

Senate Resolution 375

By: Senators Martin of the 9th, Kirkpatrick of the 32nd, Watson of the 1st, Dugan of the 30th, Tippins of the 37th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Dr. G.P. "Bud" Peterson upon his retirement as president of
2 Georgia Tech; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Dr. G.P. "Bud" Peterson has served as president of Georgia Tech for ten years,
4 during which Georgia Tech was invited to join the Association of American Universities
5 (AAU), the first institution to receive an invitation in the previous ten years; and

6 WHEREAS, under his leadership, enrollment at Georgia Tech increased by 69 percent, with
7 undergraduate applications more than tripling, graduate applications doubling, and the
8 number of women in the first-year class increasing from 32 to 40 percent; and

9 WHEREAS, for the fourth consecutive year, Georgia Tech's first to second-year retention
10 is 97 percent, and upon graduation, bachelor's degree recipients earn an average of
11 \$70,500.00 per year, with master's graduates earning an average of \$100,000.00 per year; and

12 WHEREAS, as part of his commitment to affordability and access for Georgia's top students,
13 Georgia Tech implemented automatic acceptance and four-year in-state tuition scholarships
14 to all Atlanta Public School valedictorians and salutatorians as well as automatic acceptance
15 for all valedictorians and salutatorians in accredited Georgia high schools; and

16 WHEREAS, by his leadership, the Institute is exploring innovative approaches to higher
17 education in order to provide alternative educational models that reduce costs, improve
18 processes and approaches, and increase accessibility for lifetime learning, including K-12
19 outreach and enhanced learning opportunities for high school STEM teachers; and

20 WHEREAS, he led the Institute to exceed the \$1.5 billion goal for Campaign Georgia Tech
21 by 20 percent, raising more than \$1.8 billion; and

22 WHEREAS, he enhanced Georgia Tech's campus with the addition of major facilities,
23 including the Marcus Nanotechnology Building, the Clough Undergraduate Learning
24 Commons, and the Roger A. and Helen B. Krone Engineered Biosystems Building; and

25 WHEREAS, during his tenure, research expenditures at Georgia Tech have increased 71
26 percent, from \$522.1 million to \$891.7 million, with research awards nearly doubling from
27 \$445 million to \$851 million and new industry sponsored awards have increased from \$70
28 million to \$111 million; and

29 WHEREAS, innovation neighborhoods have grown significantly in the areas surrounding
30 campus during his tenure, including the Global Center for Medical Innovation, the Carbon
31 Neutral Energy Solutions Laboratory, the Boeing Manufacturing Development Center, and
32 Technology Square; and

33 WHEREAS, since 2013, he significantly expanded Georgia Tech's presence in Tech Square,
34 connecting more than 30 individual corporate innovation, design, engineering, technology,
35 and development operations, as well as several corporate headquarters, with the talent and
36 technologies being developed at Georgia Tech; and

37 WHEREAS, throughout his career, Dr. Peterson has played an active role in helping establish
38 the national education and research agendas, serving on many industry, government, and
39 academic task forces and committees as well as congressional task forces, research councils,
40 and advisory boards; and

41 WHEREAS, he currently serves on the National Science Board, the board of directors of the
42 American Council on Education, the NCAA Board of Governors as chair, the Knight
43 Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics, and the National Space Council's User Advisory
44 Group.

45 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
46 commend Dr. G. P. "Bud" Peterson for his many years of dedicated public service to Georgia
47 Tech, his community, this state, and this nation; congratulate him upon the occasion of his
48 retirement as president; and extend to him their most sincere best wishes for continued
49 success, health, and happiness.

50 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is hereby authorized and
51 directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Dr. G.P.
52 "Bud" Peterson.