

Georgia Tech  
Ivan Allen College of  
Liberal Arts

# BELONGING

A Model for Liberal Arts  
in the 21st Century

Dean's Report  
Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts  
Academic Year 2020-2021

# Welcome Message from the Dean

It is my honor to present to you the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts Dean's Report for 2020–21.

As we look back over the past academic year, we are reminded of the ongoing pandemic and the many challenges presented by it. However, we are also able to reflect on the great strides we have taken to advance research and teaching in the College. We also take great pride in sharing the many accomplishments of and accolades awarded to our faculty, staff, students, and alumni.

Throughout this report, there are numerous examples of the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts connecting our research and scholarship to the College, the Institute, and beyond. You will also see how we have evolved as a cornerstone for Belonging as we define the true purpose and potential of the humanities and social sciences at an institution like Georgia Tech.

Belonging is defined as an affinity for a place or situation. A sense of belonging is transformative and serves as a catalyst that propels us forward. For us within the Ivan Allen College, the opportunity to “belong” at a major technological institute remains one of our eternal distinctions and gives us an advantage not afforded to colleagues at traditional universities. We offer a unique lens on humanities, social sciences, and technological change. Whether this is an opportunity for a unique sense of interdisciplinarity or the chance to help assess, shape, and critically accompany cutting-edge technological progress, it is what makes us stand out and amplifies the role the liberal arts may play in the academy and society, in general.

Belonging is also central when it comes

to access to our institution for current and prospective students. Belonging extends to how inclusive our faculty and staff feel about having a voice and recommending positive change at our institution.

We are defining our own path and exemplifying what it means to be a model for liberal arts in the 21st century. We provide innovative, human-centered perspectives at the intersection of the humanities, social sciences, arts, and STEM. This resonates in all that we do throughout the College.

Georgia Tech's mission is to develop leaders who advance technology and improve the human condition. This is where the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts belongs and where we will continue to thrive.

Best regards,



Kaye Husbands Fealing  
Dean and Ivan Allen Jr. Chair  
Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts

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## Dean Husbands Fealing Joins ‘Conversations with Cabrera’

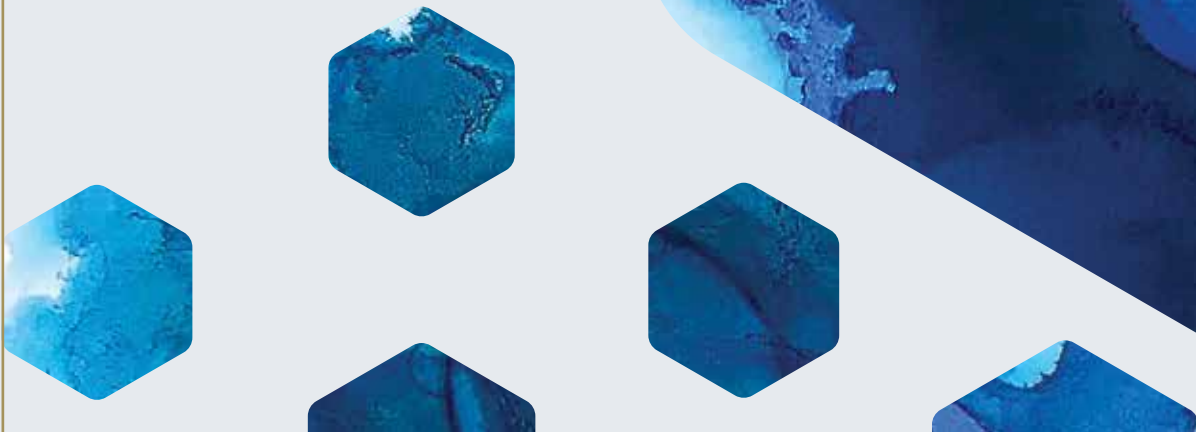
As the new dean of the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, Kaye Husbands Fealing had the opportunity to sit down with Georgia Tech President Ángel Cabrera for the March 2021 episode of “Conversations with Cabrera.”

The two discussed the need for liberal arts at a technological institute and the critical importance of the humanities and social sciences to Georgia Tech’s mission of advancing technology and improving the human condition.

“We need critical thinkers and scholars and researchers who are looking at our society through different lenses, through the lens of history, of sociology, of economics, of the arts,” Cabrera said. “So, in a way, I think when you look at that mission statement, immediately, you realize that a great institute of technology like Georgia Tech absolutely needs a great liberal arts college.”

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# AT-A-GLANCE

6  
Schools

10  
Bachelor's  
Degrees

14  
Master's  
Degrees

6  
Doctoral  
Degrees

## RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS

### Navy

6

Marine Corps  
Second Lieutenants  
commissioned

10

Navy Ensigns  
commissioned

### Army

32

Cadets  
commissioned

### Air Force

14

Second Lieutenants  
commissioned

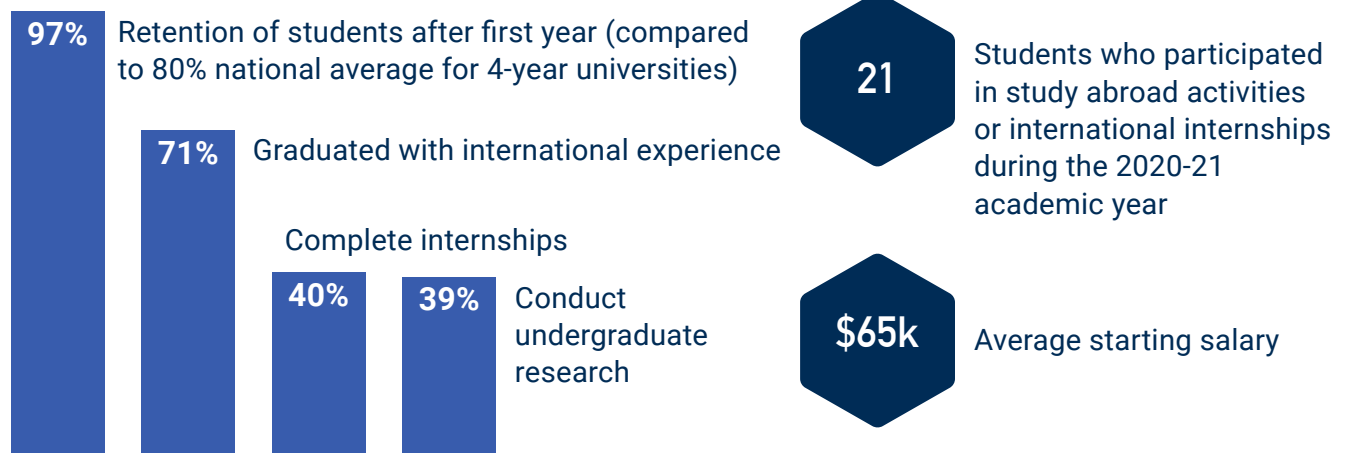
#4

Overall Detachment in  
total average scores  
(out of 145 AFROTC  
Detachments across  
the nation)

## STUDENTS



## UNDERGRADUATES



## RESEARCH





# BELONGING

The core mission of the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts is to enrich students with an educational experience that encourages inquiry and a focus on social science and human-centered approaches to discovering and solving today's problems. Students benefit from a mix of theoretical and applied coursework along with co-curricular activities that prepare them to be socially responsible individuals empowered to improve the human condition.

Our students graduate with the necessary cultural, historic, philosophical, and ethical

perspectives they can carry into their future careers.

But it's so much more.

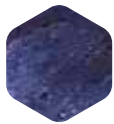
Our students engage in cross-discipline coursework and research that emphasizes inquiry in a science and technology framework. This focus prepares graduates to address the challenges of an increasingly tech-driven society.

Where else should one study the humanities and social sciences but at an institution that operates at the leading edge of innovation and social impact?



## Our Scholars and Learners

Research in the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts goes beyond traditional inquiry to examine the social, cultural, and ethical contexts of science and technology. As a result, rich discoveries are made that better reflect the human impact of technological progress in our society.



With over a dozen research centers covering a variety of subject areas, including communication, ethics, energy and environmental sustainability, health economics, cybersecurity, media, public policy, and social justice, research in the Ivan Allen College is multidisciplinary and serves as a driving force to fuel new ideas and uncover the answers that will positively impact our communities here in Atlanta and around the world.



### School of Economics Study Examines Impact of Trade Liberalization on Wage Gap, Work Patterns

Economists have long known that trade liberalization policies can reduce the wage gap between women and men in the workforce. A new study from the School of Economics unpacks that effect in detail by examining the impacts of the U.S. decision to grant China Permanent Normal Trade Relations (PNTR) status in 2000.

The study – co-authored by Professor Tibor Besedes, Assistant Professor Seung Hoon Lee, and Ph.D. student Tongyang Yang – was published in the *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization* in March 2021. It showed that women’s wages increased overall compared to men in cities in the United States most impacted by liberalized trade resulting from the policy change.

However, the findings suggest this is not because trade liberalization improved the prospects or pay for women in the workforce. Instead, the researchers say their data suggests the effect was the result of educated women rushing back

into the job market to replace family income lost along with jobs in the male-dominated U.S. manufacturing sector. Those job losses followed the decision to lower trade barriers for Chinese exporters seeking access to the U.S. market.



<https://b.gatech.edu/3LV2b43>



Seung Hoon Lee

## ▶ Melkers Tackles Pandemic-Induced Social Innovations in New Research

Covid-19 disrupted everything, including the ways in which scientific research teams worked together. As labs closed, and researchers hunkered down at home, teams had to find new ways to adapt. Julia Melkers, professor in the School of Public Policy, has often focused on collaboration in academic settings and saw an opportunity in the upheaval to better understand the social dynamics of research teams.

In spring 2021, Melkers and a colleague from Arizona State University started a two-year

project to investigate the social innovations research teams used and how effective they were. The project is funded by the National Science Foundation Early-Concept Grants for Exploratory Research (EAGER) program. “It’s really about resilience – what are the ways that people change their behavior to be resilient to the barriers presented by Covid-19?” Melkers said. “Ultimately, science happens at the human level.”

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3pbJH5M>

## ▶ In the Conversation About Redlining, Details Matter

Redlining changed the shape of Atlanta and every major U.S. city, and its damaging effects have lasted for generations. But it didn’t have to be this way.

“We do need to place blame,” said Todd Michney, historian and assistant professor in the School of History and Sociology. “We need to understand that even in the 1930s, there were voices saying that this is racist, that these are not good policies.”

So, who made these policies? And more importantly, what can we do now to right their wrongs? Michney explored previously unexamined

correspondence about the redlining maps and discovered new evidence that resets our current understanding of the practice.

He found that explaining the history of redlining is the best way to support and strengthen government policies that help reverse its impacts.

“If more people are aware that the federal government signed off on these kinds of policies,” said Michney, “it makes them more willing to consider using the power of the federal government to correct the situation.”

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3lhvaNf>



In the conversation about redlining, details matter.



## Georgia Tech Study Finds More SNAP Retailers in Rural Areas Lowers Rates of Child Maltreatment

Can the neighborhood market play a role in reducing child maltreatment? According to a study co-authored by Assistant Professor Lindsey Bullinger of the School of Public Policy and Assistant Professor Kelley Fong of the School of History and Sociology, the answer is yes, at least in some rural neighborhoods. The report, published in the journal *Economics & Human Biology*, demonstrated a link between the presence of more retailers accepting Supplemental Nutrition Action Program (SNAP) benefits in some rural Census tracts and a reduction in substantiated cases of child maltreatment.

“This research further demonstrates how large-scale public policy initiatives may be more successful than targeted, family-level interventions in helping prevent child

maltreatment,” Bullinger said. Fong noted the findings “show how expanding public benefits access also has positive spillover effects on the child welfare system.”

The researchers think having a convenient place to purchase food using SNAP may help relieve financial pressure on families and reduce parental stress — both contributors to child maltreatment. The study is the latest of several in this field by Bullinger. Fong also participated in some of that research, which showed that policy steps, such as increasing the minimum wage, promoting family leave, broadening Medicaid access, and preventing evictions, could reduce child maltreatment and improve well-being.

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3saWmrh>

## Ivan Allen College Researcher Shows Many in U.S. Faced Economic Hardship Due to Covid-19

Shatakshee Dhongde continued her pioneering work in examining poverty through the lens of multidimensional deprivation, applying the technique to economic hardship in the earliest days of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Dhongde, an associate professor in the School of Economics and associate dean for academic affairs in the Ivan Allen College, found that in the earliest days of the pandemic, at least 25% of respondents to the Federal Reserve Board’s Survey of Household Economics and Decision-Making were already experiencing hardships in two of the four categories captured by the survey: overall financial condition, loss of employment, reduction in income, and inability to pay bills in full. Dhongde’s analysis of those survey

results showed that the pandemic hit Hispanic respondents particularly hard.

“The paper highlights the plight of Americans during the early months of the economic crisis set in motion amid the coronavirus pandemic,” Dhongde said. “It sheds light on how economic disparities deepened along racial and ethnic lines.”

Dhongde has published several papers using multidimensional poverty measures to develop a more sophisticated view of poverty than the frequently used poverty level

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3BNyv4q>

## Auslander Decodes Musical Performance

Philip Auslander, a professor of performance studies and popular musicology in the School of Literature, Media, and Communication (LMC), released a new book, *In Concert: Performing Musical Persona*, which culminates nearly two decades of scholarship and research bridging the theater-born field of performance studies with musicology.

According to Auslander, whose work exemplifies the interdisciplinary approach cultivated in LMC and the Ivan Allen College, examining the roles musicians play in performance is key. He draws from performance theory to identify three such roles for musical performers: the real person, the persona they put on to perform, and characters they may portray as part of a given song. For Auslander, the middle role is the most important in terms of understanding the complicated push-and-pull among the music, musicians, and audience that makes up a musical performance.



<https://b.gatech.edu/36EnRl3>



Phil Auslander

## Version 2.0 of Literature, Media, and Communication's Book-Length 'Calling Card' Debuts

Since the School of Literature, Media, and Communication (LMC) debuted the book *Humanistic Perspectives in a Technological World* in 2014, society has changed quite a lot, due in part to the successive upheavals and setbacks of social justice and gender equality movements.

So, it's only fitting that the second edition, which was published in May 2021, looks different as well. That new look features cover art created by LMC alumna Nettrice Gaskins, known for her work to expand opportunities for underserved communities in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM), as well as art. The essays inside also reflect the growing and intentional focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion among the School's faculty and in its curriculum.

Contributions from LMC professors Joycelyn Wilson, André Brock, and Susana Morris highlight Black arts and culture – including hip hop, Afrofuturism, and Twitter – as an extension of their work to develop a Black Media Studies academic cluster.

The latest edition also highlights media arts, an essential focus in LMC's Futures Plan. And poetry receives greater attention in the book through extensive commentary of the literary movement from Georgia Tech poets Katie Farris and Ilya Kaminsky.



<https://b.gatech.edu/3h6c5BT>

## Preserving Hip Hop's Past and Building a Better Future

Joycelyn Wilson, assistant professor in the School of Literature, Media, and Communication, launched the HipHop2020 Innovation Archive, a collection of thousands of albums, autographs, and other memorabilia from hip hop's early days in Atlanta donated by Atlanta hip hop DJ Michael Webster.

The collection lives in a small space in Skiles Classroom Building. Wilson hopes to build out the physical space, add more educational content to the project's website, and put the finishing touches on a virtual model of Webster's childhood basement studio. Wilson and a team of student assistants removed the items from Webster's childhood basement, but not before using 3D-scanning technology to create an interactive virtual re-creation of the space. The archive is a tool that allows students to engage in hip hop as

music and culture and as a design concept. While the virtual experience is not yet functional, videos of the experience are available on the project website.

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3lgrLOT>



HipHop2020 Innovation Archive

## A Hub for Law, Science, and Technology Lives in the School of Public Policy

Emma Menardi knew she wanted to go to law school long before the first day she set foot on Georgia Tech's campus. For students like her, the Law, Science, and Technology (LST) program in the School of Public Policy is a crucial link to the world of law at an institution better known for producing engineers than future lawyers.

"The Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts is really focused on interdisciplinarity, and I'm interested in the ways social sciences and historical perspectives influence the law," said Menardi, a second-year double major in public policy and history, technology, and science. "My big interest is civil rights law, so being in Atlanta made perfect sense."

She and others recognize that Georgia Tech is uniquely positioned to mold the type of future lawyer who can combine technical know-how, problem-solving skills, and an analytical mindset to succeed in the legal field where others might not. It's that unique combination of traits that makes Yellow Jackets suited to tackling issues at the intersection of law, science, technology, and policy.

LST Director Chad Slieper, PP 02, hopes to continue expanding the LST program's current course offerings to include options for students who are interested in an area of law but don't necessarily plan attend law school.

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3t4nKq7>

## ▶ Green-building Pilots and Demonstrations Double Adoption Rates, Ivan Allen College Research Shows

In the first systematic, empirical assessment of the impact of green-building pilot or demonstration projects, School of Public Policy Associate Professor Dan Matisoff led a research team that discovered that local quarterly green-building adoption rates approximately double following the completion of a pilot or demonstration project.

The researchers also found that knowledge gained in pilot and demonstration projects reduces implementation costs for non-participating organizations by around 9%. Georgia Tech's Kendeda Building is a perfect example of such an effort. Dedicated in 2019, it is the first academic and research building in the Southeast

designed to be certified as a living building by the International Living Future Institute.

"As we're thinking about how we decarbonize our world, we need to facilitate massive market transformation and penetration of technologies that exist but aren't in widespread use in the market," he said. "This research demonstrates that, while we often think about tools like subsidies and regulations, these pilot and demonstration projects are also really effective tools to increase adoption of really effective technologies that can help us hold down the adverse effects of global climate change."

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3saLUJM>

## ▶ Turning to Podcasting as a Teaching Tool During the Pandemic

Philip Auslander, professor in the School of Literature, Media, and Communication (LMC), not only had to find a way to teach his classes as Georgia Tech moved to remote learning during the early days of Covid-19, but he was also challenged to teach performance classes. His answer? Podcasting.

"I used podcasts to replace lectures in both the classes I was teaching, Introduction to Performance Studies and Film Acting," Auslander said. "In the performance class, I used audio podcasts to discuss readings. I posted each podcast on a Monday, then had a synchronous session on Thursday of the same week to discuss the readings and other materials. We did the same thing in the acting course, except that the podcasts were on video, and they were conversations between Melissa Foulger and myself about the course materials on the history and theories of acting."

Foulger, LMC Senior Academic Professional, co-teaches the acting class with Auslander. He found that the podcast format, especially for the Performance Studies class, took a lot of extra work compared to regular in person classes. "As a professional actor and teacher of performance, my podcasts had to sound as good as I could make them under the circumstances," said Auslander, "so I had to script them, record multiple takes, then edit and enhance the sound quality."

The extra work seemed to pay off. Podcasts offered students flexibility and a familiar format. Several months into the pandemic, Auslander continued remote learning but returned to live video for his fall semester classes.

 <https://b.gatech.edu/36tdHDv>

## Students in the Global Social Entrepreneurship VIP Publish New Children's Book

In the fall of 2020, students in the Global Social Entrepreneurship Vertical Integrated Project (VIP) created a new children's book, "Scout's Superhero Search: The Birdieman of Rio de Janeiro."

The story is about Scout, an autistic child who has a superpower of finding real-life superheroes with the help of his grandfather, who visits him in his dreams.

The book is the first in a series that will highlight local non-profits in the global south as part of Rise Up & Care, co-founded by Kirk Bowman and Jon Wilcox eight years ago.

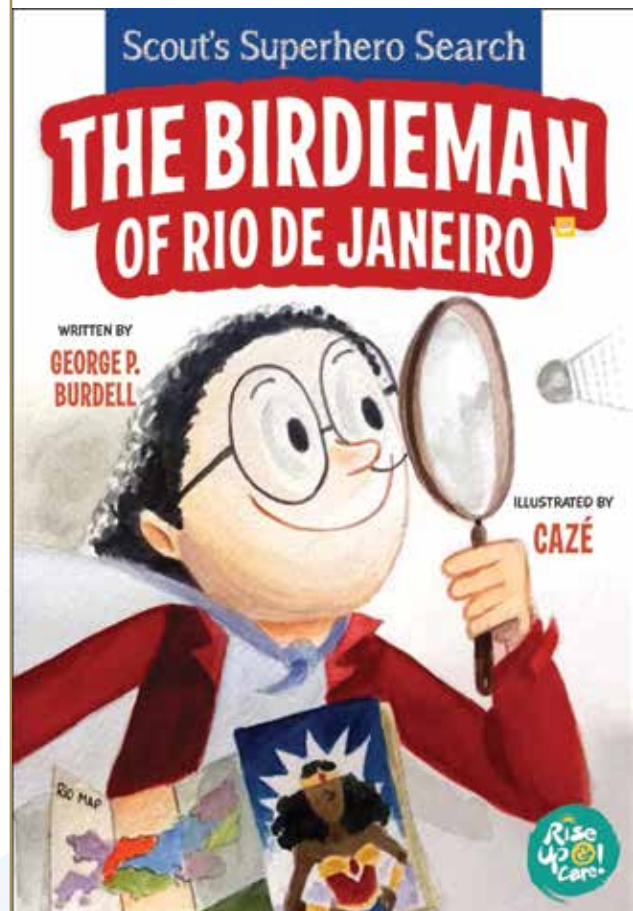
Bowman and Wilcox wanted to increase children's literacy and celebrate local superheroes, so they launched this book series. They came up with the idea, but the VIP students are leading the initiative.

The 17 students represented different majors and used their skills to serve in branding, corporate relations, development, and Scout's book team. The development and corporate relations team helped create the strategy to monetize the book by launching and crowdfunding the campaign. At the same time, the branding team selected the website platform and created a new newsletter.

"The book's biggest mission is to change implicit bias about people who live in the favelas of Rio de Janeiro, especially Afro-Brazilians who

are portrayed as being criminals and lazy," said Bowman, Jon R. Wilcox Term Professor of Global Development and Identity and VIP director.

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3pbKm7g>



"Scout's Superhero Search" Book Cover

# Our Innovators

Innovation cannot happen without creative minds who approach solutions with a focus on the human condition. Our students and faculty have demonstrated transformative action in their scholarship, research, and academic studies. From our public policy professors leading research on the impact of artificial intelligence to students working on projects to improve environmental conditions in coastal communities and advance sustainability to a media scholar merging digital media with hip hop to preserve the artform, at Ivan Allen College, we're more than problem solvers – we seek out the kind of problems that foster transformative ideas.

## Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts and the College of Computing Launch New Ethics Center

The College of Computing and the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts joined forces to launch the Ethics, Technology, and Human Interaction Center (ETHICx) – pronounced “ethics” – in Fall 2020. The goal of ETHICx is to advance ethics-in-technology-centered research, education, and engagement at the Georgia Institute of Technology in collaboration with communities, government, non-governmental organizations, and industry.

The Center will conduct research in ethics and emerging technologies to frame ethical questions and provide solutions with an emphasis on social justice and equity. Interdisciplinary and community-based research also will be emphasized.

“ETHICx will be a place for robust, multidisciplinary research and a place to engage in systematic ethical analyses,” said Kaye Husbands Fealing, dean of the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts. “It also will be a place

for communities, corporations, governments, technologists, educators, and others to discuss and find solutions to complex ethical issues in science and technology.”

The Office of the Executive Vice President for Research provided significant funds over a three-year period to seed the Center. ETHICx draws from both Colleges’ extensive experience in technology and ethics.



<https://b.gatech.edu/3LV3m3t>



ETHICx Center graphic

## ▶ Ivan Allen College Faculty Join NSF-Funded AI Institutes

Four Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts professors joined colleagues from across Georgia Tech and the Georgia Research Alliance (GRA) as faculty members in new artificial-intelligence-focused institutes funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and dedicated to addressing societal changes.

The institutes are part of two \$20-million NSF grants to Georgia Tech and a third award for \$20 million to the Georgia Research Alliance, which includes Georgia Tech, all announced July 29. Three School of Public Policy ethics researchers – Associate Professor Justin Biddle, Director of Graduate Research Ethics Programs Jason Borenstein, and Professor Michael Hoffmann – were each appointed to the faculty of one of the new institutes: The NSF

AI Institute for Collaborative Assistance and Responsive Interaction for Networked Groups (AI-CARING); the NSF AI Institute for Advances in Optimization (AI4Opt); and the NSF AI Institute for Adult Learning and Online Education (ALOE), respectively. Brian Magerko, professor in the School of Literature, Media, and Communication, joined ALOE.

“AI systems impact society not just based on how they are applied, but also how they are designed and framed,” Biddle said. “Because of this, it is crucial that ethical considerations be brought to bear throughout the research and design process and that ethicists and social scientists be involved at every step.”

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3HcL9uS>

## ▶ National Academy Publishes Study Showing How Georgia Could Halve its Carbon Footprint

Regents Professor Marilyn Brown led an interdisciplinary team from across campus and other Georgia universities to determine the potential impact of the Drawdown Georgia carbon reduction framework rolled out in spring 2021. The result: By fully implementing the proposals, the state, its businesses, and its residents could cut Georgia’s carbon footprint in half over the next nine years. The work demonstrates the kind of energy policy leadership for which Ivan Allen College is known across campus and the state.

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3H8h3s9>



Marilyn Brown

## Georgia Tech Hip Hop Scholar Featured in Google's Arts and Culture Atlanta Page

Georgia Tech's Joycelyn Wilson is featured in Google's new curated Atlanta arts and culture page, which debuted on June 8. Wilson, an assistant professor of hip hop studies and digital media in the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts' School of Literature, Media, and Communication, wrote the essay on Atlanta's role in the rise of hip hop. The essay anchors the hip-hop section of the new website. Her HipHop2020 Innovation archive is also featured.

"This is an exciting opportunity to showcase the rich history of hip hop in the city of Atlanta and how culture works as an art and a technology," said Wilson. "It's also a wonderful way to highlight how my colleagues and I in Georgia Tech's School of Literature, Media, and Communications are using culture as a lens to teach humanities-infused science, technology, engineering, art, and math."

Wilson's scholarship focuses on social justice-oriented humanities instruction in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics), hip hop, African-American music and performance, and African-American education in the South. Her scholarship also focuses on the culture, race, and technology of her native Atlanta and pop culture topics.

She is known for her use of hip hop and pop culture in her computational media and humanities classes at Georgia Tech, a technique she was among the first to use while teaching in Los Angeles public schools.

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3saXjQn>

## Georgia Tech Students Win 'JUMP Into STEM' for Third Consecutive Year

A team of undergraduate students in School of Public Policy Assistant Professor Omar Asensio's Data Science for Policy course won the U.S. Department of Energy's 2020-21 JUMP Into STEM competition. Sarah Canastra, an industrial engineering major; Hunter Hancock, a computer science major; and Lucas Kiefer, also a computer science major, topped the national competition in the Grid Interactive Efficient Buildings Challenge.

Their project was titled "Load Shifting with Smart Water Heaters: Conservation Without the Cold Showers." For winning the competition, each member of the team received a paid summer internship at either Oak Ridge National Laboratory or the National Renewable Energy Laboratory.

 <https://b.gatech.edu/36tersh>

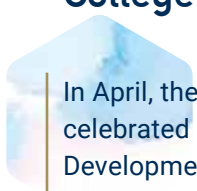


JUMP into STEM 2020-21 Team





## ▶ Exploring Sustainable Development Work at Georgia Tech's Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts



In April, the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts celebrated its work related to the UN Sustainable Development Goals with a series of articles exploring the myriad ways in which researchers across the College contribute to this international initiative to create a more just and sustainable world. The articles highlighted work in each of the College's six Schools.

These include the Sustainable Megaregion Research Project in the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs; work by Allen Hyde of the School of History and Sociology and Yann Loukissas of the School of Literature, Media, and Communication to study the social and physical vulnerabilities of disadvantaged coastal Georgia communities; the Race Beyond Borders initiative in the School of Modern Languages; and work in the School of Public Policy and the

School of Economics to understand the costs and opportunities inherent in transitioning to a green energy economy.

"What is important about our approach to these issues is we don't just talk about them," said Dean Kaye Husbands Fealing. "Whether you are talking about green energy policy or gender and racial equality, economic innovation, or health and well-being, faculty and students in the Ivan Allen College are engaged in rigorous, often interdisciplinary research that can make a difference and help advance the human condition."

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3hbEtSV>

## ▶ Two Ivan Allen College Students Invited to Join Prestigious Scholar Program

Ioanna Maria Spyrou, a second-year Ph.D. student in the School of Economics, and Marjorie Hall, a first-year Ph.D. student in the School of History and Sociology, were accepted this past summer into the highly competitive inaugural class of the Brooks Byers Institute for Sustainable Systems (BBISS) GRA Scholar Program.

Starting in Fall 2021, the fully funded two-year program brings together seven Ph.D. students to "work, study, and train as an interdisciplinary team" that will become the next generation of leaders in sustainability. Though they come from different schools at Georgia Tech, each student's research is related to sustainability, and over the next two years, they will collaborate with each

other and the faculty member who nominated them.

Both students credit lifestyle changes in allowing them to further pursue their academic research interests. For Spyrou, it's snatching moments of quiet to work at night when her seven-month-old daughter is asleep. And for Hall, taking a sabbatical from her job of 15 years will help her succeed as a full-time student again.

"I kind of rearranged my life plan for the next few years, a little bit," said Hall, "because it seems worth it."

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3sfbHr8>

## ▶ CDAIT Launches Inaugural IoT Challenge

The inaugural Internet of Things (IoT) Challenge was launched in Spring 2021, and was sponsored by the Center for the Development and Application of Internet of Things Technologies (CDAIT). Housed in the Center for Advanced Communications Policy (CACP), a unit of the School of Public Policy, CDAIT provided up to \$3,000 in development funding for as many as eight teams. Four winning teams received a scholarship award to be divided among the teams' student participants.

Nathan Zavanelli, a Ph.D. student in bioengineering; Sung Hoon Lee, a Ph.D. student in electrical engineering, and Kimberly Lie, a bachelor's student in computer engineering, won the top prize for their proposal for a wearable patch to monitor cognitive stress. Other winners included a sensor-based system to track real-time occupancy data, a data-driven access control system for maker spaces, and a refrigerator-mounted IoT system to track the shelf life of foods.

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3p4056v>

## ▶ First Georgia Tech Students, ROTC Officers, Join U.S. Space Force

In November 2021, the Georgia Institute of Technology announced that members of its Air Force ROTC unit would be some of the first to join the U.S. Space Force. Two officers in Georgia Tech's Air Force ROTC detachment have transferred to the newest military branch, along with a Ph.D. student in the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs.

Capt. Chloe Babcock, an instructor in Georgia Tech's Air Force ROTC Detachment 165 and a master's student in the H. Milton Stewart School of Industrial and Systems Engineering, was the first Georgia Tech graduate student to transfer to the Space Force, in September.

Major Brian Stewart, a Ph.D. student in the Nunn School, followed a month later.

Additionally, three ROTC cadets from Georgia Tech were commissioned into the Air Force with plans to transfer to the Space Force. Melody Marshall Wolfson, AE 2020, and John Willingham, AE 2021, commissioned into the Air Force after graduation and joined the Space Force in May.

Joshua Hammonds, ME 2020, is commissioned into the Air Force and is scheduled to join the Space Force in November.

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3JKDXHS>



Space Force

## ▶ 30 Years of the Ivan Allen College

Three decades ago, the head of a faculty committee tasked with considering the restructuring of Georgia Tech offered a prescient thought.

Creating a liberal arts college at Georgia Tech would help refocus the nature of technology programs as “human activities and not just theoretical activities,” said George Nemhauser. Then as now, Nemhauser was a professor in what is now known as the H. Milton School of Industrial and Systems Engineering.

A year later, the Ivan Allen College of Management, Policy, and International Affairs was formed.

In the 30 years since the founding of the College – now known as the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts – much has changed. The College offers a wealth of opportunities for undergraduate and graduate student research. Students can choose from 17 undergraduate degrees, including seven five-year Bachelors/Masters programs, 12 Master’s programs, two online master’s programs, six doctoral programs, 30 minors, and 26 undergraduate and graduate certificate programs.

With a mission to be a vanguard for 21st-century liberal arts education, Ivan Allen College has maintained a focus of excellence on the human condition – its activities, its needs, and the myriad of technology that humans have designed, developed, and embraced.


 <https://b.gatech.edu/3t1mSCL>





# Our Global Citizens

Students who take courses or graduate from the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts are not just prepared to enter the workforce; they are equipped with a global perspective that will inform the decisions they make in their careers. It's all part of the College's mission to educate students for a more connected, diverse world.



From a faculty member writing a book about the devastating effects of fossil fuels on the air in Mexico to several recent graduates launching their careers in international diplomacy, Ivan Allen College creates the environment to promote meaningful cultural exchange.

## ▶ What Have Our Graduate Students Been Up To? A 2020-2021 Timeline

From presentations in Peru to publications in Germany to virtual events broadcast all over the world, graduate students in the program for History and Sociology of Technology and Science (HSTS) in the School of History and Sociology have been busier than ever this year. However, the timeline of their achievements is more than just a showcase of their work. It's also a glimpse into the many varied topics students explore in the School.

In pursuit of their master's and doctorate degrees, HSTS graduate students are also advancing the conversation on subjects as diverse as messenger pigeons, eco-feminism, Covid-19 vaccines, and the history of personal computers. But their research is still united by a common theme – the School's mission to “explore the past, engage the present, and define the future.”



<https://b.gatech.edu/3hgdRQF>

## ▶ Nunn School Students Work on Solutions to Combat Disinformation Online

Students in the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs and H. Milton Stewart School of Industrial and Systems Engineering participated in an internship with NATO during the summer of 2021. They worked alongside the Center for European Policy Analysis and Georgia Tech Research Institute to combat disinformation online. Jack Crawford, Nico Luzum, Meredith Furbish, and Omar Webb represented the Nunn School and

proposed TweetWatch, a product designed to slow the spread of misinformation on social media. The students published a full article in the NATO Review on their work, which will be used to help mitigate the effects of misinformation on NATO operations.



<https://b.gatech.edu/3I8EbrX>

## ► Turkey's 'Confucius Institutes' Subject of Winning Diplomacy Lab Bid

Sebnem Ozkan and a team of Georgia Tech students were awarded the chance to study the influence and activities of Confucius Institutes in Turkey as part of a Diplomacy Lab bid accepted by the U.S. State Department. Ozkan, an academic professional in the School of Modern Languages and associate director of the Atlanta Global Studies Center, and her team will investigate the activities and representations of the Institutes in Turkish media. They will also focus on evolving perceptions toward China and the Institutes on Turkish college campuses.

"Our team will study the impact of Turkish media in framing the expanding Sino-Turkish relations on the perception of these Institutes," Ozkan said. "More specifically, we will look at the coverage of

Chinese investment in critical sectors in Turkey and the 'vaccine diplomacy' of Sinovac, on the one hand, and China's policies in Xinjiang against the Turkic Muslim Uyghur community, on the other."

Confucius Institutes are educational partnerships between Chinese universities and counterparts in other countries to promote Chinese culture and language that are sometimes seen as controversial instruments of the Chinese government. But Ozkan says understanding the perceptions of youth — a significant voter group in future elections — also holds the key to understanding the trajectory of Turkey and its place in the international order.

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3scQY7f>

## ► Project GO Grant Awarded to Fund Language Programming and ROTC Training

The U.S. Department of Defense/Defense Language and National Security Education Office (DLNSEO) awarded Georgia Tech a Project GO grant with a maximum award amount of \$486,925 to provide training to cadets across the nation and fund proposed language programming in Korean, Japanese, and Russian.

Project GO is a collaborative initiative that promotes critical language education, study abroad, and intercultural dialogue opportunities for ROTC cadets focusing on the languages and countries of the Middle East, Asia, Central Asia, Africa, and South America. It also strengthens the School of Modern Languages' signature faculty-led study abroad program in Languages for Business and Technology.

Georgia Tech's recruiting efforts have resulted in 236 ROTC students receiving Project GO scholarships to participate in overseas immersion programs, averaging 24 scholarships per year. Among these, 63% were awarded to non-GT students, and 56% were from outside Georgia.

Project coordinators are dedicated to expanding the Project GO program by enhancing recruiting infrastructures to focus on ROTC units in the Southeast. The grant will allow them to expand the program to include additional languages deemed critical for national security, such as Arabic, and to make Project GO available to more ROTC cadets in the future.

 <https://b.gatech.edu/35n50iA>



## School of Public Policy Faculty Help Iraqi Engineering Professors Build an Ethics Curriculum

Connecting globally, amplifying Georgia Tech's impact, and educating leaders who advance technology and improve the human condition are all critical components of what we do in the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts. Recent work by Justin Biddle and Jason Borenstein is one example. Biddle, an associate professor, and Borenstein, director of graduate research ethics programs for Georgia Tech, taught engineering professors in Iraq how to create an ethics curriculum for their universities.

A U.S. State Department grant issued through the Higher Education Partnerships Program funded the project. IREX, a Washington, D.C, NGO, implemented the work. It was conducted in partnership with the new Ethics, Technology,

and Human Interaction Center (ETHICx), a collaboration between the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts and the College of Computing.

"This project has created a valuable and important opportunity for us to share our experiences with Iraqi faculty about teaching ethics and also to learn from them," Borenstein said. Added Biddle: "It's a privilege to work at a place like Georgia Tech, where I can not only teach our students the ethical principles they need to become effective leaders, but also serve as a global resource for colleagues who are, like us, seeking to advance technology responsibly and improve the human condition."

 <https://b.gatech.edu/33Jx9uR>

## New Georgia Tech Master's Grads Emerge Ready for Multilingual Careers

Georgia Tech's Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts gained national attention as a leader in liberal arts education after launching graduate degrees in foreign language that are the first of their kind in the U.S. Among the students who graduated in Georgia Tech's fall 2020 commencement, were a unique group of emerging global professionals.

The M.S. in Global Media and Cultures (MS-GMC), offered jointly by the School of Literature, Media, and Communication and School of Modern Languages, and the M.S. in Applied Language and Intercultural Studies (MS-ALIS) were launched in fall 2019. The former offers the graduate degree with concentrations in French, German, and Spanish, and the latter with concentrations in Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Korean, Russian, and Spanish. The groundbreaking interdisciplinary programs gained attention from the Modern Language Association, American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages, Atlanta's business community, and the New York Times.

Both degrees seek to apply language and cultural studies to careers in the private sector, breaking with the tradition of training language students for translation, teaching, and diplomacy. The inaugural graduates of MS-GMC and MS-ALIS represent remarkably diverse professional interests, ranging from computer scientists to business students to marketing professionals to journalists to students pursuing healthcare careers. What they share is an interest in connecting across boundaries, finding common ground, and taking a collaborative approach to solving global problems.

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3p8EFqu>



## ▶ Revitalizing the U.S.-China Science Relationship

Academic and research relationships between China and the United States are vital for scientific advancement worldwide, experts said in a January panel hosted by the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs. Organized by Michael Best, professor in the Nunn School, and Jenna Jordan, associate professor in the Nunn School, the public discussion was the opening session of a daylong workshop designed to explore science and diplomacy between the two countries.

The panelists — Deborah Seligsohn, an assistant professor of political science at Villanova University, and Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts Dean Kaye Husbands Fealing — said continued deep collaboration with Chinese scientists and students remains important. Jordan and Best have drafted a set of recommendations based on the discussion and hope it assists in developing Georgia Tech's foreign policy with China.

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3JOFUdb>

## ▶ Master's in Global Media & Cultures Helps Student Design Dream Career in Diplomacy

Leighton Rowell, M.S. GMC-French 2020, was among the first graduates of the M.S. Global Media and Cultures (MS-GMC) program. The MS-GMC is an intensive 12-month program that combines advanced foreign-language study with training in essential skills and is the first of its kind in the U.S.

Before Rowell entered the program, she worked a few blocks away from Georgia Tech as a producer at Georgia Public Broadcasting. She found herself drawn to the opportunity GMC would give her to combine her passion for French and her curiosity about global media.

While Rowell entered the program intending to return to journalism after a year, her experience at Georgia Tech opened new doors. Her GMC courses and an internship at the Carter Center revealed the relevance of her communication and French language skills in areas such as public policy and international affairs.

After graduation, Rowell began work at the Consulate General of Belgium in Atlanta as a

communications officer. More recently, she returned to her journalism roots and joined the Global Digital Programming team at CNN, where she helps cover international news for a global audience each day.

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3hdac6p>



Leighton Rowell

## Challenges and Opportunities of Advances in Satellite Technologies: A National Security Perspective

Members of the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs participated in a panel as part of the Strategic Multilayer Assessment's (SMA) General Speaker Series, where they discussed satellite and space security. Associate Professor Mariel Borowitz and Ph.D. student Maj. Brian Stewart presented, and Lawrence Rubin, associated professor in the Nunn School, moderated

the panel. Borowitz discussed the need for regulations in space, while Stewart emphasized the need to distinguish between commercial satellites and those that pose a potential security threat.

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3BHHRi2>

## Vergara's New Book 'Fueling Mexico' Aims to Answer a Childhood Question

Growing up in the mountains outside of Mexico City, Germán Vergara woke up every morning in fresh, clean air. But the city below him was always blanketed in smog, and he dreaded driving down into it for school. One year, the pollution was so bad, he remembered, his school opened late for weeks in a city-wide attempt to let the wind clear the air before students and families ventured into it.

"It was just a fact of life," said Vergara, now an assistant professor in the School of History and Sociology. "And for me, it was always astonishing that people kind of got used to the air pollution and saw it almost as normal and inevitable."

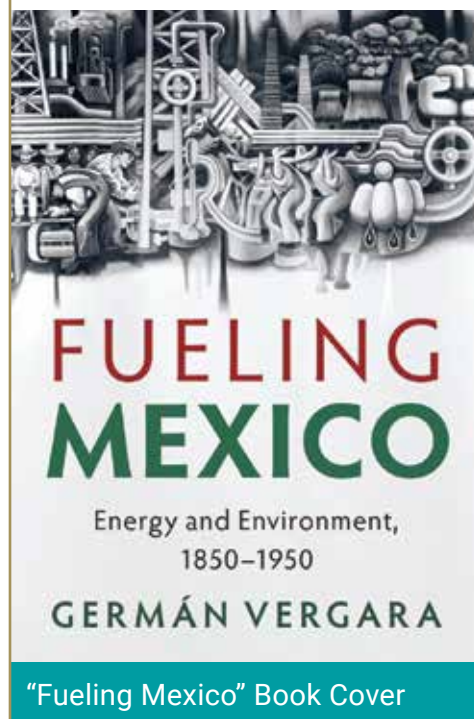
Six years later, his new book, *Fueling Mexico*, tells the history of energy in Latin America for the first time. Published on June 24, 2021, the book explores the people, policies, and decisions that catapulted Mexico from wood to coal to the oil dependency they face today.

Vergara wondered why the air pollution in Mexico had become so severe. So, when he began his Ph.D. program at UC Berkeley, he started reading about energy history. He studied the historians who traced how societies came to rely on fossil

fuels and the sprawling implications of that dependency.

He hopes his book will demystify the cause of the smog in Mexico City and add to a greater understanding of Mexico's environmental history.

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3s8WuHT>





## ► Ilya Kaminsky Joins President Cabrera for Poetry-Infused Conversation

Poetry took center stage in April, as Ilya Kaminsky, the Margaret T. and Henry C. Bourne Jr. Chair in Poetry in the School of Literature, Media, and Communication, joined President Ángel Cabrera to discuss the role of art and artists – including at Georgia Tech.

“The beautiful thing about teaching poetry to students who study technology is that they pay incredible attention,” said Kaminsky, who is also director of Poetry@Tech, which engages Georgia Tech students and the public with poetry and presents the South’s premier poetry reading series. “To me, it is not at all unusual that a poet would be at Georgia Tech, simply because language is our earliest form of technology,” said Kaminsky, a National Book Award finalist whose

book, *Deaf Republic*, earned multiple accolades in 2020.

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3vfBC3F>



Ilya Kaminsky and President Cabrera



# Our Community Stewards

During his two terms in office, Mayor Ivan Allen Jr., the College's namesake, ushered in a vibrant, urban environment for Atlanta, transforming the city into an economic, commercial, and cultural powerhouse. That legacy carries on at Georgia Tech, among the students, faculty, and staff of the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts.

Be it advocating for environmental justice for marginalized communities in Georgia, finding technology and policy-oriented solutions to support local residents, or effecting change at the ballot box through better voter education, liberal arts at Georgia Tech is integral to fostering the kind of socially and ethically conscious action that transforms our communities.

## ▶ Winning Differently: Three Members of Georgia Tech Women's Basketball Team Talk Inequity, Awareness, and Leadership

Besides capping off a sensational 2020-21 season by making their 10th overall appearance in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Tournament, advancing all the way to the Sweet 16, the Georgia Tech Women's Basketball team also tackled social and racial inequities both on and off the court, via their Say Her Name campaign. The team partnered with OMED: Educational Services director and Ivan Allen College alumna Sybrina Atwaters on the initiative as part of her Race and Reel Black Consciousness Series.

HSOC student and Yellow Jacket guard Kierra Fletcher, a 2020 graduate in History, Technology, and Society, wanted to launch the campaign on the court to honor Black women who have lost their lives at the hands of law enforcement.

"Before every game, a Black woman's name would be read — such as Sandra Bland and Breonna Taylor — and her story would be told. We had a moment before each game that created emotion just before we played," said Fletcher. "It really gave

our ladies, including myself, a time to step outside of ourselves, a time to step outside the nature and the hype of a basketball game, and to really look at something much bigger than ourselves."

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3t1nB6X>



The team capped a sensational 2020-21 season by making their first appearance in the NCAA Tournament since 2014.

## Ivan Allen College Faculty to Study Disaster Resilience in Historically Marginalized Communities

In February 2021, the National Science Foundation announced Stage 1 awardees of its Civic Innovation Challenge, including a team featuring two Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts researchers.

Allen Hyde, assistant professor in the School of History and Sociology, received funding for “Co-Creating Data for Disaster Resilience with Historically Marginalized Communities in Savannah.”

Co-PIs on the project are Yanni Loukissas, associate professor in the School of Literature, Media, and Communication; Nisha Botchwey, associate dean for academic programs in Georgia Tech Professional Education and associate professor in the College of Design; and Mildred McClain, executive director of Harambe House –

a non-profit environmental justice organization. The team will study the social and physical vulnerabilities of coastal communities and how environmental disasters affect communities’ ability to rebound.

“When we think about resilience, whether it’s after a disaster or another event, a lot of the discussion is framed around telling people to just be more resilient,” Hyde said. “But when we think about historically marginalized communities, we’re not often considering what it is that they feel that they need to be resilient to. What does resilience look like for them in their terms, and do they want to return to the way things were?”

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3sbA88C>

## Semester in the City: Better Engineering, and Everything Else, Through Listening

Sixty years ago, a bundle of dynamite exploded at a schoolhouse in Atlanta’s historic English Avenue community. Though the resulting blast injured no one, it did succeed in tearing at the neighborhood’s bonds in ways that are still being felt today.

Now, teaching Georgia Tech students about such experiences is one purpose of “Semester in the City,” a recurring class offered by the School of History and Sociology. Affiliated with Georgia Tech’s Serve-Learn-Sustain initiative, the course aims to help students understand the experiences of residents in the Westside Atlanta communities that border campus. It also teaches them how to prioritize the needs, interests, and input of Westside residents first when considering

technology or policy solutions intended to improve their lives, said Assistant Professor Todd Michney, who teaches the class.

For Fall 2020, Michney dispatched students to interview residents virtually and learn more about the English Avenue community, firsthand. Charles Howard, a fourth-year industrial engineering student, said the class helped him “look outside the Tech bubble.”

“I can see how, when I’m working, it would make me take a step back and say, ‘How will this be good, not just for the company, but also the people around us?’” Howard said.

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3IITAp6>

## ▶ Atlanta Global Research and Education Collaborative Funds Six 'Global at Home' Projects

Projects co-led by two Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts faculty members, Allen Hyde of the School of History and Sociology and Hyoun-A Joo of the School of Modern Languages, were among six funded in the initial round of grants by the Atlanta Global Research and Education Collaborative (AGREC) following its fall 2020 launch. AGREC grants support collaborative, interdisciplinary, and cross-university research and education projects focusing on global engagement.

The 2020–2021 grant program “Connecting Globally While Grounded at Home” placed significant focus on programs’ impact on Atlanta communities and their potential to develop new and sustainable relationships among universities, businesses, non-governmental organizations, and community groups.

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3p8F7VI>

## ▶ VoterTech VIP Students Lead Effort to Inform, Engage, Would-Be Campus Voters

Hailey Park, a third-year computer science student from Roswell, knows how complicated voting can be. That’s why she is part of the VoterTech Vertically Integrated Project (VIP), an interdisciplinary, cross-college, and student-led research team at the Georgia Institute of Technology. Students and faculty associated with the program extend across campus, including from the School of Public Policy, the School of Literature, Media, and Communication, and the College of Computing.

“There were a lot of moments when I felt overwhelmed by the sheer amount of information out there, and I didn’t know if the information I was consuming was factual,” she said.

The project called VoterTech launched in Fall 2020, and was designed to help young people get registered and out to vote for the 2020 election. The team of 18 students split into four groups,

each working on a specific issue: collecting ballot information, managing voter registration efforts, building a website (<https://vote.cae.gatech.edu>), and creating a smartphone app.

The project received significant positive feedback in its first semester and has continued through the semesters since.

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3BKuAFd>



## ▶ Ellis Ready to 'Make Good Change' as Undergrad SGA President

Samuel Ellis, an international affairs student, was sworn in as the undergrad Student Government Association (SGA) president for the 2020-21 term. Ellis has previously been involved in many initiatives on campus, including working with Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. on the Wreck the Vote in 2019, and serving as a poll manager in 2020, for the student-run precinct at McCamish Pavilion at Georgia Tech.

During the campaign, Ellis waited to write his platform until after he built a diverse team from

different parts of campus. The group of 20 people sat down two- to three times a week for four months and narrowed down the topics to be more than a wish list, but rather a realistic, actionable plan. At the end of his term, Ellis hopes students will say that his team was never complacent, listened, and figured out what was needed to foster long-term change.

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3saMNJ6>

## ▶ Ivan Allen College Takes a Closer Look at the Civic Square

Ivan Allen College faculty and students participated in several efforts to improve civil discourse amid the contentious 2020 political season. On Jan. 20, Kaye Husbands Fealing, dean of the Ivan Allen College, and College of Computing Professor Peter Swire discussed rebuilding the civic square following the November election.

"I think it's safe to say that the months leading up to this day have been uniquely challenging and unlike anything we have seen in the country," Husbands Fealing said during the event.

In February, School of Public Policy Associate Professor Richard Barke led another discussion with faculty, alumni, and a Georgia Tech student. During the event, which Barke said was meant to provide "perspective and conversation" about recent events in the world, participants discussed the forces and voices shaping the current moment

in history and what we can do to improve our civic discourse.

"It can and should be troubling, in many respects, to look at our history," Barke said. "It can also be somewhat reassuring. We survived these challenges."

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3hbOwaA>



Richard Barke



# DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND BELONGING

In the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, it is critically important to sustain an inclusive environment in which all individuals can excel and become purposeful leaders who possess the highest social and ethical standards.

In the past year, we have made a concerted effort to increase diversity and inclusion in the College and around the campus. Establishing the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council within the College, and launching its new website, demonstrates our commitment to creating a climate of mutual respect among the Ivan Allen community.

As a result of the collective efforts of faculty, staff, and students, Ivan Allen College has been recognized at Georgia Tech for excellence in advocating for inclusion, diversity, and equity.

In reflecting the College's founding principles and Mayor Ivan Allen Jr.'s legacy of social responsibility, we continue to strengthen our visibility and impact to develop an intellectual community that prioritizes the dignity of our neighbors here in Atlanta and around the globe.



View committee members and goals for the Ivan Allen College Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council at <https://dei.iac.gatech.edu/>.

# Faces of Inclusive Excellence Awards

On Sept. 9, 2020, more than a dozen faculty, staff, students, and programs from the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts were honored for their commitment to fostering diversity and inclusion on campus and in the community. The list of honorees included:

- André Brock, associate professor, School of Literature, Media, and Communication
- Seung-Eun Chang, lecturer, School of Modern Languages
- Carol Colatrella, professor School of Literature, Media, and Communication
- Mary Frank Fox, professor, School of Public Policy
- Carla Gerona, associate professor, School of History and Sociology
- Nandita Gupta, master's student in Human-Computer Interaction
- Robert Hampson, administrative manager, School of History and Sociology
- Natalie Khazaal, associate professor, School of Modern Languages
- Aya McDaniel, lecturer, School of Modern Languages
- Şebnem Özkan, associate director, Atlanta Global Studies Center
- Jessica Palacios, former marketing & event coordinator, Sam Nunn School of International Affairs
- Samuel Weiss-Cowie, undergraduate student, School of Modern Languages
- Anna Westerstahl Stenport, former professor and chair, School of Modern Languages
- Writing and Communication Program, School of Literature, Media, and Communication, Diversity Champion Unit Award



Not pictured: Nandita Gupta, master's student in Human-Computer Interaction



## Ivan Allen College Faculty Named to New Georgia Tech Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council

Four Ivan Allen College faculty members were appointed by President Ángel Cabrera to the newly formed Georgia Tech Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council (GTDEIC). Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts Dean Kaye Husbands Fealing; Carol Colatrella, professor in the School of Literature, Media, and Communication and co-director of the Center for the Study of Women, Science, and Technology; Mary Frank Fox, Dean's Distinguished Professor in the School of Public Policy; and Richard Utz, associate dean for faculty development and professor in the School of Literature, Media, and Communication, will serve on the council of more than 50 representatives from across the campus.

The Council will identify issues of campus racial and gender disparity, bias, and inequity to be addressed in order to deliver upon the Institute's vision of diversity and inclusion. The members represent diverse voices and perspectives from staff, faculty, and students.

The GTDEIC will continuously monitor and assess the Institute's progress on achieving its goals for becoming a model campus community for diversity, equity, and inclusion and develop evidenced, informed recommendations, which they will submit periodically to Cabrera and the Institute's Executive Leadership Team for consideration in developing strategic actions.



<https://b.gatech.edu/3t4Hk5G>



## Ivan Allen College Faculty, Staff, and Students Honored for Diversity and Inclusion

Ivan Allen College faculty, students, staff, and programs were among those honored with awards at the 12th Annual Georgia Tech Diversity Symposium hosted by Institute Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (IDEI).

Members of the College community were recognized in both award categories as Diversity Champion and Faces of Inclusive Excellence.

The symposium recognized the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act with the theme "Understanding Accessibility as Inclusion: Georgia Tech's Pathway to Accessibility." Guest speaker Haben Girma talked about her experience and advocacy as the first deafblind person to graduate from Harvard Law School.

"As our mission states, we are committed to developing leaders who advance technology and improve the human condition," wrote President Ángel Cabrera in a statement for the event. "The scientific breakthroughs we achieve, the answers we find, and the businesses we start only matter if they drive positive change that helps us — all of us — live better lives. That's why accessibility and developing the technologies that fuel it are so vital."

The symposium was co-chaired by IDEI Vice President Archie Ervin and Carol Colatrella, professor and associate dean for Graduate Studies in the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, who also chairs the College's Diversity and Inclusion committee.



<https://b.gatech.edu/3LXAQy4>



## ▶ ADVANCE Takes a New Lead

Ivan Allen College's commitment to diversity was on display as a respected scholar of gender in technology and pioneer of Georgia Tech's ADVANCE professorship program stepped aside to make way for a leading scholar of gender in sports.

In June 2021, Mary Frank Fox stepped down after two decades as the Ivan Allen College ADVANCE Professor, a program dedicated to supporting and retaining women and minority faculty members. A month later, Mary McDonald of the School of History and Sociology succeeded Fox.

Fox, a professor in the School of Public Policy, helped shape the ADVANCE program when it was first established at Georgia Tech in 2001 and then institutionalized. She took a leadership role

in securing the NSF ADVANCE award. She was also the lead author of the proposal that created the Georgia Tech NSF ADVANCE Institutional Transformation Program.

Fox's vision called for establishing a sustainable network of ADVANCE professors – one for each Georgia Tech College – comprised of distinguished researchers and role models who would advise campus leadership on gender equity and inclusion policies. They also would provide data-driven recommendations for faculty reappointment, tenure, and promotion. In July, McDonald, the Homer C. Rice Chair in Sports and Society, stepped into the role.

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3IjWBpJ>

## ▶ Air Force ROTC Hosts General Jeffrey Harrigian for Talk Focused on Diversity in Leadership

Diversity is key to building well-rounded leadership in the armed forces, U.S. Air Force Gen. Jeffrey L. Harrigian told Georgia Tech's Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) Detachment 165 during a special campus visit to promote the "Go Inspire" program.

Harrigian, a commander of U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Africa with 35 years of active-duty service and a key player in Operation Desert Storm, reminded the cadets of the Air Force's mission to improve the representation of leadership through accepting a diverse family of people and backgrounds.

In an open forum, Harrigian explained to the cadets how different leadership styles and the diversity of personalities were necessary for a successful team and mission accomplishment. The cadets also learned that diversity in

leadership philosophies is highly valued in a modern military.

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3lhzz2J>



Gen. Jeffrey Harrigian of the U.S. Air Force speaks to cadets in Georgia Tech's Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps program on Feb. 8, 2021.



# DEVELOPMENT

We cannot advance the mission of the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts without the support of our Ivan Allen community. Thanks to generous donations from alumni, faculty, staff, students, and individuals who recognize the need for liberal arts in an increasingly tech-driven world, Ivan Allen College continues to thrive as a

leader in fostering innovation at the intersection of technology and creativity.



If you would like to give to support the mission of the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, please visit <https://iac.gatech.edu/community/alumni-and-giving>.



Students across the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts gained significant support for their academic studies through generous contributions from donors and friends of the College during the 2020-2021 year.

The College's development team, led by development directors Bradley Hastings and Jada Marcum, raised more than \$5 million in gifts to fund student education and faculty and staff support.

Key gifts from the past year include:



### Widmaier Family Scholarship Endowment Fund

Georgia Tech graduates Kevin and Amanda Widmaier are providing an estate gift for undergraduate students with demonstrated financial need. The endowment is especially geared to first generation college students who have participated in programming with DREAM.

### Endowment for Excellence in Economics Fund

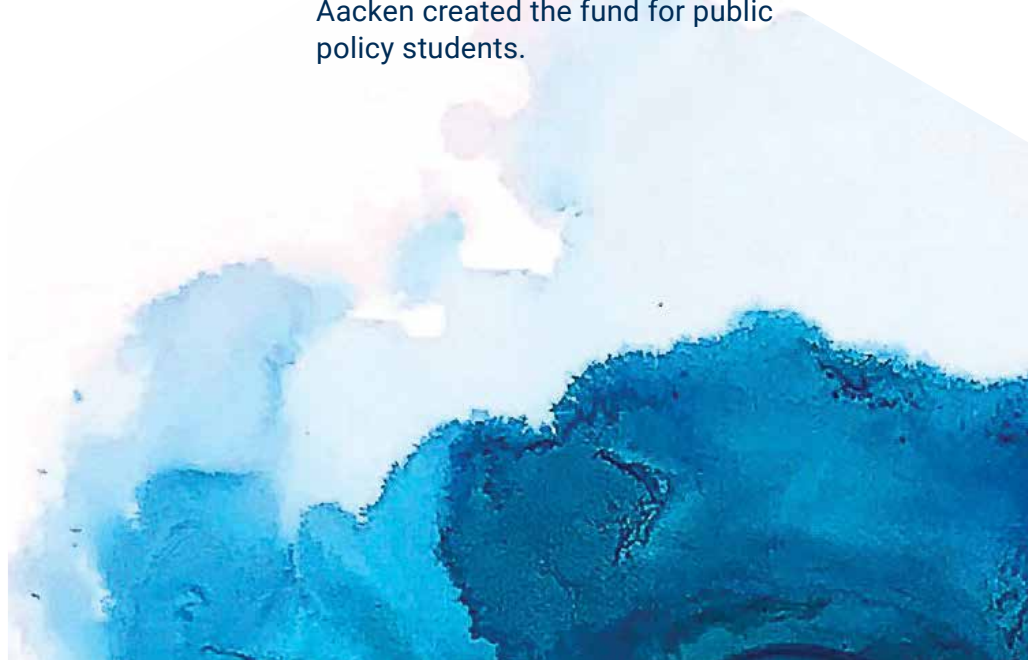
Richard and Mary Inman's gift helped to create a special endowment for the School of Economics to celebrate the program's 50th anniversary. The fund will be used for student, faculty and staff support.

### Maxine Thompson Turner Scholarship Endowment

Dr. Maxine Turner's final gesture of generosity was to establish the Maxine Thompson Turner Scholarship Endowment in the School of Literature, Media and Communication in the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts. As a teacher of English and History, Turner's influence was felt in the classroom at Georgia Tech, through her many publications, and her advocacy for women and minorities.

### Troy Van Aacken Law Fund

Troy Van Aacken Law Fund  
In memory of her husband, School of Public Policy alumna Susan Van Aacken created the fund for public policy students.



# Meet Jada Marcum, Ivan Allen College's New Director of Development

Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts recently welcomed its new Director of Development, Jada Marcum. In her new role, Marcum will help move the College forward by increasing giving and engagement among our alumni and donors, as well as preparing for Georgia Tech's upcoming capital campaign.

Most recently, she worked in development at Kennesaw State University, where she held the role of senior director of development in the College of Science and Mathematics.

Prior to joining Kennesaw State, Jada held development roles, including Director of Development for the College of Education, Science, and Mathematics and Senior Director of Annual Giving, at the University of West Georgia.

During her career, Jada has solicited eight-figure naming gifts, onboarded numerous Deans and School



Jada Marcum

Chairs, managed hundreds of donor relationships, worked with advisory boards, devised and launched successful annual giving campaigns, and developed the structure for implementing a major gifts program.

Most of all, Marcum is excited to work with development colleagues and academic leaders to propel the Ivan Allen College to new heights.







# ADVISORY BOARD

To lead our charge and carry out the goals of the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, we look to the knowledge and support of our advisory board, which is made up

of a diverse membership of alumni, staff, business leaders and individuals who are influential in their fields.

# Our advisory board members include:

- H. Inman Allen (Emeritus Member), retired chairman & CEO, Ivan Allen Company
- Ivan Allen IV, director of enterprise business development, Staples Contract and Commercial
- Kobi Abayomi, SPP, IE 2000, senior vice president, Warner Music Group
- Stephen C. Hall, IM 1967, Colonel, USAF (Retired)
- Hubert L. "Herky" Harris, Jr., IM 1965, owner of Harris Plantation
- Ann Hoevel, STC 1998, director of communications, College of Design, GT
- Douglas R. Hooker, ME 1978, M.S. TSP 1985, executive director, Atlanta Regional Commission
- Richard R. House, Jr. (Chair), ECON 1985, CEO of FlexShopper, LLC
- James B. Langford, executive director, Shepherd Higher Education Consortium on Poverty
- H. Bruce McEver, IE 1966, chairman, Berkshire Global Advisors
- Joseph B. Owens, Jr, ECON 1977, CFO, Indego Africa
- Amy Phuong, INTA 2005, MBA 2014, vice president of government relations, Atlanta Hawks and State Farm Arena
- Beverly Seay, entrepreneurial senior executive, University of Central Florida Board of Trustees
- Amanda Shailendra, MS INTA 2005, managing partner, The Pendleton Group
- R. Hoke Smart, HTS 2000, CFO, Windsor Built Homes
- Haywood Solomon, IM 1970, principal, HFS Management Consultants
- John M. Stern, owner, Methods Workshop, LLC
- L. Christopher Young, JD, HSOC 2000, chief of staff, south market unit and senior public sector consultant, Accenture's State and Local Government Practice

## ▶ Ivan Allen College Welcomes New Advisory Board Members

The Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts welcomed three new advisory board members who are tasked with advising the dean regarding priorities and direction for liberal arts and social science education and research.

The three new board members are Kobi Abayomi, Senior Vice President of Warner Music Group; Amanda Shailendra, Managing Partner of The Pendleton Group; and Entrepreneurial Senior Executive Beverly Seay.

 <https://b.gatech.edu/3saJy4n>





# ALUMNI

With more than 5,000 graduates in 51 countries, Ivan Allen College's alumni represent a diverse group of individuals who make an impact each day. And though they are spread around the world, our alumni form a tight-knit community, carrying forth the mission of the College wherever they go.

## 40 Under 40 Alumni Awards

The Georgia Tech Alumni Association recognizes the work and impact of alumni under the age of 40 who have made significant contributions in their fields at an early age. The following alumni from the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts earned the distinction of being a member of the 40 Under 40 Class of 2021.

Sarabrynn Hudgins, International Affairs '09  
Foreign Service Officer (Diplomat),  
U.S. Department of State

Mahdi Al-Husseini, Public Policy '18  
Aeromedical Evacuations Officer, U.S. Army

Oleg Sargu, MS Economics '11  
Director of Engineering Center, Technical  
University of Moldova



# Distinguished Alumni Awards

Each year, the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts recognizes the extraordinary talents and contributions of our alumni with the Distinguished Alumni Awards. Since 2015, we have recognized graduates from each of our six schools, in addition to honoring steadfast friends and supporters of the College. We have also awarded a faculty member and graduate and undergraduate students with Ivan Allen Jr. Legacy Awards.

For 2020, our honorees were:

## ► Distinguished Alumni Awards

### School of Economics

- Philip B. Cheaney, B.S. Economics, 1971
- Phillip B. Jones, B.S. Economics, 1971
- William P. Thompson Jr., B.S. Economics, 1971

### School of History and Sociology

- Prakash Kumar, Ph.D. History, Technology, and Society, 2004

### School of Literature, Media, and Communication

- Sarah Cooper, M.S. Digital Media, 2001

### School of Modern Languages

- Ted Danowitz III, B.S. International Affairs and Modern Languages, 2010

### School of Public Policy

- Fatimot Ladipo, M.S. Public Policy, 1999

### Sam Nunn School of International Affairs

- Tong Zhao, Ph.D. Science, Technology, and International Affairs, 2014

## ► Dean's Appreciation Award

Richard B. Inman Jr., B.S. Economics, 1973

## ► Ivan Allen Jr. Legacy Awards

### Faculty Legacy Award

- Hanchao Lu, professor of history, School of History and Sociology

### Graduate Student Legacy Award

- Alice Clifton-Morekos, Ph.D. student, History and Sociology of Technology and Science, School of History and Sociology

### Undergraduate Student Legacy Award

- Sinet Adous, fourth-year International Affairs student with minor in Sociology

# ➤ ACCOLADES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Our faculty of nearly 350 tenured, tenure-track, non-tenure-track, and permanent research faculty represent a cross-section of disciplines. They are leaders in their fields and have amassed local, national, and international academic and research awards in

recognition of their work and scholarship to advance the humanities and social sciences. It's only fitting that we celebrate the faces of Ivan Allen College who are committed to preparing students for the 21st century.

## ▶ Omar Isaac Asensio, assistant professor – School of Public Policy

Omar Asensio was one of 21 early-to-mid-career experts chosen by the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine to join its New Voices program. Members of the New Voices panel are expected to “engage in communicating the evidence base for addressing national and global challenges to provide new perspectives on issues of importance to the community represented by the National Academies. They will also help identify ways to expand the diversity of expertise that is brought to all of the Academies’ convening and advisory activities.”



## ▶ Tibor Besedes, professor – School of Economics

The Journal of International Trade and Economic Development appointed Economics Professor Tibor Besedes to a three-year term on its editorial board. The journal publishes “theoretical and applied research on international economics, economic development, and the interface between trade and development.” With 30 volumes of open-access papers, it’s an excellent resource for anyone interested in the intersection of economics and international trade.



## ▶ Kaye Husbands Fealing, dean – Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts

Kaye Husbands Fealing was recognized by several academic organizations in the past year. She was reappointed to the National Science Foundation’s Committee on Equal Opportunities in Science and Engineering, which advises the Foundation on policies and programs to encourage full participation by underrepresented groups, persons with disabilities, and women in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

Fealing also was re-elected to the board of directors of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), a membership she has held since 2017.

Additionally, she was elected to the prestigious American Academy of Arts and Sciences, reflecting her influential work in public affairs and public policy. Fealing, along with Charles Isbell, dean and John P. Imlay Jr. Chair in the College of Computing, represent Georgia Tech as part of the 2021 class of New Fellows and International Honorary Members in the Academy.



“I am grateful to be recognized for work in the areas of public affairs and public policy,” Husbands Fealing said about the Academy’s recognition. “Working on decision-making foundations and implementation strategies in science, technology, and innovation policy has been rewarding, especially when we are able to see science in service of communities.”

► **David Marcus, lecturer of Arabic and Kyoko Masuda, assistant professor of Japanese and Linguistics – School of Modern Languages**

David Marcus, lecturer of Arabic, and Kyoko Masuda, director of the Japanese program and associate professor of Japanese and Linguistics, were approved by the State Department to conduct their Diplomacy Lab projects. The two successful bids were in response to the State Department's project on Language Curriculum Development for

Diplomats: Specialized vocabulary, spaced repetition, and automated lexical leveling in over 60 languages. Masuda's project focused on analyzing the use of function verbs in Japanese Manga and light novels. Marcus's project studied high-frequency vocabulary in Modern Standard Arabic.

► **Larry Rubin, associate professor – Sam Nunn School of International Affairs**

Larry Rubin, associate professor in the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs, was appointed co-editor of *Terrorism and Political Violence*, which is the leading journal in terrorism studies. In addition, he was named to the editorial board of *Global Studies Quarterly*, a new journal from the International Studies Association, the first edition of which dropped in March. Finally, Rubin was named a 2021 Templeton Fellow in National Security by the Foreign Policy Research Institute, an international policy think tank that aims to produce nonpartisan policy analysis on foreign policy and national security challenges the U.S. faces while educating the American public.



► **Leslie Ross, academic program manager and undergraduate advisor – School of Public Policy**

Leslie Ross, academic program manager and undergraduate advisor in the School of Public Policy was elected chair of liberal arts advisors for the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA). This prestigious recognition is the latest for Ross, who was previously named NACADA’s Outstanding Advising Award winner and an Emerging Leader in her field.



► **Johnny Smith, Julius C. “Bud” Shaw Professor of Sports History – School of History and Sociology**

The Society for American Baseball Research awarded Johnny Smith, the Julius C. “Bud” Shaw Professor of Sports History, with the Larry Ritter Book Award for *War Fever: Boston, Baseball, and America in the Shadow of the Great War*. The book, which the award committee called “meticulously researched and riveting,” is a portrait of three men in Boston in 1918 – a symphony conductor, a Harvard law student, and baseball star Babe Ruth – whose lives were changed by the Spanish Flu and World War I.



► **Writing and Communication Program – School of Literature, Media, and Communication**

The Writing and Communication Program (WCP) housed in the School of Literature, Media, and Communication received the 2021 Regents’ Teaching Excellence Award for Department or Program for the University System of Georgia. The WCP was chosen

from hundreds of valuable programs across USG’s 26 institutions for the award. The program was recognized for demonstrating the highest-quality teaching and skill development for students.

# Faculty Accomplishments

**Jason Borenstein, director of Graduate Ethics Programs**

Elected to Association for Practical and Professional Ethics Board of Directors

**Mary Frank Fox, professor, School of Public Policy**

Named Dean's Distinguished Professor after two decades as an ADVANCE professor in the College

**Karen Head, former professor, School of Literature, Media, and Communication**

Named Fulton County Poet Laureate

**Melissa Iannetta, interim chair, School of Literature, Media, and Communication**

Ron Maxwell Leadership Award from the National Conference of Peer Tutoring (NCPTW)

**Ilya Kaminsky, Bourne Chair in Poetry, School of Literature, Media, and Communication**

Carnegie "Great Immigrants, Americans" Campaign Honoree

**Kent Linthicum, a Marion L. Brittain Postdoctoral Fellow**

Fellow, American Council of Learned Societies

**Kristie Macrakis, professor, School of History and Sociology**

Named Distinguished Lecturer by Sigma Xi science research honor society

**Brian Magerko, professor, School of Literature, Media, and Communication**

Best Paper Award, ACM Creativity and Cognition Conference

**Mary G. McDonald, Homer C. Rice Chair in Sports and Society, School of History and Sociology**

Named ADVANCE Professor

**Nassim Parvin, associate professor, School of Literature, Media, and Communication**

Awarded an STS Infrastructure Award from the Society for Social Studies of Science

**Sherie Randolph, associate professor, School of History and Sociology**

Named Residential Fellow, University of Connecticut Humanities Institute  
Named Fellow, Brown University's Howard Foundation

**Robert Rosenberger, associate professor, School of Public Policy**

Appointed president of the Society for Philosophy and Technology

**Anna Stenport, former professor and chair, School of Modern Languages**

Named USG Leadership Fellows

**Anjali Thomas, assistant professor, Sam Nunn School of International Affairs**

Named Jim Pope Faculty Fellow for CREATE-X

**Amy D'Unger, senior academic professional, School of History and Sociology**

Recipient, Geoffrey G. Eichholz Faculty Teaching Award from Center for Teaching and Learning

**Richard Utz, associate dean for Faculty Development**

Appointed to advisory board for Reinterpreting the Middle Ages: From Medieval to Neo book series

# Additional Faculty and Staff Fellowships, Awards, and Honors

## Provost's Teaching and Learning Fellows

- Laura Bier, associate professor, School of History and Sociology
- Kirk Bowman, associate professor, Sam Nunn School of International Affairs
- Julia Melkers, associate professor, School of Public Policy

## Class of 1969 Teaching Fellows

- Dylan Brewer, assistant professor, School of Economics
- Kate Pride Brown, assistant professor, History and Sociology
- Natalie Khazaal, assistant professor, School of Modern Languages
- Seung Hoon Lee, assistant professor, School of Economics
- Todd Michney, assistant professor, School of History and Sociology
- Karen Xueqing Yan, assistant professor, School of Economics
- Anne Sullivan, assistant professor, School of Literature, Media, and Communication

## SLS Sustainable Communities Teaching Awards

- Julia Tigner, Marion L. Brittain Postdoctoral Fellow, School of Literature, Media, and Communication
- Dylan Brewer, assistant professor, School of Economics
- Allen Hyde, assistant professor, School of History and Sociology
- Honorable mentions: Michael Nitsche, associate professor, School of Literature, Media, and Communication; Jennifer Singh, associate professor, School of History and Sociology

## Center for Teaching and Learning Teaching Excellence Awards

### Student Recognition of Excellence in Teaching:

#### Class of 1934 CIOS Award

- Amy D'Unger, School of History and Sociology
- Kate Pride Brown, School of History and Sociology
- Britta Kallin, School of Modern Languages
- Lee Oh, School of Modern Languages
- Satomi Suzuki Chenoweth, School of Modern Languages

## CTL Honor Roll

- Adele Douglin, School of Modern Languages
- Dylan Brewer, School of Economics
- Allen Hyde, School of History and Sociology
- Kuen-Da Lin, Sam Nunn School of International Affairs

## Emerging Leaders Program

- Justin Biddle, associate professor, School of Public Policy
- Jenna Jordan, associate professor, Sam Nunn School of International Affairs
- Usha Nair-Reichert, associate professor, School of Economics

## Ivan Allen College Faculty-Staff Awards

### Buzz Awards

- Administrative service: Lindsey McKenzie, School of Public Policy
- Administrative service: Brad Rittenhouse, School of Literature, Media, and Communication/DILAC Lab
- Administrative service: Matt Soffell, Center for Advanced Communications Policy
- Administrative service: Will Jimerson, Office of the Dean
- Student service: Amanda Blocker, School of Literature, Media, and Communication
- Student service: LaDonna Bowen-Chavers, School of History and Sociology
- Student service: Mirla Gonzalez, School of Modern Languages
- Student service: Stephanie Jackson, Sam Nunn School of International Affairs

### Distinguished Teaching Awards

- Dylan Brewer, assistant professor, School of Economics
- Jonathan Shelley, Marion L. Brittain Postdoctoral Fellow, School of Literature, Media, and Communication

## Faculty Research Awards

### Silver Star Awards

- Paul Baker, senior director, Center for Advanced Communications Policy
- Michael Best, professor, Sam Nunn School of International Affairs
- Megan Denham, research associate II
- Allen Hyde, assistant professor, School of History and Sociology
- Natalie Khazaal, assistant professor, School of Modern Languages
- Naha Kumar, associate professor, Sam Nunn School of International Affairs



- Nassim Parvin, associate professor, School of Literature, Media, and Communication
- Anne Sullivan, assistant professor, School of Literature, Media, and Communication
- Rachel Whitlark, assistant professor, Sam Nunn School of International Affairs

### Gold Star Awards

- Omar Asensio, assistant professor, School of Public Policy
- Jason Borenstein, principal academic professional, School of Public Policy
- Mariel Borowitz, associate professor, Sam Nunn School of International Affairs
- Kaye Husbands Fealing, dean, Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts
- Salimah LaForce, policy analyst, Center for Advanced Communications Policy
- Haizheng Li, professor, School of Economics
- Aaron Levine, associate professor, School of Public Policy
- Amit Prasad, associate professor, School of History and Sociology
- Larry Rubin, associate professor, Sam Nunn School of International Affairs

### Million Dollar Club

- Ian Bogost, professor, School of Literature, Media, and Communication
- Marilyn Brown, regents professor and Brook Byers Professor of Sustainable Systems, School of Public Policy
- Brad Fain, executive director, Center for Advanced Communications Policy
- Sarah Farmer, research scientist I, Center for Advanced Communications Policy
- Ute Fischer, research scientist II, School of Literature, Media, and Communication
- Vicki Galloway, professor emerita, School of Modern Languages
- Sy Goodman, regents professor, Sam Nunn School of International Affairs
- Danny Hughes, professor, School of Economics
- Gordon Kingsley, associate professor, School of Public Policy
- Brian Magerko, professor, School of Literature, Media, and Communication
- Julia Melkers, associate professor, School of Public Policy
- Helena Mitchell, regents researcher emeritus and principal investigator, Center for Advanced Communications Policy
- Nathan Moon, associate director for research, Center for Advanced Communications Policy
- Janet Murray, professor, School of Literature, Media, and Communication
- Philip Shapira, professor, School of Public Policy
- Anna Stenport, chair, School of Modern Languages
- Adam Stulberg, chair, Sam Nunn School of International Affairs

### Faculty Excellence Awards

- André Brock, associate professor, School of Literature, Media, and Communication
- Lindsey Bullinger, assistant professor, School of Public Policy
- Kelley Fong, assistant professor, School of History and Sociology
- Natalie Khazaal, assistant professor, School of Modern Languages
- Anjali Thomas, associate professor, Sam Nunn School of International Affairs
- Karen Yan, assistant professor, School of Economics







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