

## **Strategic Energy Institute - Executive Director Job Description**

The Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech) is conducting an internal search to fill the Executive Director position for the [Strategic Energy Institute](#) (SEI). SEI, one of Georgia Tech's [Interdisciplinary Research Institutes](#) (IRIs), serves as a discipline-inclusive home for the energy community and works to deploy the full resources of Georgia Tech for substantial impact on energy and related environmental and societal issues through cutting-edge research, student engagement, and collaborations with industry, government, and community partners, both domestic and international. The successful candidate will be a champion for energy-related initiatives across campus, have a broad view of the local, state, national and global energy challenges to be addressed, and be skilled at building links among stakeholders in associated Schools/Colleges, other IRIs, the Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI), and other research-adjacent units.

### **About Georgia Tech**

Georgia Tech is a top-ranked public research university situated in the heart of Atlanta, a diverse and vibrant city with numerous economic and cultural strengths. The Institute serves more than 45,000 students through top-ranked undergraduate, graduate, and executive programs in engineering, computing, science, business, design, and liberal arts. Georgia Tech's faculty attracted more than \$1.4 billion in research awards this past year in fields ranging from biomedical technology to artificial intelligence, energy, sustainability, semiconductors, neuroscience, and national security. Georgia Tech ranks among the nation's top 20 universities for research and development spending and No. 1 among institutions without a medical school. Georgia Tech also ranks first among U.S. public universities for energy and fuels research.

### **Georgia Tech's Mission and Values**

Georgia Tech's mission is to develop leaders who advance technology and improve the human condition. The Institute has nine key values that are foundational to everything we do:

1. Students are our top priority.
2. We strive for excellence.
3. We thrive on diversity.
4. We celebrate collaboration.
5. We champion innovation.
6. We safeguard freedom of inquiry and expression.
7. We nurture the wellbeing of our community.
8. We act ethically.
9. We are responsible stewards.

Over the next decade, Georgia Tech will become an example of inclusive innovation, a leading technological research university of unmatched scale, relentlessly committed to serving the public good; breaking new ground in addressing the biggest local, national, and global challenges and opportunities of our time; making technology broadly accessible; and developing exceptional,

principled leaders from all backgrounds ready to produce novel ideas and create solutions with real human impact.

### **Georgia Tech Interdisciplinary Research Institutes**

Georgia Tech has eleven [IRIs](#) that bring together researchers from different disciplines to address topics of strategic importance to the Institute as well as local, state, national and international communities. Reporting to the Vice President for Interdisciplinary Research (VPIR), these institutes facilitate initiatives that cross disciplinary boundaries. This includes work that tackles national and international challenges and questions related to clean energy, sustainability, public health, biotechnology, neuroscience, the bioeconomy, artificial intelligence, quantum information science, advanced manufacturing, semiconductors, and space exploration.

### **About SEI**

[SEI](#) integrates energy activities across Georgia Tech – from fuel sources and their supply chains, to generation, transmission, distribution, and storage, to efficient utilization, policy, and health impacts. Whether commercializing a scalable technology to address a specific challenge or designing a roadmap for allocating resources, the SEI community understands the systems, technologies, scale and scope of the ever-evolving nature of regional, national and global energy supply options, consumption patterns, markets, and policies. SEI is deeply engaged in building community, developing resources, and projecting thought leadership, all with the aim of marshalling the full resources of Georgia Tech around tackling the societal challenges and choices presented by delivering reliable, affordable and lower carbon effective energy supply to meet rising global energy demand.

### **Reporting Relationship**

The executive director reports to VPIR in Georgia Tech's Office of the Executive Vice President for Research, working with other IRI executive directors and campus leaders on strategies and operations for interdisciplinary research at Georgia Tech. All IRI executive directors allocate approximately 50% of their effort to their primary faculty affiliation and the other approximately 50% to the leadership of the IRI. The successful candidate may also request other resources from the VPIR to ensure a successful launch of their directorship.

### **Duties**

The Executive Director leads and administers SEI and will develop and communicate a unifying vision for energy-related research and innovation at Georgia Tech, integrating sciences, engineering, computing, social sciences, humanities, design, economics, policy, business, and other fields as they advance interdisciplinary energy research and strategic thought leadership. They will be responsible for mentoring, developing, and stewarding SEI's overall strategic direction, key initiatives, and human resources. As a service-oriented leader, the Executive Director will work with researchers and staff to:

- foster collaborations and initiatives among diverse stakeholder groups
- proactively prepare and coordinate preparation of major research grant applications
- build communities of interest across campus

- cultivate thought leadership
- educate key stakeholders and prepare the future workforce
- increase the profile of Georgia Tech and its research community, and
- otherwise attract research partners to Georgia Tech.

They will lead development of SEI/Georgia Tech partnerships through fostering collaboration across IRIs and the Institute, developing advisory panels and other external partnerships (academia, government agencies at federal, state, and local levels, industry, and nonprofit and community organizations), and serving as a recognized thought leader and voice to enhance SEI's/Georgia Tech's impact and reputation locally and globally.

The Executive Director is responsible for securing the resources for infrastructure, facilities, and initiatives, including potential capital campaign activities. They will be responsible for seeking external funding for SEI research and programs, including federal and state funding, philanthropic contributions, and industry partnerships.

### **Required Qualifications**

- Current appointment as 1) Associate Professor, 2) Full Professor, 3) Senior Research Faculty Member, 4) Principal Research Faculty Member, or 5) Professor of the Practice at Georgia Tech or GTRI.
- Research expertise within a discipline relevant to SEI, broadly defined.
- Proven track record of securing and managing external funding from federal, state, industry and/or philanthropic partners.

### **Skills and Expertise for the New Executive Director**

- Dynamic communication skills demonstrating an ability to convey technical information to internal and external stakeholders with different levels of background knowledge.
- Experience facilitating interdisciplinary work in energy-relevant fields beyond their own research thrust, building bridges between a constellation of researchers and fostering a collaborative, collegial, and creative energy community.
- Thought leadership to enable the creation of an aspirational, strategic direction for the broader energy community at Georgia Tech and an ability to translate this vision into significant, actionable, and measurable objectives, including the creation of energy-related programs.
- Understanding of the commercialization pathways, challenges, ability to scale, and timelines required by innovations of various types to deliver meaningful positive impact.
- Mentorship and development of faculty and staff from a variety of backgrounds to achieve personalized success, inspire teams and build a supportive culture.
- Managerial readiness to lead SEI and accomplish administrative duties.
- Presence to engage with high level business and foundation executives and willingness to engage in philanthropic fundraising.

## **Nominations and Applications**

Candidates are requested to submit the following:

- Letter of interest (not to exceed three pages) that summarizes the candidate's qualifications and includes a brief statement of their vision for SEI
- Curriculum vitae, and
- Contact information for five references (to be contacted with candidate's permission at a later date).

## **USG Core Values Statement**

The University System of Georgia is comprised of our 26 institutions of higher education and learning as well as the System Office. Our USG Statement of Core Values are Integrity, Excellence, Accountability, and Respect. These values serve as the foundation for all that we do as an organization, and each USG community member is responsible for demonstrating and upholding these standards. More details on the USG Statement of Core Values and Code of Conduct are available in USG Board Policy 8.2.18.1.2 and can be found on-line at [https://www.usg.edu/policymanual/section8/C224/#p8.2.18\\_personnel\\_conduct](https://www.usg.edu/policymanual/section8/C224/#p8.2.18_personnel_conduct).

Additionally, USG supports Freedom of Expression as stated in Board Policy 6.5 Freedom of Expression and Academic Freedom found on-line at <https://www.usg.edu/policymanual/section6/C2653>.

## **Equal Employment Opportunity**

The Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech) is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. The University is committed to maintaining a fair and respectful environment for all. To that end, and in accordance with federal and state law, Board of Regents policy, and University policy, Georgia Tech provides equal opportunity to all faculty, staff, students, and all other members of the Georgia Tech community, including applicants for admission and/or employment, contractors, volunteers, and participants in institutional programs, activities, or services. Georgia Tech complies with all applicable laws and regulations governing equal opportunity in the workplace and in educational activities.

Georgia Tech prohibits discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, on the basis of race, ethnicity, ancestry, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, age, disability, genetics, or veteran status in its programs, activities, employment, and admissions. This prohibition applies to faculty, staff, students, and all other members of the Georgia Tech community, including affiliates, invitees, and guests. Further, Georgia Tech prohibits citizenship status, immigration status, and national origin discrimination in hiring, firing, and recruitment, except where such restrictions are required in order to comply with law, regulation, executive order, or Attorney General directive, or where they are required by Federal, State, or local government contract.

More information on these policies can be found here:  
<https://www.usg.edu/policymanual/section6/c2714> Board of Regents Policy Manual | University  
System of Georgia (usg.edu).