March 25, 2020

Distinguished Alumni Awards

Celebrating 30 years as Ivan Allen College
Dean’s Welcome

I was brand new on faculty in 1990 when Georgia Tech made an organizational left turn – a turn that reshaped the university to become a powerhouse not only in engineering, but in computing, business, design, sciences, and – most exciting from where many of us sit – the humanities and social sciences.

The students we will graduate this spring weren’t even born when the Ivan Allen College was created! And yet thirty years is quite young for a college, which makes the stature we have attained in that time nothing short of amazing.

We often hear from alumni who graduated during the College’s early years that they wish the courses and degrees we offer today had been offered when they were here. Well, we are still here and available to you! We’re offering more master’s programs as 1-year professional degrees and certificates. Some are customizable and buildable over time. That’s really what’s next on Georgia Tech’s horizon - life-long learning, online classes, micro-degrees, and broader expertise that draws from professional realms.

Apple founder Steve Jobs was a muse of Pat Crecine’s, the Georgia Tech president who made that game-changing transformation 30 years ago. He was making the case up until his death for how crucial liberal arts graduates are to creativity and to ensuring that technology is usable and user friendly. We continue to welcome muses. Your perspectives could be invaluable on one of our advisory boards or in our programs. You might serve as a mentor to students or a speaker in classes. Maybe you can call admitted students to encourage them to enroll. Your engagement is vital to our continued evolution and to our ability to be ready for the students – yet to be born – who will enroll in our cutting-edge programs in the future.

Sincerely,

John L. Tone
Interim Dean
Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts

Though the 2020 Distinguished Alumni Awards event was cancelled, as were most Georgia Tech sponsored spring events in accordance with CDC guidelines, we present this program in celebration of our 2020 honorees.
On behalf of all of us at Georgia Tech, I congratulate the outstanding alumni, undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, friends, and supporters of the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts who are being honored at the sixth annual Distinguished Alumni Awards.

With these awards we are celebrating the accomplishments of those who embody the mission of Progress and Service of the Institute and the spirit of the College’s namesake. Through his personal conviction and courage, former Atlanta Mayor and Georgia Tech alumnus Ivan Allen Jr. worked to change the culture of a city and respond to the demands of African Americans for equal rights. Through your professionalism, innovative problem solving, your contributions to the community, and your commitment to Georgia Tech, you are carrying forward the legacy of Mayor Allen and representing what Georgia Tech should be all about. Whether you are receiving the Ivan Allen Jr. Legacy Award, the Distinguished Alumni Award, or the Dean’s Appreciation Award, you have demonstrated leadership and a commitment to the Ivan Allen College spirit of excellence in education.

Ivan Allen College is integral to Georgia Tech’s success, and we wouldn’t be the outstanding institution we are today without your engagement and support. Georgia Tech was founded in 1885 but didn’t officially open its doors to students until three years later. Liberal arts have been a part of Georgia Tech since the first day of classes, helping students develop skills in analysis, writing, and communications, while shaping broad global perspectives. The Institute brings together scholars from a wide variety of fields to improve the human condition. We are developing leaders who think critically, find solutions, and create value for the greater good. The individuals being recognized this evening are shining examples.

Once again, congratulations, and thank you for your exceptional work and your commitment to Progress and Service.

Ángel Cabrera
President
Georgia Institute of Technology
The liberal arts have been part of Georgia Tech since 1888, but were organized in degree-granting schools only in 1990. Thus, we are still quite young relative to our peers. Yet, in those thirty short years we have achieved leadership in technology-focused humanities and social sciences.

Today, we are home to one of the nation’s largest cadres of researchers studying science, medicine, technology, and engineering through the lenses of humanities and social sciences. Our faculty lead international conferences within their fields and are editors and editorial board members of prestigious peer review journals, officers in top professional societies, and appointees on national and international committees that are shaping the future of academia, government policies and practices, business, and culture. Our curricula are renowned nationally and internationally as models for technology-focused liberal arts education. We foreground the values of our namesake former Atlanta Mayor Ivan Allen Jr. — the human-centered themes that form the basis of the United Nation’s Sustainable Development Goals.

These hallmarks of our innovation and influence enable our students to study with the very best in their fields and our graduates to thrive in harnessing technology to serve the human good and to create solutions to ensure a human-centered future.

**Rankings**

**#12**

Energy and Environmental Policy and Management Graduate Program (Public Policy)

*U.S. News and World Report, 2021*

**#9**

M.S. in Game Design (Digital Media)

*Animation Career Review, 2020*

**#10**

B.S. in Game Design (Digital Media)

*Animation Career Review, 2020*

**#24**

Best Public Policy Analysis Graduate Program

*U.S. News and World Report, 2021*

Nunn School membership in the prestigious Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs (APSIA)
## Academics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6</th>
<th>Schools</th>
<th>30</th>
<th>Degrees Offered (B.S., M.S., Ph.D.)</th>
<th>23</th>
<th>Study Abroad Programs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>862</td>
<td>Undergraduate Students</td>
<td>1,003</td>
<td>Graduate Students</td>
<td>6,873</td>
<td>Alumni in more than 50 Countries</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

40% of Undergraduates Complete Internships & 40% of Undergraduates Conduct Research

71% Graduate with International Experience

## Research

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<tr>
<th>17</th>
<th>Research Centers</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>Continents Where Faculty Conduct Research</th>
<th>30+</th>
<th>Areas of Inquiry</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#6 in National Sponsored Research Awarded to Comparable Institutions

$60m in Sponsor Funded Research

## Faculty

<table>
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<tr>
<th>4</th>
<th>Regents Professors</th>
<th>12</th>
<th>Endowed Chairs and Professorships</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

4 Regents Researchers and Scholars of Learning and Teaching

1 Brook Byers Professor of Sustainability
Your Commitment Makes a Critical Difference

Ivan Allen College stands as a vanguard for liberal arts within a world-leading technological research university. Many of our graduates affirm the College’s strengths in developing abilities that distinguish them in the marketplace — abilities to bridge technological and non-technological fields to forge holistic, human-centered solutions to complex problems.

We invite each of you to engage more deeply with the College, to understand current goals and priority needs. Whether through philanthropic gifts, or gifts of time and talent, your support is vital to our ability to sustain a leading edge and realize the promises of:

- Our remarkably talented undergraduate, graduate, and professional students
- Our faculty, whose research has a commanding presence in their field and defines the future horizon
- Our vision of academic excellence, innovation, and entrepreneurship; our desire to link research to action; and our commitment to local and global leadership
- Opportunities for student support and mentoring, faculty support, and program enrichment.

Contact: Carol Silvers
carol.silvers@iac.gatech.edu
404.894.9539
2020 Honorees

Ivan Allen Jr. Legacy Awards

Abigail Burke, EIA
Rana Olivia Shabb, IAST
Richard Barke, Professor of Public Policy

Distinguished Alumni Awards

School of Modern Languages
Sterling Gerdes

Sam Nunn School of
International Affairs
Nicole B. Kruse

School of History and Sociology
Francois Rollin

School of Literature, Media,
and Communication
Özge Samanci

School of Economics
Richard L. Tuley

School of Public Policy
Cynthia Warrick

Dean’s Appreciation Award

Philip P. Bolton
Global Atlanta
The *Dean’s Appreciation Award* signals the importance of teaching, research, and service in the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts and the value of an educational experience informed by the ideals of Mayor Ivan Allen Jr. The award honors individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to the College’s advancement, reputation, and mission.

Philip P. Bolton is the founder and publisher of Global Atlanta, which for more than 25 years has served as the source for international business news covered from a Georgia perspective. Bolton grew up in Cleveland, Ohio and Paris, France. After earning a B.A. from Williams College, he served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Kenya, East Africa during 1968-69. His career in journalism includes roles as a reporter for the Macon Telegraph, bureau chief in Milledgeville, as editor and associate publisher based in Atlanta for a banking publication for Communication Channels Inc., and as Paris correspondent for the publishing arm of the Lafferty Group, an international provider of financial information. In 1991, he founded Agio Press Inc. which evolved into Global Atlanta. He has served on many boards of bi-national chambers of commerce and affiliated organizations throughout the Southeast and has been widely honored for his contributions to Atlanta’s international profile with awards ranging from the Georgia Governor’s International Award in 2006 to honors by the Metro Atlanta Chamber and the Georgia Department of Economic Development in 2017. Bolton is now publisher emeritus, but remains involved with writing and archiving. He and his wife Vicki N. Bolton, also an associate of Global Atlanta, reside in Atlanta.
The Distinguished Alumni Awards celebrate graduates from each of the six academic schools in the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts. Selected by the school from which they earned their degree, these individuals have achieved notable success in their profession, and many have contributed significantly to the College, the Institute, or the public welfare.

Özge Samancı

PHD in Digital Media, 2009

Associate Professor, Northwestern University’s School of Communication

Özge Samancı, media artist and graphic novelist, is an associate professor in Northwestern University’s School of Communication. Her interactive installations have been exhibited internationally including at Siggraph Art Gallery, FILE festival, Currents New Media, The Tech Museum of Innovation, WRO Media Art Biennial, Athens International Festival of Digital Arts and New Media, Piksel Electronic Arts Festival, and ISEA, among others. Her autobiographical graphic novel Dare to Disappoint (Farrar Straus Giroux, 2015) received international press attention and was positively reviewed in The New York Times, The Guardian, and Slate along with many other media outlets. Dare to Disappoint has been translated into five languages. Her drawings appeared in The Wall Street Journal, Slate Magazine, The Huffington Post, Guernica, and The Rumpus. In 2017, she received the Berlin Prize and she was the Holtzbrinck Visual Arts Fellow at the American Academy in Berlin.

Cynthia Warrick

MS in Public Policy, 1994

President, Stillman College

Dr. Cynthia Warrick is the seventh president of Stillman College and the first female to lead the institution. She is a pharmacist and health services researcher with more than 20 years of higher education experience as faculty and administrator. Warrick began her academic career on the faculty of Howard University, followed by appointments at the University of Texas Houston Health Science Center, Texas Southern University, Florida A&M University, and Elizabeth City State University. A native of San Antonio, Texas, Warrick received the B.S. in Pharmacy from Howard University; M.S. in Public Policy from the Georgia Institute of Technology; and the Ph.D. in Environmental Science and Public Policy from George Mason University. Prior to her selection as president of Stillman College, she served as interim president of Grambling State University and South Carolina State University.
Sterling Gerdes is an innovation strategy leader in Delta Air Lines’ Global Innovation Center, The Hangar. He has spent most of his career in innovation and data science and helped build The Hangar’s AI team. Understanding language and culture is central to his leadership style enabling him to foster a culture of empathy and inclusion. His team has led various work across Delta from natural language processing and robotics, to rethinking the travel experience. With Delta’s focus on international JV partnerships, his team saw a need to empathize with customers who don’t speak the languages where they are traveling. By understanding the linguistic and cultural needs, the team created a new experience for Asian travelers enabling them to more effectively navigate their travel journey. Prior to Delta, Gerdes was an analytics manager at Home Depot and held various roles in strategy, logistics, and finance supporting the C-suite. Gerdes is a board member of Atlanta Global Studies Center. He holds B.S. degrees in IAML (French), and Business, and an M.B.A. from Georgia Tech.

As chief development officer for Health and Peace Programs at The Carter Center, Nicole Kruse directs the development activities for the Center’s programs, which include international efforts to eradicate disease and promote peace, democracy, and human rights. Before joining the Center, Kruse directed the corporate and foundation relations program at the CDC Foundation associated with the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). She also has prior professional experience in higher education and international trade. Kruse received an M.S. in International Affairs from the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs, a graduate certificate in International Management from the School of Management (now the Scheller College of Business), and a B.A. in Economics and French from Hollins College. In 2012, Kruse was named Chevalier (Knight) in the National Order of Merit by decree of the president of the French Republic. That same year she received the Emory University Award of Distinction. Kruse is presently a member of the Sam Nunn School Advisory Board.
Francois Rollin

*History, Technology, and Society, 2004*

Associate Professor of Medicine, Emory University

Francois Rollin graduated from Georgia Tech Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts in the spring of 2004 with bachelor’s degrees in both history, technology, and society and applied biology. He then attended Emory University School of Medicine and received a dual M.D./M.P.H. degree in 2009. He then trained in internal medicine at Emory University and was chosen to be a chief resident at Grady Memorial Hospital in 2012-2013. After training, he was hired as a faculty member in the Emory University Department of Internal Medicine at Grady Hospital. He and his partner, Jessica Rollin, also spent three years working on Native American land in Zuni, New Mexico as part of the Indian Health Service. While there, he received an award for Outstanding Service by a Medical Provider in 2016, and he learned to bake bread. Rollin has now returned to Grady Memorial Hospital and is an assistant professor of medicine at Emory University. He is passionate about medical education, improving equity in patient care, and is part of the Department of Medicine Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council. Rollin has three young and vibrant children and wants to learn more about birds.

Richard L. Tuley

*Economics, 1992*

CEO of Destiny Development Corporation and Richard Tuley Realty, Inc.

Rick Tuley is a lifelong real estate entrepreneur. He managed the construction on his first project at age 16 and earned his real estate license at 18. As a land developer, Tuley has created award-winning neighborhoods for Fortune 500 home building companies and local builders. He has experience in retail construction, re-development, brokerage, property management, and long-term investing. He is an early investor and board member of GROUNDFLOOR US, a leading technology-based real estate crowdfunding platform. He earned his B.S. in Economics with a certificate in Accounting from Georgia Tech and his MBA from Harvard Business School. He worked for Ernst & Young’s entrepreneurial services group, was a senior associate in leveraged finance and the financial sponsors coverage group at UBS, and a principal with Katalyst Venture Partners in New York. Between real estate and Wall Street, Tuley has been involved in well over $1 Billion in transactions. At Georgia Tech, Tuley was a varsity football player, acted in DramaTech, was president of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity, and a member of the Ramblin Reck Club. Today, he performs stand-up comedy, collects Elvis memorabilia, cheers on the Yellow Jackets, and travels around the globe.
The *Ivan Allen Jr. Legacy Awards* honor students and faculty whose lives and work embody the spirit of Ivan Allen Jr., a Georgia Tech alumnus (Commerce 1933) and former Mayor of Atlanta (1962 - 1970). As steward of Mayor Allen’s Legacy, the College champions research, education, and service that encompass his visionary urban policies and his values of social courage, social justice, and ethical action.

Established in 2004 through the support of Ivan Allen Workspace, the Awards have been generously underwritten since 2009 by Col. Stephen C. Hall, USAF (Ret.), (IM 1967) and Mrs. Pamela Hall.

### Undergraduate Student Legacy Award

**Abigail Burke**  
*Economics and International Affairs*

Abby Burke is a junior from Peachtree City, Georgia, majoring in Economics and International Affairs with a minor in Public Policy. She has studied abroad at the University of Oxford and will be spending her final academic semester in the fall on an exchange program in Seoul, South Korea. During her time at Georgia Tech Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, she has been involved with numerous campus organizations, most notably as a house representative and an associate justice within the Student Government Association. Abby worked for The Carter Center’s Democracy Program from January to August of 2019. Her research with the program’s Digital Threats project sparked her interest in the intersection of democracy, civil liberties, and the Internet. Currently, Abby works as an undergraduate research assistant for the Center for European and Transatlantic Studies (CETS) in the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs assisting with research on human rights abuses and reparations. Abby has been awarded the Federal Jackets Fellowship for the summer, and she hopes to intern at the U.S. Department of State in Washington, D.C.
Graduate Student Legacy Award

Rana Shabb is a Ph.D. candidate in the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs. She earned a B.A. in Quantitative Economics and International Relations from Tufts University and a Master of Science in Foreign Service from Georgetown University. Prior to Georgia Tech, Rana worked as a researcher in Washington D.C. at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, focusing on Arab politics. She also worked with The Carter Center in Atlanta on conflict resolution and democracy promotion in the Middle East (including Syria, the occupied Palestinian territory, Sudan, and Libya). Her research interests focus on international development and the connection between the private sector and business on one side and sustaining peace in fragile and conflict-affected states on the other. The main driver for her research is to translate academic findings into actionable policy-relevant recommendations to help strengthen peacebuilding interventions.

Rana Olivia Shabb
International Affairs, Science, and Technology

Faculty Legacy Award

Richard Barke received a B.S. in Physics from Georgia Tech in 1972 where he developed an interest in science policy. He earned a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Rochester, taught at the University of Houston, then returned to Tech in 1987. The next year he was tasked by then-president Patrick Crecine with chairing a committee to create what was to become the Ivan Allen College, then with chairing the creation of the School of Public Policy. This experience with intense campus politics (and a book on science policy) prepared him to serve for two years as a consultant on science budgeting and an expert advising in Congress, then for the Belgian government. He chaired the School of Public Policy, was elected twice as chair of the campus Executive Board, then was associate dean of Ivan Allen College from 1999 to 2006. Since then he has been the director of undergraduate studies in the School of Public Policy. His research and teaching focuses on regulatory policy, science and technology policy, and political processes. He currently is writing a book on policy-making for the long term.

Richard Barke
Professor of Public Policy
College Leadership

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

John L. Tone
Interim Dean

Janet H. Murray
Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Affairs

Carol A. Colatrella
Associate Dean for Graduate Studies

David J. Shook
Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies

Peter K. Brecke
Assistant Dean for Information Technology

Laura O. Taylor
School of Economics

Eric Schatzberg
School of History and Sociology

Anna Westerstahl Stenport
School of Modern Languages

Kaye Husbands Fealing
School of Public Policy

Richard Utz
School of Literature, Media, and Communication

Adam N. Stulberg
Sam Nunn School of International Affairs

College Advisory Board

Ivan Allen IV
Director of Enterprise Business Development
Staples Contract and Commercial

Stephen C. Hall
(IM 1967)
Colonel, USAF (Retired)

Douglas R. Hooker
(ME 1978, MS TSP 1985)
Executive Director
Atlanta Regional Commission

J. Vernon O’Neal Jr.
(ECON 1979)
Senior Vice President
USI Insurance Services

Haywood Solomon
(IM 1970)
Principal
HFS Management Consultants

James B. Langford
Executive Director
Shepherd Higher Education Consortium on Poverty

R. Hoke Smart
(HTS 2000)
Chief Financial Officer
Windsor Build Homes

John M. Stern
Owner
Methods Workshop, LLC

Joseph B. Owens Jr.
(ECON 1977)
Chief Financial Officer
Indego Africa

Hubert L. “Herky” Harris Jr.
(IM 1965)
Owner
Harris Plantation, Inc.

Richard R. House Jr. (Chair)
(ECON 1985)
Founder and Managing Director
Joe Mack Ventures

H. Bruce McEver
(IE 1966)
Chairman
Berkshire Global Advisors

Ann Hoevel
(STC 1998)
Director of Communication
College of Design, Georgia Tech

H. Inman Allen (Emeritus Member)
Retired Chairman and CEO
Ivan Allen Workspace

L. Christopher Young, JD
(HSOC 2000)
Senior Sector Consultant
Accenture’s State and Local Government Practice

Amy Phuong
(INTA 2005, MBA 2014)
Vice President, Government Relations
Atlanta Hawks & State Farm Arena
We hope you will join us for our 2021 Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts Distinguished Alumni Awards!

Let’s connect!

www.iac.gatech.edu

Dean’s Office Awards Planning Committee
Carol Silvers, Keatley Scroggins, and Rebecca Keane