



Strategic Report 2016 - 2017



John  
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# Message from the Director

Dear Friends,

“May you live in interesting times.” These are the words of an ancient Chinese curse, dooming the hearer to live in an era of trouble and turbulence. Our world is shattered by violence, poverty, substance abuse, global political instability, financial turbulence, and devastating natural disasters. Bad news, both of a general nature and specifically affecting individual lives, comes at us on a daily basis. In the midst of what many see as general malaise, I offer some good news – what has been, for me, a beacon of light.

The past year of the Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing – its second – has been one of growth and development. We spent our first year building infrastructure at the University of Oklahoma (OU) to initiate the Institute and put in play programs and activities to develop the virtues of OU students. Our second year was devoted to cultivating outreach efforts, especially in the areas of education, outreach to parents, and outreach to community and civic organizations. We have had gratifying successes. Our partnership with Norman High School has resulted in robust character education programming. Our partnership with Salt and Light Leadership Training in Oklahoma City resulted in the conference, “How are the Children? Child Flourishing in Oklahoma City,” held in December, 2016. These efforts are ongoing enterprises of character development and community interventions to promote flourishing in poverty-stricken areas. The Institute has been privileged to help support these and other similar initiatives, most of which promote character development in youth. The uptake by educators, parents, and community and civic groups of the Institute’s vision has been truly gratifying. It has been personally rewarding to me in ways I could never have anticipated. I am deeply grateful to have had the opportunity to share in this work.

Our efforts to promote research into character and virtue have also been rewarding. We welcomed our first class of postdoctoral and dissertation fellows, all of whom are doing tremendously interesting and important work. All of them contributed enormously to the intellectual life of the Institute and are on solid career paths. We have now welcomed our second class of talented young scholars. My own research and that of our Leadership Team has been robust. We have also been privileged to attract the attention of visiting international scholars, and have been enriched by the time they have spent with us.

As we move forward through uncertain times, rest assured that the Institute will continue to do its utmost to promote the virtues and values we hold most dear. We will continue to help those who are interested in learning about virtue and character and using that knowledge to empower others, especially our children. Last year in my message to you, I wrote of the “spirit of Oklahoma.” I then referred to this spirit in terms of the welcome I received upon coming to this state. I now invoke it as an expression of resilience and perseverance. Resilient people of many cultures built Oklahoma. They found, preserved, and upheld what is best in the human spirit. Inspired by this, let us work together to promote virtue and flourishing as guides and guards through these unsettling times.

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy E. Snow".

Nancy E. Snow  
Professor of Philosophy and Director  
Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing  
The University of Oklahoma

# The Institute at a Glance

***“We must remember that intelligence is not enough. Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education.”***

**MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**  
**“THE PURPOSE OF EDUCATION,” 1947**

## OUR MISSION

### WHAT IS FLOURISHING?

The concept of flourishing is ancient in its origins and contemporary in its relevance. To flourish means to live well, to thrive. The Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing is founded on the belief that humans flourish when they develop to their fullest potential as rational and moral creatures living in healthy communities.

### WHAT IS VIRTUE?

Virtues are character traits humans need in order to flourish individually and as members of a community. Some virtues, like *perseverance* and *self-regulation*, are crucial for any worthwhile personal achievement. Others, like *honesty* and *open-mindedness*, are especially important for collaborative endeavors, such as friendship or scholarship.

### BACKGROUND

The concept of flourishing can be approached through the discipline of philosophy, which helps us define, understand, and evaluate what it means to flourish. It can be approached through the discipline of psychology, which enables us to measure the traits that underlie the ideal of flourishing and to understand the nature of human well-being. It can be approached through the field of education, which teaches us how to cultivate the virtues. Clearly, the greatest opportunity to study flourishing lies at the intersection of philosophy, psychology, and education.

Yet despite growing interest in virtue theory, positive psychology, and character education,

there has never been a program that integrates the definition, measurement, and cultivation of the virtues. We are filling that gap.

### OUR MISSION

The Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing is an academic center, operating under the oversight of the Office of the Senior Vice President and Provost at The University of Oklahoma.

Our three-fold mission is to:

- ***Advance the science of virtue and flourishing*** by promoting virtue research initiatives at OU and abroad;
- ***Improve the flourishing of OU students*** by revitalizing both the study and cultivation of virtue as part of the mission of higher education;
- ***Improve the flourishing of all Oklahomans*** through our outreach programs to schools, community organizations, and to parents.

In pursuit of this ambitious mission, we are spearheading a variety of initiatives, both within OU and in the surrounding community.

The Institute is made possible by a generous grant from the John Templeton Foundation and by support from The University of Oklahoma.



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# OUR VIRTUES

In all our programs, we focus on nine key virtues, selected by our Leadership Team during the planning stages of the Institute as jointly reflecting the moral identity and educational mission of The University of Oklahoma.

The nine virtues divide into three categories:

- **Intellectual virtues** enable the pursuit of truth, wisdom and understanding;
- **Executive Virtues** are crucial for achievements of any kind, including the development of other virtues;
- **Civic Virtues** equip individuals to flourish in community with others.

INTELLECTUAL VIRTUES	EXECUTIVE VIRTUES	CIVIC VIRTUES
<b>LOVE OF LEARNING</b>  Love of learning includes both the desire to acquire knowledge and delight in achieving it. It includes curiosity about the world and a proper regard for the difficulty in achieving genuine knowledge. Love of learning leads to a desire to learn the standards of particular fields of study, and a desire to expand the fields of knowledge one has already acquired.	<b>SELF-REGULATION</b>  Self-regulation is the capacity to regulate and restrain one's thoughts, emotions, and behaviors for the sake of achieving good ends. It is one of the most basic virtues, in that some degree of it is necessary for the acquisition of any other virtue. Self-regulation especially includes the ability to regulate one's desires and direct one's thoughts and attention to one's goals.	<b>CIVILITY</b>  Civility is a social virtue that is indispensable to open political discourse and reasoned disagreement. It manifests as a feeling of care and concern for one's society. A civil person engages others in respectful dialogue, without scorn or insult, even when the issues are important and disagreement runs deep. Civility thus has strong connections with intellectual humility and self-regulation.
<b>INTELLECTUAL HUMILITY</b>  Intellectual humility involves facing up to the truth about one's intellectual abilities, and admitting the limits of one's perspective. This does not mean denying one's accomplishments, but rather showing a lack of concern about intellectual status, and being sensitive to how one's beliefs can go wrong even though they seem right.	<b>PERSEVERANCE</b>  Perseverance is the ability to pursue one's goals despite obstacles, the discouragement of failure, and the distracting effect of temptations. It is crucial for the achievement of long-term goals. The persevering person does not lose sight of her purpose even when it takes a considerable amount of time to reach it, and she does not give up easily.	<b>COMPASSION</b>  Compassion is the ability to feel sorrow over another person's suffering, and to express that sorrow in a way that is intended to alleviate that suffering. Unlike pity, compassion does not imply a feeling of superiority to the suffering person, but instead forms a bond with the sufferer.
<b>OPEN-MINDEDNESS</b>  Open-mindedness is the readiness to step outside one's own point of view to consider the merits of alternative perspectives, with a willingness to change one's beliefs when that is warranted. Open-mindedness follows from a genuine love of truth, and the humility to admit that one might be mistaken in one's beliefs.	<b>HONESTY</b>  Honesty is a deep and pervasive commitment to the truth — seeking it out, holding oneself and others accountable to it, and living by it. Honest people do not say one thing and do another. Thus they can be counted on to follow and uphold the rules of the community. Honesty is therefore closely connected to respecting others in the community.	<b>FAIRNESS</b>  Fairness is a central virtue both of individuals and of social institutions. It is characterized by impartiality (a lack of favoritism). When people exhibit fairness, they consistently apply standards and rules to everyone and insist that others do the same, regardless of people's power or prestige. Fairness is thus an essential element of justice.

# OUR PROGRAMS

To foster awareness and encourage the cultivation of our nine primary virtues, both in the OU community and beyond, we are leading a variety of programs, organized under four main headings. Details about the progress of each program this past year are included in the following pages.

## OU PROGRAMS

### UNIVERSITY COLLEGE COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS

- » **Gateway to College Learning**  
A collaboration with University College on integrating the virtues into their Gateway to College Learning course.
- » **Common Read Program**  
Freshmen collectively read a book on virtue-related themes, and participate in discussion and reflection activities.
- » **Camp IMPACT**  
A 3-day spring break event that enables students to explore the role of virtue in their lives, as they participate in volunteer, service learning and civic activities.

### RESEARCH

- » **Leadership Team Research**  
Our Leadership Team includes distinguished scholars whose research garners international attention. Our team has already produced numerous research articles and three books. Other book projects are underway.
- » **Research Fellows**  
We offer Postdoctoral and Dissertation Fellowships to support early career scholars in research related to virtue and flourishing.
- » **Conferences**  
Several times each year we bring together researchers from across the U.S. and abroad to present their research and motivate new avenues of inquiry.

### COURSE DEVELOPMENT

- » We offer funding to assist OU faculty in developing new and redesigned courses that incorporate the OU virtues. We also assist faculty in developing effective assessment tools for measuring the effectiveness of their courses.

### LECTURES

- » **Institute Welcome Lecture**  
OU Provost, Dr. Kyle Harper, delivers a fall lecture on the underlying values and purposes of an OU education.
- » **"Last Lecture" Series**  
If you could give one last lecture before you die, what would you say? Each semester students gather to hear a distinguished leader in the OU community answer this question.
- » **Virtue Forum Luncheons**  
OU faculty, staff and graduate students gather over lunch 3-4 times each semester to present and discuss recent scholarship on virtue and education.
- » **Headliner Lecture**  
This annual event brings a distinguished scholar to OU to deliver a lecture on central issues in the development of virtue, character and flourishing.

## OUTREACH PROGRAMS

### PARENTS

In addition to offering online resources for parents, we host free one-day events that connect parents with local educators and other experts on child character development and flourishing.

### EDUCATION

We have partnered with local schools to assist in incorporating virtue and character into their classrooms and organizational culture.

### COMMUNITY

Having established partnerships with a variety of community organizations, we are facilitating their efforts to implement character-based programs to improve community flourishing.

## ASSESSMENT

We assess all our programs to help us determine their effectiveness and inform future improvements. We are also assisting our educational and community partners by providing assessment expertise on measuring indicators linked with virtue and character, and in assessing the impact of their character-based programs.

# INSTITUTE PERSONNEL

## LEADERSHIP TEAM



**NANCY E. SNOW, PH.D.**

*Director*

Dr. Snow is Professor of Philosophy and Director of the Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing. She is also co-Director of The Self, Motivation & Virtue Project, a \$2.6 million research initiative on the moral self. Before coming to OU, Dr. Snow was Professor of Philosophy for 25 years at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Well known for her work at the intersection of psychology and philosophy, she has authored, edited or co-edited 7 books and over 40 academic articles. She is co-editor of a 15 volume series on virtues with Oxford University Press and editor of the *Oxford Handbook of Virtue*. She is also regularly invited to speak at national and international events. Since moving to Oklahoma in the summer of 2015 she has rapidly become a recognized leader in the OU community.



**SCOTT BECK, PH.D.**

*Head Principal, Norman High School  
Norman, Oklahoma*



**NICOLE CAMPBELL, PH.D.**

*Dean of University College  
Professor of Psychology  
University of Oklahoma*



**GREGG A. GARN, PH.D.**

*Dean of Jeannine Rainbolt College of Education  
University of Oklahoma*



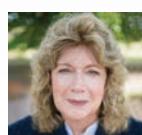
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*Financial Director*



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*Institute Manager*



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*Scientist Researcher*

## 2017-2018 FELLOWS



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*Dissertation Fellow*



**ALEX DANVERS, PH.D.**  
*Postdoctoral Fellow*



**JING IRIS HU, PH.D.**  
*Postdoctoral Fellow*



**JONG HYUN JUNG, PH.D.**  
*Postdoctoral Fellow*



**SETH ROBERTSON**  
*Dissertation Fellow*

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*Professor of Philosophy  
Department Chair  
University of Oklahoma*

# OU Programs

**A**s part of our mission to improve the flourishing of OU students and to advance the science of virtue, we manage activities and programs in four main areas.

## ***University College Collaborative Programs***

This area includes programs that introduce OU freshmen to the OU virtues, help them reflect on how the virtues apply to their own lives as students and young citizens, and encourage them to cultivate the virtues within themselves.

### ***Lectures***

We host a variety of lectures, including our annual Headliner Lecture and ISHF Welcome Lecture, our "Last Lectures," and our Virtue Forum Luncheon presentations.

## ***Course Development***

In this program, we incentivize OU faculty to integrate one or more of the OU virtues into a new course or a redesigned existing course. We also assist in developing an assessment plan focused on measuring growth in understanding and developing the virtues in students.

### ***Research***

In addition to the research on virtue and flourishing produced by our Leadership Team, we also fund Postdoctoral Fellows and Dissertation Fellows, and we host academic conferences on virtue-related topics.

## **UNIVERSITY COLLEGE COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS**

We fund three main programs that serve OU freshmen, administered through University College, under the leadership of Dr. Nicole Campbell, Dean of University College and Institute Leadership Team Member, and Ms. Lillian Miller, Director of University College's Freshman Programs.

We have collaborated with Dean Campbell, Ms. Miller, and their staff, to integrate the nine OU virtues into their existing **Gateway to College Learning** curriculum, and have supported their development of two new virtue-focused programs, **Common Read**, and **Camp IMPACT**. We are excited to report early results for all three programs below.



**MS. LILLIAN MILLER**  
*Director of University College's Freshman Programs*

*"Camp Impact taught me to look at myself through a different lens. It reminded me that I am doing no one any favors by selling myself short, and I must be open and honest about my capabilities-including not undervaluing them. The space between where I am and where I want to be should inspire me."*

- CAMP IMPACT PARTICIPANT

## GATEWAY TO COLLEGE LEARNING

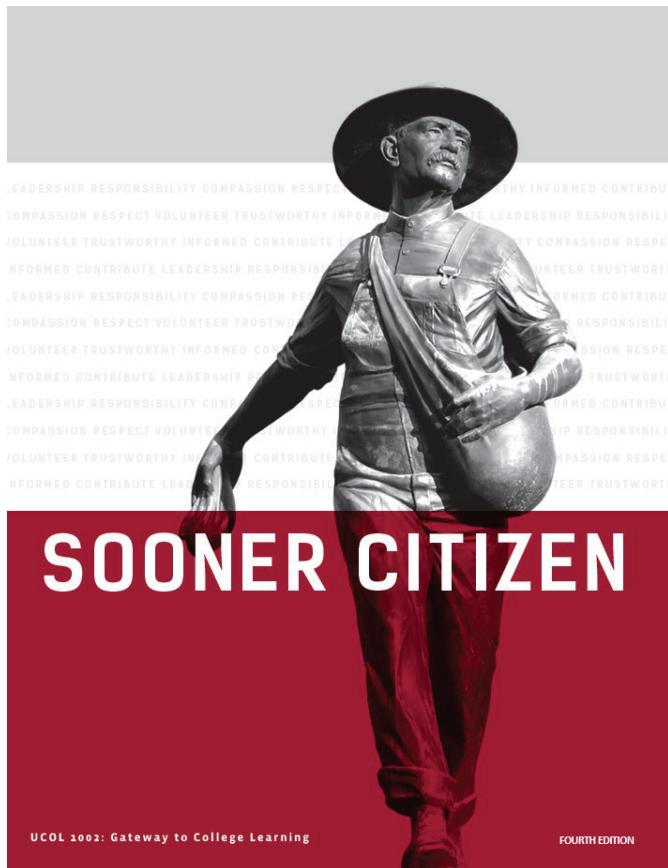
University College's Gateway to College Learning Course teaches incoming freshmen how to successfully navigate OU and to build a strong foundation for collegiate and life-long success. This past year, **1,546** students in **95** sections completed the course.

In preparation for the course, Gateway instructors and peer teaching assistants received training in virtue-related concepts and themes.



**GATEWAY COURSE INSTRUCTOR TRAINING**

All 95 sections used Gateway's substantially revised textbook, which includes instruction on all nine OU virtues in the very first chapter, and additional discussion of the virtues throughout the book. This means **1,546 students received direct instruction on the virtues in OU's gateway course last year!**



## Chapter 1

### **Understanding Your University: OU in the World**

Cornelia Lambert, Ph.D., former Adjunct Lecturer, Freshman Programs  
Lillian Miller, M.Ed., Director, Freshman Programs

#### *In this chapter, you will:*

- Become familiar with the Spheres of Influence and the meaning of a Sooner Citizen.
- Learn about the virtues of a well-rounded person.
- Recognize OU's status as a research university and the different members of the OU academic community.
- Learn about University College and degree-granting colleges.
- Discover some of OU's most important history and traditions.



*"The University of Oklahoma is truly an extraordinary institution, known for its academic excellence and strong sense of community."*

- President David Boren

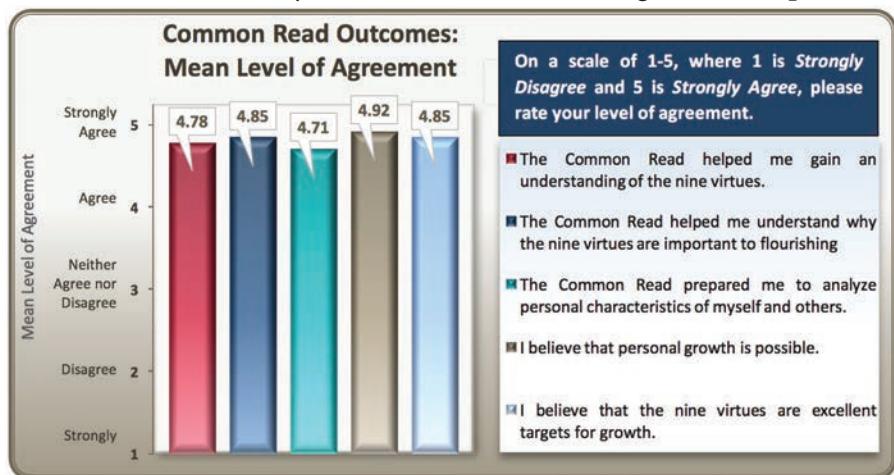
# UNIVERSITY COLLEGE COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS CONT.

## COMMON READ PROGRAM

Our Common Read program was originally conceived as a stand-alone program, in which OU Freshmen would read and reflect on a book that covers virtue-relevant topics, and then participate in guided discussions and reflection activities. In the Institute's first year, we realized this program could be most efficiently administered by integrating it into University College's Gateway to College Learning Course.

As reported last year, a committee selected the book *This I Believe*, edited by Jay Allison and Dan Gediman, a compilation of 80 short essays from both famous and ordinary citizens who were encouraged to share personal philosophies that shape their lives. The essays share insights that provide many opportunities for students to engage in critical dialogue and personal engagement with the OU virtues.

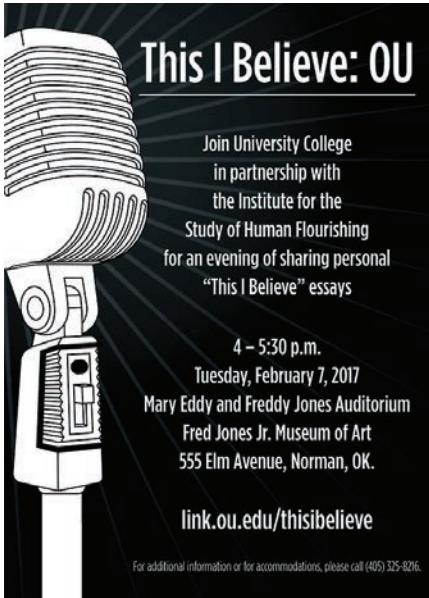
Common Read was launched in the fall of 2016. In preparation, curriculum and other materials were developed to support instructors in their facilitation of discussions and activities, and to assist them in drawing explicit connections between the OU virtues and themes addressed in the book.



**1,546** students participated in the program. In addition to reading *This I Believe*, students participated in guided discussions and assignments designed to help them reflect on the role of virtue in their own lives, and its connection to their deepest values. Students concluded the course by writing their own "This I Believe" essays, discussing their own beliefs in relation to one of the nine OU virtues.

The Common Read program also included a public essay recitation event on February 7, 2017 titled, "This I Believe: OU." Gateway instructors nominated several "This I Believe" essays from each course section. The essays were then evaluated by a selection committee on their level of virtue integration and analysis, communication, and overall effectiveness. Six student essays were selected for presentation by their authors at the recitation event. In addition, five community leaders, some of whom were OU staff members, were also invited to write and present their own "This I Believe" essays at the event.





## THIS I BELIEVE: OU

FEBRUARY 7, 2017

"This I Believe: OU" was held in the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art on the OU campus as part of our Common Read Program. It was attended by approximately 105 people, including many student parents. Following the recitation, presenters and audience members were invited to attend a reception in the beautiful Sandy Bell Gallery to engage in further dialogue around the virtues.



**CONTAGIOUS COMPASSION**  
*Alicia Allen, Gateway Student*



**LIFE, LIBERTY & THE PURSUIT OF ALL WHO THREATEN IT**  
*Lydia Bono, Gateway Student*



**THE ONE WE FORGET**  
*Kasey Catlett, Associate Director of LGBTQ and Health Programs, OU*



**A BATTLE WITH THE TRUTH**  
*Emily Humphreys, Gateway Student*



**BY THE BOOK**  
*Donald Huston  
High School Teacher (Retired)*



**IT'S OKAY TO BE WOBBLY**  
*Dylan Marr, Gateway Student*



**BE STILL**  
*Morgan Miller, Gateway Student*



**THE LETTER BOX**  
*Nayifa Nihad, Gateway Student*



**WHY I CARE**  
*Rev. Lee Roland, Pastor, Speaker,  
Past Principal of Tulakes Elementary*



**THE STRENGTH OF MY ANCESTORS**  
*Dr. Heather Shotton, Assistant Professor of Native American Studies, OU*



**FOSTERING AN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY**  
*Tahira Taqi, Account Coordinator,  
Schnake Turnbo Frank*

Videos of these presentations are available on our website at:

**OU.EDU/FLOURISH/RESOURCES/VIDEOS**

### Percentage of respondents who agreed:

<i>The event broadened their understanding of the OU virtues</i>	<b>85%</b>	<i>The event helped them think creatively about flourishing</i>	<b>81%</b>	<i>The event inspired them to personally develop one or more of OU virtues</i>	<b>73%</b>
<i>The event inspired them to help advance one or more of the OU virtues in their community</i>	<b>70%</b>	<i>The event inspired them to reflect on what they believe or value</i>	<b>84%</b>	<i>They would recommend this event to their peers</i>	<b>95%</b>

# UNIVERSITY COLLEGE COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS CONT.

## CAMP IMPACT

On March 12-15, 2017, University College, in collaboration with the Institute, hosted the second annual **Camp IMPACT: Spring Break with a Purpose**. Thirty OU freshmen, along with peer facilitators and University College staff, spent three days in downtown Oklahoma City for an in-depth exploration of the role of character in their lives.

As with last year, this camp was organized around three main emphases: **community service**; personal, moral, and cultural **social experiences**; and **civic engagement**.

### PRE-CAMP

Camp facilitators were interviewed and selected based on their GPA, their experiences and commitment to the program, and their ability to model the virtues. Camp participants attended an informational session and completed a virtue pre-screening. Results were distributed the first day of camp.



### DAY 1 | SOCIAL EXPERIENCES

Campers began with an orientation on the OU campus, and received workbooks that introduced them to the nine OU virtues. The group then traveled to the Sheraton Hotel in downtown Oklahoma City for team-building activities and interactive learning sessions, designed to give students a deeper understanding of the virtues. Speakers led conversations that challenged students' perceptions, and offered diverse perspectives on developing virtue-inspired and growth-oriented mindsets.

Campers also received their individual virtues profile generated from the pre-screening completed before camp. Students were provided with an opportunity to reflect upon and discuss their own profiles and the meaning of the group's aggregate profile.

### DAY 2 | SERVICE LEARNING

On Day 2, students toured Oklahoma City's Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum, where they joined State Rep. Scott Inman for a “civic virtue luncheon.” Campers then cultivated their artistic skills by painting their own canvas of the Oklahoma City landscape. Instructors guided students through the activity by focusing on intellectual humility and love of learning.

The day concluded with reflections on life in community, which gave students a lens to apply the civic virtues of civility, compassion, and fairness. Students were also led to reflect on issues such as privilege, stereotypes, and bias, which provided a broader perspective moving into the third day of camp.





## DAY 3 | CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

On Day 3, campers learned about poverty, homelessness, and the stereotypes and needs of these populations. Students discussed the concepts of *helping*, *fixing*, and *serving*, to reflect on their roles to prepare for their visit to the City Rescue Mission.

Students served at the City Rescue Mission by preparing lunches, hosting a day camp for the live-in children, sorting clothes at the donation resource center, and painting one of the living units. This opportunity of putting the virtues into practice was one of the students' favorite camp experiences. Many students shared that they felt a sense of fulfillment and greater obligation after having this opportunity to make a difference in the lives of others through service.

That evening, campers visited the OKC National Bombing memorial and reflected on the the community impact of the absence of virtue.

## DAY 4 | REFLECTION & PRACTICE

Based on last year's feedback, an additional day was included to allow students ample time to synthesize the lessons they had learned throughout camp. Students began with a labyrinth meditation activity that helped them focus on their personal experience and insights from the camp. This offered students a space for deep reflection and self -discovery.



Jennifer Barnes-Kerns, J.D., a Consulate General of the United States of America, encouraged the students to think about how they can exhibit virtues in a meaningful way through their careers and through service, and to consider what they might contribute to society. The students then developed personal IMPACT Statements that allowed them the opportunity to put these goals on paper.

## FOLLOW-UP

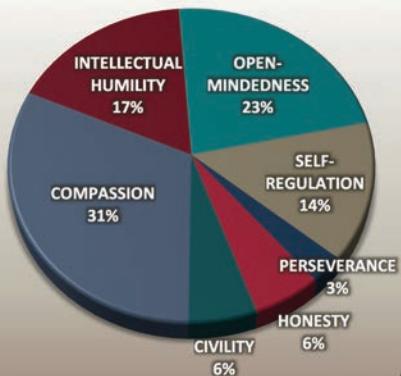
A 30-day follow-up dinner was held for camp participants. The evening involved a meal, reflections from the students, a post-camp follow-up survey, and a video documenting their camp experiences. The students challenged one another not to forget the lessons learned and to remain intentional about developing the virtues.

View the Camp IMPACT video at:

[OU.EDU/FLOURISH/RESOURCES/VIDEOS](http://OU.EDU/FLOURISH/RESOURCES/VIDEOS)

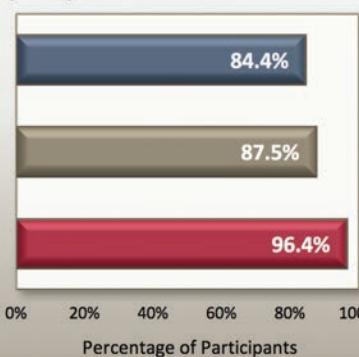
The Impact of Camp IMPACT

In which virtue do you believe you experienced the most growth?



Aggregate Evaluations of Camp Impact Sessions

- The activities were effective/very effective at impacting thinking
- The activities were enjoyable/very enjoyable
- The camp caused me to set new goals for myself



# LECTURES

## INSTITUTE WELCOME LECTURE

The Institute Welcome Lecture is meant to welcome new and returning students to OU by offering an inspiring vision for the purposes and value of an OU education. Our 2016 Welcome Lecture was delivered by OU's Senior Vice President and Provost and Institute Leadership Team Member, Dr. Kyle Harper.



### CAN CIVIC VIRTUE BE TAUGHT? September 13, 2016

OU Provost Kyle Harper delivered the Institute's second Welcome Lecture in the beautiful Sandy Bell Gallery, located in the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art. His lecture was a personal reflection on the role of the virtues in a public higher education, and specifically on whether civic virtue can be taught in the context of a public university.

#### Percentage of respondents who indicated the lecture:

<i>Provided insight on Love of Learning</i>	<b>96%</b>	<i>Positively inspired them to develop Love of Learning</i>	<b>78%</b>	<i>Demonstrated that Love of Learning is highly valued at OU</i>	<b>90%</b>
<i>Provided insight on Civic Engagement</i>	<b>75%</b>	<i>Positively inspired them to develop Civic Engagement</i>	<b>70%</b>	<i>Demonstrated that Civic Engagement is highly valued at OU</i>	<b>83%</b>



## LAST LECTURES

Our “Last Lectures” are modeled on the event series that gained international attention in 2007 when Randy Pausch, a professor at Carnegie Mellon who had been diagnosed with terminal pancreatic cancer, gave a lecture entitled “The Last Lecture: Really Achieving Your Childhood Dreams.”

Our Last Lecture series gives OU leaders an opportunity to reflect deeply about what matters most to them, and to share those reflections with the OU and local communities. This past year we held two “Last Lectures,” presented by two of the most well-respected and beloved members of the OU community: Ms. Sherri Coale and Ms. Kristen Partridge.



### CHASING ‘IT’

September 8, 2016

#### SHERRI COALE

*Head Coach of Women’s Basket Ball, University of Oklahoma*

**BIO:** In her 20th season as head coach of the University of Oklahoma women’s basketball team, Ms. Sherri Coale is considered one of the top collegiate coaches in the nation. After 7 years and amazing success at the high school level, Coale accepted the top coaching position at OU in 1996. She quickly

turned a struggling program into a national title contender. Since 1996, the Sooners have won 6 regular season Big 12 titles, 4 Big 12 tournament titles, and made 17 consecutive appearances in the NCAA tournament. Coale has also been recognized locally and nationally for her achievements, receiving, among other awards, the 2011 United Nations NGO Positive Peace Award in the coaching category. Her goals have always been to maximize the potential of her players and team on and off the court by encouraging excellence in the classroom and service in the community.

#### Percentage of respondents who indicated the lecture:

Provided insight on Compassion	<b>92%</b>	Positively inspired them to develop Compassion	<b>93%</b>	Demonstrated that Compassion is highly valued at OU	<b>95%</b>
Provided insight on Perseverance	<b>97%</b>	Positively inspired them to develop Perseverance	<b>95%</b>	Demonstrated that Perseverance is highly valued at OU	<b>97%</b>

### SCATTER JOY

March 8, 2017

#### KRISTEN PARTRIDGE

*Associate Vice President for Student Affairs  
Associate Dean of Students, University of Oklahoma*

**Bio:** Ms. Kristen Partridge received a Bachelor of Science in Education in 1999 and a Masters in Human Relations and Organizational Leadership in 2008. She began her career in student activities at the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond and later returned to OU where for the past 15 years she served as Union Programming Coordinator, advisor to the Campus Activities Council, and the Director of Student Life. In 2012, Kristen received the Sullivant Prize for Perceptivity, given by the Inasmuch Foundation. Ms. Partridge’s focus is promoting leadership development and enhancing self-awareness in every person she meets. She speaks to thousands of students every year about becoming “You 2.0,” the best possible versions of themselves.

#### Percentage of respondents who indicated the lecture:

Provided insight on Open-Mindedness	<b>97%</b>	Positively inspired them to develop Open-Mindedness	<b>99%</b>	Demonstrated that Open-Mindedness is highly valued at OU	<b>98%</b>
Provided insight on Self-Regulation	<b>97%</b>	Positively inspired them to develop Self-Regulation	<b>98%</b>	Demonstrated that Self-Regulation is highly valued at OU	<b>97%</b>



# LECTURES CONT.

## VIRTUE FORUM LUNCHEONS

Our Virtue Forum Luncheon series began during the planning stages of the Institute, as a way for OU faculty and staff to discuss flourishing and virtue at OU and in higher education generally.

In the two years since the Institute's founding, enthusiasm for this luncheon series continues. Approximately once a month, OU faculty, administrators and graduate students convene over lunch to share virtue-related research and explore new ideas. Participants are united by an interest in approaching education informed by an understanding of human flourishing, character, and virtue. This past year we hosted 6 luncheons.

NOVEMBER 4, 2016



INVESTIGATING HUMILITY AS INTELLECTUAL VIRTUE: A LIMITATIONS-OWNING PERSPECTIVE

MEGAN HAGGARD, PH.D.

2016-17 Postdoctoral Fellow  
*Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing*

DECEMBER 9, 2016

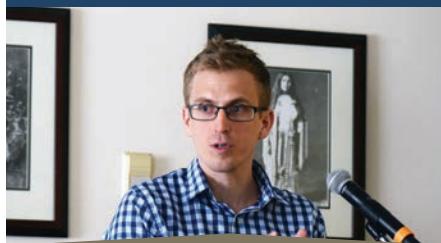


BECOMING WHO THEY WANT TO BE: CROSS-NATIONAL & IN-DEPTH EXAMINATIONS OF VALUE-BEHAVIOR CONCORDANCE IN ADOLESCENCE

MICHAEL WARREN, PH.D.

2016-17 Postdoctoral Fellow  
*Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing*

MARCH 10, 2017

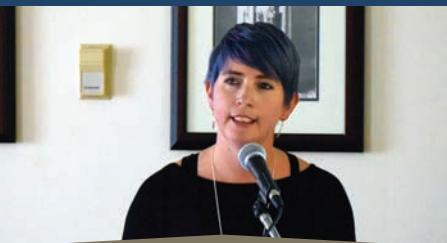


FORGIVENESS IN THEOLOGY AND POLITICS

JOHN-MARK HART, PH.D.

2016-17 Dissertation Fellow  
*Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing*

FEBRUARY 17, 2017



VIRTUE AND VICE IN THE MEDIA: A BREXIT CASE STUDY

LANI WATSON, PH.D.

2016-17 Postdoctoral Fellow  
*Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing*

MAY 5, 2017



EXEMPLARS, VIRTUES, AND THE COSMOS

IAN JAMES KIDD, PH.D.

Assistant Professor of Philosophy  
*University of Nottingham, U.K.*

WATER SCARCITY AND HUMAN WELL-BEING: HOW CAN SATELLITE DATA HELP?

EMAD HASAN, PH.D.

2016-17 Dissertation Fellow  
*Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing*

## HEADLINER LECTURE

The purpose of this annual lecture is to bring a distinguished scholar to OU to deliver a lecture on central issues in the development of virtue, character and flourishing. The lecture is meant to promote awareness of virtue and discussion within OU and beyond on the role of virtue in our educational and civic communities.

Our first Headliner Lecture was given by Dr. Joshua Yates on December 8, 2016 in the Oklahoma Memorial Union's Meacham Auditorium.

### HUMAN FLOURISHING AND THE URBAN POSSIBILITIES FOR OUR GRANDCHILDREN

December 8, 2016



#### SYNOPSIS

"There is perhaps no more universal desire than to see our children and our children's children flourish. Few desires have defined the good life across more societies or historical eras. What about our own children and grandchildren's possibilities for flourishing? What will their prospects be and will they be better than our own?

"At the start of the 21st century, these are live questions. On the one hand, climate change, demographic transformation, economic inequality, technological disruption, and political polarization raise real and urgent questions about our

inherited confidence in our ability to progressively and equitably flourish. On the other hand, a number of advances around connected computing and Big Data, and between smart technologies and material science, combined with new insights into the inner workings of human behavior coming out of the cognitive sciences promise the next big leap in human progress. Underlying both the challenges and the possibilities is the little remarked upon fact that we are living through a profound transformation in the very meaning, shape, and sources of human flourishing, the full impact of which remains uncertain.

"However this transformation plays out, one thing is certain: cities will be the crucible for the answers we will ultimately give to the question of flourishing. Humanity is now a predominantly urban species making the enduring quest for wellbeing and the good life fundamentally an urban concern. It is within the contexts of cities that we must today cultivate the practical, ethical, and political resources necessary to ensure the best chances for the flourishing for our grandchildren."



#### Percentage of respondents who agreed the lecture:

*Inspired them to think creatively about flourishing*      **89%**

*Motivated them to think of flourishing in urban contexts in new ways*      **84%**



**JOSHUA YATES, PH.D.,** is Director of Thriving Cities and Research Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Virginia. He specializes in the study of culture and cultural change in the late modern world, with an emphasis on moral and ethical life. He has written on the cultural imperatives of humanitarian and human rights organizations, on the rise of the anti-globalization protest movement, on the ways modern institutions contend with disaster and catastrophe, and, most recently, on the cultural significance of sustainability as a leading paradigm of social, political, and ethical action.

# COURSE DEVELOPMENT

This program incentivizes OU faculty to develop new courses and redesign existing courses that incorporate one or more of the OU virtues. As part of this program, faculty attend an Assessment Workshop for assistance on crafting a comprehensive assessment plan integrated with the OU virtues selected for the course. Upon completion of the course, instructors are asked to share their assessment data through an online portal, so that we can track the effectiveness of our funded courses.

## HIGHLIGHTS

9	Institute-Funded Courses Taught
9	Course Proposals Approved
3	Assessment Workshops Held

## 2016-17 COURSE PROPOSALS

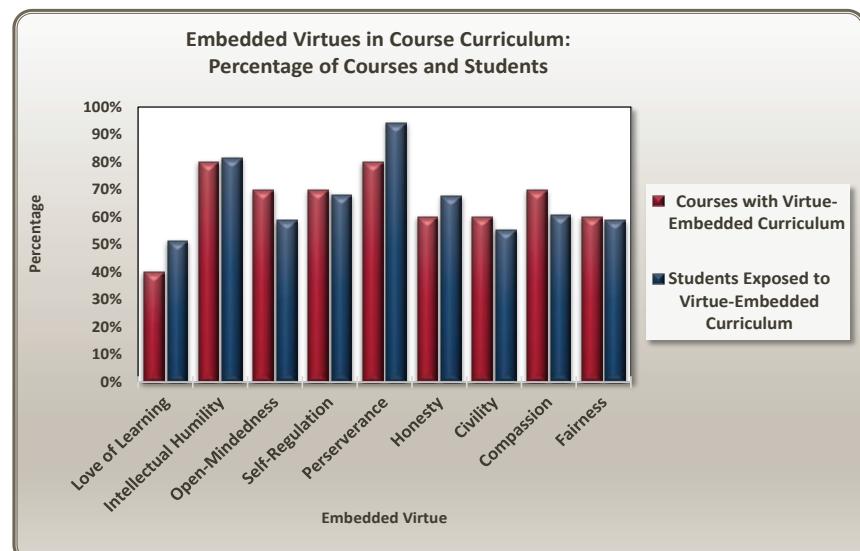
This year we received 11 course proposals, 4 for new and 7 for redesigned courses. To date, 9 of these proposals have been approved for funding. Two were already taught this past year, and are included on the facing page. The others, which will be taught in fall 2017 and spring 2018, are included here.

- » ***Italian Conversation (Redesigned Course)***  
Dr. Daniela Busciglio, Assistant Professor of Italian & Second Language Acquisition, Department of Modern Languages, Literatures and Linguistics
- » ***Memoir in America (Redesigned Course)***  
Dr. Julia Ehrhardt, Associate Professor of American Studies, Honors College
- » ***Introduction to Business Ethics (Redesigned Course)***  
Dr. Stephen Ellis, Associate Professor of Philosophy Department of Philosophy
- » ***Language & Interaction at Work (New Course)***  
Dr. Amanda Minks, Associate Professor of Anthropology and Ethnomusicology, Honors College

- » ***Foundations of Public Service (New Course)***  
Dr. Aimee Franklin, Sam K. Viersen, Jr. Presidential Professor of Political Science, Department of Political Science
- » ***Violence and the Sacred (Redesigned Course)***  
Dr. Robert Scafe, Lecturer in Expository Writing  
Dr. Jennifer Shaiman, Lecturer in Expository Writing Department of Expository Writing
- » ***The Idea of a Liberal Society (New Course)***  
Dr. Kathleen Tippler, Assistant Professor Department of Political Science

## HIGHLIGHTS

233	Number of Enrolled Students
83%	Students who Met or Exceeded Standards using Direct Measures of Virtue



## INSTITUTE-FUNDED OU COURSES TAUGHT

In 2016-17, nine Institute-funded courses were taught, including the second iteration of Dr. Linda Zagzebski's course on Virtue Ethics (first taught in fall 2015) and a new course on Human Flourishing, taught by Dr. Nancy Snow.

### » ***Journalism Ethics (Redesigned Course)***

Dr. David Craig, Presidential Professor & Associate Dean  
Gaylord College of Journalism & Mass Communication

### » ***Methods IX: Entrepreneurial Architect & Leadership: Vignettes on Executive Virtue (New Course)***

Marjorie P. Callahan, Associate Professor of Architecture  
College of Architecture

### » ***Virtue Ethics (New Course, Second Iteration)***

Dr. Linda Zagzebski, George Lynn Cross Research Professor, Kingfisher College Chair of the Philosophy of Religion and Ethics, Department of Philosophy

### » ***Civility (New Course)***

Dr. Amy Olberding, President's Associates Presidential Professor, Department of Philosophy

### » ***Global Social Problems (New Course)***

Dr. Loretta Bass, Professor of Sociology  
Department of Sociology

### » ***Introduction to Human Flourishing (New Course)***

Dr. Nancy Snow, Professor and Director  
Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing

### » ***Personal Health (Redesigned Course)***

Dr. Chih Ming Chung, Assistant Director  
Office of Academic Assessment  
*Dr. Chung accepted a new position in August 2017 as Director of University Assessment and Testing at Oklahoma State University*

### » ***Self and Identity (Redesigned Course)***

Dr. Heather Demarest, Assistant Professor of Philosophy  
Department of Philosophy  
*Dr. Demarest accepted a new position in August 2017 as Assistant Professor of Philosophy at University of Colorado-Boulder*

### » ***World Music (Redesigned Course)***

Dr. Jennifer Peck, Lecturer in Native American Music  
Weitzenhoffer Family College of Fine Arts, School of Music



## VIRTUE ETHICS

Dr. Linda Zagzebski's undergraduate course on Virtue Ethics, taught in the fall of 2016, began with a historical overview, covering the historical zenith of virtue ethics from the Ancient Greeks through the Middle Ages, the fall of virtue concepts in the early modern period, and the rebirth of virtue ethics in the later 20th century. Students discussed several of the Institute's virtues and their related vices, along with fundamental philosophical questions, such as: What is a virtue? How is virtue related to a life that is good for the individual and good for the community? Can virtue be taught and measured? The materials for this course are publically available on OU's Janux platform ([JANUX.OU.EDU](http://JANUX.OU.EDU)).

## INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN FLOURISHING

Taught in the spring of 2017 by Institute Director, Dr. Nancy Snow, this graduate-level course offered an overview of different conceptions of human flourishing and of the role of virtue in those conceptions. Students in the course were teachers from our partner high schools, including teachers from Norman North, Sante Fe South (Oklahoma City), and Odyssey Leadership Academy (Oklahoma City). A guest lecture on Positive Psychology was given by Institute Postdoctoral Fellow, Dr. Michael Warren.



*"The work that I put in as a student under Dr. Snow allowed me to see my own capabilities. Before this class, I limited myself. I was stuck in my own ideas of who I thought I was and what I thought I could do. Now, looking back, I have gone far beyond those ideas of myself. Dr. Snow embedded courage within me."*

- MANDY HOWELL, SANTE FE SOUTH CHARTER SCHOOLS

# OU COURSE DEVELOPMENT CONT.

## ASSESSMENT WORKSHOPS

OU faculty who submit course proposals as part of our Course Development program are strongly encouraged to attend one of our Assessment Workshops. The purpose of these workshops is to assist faculty with crafting a comprehensive assessment plan to evaluate student growth through the course. The workshops provide practical assistance in developing student learning outcomes, class assignments, and rubrics related to the OU virtues.

This past year, we held three workshops. The first was led by Dr. Heather Battaly, Professor of Philosophy at California State, Fullerton. The other two were led by Dr. Felix Wao, Institute Leadership Team member and Director of the Office of Academic Assessment at The University of Oklahoma.

**Heather Battaly, Ph.D.**

*Professor of Philosophy  
California State University, Fullerton*



**Facilitating Open-mindedness,  
Intellectual Humility, and Perseverance  
in the College Classroom**

October 14, 2016

**100%** of respondents agreed the session broadened their understanding of facilitating open-mindedness, intellectual humility, and perseverance in the college classroom

**Felix Wao, Ph.D.**

*Director of the Office of Academic Assessment  
University of Oklahoma*



**Assessing OU Virtues in the Classroom**

November 11, 2016

**Practical Strategies for Assessing  
OU Virtues in the Classroom**

April 28, 2017

**100%** of respondents agreed the sessions broadened their understanding of how to assess virtues in their courses



# RESEARCH

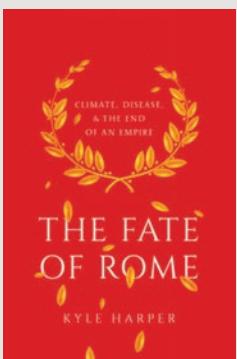
## HIGHLIGHTS

The Institute has had a productive year of research, including the publication of two monographs and a range of research articles, the presentation of invited lectures and conference papers, and two research conferences. The first conference was on the virtue of humility. The second was on virtue epistemology. A quick overview is included below, with detailed references provided on the following pages.

RESEARCH OUTPUTS	THIS YEAR	TO DATE
Academic Papers	11	20
Monographs	2	3
Presentations	28	44
Conferences	2	2

### KYLE HARPER, PH.D.

*Leadership Team*



### *The Fate of Rome: Climate, Disease, and the End of an Empire*

Princeton University Press, 2017



**Publisher's Description:** Here is the monumental retelling of one of the most consequential chapters of human history: the fall of the Roman Empire. *The Fate of Rome* is the first book to examine the catastrophic role that climate change and infectious diseases played in the collapse of Rome's power—a story of nature's triumph over human ambition.

Interweaving a grand historical narrative with cutting-edge climate science and genetic discoveries, Kyle Harper traces how the fate of Rome was decided not just by emperors, soldiers, and barbarians but also by volcanic eruptions, solar cycles, climate instability, and devastating viruses and bacteria. He takes readers from Rome's pinnacle in the second century, when the empire seemed an invincible superpower, to its unraveling by the seventh century, when Rome was politically fragmented and materially depleted. Harper describes how the Romans were resilient in the face of enormous environmental stress, until the besieged empire could no longer withstand the combined challenges of a "little ice age" and recurrent outbreaks of bubonic plague.

A poignant reflection on humanity's intimate relationship with the environment, *The Fate of Rome* provides a sweeping account of how one of history's greatest civilizations encountered and endured, yet ultimately succumbed to the cumulative burden of nature's violence. The example of Rome is a timely reminder that climate change and germ evolution have shaped the world we inhabit—in ways that are surprising and profound.

# PUBLICATIONS

NANCY SNOW, PH.D.

Director



## PUBLICATIONS

- » **Snow, N. (2016). How habits make us virtuous.**  
In J. Annas, D. Narvaez & N. Snow (Eds.), *Developing the virtues: Integrating perspectives* (135-156). New York: Oxford University Press.
- » **Snow, N. (2017). The nature of humility: A critical perspective on Nadelhoffer and Wright.**  
In W. Sinnott-Armstrong & C. Miller (Eds.), *Moral Psychology, Volume 5: Virtue and Happiness* (351-359). Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press.

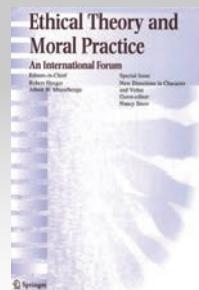
## PRESENTATIONS

- » **Snow, N. (2016). Integrating virtue perspectives on character education: A place for positive psychology.**  
International Positive Education Network Conference, Dallas, TX (July 19).
- » **Snow, N. (2016). The Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing.**  
Connecting Virtues: Theoretical & Educational Insights, Aretai Center on Virtues, Genoa, Italy (Sept 28).
- » **Snow, N. (2016). Virtue as social intelligence: An overview.**  
Public Lecture, Rogers State University, Claremore, OK (Oct 27).
- » **Snow, N. (2016). Love in religion.**  
Intl. Consultation: "Love in Religion: The Cutting-Edge Issues," Regent's Park College, Univ. of Oxford, England (Nov 11).
- » **Snow, N. (2016). Virtue as social intelligence: An overview.**  
Banquet Speaker, Morality, Moral Philosophy, & the Humanities in the Age of Neuroscience, Kent State University, OH (Nov 19).
- » **Snow, N. (2017). Extending compassion: Commentary on David Wong's "Early Confucian philosophy and development of compassion."**  
Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division, Baltimore, MD (Jan 5).
- » **Snow, N. (2017). On philosophy and social science: Virtue as social intelligence and beyond.**  
J. Glenn and Ursula Memorial Lecture, Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO (Mar 2).
- » **Snow, N. (2017). The spiritual exercises and the virtues of introspection.**  
Academy of Catholic Thought and Imagination, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA (Mar 21).
- » **Snow, N. (2017). The perils of magnificence.**  
Colloquium at the Department of Philosophy, University of Miami, Miami, FL (Mar 23).
- » **Snow, N. (2017). From 'ordinary' virtue to Aristotelian virtue.**  
William R. Connolly Ethics Lecture Series, University of Evansville, Evansville, IN (Mar 28).
- » **Snow, N. (2017). Positive psychology, the VIA classification of character strengths, and virtue measurement.**  
Panel on Positive Psychology & Virtue, Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division, Seattle, WA (Apr 15).
- » **Snow, N. (2017). Hope as a democratic virtue.**  
The Nature and Norms of Hope, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY (Apr 27).
- » **Snow, N. (2017). False and unrealistic hopes.**  
Moral Failure & Pathways to Recovery Workshop, University of South Alabama, Mobile, AL (June 9).

Guest Editor, Special Section of  
*Ethical Theory and Moral Practice*

2016  
Vol 20, Issue 3

*New Directions  
in Character and  
Virtue: Theory  
and Practice*

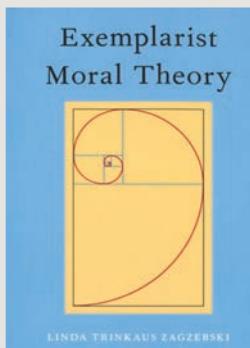


*“...the Institute has served to elevate Nancy’s already high profile in the area [of character, virtue and flourishing] even more. She is constantly being invited to give important lectures and participate in symposiums and panels. This past spring, for instance, we were a part of a group symposium on David Wong’s work at the APA Eastern, and a symposium on positive psychology at the APA Pacific. There is no doubt that Nancy is one of the most influential and important voices today on character, not just in philosophy but also in psychology, education, and other fields.”*

**CHRISTIAN B. MILLER, PH.D., A. C. REID PROFESSOR OF PHILOSOPHY  
WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY, WAKE FOREST, NC**

## LINDA ZAGZEBSKI, PH.D.

*Leadership Team*



### ***Exemplarist Moral Theory***

Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017



**Publisher's Description:** In this book Linda Zagzebski presents an original moral theory based on direct reference to exemplars of goodness, modeled on the Putnam-Kripke theory which revolutionized semantics in the seventies. In Exemplarist Moral Theory, exemplars are identified through the emotion of admiration, which Zagzebski argues is both a motivating emotion and an emotion whose cognitive content permits the mapping of the moral domain around the features of exemplars. Using examples of heroes, saints, and sages, Zagzebski shows how narratives of exemplars and empirical work on the most admirable persons can be incorporated into the theory for both the theoretical purpose of generating a comprehensive theory, and the practical purpose of moral education and self-improvement.

## **OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

- » **Zagzebski, L. (2016). The dignity of persons and the value of uniqueness.**  
*Proceedings & Addresses of the American Philosophical Association*, Presidential Address, 90, 59-75.
- » **Zagzebski, L. (2016). The joys and sorrows of a philosophical life.**  
*Proceedings & Addresses of the American Philosophical Association*, Dewey Lecture, 90, 119-133.
- » **Zagzebski, L. (2016). Divine motivation theory and exemplarism.**  
*European Journal for Philosophy of Religion*, 8(3), 109-121.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

- » **Zagzebski, L. (2016). Virtuous exemplars: Moral understanding, emulation, and resentment.**  
Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA (Sept 27).
- » **Zagzebski, L. (2016). Virtuous exemplars: Moral understanding, emulation, and resentment.**  
Malcolm Reid Lecture, Gordon College, MA (Oct 27).
- » **Zagzebski, L. (2017). A modern defense of religious authority.**  
Lecture at Mount Marty College (Apr 23).

# MEGAN HAGGARD, PH.D.

Postdoctoral Fellow 2016-17



## PUBLICATIONS

- » **Haggard, M.C., Rowatt, W.C., & Leman, J.C. (2017). Intellectual humility and morality concerning political and social issues in the United States.**  
In Pracana, C. & Wang, M. (Eds.), *International Psychological Applications Conference and Trends*. Lisbon: World Institute for Advanced Research and Science.
- » **Leman, J., Haggard, M.C., Meagher, B.R., & Rowatt, W.C. (2017). Personality predictors and correlates of humility.**  
In Worthington, E., Davis, D., & Hook, J. (Eds.), *Handbook of humility: Theory, research, and applications*. Routledge Press.
- » **Demarest, H., Robertson, S., Haggard, M.C., Seaver, M., & Bickel, J.L. (2017). Similarity and enjoyment: Predicting continuation for women in philosophy.**  
*Analysis*. Published online, Aug. 1, 2017.

## PRESENTATIONS

- » **Haggard, M.C. (2016). Humility as intellectual virtue.**  
Humility: Reflections on its Nature and Function Conference, Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing, The University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK (Oct 20).
- » **Haggard, M.C. (2016). Investigating humility as intellectual virtue: A limitations-owning perspective.**  
Virtue Forum Luncheon, Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing, The University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK (Nov 4).
- » **Haggard, M.C. (2017). How to be a good man/woman: Descriptive and prescriptive moralities.**  
Gender Preconference, Annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Antonio, TX (Jan 19).
- » **Haggard, M.C., Rowatt, W.C., Leman, J.C., & Moore, C. (2017). Three measures of intellectual humility: What they do and don't tell us.**  
Poster presentation, Annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Antonio, TX (Jan 21).
- » **Haggard, M.C. (2017). Virtues of the citizen: Intellectual humility and socio-political issues.**  
Oral Symposium, Annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychology Association, Chicago, IL (Apr 20).
- » **Haggard, M.C., Rowatt, W.C., & Leman, J.C. (2017). Intellectual humility and morality concerning political and social issues in the United States.**  
Annual meeting of the International Psychological Applications Conference and Trends, Budapest, Hungary (Apr 29).

*"Megan Haggard was an essential collaborator on my IRB-approved project on the retention of undergraduate women in philosophy. She provided crucial statistical analysis of the collected data, which allowed us to publish the results of our research in Analysis. ("Similarity and Enjoyment Predict Continuation for Women in Philosophy") Her contributions were insightful and technically sophisticated in a way that dramatically improved the significance and impact of my study. I am so grateful that she was at OU during our study and that she graciously agreed to help!"*

- HEATHER DEMAREST, PH.D.  
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF PHILOSOPHY  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO-BOULDER

## MICHAEL WARREN, PH.D.

Postdoctoral Fellow 2016-17



### PUBLICATIONS

- » Warren, M. T., & Wray-Lake, L. (2017). Does mindfulness prepare adolescents for value-behavior concordance? Examining the role of value content. *Journal of Adolescence*, 58, 56-66. Published online on May 9, 2017.
- » Warren, M. T., Wray-Lake, L., & Syvertsen, A. K. (2017). Becoming who they want to be: A cross-national examination of value-behavior concordance and mindfulness in adolescence. *The Journal of Positive Psychology*. Published online on July 11, 2017.

### PRESENTATIONS

- » Warren, M. A. (2016). Becoming who they want to be: A cross-national examination of value-behavior concordance and mindfulness in adolescence. Virtue Forum Luncheon, Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing, The University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK (Dec 9).
- » Warren, M. T., & Wray-Lake, L. (2017). Does mindfulness foster value-behavior concordance for intrinsic and extrinsic values? 2nd Western Positive Psychology Association Conference, Claremont, CA (Jan 21).
- » Warren, M. T. (2017). Integrating Schwartz's Refined Values with Self-Determination Theory's Intrinsic-Extrinsic Dimension? 89th Midwestern Psychological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL (Apr 20).

## LANI WATSON, PH.D.

Postdoctoral Fellow 2016-17



### PUBLICATIONS

- » Watson, L. (Forthcoming). Curiosity and inquisitiveness. In H. Battaly (Ed.), *The Routledge handbook of virtue epistemology*. London: Routledge.
- » Watson, L. (Forthcoming). Questioning and democratic education. In P. Graham (Ed.), *The Routledge handbook of social epistemology*. London: Routledge.
- » Watson, L. (Forthcoming). Educating for curiosity. In I. Inan, L. Watson, D. Whitcomb & S. Yigit (Eds.), *The moral psychology of curiosity*. London: Rowman & Littlefield.

### PRESENTATIONS

- » Watson, L. (2016). Why should we educate for inquisitiveness in a democracy. CSLEE Values and Leadership Conference, Western University, Ontario (Oct 20-22).
- » Watson, L. (2017). Virtue and vice in the media: A Brexit case study. Virtue Forum Luncheon, Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing, University of Oklahoma (Feb 17).
- » Watson, L. (2017). Why should we educate for inquisitiveness in a democracy. Beacon Project Seminar, Wake Forest University (March 20). Western Washington University (Apr 10).
- » Watson, L. (2017). Systematic epistemic rights violations in the media: A Brexit case study. Virtue Epistemology Conference, University of Oklahoma (Feb 24). Philosophy Department work-in-progress seminar, Wake Forest University (Mar 20).

Lead Editor of  
*The Moral Psychology of Curiosity*

Co-editors:  
I. Inan, D. Whitcomb and S. Yigit

Part of the *Moral Psychology of the Emotions*  
series edited by M. Alfano  
Roman & Littlefield

## JOHN-MARK HART, PH.D.

Dissertation Fellow 2016-17 (Ph.D. conferred May 2017)



### PUBLICATIONS

- » **Hart, J.M. (forthcoming). Redeeming critique: Theology and the future of theory.**  
*American Book Review.*
- » **Hart, J.M. (forthcoming). Ian Bogost.**  
In V. B. Leitch, et al. (Eds.), *Norton Anthology of Theory and Criticism* (3rd ed). New York, NY: W.W. Norton.
- » **Hart, J.M. (forthcoming). Rob Nixon.**  
In V. B. Leitch, et al. (Eds.), *Norton Anthology of Theory and Criticism* (3rd ed). New York, NY: W.W. Norton.

### DISSERTATION: *Political theology and social hope*

Department of English, University of Oklahoma, Defended May 5, 2017

This dissertation intervenes in political theology to offer a constructive and wide-ranging theological proposal for Christian cultural engagement and peacemaking in the context of the globalization, perpetual violence, widespread economic inequity, and religious pluralism that characterize geopolitics in the twenty-first century. Drawing upon the biblical concept of shalom, it argues that the church's peacemaking vocation involves not only mediating conflict, but also pursuing human flourishing at the local, national, and international levels. The dissertation engages with influential classic and contemporary texts of Christian theology as well as the work of leading secular cultural theorists in order to reassess the meaning of three major concepts—evil, justice, and love—that are central for any coherent vision of Christian political praxis. Building upon this analysis, it advocates for the spiritual disciplines of lament and “prophetic imagination,” whereby the church learns to name the world’s evils while also cultivating new visions of human flourishing that can guide and sustain social action. In order to flesh out the principles and tactics of the church’s peacemaking mission, the dissertation also analyzes the thought and action of exemplary modern peace activists, notably Martin Luther King Jr., John M. Perkins, Desmond Tutu, and Dietrich Bonhoeffer. The central argument is that the church is called to resist evil and cultivate shalom in the present world order through counter-cultural love, which is expressed by (1) radical practices of reconciliation across demographic barriers, (2) assets-based development strategies aimed at promoting comprehensive flourishing in under-resourced communities, and (3) nonviolent direct action that challenges injustice at the structural level while promoting a biblically-rooted vision of human solidarity.

## EMAD HASAN, PH.D.

Dissertation Fellow 2016-17 (Ph.D. conferred May 2017)



### DISSERTATION: *Geospatial modeling of surface water trends using time series and images observation analysis*

College of Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences, University of Oklahoma, Defended December 9, 2016

This study addresses the impact of climate change on the Nile River Basin (NRB) and its downstream delta, the Nile Delta of Egypt. The NRB region undergoes a huge fluctuation in precipitation and temperatures from year-to-year. Via a combination of multi-scale satellite remote sensing, model reanalysis, and land surface model information, this study evaluates: 1- how this variation in precipitation and temperature affects Nile River flow, 2- to what extent future sea level rise (SLR) could impact the Nile Delta of Egypt, and 3- how historical variations in the El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) signal are responsible for fluctuations in water storage in the basin. To answer these questions, a comprehensive water budget equation valid under different climate scenarios was formulated. Next, the variation in precipitation and temperatures was used to calculate the elasticity (reliance) of the Nile River flow to climate change. Third, a merger between remotely-sensed digital elevation models and in situ elevation measurements was used to estimate the future SLR impact in the Nile Delta. The study results indicate regular surface flows are maintained when basin-integrated storage changes (expressed as a depth) increase by less than 60 mm. Meanwhile, decreases in storage change of more than 40 mm subject the basin to severe drought conditions. The Nile River flow is highly sensitive to variations in precipitation and temperature. A 10 percent increase in precipitation results in a 20 percent increase in surface runoff. A -0.5°C change in temperatures results in a 5 percent increase in surface runoff. SLR is an imminent threat to the Nile Delta's communities and land; potential impacts are intense but confined to coastal areas. For instance, a 1-m SLR will inundate about 580 km<sup>2</sup> (6 percent) of the total land area, and would necessitate the relocation of approximately 887,000 people. The reconstruction of historical basin storage changes indicates that there is a connection between the ENSO and the long-term variation in NRB water storage. Specifically, strong El Niño events are associated with droughts in the NRB and strong La Niña events are associated with floods.

# RESEARCH CONFERENCES



## CONFERENCE #1

Our first research conference titled, "Humility: Reflections on Its Nature and Function," took place on October 20-21, 2016. It brought together 24 scholars from a variety of disciplines to share and discuss research on the virtue of humility. Fifteen papers were presented, two of which were delivered via videoconference, from Barcelona, Spain, and Littlehampton, England.

The papers presented at this event will appear in a volume, currently under contract with Oxford University Press, edited by Dr. Jennifer Cole Wright (College of Charleston). The volume will be the first in a 15 volume series on the virtues from Oxford University Press, co-edited by Dr. Snow and Advisory Board Member, Dr. Darcia Narvaez (University of Notre Dame).



### PRESENTERS

- Antonio Argandoña, Ph.D. (University of Navarra)
- Michael Austin, Ph.D. (Eastern Kentucky University)
- David J. Bobb, Ph.D. (Bill of Rights Institute)
- Megan Haggard, Ph.D. (University of Oklahoma)
- Joshua Hook, Ph.D. (University of North Texas)
- Pelin Kesebir, Ph.D. (Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison)
- Mark R. Leary, Ph.D. (Duke University)
- Alan Morinis, Ph.D. (The Mussar Institute)
- Darcia Narvaez, Ph.D. (University of Notre Dame)
- C. Thi Nguyen, Ph.D. (Utah Valley University)
- Robert Roberts, Ph.D. (Baylor University)
- Jamie Schillinger, Ph.D. (St. Olaf College)

- Kay De Vries, Ph.D. (University of Brighton)
- Erik J. Wielenberg, Ph.D. (DePauw University)
- Jennifer Cole Wright, Ph.D. (College of Charleston)

**Respondents who agreed or strongly agreed the conference broadened their understanding of:**

<i>Humility as a virtue</i>	<b>100%</b>
<i>Humility in various philosophical contexts</i>	<b>100%</b>
<i>Humility in various religious contexts</i>	<b>83%</b>



## CONFERENCE #2

Our second research conference, “**Virtue Epistemology**,” was held in collaboration with the Department of Philosophy at OU on February 24, 2017.

Presenters included Visiting Scholar, Dr. Kunimasa Sato (Keiai University, Japan), and other researchers from around the country.

## VIRTUE EPISTEMOLOGY

A CONFERENCE CO-SPONSORED BY

*The Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing  
& The Department of Philosophy*

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24**  
THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

THURMAN J. WHITE FORUM BLDG, ROOM B6  
1704 ASP AVENUE | NORMAN, OKLAHOMA 73072

### PRESENTERS

- **Anne Barill, Ph.D.** (University of New Mexico)
- **Allan Hazlett, Ph.D.** (Washington University)
- **Kunimasa Sato, Ph.D.** (Keiai University)
- **Lani Watson, Ph.D.** (University of Oklahoma)
- **Allan Wilson, Ph.D.** (Wake Forest University)



RESEARCHERS PRESENT AT THE 2017 VIRTUE EPISTEMOLOGY CONFERENCE

# Outreach

*“...the widening positive influence on the character and social climate of Oklahomans provided by the Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing is a genuine boon to the many Oklahomans, urban and rural, who have been touched by the varied programs and outreach activities of the Institute...”*

JAMES COURSEY, TEACHER  
NORMAN NORTH HIGH SCHOOL

## OVERVIEW

As part of our mission to promote the flourishing of all Oklahomans, we have developed relationships with leaders and organizations in three key areas.

EDUCATION	COMMUNITY	PARENTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>» <b>6 Partner Schools</b></li><li>» <b>Norman High School Virtue Integration</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Academic Life Coaching</li><li>• Professional Education on Learning &amp; the Brain</li><li>• Intellectual Virtues Cultivation</li><li>• Student &amp; Faculty Assessment</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>» <b>7 Community Organization Partners</b></li><li>» <b>3 Community Liaisons</b></li><li>» <b>Collaborative Projects With:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Salt &amp; Light Leadership Training</li><li>• Oklahoma City Police Department</li><li>• Shiloh Camp</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>» <b>3 Partner Parent Advisory Board Members</b></li><li>» <b>Online Resources for Parents</b></li><li>» <b>2016 Partner Parents Event</b></li></ul>

## EDUCATION

We believe good teachers already cultivate virtues in their students. Our goal is to help bring this to conscious awareness among local educators, to help them understand their work in terms of character and virtue concepts, and to provide resources and training to support the good work they are already doing. To this end, we continue to cultivate the partnerships we have established with six local schools.

### PARTNER SCHOOLS



IRVING MIDDLE  
SCHOOL  
Norman, OK



NORMAN HIGH  
SCHOOL  
Norman, OK



NORMAN NORTH  
HIGH SCHOOL  
Norman, OK



ODYSSEY  
LEADERSHIP ACADEMY  
Oklahoma City, OK



SANTE FE SOUTH  
HIGH SCHOOL  
Oklahoma City, OK



THE ACADEMY OF CLASSICAL  
CHRISTIAN STUDIES  
Norman, OK

# EDUCATION CONT.

## NORMAN HIGH SCHOOL VIRTUE INTEGRATION

Over the past two years we have partnered with Norman High School (NHS) to help them integrate virtue and character into their educational culture in four main areas.

### ACADEMIC LIFE COACHING

**PURPOSE:** *To help empower students to persevere through challenges and create life structures that support future success.*

- » We are subsidizing academic life coach certifications for a core team of NHS faculty and staff. The team then provides key strategies and coaching resources to all NHS faculty.
- » To date, **7 faculty and staff** have been certified. 8 more will be trained in the 2017-18 academic year, with priority given to counselors, principals and special education faculty.

### PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION ON LEARNING AND THE BRAIN

**PURPOSE:** *To develop the instructional and pedagogical knowledge and skills necessary to deliver learning experiences that cultivate intellectual virtues and prepare students for the 21st Century.*

- » We send small teams of NHS faculty to attend “Learning and the Brain” conferences, which offer lectures and workshops from a wide array of educational practitioners and researchers.
- » Conference attendees establish a resource library, and serve on a school-wide team, to facilitate the implementation of new concepts and methods into the day-to-day workings of NHS.

### INTELLECTUAL VIRTUES CULTIVATION

**PURPOSE:** *To develop the intellectual virtues in NHS students.*

- » We sent a small team of NHS faculty to visit the Intellectual Virtues Academy (IVA) in Long Beach, California. The team observed classes, visited at length with IVA faculty, and is now developing a resource library.
- » While the details of this program are still taking shape, teacher support for the program is starting in fall 2017 through faculty meetings, in-service, and through book studies.

### STUDENT AND FACULTY ASSESSMENT

**PURPOSE:** *To assist NHS leadership in identifying character-relevant strengths and needs among faculty and students. To date, 2 large surveys have been conducted, one for Faculty and Staff, one for NHS seniors.*

#### FACULTY/STAFF SURVEY RESULTS INDICATE:

- » Coaching training and conferences have improved effectiveness and sense of professionalism.
- » At least four of the Institute’s virtues are regularly discussed in NHS classes.

#### SENIOR SURVEY RESULTS INDICATE:

- » **TEACHERS** are the most valuable thing at NHS for seniors, followed by **FRIENDS** and **VIRTUOUS ENVIRONMENT**
- » The most common motives for going to school every day are: **EDUCATION**, **ACHIEVEMENT**, and **FRIENDS**
- » Seniors report their two greatest character strengths are: **KINDNESS/EMPATHY** and **HARDWORKING**

*“Beginning in May of 2015, Norman High School’s relationship with the ISHF has been incredibly fruitful for our faculty and staff but most importantly, has positively impacted the lives of students and parents. Through a variety of enriching professional development experiences, partnerships, and collaboration, we have built programs that empower our teachers to provide the kind of learning experiences that allow students to not only master academic content, but to grow in their individual character.”*



- SCOTT BECK, PH.D., HEAD PRINCIPAL

# COMMUNITY

We have established partnerships with a variety of community organizations, united by the common belief that character and virtue lie at the root of meaningful, lasting social change. Using our resources as an academic center to collaborate on select character-based community projects, we aim to amplify the ongoing impact of these organizations, and thereby advance the community outreach arm of our mission.

## COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION PARTNERS

**CROSSINGS COMMUNITY CENTER**  
Oklahoma City, OK

**MILITARY CHILD EDUCATION COALITION**  
Harker Heights, TX

**OKLAHOMA CENTER FOR NONPROFITS**  
Oklahoma City, OK

**OKLAHOMA CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES**  
Oklahoma City, OK

**RESPECT DIVERSITY FOUNDATION**  
Edmond, OK

**SALT AND LIGHT LEADERSHIP TRAINING**  
Oklahoma City, OK

**SHILOH CAMP**  
Oklahoma City, OK

*"The Institute has, by nature of identifying key virtues and bringing to bear its academic credibility and gravitas, realigned our emphasis on empirical evidence based planning and deployment. City leaders and the Institute expressing themselves in a coordinated way with a common language and actions aligned with those virtues will prove to be a transformational force-multiplier."*

JOHNNY RIAZ, SALLT MEMBER  
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK

## COMMUNITY LIAISONS

Our community liaisons promote the Institute's mission in their interactions with civic and community organizations in the state of Oklahoma and beyond, providing important opportunities for the Institute to network with, and eventually to facilitate, the work of these organizations.



**NOEL JACOBS, PH.D.**  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics &  
Licensed Psychologist  
General and Community Pediatrics  
OU Health Sciences Center



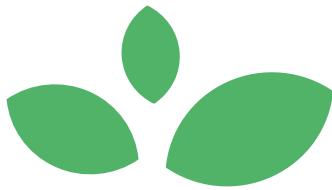
**MORGAN MILLER**  
Energy Management Consultant  
ES2



**ZACHARY SUMNER**  
Logistics Coordinator  
E Foundation for Oklahoma

*Learn more about our  
community partners and liaisons at:  
[OU.EDU/FLOURISH/ABOUT/PARTNERS](http://OU.EDU/FLOURISH/ABOUT/PARTNERS)*

# COMMUNITY CONT.



## How are the Children?

Promoting Child Flourishing  
in Oklahoma City

A CONFERENCE | DECEMBER 6-7, 2016 | OKLAHOMA CITY

### HISTORY

In spring 2016, our community partner, Salt And Light Leadership Training (SALLT), launched an initiative called “How are the Children?” The initiative’s name is inspired by the traditional greeting of the Maasai tribe of southern Kenya and northern Tanzania. Instead of asking “How are you today,” the Maasai people’s greeting is, “Kasserian Ingera,” which means “How are the children?” The desired response to the greeting is, “The children are well.”

The reality in most cities in our country, including Oklahoma City, is that tens of thousands of our children are not well, for they live lives of despair and hopelessness. Leaders in SALLT, along with other community advocates, set out to work together to nurture child flourishing in Oklahoma City.



**WES LANE**  
*President of SALLT*



In the Spring of 2016, SALLT reached out to Dr. Nancy Snow and the Institute for assistance. While we began educating SALLT leaders on character and virtue concepts, we also collaborated with another organization, Thriving Cities, to provide consulting assistance to SALLT through 2016.



### CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

Thriving Cities, an initiative of the Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture at the University of Virginia, has developed a distinctive “Human Ecology Framework” for community health and well-being, centered around the six “endowments” of the True, the Good, the Beautiful, the Prosperous, the Just, and the Sustainable. Thriving Cities uses this framework to help city leaders and stakeholders develop a realistic and concrete plan for making their city a thriving city.

Our collaboration with Thriving Cities culminated in a conference held on December 6-7 in the historic Colcord Hotel in downtown Oklahoma City.

## CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

### CONFERENCE GOALS:

- » Facilitate the efforts of SALLT members and other community leaders to improve the lives of children in Oklahoma City.
- » Identify specific challenges to child flourishing in the participants' neighborhoods, and develop concrete strategies for long-term improvement.
- » Deepen participants' appreciation of the role of character and virtue in community flourishing.

### SPECIAL GUESTS FROM:

- » BAYLOR UNIVERSITY
- » OKLAHOMA STATE SENATE
- » THE JOHN TEMPLETON FOUNDATION
- » THE MAYERSON ACADEMY

### PLENARY SPEAKERS

- » **JAMES D. HUNTER, PH.D.**  
*Executive Director, Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture, University of Virginia*
- » **GREG THOMPSON, PH.D.**  
*Executive Director, New City Commons  
Associate Fellow, Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture, University of Virginia*
- » **JOSHUA YATES, PH.D.**  
*Executive Director, Thriving Cities; Research Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Virginia*

**102**

PARTICIPANTS

**3**

PLENARY SESSIONS

**13**

SPEAKERS

**21**

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

### DAY 1

Attendees learned Thriving Cities' "Human Ecology Framework," with an emphasis on the virtues of Perseverance, Compassion, Fairness, Intellectual Humility, Love of Learning, Honesty, and Open-mindedness.



JAMES D. HUNTER, PH.D.



GREG THOMPSON, PH.D.

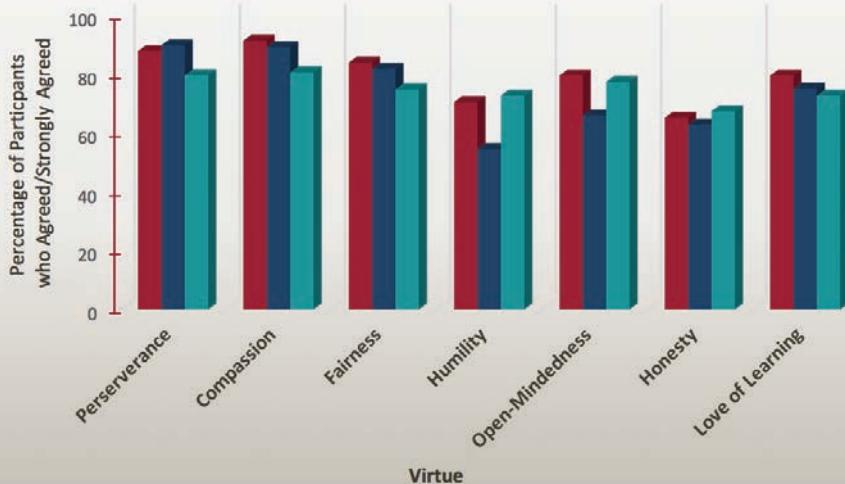


JOSHUA YATES, PH.D.

### DAY 2

Attendees participated in workshops to identify specific challenges to child flourishing in their neighborhoods, and developed strategies to address those challenges.

### How Are the Children? Overall Survey Results



To what extent did the session...

- Provide you with insight regarding the virtue?
- Inspire you to develop the virtue in yourself?
- Demonstrate that the virtue is highly valued in OKC?

# COMMUNITY CONT.

## FACT: FAMILY AWARENESS & COMMUNITY TEAMWORK

We are collaborating with the Oklahoma City Police Department's "Family Awareness and Community Teamwork" (FACT), led by Lieutenant Wayland Cubit, to help evaluate the effectiveness of their programs.



**FACT** is "a gang prevention program of the Oklahoma City Police Department that targets youth ages 10-17. The program is sponsored by the Leadership Foundation of Oklahoma, a 501(c)3 organization focused on equipping the community to make a difference in the lives of at-risk youth in Oklahoma City. The officers assigned to this Unit believe through early intervention we can help youth fight the pressure of gangs, and involvement in juvenile delinquency. **The officers also mentor the youth for the purpose of instilling good character traits/life skills through positive learning opportunities**" (SOURCE: FACT WEBSITE).

*Learn more about FACT at:*

[OKC.GOV/DEPARTMENTS/POLICE/COMMUNITY-PROGRAMS/FACT](http://OKC.GOV/DEPARTMENTS/POLICE/COMMUNITY-PROGRAMS/FACT)

In May 2017, we designed and administered a survey for youth, parents, and officer participants in FACT's "Movie Night" program, which meets weekly for character lessons, food, and socializing. The survey was the first stage of a longitudinal study measuring the impact of this program. We collected data on:

- » Youth motives for attending Movie Night
- » Quality of the character lessons
- » Youth character
- » Youth and parents' attitudes toward police officers
- » Police officer attitudes toward inner city youth

We look forward to providing data as results from this study become available.

## ASCEND LEADERSHIP RETREAT

We have partnered with Shiloh Camp, a youth day camp that serves disadvantaged children in the Oklahoma City area, to help evaluate their new Ascend Leadership Retreat program. The camp emphasizes the cultivation of virtue and character, and the staff is focused on fostering a sense of worth and purpose in at-risk youth.

In July 2017, Shiloh Camp held their first "Ascend Leadership Retreat." Its aim was to "inspire, equip, and launch" youth into long-term service projects for their churches, communities, schools, and families. 28 campers and 16 support staff participated in the retreat that spanned 5 days. Throughout the year, the campers, young staff members, and adult staff will remain connected, building a network of mentorship in service, incorporating the Institute virtues as part of their curriculum and leadership.



We are currently engaged in a 5-stage study to assess the short-term and long-term impact of the Ascend Leadership Retreat. We anticipate being able to report results from this study next year.

# PARENTS

We believe humans flourish when they develop to their fullest potential as rational and moral beings, living in healthy communities. Mindful that moral development begins very early in life, we believe our mission to improve the flourishing of Oklahomans must include supporting parents in the challenging endeavor of developing virtue in their children. Our long-term goals are to pursue this mission by:

1. **Offering web-based parenting resources**, to provide educational support and connections with parenting-focused organizations;
2. **Developing partnerships between parents and the Institute**, so that we can better know our parents and tailor resources to better meet their individual needs;
3. **Developing partnerships between parents and local teachers**, to facilitate a shared vocabulary and vision for cultivating virtue in children;
4. **Developing partnerships between parents and other parents**, so they can assist and support each other through the challenges of fostering character in children.

Thus far we have achieved early successes in all four areas, with a special emphasis on the first and third.

## WEB-BASED RESOURCES

*Visit*

### OU.EDU/FLOURISH/PARENTS

*for access to local, state and national parenting resources, along with links to parenting-related websites, articles, reports, books and videos*

## DEVELOPING PARTNERSHIPS

- » Partner Parent Advisory Board
- » 2016 Partner Parents Event

## PARTNER PARENT ADVISORY BOARD

Our Partner Parents Advisory Board was formed to advise our director on parenting-related issues and to help extend our reach into the local community.



### CARRIE MITCHELL

*Community Volunteer  
Business Owner, Sooner Carpet Cleaning & Restoration*



### CASEY SHUTT, PH.D.

*Assistant Headmaster  
The Academy of Classical Christian Studies*



### MIRELSIE VELAZQUEZ, PH.D.

*Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership & Policy Studies  
The University of Oklahoma*

# OUTREACH TO PARENTS CONT.

## PARTNER PARENTS EVENT

On October 1, 2016 we launched our outreach to local parents with our first Partner Parents Event, held on the University of Oklahoma campus.

Attended by 35 participants, the event involved two lectures by Dr. Mary Keller and Mr. John Andrew Williams, group discussions, and a panel discussion and Q&A, moderated by Dr. Scott Beck.

The goal was to provide parents with the resources they need to help their children develop good character, by bringing in guest speakers with expertise in issues pertaining to child development, the promotion of good character, and the flourishing of children, parents, and teachers.

### SPEAKER BIOS



#### SCOTT BECK, PH.D.

*Dr. Scott Beck, a graduate of OU, is Head Principal of Norman High School in Norman, Oklahoma. Norman High School is a comprehensive high school serving 1,800 students and comprised of a faculty and staff of over 140 people. Norman High School was the Institute's first partner educational institution, and Dr. Beck regularly assists in the Institute's educational and community outreach mission.*



#### MARY KELLER, PH.D.

*Dr. Mary Keller serves as the President & CEO of the Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC). She has been the organization's executive leader since 1998. The MCEC was recognized by First Lady Laura Bush in 2004 as the Congressional Club Charity of the Year and in 2008, was certified America's Best Charity by Independent Charities of America.*



#### JOHN ANDREW WILLIAMS

*Mr. John Andrew Williams is the founder of Academic Life Coaching. He is also the author of five books including Essential Life Coaching and Academic Life Coaching: The Workbook. He is also a former writer for Newsweek and is currently co-authoring a book with Marshall Goldsmith, a New York Times bestselling author, on life coaching principles in education and families.*

**PARTNER  
PARENTS  
EVENT**  
**SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 1**

What can we do to help our children flourish as individuals and community members?

**JOIN US FOR A DAY OF  
LEARNING AND DISCUSSION!**

**FEATURING:**

Dr. Scott Beck, Dr. Mary Keller, Mr. John Williams

A promotional graphic for the Partner Parents Event. It features a photo of a woman holding a young child. Text on the left reads "PARTNER PARENTS EVENT SATURDAY OCTOBER 1". Below that is a question: "What can we do to help our children flourish as individuals and community members?". At the bottom is a call to action: "JOIN US FOR A DAY OF LEARNING AND DISCUSSION!". To the right, under "FEATURING:", are three headshots with names: Dr. Scott Beck, Dr. Mary Keller, and Mr. John Williams.

### Respondents who agreed

<i>The event broadened their understanding of character development</i>	<b>92%</b>
<i>They would recommend this event to their peers</i>	<b>100%</b>



# National & International Presence

We have established partnerships with 21 institutions in 11 different countries. These institutions form a “Virtues Across Continents Network,” supported by a News Digest, which features virtue-related events, funding opportunities and recent publications from across the world.

## VIRTUES ACROSS CONTINENTS PARTNERS

### *Aretai: Center on Virtues*

University of Genoa, Italy

### *Centre for Human Bioethics*

Monash University, Australia

### *Danish School of Education*

Aarhus University, Denmark

### *Department for the Study of Culture*

University of Southern Denmark

### *Department of Philosophy*

University of Auckland, New Zealand

### *Department of Philosophy*

University of Genoa, Italy

### *Department of Philosophy*

University of Oslo, Norway

### *Department of Psychology – Personality & Assessment*

University of Zurich, Switzerland

### *Division of Differential Psychology and*

### *Psychological Assessment*

Martin-Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Germany

### *Institute of Philosophy, Sociology & Journalism*

University of Gdańsk, Poland

### *Japan Positive Psychology Association*

Tokyo, Japan

### *Markets, Culture and Ethics Research Centre*

Pontifical University of the Holy Cross, Italy

### *Step Up To Serve*

London, England

### *The Dalai Lama Center for Ethics and Transformative Values*

Mass. Institute of Technology, MA, U.S.

### *The Jubilee Centre for Character & Virtues*

University of Birmingham, England

### *The Oxford Character Project*

Oxford, England

### *VIA Institute on Character*

Cincinnati, OH, U.S.

### *Virtue, Happiness, and the Meaning of Life*

University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, U.S.

## VISITING SCHOLARS

We periodically host international researchers from across the world who study topics related to virtue and flourishing. This year, we had the privilege of hosting four scholars, each from a different country.



### **IAN JAMES KIDD, PH.D.**

Assistant Professor of Philosophy  
University of Nottingham, England  
Visited Apr. 2017



### **CARSTEN FOGH NIELSON, PH.D.**

Assistant Professor  
Danish School of Education  
Aarhus University, Denmark  
Visited Sept. 1 – Oct. 31, 2016



### **JUSTIN OAKLEY, PH.D.**

Associate Professor, School of  
Philosophical, Historical & Intl. Studies  
Deputy Director, Monash Bioethics Centre  
Monash University, Australia  
Visited May 29 - June 4, 2017



### **DR. KUNIMASA SATO**

Lecturer in Philosophy  
Keiai University, Japan  
Visited Feb. 8 – Mar. 3, 2017

# News & Media

## FEBRUARY 1, 2016

Dr. Nancy Snow interviewed at the Center for Practical Wisdom. Interview published on YouTube as "Conversations on Wisdom: Uncut Interview with Nancy Snow." Video available at <https://youtu.be/H0e4nO6fqrw>.

## SEPTEMBER 9, 2016

*The OU Daily*, OU's student newspaper, reported on the Institute's fall 2016 "Last Lecture" in the article, "Sherri Coale inspires audience to chase goals with four-point lecture."

## OCTOBER 30, 2016

Dr. Nancy Snow interviewed by Dr. Robert Con David-Undiano, host for *Current Conversations*. The interview was broadcast on the Oklahoma Education Television Authority (OETA) on October 30 at 1:00 PM. It is also available on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/4ASqZWApY1I>.

## DECEMBER 12, 2016

Dr. Nancy Snow's interview with *Current Conversations* aired at 6:30 PM on Norman's National Public Radio station, KGOU (106.3 FM Norman / 105.7 Oklahoma City).

## APRIL 21, 2017

The *Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan* published another promotional article for Dr. Linda Zagzebski's public lecture at Mount Mary College, titled "Philosophy Professor to Give Public Lecture at MMC Sunday."

## JUNE 14, 2017

The Institute's program for OU freshmen, Camp IMPACT, was featured in a newsletter published by the University of Chicago's Center for Practical Wisdom.

## JUNE 2016

Dr. Nancy Snow interviewed by Dr. Elisa Grimi. The interview was published as "Intervista a Nancy Snow" in *Philosophical News*, 12(3).

## OCTOBER 6, 2016

Rogers State University published an online promotional article advertising Dr. Snow's public lecture on "Virtue as Social Intelligence: An Empirically Grounded Theory."

## OCTOBER 31, 2016

Dr. Nancy Snow interviewed on live radio by Nick Hernandez, host for Community Matters, KZUM (89.3 FM, Lincoln, Nebraska). The interview is available as a podcast at <http://bit.ly/103116-snow-interview>.

## APRIL 19, 2017

The *Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan*, a newspaper based in Yankton, South Dakota, published an article titled "Speaker Looks To Defend Religious Authority In Public Lecture." The article promoted a public lecture at Mount Marty College by Institute Leadership Team Member, Dr. Linda Zagzebski.

## MAY 1, 2017

Dr. Linda Zagzebski interviewed by Dr. Robert Talisse, podcast host for *New Books Network*. The interview focused on Dr. Zagzebski's new book, *Exemplarist Moral Theory*.

# Fall 2017 / Spring 2018 Events

## AUGUST 30, 2017 - INSTITUTE COLLOQUIUM

*"Hope as a Democratic Civic Virtue"*

Dr. Nancy Snow  
Director and Professor of Philosophy  
The University of Oklahoma

## SEPTEMBER 8-9, 2017 - ACADEMIC CONFERENCE

*"Integrity, Honesty, and Truth Telling"*

## SEPTEMBER 13, 2017 - INSTITUTE COLLOQUIUM

*"Childhood Adversity, Religion, & Human Resilience"*

Dr. Jong Jung  
Postdoctoral Fellow  
Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing

## OCTOBER 10, 2017 - PARTNER PARENTS EVENT

In collaboration with Norman High School

## OCTOBER 18, 2017 - INSTITUTE COLLOQUIUM

*"Narrative, Morality, and Imagination"*

Jessica Black  
Dissertation Fellow  
Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing

## OCTOBER 20, 2017 - VIRTUE FORUM LUNCHEON

*"Horny Hands and Dirty Skin: On the Virtues of Courage, Humility, Patience, and Tolerance"*

Dr. Jacob Goodson  
Assistant Professor of Philosophy  
Southwestern College

## NOVEMBER 3, 2017 - VIRTUE FORUM LUNCHEON

*"Moral Psychology & Media Practice: Keys to Ethical Behavior in News, Public Relations & Media Marketing"*

Dr. Patrick Plaisance

Don Davis Professor of Ethics; Bellisario College of Communications; Pennsylvania State University

## NOVEMBER 8, 2017 - "LAST LECTURE"

*"The Two Greatest Ideas"*

Dr. Linda Zagzebski  
George Lynn Cross Research Professor  
Kingfisher College Chair of the Philosophy of Religion & Ethics  
University of Oklahoma

## NOVEMBER 15, 2017 - INSTITUTE COLLOQUIUM

*"The Problem of Compassion for Accommodationist Moral Anti-Realism"*

Seth Robertson  
Dissertation Fellow  
Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing

## DECEMBER 1, 2017 - VIRTUE FORUM LUNCHEON

*"Righteous Incivility and the Near Enemy"*

Dr. Amy Olberding  
President's Associates Presidential Professor  
University of Oklahoma

## DECEMBER 6, 2017 - INSTITUTE COLLOQUIUM

*"Awe, Prestige, and Social Perception"*

Dr. Alexander Danvers  
Postdoctoral Fellow  
Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing

## DECEMBER 8, 2017 - HEADLINER LECTURE

*"TBD"*

Dr. James Davison Hunter  
Professor of Religion, Culture & Social Theory  
University of Virginia

## FEBRUARY 8, 2018 - "LAST LECTURE"

*"TBD"*

Rev. Lee Roland  
Consultant, Speaker & Past Principal of Tulakes Elementary School, Oklahoma City

## FEBRUARY 9-10, 2018 - ACADEMIC CONFERENCE

*"Open-Mindedness and Perspective"*

## FEBRUARY 21, 2018 - VIRTUE FORUM LUNCHEON

*"TBD"*

Dr. Maureen Condic  
Associate Professor of Neurobiology and Anatomy  
University of Utah School of Medicine

## MARCH 8, 2018 - PUBLIC LECTURE

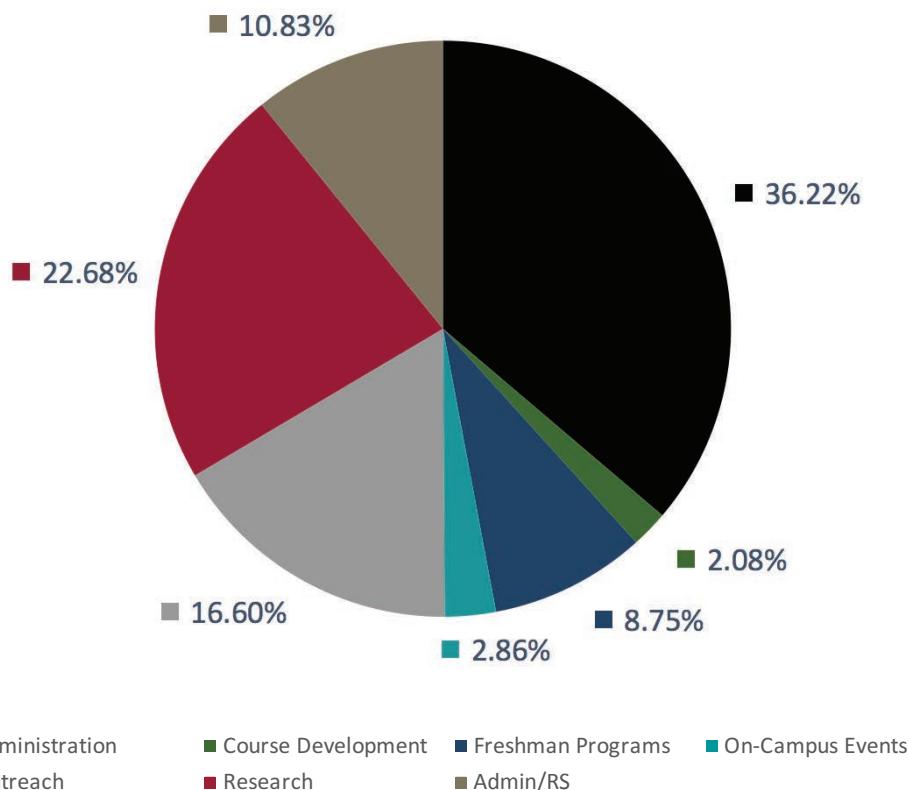
*"The Virtues of Embodied Practice"*

Dr. James K. Smith  
Gary and Henrietta Byker Chair in Applied Reformed Theology and Worldview  
Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI

# Financials

Funding for the Institute is made possible by a generous three-year grant in the amount of \$2.95 million from The John Templeton Foundation, and by support from The University of Oklahoma. As with last year, we were fortunate to be able to support ongoing research by members of our Leadership Team and the Director, as well as to be able to leverage existing infrastructure for on-campus events, course funding, and other student programming.

FY 2016-2017



*The Institute is grateful for the generous support of the John Templeton Foundation and The University of Oklahoma. If you wish to contribute to this exciting venture, please go to [www.ou.edu/flourish/support](http://www.ou.edu/flourish/support) or contact us at the information below.*

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*The*  
**UNIVERSITY**  
*of*  
**OKLAHOMA**

*Institute for the Study  
of Human Flourishing*

## THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

Created by the Oklahoma Territorial Legislature in 1890, the University of Oklahoma is a doctoral degree-granting research university serving the educational, cultural, economic and health-care needs of the state, region and nation. The Norman campus serves as home to all of the university's academic programs except health-related fields. The OU Health Sciences Center, which is located in Oklahoma City, is one of only four comprehensive academic health centers in the nation with seven professional colleges. Both the Norman and Health Sciences Center colleges offer programs at the Schusterman Center, the site of OU-Tulsa. OU enrolls more than 30,000 students, has more than 2,700 full-time faculty members, and has 21 colleges offering 171 majors at the baccalaureate level, 152 majors at the master's level, 79 majors at the doctoral level, 32 majors at the doctoral professional level, and 35 graduate certificates. The university's annual operating budget is \$1.8 billion. The University of Oklahoma is an equal opportunity institution ([www.ou.edu/eoo](http://www.ou.edu/eoo)).