

LIBERTY
UNIVERSITY

HELMS SCHOOL
of GOVERNMENT



Helms School of Government Newsletter

Fall 2020

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Welcome from the Deans



Residential Dean - Robert Hurt

Online Dean - Ron Miller

As our Liberty students head to Christmas break, we wanted to share with you our latest Helms School newsletter for Fall 2020.

We should begin by saying what a blessing it has been to have all of our students back on campus for the first time since Spring Break. In August, we were thrilled to welcome the Class of 2024 to Liberty – along with all of our returning students, and we are profoundly grateful to all of those from Dr. Keith Anderson and his Health & Wellness Team to our faculty and staff to the Liberty cleaning crews who have all worked so hard to keep our students and our classrooms safe for in-person learning. We believe that our Liberty students have received the best educational value from their time here under the most difficult circumstances.

In addition to our new students, we were also pleased to welcome our newest professor Amanda Trent as a part of our expanded Criminal Justice program. Professor Trent brings a wealth of experience to our students as a consequence of her career in corrections leadership. We are grateful to all of our outstanding faculty for all of their work in delivering the highest quality work product during these challenging times.

In addition to our new faculty, we were blessed to have a number of distinguished guests engage with our students in-person throughout this Fall semester. These guests included former U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson, current Senior Advisor to the Joint Chiefs of Staff Scott Roenicke, former White House Advisor Tim Goeglein, former CIA Director Porter Goss, former Virginia House Speaker Kirk Cox, and former Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell.

We were pleased to see the many great program opportunities that our Helms School clubs initiated this semester – which included a fascinating visit with Israeli Embassy Deputy Head of Mission Benjamin Krasna which was hosted by our Stand With Israel Club.

Finally, in the summer the Helms School of Government launched a new public policy publication called the [Journal of Statesmanship and Public Policy](#). We were very pleased with the result and are in the process of planning the next edition of the Journal as well as our first [public policy conference](#) to be held at Liberty next March.

As we seek to better engage with our entire Helms family, we hope that you will enjoy this newsletter. And we ask that you help us do that by joining the conversation on our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages!

We hope that you have an excellent and safe Christmas, and we look forward to seeing you back on campus in January.

Congratulations to our Graduates!



Angelique



Lily



Connor & Elise

We want to congratulate all our HSOG graduates who launched into their outstanding careers this year! Despite the fact that we were not able to get together in person for graduation, we love hearing how our recent graduates are already influencing the world. Angelique graduated May 2020 and is continuing her education at Syracuse University with a Masters in Advanced Forensics. Lily is now back home in Michigan where she is in the process of pursuing a career as a police officer. Congratulations to our Liberty University Helms School of Government Class of 2020 graduates Conner Manzelmann and Elyse Keener who were jointly awarded the Nathan Hale Award for their outstanding leadership during their time here at the Helms School!

A special congratulations also to all our online students who graduated this past May! Ashley graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice/Criminal Psychology and is pursuing a career in the FBI. She also aspires to attend Law School.



Ashley

We are so proud of all our graduates and we look forward to seeing how the Lord will continue to use you as you make an impact upon the world!

READ MORE on [Angelique](#), [Lily](#), [Connor & Elise](#), and [Ashley](#) on our Facebook page.

HSOG Welcomes New Students



Professor Presley and Dr. Cox interacting with new students!

The Helms School of Government extended a warm and exciting welcome to all our new students entering the program this Fall semester! Our faculty made it their priority to personally meet new students through various HSOG events such as Donuts with the Deans, Welcome events, and the Pizza with Professors. Congratulations to Professor Presley and Dr. Cox, and to the runners up Elijah and Josiah, for winning the Corn Hole Tournament!

READ MORE on our [Facebook page](#).

Meet Professor Amanda Trent and Charlena Schubert!



Professor Amanda Trent



Charlena Schubert

Professor Amanda Trent is our newest edition to the Helms Faculty and we are so glad to have her on board teaching in our Criminal Justice programs and instilling valuable principles into our students as they prepare for careers in law enforcement! At a time when the brave men and women of law enforcement could not be more important to the peace and prosperity of our nation, we are proud to have Major Trent share with our students a lifetime of accomplished law enforcement and public service experience. Major Trent truly has a heart for criminal justice, and we know she will be a blessing to and an outstanding role model for the next generation of young men and women who will pass through our Helms School criminal justice program. Furthermore, the Helms School of Government has integrated under the CJUS program a new cognate, Advanced Investigative Studies, offered for the first time this fall!

The Helms School of Government is proud to introduce our newest addition to the team – Charlena Schubert who serves as our Faculty Department Secretary. Charlena is a native to Lynchburg, VA, married to her husband Otto of 23 years, with two beautiful daughters Donna and Dayna. Before coming to the Helms School of Government, she worked at the Liberty University College of Osteopathic Medicine. She said that it is truly a blessing to be part of something bigger than yourself, part of building Champions for Christ and to see students from both fields and programs. She is excited to see how the Lord uses her in this new opportunity with the Helms School.

READ MORE on our [Professor Amanda Trent](#) and [Charlena Schubert](#).

Guests – Tim Goeglein and Former Governor Bob McDonnell



We were honored to host Mr. Tim Goeglein (left) here at Liberty University this October! During his two-day visit, Mr. Goeglein spoke to students in Constitutional Government & Free Enterprise, Intro to Political Science, American Constitutional History, and American Exceptionalism.

In November, we were delighted to welcome former Governor of Virginia, Bob McDonnell (right) to the Helms School of Government as a visiting professor. While on campus, Governor McDonnell spoke to students in courses on American Constitutional Law and Government Service. He also hosted office hours in the Helms Suite and met with students to offer advice from his years of experience as an attorney and public servant.

READ MORE on [Former Governor McDonnell](#) and [Mr. Tim Goeglein](#) on our Facebook page.

Guests – Former CIA Director Porter Goss and Former House Speaker Kirk Cox



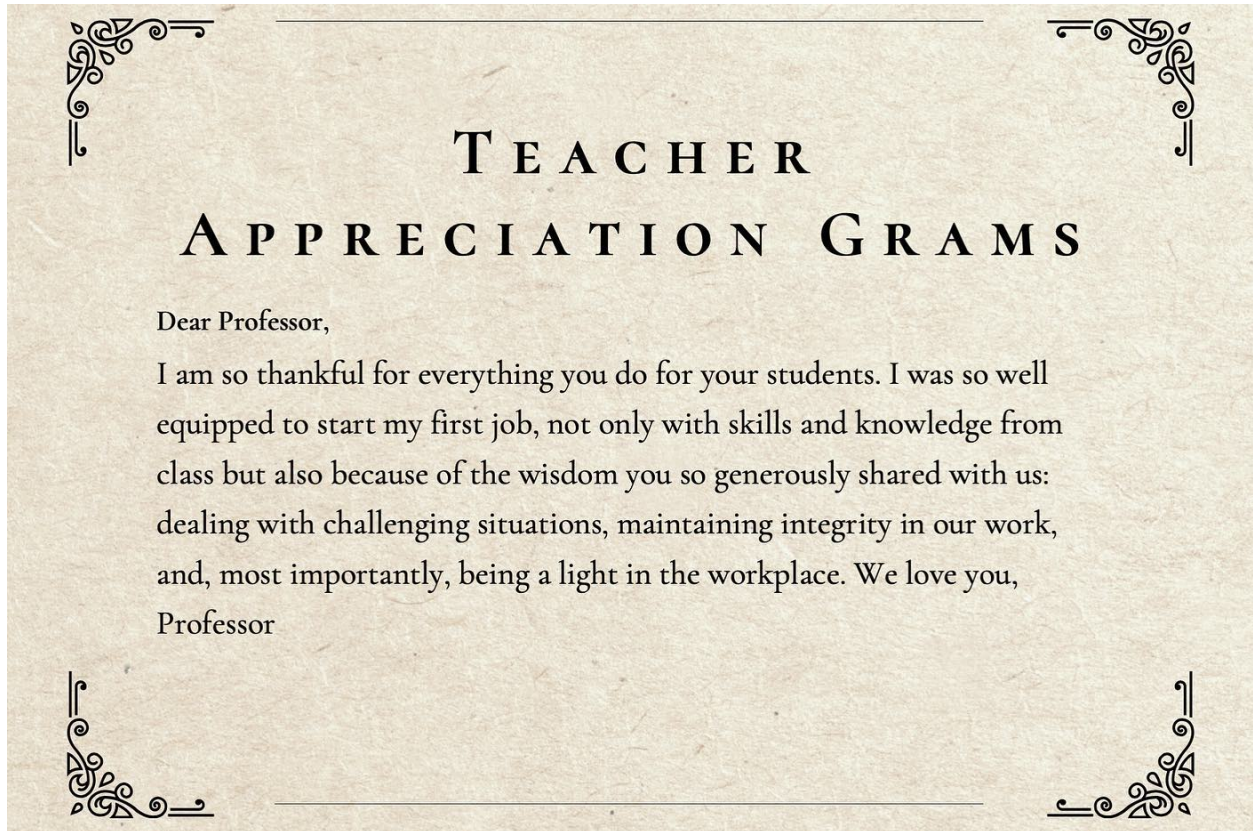
The Helms School had the privilege of hosting former Director of the Central Intelligence Agency Porter Goss (left). During his visit, he spoke to students in Dr. Parke's Terrorism course and Professor Waddell's Intelligence & National Security courses. His visit was a compelling reminder of just how much the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 changed America as he shared with our students his experience from the front lines in responding to those attacks and in ensuring that our country never suffers another attack like that again. Our students were inspired by his example and by his exhortation to always seek the truth – regardless of the vocation they choose.

We were also honored to host former speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates, Kirk Cox (right) to Liberty University to talk to Helms Students about the importance of public service as well as his experience in politics and legislation. During his time on campus, he was able to meet and connect with students and offered words of wisdom regarding running for public office and how to serve in state and local capacities.

On November 17th, Delegate Kirk Cox announced his run for the 2021 Republican nomination for Governor.

READ MORE on [Former CIA Director Porter Goss](#) and [Former House Speaker Kirk Cox](#).

Teacher Appreciation Grams



This semester, the Center for Teaching Excellence set up a new way for students to show their appreciation to their professors through Teacher Appreciation Grams! We at the Helms School appreciate all of our Professors and all that they do for our students. We hope that you will take the time to reach out to your instructors and let them know what a difference they have made in your time here at Liberty!

READ MORE on our [Facebook page](#).

Welcome Baby Fischer!



The Helms School family congratulates Dr. Kahlib and Megan Fischer as they welcomed the newest addition to the Fischer household! Garrett Donnan Fischer was born October 8th – ringing in at 6 lbs 15 oz and 20 inches. What a wonderful blessing for the Fischer family and the Helms School family.

READ MORE on our [Facebook page](#).

Club Spotlight



Stand With Israel briefing with Deputy Head of Mission Benjamin Krasna

Stand with Israel is an international affairs-oriented club dedicated to strengthening the unique relationship between the United States and Israel through student involvement in the political process. This club features debates, distinguished guest speakers, petitions, and opportunities to lobby. This semester, the Stand with Israel Club hosted a briefing with the Deputy Head of Mission Benjamin Krasna of the Embassy of Israel on the historic Abraham Accords!

This semester, the Alexander Hamilton Society hosted a discussion panel on US-China military and Security Relations with Defense Director of the Center for a New American Security, Elbridge Colby.

The Strategic Intelligence Society launched several hands-on mock human intelligence operations this fall and intelligence analysis workshops.

On November 10th, the Pre-Law Society partnered with the Liberty University United Nations Association to host an International Law and Human Rights Panel with former representative to the United Nations General Assembly, Dr. Edna Udobong, and internationally acclaimed law scholar, Dr. Yuri Mantilla.

This semester, the Criminal Justice Club hosted Professor Lawrence Presley and Dr. Joel Cox to conduct an interactive meeting focusing on use of force who walked members through different use of force scenarios and ethical concerns with use of force.

READ MORE on this semesters' [Stand with Israel briefing](#).

Moot Court



This semester our Moot Court team placed No. 2 in the nation! Thanks to our students for their hard work and to Dr. Ben Rathsam for leading and mentoring the group. We are excited to see what the future holds for this team.

On October 3rd, Liberty University Undergraduate Moot Court, along with members of the Yale Moot Court Team hosted a scrimmage between the two schools involving this year's Moot Court problem in preparation for upcoming regionals. The purpose of the tournament was to gain experience in competing using the zoom platform. The Tournament was a complete success with the Liberty Team of Corey Jones & John Sharp besting the Liberty Team of Dalton Davis & Lauren Saegar in the final round!

Furthermore, the Moot Court Team competed in four Regional Competitions in the Month of November. Five of Liberty's eight teams qualified for the National Competition that will take place on January 22-23. Our team faced off against Regent University, Duke, Vanderbilt, Yale, UVA, Cornell, and several others. Congratulations to Lauren, John, Dalton, Corey, David, and Colton for being named in the top ten oralists throughout the four Regional Competitions! We are proud of our Moot Court Team's successful regional season representing Liberty University, and we look forward to cheering them on at Nationals in January!

READ MORE on our [Facebook page](#).

Faculty Spotlight



Professor Van Allen is a Danville, VA native and the current Lynchburg District Representative/Service Academy Coordinator for Rep. Benjamin L. Cline (VA-6) in the U.S. House of Representatives. Aaron began this role for Rep. Cline upon his taking the Oath of Office in January 2019. Prior to working for Rep. Cline, Aaron was hired by then Sixth District Representative Bob Goodlatte – who simultaneously served as the Chair of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary. Aaron began working for Congressman Goodlatte in July 2013.

He is a 2013 alumnus of Hampden-Sydney College outside Farmville, Virginia where he obtained his B.A. in Government and a minor in Public Service. While at Hampden-Sydney - Aaron served as Captain of the NCAA baseball team, served as a Head Resident Advisor, Defense Advisor for the Student Court, member of the Garnet & Gray Society, and was a member of the President's Men. After beginning his employment with Rep. Goodlatte, Aaron obtained his M.A. in Public Policy from Liberty University in 2015.

READ MORE on our [Facebook page](#).

Be sure to read all of our Featured Faculty posts. [Professor Ron Staton](#), [Professor Jonathan Pelletier](#), [Professor Bill Crawford](#), [Professor Don Sloan](#).

Alumni Spotlight



Meet Tim! He graduated Magna cum laude this past December with a B.S. in Government: Politics & Policy, with minors in International Relations and Communications.

Currently, Tim works in Washington, D.C., as a Political & Advocacy Coordinator for the American Crossroads Senate Leadership Fund SuperPAC. While Tim has a hand in many parts of the political process, the main parts of his job deal with polling and political advertising relating to US Senate races. Tim greatly enjoys understanding how and why people think they way that they do, and his current role gives him the ability to help drive public persuasion and shift electoral outcomes.

In his spare time, Tim enjoys reading, golfing, and anything hockey-related.

Well done, Tim! We are proud to call you an HSOG alum!

READ MORE on our [Facebook page](#).

Be sure to read all of our Featured Alumni posts. [Nicole](#), [Marie](#), [Greg](#), [Joshua](#).

Student Spotlight



Andrew - Senator representing HSOG and Chairman of SGA Senate

Meet Drew! He is from Stephens City, Virginia and a senior International Relations student here at the Helms School and he serves on our Helms School of Government Dean's Council, a Senator representing HSOG, and is the Chairman of the SGA Senate Committee on Student Affairs. His favorite classes while at the Helms School have been Political Economy & Public Policy with Dr. Ferdon and Counterterrorism with Dr. Parke. On campus, Drew works for LU Grounds and is a member of the Strategic Intelligence Society.

READ MORE on our [Facebook page](#).

Be sure to read all of our Featured Students posts. [Briana](#), [Brandon](#), [Abby](#), [Diana](#), [Satya](#), [Faith](#).

Journal of Statesmanship and Public Policy



The Helms School of Government launched the [*Liberty University Journal of Statesmanship & Public Policy*](#), published in July 2020. The *Journal of Statesmanship & Public Policy* is a high-quality scholarly journal that explores topics in the realms of national security, international relations, domestic policy, and political philosophy from a thoughtful, critical, ethical, and Christian perspective. This effort has been led by Helms students Bess Blackburn, Shaddi Spencer, Nicholas Stark, Catherine Latchford, and Andy Langland along with Helms professors Dr. Kahlib Fischer and Dr. Mary Prentice.

Furthermore, in a partnership with the Journal, the Helms School of Government announced the first public policy conference at Liberty called, “[**Culture and Crisis: Reconciling Constitutionalism and Federalism in a Time of Crisis**](#)” on Friday, March 5 and Saturday, March 6, 2021!

READ MORE on our [Facebook page](#).

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Fall 2020 Newsletter.