



Georgia Tech

Ivan Allen College
of Liberal Arts

**School of Literature, Media,
and Communication**

School Chair Search 2022

The Georgia Tech School of Literature, Media, and Communication defines new models of intellectual inquiry and practice that bring diverse humanistic perspectives to bear on technological invention and innovation.

Our Mission

The School's mission is to lead the region, the nation, and the world in researching and teaching the ways the humanities shape and are shaped by science and technology. Understanding technologies in their cultural contexts is fundamental to invention and innovation.

The School's diverse faculty and students assess and inform technological and scientific change by creating, analyzing, and critiquing a broad range of media forms and cultural practices.

For more information about the School of Literature, Media, and Communication, please visit lmc.gatech.edu. For more information about the search process, please email lmchairsearch@gatech.edu.



School Chair Position Description

The [School of Literature, Media, and Communication](#) (LMC) within the [Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts](#) (IAC) at the [Georgia Institute of Technology](#) seeks a Chair to lead a dynamic, innovative, and highly interdisciplinary unit of more than 80 faculty, including tenure-track, non-tenure-track, and post-doctoral faculty whose teaching and research cluster in three areas: the humanistic study of literature and artistic practices engaging with science and technology; film and media studies and digital media design; and rhetoric, writing studies, and communication. These efforts are unified by our overarching goal of imagining more expressive, equitable, and just roles for science and technology in the public realm.

LMC is a national leader in researching and teaching the ways the humanities shape and are shaped by science, technology, and culture. As one of the largest units in the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, LMC faculty teach approximately 8,000 students, including non-majors, each year. LMC enrolls nearly 400 students in undergraduate and graduate degree programs: a B.S. in Computational Media (joint with the Colleges of Computing and Design), a B.S. in Literature, Media, and Communication; M.S. programs in Digital Media, Global Media and Cultures (joint with the School of Modern Languages), and Human Computer Interaction (joint with the College of Computing, College of Design, and School of Psychology); and a Ph.D. in Digital Media. LMC offers minors in Black Media Studies; Social Justice; Film and Media Studies; Science Fiction Studies; East Asia Studies; Health, Medicine, and Society; Science, Technology, and Society; and Women, Science, and Technology. Each program is unique in its interdisciplinary and technological orientation, though all share the school's emphasis on diversity, equity, and the exploration of humanistic perspectives in a technological world.

LMC also includes Georgia Tech's award-winning Writing and Communication Program (WCP), which provides approximately 5,000 students with instruction in multimodal composition, business and technical communication, and research writing for undergraduate thesis projects each year. Defining features of the WCP are the Naugle Communication Center and the Marion L. Brittain Postdoctoral Fellowship, which offers three-year, highly selective postdoctoral teaching fellowships to 35 Ph.D. recipients who wish to develop professionally and innovate in teaching, research, and service.

The qualities of the successful candidate for Chair include:

- a scholarly record that merits a tenured appointment at the rank of full professor;
- experience in supporting diverse communities and advocating for diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility among faculty, staff, and students;
- a capacity for strategic thinking with demonstrated leadership in higher education, including a proven aptitude for effective, financial, academic, and personnel management; and
- a mindset directed toward cultivating collegiality and collaboration, and modeling empathy, integrity, and transparency.

The next School chair will be expected to:

- understand, respect, and foster the School's intellectual and disciplinary diversity by championing all academic programs and research areas equally;
- promote faculty, staff, and student well-being;
- foster collaboration within the School, between LMC and other units at Georgia Tech, and with external partners, including local, national, and international;
- support innovation in research, teaching, curricula, and programming;

- envision, articulate, and advance the School's unique humanistic mission within a leading technological university;
- advance extracurricular opportunities for students including experiential learning, research, mentoring, and career development opportunities; and
- augment the School's financial resources, including through philanthropic fundraising.

LMC believes diversity is foundational to creating the most intellectually vibrant and successful academic communities. Therefore, we are especially interested in applicants who will work effectively with students, faculty, and staff from diverse backgrounds, including women, those who are Black, Indigenous, People of Color, from minority ethnic groups, identify with LGBTQIA+ communities, have disabilities, from lower income backgrounds, and/or first-generation college graduates. Women and members of underrepresented groups are strongly encouraged to apply.

For additional information about LMC as well as expected leadership and administrative management responsibilities for the position, please consult the detailed profile available at <https://iac.gatech.edu/about/lmc-chair-search>.

To apply, candidates should submit the following through Georgia's Tech Careers website – Job ID 238085 (<https://hr.gatech.edu/employment/careers>):

1. a letter of application addressing how their background and experience can advance LMC's existing strengths and address the responsibilities in the bullet points above. In addition, the letter of application should provide a clear vision of the applicant's leadership philosophy; commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion; and approach to interdisciplinary collaboration;
2. a curriculum vitae;
3. the names, positions, and contact information of three to five references who will be contacted only with the candidate's approval. Please include a brief statement of your relationship to each reference.

Nominations for the position may be directed to Dr. Laura Taylor, search committee chair (laura.taylor@gatech.edu). Questions about the application process should be directed to William Jimerson, director of human resources (wjimerson3@gatech.edu). Candidates are encouraged to apply by March 4, 2022, for optimal consideration; however, the search will continue until the position is filled.

Georgia Tech is a top-ranked public research university situated in the heart of Atlanta, a diverse and vibrant city with great economic and cultural strengths. The Institute is a member of the University System of Georgia, the Georgia Research Alliance, and the Association of American Universities.

A background check must be completed prior to employment. 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, 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.



School Profile

Overview

In many ways, the history of our unit (which until 1991 was an English Department) reflects the increasingly interdisciplinary dimensions of humanities education. LMC's two bachelor of science degrees are deeply interdisciplinary and offer students opportunities to become "critical makers" who analyze and produce the media with which they engage. LMC's approach has resonated strongly with prospective students, as seen in our markedly rising numbers of applicants and strong undergraduate enrollments.

Our Literature, Media, and Communication major (LMC) allows students to focus on two of six threads described below; our Computational Media major (CM), offered in collaboration with the College of Computing and School of Music, lets students select one thread from the Arts/Humanities and one from Computer Science. LMC graduate programs provide students with a theoretical background in Digital Media (DM) and Human Computer Interaction (HCI), offered with Schools of Industrial Design, Interactive Computing, Psychology, and the opportunity to practice what they learn in the classroom about civic media, knowledge and creativity, and arts and entertainment through active participation in labs and research. And our newest graduate program, the M.S. in Global Media and Cultures (GMC) with the School of Modern Languages and GT Library, prepares students for the increasing number of professions that demand a media-savvy and culturally and linguistically sophisticated workforce. In all these degree programs and throughout LMC as a whole, we celebrate interdisciplinary collaboration as an essential aspect of our work among faculty, between faculty and students, and across schools, colleges, and other universities.

In addition to such curricular-based impact, LMC takes a leadership role in a variety of creative and cultural programs to enrich, expand, and enhance the cultural climate of the Georgia Institute of Technology and the Atlanta community through the ongoing presentation of intellectually and aesthetically challenging programs. The CoLab, for example, serves LMC students by supporting, educating, and amplifying the creative work of our students. So too, each season, DramaTech produces high-quality plays, musicals, variety shows, and improvisation performances that cover the spectrum of theatrical history. Poetry@Tech brings to Atlanta high-profile and celebrated poets as well as new and exciting voices, and shares the art of poetry across Georgia. Finally, SciFi@Tech partners with LMC students and other interested members of the Georgia Tech and greater Atlanta communities on initiatives including science fiction symposia, research groups, and original radio and film productions.

Undergraduate Program Descriptions

B.S. in Literature, Media, and Communication

Based on their interests and aspirations to pursue graduate or professional school or a career, LMC students choose two of six threads: Literature; Media; Communication; Design; Social Justice; or Science, Technology, and Culture. Many LMC alumni go on to graduate school in literature, communication sciences, and interactive entertainment studies or to professional school in law, health, and social work. Other graduates pursue careers in fields ranging from graphic art and photography to client advocacy and medical administration to arts administration and technical communication.

B.S. in Computational Media

In addition to its traditional role as a tool for science, engineering, and business, the computer has now become a new and important medium for communication and expression in our society. The mission of the Computational Media degree is to train the next generation of technologically sophisticated designers who can contribute to the continuing development of digital media for a variety of practical as well as expressive purposes. LMC and the School of Music Technology (in the College of Design) provide four threads for the program.

Undergraduate Minors

LMC offers or contributes to a number of minors: Black Media Studies; Film and Media Studies; Health, Medicine, and Society; Science Fiction Studies; Social Justice; Science, Technology, and Society; East Asian Studies; and Women, Science, and Technology.

Writing and Communication Program

Georgia Tech's Writing and Communication Program (WCP) provides instruction in multimodal composition, business and technical communication, and research writing to approximately 5,100 students a year. A defining feature of the WCP is the Marion L. Brittain Postdoctoral Fellowship, which offers three-year, highly selective postdoctoral teaching fellowships to recent Ph.D. recipients who wish to further develop their teaching. Despite the well-known difficulties in the academic job market, WCP has maintained its historically high placement rate for the Brittain Fellows.

Graduate Program Descriptions

M.S. in Global Media and Cultures

The interdisciplinary Master of Science in Global Media and Cultures (GMC) is a joint degree from the [School of Modern Languages](#) and the [School of Literature, Media, and Communication](#). The program prepares students to pursue a wide range of careers that require advanced training in communication and media as well as expertise in a particular linguistic region of the world. The curriculum provides a theoretical grounding in media and cultural studies, advanced training in a critical global language, and hands-on cross-cultural experience through study abroad, internships, and creative projects. Students create a bilingual portfolio that positions them for success on the job market.

M.S. in Human Computer Interaction

The joint M.S. degree program in Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) was founded in 1997 and is one of the oldest and most prominent programs of its kind. As an interdisciplinary program offered by four Schools — Industrial Design; Interactive Computing; Literature, Media, and Communication; and Psychology — this program attracts students with backgrounds in these and related fields who enroll in the most appropriate School, and interact with one another and with faculty from many disciplines. Doing so provides the broad base of knowledge to become leaders in the field of HCI (also known as User Experience or UX), with a focus on the design, implementation, and evaluation of computer interfaces and other computational systems that mediate human relations. The program provides students with the practical skills and theoretical understanding needed to become leaders in the design, implementation, and evaluation of the next generation of human-computer interfaces.

M.S. in Digital Media

The Master of Science in Digital Media (DM) program at Georgia Tech was founded as the M.S. in Information Design and Technology (IDT) in 1993. The name was changed to M.S. in Digital Media in 2006 to align with the Ph.D. program. The M.S. in DM program offers humanities-based advanced studies in digital media design, critique, and practice. It provides the theoretical and practical foundation for professional careers in digital media, including interaction and information design, game design, and game production. With this degree, we prepare students for leadership positions as designers, producers, and critical analysts in a changing digital culture.

Ph.D. in Digital Media

The Ph.D. in Digital Media (DM) was founded in LMC in 2004 to provide candidates with the theoretical and practical foundation for careers as digital media researchers in academia and industry. Within the core themes of DM, digital expression, and civic media, Ph.D. candidates research a wide field of areas, such as digital art and design, cognitive models in computational media, transmedia storytelling, experimental media, and novel media interfaces.

Graduate Certificate in Science, Technology, and Society

The Science, Technology, and Society (STS) Graduate Certificate is designed for students already enrolled in a graduate degree program at Georgia Tech. This certificate is for graduate students who would like to demonstrate additional competence in some aspect of STS or special competence in STS in their home discipline.



College Profile

The liberal arts have been a part of Georgia Tech since the university first opened its doors in Atlanta in 1888, with English as one of the original six subjects offered. The Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, established in 1990, consists of six schools, three ROTC units and several research centers, and exemplifies strengths in humanities and social sciences. The six schools are: Economics; History and Sociology; Literature, Media, and Communication; Modern Languages; Public Policy; and the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs.

The College provides innovative, human-centered perspectives at the intersections of humanities, social sciences, arts and STEM, developing leaders who advance technology and improve the human condition.

Ivan Allen College has twelve areas where curriculum and research bridge across two or more schools in the college: computational social science; digital humanities; energy, environmental & sustainability; ethics and emerging technologies; gender studies; global development; global languages and cultures; health analytics and policy; media studies; security (cyber, economic, health, food & international); science and technology policy and governance; and social justice. We enrich knowledge-making enterprises dynamically, encourage ethical principles in our engagements with a broad variety of communities.

Ivan Allen College has more than 150 tenured, tenure-track and permanent research faculty, who prepare students to be leaders capable of balancing a richly defined base of expertise with a well-grounded sense of responsibility. The roster includes seven fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), one of only a handful of academics to hold appointments to both the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Engineering, a fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration, a Fulbright Scholar, and a National Book Award finalist, to name but a few.

Our programs encompass traditional fields as well as unique and professional disciplines. Many of our faculty members engage in ground-breaking, interdisciplinary research to solve complex issues of the world. Enterprising activities in our college include the School of Economics' health analytics lab and groundbreaking work on poverty; the School of History and Sociology's focus on social justice and technology, and the nexus of sports, society and technology; the School of Literature, Media, and Communication's digital media labs and creative arts and film showcases; the School of Modern Language's Atlanta Global Studies Center's work to enhance access to advanced language learning and deepen knowledge of global and intercultural issues; the School of Public Policy's collaboration with computing and engineering on cybersecurity policy, and degrees in sustainability management; the Nunn School's work to address issues in international security related to emerging technology and global development, and being home to eight Distinguished Professors of Practice, including its namesake, the Honorable Sam Nunn; and four of our ROTC officers being the first students from Georgia Tech to be directly commissioned into the U.S. Space Force.

The College currently has 837 undergraduate students and 617 graduate students; however, we instruct, serve, and support almost every Georgia Tech student. Students can choose from 16 undergraduate degrees, including six five-year bachelor/master's programs; 14 master's programs; six doctoral programs; 34 minors; and 24 undergraduate and graduate certificate programs.

We have more than 4,500 living alumni worldwide, with largest densities in the following locations: GA, CA, VA, DC, NY TX, FL, and NC. Alumni of Ivan Allen College programs can be found in a wide variety of organizations and sectors, including: Georgia Tech and other academic institutions; consulting firms (e.g., Booz Allen Hamilton, Deloitte Consulting, Accenture); Fortune 500 and industry-leading companies (e.g., Google, Facebook, Coca-Cola, Home Depot, IBM, Delta Air Lines, Microsoft, Mailchimp, Cartoon Network); government agencies (e.g., mayor's office, governor's office, Georgia Department of Economic Development, U.S. Department of State, NASA, other state and federal agencies); and non-profit institutions (e.g., Atlanta Regional Commission, Boys and Girls Club, Teach for America).



Leadership and Administrative Management Expectations for School Chairs

Leadership

1. Convey a vision for the school that aligns well with the Georgia Tech Strategic Plan and the priorities of the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts.
2. Facilitates the setting and implementation of strategic goals and measures by:
 - a. Individuals
 - b. Programs
 - c. The school as a unit
3. Actively pursues opportunities to support and advance the school's mission and priorities.
4. Uses school resources effectively, efficiently, and equitably.
5. Creates effective working relationships with constituencies within and outside of Georgia Tech.
6. Encourages collaborations and connections beyond the school with:
 - a. Other IAC units
 - b. Other GT colleges
 - c. Other institutions/organizations locally
 - d. Other institutions/organizations nationally
 - e. Other institutions/organizations internationally
7. Maintains open communications with all constituencies of the school.
8. Establishes a working environment conducive to high performance for faculty, staff, and students, including the balancing and reconciling of diverse interests, the identification of issues, and the resolution of conflicts that may affect the achieving of positive results.
9. Offers a model for professional excellence in research, education, leadership, and service.

Administrative Management

10. Provides leadership for:
 - a. Faculty hiring and retention
 - b. Staff hiring and retention
 - c. Student recruitment and development
 - d. Alumni relations
11. Responsive to the needs and concerns of:
 - a. Faculty
 - b. Staff
 - c. Graduate students
 - d. Undergraduate students
12. Coordinates and manages effectively, efficiently, and equitably:
 - a. Fiscal Processes and Procedures
 - b. Undergraduate and graduate programs
 - c. Curricular and cross-curricular processes
 - d. Communications and Marketing
 - e. Community building
 - f. Performance evaluation process