



Ethics Week 2026

Office of Ethics and Compliance



November 2-6

[Click here to learn more & RSVP](#)

2026 Discussion Guide

Living Georgia Tech's Values Through Everyday Decisions

TEAM DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

A practical guide for reflection, conversation, and action.

PURPOSE

Ethics Week gives Georgia Tech teams time to pause and talk about how our values show up in daily work: teaching, research, student support, campus operations, data protection, resource stewardship, collaboration, and public service.

These discussion questions are designed for teams to reflect on real-life situations, share perspectives, and strengthen our commitment to Georgia Tech's values.

GEORGIA TECH VALUES HIGHLIGHTED IN THIS GUIDE

Students are our top priority.	We strive for excellence.	We thrive on diversity.
We celebrate collaboration.	We champion innovation.	We safeguard freedom of inquiry and expression.
We nurture the well-being of our community.	We act ethically.	We are responsible stewards.

The discussion topics below are based on principles highlighted in Georgia Tech's Code of Ethics.

FACILITATOR GUIDANCE

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

- The purpose is a dialogue, not finding a single "correct" answer.
- Different perspectives are welcome.
- Do not share confidential information or personnel matters.
- Learn from one another and reinforce Georgia Tech's values.

SUGGESTED FORMAT

- Select a question or two.
- Allow 5-10 minutes per question.
- Encourage all participants to contribute.
- End by identifying one action the team can take to strengthen ethical culture.

ETHICS WEEK GIVEAWAYS

We want to hear from you! Complete [this quick survey](#) (via link or QR Code) and giveaways will be delivered to your team as supplies last!



INSTITUTE-WIDE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1

What does "We Act Ethically" mean in your role?

How does ethical behavior show up in the decisions you make every day, even when no one is watching or when everyone is watching and the pressure is on?

2

When should someone stop and ask for guidance?

What are some signs that a situation may require advice from a supervisor, subject matter expert, or another resource?

3

Why is speaking up difficult?

What barriers might prevent people from asking questions or reporting concerns? How can teams reduce those barriers?

4

What does responsible stewardship look like?

What resources are you responsible for protecting and using wisely (time, equipment, funds, data, facilities, people, etc.)?

5

What helps create a culture of respect?

What behaviors make it easier for people to contribute ideas, challenge assumptions, and collaborate effectively?

FACULTY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1

How do we balance innovation and ethics - is there conflict between the two?

What responsibilities do faculty have when pursuing new opportunities, partnerships, research activities, or technologies?

2

What would you do if an external opportunity could benefit both you and Georgia Tech?

How would you determine whether it should be disclosed or reviewed?

3

How should faculty model responsible use of AI?

What expectations should we set for students and colleagues regarding transparency, verification, and accountability?

4

What does fairness look like in teaching and mentoring?

How do we ensure consistency while recognizing individual circumstances?

5

When should concerns be raised?

What would encourage you to seek advice or report a concern sooner rather than later?

STAFF DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1

What does public trust mean for Georgia Tech employees?

How can day-to-day decisions strengthen or weaken that trust?

2

What resources are we responsible for protecting?

Consider data, budgets, equipment, facilities, and work time.

3

What should you do when a process seems inefficient but exists for a compliance or accountability reason?

How do you balance efficiency and compliance?

4

What information do we handle that may be more sensitive than people realize?

What steps can we take to protect it?

5

Why does disclosure matter?

Why is it important to disclose outside activities even when no actual conflict exists?

6

What can leaders do to create an environment where employees feel comfortable asking questions?

STUDENT EMPLOYEE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1

What would you do if you were asked to do something that did not feel right?

Who would you go to for advice?

2

Why is asking questions a sign of professionalism?

How can uncertainty become a learning opportunity?

3

How does your work contribute to Georgia Tech's mission?

Why does integrity matter regardless of position or title?

4

What responsibilities come with access to information?

What should you do if you accidentally view information, you don't believe you should have access to?

5

What concerns might a student employee hesitate to report?

How can workplaces make it easier to speak up?

STAFF - SKILLED TRADES DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1

What does it mean to work safely when deadlines and workloads are demanding?

How should employees respond when they see shortcuts being taken?

2

When should someone stop work and ask questions?

What situations deserve a pause before moving forward?

3

If you saw someone enter a secured area without authorization, what would you do?

Why is security everyone's responsibility?

4

What does responsible stewardship look like in your trade?

How do we demonstrate stewardship of tools, equipment, materials, and facilities?

5

How should coworkers respectfully hold each other accountable for safety and quality?

What approaches are effective?

6

What does professionalism look like during disagreements or stressful situations?

How do we maintain respect while solving problems?

7

If doing a job correctly takes longer than doing it quickly, how should that decision be made?

What values should guide the choice?

8

What actions help build trust among team members?

CLOSING REFLECTION

What is one action our team can take this year to better demonstrate Georgia Tech's value of "We Act Ethically"?

OR

What is one behavior you will personally commit to that strengthens Georgia Tech's culture of integrity?

KEY TAKEAWAY

Ethical culture is built and reinforced through everyday actions. Whether teaching students, conducting research, maintaining campus facilities, managing resources, supporting operations, or leading teams, each member of the Georgia Tech community contributes to living our values every day.