— Pearl Alexander, executive director of diversity, inclusion, and engagement and co-director of Leading Women@Tech, Georgia Tech
CREATING THE NEXT®

Georgia Tech Institute Diversity

LEADING WOMEN@TECH
DEVELOP. EMPOWER. TRANSFORM

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