



## **GTLI Timeline**

### **1958-2018**

#### **1958**

Georgia Tech had over 600 matriculated international students. It was recognized that many of these students needed English language support. To address this need, Dr. Louis Zahn, Assistant Professor in Modern Languages, started the Language Institute as an academic preparation program offered in the summer for incoming international students in the fall. The first program had 12 students from Central and South America. Dr. Zahn taught all the students together in this first program.

#### **1960s**

With a clear directive from the President of Georgia Tech, the Language Institute summer program (still part of Modern Languages) needed to be self-sufficient. In two short years, the Language Institute triples in size to 40 students.

As the Language Institute grows, there is a need to hire part-time instructors to teach all the courses.

1964: The Language Institute starts offering an evening program to teach practical English for the local community.

#### **1970s**

Fall 1977: The Language Institute becomes a year-around program.

The Intensive English Program has six levels, with five courses: Grammar Writing, Reading, Listening, Speaking/Pronunciation.

1976: Dr. Louis Zahn becomes the head of Modern Languages

About 40% of Language Institute students go on to get a degree from Georgia Tech.

Students from Mexico and Venezuela make up a significant part of the Language Institute enrollment.

In the late 1970s, Georgia Tech's Language Institute helps establish the first Georgia chapter of TESOL.

There was a need to expand both ESL courses and Modern Language courses in German, French, and Spanish. The Language Institute's revenue provides the funding for part-time instructors at the Language Institute and Modern Languages.

1979: There is a surge in Iranian students following the Iranian Revolution.

Dr. Zahn participates in Georgia Tech's first extensive recruiting trips in South America.

## 1980s

1985: Dr. Zahn retires as head of Modern Languages but stays as Director of the Language Institute.

The decade brings a wave of Venezuelans followed by a wave of Japanese.

1985: Charles Windish becomes the assistant director of the Language Institute.

July 1, 1985: The intensive English program separates from Modern Languages and is offered through Continuing Education. Language Institute funds are no longer used to fund salaries and travel expenses for Modern Languages .

1988: Dr. Zahn retires as director of Language Institute, becomes Professor and Director Emeritus, and serves as advisor/marketing specialist to the Language Institute .

1988: Charles Windish becomes the second Director of the Language Institute.

1988: The Language Institute moves from the Swann Building to its current home at the O'Keefe Building due to enrollment increases for both ML and GTLI.

## 1990s

1996: The Atlanta Summer Olympic games take over the Georgia Tech campus and the Language Institute moves to Grady High School in Midtown for the second half of the summer.

1996: GTLI becomes a member of UCIEP (Consortium of University and College Intensive English Programs) and a member of AAIEP (now known as English USA).

1997: Session enrollment in the Institute reaches 467.

1997: The first Faculty/Student softball game is held on campus.

1998: The Language Institute's first web site goes live.

1998: Georgia Tech moves from a quarter system to a semester system. In accordance with the change, the Language Institute changes from a four-quarter schedule to five eight-week sessions per year.

A few sessions after moving to eight-week sessions, the Language Institute adds an additional intermediate level moving the program from a six-level program to a seven-level program.

1998: The Language Institute first participates in Georgia Tech's Culture Fest by fielding a soccer team.

1998: The Language Partners program begins, in conjunction with Modern Languages, Study Abroad, and International Affairs.

1999: The Language Institute starts its partnership with the CETL and offers a support course for international teaching assistants. Later, courses in Oral Skills, Presentation Skills, and Academic Writing are added.

1999: The Language Institute volunteers at the Atlanta Community Food Bank for the first time. The Institute eventually receives two President's Volunteer Service Awards for its work there.

## **2000s**

2001: The tradition of Tech Rec parties begin.

September 11, 2001: Terrorists conduct multiple attacks on U.S. soil, events that will greatly shift international education.

2002: The SEVIS system is mandated for tracking international students and scholars in the U.S.

2003: Enrollment drops to below 175 students.

2003: The Language Institute starts offering evening courses.

December 2003: Charles Windish retires as director of the Language Institute.

2004: Karen Tucker becomes the Language Institute's third director.

2004: The Language Institute offers its first College Fair to inform students about Georgia colleges and universities.

Summer 2004: The Language Institute offers its first short courses.

2004: The Language Institute expands its evening program.

2005: Language Institute offers graduate prep workshops for incoming Georgia Tech graduate students.

2005: The Language Café begins as SNAC (Speaking Non-stop after Class).

2006: The Language Institute becomes fully integrated in Banner, a student record keeping system.

2005: The Saudi Arabian Cultural Mission starts sending students to the Language Institute as part of a huge new scholarship initiative.

2007: Yearly trips to Chattanooga and Helen for Institute students begin.

2007: The Peer Advisors/Global Ambassadors program for Institute students begins.

2008: The Atlanta Summer Program begins with students from Shanghai Jiao Tong University (China).

2009: The Language Institute starts working with Inha Technical College (South Korea) to offer a customized program to groups of undergraduate students.

2008: The Language Institute begins a partnership with Emory University's Goizueta Business School to offer a Pre-MBA Intensive English Program for its incoming international MBA students.

2008: The Language Institute celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary during the Summer Session.

## **The Last Decade**

2010: The One Project volunteer initiative for Language Institute students is started.

2011: The Language Institute partners with The College of Management to provide a Pre-MBA program for two cohorts of incoming international Masters students from Korea.

2013: The Language Institute leases classroom space on the third floor of the Biltmore Building.

2013: The Language Institute hosts cohorts of Brazilian Teachers for a customized program in pedagogy.

2014: The Language Institute starts working with the Brazilian Science Mobility Project Program.

2015: The Language Institute leases a larger space for 8 classrooms and an office suite on the first floor of the Biltmore Building.

January 2015: The Language Institute begins its partnership with Panama Bilingue and hosts its first group of Panamanian teachers for language, culture, and pedagogy training.

2015: The Language Institute begins its partnership with the German Fulbright Commission by offering a special customized program for Fulbright scholars from Germany.

2015: The Intensive English Program becomes accredited by CEA.

2015: The Tutoring Center begins operations to provide additional assistance to Institute students.

2016: The Language Institute launches its first MOOC. GTLI's MOOCs currently have nearly 400,000 enrollments.

2016: The Language Institute receives funding from Graduate Education to develop and provide additional Language training and support for international graduate students at Georgia Tech.

2017: The Language Institute becomes fully paperless in its student records.

2017: The Language Institute offers new support courses and services to international graduate students including ITA screening and support, academic research writing online, and face-to face courses for students.

2018: The Language Institute introduces a fully online application system.

2018: The Georgia Tech Language Institutes celebrates its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary during the Summer Session.