The Winston Center for Leadership and Ethics

ANNUAL REPORT

2020
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REFLECTIONS AND LOOKING AHEAD

2020 has no doubt been a year that we will never forget. In March, COVID-19 ground the Winston Center’s programming to a halt, and the Brennan Symposium, the Chambers Lecture, and a few Lunch with a Leader sessions were canceled. Luckily, we were able to host a couple events prior to the shutdown. We collaborated with the Environmental Studies Program and featured Columbia University’s James Hansen and Jeffrey Sachs, and legendary investor Jeremy Grantham, who spoke about the global climate crisis and the importance of divestment. Ambassador Nick Burns ’78 was the Clough Colloquium speaker. He discussed the global trends of the world we are living in, including the role of the United States. Stephen Franco, CGSOM ’05, was our Social Impact & Lunch speaker, who spoke about investing in companies whose missions have a strong environmental, social, and governance (ESG) commitment.

In the fall, following George Floyd’s death and the resurgence of the Black Lives Matter movement around the world, the Center featured a trio of African Americans who spoke about issues affecting their communities. In a collaboration with the Lowell Humanities Series and the History Department, Carol Anderson, professor at Emory University and author of One Person, No Vote, talked about the history of voter suppression and its impact. The Forum on Ethics featured Ron Jones, an Emmy Award-winning actor, who performed his one-man show The Hellfighter, which highlights racial injustices historically suffered by African American families. The Jane Jacobs Lecture featured David Queeley, a sustainability expert, who talked about the Codman Square neighborhood—the first eco-innovation district in the Dorchester area of Boston. The Conversation with a Leader series (temporary name change for the various luncheon series) featured Steve Phelps, CGSOM ’87, president of NASCAR. He talked about the important changes the organization made in response to the calls for social and racial justice (including the banning of the Confederate flag). Grace Zunic ’05, chief people
officer of Chobani, and Wells Fargo's Kate Clifford-Toomey '95, chief operating officer of corporate risk, rounded out the semester's speaker lineup.

Like last fall, all of our upcoming spring programming will be in a virtual format. Speakers will include Miles Taylor, former official in the Trump administration who was revealed as the writer of the New York Times article “I Am Part of the Resistance Inside the Trump Administration”; former governor of New Mexico Susanna Martinez; and Ben Rattray, CEO and founder of Change.org. Throughout the semester, we will also hear from alumni and other leaders for our conversation series.

The pandemic has certainly disrupted all of our lives; however, one can also look at it as a blessing, as it has challenged us to reflect not only on our personal lives and our purpose in this world but how we as a Center operate and our role in preparing our students to lead in a diverse and inclusive world. This year, we have had to adapt to new technologies and platforms. With these “good” disruptions, we remain even more committed to providing exceptional programming to our students and the rest of the BC community.

Monetta Edwards, Director
SIGNATURE EVENTS

SPRING 2020

Ambassador Nick Burns with Chuck and Gloria Clough

Clough Colloquium featured former undersecretary of state for political affairs and ambassador to Greece Nick Burns ’78.
SIGNATURE EVENTS

FALL 2020

The Forum on Ethics featured Ron Jones, Emmy Award-winning actor and executive director of Dialogues on Diversity, a social justice and diversity awareness theater company.

The Jane Jacobs Lecture was given by David Queeley, a sustainability expert and director of eco-innovation of the Codman Square Neighborhood Development Corporation.
COLLABORATIONS

In the spring, the Center partnered with the Environmental Studies Program to bring leading business and scientific thinkers to talk about how to tackle climate change. Panelists included James Hansen, director of climate science, awareness and solutions at Columbia University’s Earth Institute, and the former director of NASA’s Goddard Institute of Space Studies; Jeffrey Sachs, director of Columbia’s Center for Sustainable Development, director of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network, and former director of Columbia University’s Earth Institute; and Jeremy Grantham, chief strategist officer and co-founder of GMO, and founder of the Grantham Foundation for the Protection of the Environment. Professor Juliet Schor of the Sociology Department moderated the discussion.

In the fall, together with the Lowell Humanities Series and the History Department, we sponsored Emory University Professor Carol Anderson, author of One Person, No Vote: How Voter Suppression Is Destroying Our Democracy, who talked about the history of voter suppression and shared the stories of disenfranchised citizens.
STUDENT PROGRAMS

SPRING 2020

Social Impact & Lunch
Stephen Franco, CGSOM’05, managing director and portfolio manager for the Chief Investment Office (CIO) at Bank of America, talked about opportunities in social impact investing.

FALL 2020

Conversation with a Leader featured Steve Phelps, CGSOM’87, P’23, the president of NASCAR. He spoke about the organization’s bold moves during the corona virus pandemic and the racial justice movement.
Conversations also featured Grace Zuncic ‘05, chief people officer at Chobani, who talked about the company’s diversity and inclusive initiatives and the importance of working for organizations that care about people. Kate Clifford-Toomey ’95, chief operating officer of corporate risk at Wells Fargo, talked about the importance of relationship building and finding jobs that you are passionate about and where the company’s values align with yours.

Ambassador Program
Leading up to the elections, Winston ambassadors rolled out a campus-wide campaign called Get Out the Vote BC, which was dedicated to getting students to vote in the upcoming elections.
Class of 2020 student directors of the Jenks Leadership Program Matt Davis ’20 and Morgan Gamble ’20 attended the US Naval Academy’s leadership conference Invest in Your People: The Power of Mentorship, where Admiral James G. Stavridis (USN Ret.) and Christopher A. Wray, director of the FBI, were guest speakers.

Morgan Gamble and Matt Davis

Jason Kauper ‘21 was the recipient of the 2020 Joseph G. Bonito Servant Leadership Award. Class of 2020 service projects tackled issues like affordable housing, immigration, and sustainability initiatives on campus and in Boston.

Twenty-eight students were selected for the Jenks Class of 2022, representing nine states and China.

Jason Kauper
Internship grants were issued to students for unpaid summer internships at the New Jersey Alliance for Immigration Justice, the City of Boston Environmental Department, the Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Eastern Massachusetts, an edtech startup company, and an international law firm. A research grant was also awarded to a student working for the Managing for Social Impact and the Public Good interdisciplinary program.