

# Plans unveiled to name Undergraduate Learning Commons for President Clough

After fourteen years as president of Georgia Tech—in addition to five years as a bachelor's and master's student—there's very little that can actually surprise President G. Wayne Clough, CE 1964, MS CE 1965.

Clough, however, was genuinely surprised—and a bit overwhelmed—when he learned that not only had the fundraising been nearly completed, but that the new Undergraduate Learning Commons itself would also be named in his honor, pending approval of the University System of Georgia Board of Regents. The announcement of the naming request was made jointly to the Foundation Board of Trustees and the Campaign Georgia Tech Steering Committee at the Foundation Board's meeting on the evening of June 5.

### **Building a Legacy**

The anticipated naming of the G. Wayne Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons honors the significant commitment to undergraduate education by the president over the past fourteen years.

Initial plans for the Undergraduate Learning Commons can be traced back nearly a decade—to the early years of Clough's presidency—but the state funding component was cemented just weeks ago. In the succeeding ten years, the facility had become the Institute's highest capital priority due to the rapid growth of the Tech student body.

This impressive growth, however, has also come with challenges. Chief among them is to support both new and continuing students through the creation of a campus community that is invested in their success.



The G. Wayne Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons will be located in the heart of the Tech campus. (Architectural rendering is representative and subject to change with final design.)

The \$85-million Undergraduate Learning Commons—which literally will sit at the crossroads of campus—will be dedicated to students' academic enrichment and offer innovative learning experiences. The sevenlevel building encases a central glass atrium and will be located on a slope between the Tech Green and the Price Gilbert Library, providing expansive views of green space as well as the Kessler Campanile.

What will set the Clough Learning Commons apart from other student-oriented facilities is a unique and comfortable environment outside the traditional classroom where students can take advantage of hands-on, collaborative, and technologically enhanced teaching and learning opportunities. The facility will encompass:

- modern and innovative science laboratories for foundational biology, chemistry, earth and atmospheric sciences, and physics courses;
- technologically advanced classrooms ranging from intimate seminar classroom settings to tiered lecture halls seating hundreds;
- a single facility housing undergraduate advising, tutoring, and other student-centered academic services; and

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testimony for fear of losing a sympathetic mayor in the coming election cycle.

### Ivan Allen Jr.'s example inspires creation of prize honoring social courage

Atlanta Mayor Ivan Allen Jr., COMM 1933, believed that testifying before Congress in 1963 in support of civil rights legislation would end his political career.

Allen, who was up for re-election the following year, had been asked by President John F. Kennedy to come to Washington and testify before Congress in support of the landmark legislation that would provide legal access to public accommodations for African Americans.

Many of those whose advice Allen sought on the matter counseled him not to testify, believing as Allen did that his political life would be over. Even some African American leaders in Atlanta were against Allen giving However, two very special people were supportive of the idea: close friend and Coca-Cola magnate Robert W. Woodruff and Allen's wife, Louise, who reportedly told her husband that if he thought testifying was the right thing to do, then he should do it.

For Allen, who died in 2003, his belief in the moral imperative of publicly supporting the civil rights legislation ultimately outweighed worries about his political fortunes. While the initial reaction to his testimony was negative—especially in the South—public opinion soon shifted and Allen handily won re-election the following year as well as accolades for his beloved city.

The courage Allen displayed nearly half a century ago has inspired the Wilbur and Hilda Glenn Family Foundation to make *Continued on page 6*  President Wayne Clough will leave Georgia Tech July 1 to become secretary of The Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. A special tribute to Dr. Clough's philanthropic legacy at Georgia Tech begins on Page 7.





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*New Undergraduate Learning Commons to be named for President Wayne Clough* 

• sustainable design features that will enable certification as a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) building.

The estimated 230,000-square-foot building—whose construction will be funded through a combination of private philanthropy (\$25 million+) and state appropriations (\$60 million)—will create and sustain an undergraduate community focused on integrating technology with innovative teaching and experiential learning. Collaboration spaces will create opportunities for informal teaching and learning; flexible, adaptable spaces will accommodate individual and collaborative study and small group work.

Last fall, facility programming for the building was completed by Perry Dean Rogers Architects with Houser Walker Architecture. The firm of Bohlin Cywinski Jackson was selected to design the project, and site preparation will begin this summer. The Clough Learning Commons is scheduled to open in the summer of 2011.

### **Financing a Legacy**

When the Tech community learned in March that Clough would be leaving the Institute to become secretary of The Smithsonian Institution, the reality of losing a beloved and dynamic leader was mixed with feelings of gratitude for all that the Cloughs have done to advance Georgia Tech over the years.

While current students and faculty are sure to always remember the Clough name, the volunteer leadership of the Campaign wanted to make sure that future generations of students know and appreciate the Clough legacy long after the man himself has left campus. They accomplished this by providing lead commitments and assurances that will name the Learning Commons in honor of Clough. Those commitments will be combined with gifts and commitments of fellow alumni, corporations,



The 230,000-square-foot building will be dedicated to undergraduate students' academic enrichment and offer innovative learning experiences. (Architectural rendering is representative and subject to change with final design.)

and foundations which are still being received. A seven-figure commitment from the Atlanta-based Robert W. Woodruff Foundation that is contingent upon Georgia Tech's raising the remaining private funding required will cap the effort.

"I am honored to be able to honor Wayne Clough," says Michael E. Tennenbaum, IE 1958, senior managing partner of Tennenbaum Capital Partners in Santa Monica, California, and Campaign vice chairman. "He and Anne made great personal sacrifices to escalate the quality and stature of Georgia Tech. Those who love Tech cannot do enough to thank them. Naming this signature building in the heart of the campus for Wayne is a perfect metaphor for that which was important to him the success of our students."

"Georgia Tech is one of our state's greatest assets, and Wayne Clough has been an exemplary leader of his alma mater," says P. Russell Hardin, president of the Woodruff Foundation. "He was the right man at the right time for Tech."

"The impact of Wayne Clough's presidency on Georgia Tech cannot be underestimated," says Alfred P. West, Jr., AE 1964, who in addition to serving as chairman of Campaign Georgia Tech is also chairman and CEO of SEI Investments Co. in Oaks, Pennsylvania. "In the span of fourteen years, he has taken Georgia Tech from a well-respected regional university focused on engineering to an internationally prominent institution encompassing dynamic interdisciplinary fields with vast potential for solving problems on a global scale. That kind of contribution deserves a highly visible means of lasting recognition, and naming the Learning Commons in Wayne's honor fits the bill perfectly."

To inquire about making a gift in support of the Clough Learning Commons, contact Vice President for Development Barrett H. Carson at 404.894.1868 or barrett.carson@ dev.gatech.edu.

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Ivan Allen Jr.'s example inspires creation of prize bonoring social courage

a commitment of \$2 million to endow the Ivan Allen Prize for Social Courage within the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts. The new prize will replace the existing Ivan Allen Prize for Progress and Service, which has been given since 2001 largely to prominent individuals for a lifetime of achievement and with strong connections to Atlanta or Georgia. The new award will be international in scope and will recognize individuals who, by standing up for a clear moral principle in the social arena, have positively affected public discourse at the risk of their own careers, their livelihoods, and even their lives. Consequently, the prize might go to someone already well known, or to someone whose social courage has yet to be widely recognized. The Ivan Allen Prize for Social Courage will be accompanied by a



are many more Ivan Allens around the globe standing up for what they believe is right regardless of the risk, and I want this award to help bring the continuity of their examples to light."

"This prize also will serve to highlight our unique role as a liberal arts college in a technological university," notes Sue V. Rosser, dean and Ivan Allen Jr. Chair in the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts. "Today, it's important but ultimately not enough to educate students to be superb engineers or business leaders. We must also inform their sense of professional responsibility and motivate their sense of social justice. The Allen Prize not only will provide examples of the kind of leaders we seek to develop, but it will also inspire students here and elsewhere to discover their own sources of social courage."

The late Ivan Allen Jr., former mayor of Atlanta

\$100,000 cash award to be paid out of the new endowment.

"My father was the kind of man who was always guided by his conscience above any other consideration," says H. Inman Allen, HON 2007, son of Ivan Allen Jr. and chairman of Ivan Allen Company. "I know there

To inquire about making a gift in support of the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, contact Director of Development Ski Hilenski at 404.894.9539 or ski.hilenski@iac.gatech.edu.