



**Dean and Southern Company Chair
College of Engineering**

Leadership Profile

February 2026



WittKieffer

Executive Summary

The Georgia Institute of Technology seeks a strategic, innovative, and collaborative leader to serve as its next Dean and Southern Company Chair of the College of Engineering. Applications, inquiries, and nominations are invited.

The Georgia Institute of Technology ("Georgia Tech", "The Institute" or "Institute") is a top-ranked public research university situated in the heart of Atlanta, a diverse and vibrant city with numerous economic and cultural strengths. Georgia Tech has instructional sites in Metz, France, and Savannah, Georgia, and has facilitated research collaborations across the globe. The Institute serves more than 56,700 students through top-ranked undergraduate, graduate, and executive programs in engineering, computing, science, business, design, liberal arts, and lifetime learning. It has been the nation's fastest-growing public university over the past decade and is the largest in the state.

The Georgia Tech College of Engineering is a nationally renowned leader in engineering education and research, offering more than 50 degree tracks across eight schools and preparing students to become innovative, globally minded leaders. Located in the heart of Atlanta—one of America's most vibrant urban centers—the College combines the resources of a major research university with unparalleled opportunities for hands-on learning, entrepreneurship, and international experiences. Its students benefit from world-class faculty, cutting-edge research, and a strong culture of innovation that empowers them to design solutions to global challenges and launch impactful careers in engineering and beyond.

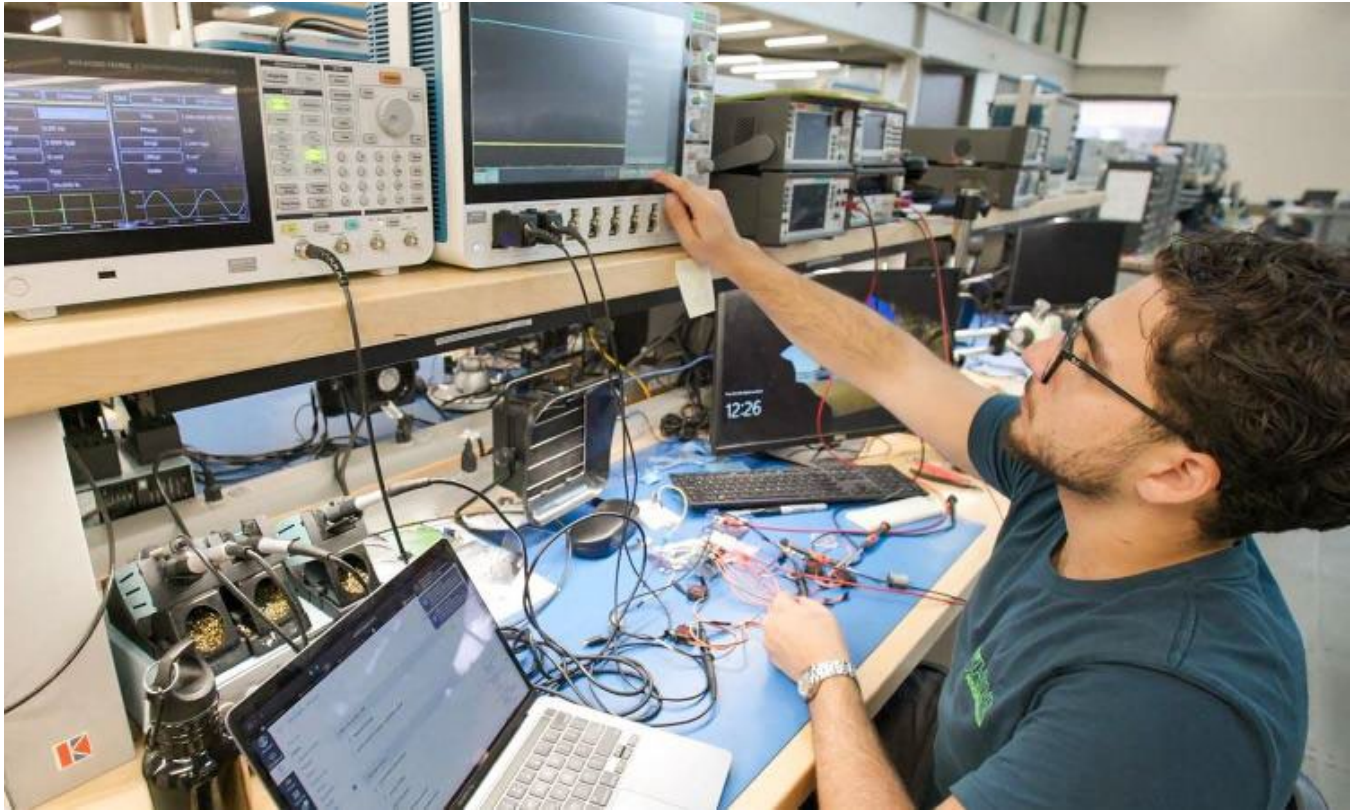
The College of Engineering is consistently ranked among the country's top 10 engineering institutions and has a reputation as a global leader and innovator. Because of its high academic quality and relatively low cost, Georgia Tech's College of Engineering is cited as one of the best values in American higher education by publications such as the Fiske Guide to Colleges, the Princeton Review, and the Kiplinger Business Magazine. The undergraduate engineering program at the College ranked 3rd in the 2026 America's Best Colleges edition of *U.S. News & World Report* (published in September 2025), and 1st among public universities. The College is home to the nation's top-ranked undergraduate programs in biomedical, environmental, and industrial engineering. For the 14th year in a row, all 11 of the College's graduate programs are ranked in the nation's top 10 in the *U.S. News & World Report* graduate rankings. The College is No. 4 nationally, and second among public universities.

The next Dean of the Georgia Tech College of Engineering will serve as the chief academic officer for the nation's largest engineering program, working collaboratively with associate deans and school chairs while providing leadership to nearly 500 faculty members, more than 500 staff, and over 21,000 students. The institute seeks visionary leadership to advance its strategic priorities, including driving innovation, strengthening interdisciplinary research, and ensuring the Institute remains at the forefront of engineering education in an era shaped by artificial intelligence and emerging technologies. Key ambitions include broadening access for students, deepening industry partnerships, and expanding community engagement across Georgia. The Dean will foster entrepreneurship, enhance translational research, and amplify the College's national visibility while securing resources and support for College priorities.

Students are the number one priority. The College seeks to further enrich the student experience through innovative hands-on learning opportunities, support structures, and industry-connected pathways. Equally essential is cultivating an environment where faculty, staff, and students are empowered and thrive. Priorities include recruiting and retaining exceptional talent, ensuring exceptional mentorship and professional development, and effectively managing growth. A commitment to fostering a culture of belonging, operational excellence, and strong cross-campus collaboration underpins these efforts, ensuring the College can scale effectively while maintaining excellence.

Credentials that merit appointment as a full, tenured professor in a discipline represented within the College of Engineering are required. The next Dean must be deeply committed to collaboration and the promotion and development of education and research programs that improve the human condition through advanced science and technology.

To submit a nomination or express personal interest in this position, please see Procedure for Candidacy at the end of this document.



Opportunities and Expectations for Leadership

Drive strategic vision and innovation to create a thriving and competitive future for the College

- Ensure Georgia Tech is at the leading edge of transformative engineering education in response to artificial intelligence and emerging technologies.
- Further strengthen the College as a national leader in interdisciplinary research addressing the world's most pressing problems; incentivize large-scale collaborations.
- Champion entrepreneurship and translational activities as part of Georgia Tech's culture of innovation.
- Forge deep, future-oriented industry partnerships that fuel innovation, translate research into real-world impact, and keep Georgia Tech's engineering programs aligned with rapidly evolving technological needs.
- Expand global research partnerships and deepen engagement with communities across Georgia and beyond.

Recruit, retain, and support faculty and staff of excellence

- Develop creative approaches to attract and retain high-caliber faculty – for example, discretionary funds for research support, competitive start-up funds, lab renovations, and graduate student support, among others.
- Build on the College's strong mentorship and career development programs for faculty, especially around tenure and promotion.
- Attract, retain, and develop the College's talented staff.

Champion the success of and an outstanding experience for all students

- Expand experiential educational opportunities that define Georgia Tech's engineering education.
- Seek funding for undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships; address affordability for class materials and projects, student organizations and competitions, and other initiatives.
- Secure additional resources for undergraduate and graduate student support, including academic support, research funding, and co-curricular activities.
- Bring corporate talent into classrooms, create pathways for real-world experience, expand professional development opportunities, and deepen partnerships with employers actively seeking to hire students into full-time roles.

Cultivate, advocate for, and secure resources to advance the College

- Secure transformational gifts, including naming opportunities for schools and the College, endowments for chairs, student scholarships and fellowships, and funding for facilities and research infrastructure.
- Build robust systems for graduate fellowships and stipends to remain competitive nationally.
- Strengthen ties with industry for research funding, continuing education, and experiential learning opportunities.
- Enhance the College's visibility and reputation through strategic engagement and recognition of faculty at the national level (e.g., National Academies, OSTP, federal agencies).
- Elevate and amplify the College's achievements by telling a compelling, coordinated story - internally and externally - to strengthen fundraising efforts, enhance visibility, and reinforce Georgia Tech's reputation.
- Advocate for and secure resources that match the College's growth, scale, and ambitions.

Foster a collaborative and empowering culture

- Champion a culture where faculty, staff, and students can bring their best to their work and thrive.
- Maintain and facilitate strong, collaborative relationships amongst the schools.
- Model service-oriented leadership.
- Cultivate strong partnerships with the colleges and units across Georgia Tech to strengthen interdisciplinary education and research.

Ensure operational excellence

- Manage growth; develop strategies to scale resources and maintain quality amid rising student numbers.
- Encourage and support efforts to reduce administrative burdens and improve efficiency across operations.
- Champion efforts to simplify the process that accelerates partnerships with industry.

**Professional Qualifications and Personal Qualities****Academic Background**

- Credentials which merit appointment as a full, tenured professor in a discipline represented within the College of Engineering (as outlined in the Georgia Tech [Faculty Handbook](#)).

Strategic Vision and Innovative Leadership

- Demonstrated strategic leadership with the ability to identify transformative opportunities and steward resources with discipline and accountability.
- The ability to design, articulate, and implement an inspiring, bold, forward-looking, and transformative academic vision that leverages the College's strengths and positions the College as a national leader in research and education.

- Expert knowledge of emerging trends in engineering education, including artificial intelligence, emerging technologies, and technology shifts.
- Demonstrated change management expertise, including the ability to facilitate open dialogue, align transitions with strategic goals, encourage reflection, and foster shared understanding to guide through change.
- Demonstrated commitment to fostering innovation and entrepreneurship as core elements of Georgia Tech's culture and mission.

Fundraising and External Engagement

- Demonstrated success in attracting extramural funding and advancing major gifts, endowments, and transformational fundraising initiatives.
- Ability to build and sustain strong relationships with key external stakeholders and leverage external advisory boards while compellingly communicating the College's mission, impact, and aspirations to enhance reputation and attract resources.
- Proven experience expanding corporate and foundation engagement to advance research, continuing education, workforce development, and student experiential learning opportunities.
- Political savvy and sound judgment, with the ability to represent Georgia Tech effectively at the state, national, and global levels.

Communication and Interpersonal Skills

- Excellent communication skills with a demonstrated ability to listen to a variety of constituent groups, synthesize input, make decisions, and share information broadly to build consensus and support for action.
- Strong interpersonal skills and emotional intelligence, with the ability to build trust, listen deeply, and foster a collegial culture.
- Trust-based leader who empowers chairs, faculty, and staff, values academic freedom, and leads effectively within a highly distributed organizational model.

Operational and Organizational Excellence

- Demonstrated ability to navigate complex university systems and effectively advocate for academic units.
- Ability to streamline administrative processes and reduce barriers to efficiency while maintaining appropriate oversight.
- Excellent management, organization, planning, supervisory, and problem-solving skills.
- Experience successfully leading and managing large teams in a highly regulated but rapidly changing environment.
- Experience managing large-scale budgets and hybrid financial models.
- Sound, decisive judgment with the ability to discern when to advance initiatives and when to pause or recalibrate.
- The capacity to empower college leaders to achieve the College's goals and objectives.

Values and Commitments

- An authentic embrace of Georgia Tech's vision, values, and beliefs.
- A collegial, accessible, and consultative approach.
- Unwavering commitment to student success, reflected through visible leadership, accessibility, and meaningful engagement with students. A clear commitment to the transformative power of undergraduate and graduate education, including experiential learning opportunities.
- A deep respect for staff and a commitment to their development and success.
- Proven advocate for faculty development and mentorship, fostering an environment that supports excellence, growth, and career progression. Understanding of and respect for shared faculty governance.
- Entrepreneurial mindset with a bias toward innovation and action.
- The ability to relate effectively to a wide variety of people from different backgrounds, including an understanding and respect for all community members.
- Absolute integrity.



About Georgia Institute of Technology

Overview

Georgia Tech prides itself on its technological resources, collaborations, high-quality student body, and commitment to building an outstanding community of learning, discovery, and creation. We strongly encourage applicants whose values align with our institutional values, as outlined in our Strategic Plan. These values include academic excellence, a focus on students, inquiry and innovation, collaboration and community, and ethical behavior and stewardship. Georgia Tech has policies to promote a healthy work-life balance and is aware that attracting faculty may require meeting the needs of two careers.

About Georgia Tech

Georgia Tech is a top-ranked public research university situated in the heart of Atlanta, a diverse and vibrant city with numerous economic and cultural strengths. The Institute serves more than 50,000 students through top-ranked undergraduate, graduate, and executive programs in engineering, computing, science, business, design, liberal arts, and lifetime learning. Georgia Tech's faculty attracted \$1.37 billion in research awards this past year in fields ranging from biomedical technology to artificial intelligence, energy, sustainability, semiconductors, neuroscience, and national security. Georgia Tech ranks among the nation's top 20 universities for research and development spending and No. 1 among institutions without a medical school.

Georgia Tech's Mission and Values

Georgia Tech's mission is *to develop leaders who advance technology and improve the human condition*. The Institute has nine key values that are foundational to everything we do:

- Students are our top priority.
- We strive for excellence.
- We thrive on diversity.
- We celebrate collaboration.
- We champion innovation.
- We safeguard freedom of inquiry and expression.
- We nurture the well-being of our community.
- We act ethically.
- We are responsible stewards.

Over the next decade, Georgia Tech will become an example of inclusive innovation, a leading technological research university of unmatched scale, relentlessly committed to serving the public good; breaking new ground in addressing the biggest local, national, and global challenges and opportunities of our time; making technology broadly accessible; and developing exceptional, principled leaders from all backgrounds ready to produce novel ideas and create solutions with real human impact.

The University System of Georgia Core Values Statement

The University System of Georgia (USG) comprises our 26 institutions of higher education and learning, as well as the System Office. Our USG Statement of Core Values are Integrity, Excellence, Accountability, and Respect. These values serve as the foundation for all that we do as an organization, and each USG community member is responsible for demonstrating and upholding these standards. More details on the USG Statement of Core Values and Code of Conduct are available in USG Board Policy 8.2.18.1.2 and can be found online at https://www.usg.edu/policymanual/section8/C224/#p8.2.18_personnel_conduct.

Additionally, USG supports Freedom of Expression as stated in Board Policy 6.5 Freedom of Expression and Academic Freedom, found online at <https://www.usg.edu/policymanual/section6/C2653>.

About the College of Engineering

The College of Engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology is one of the world's largest and most distinguished engineering schools, widely recognized for its academic excellence, research leadership, and deep engagement with industry and society. The College offers a comprehensive portfolio of undergraduate and graduate majors housed in eight schools:

- Daniel Guggenheim School of Aerospace Engineering,
- Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering (a joint Department with Emory University),
- School of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering,
- School of Civil and Environmental Engineering,
- School of Electrical and Computer Engineering,
- H. Milton Stewart School of Industrial and Systems Engineering,
- School of Materials Science and Engineering, and
- George W. Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering.

Grounded in interdisciplinary collaboration and experiential learning, the College is committed to preparing engineers who are both technically exceptional and globally minded. Through its faculty's cutting-edge research and its students' innovation-driven education, the College plays a central role in addressing complex global challenges and advancing solutions with real-world impact.

Extensive information about the College can be found here: [Home | College of Engineering](#).

Leadership

Raheem Beyah, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs



Raheem Beyah assumed the role of Georgia Tech's provost and executive vice president for Academic Affairs on November 1, 2025. Known for his mentorship and collaborative leadership, Beyah is the Institute's chief academic officer — leading and supporting all academic and related units, including the Colleges, the Library, and professional education. He also oversees the Institute's academic and budgetary policies and priorities.

Previously, he served as Dean of the College of Engineering and Southern Company Chair at Georgia Tech since 2021. Under his leadership, the College strengthened its national and global reputation for innovation, research excellence, and student success, earning top-10 national rankings across every engineering discipline.

Beyah held several leadership roles at Georgia Tech prior to serving as dean, including associate chair for Strategic Initiatives and Innovation in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE), interim Steve W. Chaddick ECE School Chair, executive director of the online master's in cybersecurity program, and vice president for Interdisciplinary Research.

He earned his master's and Ph.D. in electrical and computer engineering from Georgia Tech in 1999 and 2003, respectively. He received his Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University in 1998. A native Atlantan and a graduate of the Atlanta Public Schools system, he

continues to give back to his community through active involvement at both the state and local levels. He is also a graduate of Leadership Atlanta and Leadership Georgia.

He received the National Science Foundation CAREER Award in 2009 and was selected for the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency Computer Science Study Panel in 2010. He is a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Society for Engineering Education, and a lifetime member of the National Society of Black Engineers. He is also a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and an Association for Computing Machinery Distinguished Scientist.

Beyah is a cybersecurity expert and co-leads the Georgia Tech Cyber-Physical Security Lab. He is also the co-founder of Fortiphyd Logic Inc., an industrial cybersecurity company.

Atlanta, Georgia



Atlanta, Georgia, located in the geographic center of the Southeast, is the nation's 8th largest metropolitan area and has the world's most-traveled airport. The city of Atlanta is home to more than 490,000 people, and over 6.1 million reside in the Atlanta metro area.

Metro Atlanta is a regional, national, and global center for business operations and is home to more than 137,000 businesses. With a gross domestic product (GDP) of \$406 billion, Atlanta has the tenth-largest economy of cities in the U.S. and the 20th-largest in the world. Its economy is considered diverse, with dominant sectors in industries including transportation, aerospace, logistics, healthcare, news and media operations, film and television production, information technology, finance, and biomedical research and public policy.

Atlanta is truly a world-class city with living options that include the bustling downtown to the more rural areas, a short distance away. There is something for everyone: Dining, culture, the arts, and professional, collegiate, and

amateur sports. With its delightfully mild, four-season climate and forested topography, it's no wonder that people continue to move there. A short drive from Atlanta includes natural wonders like Stone Mountain Park, Providence Canyon State Park, and Lake Lanier. Atlanta is the gateway of the New South, offering a unique blend of big-city entertainment and Southern hospitality.

For those hoping for a more relaxed lifestyle, outside of Atlanta proper, there are many communities to fit one's particular lifestyle, like Alpharetta, Marietta, Buford, and Sandy Springs, that provide easy access to Atlanta without the bustle of the city and beautiful scenery aplenty. The area surrounding Atlanta includes everything from national parks (Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, Amicalola Falls) to beautiful lakes (Allatoona Lake, Lake Sidney Lanier), art museums, fine dining, and world-class barbecue.

Atlanta's vibrant economic growth attracts hundreds of companies and thousands of well-educated job seekers annually. The area's high employment and strong, diverse industry base will ensure its continued record-setting growth. Metro Atlanta's openness has proven to be an alluring magnet for the world's foremost companies. Metro Atlanta ranks among the top five in the nation in net new job growth for the last decade, adding nearly 460,000 new jobs. Metro Atlanta is forecasted to be the third-largest job generator over the next decade.

One of Atlanta's oldest and most well-known companies, The Coca-Cola Company, made its start in Atlanta when Dr. John Pemberton, an Atlanta pharmacist, concocted the Coca-Cola soft drink formula in a brass kettle in his backyard, trying to discover a headache tonic. The Coca-Cola Company was incorporated in Atlanta in 1888 and is now one of the top 100 companies in revenue in the United States. Turner Broadcasting and Cox Communications call Atlanta their corporate headquarters. In the 1970s and '80s, companies and organizations such as Home Depot, Georgia-Pacific and the American Cancer Society moved their headquarters to Atlanta – and the trend has continued with UPS, the world's largest shipper, ING Americas, Holiday Inn and InterContinental Hotels, CARE International, Philips Consumer Electronics, GE Energy, Porsche Cars North America, Novelis and Spectrum Brands (Rayovac Batteries) – all moving their headquarters to Atlanta in the last ten years.

Metro Atlanta is also home to the world-renowned U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, the Arthritis Foundation, as well as several distinguished universities, including Georgia Tech, Emory University, and Morehouse School of Medicine.

<https://discoveratlanta.com/>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atlanta>

<https://www.exploregeorgia.org/city/atlanta>



Procedure for Candidacy

Applications, nominations, and inquiries are invited. Applications should include, as two separate documents, a CV or resume, and a letter of interest addressing the themes in this profile. WittKieffer is assisting Georgia Tech in this search. For full consideration, candidate materials should be received by March 11, 2026.

Applications, nominations, and inquiries can be directed to:

Suzanne Teer and Cathryn Davis at

GTEngineering@wittkieffer.com

or through the WittKieffer Candidate Portal by [clicking here](#). Candidates can also find this portal via the WittKieffer website at www.wittkieffer.com and selecting the "Become a Candidate" button.

The Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech) is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. The Institute is committed to maintaining a fair and respectful environment for all. To that end, and in accordance with federal and state law, Board of Regents policy, and Institute policy, Georgia Tech provides equal opportunity to all faculty, staff, students, and all other members of the Georgia Tech community, including applicants for admission and/or employment, contractors, volunteers, and participants in institutional programs, activities, or services. Georgia Tech complies with all applicable laws and regulations governing equal opportunity in the workplace and in educational activities.

Equal opportunity and decisions based on merit are fundamental values of the University System of Georgia ("USG") and Georgia Tech. Georgia Tech prohibits discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, on the basis of an individual's race, ethnicity, ancestry, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, age, disability, genetics, or veteran status in its programs, activities, employment, and admissions. Further, Georgia Tech prohibits citizenship status, immigration status, and national origin discrimination in hiring, firing, and recruitment, except where such restrictions are required in order to comply with law, regulation, executive order, or Attorney General directive, or where they are required by Federal, State, or local government contract.