Date: August 28, 2019

To: Deans, Associate Deans, Vice Provosts

From: Jennifer Herazy
Chief Administrative Officer for Academics and Research


Subject: Approved Description for Specialized Accreditation Self Studies

The SACSCOC Principles of Accreditation state that institutions that hold more than one accreditation recognized by the U.S. Department of Education must be consistent in their institutional description in the submitted self-study. Specifically, the SACSCOC policy states:

*Any institution seeking or holding accreditation from more than one USDOE-recognized institutional accrediting agency must describe itself in identical terms to each agency with regard to purpose, governance, programs, degrees, diplomas, certificates, personnel, finances, and constituents, and must keep each USDOE recognized accrediting body, including SACSCOC, apprised of any changes in its status with one or another accrediting agency.*

To ensure this required consistency, please use the enclosed *Approved Description for Specialized Accreditation Self Studies* when describing Georgia Institute of Technology to programmatic and specialized accreditors in self-study documentation.

Additionally, should there be a change in status with a programmatic or specialized accreditor at Georgia Tech, including voluntary withdrawal from accreditation, please notify Dr. Loraine Phillips, SACSCOC Liaison, in the Office of Academic Effectiveness for communication to SACSCOC.

Thank you.
Georgia Institute of Technology
Approved Description for Specialized Accreditation Self Studies

The Georgia Institute of Technology, commonly referred to as Georgia Tech, is a public research university and institute of technology in Atlanta, Georgia. The school was founded in 1885 as the Georgia School of Technology. During its first 50 years, Georgia Tech grew from a narrowly focused trade school to a regionally recognized technological university. In 1948, the name changed to the Georgia Institute of Technology to reflect a growing focus on advanced technological and scientific research.

Georgia Tech is a unit of the 26-member University System of Georgia (USG). The USG is governed by the USG Board of Regents (BOR). Georgia Tech is one of four research institutions in the system and receives about $1 billion in funding to support research, discovery, and innovation.

The institution has many nationally recognized academic programs, all top-ranked by peers and publications alike. As a leading technological university and member of the Association of American Universities (AAU), Georgia Tech has more than 100 centers focused on interdisciplinary research that consistently contribute vital research and innovation to American government, industry, and business.

The quality of the Georgia Tech educational experience is reflected in two important ways: consistently strong rankings by national publications and a prestigious highly regarded curriculum with a technological focus.

Offering over 200 degree and certificate programs in 28 schools and six colleges, Georgia Tech is an innovative intellectual environment with more than 1,500 instructional faculty, 2,400 research faculty and over 32,000 undergraduate and graduate students. Georgia Tech confers over 7,000 degrees annually and serves more than 160,000 alumni. The total staff workforce is approximately 4,200, and the annual budget is more than $2 billion.

Georgia Tech has off-campus instructional sites in Metz, France (Georgia Tech Lorraine) and Shenzhen, China (Georgia Tech Shenzhen).

Georgia Tech’s vision and mission statements are as follows:

Vision
Georgia Tech will define the technological research university of the twenty-first century. As a result, we will be leaders in influencing major technological, social, and policy decisions that
address critical global challenges. "What does Georgia Tech think?" will be a common question in research, business, the media, and government.

Mission
Technological change is fundamental to the advancement of the human condition. The Georgia Tech community - students, staff, faculty, and alumni - will realize our motto of "Progress and Service" through effectiveness and innovation in teaching and learning, our research advances, and entrepreneurship in all sectors of society. We will be leaders in improving the human condition in Georgia, the United States, and around the globe.

The Georgia Institute of Technology is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award baccalaureate, masters, and doctoral degrees. Contact the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission of Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, telephone 404-679-4500, http://www.sacscoc.org for questions about the accreditation of the Georgia Institute of Technology.