

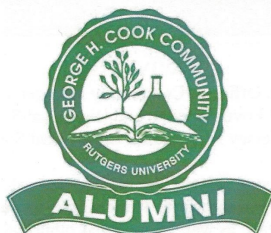


*Distinguished Alumni
Awards Brunch
Sunday, May 1, 2022*

Hosted by:

Cook Community Alumni Association

Cook Community Alumni Association



At the June 2008 annual meeting of the Cook/CAES Alumni Association, the membership voted to adopt the title of Cook Community Alumni Association. This logo was also adopted and is intended to maintain a visual link to the former College of Agriculture, College of Agriculture and Environmental Science, Cook College, the School of Environmental and Biological Science and those students residing on the George H. Cook campus.

George H. Cook & Dennis M. Fenton Awards Committee Members

Dr. Linda Madison* CC '80 Co-Chair
Dr. Lee Schneider* CAES '70 Co-Chair
Joseph Charette* CC '77
Dr. Donald Heilman* CC '76
Heather O'Rourke* CC '92
Kerry Kirk-Pflugh* CC '80
Dr. Mark Robson* CC '77
Gary Sondermeyer* CC '79
Dr. Brian Voynick* CC '78
Sue Wicks* CC '88

**indicates GH Cook Distinguished Alumni Award recipient*

-PROGRAM-

Welcome

Amanda Dougherty - President
Cook Community Alumni Association

Greetings

Interim Executive Dean Laura Lawson

Buffet Brunch

Introduction of Committee and Prior Awardees

Recognition of George Hammell Cook Distinguished Alumni Awardees

Timothy Burklow CC '91
Karen Ivanac CC '92
Daniel Klein CC '88

Recognition of Dennis M. Fenton Distinguished Graduate Alumni Awardees

Dr. Ronald Atlas GSNB '72
Dr. Frederick Tyson CC '77, GSNB '83



The George Hammell Cook Distinguished Alumni Award

The award, established in 1976, commemorates the life of George Hammell Cook (1818 - 1889) whose efforts helped to bring Land Grant College status to Rutgers and to create the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station. Dr. Cook's inquisitive and results-oriented spirit remains active in the ideals embodied by the Cook community which includes the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences and the George H. Cook campus.

This award is presented annually to an alumnus or to alumni whose outstanding accomplishments in professional or volunteer work reflects dignity and distinction on their alma mater. The George H. Cook Award is the highest honor presented by the Cook Community Alumni Association to undergraduate alumni.

Eligible alumni are those who earned an undergraduate degree from the School of Environmental & Biological Sciences, Cook College, C.A.E.S., the Rutgers College of Agriculture or alumnae of Douglass College or N.J.C. who earned a degree in agriculture or a related field during the years before Rutgers University embraced a coeducational policy.



The Dennis M. Fenton

Distinguished Graduate Alumni Award

Established in 2003 this award honors Dennis M. Fenton, executive vice-president of Amgen Inc., and a strong supporter of graduate education at the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, formerly Cook College, Rutgers University. Successful candidates have demonstrated a significant impact in their field of study. The Dennis M. Fenton Award is the highest honor presented by the Cook Community Alumni Association to advanced degree alumni.

Eligible alumni are graduates of Rutgers University's Graduate School New Brunswick who earned a Masters or Doctoral degree from a program or department currently or historically associated with the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, Cook College, the College of Agriculture and Environmental Science or the Rutgers College of Agriculture.

Nominees are not required to have earned an undergraduate degree from the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences or any other unit of Rutgers University.

Cook Community Alumni Association Officers



Amanda Dougherty CC '08, President
Marc Kollar CC '95, Treasurer
Ted Wendin SEBS '11, Secretary

**Laura Lawson, Interim Executive Dean
of Agriculture and Natural Resources**

Special thanks to:
**Brian McGonigle, Manager of Alumni and Community
Engagement**

Melissa McKillip, Vice Dean for Advancement

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Email: cookalumni@aol.com
Cook Community Alumni Association
@CookAlumni



2022 George Hammell Cook **Distinguished Alumni Award Winner**



Timothy Burklow

Tim Burklow earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental and Business Economics graduating from Cook College in 1991. He is currently the owner and managing director of Mindful Wealth Management. He has been recognized by Forbes Best-In-State Wealth Advisors 2021, New Jersey Magazine Five Star Wealth Managers, Reuters AdvicePoint Top Advisors, and Barron's Top Advisory Teams.

Tim serves many community organizations such as the Fred J. Brotherton Charitable Foundation (former Advisory Board Member), the Pequannock Valley Rotary (Past President / Rotary International Paul Harris Fellow), Jacksonville Chapel Board of Elders (former Vice-Chairman), Pequannock Friends of Wrestling (former President), and the Rutgers, Scarlet Knight Wrestling Club (Executive Board Member). He can be found supporting student athletes at the Rutgers Wrestling matches and serving as a Student-Athlete Career Mentor at the Rutgers University Leadership Academy.

Since 1999, his firm has grown to a 24-member team doing business as Mindful Wealth Management after the acquisition and merge with another thriving private wealth advisory firm. He currently has offices in Riverdale and Montclair NJ, and satellite offices in Charlotte NC and Naples FL. His team manages more than \$1.5 billion in assets with clients in 20 different states throughout the country. This past year, he and his business partner were recognized in the Forbes top 100 list of New Jersey's "Best-In-State Wealth Advisors", and named in New Jersey Monthly's list of "Five Star Wealth Managers". He enjoys spending time with family and was able to attend 90% of his children's school and athletic events. He coached Pequannock youth football and wrestling and served as President of the Pequannock Valley Rotary Club (representing Lincoln Park, Pequannock Township, and Riverdale).

After serving on several non-profit boards, a great deal of his time was devoted to mentoring student-athletes at Rutgers University and working with the Rutgers University Leadership Academy – with a primary focus of helping students prepare for life beyond college. In addition, he and his wife contributed to the funding of the Burklow Family Scholarship at Rutgers University and other projects.

2022 George Hammell Cook **Distinguished Alumni Award Winner**



Karen Ivanac

Karen Ivanac earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Nutritional Science (1992) at Cook College, Rutgers University and Master of Science in Clinical Nutrition (1996) at New York University.

She currently serves as a clinical operations professional with 23+ years of clinical trial, project management, and ICH/GCP compliance experience including personnel management. She currently serves as the Clinical Study Group Lead for Clinical Development, Operations, and Vaccines for Pfizer, Inc.

When asked to describe why Karen is deserving of the George H. Cook Award, one of her colleagues wrote, "Karen's knowledge of the business outside of the Clinical Study Team Assistants (CSTA) group was invaluable as she was able to create a group that is now adequately supporting the needs of the other parts of the organization we work with. She cares about her colleagues. She wants to ensure that all CSTAs (of which we have now grown to a number globally of nearly 100 colleagues) feel valued and are recognized for the work they do." Another colleague wrote, "Karen not only has impressive leadership and organizational skills, but she also brings humor and a positive can-do attitude that has been essential for developing high performing teams. She has an innate sense of timing for when a team just needs to be lifted to maintain momentum to perform their tasks. Her skill set is highly valued in matrixed organizations like Pfizer, not only by Senior Management, but also by her peers. Karen's enthusiasm and dedication inspire those who work with her."

2022 George Hammell Cook **Distinguished Alumni Award Winner**



Daniel (Danny) Klein

Danny Klein earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science at Cook College (1988) and CMD MBA from Rutgers University along with an MPA Certification in Emergency Management from Kean University. He is a Chemical Specialist of High Hazard Materials and Hazardous Wastes. He is also a graduate of the John Stamler Police Academy, Retired Reserve Officer and Hazmat Supervisor for the Office of Emergency Management.

As the Vice President of Business Development for the American Wine Society Educational Foundation, he has been instrumental in providing \$438,500 worth of scholarships to deserving graduate students in the wine industry. He is also an award-winning winemaker and owner of multiple wine trademarks. He is a Wine Writer, Educator & Sommelier. Armed with Certified Specialist of Wine (SWE), WSET Advanced and Wine Judge Certification, you will frequently see him sabering a bottle at wine tastings in the NYC metro area or judging international wine competitions including Governor's Cup Contests, The Fifty Best, and the Ultimate Beverage Challenge. Additionally, he is the Chairman of the NJ State Fair Garden State Wine Challenge.

Over the past 32 years, he has done many events with both the RUAA and CCAA. He has contributed to SEBS student speed-networking events, "Life After College", and continues to recruit qualified candidates at the SEBS & RU Career Fairs. You will regularly see him at the Scarlet Harvest, Spring Garden gathering, and every Log Cabin event.

2022 Dennis M. Fenton Distinguished Graduate Alumni Award Winner



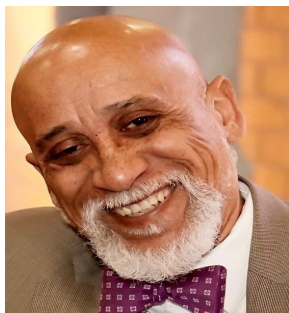
Dr. Ronald M. Atlas

Dr. Ronald M. Atlas is an internationally recognized scholar, educator and advocate for science. After earning his Ph.D. in Microbiology at Cook College, Rutgers University with Professor Richard Bartha, he was a Research Associate at the Jet Propulsion Lab, California Institute Technology (1972-1973), before joining the faculty at the University of Louisville in the Department of Biology, until his retirement.

His achievements include pioneering research in microbial degradation of hydrocarbons and other organic pollutants, numerical taxonomy of marine bacteria, effects of pesticides and other organic compounds on microorganisms, and ecology of soil and marine microorganisms. He played a leading role in the development and application of a special bacterial fertilizer that helped in the cleanup of the Exxon Valdez oil spill. He is author of nearly 300 papers on topics ranging from the cleanup of oil spills to infectious diseases and bioterrorism. He has authored 20 books, several of which have been classic textbooks used around the world, including **Microbial Ecology** (by Atlas and Bartha) and **Microbiology: Fundamentals and Applications**.

Dr. Atlas is past chair of the American Society for Microbiology (ASM) Public and Scientific Affairs Board and regularly advised the White House and US Congress on issues of environment and infectious diseases. During his time as President of the ASM he led the response to the anthrax “attack”, when several anthrax-laden letters were sent through the U.S. postal system, informing and advocating congress for the right moves to effectively address the bioterrorism concerns.

2022 Dennis M. Fenton
Distinguished Graduate Alumni Award Winner



Dr. Frederick Tyson

Dr. Frederick Tyson graduated from Cook College, Rutgers University (1977) with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and later graduated with a Ph.D. in Zoology in 1983. Dr. Tyson is a Program Director in the Genes, Environment and Health Branch, Division of Extramural Research and Training, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS). He is considered one of the leading visionaries in advancing the scientific mission of the institute over the past 22 years. Dr. Tyson has initiated and/or developed several research programs that embrace diverse disciplines and approaches which span K-12 Environmental Health Science Education, public health research programs focusing on Environmental Justice and Community-based Participatory Research and Environmental Genomics, Epigenomics and Epitranscriptomics. His work is presently focused on supporting research that will produce novel and exciting data as well as insights on how environmental exposures can alter cellular regulatory pathways and/or networks that are associated with exposure induced pathologies. He is currently the lead program officer at NIEHS for the tobacco science research portfolio that addresses environmental tobacco smoke exposures and health impacts as well as actively participating in the FDA-NIH collaboration in the Tobacco Research Science Program (TRSP) and the trans-NIH Tobacco and Nicotine Research Interest Group (TANRIG). As part of the TRSP and TANRIG research programs, emphasis is placed on supporting research on electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS), hookahs and vaping, and how they impact health outcomes.

Dr. Tyson is the recipient of countless awards and has authored or co-authored more than 25 professional publications.

