

Annual Report of the Academic Services Committee for 2008-2009
Submitted by Marlit Hayslett, Committee Chair
Georgia Tech Research Institute
September 21, 2009

The following people served on the committee during the 2008-2009 academic year:

Bob Fox, Executive Board
Andy Jones, SGA
Marlit Hayslett, GTRI, Chair
Nancey Green Leigh, Architecture
Margaret Loper, GTRI

Judith Norback, ISyE
Peter Hesketh, ME
Myrtle Turner, GTRI
Cam Tyson, CHEM
Helena Mitchell, CACP

The committee met six times to receive briefings from academic units which support research and teaching. Additionally, Marlit Hayslett and Nancey Green Leigh served on the Bookstore RFP Committee as representatives of ASC. Topics at regular meetings included:

September 2008, **Kirk Englehardt** discussed GTRI's relation to campus, with a focus on the opportunities for co-op students.

October 2008, **Dr. Karen Harwell** and **Choung Yi**, Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program, *The Tower*. Ms. Yi presented the efforts to institutionalize the publication, along with staffing and review policies. (As a sidenote, I just received the first printed edition on 9/20/09. Good for them!)

December 2008, **Marcia Kinstler**, Sustainability Director of Office of Environmental Stewardship, will be our guest speaker. Ms. Kinstler discussed GT's successes with its sustainability campaign, some of the projects her office is engaged in, and how sustainability is realized on campus.

January 2009, **Sejal Patel**, Assistant Director for Capital Planning and Space Management, gave updates and future classroom plans. Mr. Patel presented the plan for space management, discussed some of the challenges with space planning and discussed future building on campus.

February 2009, **Organizational Meeting**. Discussed the purpose of our committee and how we can most effectively contribute to the GT community. The general consensus at the end of the meeting was that during the '09-'10 academic year, we would try to address the issue of language barriers for students. This includes foreign students trying to acclimate and contribute as active members of classes, as well as native English speakers with TAs who speak English as a 2nd or 3rd language. Next steps are to scope the breadth/depth of problem, figure out what "solutions" are already in place, and then identify the gaps. In particular, cost of the language institute has been listed as a barrier.

September 2009, **Organizational Meeting**. Elected Cam Tyson as incoming chair. Ideas put forth for topics this year were:

- recent email from Anderson Smith regarding how to handle teaching if professor gets H1N1. Concern is that the suggestions are inadequate and not well thought out
- Admissions as it relates to excess capacity for the professors.
- overall implications of state budget cuts
- new CRC ropes course
- how the library envisions support for students when info so available online
- issue from last spring...foreign language resources and barriers to accessing them