Georgia Institute of Technology

Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

WittKieffer

Executive Summary

The Georgia Institute of Technology seeks a strategic, innovative, and collaborative leader to serve as its next Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs (Provost). 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 50,000 students through top-ranked undergraduate, graduate, and executive programs in engineering, computing, science, business, design, and liberal arts. It has been the nation's fastest-growing public university over the past decade and is the largest in the state.

Georgia Tech's faculty attracted $1.37 billion in research awards in academic year 2024 in fields ranging from artificial intelligence to biomedical technology, energy, neuroscience, national security, semiconductors, and sustainability. Georgia Tech is home to seven colleges that include the College of Engineering, College of Computing, Scheller College of Business, College of Sciences, College of Design, Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, and the College of Lifetime Learning. Georgia Tech's world-renowned faculty are not only pioneers in research and innovation, but also dedicated educators who bring their expertise into the classroom, fostering a rigorous and engaging learning environment that prepares students to lead and excel in the evolving world. As of 2025, 49 faculty members have been elected to the National Academy of Engineering, five to the National Academy of Sciences, and more than 100 as Fellows of the American Association for Advancement of Science.

Georgia Tech is nationally and globally **recognized** for academic excellence across disciplines. U.S. News & World Report ranks it No. 4 in Best Undergraduate Engineering Programs; each of ten undergraduate engineering programs are in the top 4 (to include No. 1 ISyE and CEE, and No. 2 AE, ME, and BME), and each of eleven graduate programs is in the top 10. The Scheller College of Business ranks No. 18 for undergraduate programs, with standout areas like analytics (No. 3) and management information systems (No. 4). Computer Science ranks No. 7 nationally and is highly placed in global rankings, while programs in statistics, operational research, and urban planning also earn top national and international recognition. Georgia Tech is also ranked No. 2 in the Most Innovative Schools category by U.S. News & World Report for programs such as the Vertically Integrated Projects (VIP), which received the 2025 Regents' Award for Excellence in High-Impact Practices and Experiential Learning, and CREATE-X, an initiative to instill entrepreneurial confidence in students and empower them to launch successful startups. The Institute's Cooperative Education (Co-op) Program is the largest voluntary co-op program in the United States, offering students a unique opportunity to integrate academic studies with real-world work experience. Georgia Tech continues to garner recognition as a top-value institution. In the Princeton Review's Best Colleges List, Tech was named No. 1 in Best Value Colleges (Public Schools) and Best Value Colleges without aid (Public Schools).

As a direct report to President Ángel Cabrera, and in close partnership with the Executive Vice President for Research and the Executive Vice President for Administration and Finance, the Provost serves as the chief academic officer for the Institute and oversees the budgets of all academic units including the colleges, the library, enrollment management and professional education. The Provost also oversees academic policy and priorities, establishes standards for the quality of the student body, and maintains educational excellence. Additionally, they have oversight responsibility for the recruiting, hiring, retention, and performance of top-quality faculty and academic administrators who excel in both education and research and for the Institute's promotion and tenure process.

Georgia Tech is entering a transformative phase as it advances the second half of its ambitious decade-long **strategic plan**, guided by four "Big Bets" that are driving the Institute's commitment to growth with a focus on student outcomes, research growth, innovation, and lifelong learning. The next Provost will play a pivotal role in realizing this vision by championing academic excellence, growth, interdisciplinary collaboration, and global impact. Key priorities include expanding a world-class faculty, supporting student success, and aligning academic affairs with the Institute's strategic goals. The Provost will also lead efforts to expand Georgia Tech's research enterprise, foster inclusive partnerships, strengthen academic infrastructure, and enhance operational efficiency. With a strong emphasis on innovation, entrepreneurship, and public-private collaboration, the Provost will help position Georgia Tech as a national and global leader in higher education.

A terminal degree in an appropriate discipline represented within the Institute is required as is an appreciation and experience at the interface between liberal arts and science and technology. Significant experience in academic leadership within higher education is required. The next Provost 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

Georgia Tech is on a remarkable upward trajectory. The next Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs (Provost) will join the Institute at a pivotal time as Georgia Tech enters the second half of its decade-long, ambitious strategic plan. The Institute is laser-focused on its four Big Bets — the top four strategic priorities that will carry it across the finish line by 2030 — and a series of foundational priorities to continue building on the Institute's growth. The new Provost will play a vital role in achieving the plan's goals and will do so in a way that further distinguishes Georgia Tech for its world-class excellence. Likewise, through entrepreneurship, innovation and partnerships, Georgia Tech will significantly amplify the impact of its work benefiting the people of Atlanta, the State of Georgia, and across the globe.

In support of the Institute's growth, ambition and aspirations, the next Provost will focus on the following key priorities, among others.

ADVANCE GEORGIA TECH'S ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

- Wholeheartedly support and communicate persuasively the mission and vision for Georgia Tech as an institution that unapologetically strives to be one of the finest institutions in the nation while serving a rapidly growing number of talented students to enhance impact and economic opportunity.

- Articulate a long-term vision and strategic plan to guide the development of Academic Affairs within the Institute; oversee the implementation of this vision for Georgia Tech, including promoting the development of education and research programs that improve the human condition through advanced science and technology.

- Determine priorities that are consistent with the long-term plans of the Institute to make Georgia Tech a worldwide model and leader for interdisciplinary activities, innovation, and entrepreneurship, and a catalyst for economic development.

- Continue to advance Georgia Tech's high academic bar; ensure tenure and promotion criteria remain high with a balanced focus on teaching and research.

- Expand the world class faculty and staff; recruit, retain, and support exceptional students.

FULLY SUPPORT AND ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF THE INSTITUTE'S STRATEGIC PLAN

- Bring vision, strategy, and collaboration to help Georgia Tech achieve its four Big Bets: be a national leader in outcomes and value for all students; double the annual number of degrees granted and non-degree learners; double the scale and amplify the impact of its research enterprise; and build a national hub for innovation, creativity, and entrepreneurship in the city and around campus.

- Motivate, support, and unleash the tremendous talent and creativity across the Institute by creating the conditions for all academic disciplines to lead in and contribute to activities best suited to their strengths and priorities.

- Embrace and support Georgia Tech's commitment to lifetime learning; ensure the new College of Lifetime Learning is deeply integrated into the academic enterprise and the work of the campus.

- Ensure a strong esprit d 'corps among faculty; actively engage and communicate with faculty across the Institute; engage productively and regularly with faculty governance.

SUPPORT GEORGIA TECH'S EXCEPTIONAL FACULTY, STUDENTS, AND STAFF

- Create mechanisms to further support and incentivize interdisciplinary, multi-disciplinary, and transdisciplinary education that engages faculty from across the Institute to elevate Georgia Tech's profile intellectually, strengthen the Institute and grow opportunities for students and faculty.

- Support and empower faculty at all levels, including the extensive cadre of research and teaching faculty.

- Champion a unified vision for collaboration between academic affairs and student engagement and well-being ensuring a seamless and enriching experience that supports the intellectual, personal, and professional development of all students. Strengthen partnerships between academic departments, student engagement and wellbeing, and other campus units to improve student learning, development, retention, graduation rates, and post-graduate outcomes.

- Lead the Enrollment Management team to sustain Georgia Tech's positive enrollment trends, ensuring alignment with budgetary goals and the development of a strong, diverse student body. Collaborate proactively with colleges, schools, and student services units to align enrollment targets with curricular and cocurricular resources.

- Build on Georgia Tech's significant international engagement to further strengthen and create opportunities for faculty and students.

- Build a supportive environment for excellence in teaching, learning, service, and scholarship.

- Oversee athletic program compliance efforts required for all rules, regulations, policies or requirements imposed by the NCAA, the Atlantic Coast Conference and the Institute.

LEAD, MANAGE, AND STRENGTHEN A RAPIDLY GROWING ACADEMIC ENTERPRISE

- Manage the academic organizational structure of the Institute and articulate the roles and responsibilities of the major academic leaders within that structure; establish agreed-upon goals, milestones and measures against which progress toward Institute priorities can be measured.

- Collaborate with executive leadership to determine budgetary priorities and develop an annual budget for the Institute aligned with the academic mission; assist with the successful implementation of a new Institute budget model; develop a resource base consistent with the needs and aspirations of the Institute and participate directly in various fundraising initiatives.

- Support and empower an already strong team of deans and academic leaders; leverage the talent, structure and resources of the Provost's office and academic enterprise to execute strategy.

- Build on the regular meetings and conversations with academic leadership to ensure open, transparent, and timely communication; listen carefully to the academic units to understand their needs; partner with academic leadership to solve problems.

- Further develop and strengthen the infrastructure required to support an academic enterprise that continues to grow at a rapid pace – i.e., classroom space, hiring processes, support for international visitors, and more.

- Create greater operational efficiencies around core administrative systems and processes including human resources and budgeting, international activity, among others; streamline, reduce redundancies and reduce friction in systems.

CULTIVATE RELATIONSHIPS AND PARTNERSHIPS TO ADVANCE THE ACADEMIC MISSION

- Develop and foster positive and productive relationships between the Institute and its various constituencies to include the Board of Regents, the Governor's Office, the Georgia General Assembly, Institute alumni, the donor community, the corporate community, other key organizations, and the public.

- Place a high priority on working in a positive and productive way with partners across the University System of Georgia and within the University's system office to advance the academic mission.

- Serve as a local, regional and national spokesperson on behalf of the Institute and its mission; represent the Institute at the national level at the executive and legislative branches as well as governmental agencies in ways that support higher education and research.

- Continue and expand Tech's engagement with HBCUs, other MSIs and TCUs.

- Create and expand multi-stakeholder partnerships and leverage opportunities inherent in public-private partnerships.

Professional Qualifications and Attributes

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

- Credentials which merit appointment as full, tenured professor in a discipline represented within the Institute's academic colleges (as outlined in the Georgia Tech Faculty Handbook).

LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

- College or institute level leadership in higher education; college or Institute level policy development and administration. Ten years of job related experience.
- The ability to build an effective academic management and leadership team for the Institute.
- Expert knowledge about the contemporary issues and trends in higher education.
- A vision for leveraging Georgia Tech's reputation for research and learning to shape the future of higher education innovatively.
- Demonstrated ability to foster strong partnerships and collaborations with deans, administrators, and faculty, as well as government, industry, and community constituents.
- Ability to quickly come up to speed in gaining knowledge of the State of Georgia, its activities, and leaders in the business, government, and education sectors.
- Systems thinker who can manage complexity and creatively solve problems in collaboration with others.

BUDGETING AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

- The ability to lead and implement effective institutional budgeting and fiscal management strategies.
- A solid record of extramural fund raising and support.

SETTING AND EXECUTING STRATEGY

- The ability to design, articulate, and implement an inspiring, forward-looking, and transformative academic vision that leverages the Institute's strengths and builds upon its strategic plan.
- The capacity to empower academic leaders to achieve Institute goals and objectives.
- A commitment to data-informed decision-making and ability to align others with overall strategy and goals.
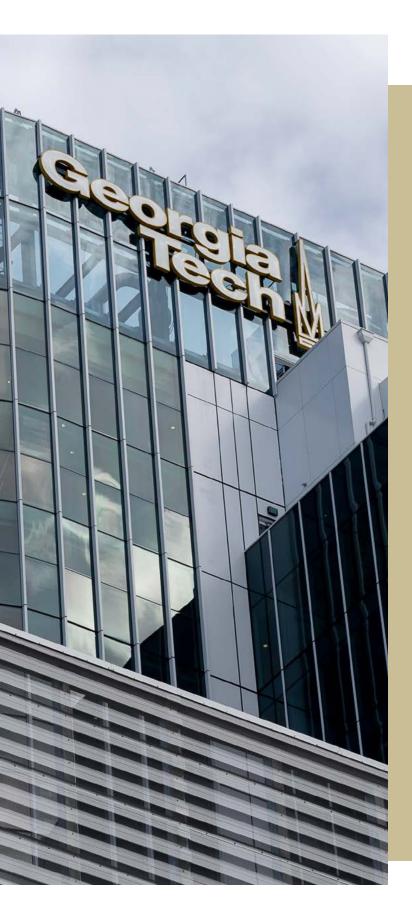- Experience working with emerging technologies.

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 and conflict resolution skills; not afraid of conflict and sees conflict as an essential part of growth, innovation, improvement, and change; ability to lead directly and through persuasive influence.
- The ability to relate effectively to a wide variety of people from different backgrounds, including an understanding and respect for community members of all identities.
- Excellent management, organization, planning, supervisory, and problem-solving skills.
- An effective relationship builder who can unify, motivate, energize and engage a broad range of constituents.
- Demonstrates 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.

VALUES AND COMMITMENTS

- An authentic embrace of an ability to champion Georgia Tech's vision, values and beliefs.
- Self-awareness and a high degree of emotional intelligence; self-confidence with humility.
- A collegial, accessible, and consultative approach.
- A deep respect for faculty and for intellectual life.
- An appreciation for a holistic view of student success; a clear commitment to the transformative power of undergraduate and graduate education.
- A strong commitment to international engagement through global partnerships, study abroad, and cross-cultural collaboration, reflecting Georgia Tech's global mission and values.
- A deep respect for staff and a commitment to their development and success.
- Entrepreneurial mindset with a bias toward action.
- Absolute integrity.

About Georgia Institute of Technology

OVERVIEW

Georgia Tech prides itself on its technological resources, collaborations, high-quality student body, and its commitment to building an outstanding and diverse 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, diversity of thought and experience, 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.

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, and liberal arts. 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 wellbeing 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.

This year Georgia Tech had record-breaking progress in graduation, retention, and enrollment - including record applications and yield - reaffirming its commitment to student success and impact. As Georgia Tech enrollment grows, its return on investment for students remains strong. The Department of Education's College Scorecard puts Tech at No. 1 among public universities when measuring return on investment 15, 20, and 30 years after graduation.

THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA CORE VALUES STATEMENT

The University System of Georgia is comprised of 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 on-line 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 on-line at https://www.usg.edu/policymanual/section6/C2653.

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST AND EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

The Office of the Provost furthers Georgia Tech's academic mission — learning through teaching and research — by providing the leadership, support, and services that enable the personal and intellectual growth of students, faculty, staff, and the academic community. The Provost supports a world-class faculty of 1,359 academic faculty and 2,586 research faculty that serve 20,592 undergraduate students and 32,771 graduate students. They lead a team of dedicated unit leaders and staff who help advance the academic priorities of the Institute. An organization chart can be found here.

Major units reporting through the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs include:

- Academic Effectiveness
- Center for Teaching and Learning
- Conflict Resolution and Advocacy
- Enrollment Management
- Georgia Tech Library
- Graduate and Postdoctoral Education
- International Initiatives
- Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty
- Undergraduate Education and Student Success

Ángel Cabrera, President

COLLEGES

The Georgia Institute of Technology is organized into seven distinct colleges and 30 schools, each fostering innovation and excellence in its field. Georgia Tech's wide variety of technologically focused majors and minors consistently earn strong national rankings.

- College of Engineering
- College of Computing
- College of Sciences
- College of Design
- Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts
- Scheller College of Business
- College of Lifetime Learning

LEADERSHIP

Ángel Cabrera is the 12th president of the Georgia Institute of Technology. One of America's leading research universities, Georgia Tech serves more than 50,000 students through top-ranked graduate and undergraduate programs ranging from engineering and science to business, computing, design, and liberal arts, and receives $1.37 billion in annual research awards.

Under Cabrera's leadership, more than 5,700 members of the Georgia Tech community contributed to a new 10-year strategic plan that launched in November 2020. The plan is grounded on a new mission statement that reaffirms Tech's commitment to "developing leaders who advance technology and improve the human condition."

As president during the Covid-19 pandemic, Cabrera led the Institute through one of the most critical times in its history to break records in student applications and enrollment, graduation rates, and research awards. Today,

Georgia Tech is one of the fastest growing and most research-intensive universities in the nation.

Cabrera came to Georgia Tech on Sept. 1, 2019, after serving for seven years as president of George Mason University (GMU) in Virginia. During his presidency, GMU joined the top tier of research universities in the Carnegie Classification and was the fastest growing institution in the state. Before leading GMU, Cabrera was president of the Thunderbird School of Global Management, now part of Arizona State University, and dean of IE Business School in Madrid.

As a business educator, Cabrera has played a key role in advancing professional ethics, internationalization, and corporate social responsibility. In 2007, while serving as a senior advisor to the United Nations Global Compact, he was the lead author of the "Principles for Responsible Management Education" (PRME). A United Nations–supported initiative that advances sustainable development through management education, PRME has been adopted by over 800 schools worldwide. He is also a co-founder of the University Global Coalition, a global network of universities working in partnership with the United Nations in support of its Sustainable Development Goals.

Cabrera has been named a "Young Global Leader" by the World Economic Forum, a "Star of Europe" by Bloomberg Businessweek, a "Henry Crown Fellow" by the Aspen Institute, and a "Great Immigrant" by the Carnegie Corporation of New York. He has received honorary degrees from Miami Dade College and Universidad Politécnica de Madrid.

Cabrera serves on the boards of the National Geographic Society, Harvard College Visiting Committee, Atlanta Committee for Progress, Metro Atlanta Chamber, and Bankinter Innovation Foundation in Spain. He has served on the board of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, the advisory boards of Georgia Tech and Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey, and the corporate boards of three public companies.

Cabrera earned his M.S. and Ph.D. in psychology and cognitive science from Georgia Tech, which he attended as a Fulbright Scholar. He also holds a B.S. and an M.S. in computer and electrical engineering from Universidad Politécnica de Madrid. His academic publications have been cited thousands of times, and he has been featured or quoted in leading media around the world. He is married to management scholar and Georgia Tech classmate, Elizabeth. Their son, Alex, is a Georgia Tech graduate and currently a Ph.D. student at Carnegie Mellon University. Their daughter, Emilia, is a graduate of Harvard University. Cabrera is the first native of Spain to serve as president of an American university.

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 intown 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.
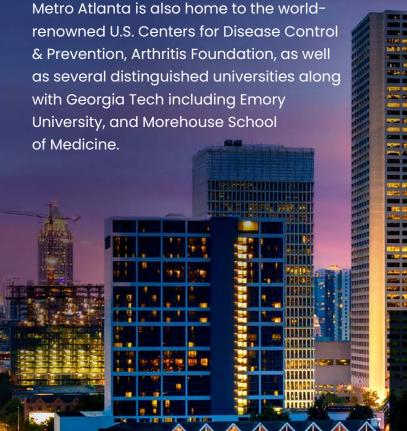
For those hoping for a more relaxed lifestyle, outside of Atlanta proper, there are many communities to fit one's particular lifestyle like Alpharetta, Marietta, Buford and Sandy Springs that provide easy access to Atlanta without the bustle of the city and beautiful scenery aplenty. The area surrounding 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 80's, 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, Arthritis Foundation, as well as several distinguished universities along with Georgia Tech including 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 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 August 8, 2025.

Before formal appointment, the selected candidate will have to submit three letters of reference and undergo a background check as part of the hiring process.

Applications, nominations, and inquiries can be directed to: **Suzanne Teer, Jessica Herrington, and Cathryn Davis**

GeorgiaTechProvost@wittkieffer.com

WittKieffer

Improving Quality of Life through Impactful Leadership

ABOUT WITTKIEFFER

WittKieffer is the premier executive search and leadership advisory firm developing impactful leadership teams for organizations that improve quality of life. We work exclusively with organizations in healthcare, science, and education — the Quality of Life Ecosystem — and provide essential knowledge, analysis, and perspective that produce effective leaders and inclusive cultures. Through our executive search, interim leadership, and leadership advisory solutions, we strengthen organizations that make the world better. WittKieffer is proud to be 100 percent employee-owned.

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