

Global Learning for First-Generation College Students at Georgia Tech is Funded by \$1.3 Million Grant from the Coca-Cola Foundation

Atlanta (Monday, November 19, 2012) - Georgia Tech students who are the first in their family to attend college will have the opportunity to gain global perspectives and experience abroad through a new grant from the Coca-Cola Foundation.

The \$1.13 million pledge to Campaign Georgia Tech will provide scholarships that encourage first-generation college students to take courses in the Ivan Allen College Sam Nunn School of International Affairs and will underwrite complementary study and work abroad programs in Latin America, Asia and Europe.

“Preparing our students to be good global citizens and to lead in an increasingly globalized marketplace is a vital aspect of Georgia Tech’s strategic plan,” said Georgia Tech President G. P. “Bud” Peterson. “This generous grant from the Coca-Cola Foundation will help us make significant progress toward this goal by focusing resources on study and work abroad opportunities around the world. A company such as Coca-Cola – which has been globally oriented for many decades – well understands how critical this brand of education is today, and we are tremendously grateful for their support.”

The grant is designed to benefit both undergraduate and graduate students. In addition to tuition, fees and study/work abroad opportunities, the funding will also support internships and career development programs.

Joseph Bankoff, chair of The Sam Nunn School of International Affairs said, “Through this grant, we will be able to provide multifaceted and transformational learning experiences for students who otherwise would not have them. They will enter Georgia Tech as first-generation college students and graduate as first-generation global citizens. We are grateful to the Coca-Cola Foundation for its support of this program and its continued support of The Sam Nunn School of International Affairs.”

Part of the Coca-Cola Foundation's initiative to fuel sustainable local solutions for global challenges, the grant will also fund two three-year term professorships in The Sam Nunn School for research in natural resource governance for sustainability. Those faculty will explore the global policy and technical issues concerning access to clean water, alternative energy, environmental protection and economic sustainability.

"Our grants invest in the ingenuity of grassroots partners who contribute to the well-being of communities around the world," said Ingrid Saunders Jones, chairperson of The Coca-Cola Foundation. "With our support, these partners work to improve the quality of life for their families, their neighbors, their cities and their countries."

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The Sam Nunn School of International Affairs within the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts was created in 1990 and named in honor of former U.S. Senator Sam Nunn in 1996. The only school of its kind at a major technological university, The Sam Nunn School is committed to a new model of professional education in international affairs that focuses on understanding the global context of advances in science, technology and policy. Nunn School alumni are distinguished leaders in the fields of policy, law, business, education, communications and the non-profit sector.

The Georgia Institute of Technology is one of the world's premier research universities. Ranked seventh among U.S. News & World Report's top public universities, the Institute enrolls 21,000 students within its six colleges. Georgia Tech is the nation's leading producer of engineers as well as a leading producer of female and minority engineering PhD graduates. Holding more than 780 patents and receiving approximately \$570 million in sponsored awards, Georgia Tech ranks among the nation's top ten universities (without a medical school) in research expenditures. Visit www.gatech.edu for more information.