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Since 1965, the Hinckley Institute has witnessed many noteworthy and historic events. The early years of the Institute were marked by demonstrations, the Vietnam War, and a presidential resignation. Our more recent years saw historic elections, impeachments, marches, and a worldwide pandemic. The Hinckley Institute has always embraced our mission to help students better understand the events surrounding them and to find impactful ways to become involved with their communities. This past year showed that political and community engagement isn’t just something we should do, it is something we must do—and the Hinckley Institute provided our students with the tools to engage in the process.

As the situation with Covid-19 evolved, the Hinckley team found innovative ways to achieve our mission and continue Robert H. Hinckley’s original vision of “every student a politician.” While our students come from many different majors across campus, the call to be engaged in the political process despite one’s background was clearer than ever. Students realized the impact of public policy in their lives and found that leaders at all levels—from local school boards to members of Congress—must be accountable to their constituents. Through Hinckley forums and internships, students learned about the levers of government and how, whether virtually or in person, to become more engaged.

With each challenge the Hinckley Institute has faced in the past year, crucial adaptations were made and valuable lessons were learned. While remote internships were not what many students had expected or hoped to do, it opened doors to some students who otherwise would not have been able to participate. Some students who could not have traveled for a national or global internship were able to work for prestigious organizations while remaining safely at home. This past year challenged us to think beyond the standard outreach methods to contact students, and the result was that virtual visits and video calls opened new doors and allowed us to reach and serve more students.

Similarly, while we missed the energy of having the Hinckley Caucus Room full of engaged guests, moving our forums online allowed greater access. Our team worked diligently to create a slate of forums that were timely, interesting, and covered a broad array of important topics. A moment that stands out in my mind is when we spoke with Congressman Blake Moore just weeks after the storming of the capitol. He spoke about his experience that day, how he kept safe, and how it affected his perspective on the election and the current state of politics in our county.

One of the highlights of this very challenging year was the Vice Presidential Debate held at Kingsbury Hall. This was many years in the making, but the emphasis from the first day of planning to the night of the event was always on making students a central part of this historic debate. One of the highlights of this very challenging year was the Vice Presidential Debate held at Kingsbury Hall. This was many years in the making, but the emphasis from the first day of planning to the night of the event was always on making students a central part of this historic debate.

This past year challenged Hinckley students and staff in more ways than we could have imagined. We adapted to an ever-evolving worldwide pandemic, ensuring we continued to serve our students and community. Hinckley students were part of history as they worked, volunteered, and engaged in the events that defined not just the past year, but will impact our country for many years to come. What is overwhelmingly clear, is that the call for political engagement is more crucial than ever and Hinckley students are ready to answer.
INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

REFLECTIONS ON THIS YEAR’S INTERNS PROGRAMS

LOCAL
Managing Director
Morgan Lyon Cotti, PhD

“Local interns adapted to new situations and showed great resilience throughout the past year. The public health and economic crises our state faced due to the Covid-19 pandemic created greater need for interns for many of our non-profits, government offices, and businesses. Hinckley interns rose to the occasion and overcame challenges and hurdles to work effectively remotely. Interns in government offices learned to conduct policy research from home and support constituents even when they couldn’t be in the office. Those students working in non-profits assisted with our state’s response to Covid-19 and helped some of the most at-risk members of our community. Finally, students working in businesses helped retool marketing campaigns, budgets, and websites to help their company weather the economic downturn. As always, Hinckley interns were a crucial part of our local economy and helped the community through an incredibly difficult year.”

Learn More: Hinckley.utah.edu/local

LEGISLATIVE
Managing Director
Morgan Lyon Cotti, PhD

“The 2021 General Session represented months of careful planning to ensure legislators, staff, and interns could safely meet. In a non-pandemic year, legislative interns handle an intensive training course, a steep learning curve, and demanding working conditions. This was heightened in 2021 as they worked to learn crucial skills remotely as the course moved online. They also dealt with Covid testing, mask mandates, and other health protocols to ensure healthy working conditions. Additionally, they were forced to work remotely for the first week of the session because of concerns over political unrest. Through all of this, Hinckley legislative interns handled themselves with professionalism and resilience.”

Learn More: Hinckley.utah.edu/legislative

NATIONAL
Managing Director
Gina Shipley, MPA

“Even with a global pandemic, students were able to participate in the Hinckley Institute’s Washington, DC, internship program. Notwithstanding challenges, students acclimated to remote internship experiences and gained skills and contacts through zoom meetings, remote research, and substantive projects including publishing documents, coordinating events, drafting social media posts and writing speeches. Although most interns were in our DC apartments, they teleworked and were able to have a front row seat to an array of stakeholders in their respected fields of study.”

Learn More: Hinckley.utah.edu/national

GLOBAL
Managing Director
Jean Oh, M.Ed.

“With the COVID-19 virus shutting down countries in early March of 2020, Hinckley global interns around the world quickly and efficiently made arrangements to return to their respective homes. While some had to cut their internships short, others were able to continue their work remotely, all doing what they could to close out their internship experiences with courteous professionalism, without regard to personal comforts. Despite the growing pandemic throughout summer and fall 2020 semesters, students and host offices remained committed to virtual internships, ranging from UNVIE work in Austria to teaching English to students in Chile. 2021 brings a ray of hope with vaccine rollouts happening in many areas of the world, welcome news for the growing list of global applicants eager to fly the skies and hit the ground running on foreign soil again.”

Learn More: Hinckley.utah.edu/global
Leaders & Visionaries

Some of the great minds that participated in the Hinckley Institute’s Forums throughout the past year.

ARDETH MAUNG THAWNGHMUNG
Professor and Chair, University of Massachusetts
Lowell Political Science Department; Interim Director, Peace and Conflict Studies

GOVERNOR SPENCER COX

CONGRESSMAN CHRIS STEWART

CONGRESSMAN BEN MCADAMS

RABBI MICAH HYMAN
Executive Director, SLO Hillel

SUMIT GANGULY
Distinguished Professor, Indiana University Political Science Department

BAODONG LIU
Professor, University of Utah Political Science Department

PRESTON FOSTER
Assistant Professor & Program Director, Oakwood University Department of Public Policy

CHAIRPERSON CANDACE BEAR
Skull Valley Goshutes

EZEQUIEL GONZÁLEZ-OCANTOS
Associate Professor, University of Oxford Department of Politics and International Relations; Professional Fellow, Nuffield College

NUBIA PEÑA
Director, Utah Division of Multicultural Affairs

JIM CURRY
Associate Professor, University of Utah Political Science Department

NATALIE GOCHNOUR
Director, Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute

TIMOTHY SHRIVER
Founder, UNITE

DENEECE HUFTALIN
President, Salt Lake Community College

JOSE RODRÍGUEZ
Associate Vice President, University of Utah Health Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

ERIKA GEORGE
Director, Tanner Humanities Center; Samuel D. Thurman Professor of Law, University of Utah S.J Quinney College of Law

JOSHEA CASTRO
Executive Director, Suazo Business Center

SILVIA CASTRO
Executive Director, Suazo Business Center

NICOLE HEMMER
Associate Research Scholar, Obama Presidency Oral History Project, Columbia University

KYRENE GIBB
Partner and Vice President of Research, Y2 Analytics

SALVADOR CASTRENS
Political Pollster and Publisher

BRETT BRUEN
President, Global Situation Room; Director of Global Engagement (fmr.), Obama Administration

ALISHA HOLLAND
Associate Professor, Harvard University Government Department

ASHLEY CLEVELAND
Promise Program Manager, Millcreek City
In 2020-2021, KCPW Producer and Host Anthony Scama ensured our forums were broadcasted, filmed, and made available as podcasts. Thanks to Anthony, Hinckley forums are able to reach a wider audience and draw more community engagement.

AARP Utah
Real Women Run
Utah Debate Commission
Utah Education Debate Coalition
YWCA

This year’s virtual events would not have been possible without the incredible support of our campus and community partners. We collaborated on forums with a wide array of campus entities and community organizations to expand the scope of our forums. We are immensely grateful to our partners and look forward to creating more compelling programming with them in the future.
A large part of our community outreach involves educating the youth about the importance of becoming civically engaged and teaching them how to do so. Due to the pandemic, all of our traditional methods of teaching and engaging with youth was put on hold. However, we were able to find one way to target the young minds in our community by collaborating with the Office of Continuing Education on campus through their Youth Education Streaming (YES) online service. Miranda Best and Jean Oh worked with 5th graders, Josie and Josh, to talk about the importance of educating ourselves about community issues and voting.

The Utah Debate Commission (UDC) is a consortium of institutions of higher education, media partners, and business and civic leaders dedicated to creating a non-partisan and independent system of political debates. In addition to her position as a board member, Morgan Lyon Cotti served on the executive board in 2020. During the past election cycle, the UDC hosted a record six primary debates and six general election debates. The UDC also played a critical role in the vice presidential debate, working to engage K-12 and university students and teachers by providing educational resources and holding an essay contest. A highlight of their involvement occurred when, during the debate, moderator Susan Page asked the candidates a question written by one of the essay contest winners.

Real Women Run at the YWCA is a non-partisan initiative to encourage and train women to run for political office at all levels, work on campaigns, and serve on public boards and commissions. Morgan Lyon Cotti has served on the board of RWR since 2014. All RWR events moved online, allowing the organization to hold more events on a wider variety of topics while reaching a larger audience. The Hinckley partnered with RWR on several events, notably, one which featured a panel of elected officials discussing the need for more young women to run for office.

The Hinckley Institute has continued its commitment to increase democratic engagement and voter turnout across campus. To fulfill this commitment, the Hinckley Institute has partnered with the Andrew Goodman Foundation to help increase voter participation. However, as the Covid-19 pandemic presented unique challenges for the 2020 election, traditional outreach efforts had to be adapted. The Hinckley Institute held various virtual voter registration events, conducted social media outreach campaigns, and hosted links to TurboVote (an online voter registration tool) on the campus-wide portal. These efforts helped register over 500 students to vote. Additionally, the Hinckley Institute takes part in several other democratic engagement initiatives, including the All-In Campus Democracy Challenge, the PAC-12 Voting Challenge, and the Campus Vote Project. Recently, the Hinckley Institute worked with the Salt Lake County Clerk’s Office to host an on-campus location at the Huntsman Center. As a result of these efforts, the University of Utah was named a voter-friendly campus for the sixth straight year and was one of only two universities in Utah to receive the designation.

The Utah Education Debate Coalition (UEDC) coordinates primary and general election debates of State School Board candidates. Morgan Lyon Cotti sits on the board, which also includes the Utah Association of Charter Schools, the United Way of Salt Lake, and the Sutherland Institute. The UEDC adapted the debates to accommodate for these elections moving from being non-partisan positions to partisan. During 2020, the UEDC held three primary debates and three general election debates, all done via Zoom and broadcast on Youtube.
Unprecedented.

When the University of Utah undertook the task of hosting the nation’s only vice presidential debate, we knew it would pose logistical hurdles. However, we did not anticipate mitigating those challenges amid a devastating global pandemic, through the after effects of a 5.7 magnitude earthquake, ongoing nation-wide civil unrest, and weeks after an historic hurricane-force wind storm devastated the landscape of our campus and the city of Salt Lake.

But on the evening of October 7th, the power of “One U” was on full display as the University of Utah delivered one of the best orchestrated national debates of the 2020 election cycle.

The Hinckley Institute’s mission is to educate and inform on critical issues, spurring civic engagement among our students and community members. Most of that hard work happens at a grass-roots level through our internship programs, classes, and forums. We take our responsibility to provide transformative experiences for the students that come through our doors seriously. Hosting a nationally televised debate amid a historic and pivotal moment in the presidential election cycle was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to scale what we do for the entire campus.

As October 7th neared, it was clear hosting this event was not only critical for our students, but for the nation itself. As the devastation wrought by the Covid-19 pandemic raged across the country, several sister host sites determined they could not handle the responsibility. At the U, we doubled down. There was never a question if the debate between then-Senator Kamala Harris and Vice President Mike Pence would be held. We turned to our experts at University of Utah Health for guidance on how to safely hold the event. It was apparent the size and scope of the
debate would need to be restricted. In partnership with experts from the Cleveland Clinic, our team put together comprehensive safety and testing protocols, which kept our volunteers, staff, and campus guests safe and Covid free. These protocols would become a model for other hosting sites and for future events at the U.

In spite of the challenges, our campus was abuzz with excitement. Thousands offered to volunteer. Virtual watch kits were assembled and distributed across campus so students could have individual parties as they tuned in from home. Nearly 4,000 University of Utah students entered the raffle to attend the event live. A ‘Golden Ticket Event’ was hosted by President Watkins as she drew the names of the 60 lucky students who would be invited to Kingsbury Hall to witness the historic event. Our own Hinckley student staffers, Sheely and Gabby were selected to help stage the event as stand-ins for moderator Susan Page and then-Senator Kamala Harris.

When the big day finally arrived, campus was transformed into a thrilling spectacle. Scaffolding and media stages fortified the exterior of Kingsbury Hall. The Nancy Peery Marriott Auditorium was remodeled to accommodate the five major broadcasters and the traditional debate platform. As the candidates took the stage, the culmination of years of hard work were witnessed by the world. An estimated 59 million viewers tuned in— an estimated ad equivalency of $262 million and over 28 billion viewer/reader impressions.

Hosting the vice-presidential debate taught us a lot — about our country and our campus. Echoes of President Watkins inaugural theme, “Alone we can do so little; Together we can do so much” which was introduced in that same hall in 2018 could be felt as our campus orchestrated this historic moment for our country.

CATCH UP WITH THE FLY
One short flight for flies, one giant pause in national politics.

“No one could have anticipated the buzz my brief stop on the snowy-white head of then-Vice President Michael Pence would generate! I’ll be the first to admit, I was surprised the secret service let me through — security was tighter than a double-pane window. But there I was, bumbling around the live set without a soul brave enough to swat me. I’m often asked what caused me to linger so long on the veep’s downy-soft head; I was eager to hear the candidates respond to Susan Page’s question on the role of American leadership in 2020. I also wanted to make sure they got my good side for the camera. All that loitering paid off — I was featured on every major news outlet and the opening sketch of Saturday Night Live! I have to give a shoutout to comedy legend Jim Carrey for his SNL performance, you captured my essence, man. Thanks again for hosting the debate — it was the honor of my 7-10 day (average) lifespan.”
POLITICALENGAGE

20 21

The Pac-12 Voting Challenge is a voter engagement initiative started in 2020 by students and staff from the University of Utah and Universities of California, Berkeley and Los Angeles in collaboration with the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge and the Andrew Goodman Foundation. The initiative sought to bring together the 12 institutions of higher education—represented in the Pac-12 athletic conference—to tackle the issue of low college student voter turnout by advancing nonpartisan civic learning, political engagement, and student voter participation on each of the 12 campuses. The initiative also seeks to fulfill a responsibility of higher education to graduate informed and civicly engaged citizens.

The Hinckley Institute and the University of Utah took on a leading role in implementing the initiative by helping to establish administrator/faculty and student working groups designed to support collaboration, innovation, and resource utilization across the Pac-12 institutions. Additionally, University of Utah president Ruth Watkins joined University of California, Berkeley chancellor Carol Christ in sending a letter to presidents at Pac-12 institutions to ask them to officially endorse the initiative and assign a faculty member or administrator to represent their campuses in the working group. All 12 universities have joined the challenge and worked to increase voting on their respective campuses for the 2020 general election.

Each major election year, the Hinckley Institute of Politics and the Andrew Goodman Policy Institute collaborate on Informed Decisions—an effort to educate Utah voters on critical policy issues and better acquaint them with competitive candidates from key races around the state. This year, we partnered with the Office of Alumni Relations as well.

The 2020 election was critical for our state and nation. Informed Decisions 2020 helped voters navigate the important election year. We examined public education funding, Utah’s housing crisis, COVID-19’s impact on the economy, the debate over guns and the second amendment, and how to address the drug epidemic. The election cycle was so important that we also added a mini-debatt on stephanie miller’s “the stephanie miller radio show”.

Each major election year, the Hinckley Institute of Politics and the Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute collaborate on Informed Decisions—an effort to educate Utah voters on critical policy issues and better acquaint them with competitive candidates from key races around the state. This year, we partnered with the Office of Alumni Relations as well. The 2020 election was critical for our state and nation. Informed Decisions 2020 helped voters navigate the important election year. We examined public education funding, Utah’s housing crisis, COVID-19’s impact on the economy, the debate over guns and the second amendment, and how to address the drug epidemic. The election cycle was so important that we also added a mini-debate on the stephanie miller radio show.
Comunidades Unidas has provided engaging and transformative internships to Hinckley students for over a decade. From the beginning of this partnership, CU provided interns with key opportunities to help achieve the organization’s mission. Their work has contributed to the goal of empowering Latinx individuals to recognize and achieve their potential and be a positive force for change in the larger community. Additionally, CU provides interns with leadership and mentorship that helps students recognize their passions and ignites a fire in them to make the world a better place.

The Hinckley Institute first began placing local interns with CU in 2011 and has since had dozens of students work with their team. From the start, CU staff made sure Hinckley interns were a central part of their work and initiatives. University of Utah student Brenda Domingues interned with CU in the spring of 2021 and noted, “During my time as an intern at Comunidades Unidas, I felt a part of a team that strives to make the community a safer, more empowered place for change. I enjoyed my time interning with them and being led by individuals who are so passionate about their mission.”

Interns at CU work on a variety of projects, ranging from immigration policy, criminal justice, voter engagement, and food security. Election years are especially engaging as students contribute to the voter engagement and get-out-the-vote initiatives. Student Salma Perez Rios was an intern during the 2020 election and said, “My team and I worked hard during the election to educate and empower the Latino community. We brought resources to them and did our best to promote our campaign.” With the help of student interns, CU contributed to registering over 8,000 people to vote.

Over the years, Hinckley interns have also assisted with CU’s programs centered on immigration work and policy. Interns work directly with Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) clients, assist staff with citizenship initiatives, and help individuals study and prepare for their citizenship tests. Another Hinckley intern who was profoundly affected by her time with Comunidades Unidas in 2019, was Thaiss Del Rio. “I was able to come out of my comfort zone and for the first time advocate for what I am most passionate about: immigration. I learned to use my voice to lead, to teach others about their rights, to organize events, and more.”

The impact of Hinckley interns was especially clear throughout the past year as students have assisted with CU’s response to the Covid-19 pandemic. They assisted supporting Spanish-speaking, immigrant, and undocumented families navigate social services and apply for assistance during the financial crisis. Because of their efforts, CU helped 700 families receive Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer funds to help them make ends meet. Kimberly Tobar Chavez interned with CU during this difficult time and said, “I was able to help my community in so many ways. I was able to inform them about resources such as food banks/food resources, immigration information, DACA information, and income assistance.”

Interns also completed quantitative and qualitative research on workers’ safety and rights at the county and state levels. They conducted interviews with city and county officials to understand the spread of Covid-19 within jails, to better understand its impact on those populations and on criminal justice efforts. This crucial work was difficult, but CU provided the guidance to help our students handle each challenge.

Mayra Cedano, the executive director of CU, said “The greatest value of hosting interns is that we support and provide valuable life learning experiences, opportunities to develop their personal and professional skills, and opportunities to make a change in our community.” CU empowers students to become leaders and helps them develop skills and abilities for success in future classes, internships, and careers. Former interns went on to complete internships in the Utah State Legislature, Washington, DC, and around the world. You can also find them working in other nonprofits and government offices in Utah, continuing to make a positive impact on their community. As Thaiss Del Rio said, “Interning with Comunidades Unidas was life changing. I had the opportunity to witness first hand the tremendous and extensive amount of work that is done at Comunidades Unidas every day to ensure that Utah families thrive. They taught me how to use my voice and my story to elevate and empower those around me.”
“My internship with the Bureau of Legislative Affairs at the U.S. Department of State has truly enhanced my academic career. Being able to assist with the Women’s Leadership Institute has been a great experience. Although the pandemic posed challenges, my internship gave me opportunities to help my supervisor in a bigger capacity than if we were in the office. My favorite part of DC was being around all of my colleagues and being able to interact with them. I learned so much. I also had the privilege of being in Vienna and getting to explore the city and culture.”

“I was an intern for the U.S. Mission to International Organizations in Vienna through the U.S. State Department. It was one of the most amazing experiences of my life. Being able to take part and learn from people from all over the world who get together to discuss important and relevant global issues was incredible and I learned so much. I also had the privilege of being in Vienna and getting to explore the city and culture.”

“My internship at the Governor’s Office was immediately involved in important tasks and met with the Governor only an hour into my first day. My position required me to assist with a large number of tasks and projects and allowed me to interact with a bunch of different people. I also spent time working in Constituent Services and what a time to be experiencing that! With all that has been happening in the state and country with the pandemic, we were flooded with calls, emails, and mail, so it gave me a lot of hands-on experience. Overall, it was an exciting and eventful time.”

“My time in DC was incredible! I interned for Chopard Consulting and helped found the Women’s Leadership Institute. Although the pandemic posed challenges, my remote internship gave me opportunities to help my supervisor in a bigger capacity than if we were in the office. My favorite part of DC was being around all of my colleagues and being able to interact with them. I learned so much. I also had the privilege of being in Vienna and getting to explore the city and culture.”

“Living in DC has been such a great experience for both personal growth and professional growth. As an intern with the Ibarra Strategy group, I was responsible for updating event budgets, preparing run of show production documents, assisting with client requests, handling day-to-day office operation assignments, preparing meeting materials, and developing event memos. It has actually been really great to be out here during such a historic time. I was able to witness the presidential inauguration and the changing of administrations. Despite the COVID restrictions, we have been able to make the best of it with outdoor activities and historical sites.”

“As Senator Escamilla’s intern, I researched and created talking points and fact sheets that explained her bills, attended committee meetings, responded to constituents, and ensured that everything ran smoothly so that my Senator was always ready to go. I learned the importance of flexibility, adaptability (especially because of COVID-19), and accuracy. I gained valuable research, communication, and leadership skills that will assist me as I continue with my academic journey and beyond. Most importantly, I learned the power that exists in our voices when we as a community speak up about issues that we care about and impact us.”
“It is important to support Hinckley programs in any way possible, as a pay back to an Institute that has given me so much.”

From Hinckley Intern to U.S. Congressman

“I am old. The Hinckley Institute program then was significant and successful, but not as varied as the current offerings. I completed a legislative internship in 1973, which included, for credit, a preparatory class and research project for the actual internship hours.

What is your favorite Hinckley memory?

I was on a mission in 1970 and teaching by 1974, but I was on campus and heavily involved in the 1972 election. It was exciting for me to meet in person the candidates for whom I was passing literature and bumper stickers. That may seem like a small thing, but for me the interaction was exciting. I still remember Nick Strike telling me his plan for winning the governor’s race. It obviously didn’t work.

Was there a professor or mentor at the Hinckley that had an impact on you?

Dr. JD Williams was the director during my college years, and Dr. RJ Snow was the director while I participated in the post-graduate teacher programs (the Institute apparently liked initials). The institute had a smaller staff, and the person I thought ran the place was Bae Gardner. She was the administrative assistant, and her middle/maiden name was Bishop. Though not a relative, she gave great advice and always had time to talk. Her assistance was the same for every student, but I liked to think because of the name connection, she went out of her way for me.

What influence did the Hinckley Institute have on your undergraduate education?

As a Political Science major, the Hinckley Institute conducted forums and guest lectures that I attended as often as possible. Though not a direct connection to class work, the guest speakers expanded class curriculum and introduced us to state and national political leaders. I do remember one state leader who spoke of a campaign method used that I not only remembered but replicated on my own state legislative campaigns.

How else did the Hinckley Institute influence your career?

The post-graduate teacher programs (currently called The Huntsman Seminar) were very helpful. They provided contacts and information that I used in my classes. I was a participant and a presenter in these programs, and I gained info I could use from both activities.

How have interns helped you throughout your political career, both in the state legislature and in Congress?

Hinckley interns were life-savers for me in both the legislature and in congress. Legislative interns were the only staff we had, so success was directly tied to their research. It helped that I had been an intern, and learned early that efforts on behalf of my legislator were important. As a state representative, my interns never wrote speeches for me (actually I never read a speech – always extemporaneous) but I did have interns speak to groups on my behalf and occasionally even had my intern present my bills in committee for me. Interns became friends, I am still in contact with many of them. My state legislative intern and I played racquetball. That was my pressure release in lieu of bad afternoon appropriation sub-committee meetings.

In Congress, my interns handled and wrote all my correspondence. I reviewed their responses on my flights to and from home, but interns wrote the initial drafts. House members had fewer interns than senators, but that meant I had a closer personal interaction with our interns because my district included Utah State University and Weber State University, most interns came from those universities. The ones from Hinckley (especially the ones who played softball with us in the summer) were special. We hired some as staff; one became my legislative director, and I performed at his wedding.
“The division in this country is not gone get any better for a long time, unfortunately. There’s nowhere out there. The two sides are as divided as they’ve ever been. People are divided as they’ve ever been on so many issues. It’s a real challenge.”

Rod Arquette
12/02/21

“The day that a reality television star entered the race for president, all norms of debates changed. And it’s actually sad. We’ve had such decorum in years past with the debates. Because we’ve had such decorum, we’ve been able to have peaceful transitions of power. And that’s the hallmark of our system. To have a provision for recall.”

Doug Wilks
04/09/21

“The pandemic has really taught us that our divisions are so deep and profound in this country, we are an obstacle to making progress on fundamental issues that everybody should agree on. That polarization has halted and slowed our progress.”

Damon Carr
12/02/21

“Wearing a mask is hardly the biggest infringement we’ve had. I think that’s a red herring in terms of political argument. If mask wearing were to keep someone in our community safe, it’s such a small ask of us.”

Maura Carballo
The Evans Group
12/02/21

“The pandemic set people who were already on the margins behind even further. … The kids who were already at risk, are more at-risk now. … It’s an undignified disaster that we’re going to try to rectify for years to come.”

Amy Donaldson
Deseret News
12/02/21

SEASON FIVE

The Covid-19 pandemic, coupled with the 2020 election cycle, brought to the forefront the importance of the Hinckley Report and its mission to inform and encourage civic engagement. Utah’s top journalists, politicians, and elected officials joined host Jason Perry for the monthly roundtable, filling each 29-minute episode with unparalleled access to political insider information.

When the pandemic abruptly forced the final episodes of season four to be recorded remotely, our team made it our goal to be safely back in the studio for the season five premiere. So much of the magic that brings the weekly discussion together happens in-person, shortly before the director yells, “action!” With the help of healthcare and industry experts we made it happen—mask wearing in the studio and social distancing around the table were required, which enabled one guest to join remotely. It was good to be back in the studio and under the new format, the show quickly hit a natural rhythm.

Season five had no shortage of critical topics to discuss and our panelists were eager to give their take. Topics of the 36 episode season spanned a wide variety of issues in Utah including: the evolving politics of the pandemic, local and national civil unrest, several special legislative sessions, the historic 2020 election cycle, inception at the Capitol, returning students to school, balance of powers, unprecedented federal relief funding, and the 2021 General Legislative session.

We are deeply grateful to PBS-Utah, our fellow producers, and partners in the studio for making The Hinckley Report possible. Public television plays a critical role in keeping our community informed and we are proud to be a part of it. Funding for The Hinckley Report is made possible in part by The George S. & Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation and The Cleone Peterson Eccles Endowment Fund.

Past episodes of The Hinckley Report can be found at www.pbsutah.org/hinckleyreport. You can also download the show as a podcast through your preferred platform. Join us for season five Friday evenings this fall on PBS-Utah, Channel 7.

Learn more at PBSUtah.org/HinckleyReport
HIP Talks

This year marked the seventh annual edition of HIP (Hinckley Institute of Politics) Talks, the university-wide speech contest hosted by the Hinckley Institute in honor of former Utah Congressman Wayne Owens. This unique event provides students with an opportunity to hone their public speaking abilities while also competing for some of the $10,000 scholarship prize money. The grand prize winner of the contest wins a $5,000 scholarship, with four $1,000 runner-up scholarships, and one $1,000 audience favorite award.

In cooperation with Covid-19 health and safety guidelines, the contest was hosted virtually (as it was in 2020). Students were asked to record a two-minute speech on a topic of their choosing and submit the video to the Hinckley Institute. Participants came from all over campus and included freshmen up to graduate students and represented over 25 different majors or academic disciplines. Speeches were given on a variety of topics including mental health, immigration, Covid-19, racism and social justice, and even heavy metal music and romance novels.

In an initial review of all submissions, 20 finalists were selected to be reviewed by our final judging panel. With many thoughtful and compelling speeches, the judges were left with a difficult decision. In the end, they selected Julianne Liu as the Grand Prize Winner for her speech “Again and Again and Again.” Her speech along with the other runner-up winners can be viewed online at hinckley.utah.edu/hip-talks.

2021’s Winners

Grand Prize: Julianne Liu - “Again and Again and Again”
Audience Favorite: Moira Gray - “I’m No Longer Ashamed”

Runners-up:
Loveleen Ghuman - “To the Daughters in Immigrant Households”
Jack Jowers - “A Universal Upgrade”
Tessa Vu - “Eat, Purge, Repeat”
Anoushka Yadav - “I Am a Failure and I am Proud of It”

Judges:
Wayne Owens - Owens Family Representative
Jason Perry - Hinckley Institute Director
Morgan Lyon Cotti - Hinckley Institute Associate Director
Amy Fowler - Salt Lake City Councilmember
Mark Matheson - UofU Professor, Director of MUSE
Ephraim Kum - ASUU President
Madelaine Lamah - HIP Talks 2020 Runner-up
INTERN YEARBOOK
CLASS PHOTOS FROM EACH COHORT OVER THE PAST YEAR

SUMMER 2020
LOCAL

*Photo order does not match order of names.

SUMMER 2020
NATIONAL

D.C. Interns: Marcus Leone, Sara Metcalf, Nicholas Petersen, Hector Rabbie, Elias Wright
National Interns Not Pictured: Cameron Cowell, Madeline Neve, Frithkither, Marjuk D’Sauber, Kristen Pimentel, Shelby Strickler, Jake Carrera

SUMMER 2020
GLOBAL

CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19

FALL 2020
LOCAL


FALL 2020
GLOBAL

Josifl Reznier, Mary Kathryn Cucio, Bryce Voracek, Alix Wilson

FALL 2020
NATIONAL

Drue Barker, Elizabeth Cravens, Kyle Easton, Samira Ghazvini, Kathryn Hackman, Emily Hahn, Nikolette Heidel, Lauren Kamber, Kayana LaRue, Cameron Reinhart, Isabella Storlabane, Jesse Washstockton, Rebecca Westenskow

36
37

Not Pictured: Esther Aguas-Ise, Stefanisanna Hamied, Ineslum Mohammad, Fatima Oudah, Audrey Pack, Laura Whishaw, Jodie Wili

Adriana Abraham, Gloria Aquino, Ethan Archibald, Ivy Black, Piper Christian, Michael Cunningham, Kaden Dailey, Theresa Del Rio Sanchez, Corinne Deemer, Iswin Forsyth-Barker, Katherine Firth, Miriam Galeski, Molly Hannah, Cody Harris, Andrew Jensen, Sybella Kay, Alexander Martinez-Carballo, Efeliaigne Ngoe, Nicole Nowers, Carlos Padilla, McKenna Pastorik, Abigail Peterson, Gabrielle Phelps, Tyler Spradlin, Natalie Winkel, Jessica Wojcieszak, Mad Workman

Whitney Davier, Sofia Gavrilina, Kaytlyn Gross, Wyatt Hudgens, Lauren Langel, Avery Mallet, Joseph Moss, Gabrielle Perenchios, Marsha Pimentel, Enrique Sanchez, Tim White, Kaitlyn Workman, Mason Stephen,
Best of luck, graduates!

They remember that membership in the University has seen some of the strangest years. I am so proud of all the hard work they put in as students and grateful that they are graduating represent 10 different colleges and 47 majors.

While the internship totals were impacted by travel restrictions from the past year, they still represent a collection of transformative experiences that each student will carry forward. The interns graduating represent 10 different colleges and 47 majors.

We are so grateful for them. The highlight was surely one of the strangest years I have had in my career. I loved getting real-world experience, helping me improve my skills in a number of areas. I am still in contact with them and love following up with their work.

- Fiston Mwesige

"My internship was a great way to build upon the skills I had learned in my classes and I loved getting real-world experience. I was allowed the opportunity to work with career professionals while also gaining access to incredible mentors with extensive networks."

- Katie Batton

"I have a great experience with my internship. It has been the experience of a lifetime. This opportunity has shaped my education and career choice. I can’t thank the Hinckley Institute and career choice. I can’t thank the Hinckley Institute enough for the opportunity!!"

- Damon Ngo

"I completed two Hinckley internships. These opportunities shaped my college experience and I am so grateful for them. The highlight was surely one of the strangest years I have had in my career. I loved getting real-world experience, helping me improve my skills in a number of areas. I am still in contact with them and love following up with their work."

- Lauren Thompson

This year, 355 Hinckley interns graduated with a bachelor’s or master’s degree! In what was surely one of the strangest years to graduate that the University has seen in a long time, these students managed to stay engaged and motivated.

Collectively, they completed 312 internships: 208 local internships, 61 national internships, 22 legislative internships, and 21 global internships. While the internship totals were impacted by travel restrictions from the past year, they still represent a collection of transformative experiences that each student will carry forward. The interns graduating represent 10 different colleges and 47 majors.

We are so grateful for all the hard work they put in as students and grateful that they chose to expand their education with the real-world experience of an internship. As they set off into exciting futures, we hope they remember that membership in the Hinckley Institute family never expires! Best of luck, graduates!

Matthew Abrahamson
Muhammad Al-Abdullah
Isabella Alcarza
Angelica Alidina
Adriana Alvarado
Ryan Alvarado
Ethan Arfah
Joseph Arriaga
Vika Basu
Drake Barker
Brittany Barnes
Benjamin Bartstone
Gabriela Baccara
Joshi Biggs
Christopher Bird
Dallas Blackinton
Tyler Biddy
Phillip Borlot
Joseph Bortolin
Jeremy Bowen
HallieBradshaw
Preston Brightwell
Leah Brodin
Joseph Brower
Adam Brower
Stephanie Bueker
Stephanie Buettner
Isabella Buza
Oakley Burt
Kate Batter
Sky Buehler
Connor Cardall
Jocelyn Camargo
Orina Cachab Menjivar
Timothy Card
Mayra Cendolla
Devon Carlson
Shelby Cattani
Makenna Chastain
Emma Cheekett
Taylor Cheshier
Katie Christiansen
Olivia Cisneros
Madison Clawson
Sadie Corder
Muya Correa
Arely Cortes
Stephany Cortez
Jesse Cowden
Keisha Crawford
Mary Curcio
Kaden Dailey
Marylin Dalton
Connor Davis
Byron Day
Harrison Deller
Riel Desautels
Camilla Desnoyers
Brenda Dominguez
Alojz Dopman
Angela Drlica
Gina Eastes
Emilie Elsie
Samuel Englel
Valeria Escobar
Carlos Estudillo
Sarah Feany
Cassandra Fahl
Kennedy Flexn
Andyn Ford
Natalie Freese
Abril Fuller
Kevin Fukumura
Mireia Galicia
Eric Garcia
Daja Gaston
Madsan Gates
Samira Ghosami
Viviana Gilgarman
Christopher Granger
Quaid Green
Bryson Griffith
Katelyn Grim
Aditya Gundlapalli
Surya Gandhi
Kathryn Hackman
Deborah Lawrance
Farah Hamouda
Molly Harrah
Shane Henson
Ryan Herndon
Sierra Hardy
Michael Harris
Cody Harris
Emily Harris
Katy Higley
Alyssa Hill
David Hillman
Jonah Hirshon
Madison Hippog
Charles Hoberg
Nikkole Hudak
Kaitlin Hudson
Nikolas Hulka
Andrew Hull
Victoria Hunter
Talulah Hyatt
Chelsie Isomsme
Carlos Ixta
Elizabeth Izampuye
Eric Jara
Iwia Jensen
Flora Jimenez
Peter Johnston
Joshua Jonas
Wendy Joseph
Michael Judson
Sara Jurkiewicz
Sydney Key
Harley Keller
Alexis Kemp
Nathan Kennington
Sara Kienitz
Tessah Kimball
Harrison King
Tyler Kroll
Olivia Kuhn
Podrick Kwan
Collin Larson
Kennedy Lazar
Megan Lee
Collin Leigh
Kasey Lindstrom
Grace Liparelli
Avery Lopez
Nelson Lott
Kevin Lou
Veronika Laskaskis
Jake Lynch
Larwin Mackenzie
Connor Madden
Avery Mallen
Joseph Maloney
Clayton Martin
Alexander Marticorena
Ermite Martinez
Sierra Marty
Benjamin Maxwell
Sara Moreton
Gretchen McConkie
Megan McCaller
Derek Miles
Alyssa Mitchell
Liban Mohamed
Imran Mohammed
Maxwell Monson
Eric Montague
Amanda Moody
Aidan Moore
Christian Moran
Daniel Mueller
Taylor Munro
Aliza Murad
Kyoujung Nesser
Hailey Newman
Karissa Nelson
Alexandra Nelson
Logan Nielson
Jonathan Newman
Damon Ngo
Anvee Nish
Santelus Ocean
Thomas Orteza
Amanda Ojala
James Oldsmyd
Samuel Oliver
Sharif Orfali
Caitlin Parker
Isabella Parkinson
Jordan Posey
Reed Pattonen
Keeanu Peterson
Asahk Pedd
Gabrielle Perencho
Haydn Peniston
Nicholas Peterson
Gabrielle Phillips
Marsha Pimental
Jamison Pitt
Aleksandar Pot
Alane Pym
Zubarah Rahawi
Clara Randall
Gabrielle Relab
Mayce Redfern
Ina Reese
Cameron Rainward
Mia Rhiner
Jasmine Bih
Mckenzie Rhims
Emilly Rogers
Simdy Ross
Clara Robertson
Marcos Rodriguez
Jessica Rogers
Jonathan Rose
Austin Rojas
Blanca Ruiz-negroin
Samah Saffar
Sotilac Salamanca
Venege Sanchez
Ksenia Scheinman
Elise Scott
Ashmika Sharma-husum
Ryland Shaw
Ghada Sheshu
Cole Smith
Daniel Smith
Max Southwick
Jackson Stett
Sean Strover
Mason Stephens
Christopher Stitt
John Stitt
Dylan Stoedter
Cameron Stukel
Alex Swanson
Taylor Talbot
Tanner Talman
Saskia Tantau
Collin Taylor
Payton Thomas
Lauren Thompson
Tayshia Tietie
Nkita Valdez
Courtney Vidal
Bryce Vombaur
Summer Walker
Zoi Walker
Jesse Welch-stickton
Rebecca Welkens
Timothy White
William White
Laura Whitehead
Victoria Wilde
Jack Wilcox
Isabella Williams
Natalie Wittmer
David Witt
Korron Woodburn
Emily Wright
Brian Zazula
Savon Zoladz

20 21 GRADUATES
The Hinckley Institute of Politics is proud to offer a remarkable number of funding and financial support opportunities to our student interns. The generosity of our past and present donors allow for more than $200,000 in support each year for intern scholarships which enable students to participate in transformative and life-changing experiences. If you would like to help give more students these opportunities, please visit Hinckley.utah.edu/Donate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GOVERNOR SIMON BAMBERGER UTAH STATE POLICY SCHOLARSHIP</th>
<th>SOFYA GAVRILINA National Internship U.S. Department of Commerce</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This scholarship was established to reward interns serving in state government. It is funded from the Herbert I. and Elka B. Michael Foundation - Simon Bamberger. Utah's fourth governor, 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.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SENATOR ROBERT F. BENNETT SCHOLARSHIP</td>
<td>COLLIN TAYLOR Local Internship Utah Attorney General's Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This scholarship for promising students was established by Doug Bennett, nephew of Senator Bennett, in recognition of his uncle’s public service, advocacy of free markets, and friendship toward the University of Utah. Senator Bennett served as student body president in 1956 and continued leadership and service throughout his life.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEORGE S. ECCLES SCHOLARSHIP FUND FOR INTERNSHIPS IN BUSINESS POLICY</td>
<td>ISABELLA STAVALONE National Internship U.S. Department of Commerce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This internship fund was established in 1984 by the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation to reward ambitious students studying business policy with financial assistance during their internships.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAP AND SUE FERRY SCHOLARSHIP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In 2019, this scholarship was founded to honor the FERRYS and their commitment to public service. Sue is recognized as the matriarch of Utah lobbyists and a true political trailblazer. Cap served in the Utah House of Representatives as well as the Senate, serving as Senate President for six years, and later joining his wife to create a powerful lobbying duo. This scholarship provides support for students to continue their legacy of civic engagement.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FUTURE HINCKLEY ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Future Hinckley Alumni Scholarship provides scholarship funding to outstanding students who are interested in public service and community engagement. Students selected for the scholarship will be paired with a Hinckley Alumni mentor who can provide educational and professional guidance. The funding for this scholarship is generously provided by the University of Utah Alumni Association with the intent to develop long-lasting relationships between the Hinckley Institute, the University and future Alumni.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HINCKLEY INSTITUTE OF POLITICS GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Intern Scholarship Recipients Continued

HOPE CORPS INTERNSHIP SCHOLARSHIP (CONTINUED)

The dedicated students who participated in the Hope Corps program provided critical assistance to our community during the COVID-19 pandemic. This scholarship helps fund their work and internships, which proved to be a great help and asset to many Utah businesses and organizations.

SHARIF OISAFI
Local Internship
Salt Lake Chamber

SAMIA PÉREZ
Local Internship
Comunidad Unidos

ASHMITA SHANTHAKUMAR
Local Internship
Salt Lake Chamber

KIMBERLY TOLAR CHAVEZ
Local Internship
Comunidad Unidos

ANGEL SANCHEZ
Local Internship
Salt Lake Chamber

ELIZABETH TURNER
Local Internship
Salt Lake Chamber

JOSH WAKEFIELD
Local Internship
Ivy Foundation

WILLIAM VANDER LINDEN
Local Internship
World Trade Association

ASHMITA SHANTHAKUMAR
Local Internship
Salt Lake Chamber

NATALIE WYNNARD
Local Internship
Salt Lake Chamber

EMILY WRIGHT
Local Internship
Museo Civic League

TREY RYALL
Local Internship
Salt Lake Chamber

R.J. SNOW PUBLIC POLICY SCHOLARSHIP

As Director of the Hinckley Institute from 1975-89, 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 had access to transformative leadership experiences. This scholarship was created in his honor to further his passion for public policy and to create further opportunities for standout students.

BARBARA ROBERTS SCHOLARSHIP

Before Roberts was a Friend to the University of Utah and champion of education and learning opportunities. Her generosity created internship experiences for distinguished female students who demonstrate a commitment to public service. A global traveler and lifelong learner, Roberts hoped 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 career includes a stint as President Eisenhower’s special assistant for personnel management and as under secretary 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, DC. The fund in his name enables distinguished students the opportunity to intern in executive or congressional offices.

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 honors 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 minority students enrolled at the University of Utah who demonstrate a passion for community service and exemplify the spirit of leadership.

TODD TAYLOR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship was established 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 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.

JOSEPH RIVERA DE LA VEGA
Local Internship
Diplomatic Courier

EMILY HARRIS
Local Internship
Salt Lake Chamber

LAUREN LENGELE
Local Internship
U.S. Department of Commerce

SARA MATLOCK
National Internship
AmeriCorps

MARGARET RAMPTON MUNK PUBLIC POLICY INTERNSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

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

анный студенты, комментарии и отзывы

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 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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Diplomatic Courier

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ANYYUNNY KELLY
Local Internship
Office of the Governor

TAYLOR MUNROE
Local Internship
Office of the Governor

ABIGAIL PETR森
Local Internship
Utah Foundation

THE WAYNE OWENS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

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

WHITNEY DEIVRIES
National Internship
Diplomatic Courier

NICHOLAS PETR森
Local Internship
U.S. Dept of Commerce

Finance Division

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ELIZABETH CRAYVENS
National Internship
Chopard Consulting

VERONICA LUKASINSKI
Local Internship
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

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KATHERINE FORTH
Local Internship
Office of Congressman
Ben R. McAdams

FARAH HAMOUDEH
Local Internship
Rape Recovery Center

NAMH TADESSSTE
Local Internship
Salt Lake County Mayor’s Office

HYOUNGBUM PYUN
Local Internship
Global Health Education

NAHUM TADESSSTE
Local Internship
Office of New Americans

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JOSEPH RIVERA DE LA VEGA
Local Internship
Communidades Unidos

MAYA HOLCOMB
Local Internship
Peruvian Consulate

EUNJA HOO
Local Internship
Dan Violence Prevention Center

TIM WHITE
Local Internship
Breakfast Broadband
Academic Scholarship Recipients
SUMMER 2020 - SPRING 2021

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.

ROBERT H. HINCKLEY 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 in the example of public service and political engagement. It is awarded to a student with significant experience in community involvement and a commitment to a career in 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 Utahn 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 created to award annual scholarships for outstanding student 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 hindrances.

PETE SUAZO COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP
The Senator Pete Suazo Leadership Foundation was founded in November 2001 shortly after the tragic death of the late Senator Suazo, a beloved local figure and Utah’s first Hispanic State Senator. 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. This scholarship seeks to reward the academic success of select standout University of Utah students who demonstrate a commitment to community service.

SCOTT M. MATHESON LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP
The Matheson Leadership Scholarship was established in the name 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 2013 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 natural photographic memory, encyclopedic knowledge of Utah politics, a sharp wit, and personal authenticity.

Continuing a Legacy
Robert H. Hinckley founded the Hinckley Institute of Politics with the vision to, “Teach students respect for practical politics and the principle of citizen involvement in government.” His legacy endures today through the third generation of Hinckleys. Jim and Lyn, both proud U of U alumni, Jim and Lyn understand the important role the Hinckley Institute has played in the lives of generations of U students. They recognize that the students of today are the leaders of tomorrow and have led the groundwork for Hinckley students to become engaged, enthusiastic, and educated leaders. Jim and Lyn maintain the central goal that every Hinckley student must contribute to their communities.

In Memoriam & Gratitude
BARBARA ROBERTS
Born in Burley, Idaho, Barbara learned the value of hard work and education early in life when she started picking potatoes at the age of 10. Other jobs followed: a midnight shift peeling potatoes at Simplot Potato Processing in Heyburn, working at 8ibs Pharmacy in Burley, and cleaning student dorms at Idaho State University (ISU).

Barbara was a Helicon learner. At the age of 31, Barbara started working her way through ISU where she received a bachelor’s degree in elementary education with an emphasis in biology. She later received a master of teaching science degree in biology. In more recent years, Barbara enjoyed the Hinckley forums and weekly Hinckley report.

Barbara has always been very active in community, political, and professional organizations. She was a great connector and introduced university staff, community members, and Hinckley interns with each other. Since 2016, Barbara’s generous donations provided scholarships to students interning in Washington D.C. One intern said “this opportunity to work in D.C. expanded my world and broadened my horizons. My internship experience showed me that social policy and public service is a much needed, rewarding field that I see myself being a part of!” Another intern said her internship afforded her the experiences to connect academic research and knowledge to inform and steer policy. Barbara’s legacy will continue as future interns contribute to their communities.

Barbara's Legacy Endures
Hello from Olivia Miller
The Hope Corps is a statewide effort to assist small businesses, nonprofits, and the people of Utah by connecting students with internship and project opportunities. The program was created in partnership with Utah Community Builders. Its foundational goal was to provide university students with paid internships and positions with companies and nonprofits that needed assistance above and beyond what was available via state or federal assistance. At the University of Utah, the David Eccles School of Business spearheaded the Hope Corps program and engaged students in many crucial roles. The program then transitioned to the Hinckley Institute as fall 2020 semester classes began. This allowed students to receive credit that could be applied to their major or graduation requirements, and help to ensure the long-term continuation and success of the program. Scholarships are a key component of this mission, as they help knock remove barriers for motivated students to gain real-world experience while offering tangible assistance. Hope Corps is truly a rising tide lifting all boats as it helps to buoy students while boosting our economy. This program assures that Utahns don’t just survive this economic crisis, but that we emerge stronger than before.

STUDENTS REFLECT ON THEIR HOPE CORPS AND SCHOLARSHIP EXPERIENCES

GABRIELLA BORZICETTA
Graduate Student, UCLA

“The Hope Corps scholarship raises the world to me. Ever since I was a child, I knew I wanted to go far in my educational career. This scholarship will help me focus fully and allow me to continue on to a graduate program of my choice. The Hope Corps internship has taught me valuable life lessons while allowing me to participate in a job that I know makes a great difference.”

SASAN TAHERI
The Utah Bar Foundation

“I was able to gain valuable marketing experience from my internship. Working with the Chamber of Commerce during the election and the pandemic made me realize how all types of businesses are relying to work together to support the economy. I also learned to be a safe environment for businesses to remain open.”

TINA HUTCH
International Race Committee

“It is an honor to be the recipient of a scholarship that supports and benefits our students in pursuit of creating change. This scholarship gave me the ability to focus on my work at my host office and continue to grow and learn about how I can better assist the refugee population.”

ASHMITA SHANTHANKUMA
International Relations student

“As an intern at United Way through Hope Corps, I learned new skills while also helping the community with challenges posed by the pandemic. I am so grateful for this opportunity and this scholarship for helping me focus more on my education and my internship without having to worry about the financial aspects associated with tuition.”

Hinckley 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.

2020-2021:
Paola Carvantes, Emma Hindley, Ann Lopez, Mayree Redfearn, Isaac Reece, David Witt

Andrew Goodman Foundation

AGF student ambassadors work to promote voter participation and civic engagement on campus. They are instrumental in hosting voter registration drives and increasing student voter awareness.

2020-2021:
Jonas Warner, Lauren Harvey, Sierra Marty

Hinckley Journal Editors

Editors oversee one of the few undergraduate-run journals of politics in the U.S. and strive to publish scholarly student papers of exceptional caliber.

2020-2021:
Sheely Edwards & Natalie Van Orden
BROOKE DONER
DIRECTOR OF MARKETING
Brooke joined the Hinckley Institute as director of marketing in 2018. With a degree in art direction, she oversees the Hinckley Institute’s communications, messaging, web presence, print publications, and graphic design.

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 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 & MANAGING DIRECTOR OF LOCAL INTERNSHIPS
In addition to overseeing the local internship program, Morgan contributes to the Hinckley’s political analysis and research. A former Hinckley intern, she holds a PhD in political science from George Washington University.

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.

MOLLY WHEELER, MSC
MANAGING DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH
Molly returned to the Hinckley Institute in 2018 as the managing director of community outreach. She manages the Hinckley Forum Series, Huntsman Seminar, and the institute office and finances.

THE HINCKLEY INSTITUTE TEAM

GINA SHIPLEY, MPA
MANAGING DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTERNSHIPS & DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
Gina has been with the Hinckley Institute as the managing director of national internships 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 Hinckley Institute as the managing director of the global internship program in 2017. She also oversees the John Price Think Tank course and the University of Utah’s participation in the Oxford Consortium on Human Rights.

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

SHEELY EDWARDS
STUDENT STAFF
Sheely is a senior at the University of Utah majoring in political science and sociology. She has completed two Hinckley internships, one with the Utah legislature and one with Campaign Legal Center in Washington, D.C. She is involved in politics to improve electoral processes and representation.

GABRIELA VILLALOBOS
STUDENT STAFF
Gabriela is a junior studying communications and economics. She has completed one Hinckley internship with the Game Strategy Group in Washington, DC.

MOLLY WHEELER
OUTREACH COORDINATOR
Miranda joined the Hinckley Institute team in 2017. She has degrees in International and Latin American Studies, and completed a Hinckley internship in Cuba. Miranda organizes outreach and recruitment efforts on campus.
JD Williams commanded every room he entered. As the inaugural director of the burgeoning Hinckley Institute of Politics, the young professor was tasked with the extraordinary responsibility to build Robert H. Hinckley’s dream of “every student a politician.” Known for his passionate political beliefs, colorful personality, and dedication to his students, Williams was a natural fit to take on this momentous task.

Professor Williams believed in the fundamental importance of civic engagement, and worked tirelessly to engage students at the University in all levels of politics. He orchestrated numerous forums, debates, and seminars with renowned political figures; and is responsible for starting internship and study abroad opportunities for students.

Known as a deep well of political and historical knowledge, Williams was often called upon to share his expertise, sometimes at the spur of the moment. One such instance occurred on February 2, 1961 when Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. missed a connecting flight to Salt Lake and was running late for a speech he was scheduled to deliver in the Union Building. Event organizers scrambled to find a speaker to keep the attention of the 1,500 members of the audience. They found Williams eating lunch nearby and asked him to fill in. The young chair of the political science department delivered an impromptu and impassioned speech. Barbara, his widow, reflected on that historic moment, “J.D. held the audience for an hour ... then, Martin Luther King appeared.” King’s speech on integration was met with great enthusiasm. In addition to inspiring and educating the audience on the civil rights movement, it sparked a push to bring more political speakers to visit campus, a restricted practice at the time.

Williams was known for his unashamed opinions and steadfast moral compass. It was said after his passing that “liberals loved him as the gadfly who delighted in stinging the Republicans” and “conservatives sometimes loathed him, but they could not dismiss him as a voice in the wilderness.” A firm believer that all Americans should engage in politics, he ran for public office several times himself and although his bids were unsuccessful, he always enjoyed engaging with the process. Many of his students and protégés went on to serve, a point of pride for Williams and evidence of the Institute’s mission being fulfilled even from its earliest days.

Professor Williams is remembered with much gratitude for the strong foundation he laid for Hinckley Institute. As the director of the Hinckley and a professor in the political science department, he was known for the special interest he dedicated to the success of his students, which he estimated to number around 15,000 toward the end of his 40-year career. Many of the programs he started in 1965 continue with great success today, a testament to the mission and critical work we do at the Hinckley Institute. As we reflect on his legacy, we renew our effort and dedication to serve as a bastion for civic engagement, transforming the University of Utah’s brightest students into dedicated public servants.
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