

Station News

Georgia Tech Engineering Experiment Station

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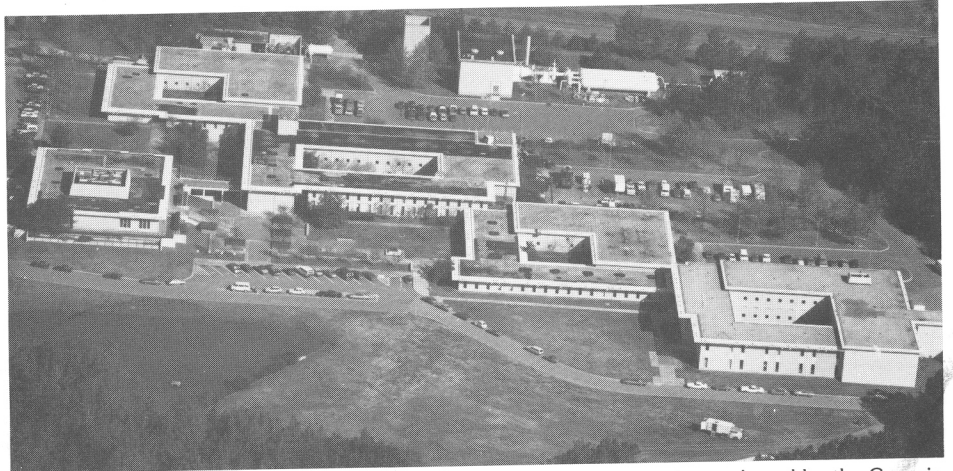
GSTRF to Buy Cobb Facility

The Georgia Tech Research Facility in Cobb County is changing owners, and EES is the beneficiary. The Lockheed-Georgia Company has agreed to sell the 45-acre, five-building complex to the Georgia Scientific and Technical Research Foundation (GSTRF) for \$5.9 million. GSTRF will lease more than 80% of the research facility to EES and the remainder to Lockheed.

The 17-year-old complex has been leased by EES since 1978, but the lease would have expired in 1985, and Lockheed had indicated its intention not to renew. Some 385 employees in three of its electronics laboratories currently occupy 131,324 sq. ft. of the total 160,000 sq. ft. of laboratory space.

GSTRF, a not-for-profit foundation created to assist public educational institutions in Georgia, expects to purchase the facility with 10-year industrial development bonds issued by the Cobb County Industrial Development Authority. The bonds will be paid off by revenue from leasing the facility.

EES Director Donald Grace said, "We are particularly pleased at this new development, since it assures continuity for our Cobb County operation, which now comprises about one third of our total staff. While there have been difficulties in coping with the 16-mile separation between that staff and the campus, we have managed to resolve most of those problems, and we have been pleased with the quality and arrangement of the facility. Staff members at the Cobb County facility will be delighted to know that although a number of improvements already have been made during our five-year tenure, we will be more amenable to further improvements in the future,



Aerial view of the five-building Cobb County Research Facility recently purchased by the Georgia Scientific and Technical Research Foundation for long-term lease to EES.

since our tenancy under the new landlord is more assured.

"We are especially grateful to the board members of the Georgia Scientific and Technical Research Foundation for their efforts on behalf of university research in Georgia."

What Is GSTRF?

The Georgia Scientific and Technical Research Foundation (GSTRF) is a private, not-for-profit organization established to build or purchase buildings and equipment for lease to Georgia educational institutions as a means of assisting them in expanding their research facilities.

Although the purchase of the Cobb County Research Facility from Lockheed is its first big project, GSTRF also is responsible for providing the 2,880-sq. ft., four-unit modular building which is now nearing completion in Research Area II. The portable facility will be leased to EES to house the majority of EDL's Environmental Safety and Health Division, which will move its offices from Hinman at the end of September.

GSTRF President Richard K. Whitehead, Jr., who also is president of Whitehead Die Casting, Inc. of Atlanta, said: "Acquisition of the Lockheed facility is a good beginning for a number of projects the Foundation intends to initiate in the coming years. We expect to make an announcement about an even larger project in the immediate future."

According to EES Associate Director Howard Dean, GSTRF fills a need which is not now fully met by commercial or governmental sources of funds. "We are adding GSTRF to our list of sources for the leasing of buildings and equipment. We will be asking them for assistance on some projects; on others we may find it more expedient to deal with other sources," he said.

GSTRF has been awarded a not-for-profit, tax-exempt status by the Internal Revenue Service. In addition to President Whitehead, its officers are Vice President J. Frank Smith, Jr., who is also president of Computer Management, Inc., and Secretary-Treasurer Thomas H. Hall, III, who is managing director of Korn/Ferry International. C. M. Lampman is assistant secretary-treasurer of GSTRF.



EPA Deputy Administrator Alvin Alm faces a battery of reporters, mikes and cameras at the news conference announcing the EPA/EES hazardous waste management program. Waiting their turn to speak are (L-R) EPA Regional Administrator Charles Jeter, Georgia EPD Director Leonard Ledbetter, and James Burson, chief of EDL's Environmental Health and Safety Division. (Photo by Pat Stone)

EDL Starts Hazardous Waste Program

Once again, the Economic Development Lab (EDL) is showing the nation the way to assist small business and industry. Its Environmental Health and Safety Division is starting a new program to provide free, confidential assistance, upon request, to Georgia business and industry in meeting hazardous waste management regulations.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Georgia Environmental Protection Division announced at a news conference on September 9 that Georgia Tech had been awarded a grant for a pilot project in Georgia that could be replicated on a national basis.

Jim Burson, who directs EDL's environmental health and safety activities, says the new on-site assistance program offers Georgia employers an opportunity to comply voluntarily with federal and state hazardous waste regulations. Assistance may range from solving a specific problem to conducting an in-depth hazardous waste audit of an entire company.

"The program's greatest benefit will be to the small businesses in Georgia," said Project Director Paul Middendorf. "Many of them have neither the in-house expertise to deal with hazardous wastes nor the financial means to hire consultants. Our trained personnel will

help them identify their waste problems and assist them in designing and initiating control procedures to bring them into compliance with regulations."

The new program is patterned after EDL's successful free on-site safety and health consultation service to Georgia employers, which currently receives approximately 500 requests for assistance annually.

Cole Gets SEL Co-op Award

In recognition of the important contributions that co-op personnel make to the success of its programs, the Systems Engineering Lab (SEL) has paid tribute to the top two co-ops demonstrating outstanding technical performance, dedication, and aptitude during FY 1983. First place winner is Kim Cole of the Electronic Support Measures Division. Second place was awarded to John Bond of the Concepts Analysis Division. SEL has approximately 55 co-op students, so the competition was stiff! Both Kim and John are working toward the bachelor of electrical engineering degree. Congratulations!

ERII Closes Doors After Two Years

The European Research Institute of Ireland (ERII) has been closed after two years of operation. The high-technology research center in Limerick, Ireland, was funded by the Irish Industrial Development Authority and Irish industrialists and managed by Georgia Tech on a contract basis.

EES Director Donald J. Grace stated: "The original plan called for a five-year program to build up a self-sufficient R&D organization in the Republic of Ireland. Unfortunately, the project got off to a slower start than was anticipated, and it was not until February 1982 that ERII was well enough established to send out its first research proposals. In the ensuing 12 months, a total of 250,000 Irish pounds (about \$325,000) had been booked for 12 different projects. This was actually three times the level of awards projected in the original proposal for the first full year of operation. Clients included Wang, General Electric, Howmedica, Molex, and the European Economic Community.

"However, capital costs ran higher than anticipated, Europe was (and still is) in the throes of a major recession, and the Irish tax structure made it difficult to hire non-domestic researchers. These and other problems kept ERII from achieving the expectations of its sponsors, so the additional capital required to continue the project was not made available."

Dr. Dan O'Neil, who had served as chief executive officer of ERII, remained in Ireland until mid-August to complete all arrangements for concluding existing contracts and smoothing termination arrangements for its employees. Dr. O'Neil has now returned to Tech in a senior staff position for the Technology Applications Lab. Andy Borden, the other Tech staff member at ERII, has accepted a position in U.S. industry.

"While timing, conditions and funding mitigated against early success, a great deal of experience was gained in operating within the European environment, and EES does not intend to let this deter us from making other innovative thrusts under more optimum conditions," Dr. Grace concluded.



Susan Wheeler operates the earth resources data analysis system for which she helped develop the software. (Photo by Pat Stone)

Wheeler Succeeds Despite Handicaps

Susan Wheeler, a research scientist in the Electromagnetics Lab (EML), has just received her master's degree in information and computer science. Congratulations are in order when any EES employee obtains an advanced degree, but Susan deserves a special accolade. She has been totally deaf since 1978.

The first deaf student to progress this far in ICS at Tech, Susan took graduate courses for the last four years with the help of note takers provided by the ICS School. "The school in general, and Ed Rumiano (assistant to the director) and Professor Pete Jensen in particular, have been very supportive," Susan says.

Susan has been involved in computer programming and documentation since she first came to work for EML in 1971. She primarily develops software and documentation for geographic information processing/image processing systems. She also is an accomplished technical report writer.

Nick Faust, her supervisor, says Susan has not let her handicaps slow her down. For instance, while recuperating from recent retinal surgery, she called in on her home computer terminal to work on one of EML's computers.

Susan is very outgoing and speaks well, but due to the difficulty of lip reading, others must communicate with her mainly by the written word. She converses with her colleagues by responding to scribbled notes on a tablet or by electronic mail. She has inspired a number of people, both on and off campus, to use computer mail in order to communicate with her more effectively. "I believe the current trends in exploiting computer technology for communication and management will work to my advantage both professionally and personally," Susan says.

OOPS!

The editor regrets the following errors in recent issues of *Station News*:

The interesting article about Betty Bone in the June issue was written by **Don Bodnar**, not by Berry Pyron. This article has received much favorable comment.

The new SEL representative at Warner Robins is **Robert Mobley**, not Robin as reported in the July-August issue.

Spiessbach Joins EML Under Senior Leadership Grant

Dr. Andrew J. Spiessbach has joined the staff of the Electromagnetics Lab (EML) as a senior research scientist. He will be involved initially in planning and directing a sponsored research thrust into artificial intelligence (AI) under a two-year Senior Research Faculty Leadership Grant awarded by the Office of the Vice President for Research.

His primary research emphasis will be in the area of machine decision making at the human-expert level, using information provided by sensor systems and fusing information from disparate sources to solve problems not amenable to standard formal methods. The research will concentrate on real-world problems which are characterized by incomplete and uncertain data about a highly variable and dynamic domain.

"We will work on bringing independent data sources together to corroborate facts, resolve conflicts, and converge on the truth," Spiessbach explained. "The majority of such problems cannot be solved by exact methods, and require the flexibility and non-deterministic techniques of artificial intelligence."

Dr. Spiessbach comes to EES from Martin Marietta Aerospace in Orlando, Florida, where he was the deputy department manager for an image and signal processing staff of 55 professionals. There he was responsible for all imagery pattern recognition and AI research. He also has performed basic research in elementary particle physics, as well as applied research in optical holography, infrared sensors, electron devices, and underwater TV systems.

Annual Report Now Available

The 1982-83 *EES Annual Report* is now available to all research personnel for contract marketing efforts. Call the Research Communications Office (ext. 3444) if you would like a copy of this new publication.

From Administrative Coordinator to Nun

"You're going to do **what?** You're going to become a **what??** And go to live **where??**" That was my reaction to a revelation from Mary Ann Clarke, formerly administrative coordinator of the Systems and Techniques Lab, over lunch one day during the summer.

"I'm going to resign. I'm going to become a nun. And I'm going to live in a nunnery in Cullman, Alabama," she calmly repeated, patiently smiling at me. She explained that she felt it was a time in her life when she needed to do something new, having reared her children to adulthood. She had considered the Peace Corps, but then her daughter joined the Corps and was sent to Honduras. One in the family is enough, she figured.

I had known that Mary Ann came from an old Savannah Irish family and

was a devout Catholic. But become a nun! That had never happened at EES before, to my knowledge. Still, it did this time—Mary Ann's last day at EES was July 29, and her first as a nun candidate was August 22.

Before she left, STL held a reception at the Cobb facility auditorium so her friends could say "farewell." She bore up well through the reading and presentation of a traditional EES "diploma," which described her 10 years of "mischievous research" and declared her a Master of Pseudo-Irishness.

STL has another administrative coordinator, but we will always miss our little Mother who kept us out of trouble with the same firm hand she used with her children. God bless.

Berry Pyron



Mary Ann Clarke waves the \$100 bill given her at her farewell party while Berry Pyron looks on. (Photo by Anita Edwards)

Strictly Personal

Labs Enjoy Summer Parties

J. D. Walton hosted an outing for Energy and Materials Sciences Lab personnel at his home on Lake Rabun on August 27. About 35 people enjoyed the outing.

The Systems Engineering Lab held its annual summer picnic on July 30 at the Atlanta Water Works Pavilion. The family affair featured games, music and good food.

Units Welcome New Employees. . .

Accounting: Nancy Kelley, clerk typist II.

Economic Development Lab: John Mills, research engineer II, Douglas field office.

Supply Services: Diane Carnebage, clerk typist II; Diane Kelly, clerk IV; Greg Heagerty, stores clerk II.

Systems Engineering Lab: Mark Allen, research engineer I; Faye Carpenter, administrative secretary; David Fentem, research engineer II; Douglas Hoder, research engineer I.

. . . And Say "Good-bye"

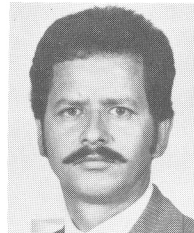
Economic Development Lab: Anthony DeCurtis resigned September 16 to pursue a free-lance writing and editing career.

Systems Engineering Lab: Sharon Reeves and Stephen Olivier

resigned during August.

Technology Applications Lab: Susan Lynskey has transferred to the School of Aerospace Engineering and been promoted to administrative secretary.

Henry Van of TAL was in Guatemala on August 8 during the military coup. He was on a three-week visit to evaluate a rural water and sanitation project for the U.S. Agency for International Development. Dr. Van said order was quickly restored, and his field work was not hampered.



Vital Statistics

Systems Engineering Lab: James and Marti Boyce welcomed a newborn son, Brian, on June 7.

Systems & Techniques Lab: Tom Hoshstrasser was married to Belinda Hardman on June 26, and Homer Cochran was married to Lynn Rutherford on August 27. Best wishes to all!

Technology Applications Lab: Congratulations to Joseph and Joanne Bocek, whose daughter, Joelle Dominique, was born on July 12.

Continuing Ed News

October 26. **Electrical Energy Management Seminar.** Conducted by Industrial Energy Extension Service (TAL) at Howard Johnson's Midtown Hotel, Atlanta.

November 14-18. **Principles of Modern Radar.** Conducted by RAIL. Jerry Eaves, academic administrator.

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