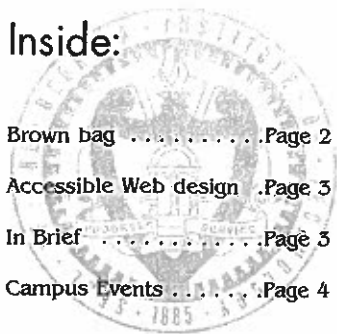


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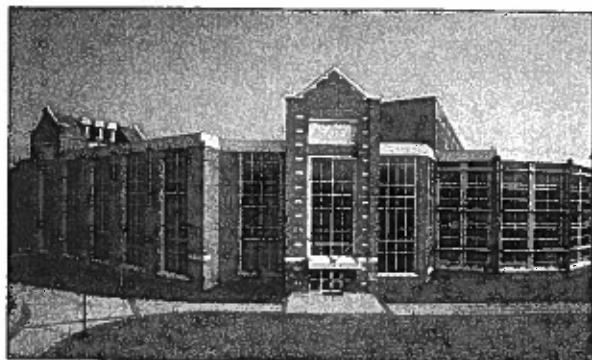


THE WHISTLE

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THE GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY



The Institute for Bioengineering and Bioscience Building has been renamed the Parker H. Petit Building.

Alumnus donates \$3.3 million for engineering complex

Bioengineering and Bioscience Building named for Pete Petit

*Kay Kinard
Institute for Bioengineering and Biosciences*

Georgia Tech alumnus and prominent Atlantan Parker H. Petit, the chief executive officer of Matria Healthcare, has made a \$3.3 million gift toward the development of a complex of buildings on the Tech campus devoted to biomedical, environmental and molecular engineering research. As a result of his commitment, Tech will name the building that currently houses its bioengineering and bioscience programs the Parker H. Petit Building.

Opened in 1999, the newly named Petit Building will be among a four-building complex under construction at the corner of Ferst Drive and Atlantic Drive that will house a mini-campus for research and education blending Tech's engineering, science and information technology programs.

Petit's gift will assist in the completion of the complex. In addition to the Petit Building, this complex will include the U.A. Whitaker Building for Biomedical Engineering, the Ford Motor Company Environmental Science and Technology Building, and the Molecular and Materials Science and Engineering Building.

President Wayne Clough said, "It is wonderfully appropriate that we name in his honor the remarkable landmark

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building. It is a symbol of new growth, and stands as an eloquent testimony to the vital role that Pete Petit has played in promoting Tech's research in these emerging fields. His concern, his generosity, and his vision have made a sustained and dramatic contribution to bioengineering and bioscience research at Tech, and we thank him for his continuous and generous support of this institution."

The Petit Building is a \$30 million, 150,000 square-foot facility configured to facilitate interdisciplinary research programs of faculty and their research groups. Including both graduate and undergraduate students. Combined, more than 500 students, staff and faculty are housed in the interdisciplinary building, engaged in bio-related research.



Petit's gift follows an earlier donation he made of \$5 million in 1996 to endow the Institute for Bioengineering and Bioscience, and a gift of \$1 million made in 1985 to fund the Distinguished Chair in Engineering in Medicine, currently held by Professor Robert Nerem.

"The vision and leadership

exhibited by Pete Petit's generous gifts have taken the dreams of Georgia Tech's faculty in bioengineering and bioscience to a new level," Nerem said. "He has been a driving force behind the development of bio-related research at Tech and the naming of the building is a worthy tribute to his contributions."

In March of 2002, U.S. News and World Report ranked Tech's bioengineering program among the best graduate programs in the country.

"I believe that the research conducted by the faculty in the bioengineering and bioscience complex will improve our quality of life and act as a catalyst for economic development in our state and region in the years ahead," Petit said. "I am very fortunate to be able to assist with and play a role in the development of this complex for the bioengineering and bioscience activities at Georgia Tech."