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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2008

## Gwinnett Tech Opens International Education Center at Gwinnett Place

Gwinnett Technical College has opened the International Education Center at Gwinnett Place Mall, created to prepare residents and businesses alike to prosper and thrive in an increasingly international environment.

The center will host a number of Gwinnett Tech's continuing education classes, including language offerings and workforce training courses that support area businesses and meet the needs of Gwinnett's multilingual population.

Leaders from higher education, business and the international community joined Gwinnett Tech President Sharon Bartels and Carl Swearingen, board chairman of the Technical College System of Georgia, for the center's opening yesterday.

"We live in an increasingly global environment, providing new opportunities and challenges for businesses and residents alike. Our International Education Center was created to provide the progressive education and training that students of all ages will need to be successful in an international world and workplace," Bartels explains.

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The International Education Center occupies just over 32,600 square feet on two levels, with 23 classrooms. The center includes testing facilities to support language classes and a Recruitment and Information Center for Gwinnett Tech.

"The International Education Center brings Gwinnett Tech's specialized courses into the heart of the community where they are needed most. Technical colleges play a vital role in the economic development of our community, and we're pleased to contribute positively to the economic growth and vibrancy of the Gwinnett Place area," Bartels says.

A full slate of English as a Second Language (ESL) classes will begin at the center on Oct. 6, with several computer, construction and business training courses also scheduled to start early this fall. A full course schedule for all Gwinnett Tech continuing education classes is available online at [www.GwinnettTech.edu/ce](http://www.GwinnettTech.edu/ce).

Also participating in the opening of the International Education Center were Georgia State Senator David Shafer; Louise Radloff, GCPS Board Member; Joe Allen, executive director, Gwinnett Place CID; James Song, vice chairman, Georgian Korean Chamber of Commerce; Demming Bass and Nick Masino, Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce; Marty Solomon, Simon Properties; Michael Sullivan, board member, Technical College System of Georgia; Marian Lucia, board chair, Gwinnett Technical College; Charlene Fang, board member, Gwinnett Tech Foundation; and Maria Hall, board member, Gwinnett Tech Foundation.

For more information on course offerings at the International Education Center, call 770-995-9697 or visit online at [www.GwinnettTech.edu/ce](http://www.GwinnettTech.edu/ce). The International Education Center is located at 2100 Pleasant Hill Road, Duluth, GA, 30096.

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