

Cristina Williams, Communications Officer  
The Sam Nunn School of International Affairs  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
770-241-3733 (cell) & 404-894-1900 (fax)  
[cristina.williams@inta.gatech.edu](mailto:cristina.williams@inta.gatech.edu)

**Georgia Tech's Sam Nunn School of International Affairs**  
**Awarded €300,000 by European Union**

ATLANTA, GA (September 9, 2008) The Sam Nunn School of International Affairs in the Ivan Allen College at Georgia Tech announces its inauguration as a prestigious European Union Center of Excellence (EUCE). Funded by a €300,000 grant from the European Union, the Center will serve as a catalyst for economic and cultural ties between Europe and Georgia and the Southeast.

Nunn School Chair, Professor William Long expressed that, "The prestige associated with operating a EUCE enhances Georgia and Georgia Tech's profile on the global stage by expanding existing European partnerships as well as forging new connections with the EU member states."

The Center's core mission is to promote wider understanding of EU and transatlantic relations. Dr. Vicki Birchfield, Associate Professor of International Affairs and Director of the Center said, "The Center reinforces Ga Tech's role as a world class technical institute in that we will promote the integration of science and technology policy within areas of pressing concern to the United States and the EU. These include energy, the environment, and the implications of emerging technologies such as nanotechnology."

The EU funding will enable The Nunn School to initiate a range of outreach activities that leverage Georgia Tech's special ability to foster an entrepreneurial climate between education and the local economy. Faculty will initiate high profile speaker series, conferences, interdisciplinary research and curricular developments, as well as public forums bridging academia, business, government, media, and other civic and professional

*For Immediate Release*

organizations. Additionally, the Center will coordinate teacher programs for Atlanta area public schools, promote interaction among faculty and students throughout the University System of Georgia, and continue The Nunn School's flagship summer abroad program in Europe.

The Nunn School of International Affairs in the Ivan Allen College at Georgia Tech is one of eleven universities selected to host a EUCE. The newly announced EUCE network includes the University of California, Berkeley, the University of Michigan, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and the Washington, DC, Consortium (American University, George Mason University, George Washington University, Georgetown University, The Johns Hopkins University).

*The Sam Nunn School of International Affairs within the Ivan Allen College at Georgia Tech 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 nation's premiere research universities. Ranked among U.S. News & World Report's top 10 public universities, Georgia Tech educates more than 16,000 students every year through its Colleges of Architecture, Computing, Engineering, Liberal Arts, Management and Sciences. Tech maintains a diverse campus and is among the nation's top producers of women and African-American engineers. The Institute offers research opportunities to both undergraduate and graduate students and is home to more than 100 interdisciplinary units plus the Georgia Tech Research Institute. During the 2003-2004 academic year, Georgia Tech reached \$341.9 million in new research award funding.*

###