

Launch of
Sam Nunn School
at Ga Tech

**Statement of Senator Sam Nunn
October 7, 1996**

Thank you President Wayne Clough -- To you -- Dr. Clough -- Chancellor Portch -- Foundation President Charlie Brown -- Ivan Allen College Dean Hawkins -- Dr. Brady -- Dr. Bozeman and the entire Georgia Tech family.

First -- I am deeply appreciative for the great honor that you have bestowed upon me by your announcement this morning.

Second -- I am excited and challenged by the opportunity to play a role in Georgia Tech's rise to the top as a world-class instructional and research university.

Because of your leadership -- Dr. Clough -- building on the foundation laid by your predecessors -- and the enthusiastic support of your faculty and alumni -- today's Georgia Tech students can choose from multiple fields of knowledge in shaping their careers and in tackling complex problems.

This multi-disciplinary approach has vast potential in the Ivan Allen College. Under the leadership of Dean Hawkins and the faculty -- I believe that there is great opportunity to link the dynamic and explosive world of technology to the challenges we face in the international arena -- in business and in public policy.

Every aspect of our culture is being revolutionized by information age technology. Business, commerce, communications, transportation, government and national defense are all connected together in an information infrastructure that allows for greater efficiency, productivity and access. This awesome power is placed in our hands by scientists and engineers.

As we log into the virtual world -- we must not check out the real one.

Can this power be used in a way that will help bring peace to a world that is increasingly caught up in ethnic -- religious -- and racial conflict and animosity?

Can this power be used to help our citizens send their children to school without terror -- visit with their neighbors without fears -- or walk down the streets without packing a weapon?

Technology and science are outrunning the world of law -- religion -- human relations -- government and international relations. Bridges must be built between the world of science and the world of human relations. -- Bridges which can give shape and purpose to our technology and breathe heart and soul into our knowledge.

Here at Georgia Tech -- in close consultation and collaboration with our other fine public and

private institutions -- I believe that we can build these bridges. I look forward to being part of this exciting venture.

My role at Georgia Tech will be evolving in the months and years ahead. I will be spending considerable time in the immediate future in determining my principle occupation -- probably the practice of law -- and in deciding my role in the world of business.

I will continue my involvement in national security and foreign policy issues -- through my work with foundations and non-profit institutions, and I look forward to bringing the considerable knowledge and expertise here at Georgia Tech to bear on these challenges.

Dr. Clough -- I am deeply honored this morning and I look forward to my affiliation and my work with Georgia Tech students and faculty.

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Senator Sam Nunn
Transcript of Remarks
Georgia Tech Breakfast
December 2, 1996

Thank you President Wayne Clough, Linda and Barry and Bob Hawkins and all of you who have come on this early Monday morning. I am very proud to be affiliated with Georgia Tech after a 37 year rest. I have said a number of times that I pledged that when I left here in 1959 -- after making an F in Mechanical Drawing the first go around and a D the second go around -- that I would return to Georgia Tech only when Tech dropped Mechanical Drawing and added women. So here I am.

I want to congratulate -- I don't think Chuck Knapp has come in yet -- but I wanted to congratulate Chuck on a splendid job as President of the University of Georgia. He has truly been a wonderful leader for the university and for our entire state of Georgia and our entire region. He's going on to the Aspen Institute -- I'll mention a couple of the things that I'm involved in with the Aspen Institute a little later this morning, but Chuck has truly moved the University of Georgia into the top ranks of public institutions in our nation, and I think we're all grateful for that.

Looking at Wayne this morning and knowing what he went through this weekend and knowing that Chuck probably had the other side of the feeling this weekend, but I looked at Bill Chase and he looked so relaxed. He had an intellectually challenging, I'm sure, but relaxing weekend unlike the President of Georgia Tech and, perhaps, even the President of the University of Georgia.

Let me just make a few points this morning. I read this weekend a report which has just come out that has been published by CSIS -- that's the Center for Strategic and International Studies. It's out of Washington, but really a worldwide operation. I will be doing some work with them in the future as I have in the past. It is chaired by David Abshire. I know Pete McTier knows David and others.

This particular study was chaired by Harold Brown and had some of the foremost scientists in our nation involved in it. Harold was, of course, former Secretary of Defense and a wonderful scientist in his own right. The study was financed by some of the leading technology companies in America. It is called Global Innovation and National Competitiveness. This report makes a lot of points, but the ones that really sort of stood out to me was that it said the capacity to innovate is the key engine to America's economic growth and economic strength. The capacity to innovate--that is much broader than talking strictly science or technology.

The second point that was really interesting to me was that the report said that the profound change in our new global economy is the ability of the fundamental elements of national wealth, for instance, capital, technology, ideas, information and even manufacturing

operations. For those fundamental elements of national wealth to move very rapidly all around the world, not staying confined in the borders of any particular country; and when you think about it, that is certainly true.

Now they made a very important distinction here -- they said that the other side of the coin is that there are a couple of elements of national wealth, and they put this under the broad umbrella of infrastructure of innovation. This infrastructure of innovation is not easily moved around the world; and it's not easily captured; and it's not easily created nor re-created. In other words, the infrastructure of innovation gives comparative advantages to those countries and those regions that are able to create that infrastructure of innovation.

Now what is the infrastructure of innovation? This report describes it better than any that I've seen. It's probably rather an intangible concept, but it involves the process, it involves the key players and involves the key pieces of the overall equation that is required for innovation. It requires the support for science, the support for diversified portfolio of technology -- not one or two technologies, but a whole broad array of technologies. It includes the availability of knowledge and know-how, and the knowledge and know-how has to be readily available in a certain region or country across a wide diversity of fields. Of course, people are the key to that. A policy environment is required that rewards investment in innovation; and when you're able to put together those tangibles and intangibles, particularly the people side of it, you have an ability to portray to companies around the world that create jobs that you have the infrastructure for innovation in your region.

Now I say all that because my first conclusion this morning, and I'll have only a couple, is that the state of Georgia with Georgia Tech, Emory University, the University of Georgia, Clarke Atlanta, Georgia State and with other educational institutions -- including Mercer Engineering down in Middle Georgia -- with all of that tied together, I believe we have achieved that infrastructure of innovation.

Pulling it together. How do we do that? The Georgia Research Alliance has already embarked on that quest. Dick Truly mentioned a minute ago that it really has moved out very rapidly and that the Georgia Research Alliance has already been an immense help to Georgia Tech, and I'm sure that's perhaps true of Emory and the University of Georgia also. This research alliance is really aimed towards taking advantage of the great potential that we have in our state for job development, for economic growth and for progress for our people.

Now where does international affairs and public policy fit into this; and the bottom line question that I would ask you today to think about with me -- not just this morning but beginning this morning and over the next few months and perhaps years -- what role can I play in helping strengthen, build and project this ability and infrastructure of innovation? Technology and science, as I view it, are value neutral. They can be used for good or for evil, and we have seen examples of both. It is up to human beings to determine whether this innovation, this technology and this science are used for good or for evil. Human beings have made different decisions over the course of history, but the difference today is that this information is spreading rapidly all

over the world and we have a different kind of challenge because of the speed of that scope and that change.

In my view, technology and science today and those involved in those fields are outrunning by a long distance the world of law and the world of religion. I said in a graduation speech at Georgia Tech this year that occasionally those involved in engineering and science need to look over their shoulders because as Satchel Paige said, just the opposite today, nobody's gaining on them. In fact, the world of law and the world of religion are lagging way behind. And I would say the same thing is true in the field of public policy and international affairs. Technology and science are outrunning the human side of the equation and it's a challenge for all of us.

I am delighted that Georgia Tech has embarked on a new Ivan Allen College that includes international affairs and public policy. To me that is exciting because it gives us a chance to do some very innovative things within this overall scope.

During the election campaign this year, I think building bridges was somewhat an overworked phrase both looking backward and looking forward, depending on one's perspective. So let me avoid the word bridges and say that I think crosswalks are essential. Crosswalks both on this campus, on other campuses and crosswalks between our campuses.

I think the crosswalks have to be able to be walked very quickly, easily and most of all routinely. We have to have a routine kind of interplay between the various parts of our overall academic approaches. These crosswalks are already being built in many respects. One thing I would like to do is to determine how many crosswalks we have and where they can be strengthened and where new ones need to be built -- both on this campus and between the campuses.

The young people who will be the leaders in international affairs and public policy in the years ahead must have a broad working knowledge of the way technology is shaping our future, because it is shaping our future. We don't want to stop it, but we couldn't stop it even if we wanted to.

Now on the other hand, young people on the cutting edge of science and technology must think through the revolution they are helping to create in terms of its effect on human beings, including law and religion, including its effects on ethics and morals in our society -- a much neglected area of thought from my perspective.

So these crosswalks must be built and they must be strengthened. How do we do that? How do we do it for the students? How do we do it for the faculty? How does the business community play a role here, and how do we help with all of this in terms of creating a better life for our people and better jobs for our people?

Those are the questions. I don't have the answers here this morning, but its exciting for

me to think about the questions and to know that a whole lot of other people, including those in this room, are going to be thinking about the answers and working on them.

Now what about my activities. I have told all the people that I have talked to in terms of making a living -- and that is one of the things that my wife keeps insisting that I not lose sight of. I'm going to spend a fourth to one-third of my time on public policy and international affairs. My Georgia hat will be here at Georgia Tech, so I will certainly be continuing in public policy and public affairs. I will not be teaching, per se, and using the word "Professor" is probably a pretty broad term for me at this point in time, but I will be here on a frequent basis visiting with faculty and visiting with students. As Linda has already mentioned, I envision participating in and helping formulate at least one seminar a year. I will probably be going around the state some and rotating around and giving lectures and answering questions -- primarily dialogue rather than lectures.

The first seminar that we are talking about is on a subject that I have spent more time on over the last four or five years than on any other single topic. I've had a partner in that endeavor by the name of Dick Lugar, Senator from Indiana, where we have created a program called the Nunn-Lugar Program aimed at what I believe is our number one national security problem and will be for the next twenty years as far as the effect on our own people -- and that is the threat of proliferation of nuclear weapons, nuclear technology, missile technology, chemical weapons, as well as biological weapons. That is an enormously broad subject. It has tremendous implications. The University of Georgia has real expertise in that area, Georgia Tech has real expertise in that area, and I think Emory has a tremendous interest in that area through the Carter Center -- through preventing conflict and a lot of other parts of Emory.

I think the three schools working together, joined perhaps by other institutions of higher education, can put on a first-class seminar next spring. I know the key players around the world in this regard, and I think we can bring them here, bring them over to the University of Georgia if that is the site that is chosen -- and I think that is a great site -- and really put together a comprehensive, probably the most comprehensive seminar, just a day or a day-and-a-half, but sitting around and really talking about that subject and trying to see what all the other players in the world are doing. That, to me, is an exciting undertaking.

The next seminar that I would envision, whether in '97 or '98, would be on a subject that is not being discussed very much in public these days but is an enormously important subject -- we're getting more and more tied together with computers. Wonderful computer links around the world, information technology is exploding, but the negative side of all that is we're all one great big party line -- it's called the Internet. Not many people here probably grew up in a small town, as I did, and had a party line, but we were all on it, and when you're on that Internet, you're basically communicating with people whether you know it or not, and you're very, very vulnerable to intercept. The Department of Defense has 250,000 attempts to get into their computers every year that are not with permission. Some of those are kids playing, and the others are basically spies that are trying to steal secrets as well as technology.

Banks have the same problem. We've already had successful bank thefts, most recently in Russia, stealing from a United States bank, but it is going on all the time through the world of computers, and we're just beginning to think through the implications of all of this in terms of our laws, in terms of our law enforcement, in terms of the jurisdiction of CIA and NSA, in terms of the jurisdiction and expertise, or lack thereof, of the FBI -- we have a huge challenge in that regard. I think this is an area, with the expertise we already have in this infrastructure in our state, we could take on and put on a first-class seminar. One of the big challenges here is the private sector has no confidence that government will be able to keep a secret, so the private sector does not want to report anything about hits from hackers, because they're afraid someone will learn about it, and they will be at a competitive disadvantage. When Citibank got hit a year and a half or two years ago, they found, much to their chagrin, after it was made public that their competitors started advertising how much safer they were. So we have some real disincentives in the market for people to even talk about some of the problems that are certainly looming ahead for us.

Now having said all of that, let me just describe briefly some of the things that I'm going to be involved in. Now I do not anticipate that all of these will be of interest to the folks here on the Tech faculty or the Emory or Georgia faculties for that matter, but some of them may be, and I'll throw them out just so you get an idea of some of the activities that I am going to continue to be engaged in that could lend themselves to some efforts here in our own state.

I will continue to be engaged very proudly as a member of the Emory Board of Trustees; and Bill Chase -- he and I have discussed that many times -- I hope I am going to be a better member than I have in the past. I am going to continue to be on the Carter Board, and I think the Carter Center certainly is already playing a tremendous role in the world, and I hope that we're able to work with them. I'm going to be meeting with President Carter in the next week or so.

I am on the Board of Advisors of the Monterey Non-Proliferation Center. This is an outfit run by Bill Potter out in California. They have offices in Moscow and Ukraine. They have the foremost talent of any group I know of in keeping up with the activities in the former Soviet Union, particularly regarding chemical, biological and nuclear weapons.

I will be affiliated with this outfit in Washington, CSIS, that has offices all over the world. I will probably have a small office there when I'm in Washington and will be working with them on a number of projects. As Pete McTier knows, CSIS is not only involved in international affairs, but they were the group -- the umbrella group -- where we came up with the overall approach to fiscal affairs and the tax proposals that became known as the Nunn-Domenici proposals, which are still being discussed and will be over the next few years.

Another area is preventing deadly conflicts. David Hamburg and Cy Vance, former Secretary of State, working under a Carnegie grant, have this worldwide effort going on trying to determine how we can get out in front of the Bosnias of the world and the Rwandas and Burundis before they happen; before we have a huge toll in human suffering and before the

United States and others have to spend literally hundreds of millions of dollars trying to cure the problem. How do we get out in front of that?

They've asked me to take on the former Soviet Union and basically look at ways to anticipate and help prevent conflict in that part of the world, particularly in the area of Central Asia. I happen to believe that the effect of the Moslem religion, both the good side and the bad side, has a huge effect across a whole arc of the world, and we're going to have to know a whole lot more about Islam if we're going to have a successful approach in foreign affairs in this country. So I'm going to be involved in that.

I also co-chair the Aspen Strategy Group. We spend about a week each year looking at a particular subject. Two years ago we were emersed in China. Last year we were emersed in non-proliferation. We also have an Aspen Strategy Group, a U.S.-Russian Group, that meets a couple times a year where we're trying to have a better relationship with some of the key players in Russia. We had our first meeting there back in October.

I'm also involved in a group called the American Assembly, which they asked me to co-chair a particular project on China. I spent a weekend in New York about two weeks ago at the Arden House, sitting around with about 70 experts on China. There is going to be no more important relationship in the world than the relationship between the United States and China over the next twenty years -- the existing super-power and the emerging power. History is replete with wars that have occurred and terrible conflicts that have occurred because the new emerging power could not be accommodated into the international order. This is going to be a tremendous challenge for all of us, and I will certainly be involved in the China policy.

In addition to that, Senator Cohen and I have been for three years involved in a project in Southeast Asia. The basic leader of this project is the Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia by the name of Anwar, and it basically is an effort for the United States to get our business community more involved in Southeast Asia and to have top governmental officials meet with U.S. top business officials. Business officials from that part of the world--Malaysia, Thailand, Phillippines, and Indonesia exploding with growth--have a much better link, and I hope to link our business community to those opportunities, where appropriate.

Finally, on the domestic public policy part, I will be co-chairing, and it's already just underway, an effort with Bill Bennett, who is, of course, one of the leading thinkers in America, one of the leading Republicans, on a project called Restoring Civic America. Looking at some of the problems of the huge crime problems we have, the teenage pregnancy problems, the breakup of families--all of those things that are plaguing our society today and trying to determine what out there in the field is really working? Who's making things happen in a different direction? Our basic theory is all of these problems are being tackled successfully by someone somewhere; and the question is can we find out who is doing it and help project that around the country? So we're going to be working on that.

Bill Galston heads that up. It's being funded by the Pew Foundation and is being run out

of the Public Policy School at the University of Maryland. It may be that Barry and some of our people here and on the campus of Emory or Georgia or all would like to have some part of that.

Finally, the tax policy I've been involved in for sometime--and I'm sure I'm going to continue to be involved in this whole effort to basically determine if we need to fundamentally change our tax system. I think we do. We've got some tremendous problems with entitlement reform that have to be addressed, and you can't address entitlement reform and tell our younger generation they're not going to be able to retire until age 70, which we've got to tell them. One of these days somebody's going to tell them--I already have, and it hasn't had much impact--but the young people are simply not, but we've got to give them a chance to save money; and we've got to give people an incentive and an ability to save under our tax system.

That also gets very fundamentally involved in our trade policy, because no matter how we complain about our trade imbalances, as long as we have a deficit of savings, we're not going to have enough money in America without sucking in the capital from around the world and borrowing it, and that means we're going to have a trade deficit. It's just a question of where we're going to have it. So savings and tax policy go right to the heart of both some of our trade issues as well our entitlement reform.

Now I say all of that by asking you to start thinking about this and thinking about what role I can play. What role can I play best in terms of inter-play with the students? What role can I play in terms of inter-play with the faculty? Which of these projects that Linda talked about lend themselves to a collaborative effort with Emory and with the University of Georgia; and how do we build, can we build and can we strengthen these crosswalks that I think are so important in the age of technology we're in today?

So that's more than I intended to say, but Wayne and Linda, I think, at this stage, it would be good if we had some dialogue.

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