

# Silver Jackets Meeting

May 13, 2014 at 11:00 A.M.

Georgia Tech Success Center, President's Suite

## Minutes

**Members Attending (24)** Ian Gatland, Robert Green, Susan Keenan, Chris Mitchell, Steve Bomar, Allen Garrison, Jerry Hitt, Aubrey Bush, Jim Osborn, Patricia Glore, Maureen K. Glass, Pamela Rountree, Larry Webster, Earl Cagle, Martha Farley, Wiley Holcombe, Walter Allen, John Maguire, Andy Smith, Len Parsons, Sally Jackson, Jo Freeman, Sally Hammock, Ward O. Winer.

### **Business Meeting**

**Ian Gatland, President of Silver Jackets**, called the meeting to order and welcomed the members and announced that this would be the last meeting for this academic year. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 9 in the Student Center. The speaker will be Judith Curry, Director School of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences. Her topic will be Climate Change.

**Vice President Ward Winer** introduced President G. P. (Bud) Peterson by briefly reviewing his academic credentials, his academic service from teaching math and science in high school through his university positions and his many published papers and patents.

### **Program**

President Peterson opened his remarks by saying he would focus on **People, Platforms, and Programs**.

#### **People**

Students—Qualifications of students admitted continued to improve for the sixth year in a row. Applications were up 46 percent—26,000 applications for 2,600 openings. Average SAT score is 1650.

Faculty--The number of faculty members has increased by 100 in five years.

Faculty raises were finally able to be given officially although some earlier raises were given to lower paid employees.

#### **Platforms**

Athletic Facilities Improvements include McCamish Pavilion, the Brock Practice Facility, the tennis facility, and the purchase of the golf course. Money is being raised to upgrade the baseball stadium.

The Clough Undergraduate Commons had 12 million visits this past year.

Residence Hall upgrades are occurring at the rate of two per year.

Studies are underway relating to improvement of the Civil Engineering and Chapin Buildings.

## **Programs**

Planning is progressing for an Innovation Zone in Tech Square, and shared library facilities with Emory University. Funds are being raised to renovate the Library for academic space.

Technology assisted learning via MOOCS (Massive Open Online Courses)—300,000 enrolled in five courses. There are implications for the role of faculty members, timing of courses, and redefinition of success.

Capital Campaign—Target of \$1.5 billion by December 2015. Currently at \$1.35 billion. This will mean 100 new Endowed Chairs with funds raised for 79.

Tech Promise Program—A student admitted from a family with income \$35,000 or below will have an opportunity to work in a professional environment on campus with tuition and living expenses paid. A \$50 million endowment for this program has been raised. The target is 250 students in this program..

Conditional Admission—Applicants not initially admitted may enroll in other institutions, take a specified set of courses with an agreed upon performance level, and then be admitted to Georgia Tech.

Crime Reduction—The crime rate on campus is down 70 percent. Police reports are received daily in the President's Office.

The meeting was adjourned. Some members gathered in the Student Center Restaurant for lunch.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Earl Green, Silver Jackets Secretary