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THE HINCKLEY INSTITUE OF POLITICS 2018-2019 NEWSLETTER

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The Hinckley Institute of Politics moved into our new space in the Carolyn and Kem Gardner Commons in the summer of 2018. This space has already provided extraordinary opportunities for our students as they undertake internship opportunities and other academic pursuits. Our new James & Lyn Hinckley Family Caucus Room has allowed the Hinckley Institute and the entire University of Utah Campus to host events where students can learn from world-renowned experts and engage in critical discussions about the most pressing topics affecting our nation and communities.

Our premier location in the building, directly inside one of the main entrances and across from the University of Utah Emma Eccles Welcome Center, means that thousands of current and prospective students walk past our office each week. Many of these students walk through Hinckley’s doors curious about our internships, classes, and forums. Their initial meetings with our student staff build excitement about Hinckley’s opportunities, and has lead to a marked increase in the number of internship applications.

Beyond our location, our beautiful, highly functional space has made it possible for our programs to thrive. Every internship program, special event, and Hinckley project has been enhanced by the new space allowing us to send over 400 interns to offices throughout the world this past year. This summer alone we placed a record-breaking number of interns.

Our team members strive to provide every student we serve with the opportunity to participate in substantive internships and are proud of the variety of majors represented in our classes. In the Forum Series class, students develop critical thinking skills and hone their ability to write persuasively as they review and analyze forums and current events. In the Price Think Tank, students discuss the history and politics of Africa and the Middle East with former Ambassador John Price. In Capital Encounter, students learn about the levers of power and how to effectively advocate for policies and issues they are passionate about in Washington, DC. Regardless of the subject, the level of education our students receive has been greatly elevated by our new home in the Gardner Commons building.

While we reminisce fondly at the many historic events we held in our space in Orson Spencer Hall, our new Hinckley Caucus Room has greatly expanded our role as the premier location on campus to host major speakers and events. The dynamic nature of the space affords us the ability to hold events both large and small; and co-sponsor many events with our valued University of Utah and community partners.

The Hinckley Institute of Politics remains wholly committed to serving students – enhancing their educational experiences and preparing them for their careers. Our space in the new, world-class Gardner Commons has enabled us to further achieve our goal to provide the students we serve with world-class internship opportunities, organizing compelling forums and speakers, and engaging our community.

As we look to the future, we know that the Hinckley Institute’s home in the Gardner Commons will allow us to continue to champion the students of the University of Utah for decades to come.

“The Hinckley Institute of Politics remains wholly committed to serving students – enhancing their educational experiences and preparing them for their careers.”

Jason Perry, Director, Hinckley Institute of Politics
Carolyn & Kem Gardner Commons

Built in the footprint of its predecessor, Orson Spencer Hall, the Carolyn and Kem Gardner Commons creates spaces for academic exploration and collaboration in the heart of campus. Donor Carolyn Gardner hopes the building inspires students to “be open to ideas and free from prejudice with a desire to continue learning, thinking critically, and writing persuasively throughout their lives.”

Gardner Commons is home to many of our campus partners including the College of Social and Behavioral Science, Office of Global Engagement, Department of Political Science, School for Cultural and Social Transformation, Emma Eccles Jones Welcome Center, and Office of Admissions, and the National Center for Veterans Studies. The building features more than 40 classrooms, two auditoriums, and hundreds of student study spaces. Gardner Commons is the first building on campus to use Ground Source Wells as its heating and cooling energy source. Ground Source Wells provide 96% of the heating loads and 60% of the cooling loads for the building — generating $70,000 in annual savings and making the building carbon neutral ready. As Kem Gardner aptly recognized in the building’s dedication, the space may be called Gardner Commons, but “it’s not common at all.”

The new Hinckley Institute of Politics provides space for the Hinckley Institute to better serve students through our internships, classes, and forums. Some highlights of our new space include:

- **The Lyn Cushman Hinckley Terrace:** The terrace serves as an excellent outdoor venue and a beautiful space for students to study, socialize, and relax during the warmer months with amazing views.

- **The R.J. Snow Student Lounge:** Throughout the rich history of the Hinckley Institute of Politics, there has never been a place for students to visit or study; the R.J. Snow Student Lounge provides just that space. This inviting lounge welcomes students into the Hinckley Institute whether they are studying for an exam or simply passing time before an internship meeting or forum.

- **James Scowcroft Hinckley Boardroom:** This meeting space features floor-to-ceiling windows and a custom-made conference table made from the original floor of the Jon M. Huntsman Center. In fact, it is the same floor on which many NCAA basketball games have been played—including the legendary 1979 matchup between Magic Johnson and Larry Bird.

- **The James and Lyn Hinckley Caucus Room:** This venue includes new audio-visual technology, recording capabilities, and a state-of-the-art retractable wall creating a flexible venue space that can adapt to gatherings of any size up to 150 attendees.
The local internship program provides students from across campus with part-time professional experiences in a range of government offices, non-profits, and businesses across the Wasatch Front. This used to be Hinckley’s smallest program, but as students have recognized the importance of internships to their academic careers, Hinckley has met that demand by greatly expanding the numbers and types of host offices we are connected with. The local program has more than doubled in the past decade and now any student can complete a local internship while still attending classes on campus. Moving forward, we are excited to continue to expand our internship offerings so that anyone from an incoming freshman to an experienced graduate student can find a substantive and transformative internship that will set them on the path to a successful career.

Learn More: Hinckley.utah.edu/local

The global internship program promotes experiential learning by taking on roles and responsibilities of substance in offices that span parliaments, businesses, lobbying firms, research institutes, health clinics, and humanitarian NGOs throughout the world. Students from a wide variety of disciplines have the opportunity to learn and work with professionals and experts in their respective fields, while earning university credit and qualifying for scholarships. Unsurprisingly, Hinckley Global Interns have gained a reputation for excellence, translating into employment following their internships abroad. To date, we have placed over 700 interns in over 50 countries.

Learn More: Hinckley.utah.edu/global

The legislative internship is a mainstay of the Hinckley Institute of Politics. For 50 years, the Hinckley Institute has sent some of the brightest students from the University of Utah to work as full-time, paid interns for members of the Utah State Legislature. This is a truly unique experience for students as they perform high-level research, writing, and policy analysis for elected officials. In 2019, the Hinckley Institute placed 29 students with legislators, lobbyists, advocacy groups, and other elected officials. Additionally, the Hinckley Institute has been thrilled to work with the other participating universities and colleges to create a consortium training course so that all students are prepared for this once-in-a-lifetime internship.

Learn More: Hinckley.utah.edu/legislative

The Hinckley Institute has one of the nation’s longest standing Washington, DC internship programs, dating back to 1965. Each semester the Hinckley Institute provides 30 students of all majors internships in a variety of government institutions, public advocacy groups, and media/consulting firms. This flagship program provides students internship scholarships to cover expenses and subsidized housing in central Washington, DC apartments. The success of this program is made evident by the growing number of Hinckley alumni living and working in the Washington, DC area. More often than not, these alumni have accepted job opportunities that were a direct result of their internships.

Learn More: Hinckley.utah.edu/national

MANAGING DIRECTOR: MORGAN LYON COTTI, PHD

MANAGING DIRECTOR: GINA SHIPLEY, MPA

MANAGING DIRECTOR: MORGAN LYON COTTI, PHD

MANAGING DIRECTOR: JEAN OH, M.ED.
Leaders & Visionaries

Some of the great minds that visited the Hinckley Institute throughout the past year.
MIDTERMS:
The 2018 Midterm Election featured competitive races nationwide, and Utah’s were no exception. In addition to congressional and legislative elections, Utah’s midterms featured an unprecedented number of citizen-led ballot measures. These were created to address education funding, medical marijuana, Medicaid expansion, and redistricting.

The Hinckley Institute worked with campus and community partners to help the University of Utah get registered, educated, and mobilized for the midterm election. Voter registration drives were organized in partnership with ASUU and the Andrew Goodman Foundation (AGF) Student Ambassadors. The Hinckley Institute also hosted debate and election watch parties, initiative forums, and secured a voting center at the Marriott Library on the university’s campus.

WATCH PARTIES:
The Hinckley Institute hosted debate watch parties leading up to the elections. The debates were held throughout the state, so our watch parties attracted students from across campus as well as members from the wider Salt Lake community. To wrap up the 2018 midterms, the Hinckley Institute hosted an election night watch party. The event was funded by a grant from the MTV youth voting program and Civic Nation. It featured an election-prediction contest, a straw poll, competition prizes, an election-themed photobooth, and plenty of food. This provided many students with an opportunity to celebrate the political process and witness local as well as national coverage from various news sources broadcast on multiple screens as results were predicted and eventually tallied. The event brought over 70 students from across campus as well as various friends of the Hinckley and community members.

FORUMS:
With a record-breaking number of citizen initiatives, the Hinckley Institute felt it was important to engage students and the public on these topics. These were executed as moderated discussions in which multiple sides and perspectives on the initiatives were explored. Each forum featured a policy expert in support of the change as well as one opposed, creating dynamic and engaging debates on education funding, medical marijuana, Medicaid expansion, and redistricting. They examined the need for the initiative, what current policies they would change, and the possible outcomes of such a policy change. Several of the forums were in partnership with the Bennion Center and Alliance for a Better Utah.

REGISTRATION AND VOTING BOOTH:
The midterm elections of 2018 were an exciting time to help the campus community gear up to participate. The Hinckley Institute with AGF Ambassadors organized various efforts around campus to promote voter registration. These included hosting a weekly table at the Tanner Plaza, during which information on voting and registration was available for all. They also hosted these information sessions and presentations to the departments of social work, business, and athletics in order to help engage more students. These efforts resulted in over 300 students registering to vote.

With the combined work of the Hinckley Institute, ASUU, and AGF, the Salt Lake County Clerk’s office helped to secure a polling location at the Marriott Library. This was the most used polling location in Salt Lake County, where approximately 2,000 ballots were cast and 800 mail-in ballots were delivered. The entire voting process was made more exciting and interactive for students with a photobooth complete with patriotic props and costumes run by the Hinckley Institute staff. The photos were shared out in celebration of civic engagement.

With the success of the Marriott Library polling location, the Hinckley Institute hopes to establish a permanent voting center on campus in the near future.
Forum Partnerships

As Hinckley forums seek to engage the larger community, this year’s programming prioritized partnerships. As we collaborated on forums with various campus groups and organizations in the wider community, we were also proud to give students a platform to organize their own forums on topics they felt were especially precient. This year’s forum series would not have been possible without the help of our 30-plus campus and community partners.

American Dream Challenge
Asia Center
Associated Students of the University of Utah (ASUU)
Barbara and Norman Tanner Center for Human Rights
Center for Latin American Studies
College of Social and Behavioral Science
Dean of Students
Economics Department
Gardner Policy Institute
International and Area Studies
Middle East Studies
Office of Equal Opportunity
Office of Sustainability
Political Science Department
Students Against Mass Incarceration (SAMI)
Utah Prison Education Project (UPEP)
Utah Presents
Veterans Support Center
Women’s Resource Center
Women’s Enrollment Initiative

Alliance for a Better Utah
The Attorney General’s Office
The Nonproliferation Policy Education Center
Omid for Iran
Pamela Atkinson Homeless Trust
Semnani Family Foundation
Salt Lake Committee on Foreign Relations
Utah Coalition Against Nuclear Weapons
Utah Council for Citizen Diplomacy
Utah Citizen’s Council

Hinckley Institute Radio Hour

In 2018-2019, Christian Quiñonez-Camargo ensured our forums were broadcast, filmed, and made available as podcast downloads.

Listen on the radio:
KCPW 88.3 FM Wed 10AM & Sat 9AM

Download the podcast:
Hinckley Institute Radio Hour - KCPW

Watch archives online at:
Hinckley.utah.edu/forums
Community Partnerships

The mission of the Andrew Goodman Foundation is to inspire and empower young people to fully participate in the democratic process. At the University of Utah, AGF student ambassadors work with our Administrative Program Coordinator Kyle Tucker to promote voter participation. As one of only three universities in the PAC-12 to participate in the Vote Everywhere Project, the University of Utah and Hinckley Institute are leading the effort to increase political engagement. As a result, the University has again been designated a “Voter Friendly Campus” by the Campus Vote Project for 2019.

AGF

The Huntsman Seminar in Constitutional Government for Teachers is sponsored by the Jon and Karen Huntsman Foundation and aims to improve the quality of civic education in Utah schools. The seminar is produced by Managing Director of Community Outreach Molly Wheeler and is a unique opportunity for teachers to gain an in-depth understanding of political issues while earning graduate credit. In 2018, 34 teachers attended the seminar which focused on topics including midterm elections, the two-party system, the intersection of education and judicial systems, and school safety.

HUNTSMAN

The Utah Debate Commission (UDC) was established in 2013 to sponsor and organize debates for statewide and congressional elections. The UDC is a collaboration of the major newspapers, media affiliates, colleges and universities, and other community leaders. In 2018, the UDC held three primary debates and five general election debates throughout the state. Hinckley Institute Associate Director Morgan Lyon Cotti serves on the board of the UDC and helps establish debate policy and organization of debates in the state.

UDC

The Utah Education Debate Coalition (UEDC) was established in 2016 to organize and hold debates for State School Board elections. The 15 school board members each represent large portions of the state and make important policy decisions about public education that affect students and families. While the nature of these positions is crucial, their elections are often underreported. This prompted the UEDC to organize primary and general election debates in 2016 and 2018 to make it easier for voters to become informed and engaged.

UEDC

The Hinckley Institute is proud to continue its partnership with Real Women Run (RWR), a non-partisan effort to empower women to participate more fully in public life and leadership. RWR holds events and trainings across Utah to teach women how to launch successful campaigns and engage in the political process. Morgan Lyon Cotti, Hinckley Institute Associate Director, helps with planning, moderates panels, and instructs on political engagement. The group’s efforts helped contribute to the record number of women elected in the 2018’s midterm election.

RWR

The Utah Education Debate Coalition (UEDC) was established in 2016 to organize and hold debates for State School Board elections. The 15 school board members each represent large portions of the state and make important policy decisions about public education that affect students and families. While the nature of these positions is crucial, their elections are often underreported. This prompted the UEDC to organize primary and general election debates in 2016 and 2018 to make it easier for voters to become informed and engaged.

YOUTH

As an extension of the Hinckley Institute’s mission, our Outreach Coordinator Miranda Best regularly presents to junior high and high school students to educate them on the importance of civic engagement. The programming teaches students about the American electorate and the ways that younger voices can have an impact and engage. The goal is to convey that it is never too early to start learning and caring about political engagement. These presentations are facilitated with the help of the University of Utah’s Office of Engagement.

YOUTH
PARTICIPATION & RECOGNITION

Oxford Consortium for Human Rights

The Oxford Consortium gives students passionate about human rights an opportunity to engage with fellow peers, colleagues, scholars, and professionals to learn and envision ways that they might contribute to the global task of combating human rights violations.

“The Oxford Consortium is an unparalleled opportunity for a week of intensive workshops, presentations, and discussions on a wide variety of topics including community action planning, the experience of being an international aid worker, international law and its application in times of war, ideologies and genocide, critiques of human rights, how to fight for human rights locally in our individual communities, and peace building strategies.” - Cate Vaden, Law Student

Harvard National Campaign Conference

The National Campaign for Political and Civic Engagement is a biannual conference hosted by the Harvard Institute of Politics and the John F. Kennedy School of Government. Students from 35 colleges around the country convene to discuss issues relating to civic engagement and eliminating barriers to democracy. Throughout the conference, students participate in town halls, panel discussions, and workshops. They have the opportunity to learn from distinguished Harvard faculty and staff, as well as national civic engagement leaders. Kyle Tucker and Samantha Thorne attended the fall 2018 conference in September where the main topic was the 2018 midterm elections. Nicholas Cockrell and Pedro Padilla-Martinez attended the spring 2019 conference in February where they explored improving voter participation on campus.

Truman Scholarship

The Truman is a highly competitive, merit-based award for students who are change agents and want to go into a career in public service. They have the passion, intellect, and leadership potential that should enable them to improve the ways that public entities serve the public good. This academic year, the Hinckley Institute was proud to have two students, Samantha Thorne and Nicholas Cockrell selected as the only Truman Scholar finalists from Utah. They are each inspiring examples of hard-work, humility, and civic engagement.

Out of 840 candidates, Samantha Thorne was selected as one of the 64 Truman Scholars of 2019. Samantha is an economics and international studies major who is passionate about political communications and electoral processes. She has completed five Hinckley internships: three local, one in Washington, DC, and recently returned from a global internship in Australia. Samantha truly embodies the qualities of leadership, public service, and academic achievement valued by the Truman Scholarship.

Fulbright U.S. Student Program

The Fulbright U.S. Student Program provides grants for English Teaching Assistant Programs. During their grants, Fulbrighters will meet, work, live with, and learn from the people of the host country, sharing daily experiences. The program facilitates cultural exchange through direct interaction on an individual basis in the classroom, field, home, and in routine tasks, allowing the grantee to gain an appreciation of others’ viewpoints.

Dani McLaughlin and Christopher Rigby are two Hinckley Institute students who have both been awarded Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Grants. Dani will be going to Malaysia where she will run a boxing clinic for young women in the community. As a Hinckley intern, she participated in three internships – two locally and one in Washington, DC with the Campaign Legal Center. Christopher will be going to Kenya where he plans to implement courses that incentivize Kenyans to communicate more effectively with English-speaking nations and create programs that help citizens of the U.S. and Kenya work together. Christopher has completed a Hinckley global internship with the U.S. Embassy in Kampala, Uganda.
THE HINCKLEY INSTITUTE MARKED ITS 54TH YEAR OF OPERATION.

FACTS & FIGURES
OVER THIS PAST YEAR...

- 267 interns graduated
- 66 forums hosted
- 195 local interns
- 29 legislative interns
- 121 national interns
- 59 global interns
- 404 total interns this year
- 35 episodes aired in season 3 of the Hinckley Report
- Over 300 students registered to vote
- Over 393 teachers have attended the Huntsman Seminar to date
- Over 8,000 interns placed since 1965
- 637 pizzas ordered for student events
- 162 intern scholarships were awarded
- Over 30 episodes occurred this season
- 10 state and federal conferences attended
- 267 interns were placed this year
- Over 600 amendments written in the Legislative Internship Program
- New national host office with National Park Service
- New local host office at Indigent Defense Commission
- New global host office at the U.K. Parliament
- Internees traveled to 31 different countries
- Over 300 students registered to vote
- Internees represented 69 of the majors on campus
- Over 8,000 interns placed since 1965
Alumni Spotlight:

BEN MCADEMS

Ben McAdams was an electrical engineering student at the University of Utah until his senior year; he enrolled in Dan Jones’ Political Science 101 course to fulfill a graduation requirement. That decision changed not just his major, but opened up a door to life-changing internships with the Hinckley Institute and a career in public service.

During the second week of classes, Professor Jones told his students the presidential inauguration would be happening the following Monday and he expected them to watch it. A friend of McAdams suggested that since he worked for Delta Airlines, he might be able to get a buddy pass and fly them to Washington, DC for the actual ceremony. They asked Professor Jones what he thought of their plan and he responded by putting them in touch with their congressional offices to see about attending. Upon receiving confirmation they could get in, and with Professor Jones’s urging, McAdams and his friend boarded a flight to DC. He spent the weekend touring our nation’s capital, attending the presidential inauguration, and consequently setting his life in a very different direction.

The next spring, McAdams returned to Washington, DC to complete a prestigious internship in the White House for President Bill Clinton. Before graduating, he completed another internship working for a Utah state senate campaign.

McAdams also became involved in government on campus leading the Utah College Democrats. Coincidentally, the same friend with whom he attended the inauguration with was elected to lead the College Republicans. Their friendship “transcended partisan differences” and they hosted joint Republican and Democratic events at the Hinckley Institute.

After graduating from the University of Utah with a bachelor’s degree in political science, McAdams earned a law degree with honors from Columbia Law School. He spent some time in private practice in New York City, but eventually returned to Salt Lake where he worked for Dorsey and Whitney.

McAdams’s reputation for handling high-stakes negotiations became well known outside his law practice and newly-elected Mayor Ralph Becker asked him to join his administration as a senior advisor. It was there that McAdams paved the way for Salt Lake to make several policy initiatives. Most notably, he helped create an antidiscrimination ordinance for LGBTQ citizens, which disallows housing and job discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity.

Eager to make his own mark, McAdams ran for an open seat in the Utah State Senate. He won the election and represented District 2 from 2010-2012. When the Salt Lake County Mayoral seat opened in 2011, McAdams joined the race and campaigned on a message of bipartisanship. His campaign symbol was a big orange bus, and many leaders were happy to jump on board as he gained support from both sides of the aisle.

McAdams was re-elected in 2015. Throughout his two terms, he dealt with major issues including homelessness, and education, and worked to maintain a balanced budget. Using his platform as a pragmatic and efficient elected official, McAdams ran for Utah’s Fourth Congressional District. In what became one of the most hotly contested races in the country, McAdams won a close election and joined Utah’s federal delegation. His expertise in finance and securities led to his appointment to the House Financial Services Committee. He also serves on the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee.

Throughout his career in public service, McAdams has found ways to stay connected with the Hinckley Institute. He has spoken at Hinckley forums, joined a Hinckley Report panel, and provided opportunities for interns in every government office he served in and campaign he ran. Years after his internship, McAdams remarked, “I love the Hinckley Institute. It is the reason I am where I am today.”
HIP Talks (Hinckley Institute of Politics Talks) is an annual student speech competition honoring the oratory skills of former Congressman Wayne Owens. The event is sponsored by ASUU and the Wayne Owens Fund. HIP Talks consists of three preliminary rounds where students deliver two-minute speeches on a topic of their choosing. Over 100 students participated in this year’s preliminary rounds where the judges then selected 30 students to compete in the finale. The winner receives a $5,000 grand prize and four runners-up and the audience favorite each receive $1,000. The 2019 finale packed the Hinckley Caucus Room as students, friends, family, and community members came out to hear the finalists deliver their speeches on a variety of topics, ranging from climate change to immigration. After a difficult deliberation, the judges reached their decisions. The grand prize winner was Rachel Carlson with, according to Steve Owens, “a drop-the-mic speech that brought the judges to tears.” Recordings of the speeches are available on KCPW's Hinckley Institute Radio Hour website.
It would be impossible to quantify how many students walked through the doors of the Hinckley Institute because of Dr. Jones. He wanted every student to reach their full potential, whether in his course or after they left the classroom. He encouraged his students to apply for Hinckley internships and served as a reference for dozens of students each year. He likely wrote more letters of recommendation for Hinckley interns than any other professor or advisor.

In addition to his many teaching responsibilities, Dr. Jones served as the co-director of the Huntsman Seminar in Constitutional Government for Teachers for many years. He also was the interim associate director of the Hinckley Institute from 2003 to 2005, providing critical leadership as the Hinckley transitioned between directors. He became a Hinckley Fellow in 2006.

The Dan Jones Future Leadership Scholarship was established in 2008. This scholarship was set up with the generous donations of Dr. Jones’s many friends, colleagues, and admirers, in order to provide assistance to students completing local scholarships. To date, over $50,000 in scholarship funds have been disbursed to a total of 90 students who interned in local government offices or non-profits. Many of these students would not have been able to take part in these life-changing internships without the assistance of Dr. Jones’s scholarship.

Outside of his role at the University of Utah, Dr. Jones founded Dan Jones and Associates with his wife, former Senator Pat Jones. Dr. Jones was known as the most trusted man in Utah politics. In part because of the accuracy of his polls, but also because of his no-holds-barred honesty, Dr. Jones’ hard exterior belied a kind and generous man who had a truly great, dry wit. He never let his seriousness get in the way of loving other people. It did not matter to Dr. Jones whether a person was a U.S. Senator or a custodian in his classroom, he treated all with respect and found ways to show kindness and generosity to each person he met. He is deeply missed by all his friends, colleagues, and students at the University of Utah.

There are few Utahns whose lives have so fully manifested the principle of public service as Rocco C. Siciliano. From his decorated leadership in World War II to his four presidential appointments, Mr. Siciliano demonstrated uncompromising civic duty in all aspects of his life. His expertise, coupled with a fierce commitment to the greater good, achieved great policy strides for labor across the country. Truly, he is an example from the “Greatest Generation” of what one individual can achieve for his nation. He became a Hinckley Fellow in 1994.

It is only fitting that Mr. Siciliano would find a partner in the visionary artist, philanthropist, and activist, Marion S. Siciliano. Mrs. Siciliano’s service focused on environmental causes and inner-city development, working with the Center for Law in the Public Interest. Her remarkable life demonstrates the impact attainable when passion is paired with dedication and strategy.

Mr. and Mrs. Siciliano not only embodied public service in their personal and professional lives, but also created opportunities for students to find and cultivate their own paths to service. For over 35 years, the Siciliano’s scholarship fund has played a significant role in the Hinckley Institute’s Washington, DC program’s success by ensuring that the life-changing opportunity to intern in our nation’s capital was not cost prohibitive.

While attending the University of Utah on a four-year debate scholarship, Wayne Horuchi honed his passion for politics and was active in the Hinckley Institute. Mr. Horuchi took full advantage of every opportunity at the Hinckley Institute, working with the campaigns of Utah Governor Calvin Rampton, Senator Ted Moss, and other Utah delegates. When Federal law lowered the voting age from 21 to 18, Horuchi worked with the progressive youth voting bloc to increase registration and turnout. He earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in political science in 1970 and 1972, and landed a position as deputy director with the Utah Department of Business Regulations under Governor Rampton. Mr. Horuchi served on the Japanese American Citizens League and contributed to President Gerald Ford’s rescission of Executive Order 9066 – which had authorized the internment of Japanese Americans. Mr. Horuchi worked with the Weber County Corporation, Union Pacific Railroad, and headed the Union Pacific Foundation in California.

Mr. Horuchi will be remembered as a lifelong public servant whose generous donations to the Hinckley Institute of politics helped fund internships for exemplary students in Washington, DC. Horuchi’s spirit of service and community engagement have inspired and enabled standout interns to follow in his footsteps.
The third season of The Hinckley Report wrapped on the heels of its 99th episode covering Utah politics. Each week, the state’s top journalists, community leaders, lawmakers, and politicos joined host Jason Perry for a political roundup at KUED studios. These political insiders took viewers for a deep dive into major topics including the 2018 Midterm Elections, Utah’s special legislative session on medical marijuana, and the 2019 General Legislative Session. The Hinckley Report is produced by Morgan Lyon Cotti and Natalie Tippets, with art design by Brooke Doner, and is presented in partnership with KUED.

In addition to past episodes hosted online, The Hinckley Report is now available as a podcast. Subscribe through your preferred platform to access our former seasons and exclusive summer content while the show is on hiatus. The show will return for a fourth season on September 6th, 2019 — just in time to cover the Salt Lake City mayoral race and to examine the emerging state and national campaigns for 2020.

Learn more at KUED.org/HinckleyReport

“Both political parties are an experiment in dysfunction at this point.”

Jennifer Napier Pearce
Editor, The Salt Lake Tribune

“Sales tax is not keeping pace with the growth in our economy.”

Natalie Gochnour
Director, Gardner Policy Institute

“Be very wary of any candidate that says they want fewer people to vote to get elected.”

Lieutenant Governor Spencer Cox

The Hinckley Report is made possible through our partnership with KUED and through generous sponsorship by the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation and the Cleone P. Eccles Endowment. The Hinckley Institute of Politics is grateful to KUED and our generous sponsors for their support.
INTERN YEARBOOK

GLOBAL INTERNS, SUMMER 2018
Anna Barnes, Benjamin Battistone, Reghan Bootler, Chelsea Borelo, Scott Dannis, Kristin Fagerback, Fantasia Franco, Jordan Greene, Zeke Greer, Greyson Hamess, Matthew Hash, Blake Hrubes, Tyler Israel, Mandlyn Johnson, Caitlina Morgenthaler, Brieth Mo, Victoria Nagle, Dustin Parcell, Anna Paseman, Isaac Dobson, Anna Simmons, Maxine Stucki, Ben VandeVoort, Shad Wojciechowski, Vladyavsia Varemenko, Suzanne Young, Hope Zett-Goeckert

LOCAL INTERNS, SUMMER 2018

NATIONAL INTERNS, SUMMER 2018

GLOBAL INTERNS, FALL 2018
Waad Aboodkareim, Melissa Biscupovich, Taylor Blackley, Brenda Espitia, Taylor Carlson, Victoria Hurst, Anthony Kim, Ashlyn Mays, Nasreen Montal, Hoang Phan, Daniel Salazar, Jayden Sta.l, Jessica Valdes, Summer Vazquez
INTERN YEARBOOK

LOCAL INTERNS, FALL 2018

NATIONAL INTERNS, FALL 2018

GLOBAL INTERNS, SPRING 2019
Alia Crook, Amelia Curlay, Trystan Quinn, Celeste Davis, Gardner Lange, Hector Robles, Kathryn Brown, Kaya Hartley, Nour Al-Bari, Sam Stamos, Samantha Thorne, Swazye Hansen

LOCAL INTERNS, SPRING 2019

NATIONAL INTERNS, SPRING 2019

GLOBAL INTERNS, SPRING 2019
Alia Crook, Amelia Curlay, Trystan Quinn, Celeste Davis, Gardner Lange, Hector Robles, Kathryn Brown, Kaya Hartley, Nour Al-Bari, Sam Stamos, Samantha Thorne, Swazye Hansen
INTERN YEARBOOK

LEGISLATIVE INTERNS, SPRING 2019
Adam Aarif, Melssa Billings, Dallas Blackburn, Aaron Carroll, Nick Coleman, Maximilian Daniel, Sherry Edwards, Madeleine Flom, Fantasia Franco, Jentrie Glines, Ryan Grimm, Wisam Khudhair, Barbara Kufiaden, Carolyn Love, Sierra Marty, Sierra Morales, Lisa Nelsen, Jordan Osborne, Nisha Patel, Adrian Perez-Tehrani, Bridie Poitier, Paige Rockwell, Diana Rodriguez, Elisa Scott, Kenneth Starr, Spencer Teerlink, Kathleen Thompson, Victoria Wilde, Blyra Young

NATIONAL INTERNS, SPRING 2019

STUDENT AMBASSADORS
Student ambassadors play a key role in outreach to students and the campus community. They attend networking meetings with campus, community, and political leaders to develop skills like public speaking and intercultural awareness. These skills help them to relate to students and promote the Hinckley Institute more effectively. Ambassadors also help with Hinckley Institute events and assist in the office.

Alyssa Castor Fall
Christopher Rigby Fall, Spring
Kareen Scharmann Fall, Spring
Omid Asgharzadeh Fall
Kaylee Mortensen Fall
Dillon Clark Spring
Anas Hernandez Spring
Jacqueline Mumford Spring

STUDENT FORUM HOSTS
Hosts serve as the face of the Hinckley Institute and introduce forum guests as well as assist with event production.

Miranda Jones Fall
Kaseon Scharmann Fall
Samantha Thomas Fall
Hansi Liu Spring
Kathleen Thompson Spring

HINCKLEY JOURNAL OF POLITICS EDITORS
The editors oversee one of the few undergraduate-run journals of politics in the U.S. and strive to publish scholarly papers of exceptional caliber.

Hans Liu Editor
Anna Paseman Edina
Nicholas Coleman Technical Editor

AGF AMBASSADORS
The Andrew Goodman Foundation (AGF) is represented by student ambassadors who work with Hinckley Institute staff, students, and other university personnel to promote voter participation and civic engagement on campus.

Jade Harrison
Michaela Lemen
Jacqueline Mumford
“I lived getting to spend a summer abroad, not just for the varied work experience, but also for the experience I had in a completely foreign culture. That is something unique that I could get only through a Hinckley internship.”

Grayson Hansen

GRADUATES

This spring, 267 Hinckley interns graduated! Collectively, they completed 347 total internships in 182 Local, 26 Legislative, 74 National, and 61 Global! They represent over 60 majors from 12 different colleges.

We’re so glad they chose to make the Hinckley Institute part of their university experience and wish them the best of luck.

Carter Carter

40 41

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“My internship also gave me the opportunity to learn so much more about the many careers available in my field. That access to knowledge available in my field. That access to knowledge was the best decision I made with respect to the experience I had in a completely foreign culture. That is something unique that I could get only through a Hinckley internship.”

Greyson Harness

40 41

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ROB BISHOP CIVIC ENGAGEMENT FUND
A former Hinckley intern and public school teacher, turned public servant, Representative Rob Bishop represents Utah’s First Congressional District in the U.S. Congress. In recognition of Rep. Bishop’s dedication to public service, the Rob Bishop Civic Engagement scholarship seeks to recognize outstanding interns who most effectively demonstrate the values of leadership, learning, and commitment to public service.

HINCKLEY INSTITUTE OF POLITICS GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP
This scholarship fund was created by the generous donors who seek to ensure that all deserving students, regardless of resources, have the opportunity to participate in politics and engage in the community. It is awarded to motivated Hinckley interns to supplement their costs and reward their dedication.

GOVERNOR SIMON BAMBERGER UTAH STATE POLICY SCHOLARSHIP
This Scholarship was established to reward interns serving in state government. It is funded from the Herbert I. and Elsa B. Michael Foundation. Simon Bamberger, Utah’s fourth governor, was a German-born immigrant who served from 1916-1920. He was a strong advocate for education throughout his public life, beginning with service on the Salt Lake City School Board. The Bamberger Utah State Policy Scholarship will be awarded each semester to exceptional student interns who especially embody Bamberger’s passion for political research and public service.

CREATED CORPORATION SCHOLARSHIP FOR STUDENTS IN STEM
This scholarship was created by the generosity of the Chevron Salt Lake Refinery. It is awarded to high-achieving students who are pursuing careers in applied sciences, technology, engineering, and/or mathematics. It is the hope that this scholarship will encourage more students to enter STEM fields and provide them with greater access and resources to do so.

THE MITCHELL GROUP SCHOLARSHIP
This Scholarship was established to reward interns serving in state government. It is funded from the Herbert I. and Elsa B. Michael Foundation. Simon Bamberger, Utah’s fourth governor, was a German-born immigrant who served from 1916-1920. He was a strong advocate for education throughout his public life, beginning with service on the Salt Lake City School Board. The Bamberger Utah State Policy Scholarship will be awarded each semester to exceptional student interns who especially embody Bamberger’s passion for political research and public service.

HINCKLEY GLOBAL INTERNSHIP SCHOLARSHIP
This scholarship fund was created by the Hinckley Institute’s generous donors who seek to ensure that all deserving students, regardless of resources, have the opportunity to experience other cultures and participate as global citizens. This scholarship is awarded to remarkable interns to supplement their costs and reward their dedication.

BAE B. GARDNER SCHOLARSHIP
This scholarship was established in 1990 and organized by Hinckley Institute alumni in honor of Bae B. Gardner, a former Hinckley Institute employee who worked tirelessly to orchestrate student internships and ensure their time as interns was successful. It is awarded to impressive interns pursuing public policy.

WAYNE HORIUCHI SCHOLARSHIP
A Hinckley alumus and lifelong public servant, Wayne Horiuchi’s generous donations to the Hinckley Institute of Politics help fund internships for exemplary students in Washington, DC. Horiuchi created the Hinckley Institute with introducing him to government and politics, which became the foundation of his career. Horiuchi’s spirit of service and community engagement are furthered as he enables standout interns to follow in his footsteps.
Robert H. Hinckley Institute of Politics Endowment Fund

The Hinckley Institute’s founder was a man whose accomplishments were as diverse as they were numerous. In addition to his impact in air-travel, automobile, and broadcast news industries, he served in both the Roosevelt and Truman administrations. He had a strong belief that young people should be encouraged to value civic engagement and that the future leaders of tomorrow should have a strong devotion to civic duty. This fund was created to help realize this mission and provide diligent students with the opportunity to gain real-world experiences.

Intern Scholarship Recipients Continued

Margarita Rampton Munk Public Policy Internship Scholarship

In honor of former Utah Governor Calvin L. Rampton’s daughter, Margaret “Meg,” this fund provides scholarships for interns serving at the executive branch of Utah’s government. While a political science student at the University of Utah, Meg was editor of the campus newspaper and the valedictorian at commencement. She was a bright student and highly involved. The scholarship is awarded to standouts students who embody her passion and engagement.

Frank E. Moss Public Policy Scholarship

This scholarship was created by Kem C. Gardner in honor of former Senator Frank E. Moss who is known for his distinguished public service career as well as his sense of caring, concern for the environment, passion for public health, and work for minorities, underprivileged groups, and the elderly. The purpose of the scholarship is to steer remarkable student interns towards experiences and work with social institutions that promote caring and compassion.

The Wayne Owens Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship was created to honor the late Doug Wayne Owens, a University of Utah alumnus, member of the U.S. House of Representatives, and passionate advocate for peace. During his congressional career, he helped found the Center for Middle East Peace and Economic Cooperation. The scholarship is awarded in memory of extraordinary students who are participating in National internships or internships that serve the Middle East.

Bill Rishel Scholarship Fund

The Bill Rishel Memorial Fund was created in his memory by his daughter, Virginia A. Rishel. An avid cyclist and transportation enthusiast, Bill Rishel was a pioneer in the development of the highway system in the Western United States and was instrumental in helping to make Salt Lake City its hub. The goal of the Bill Rishel Scholarship is to encourage and foster greater interest and participation in the area of politics and public service. This scholarship is awarded to standouts interns who demonstrate academic excellence and show a motivated interest in participation and service.

My DC internship made me feel like I was becoming who I’ve always wanted to be. I am so grateful to the Hinckley for this opportunity. Everyday, I am reminded how much they give us so that we can go to DC, and I feel so lucky to go to school with such an incredible institution of politics. Thank you for my new best friends, my new favorite experiences, and my newfound passion for a future I had never before considered!” - Laura Fishburn

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BARBARA ROBERTS SCHOLARSHIP
Barbara Roberts is a friend to the University of Utah and champion of education and learning opportunities. Her generosity creates internship experiences for distinguished female students who demonstrate a commitment to public service. A global traveler and lifelong learner, Roberts hopes to give more young people the chance to broaden their horizons and engage with their communities.

ROCCO SICILIANO SCHOLARSHIP
Rocco C. Siciliano is nationally recognized for his lifetime of dedicated public service, as a decorated soldier in Italy, and for his leadership in the corporate world. His public service career includes a stint as President Eisenhower’s special assistant for personnel management and as an undersecretary for commerce and assistant of secretary of labor. In 2001, he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate at the University of Utah and was also selected as the Chairman of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission in Washington, D.C. The fund in his name enables distinguished students the opportunity to intern in executive or congressional offices.

ABIGAIL BARNEY SCHOLARSHIP
Abigail Barney is the former Commissioner of the National District Attorneys Association. Ms. Barney is an accomplished public servant with a distinguished career in state and local government.

XAVIER COLON SCHOLARSHIP
Xavier Colon is a global traveler and lifelong learner.

ABIGAIL GATES SCHOLARSHIP
Abigail Gates is deeply engaged with the University of Utah, having served on the Board of Trustees.

CHRISTIAN MOWER SCHOLARSHIP
Christian Mower served as the campaign manager for R.J. Snow’s campaign for governor.

MARY STRINGHAM SCHOLARSHIP
Mary Stringham is a prominent leader in the LGBTQ+ community.

R.J. SNOW PUBLIC POLICY SCHOLARSHIP FUND
As Director of the Hinckley Institute from 1975-85, R.J. Snow enjoyed introducing students to the richness of political science and the importance of civic engagement. He worked to ensure that all students have access to transformative leadership experiences. This scholarship was created in his honor to further his passion for public policy and to create future opportunities for outstanding students.

PETE SUAZO LOCAL INTERNSHIP SCHOLARSHIP
The Senator Pete Suazo Leadership Foundation was founded in November 2001, shortly after the tragic death of the late Senator Suazo. The foundation was established to honor the legacy and commitment of the senator, who is remembered as a heroic role model with a strong social conscience. The scholarship seeks to fund the internships of ethnic minority students enrolled at the University of Utah who demonstrate a passion for community service and exemplify his spirit of leadership.

MAIA SOUTHWICK SCHOLARSHIP
Maia Southwick is the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Commissioner.

TODD TAYLOR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
This scholarship was established at the University of Utah to reward highly dedicated interns who embody Todd Taylor’s work ethic, dedication, and passion for politics. Taylor passed away in 2012 while serving as the longest-tenured state political executive director in the nation. He is remembered as “a true renaissance man” with a passion for national and local politics, a near photographic memory, encyclopedic knowledge of Utah politics, a sharp wit, and personal authenticity that is widely missed.

RAHMA AHMED SCHOLARSHIP
Rahma Ahmed is a distinguished lawyer and community leader.

DAVID CHRISTENSEN SCHOLARSHIP
David Christensen is a prominent lawyer and community leader.

LAUREN LEVDYNSMAN SCHOLARSHIP
Lauren Leydysman is a dedicated community leader.

JALEN PACER SCHOLARSHIP
Jalen Pacer is a prominent community leader.

NICOLE ZAMORA-VILSON SCHOLARSHIP
Nicole Zamora-Vilson is a distinguished community leader.

BARBARA ROBERTS SCHOLARSHIP
Barbara Roberts is the former Commissioner of the National District Attorneys Association.

MARY STRINGHAM SCHOLARSHIP
Mary Stringham is a prominent leader in the LGBTQ+ community.

TODD TAYLOR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
Todd Taylor was a prominent political leader.

THE ERIC WRIGHT SCHOLARSHIP FUND
This scholarship is in memory of Eric Wright, whose legacy of participation and scholarship at the University of Utah, as well as his passion for public service and engaged citizenship, make him an example for his generation. This fund was generously created by his family to give exemplary future students the opportunity to intern in Washington, D.C.

BEN D. WOOD SCHOLARSHIP
A friend of R.J. Hinckley since their days as members of Franklin D. Roosevelt’s New Deal administration, Dr. Wood was a pioneer in collegiate education research. This scholarship was made possible by the generosity of Dr. Wood and is awarded to outstanding students serving public policy internships in the federal government.

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This scholarship is in memory of Eric Wright, whose legacy of participation and scholarship at the University of Utah, as well as his passion for public service and engaged citizenship, make him an example for his generation. This fund was generously created by his family to give exemplary future students the opportunity to intern in Washington, D.C.

TAYLOR BROWN SCHOLARSHIP
Taylor Brown is a distinguished political leader.

DILLON CLARK SCHOLARSHIP
Dillon Clark is a prominent political leader.

NELSON LOTZ SCHOLARSHIP
Nelson Lotz is a distinguished political leader.

ERIC LOVE SCHOLARSHIP
Eric Love is a prominent political leader.

“Nearly every amazing opportunity that has come my way the last couple years can be traced back to the Hinckley Institute. The Hinckley’s amazing classes, events, and internships have kept me engaged on campus and in my community and have strengthened my commitment to civic involvement. I am so grateful to the donors and scholarships that enabled my participation. My time spent as an intern helped me define and refine my passions and led to numerous other transformative experiences.”

- Nicholas Cockrell
ABRELLA C. HINCKLEY GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP
The Abrelia C. Hinckley Graduate Scholarship was established to encourage students to follow her example of public service and political involvement. A remarkable woman, she combined devotion to her family with true patriotism and a commitment to politics and citizen participation. As the wife of Robert H. Hinckley, she encouraged him to create the Hinckley Institute of Politics. This scholarship is awarded to exceptional women who emulate the values of Abrelia C. Hinckley through their interests in political engagement and public service.

JOHN & ANNE HINCKLEY SCHOLARSHIP
John S. Hinckley was a proud member of the automobile industry who strongly believed in the improvement of community through active participation and was highly involved in local causes. He met Anne, a Virginia native, during his time in the U.S. Army while she was serving in the American Red Cross. The John & Anne Hinckley Scholarship fund was thus created to award annual scholarships for outstanding students whose academic and community pursuits promote active citizenship and public service. The Hinckleys demonstrated great love for the Institute and wanted to ensure that talented students could contribute to the larger political community without financial hindrance.

ROBERT H. HINCKLEY GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP
Robert H. Hinckley was a remarkable person who led by example with a strong devotion to his country. He founded the bipartisan Hinckley Institute of Politics to encourage the “youngest and best minds to enter politics.” He was a dedicated public servant in the Roosevelt and Truman administrations. This graduate scholarship was established to encourage students in following his example of public service and political engagement. It is awarded to students who demonstrate significant experience in community involvement and are committed to a career in public service.

SCOTT M. MATHESON LEADERSHIP FORUM SCHOLARSHIP
The Matheson Leadership Scholarship was established in honor of the late governor to offer scholarships that encourage distinguished students to pursue public service and extraordinary leadership in the tradition of Scott M. Matheson. A graduate of the University of Utah and Stanford Law School, Matheson’s impressive career included Deputy Salt Lake County Attorney, legal counsel to the Union Pacific Railroad Company, and President of the Utah State Bar. He served as the Governor of Utah from 1977 to 1985. During his tenure as governor, Matheson supported public education and advocated for states’ rights.

TODD TAYLOR ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP
The Todd Taylor Academic Scholarship was established at the University of Utah to reward successful students who embody Todd Taylor’s work ethic, dedication, and passion. Taylor passed away in 2002 while serving as the longest-tenured state political party executive director in the nation. He is remembered as “a true renaissance man” with a passion for national and local politics, a near photographic memory, encyclopedic knowledge of Utah politics, a sharp wit, and personal authenticity that is widely missed.

The Ibarra Strategy Group has been a premier internship opportunity for students in Washington, DC and has hosted 20 Hinckley Interns. The memories and experiences former interns share about their time with ISG are overwhelmingly positive. The ISG is a leading government and public affairs firm that specializes in advocacy services, intergovernmental services, and Latino outreach. Their clients include Fortune 200 companies, prestigious national associations and non-profit organizations. Their advocacy services represent clients at the highest level by building relationships with key figures and using a grassroots approach. The ISG also helps clients develop strategies for messaging and tracking legislative and regulatory issues. Additionally, through their Latino outreach, they help clients strengthen their ties to the Latino community and create mutually beneficial platforms.

Interns at ISG not only gain skills in event planning, communication, and team work but interns also receive mentorship from Mr. Ibarra. They leave with valuable network connections and are motivated to help others be more civically engaged. Former intern, Gabriela Villalobos reflects on her internship experience saying, “Mr. Ibarra is an inspiration to follow. For him, advocacy has always been a way of life. He understands the importance of our personal stories to achieve success and how they need to be shared, heard and honored… Interning at ISG has simply been a truly great learning experience and the leadership Mr. Ibarra has brought to marginalized communities has inspired so many lives, including mine.”

The success of the ISG host office is due in large part to the mission and dedication of its founder, the Honorable Mickey Ibarra. Ibarra’s life story is one of incredible perseverance and resilience. Ibarra’s life began in Utah, where his early childhood found him in foster care. After serving in the army, Ibarra received a master’s degree in education from the University of Utah. His professional career began as a high school teacher, before joining the National Education Association political affairs staff. He then went on to serve as Senior Advisor and Director of Special Projects for Bill Clinton’s presidential campaign in 1996, which led to his appointment as Director of the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, as well as Assistant to the President, and a senior staff member. He was also instrumental in the success of the Salt Lake Winter Olympic Games of 2002, for which he was vice-chair of the task force.

Throughout his many accomplishments and roles, Ibarra has remained steadfast in promoting higher education and Latino communities. In addition to founding and serving as president of the Ibarra Strategy Group, he is also the founder and chairman of the Latino Leaders Network, a non-profit organization that seeks to build relationships and unity.

His tireless work has brought him much recognition, including the Latino Spirit Award for Achievement in Public Service, the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Community Champion Award, and the Olti Award as an outstanding individual of Latino origin who has empowered the well-being and prosperity of Mexican communities.
Jason Perry, JD  
Director

Jason Perry is the Director of the Hinckley Institute of Politics and the Vice President for Government Relations for the University of Utah. Jason brings more than 25 years of experience working in the public sector, where he has worked extensively with policy makers at the local, state, and federal levels. Previously, Jason served as the Chief of Staff to Governor Gary Herbert, and was the Executive Director of the Governor’s Office of Economic Development under Jon Huntsman where Jason was honored as CEO of the Year by Utah Business Magazine. Jason also worked in the Attorney General’s office and was an intern and later, a staff member to Senator Orrin Hatch. Jason is a graduate of the S.J. Quinney College of Law, where he now teaches law students the role of ethics and politics in creating legislation.

Morgan Lyon Cotti, PhD  
Associate Director

Morgan serves as the associate director of the Hinckley and manages the local and legislative internships. She also contributes to the Hinckley’s political analysis and research. Morgan is a former Hinckley intern and holds a PhD in Political Science from George Washington University.

Gina Shipley, MPA  
Managing Director of National Internships & Development Officer

Gina Shipley has been with the Hinckley Institute since 2014. She oversees the national and DC internship programs. Gina also manages alumni relations and development.

Jean Oh, M. Ed.  
Managing Director of Global Internships

Jean Oh joined the University of Utah in 2013 and served as the first Director of UAC Student Services and Main Campus Operations until 2017 when she joined the Hinckley Institute of Politics as the Managing Director of the Global Internship Program.

Natalie Tippets, MS  
Special Assistant to the Vice President

Natalie has been with the Hinckley Institute since July of 2016. She serves as Special Assistant to the Vice President at both the Hinckley Institute and in the Government Relations Office at the University of Utah.

Miranda Best  
Outreach Coordinator

Miranda joined the Hinckley Institute of Politics team in 2017. She holds degrees in International and Latin American Studies, and completed a Hinckley internship in Cuba. Miranda organizes all outreach and recruitment efforts on campus.

Abigail Barney  
Student Staff

Abigail is a senior at the University of Utah studying political science and sociology. She has completed two local Hinckley internships and one national Hinckley internship with the National District Attorneys Association in Washington, DC.

Pedro Padilla-Martinez  
Student Staff

Pedro is a senior at the University of Utah studying political science. He has completed three Hinckley internships, two local and one in Washington, DC. He is interested in getting involved in politics to advocate for criminal justice and drug policy reform.

Gabriela Villalobos  
Student Staff

Gabriela is a sophomore at the University of Utah studying communications and economics. She has completed one Hinckley internship with the Ibarra Strategy Group in Washington, DC. She is interested in getting involved with politics that improve public policy and leadership at a national level.

Molly Wheeler, MSc  
Managing Director of Community Outreach

Molly returned to the Hinckley Institute in 2018 after earning a MSc in political sociology from the London School of Economics. Molly manages the Hinckley Forum Series, Huntsman Seminar, and institute office and finances.

Kyle Tucker  
Administrative Program Coordinator

Kyle provides administrative support for the internship programs and other office functions. He also oversees the Andrew Goodman Foundation ambassadors and HIP Talks. Kyle graduated in 2019 with a degree in political science.

Nick Cockrell  
Student Staff

Nick is a senior studying history and political science at the University of Utah. He has completed two local Hinckley internships, one national internship with the Campaign Legal Center in Washington, DC, and one global internship with the British Parliament.

Brooke Doner  
Director of Marketing

Brooke joined the Hinckley Institute as the Director of Marketing in 2018. A graduate of the University of Colorado, she previously worked as an art director in San Francisco’s and New Zealand’s advertising industries.
A man of vision and foresight, a 20th century pioneer, a philanthropist, an entrepreneur, and a tireless builder of education and of the American political system all are apt descriptions of Robert H. Hinckley, a Utah native and tireless public servant.

Robert H. Hinckley began his political career as a state legislator from Sanpete County and a mayor of Mount Pleasant. Hinckley then rose to serve as the Utah director for the New Deal program under President Franklin D. Roosevelt. In 1927, he moved to Ogden, Utah where became a successful businessman and founded a Dodge car dealership.

Hinckley went on to serve in various capacities in Washington, DC, from 1938 to 1946 and again in 1948. During those years he established and directed the Civilian Pilot Training Program, served as Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Air, and directed the Office of Contract Settlement after WWII. In these positions Hinckley proved himself to be, as one of his colleagues stated, “One of the real heroes of the Second World War.” Also in 1946, Hinckley and Edward Noble jointly founded the American Broadcasting Company (ABC), and over the next two decades helped to build the company into the major television network it is today.

Spurred by the adverse political climate, Hinckley recognized the need to demonstrate that politics was honorable, decent, and necessary, and to encourage young people to get involved in the political process and become active citizens. After viewing programs at Harvard, Rutgers, and the University of Mississippi, Hinckley believed the time was right for an institute of politics at the University of Utah. So in 1965, through a major contribution of his own and a generous bequest from the Noble Foundation, Robert H. Hinckley established the Hinckley Institute of Politics to promote respect for practical politics and to teach the principle of citizen involvement in government.

“Every student a politician” was Hinckley’s dream. The Hinckley Institute of Politics strives to fulfill that dream by sponsoring internships, scholarships, forums, mentoring, and a minor in Campaign Management. Today, 54 years later, Hinckley’s dream is a reality. More than 8,000 students have participated in programs he made possible through the Hinckley Institute of Politics. Many of these students have gone on to serve as legislators, members of Congress, government staffers, local officials, and judges. All participants have, in some measure, become informed, active citizens. Reflecting on all of his accomplishments, Robert H. Hinckley said, “The Hinckley Institute is one of the most important things I will have ever done.” The Hinckley Institute of today seeks to expand Hinckley’s mission by incorporating more diverse paths of citizen engagement and global participation.
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