

## Tellepsen challenges classmates, energizes giving



Howard Tellepsen (far right) celebrates a milestone.

With six weeks to go before Homecoming & Reunion Weekend this past October, Howard T. Tellepsen Jr., CE 1966, wanted to do something to motivate his fellow 50th reunion classmates to meet their goal. As the reunion committee fund chair, he felt a sense of urgency and a sense of responsibility.

So, he made a leadership commitment of \$1 million, half of which was used to create the Tellepsen Challenge: a dollar-for-dollar match, up to \$500,000, of any new gift or

commitment made by members of the Class of 1966 under the auspices of Tech's reunion giving program. He directed the remaining funds to the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

Tellepsen, who was awarded the Dean Griffin Community Service Award in 2015 for his philanthropic leadership in his community of Houston, Texas, and at Georgia Tech, had considerable experience — and positive results — with this type of challenge with other nonprofits.

The response? The full \$500,000 of the Tellepsen Challenge was matched. For Tellepsen, it wasn't only about reaching a goal. It was about the additional money that was raised, money that "would go to whatever my classmates wanted it to," he said. "They could set up an endowment for their school or their college, or for any area that had special meaning to them. And the impact would be doubled."

His matching challenge inspired almost two dozen new gifts and commitments, including \$200,000 for Roll Call, and the establishment of new endowment funds supporting the Tech

Promise scholarship program, both need- and merit-based undergraduate scholarships, and athletic scholarships. "It was really exciting to me," Tellepsen said, "knowing that Georgia Tech benefited in many different ways, across so many different disciplines and areas that otherwise would not have benefited from our reunion giving."

Although he and his wife, Carolyn, have a long history of giving back to Tech, there is something special about reunion giving. "It's the loyalty and support that alumni have for the school," he explained. "We all feel that it was hard while we were there, but once we got out and got our degrees, we look back and feel so proud of what we accomplished. Georgia Tech's reputation and its legacy makes us even prouder, because it has continued to gain global recognition." ■

*To inquire about making a gift in support of your milestone reunion class (1967, 1977, or 1992), contact any development officer or Rachel Donnelly, director of development for Reunion Giving, at 404.894.2454 or [rachel.donnelly@dev.gatech.edu](mailto:rachel.donnelly@dev.gatech.edu).*

## IMLAY FOUNDATION SUPPORTS PEDIATRIC RESEARCH

The Imlay Foundation has made a \$5 million grant — the largest in its 25-year history — to Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and Georgia Tech to help fund the development of pediatric therapies.

"The whole board of the Imlay Foundation was most enthusiastic about this," said Mary Ellen Imlay, chair and president of the foundation. She is also the widow of the late John P. Imlay Jr., IM 1959, an Atlanta technology entrepreneur and philanthropist. "It honors John's love of Georgia Tech and my love of Children's, and puts them together in an innovative way."

The grant will help advance the research capabilities of Children's Healthcare, one of the largest pediatric hospitals in the country. The partnership is called the Pediatric

Technology Center, which will be housed at Georgia Tech.

The center is bringing together clinicians from Children's, scientists from Emory University, and engineers from Georgia Tech to solve problems in pediatrics and develop technological solutions geared toward improving the health of children.

Mary Ellen Imlay is a longtime board member of Children's. She explained that the gift was one important way to honor her husband, by creating an endowment that will support the Imlay Innovation Fund in perpetuity.

"Nowhere else in the country is there the opportunity to do what we are doing," said Donna Hyland, president and CEO of Children's. ■



**From left to right:** Patrick Frias, chief operating officer, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta; Mary Ellen Imlay; and M.G. Finn, James A. Carlos Family Chair in Pediatric Technology and chair of the School of Chemistry and Biochemistry.

# THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME

*Noonan Golf Facility gives Yellow Jackets a permanent place to practice, close to campus*



"You can't compete and drive to Alpharetta every day. You just can't." Coach Bruce Heppler wasn't describing the despair brought on by a typical Atlanta commute — he was explaining, in a nutshell, why the golf team needed a permanent practice facility close to home.

Bearing the name of lead donors Kim P. Noonan, IMGT 1983, and Tom E. Noonan, ME 1983, Tech's newest athletics facility is the answer to that need. The Noonan Golf Facility is a modern, multiuse space that will improve team and individual practices, bolster recruiting, and give the players more time to study, instead of driving to The Golf Club of Georgia in Alpharetta.

President G.P. "Bud" Peterson and new Director of Athletics Todd Stansbury, IMGT 1984, welcomed current and former members of the Georgia Tech golf team, alumni, and supporters to the dedication event in February. Guests explored the clubhouse, toured the hitting bays replete with high-tech monitoring devices and video recording and playback equipment, and looked out on seven greens covering 13 acres in Midtown Atlanta.

It was an emotional moment for Coach Heppler, who recalled the efforts of Tech alumni who supported this project when it was first proposed in 1995, and who did not live to see it completed. Mentioning H. Hammond "Buck" Stith Jr., CE 1958, and John P. Imlay Jr., IM 1959, he fought back tears as he thanked them and others for their involvement. "It took a lot of people to do this," Heppler said. "This is 20 years in the making."

"What you're looking at today could have been another mixed-use development," Tom Noonan told the audience. "But instead it is now the proving ground for the next kid who aspires to win at the Masters, or the Open Championship, or the U.S. Open. And it happened because so many alumni gave back, at every level. This was truly a team effort." ■



**Clockwise from top left:** State-of-the-art facility in Midtown bears the Noonan name; current members of the golf team watch as Tom Noonan tees off; Coach Bruce Heppler; Tom Noonan.





## Tech celebrates Coda groundbreaking

Georgia Tech's Technology Square marked the beginning of a major expansion in December as construction began on Coda, a mixed-use facility whose centerpiece is a high-performance computing center.

To mark the occasion, President G.P. "Bud" Peterson joined members of the Tech community, along with several Atlanta business and civic leaders, in a ceremonial groundbreaking at the site.

Noting that in its first 13 years of existence, Tech Square has become a leading regional innovation hub and a focal point for the Institute's collaborations with business and industry, Peterson said that Coda "will take innovation to a whole new level. This iconic building will become a magnet for corporations and startups alike, while serving as a state-of-the-art resource for breakthrough research."

Georgia Tech will be Coda's anchor tenant, occupying roughly half of the 62,000 square feet of office space. The project also includes an 80,000-square-foot data center and 40,000 square feet of retail space.

The design, by John Portman & Associates, incorporates portions of the historic Crum & Forster Building, a 1926 office building on Spring Street owned by the Georgia Tech Foundation. Construction is under way and scheduled for completion in 2019. ■

