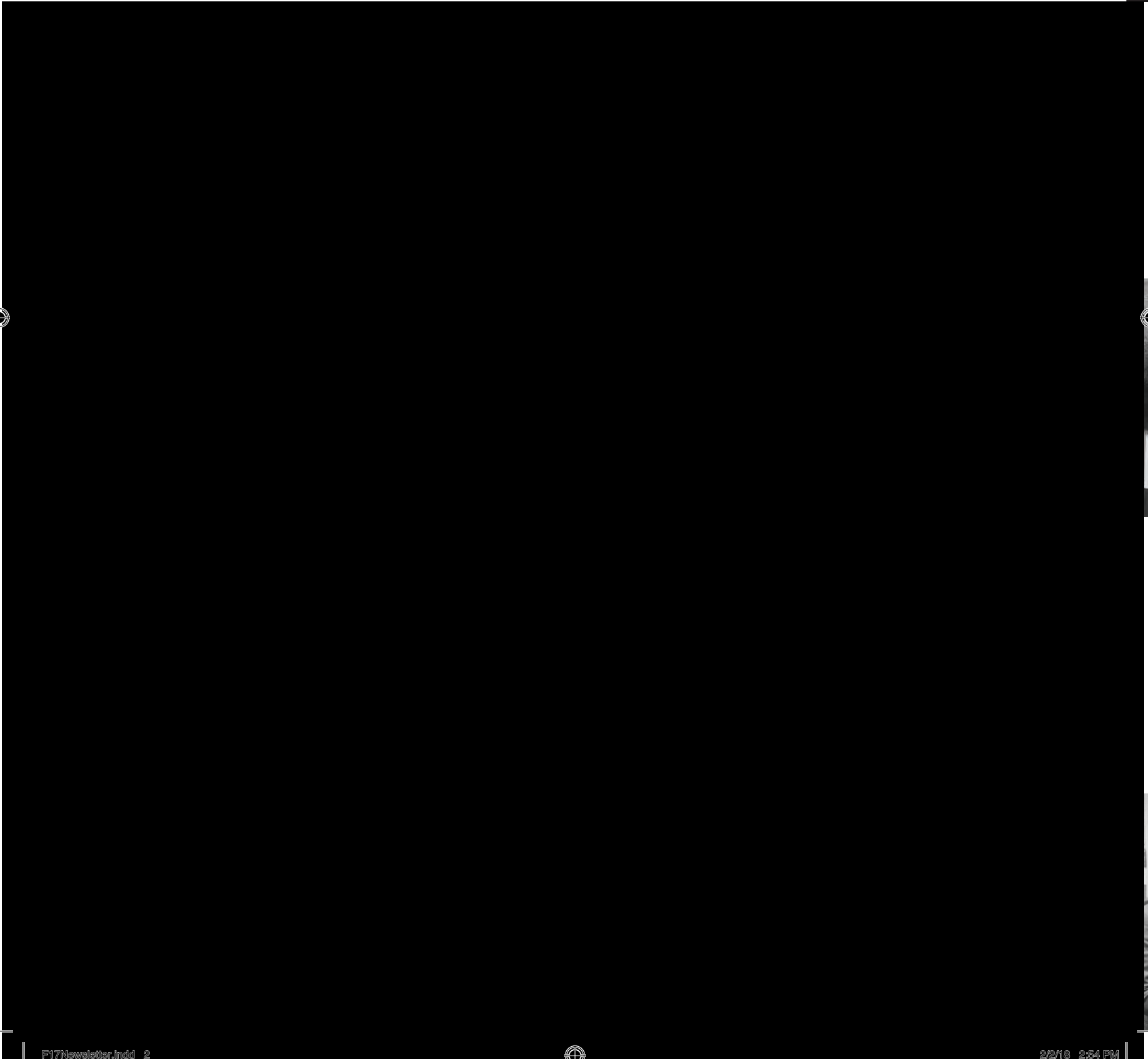




**THE JACKSON FAMILY CENTER
FOR ETHICS AND VALUES**
COASTAL CAROLINA UNIVERSITY
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COASTAL CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

Jackson Family Center for Ethics and Values

Alumni Edition:



Where Are They Now?

NEWSLETTER
Volume 11 | Issue 1



The Jackson Family Center for Ethics and
Values is dedicated to inspiring individuals to
make ethical and value-based decisions and,
thus, lead lives of

COURAGE,

COMPASSION

and

INTEGRITY.





UPCOMING EVENTS

January

25
THURS
4:30 PM

RACE AT CCU: WHAT ARE OUR EXPERIENCES?
TEA & ETHICS + PANEL DISCUSSION
JOHNSON AUDITORIUM, WALL 116

February

8
THURS
4:30 PM

THINKING ABOUT THE GAP IN TILlich'S GOD
PHILOSOPHER'S CORNER + MARKUS WEIDLER
COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY
JOHNSON AUDITORIUM, WALL 116

March

15
THURS
4:30 PM

WHY READ FICTION? A PHILOSOPHICAL DEFENSE
PHILOSOPHER'S CORNER + SARAH E. WORTH
FURMAN UNIVERSITY
WALL BOARDROOM, WALL 222

April

5
THURS
4:30 PM

TRANSGENDER AND COLLEGE LIFE
TEA & ETHICS + PANEL DISCUSSION
JOHNSON AUDITORIUM, WALL 116

19
THURS
4:30 PM

SELF-TRANSCENDENCE AND THE MEANING OF LIFE
VISITING ETHICIST + JENNIFER FREY
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
WALL BOARDROOM, WALL 222

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE and OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

The most rewarding and meaningful part of my job as director is the opportunity to work with the Jackson Scholars. During the two years the Jackson Scholars are part of the center, they form strong bonds with each other and develop into exceptional persons who understand that the acquisition of a virtuous character is a lifelong process. The focus of this newsletter is to showcase our Jackson Scholar alumni. You will see in the following pages that our alumni have followed different paths. Some of them are working as educators, others are artists and some are in prestigious graduate school programs. What they all have in common is that they are persons of high integrity who make the world a better place. We are so proud of them.



The Center also continues to strengthen our connections to the wider community. During the fall semester, the Center sponsored the Community Conversation Initiative, which brings together community members in Lackey Chapel for conversations about empowering and supporting social justice initiatives. Former Jackson Center Director Sara Sanders organized these wonderful community conversations which were inspired by reading Parker Palmer's book *Healing the Heart of Democracy*. The initiative will continue next semester, and we hope that these conversations form the seed from which many more community conversations will grow in the future.

I am fortunate to have a talented group of people who help me run the Center. Especially, I would like to thank our new assistant director, Kaitlyn Powalie. She has done an outstanding job, and many of the new initiatives would not have been possible without her hard work. Does it come as a surprise to you that she is a former Jackson Scholar?

As many of you are aware, the Center is currently undergoing a search for my successor. Fortunately, we have a strong group of candidates. I am optimistic and confident that no matter who succeeds me, the new director will bring great enthusiasm and dedication to the job. I am certain that the Center will see continued growth and success in the coming years. The future looks bright.

Best wishes,

Nils Rauhut
Director
nrauhut@coastal.edu

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Alumni Updates: Where Are They Now?

Caroline P. Smith
2004-2006



Caroline P. Smith graduated from Coastal Carolina University in 2008 with a bachelor's degree in English. During her time at CCU, she was a member of the inaugural class of Jackson Scholars; an inductee into Phi Sigma Tau, the philosophy honor society; the editor of *The Chanticleer* student newspaper; the president of the Outdoor Adventure Club; and a staff writer and editor for student publications *Archarios* and *Tempo*. She served as the director of the Jackson Family Center for Ethics and Values after-school ethics academy for three years after she graduated, which brought local rising sixth-graders to CCU's campus for ethics training and development. During her last semester at CCU, she was offered a job at *The Sun News* newspaper in Myrtle Beach, which she accepted, working full time for the newspaper while finishing her senior year at CCU. She worked as a copy editor, designer, features editor, specialty publications editor and digital editor during her time at *The Sun News* (2008-2015). Caroline spent several years volunteering for the nonprofit First Book-Horry County, serving as vice chair before stepping down, and for the last three years has been working with a local nonprofit that is focused on improving interactions between adults and youth. She left *The Sun News* in October 2015 after being offered the University editor position at Coastal Carolina University, a position she holds today. She is thrilled to be working at her alma mater and loves bringing her 6-year-old daughter, Lilly, to campus regularly for athletic and cultural events. When not working, Caroline spends time volunteering for Palmetto Pointe Church in Myrtle Beach, running, and keeping up with Lilly. Her passions are her faith, her family and helping others any way she can.

Perry Helton
2008-2010



Perry Helton, pictured above, second man from the right, is a social studies teacher at Loris High School and coach of the Loris High soccer team. He graduated from Coastal in 2011.



Kara Olson
2012-2014

Since graduating from Coastal, Kara Olson has worked for the Walt Disney Company. She currently resides in Orlando, Fla. Kara has made the decision to shift career goals and begin saving money to go back to school. When she returns to school, Kara plans to earn her master's degree in conservation education. She is excited to have found a career path that combines her love for the environment and knowledge in public relations (and, of course, ethics!). As a proud alumna, Kara keeps up with the current Coastal happenings, and she is amazed at how much Coastal has grown since she left in 2014!



Meet the New Jackson Scholars: Class of 2018-2020



Cameron Carroll
Psychology
Murrells Inlet, S.C.



Truman Mohammad
Biology
New York, N.Y.



Anaiya Moore
Business
Management &
Hospitality and
Resort Tourism
Management
Columbia, S.C.



Lauren Palazuelos
English/Philosophy
Bellingham, Mass.



Armia Shell
History
Columbia, S.C.



Kyeonna Singletary
Psychology
Myrtle Beach, S.C.



The Scholars Compete in the Mid-Atlantic Regional Ethics Bowl

Each fall semester, the Jackson Scholars take Phil 305: Contemporary Moral Issues. As a part of this class, the Scholars prepare to participate in the Mid-Atlantic Regional Ethics Bowl. Each year, 15 cases that pose ethical dilemmas are released. It is the responsibility of the students to research the topic at length. They are then required to take a position and formulate a 10-minute argument in defense of their position. This year, the University of North Georgia volunteered to host the Ethics Bowl Competition. On Nov. 18, 2017, 14 universities from North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia and Georgia gathered in Dahlonega, Ga., to compete. There were four qualifying rounds. The Coastal Carolina University Jackson Scholars won the first round, but lost the three following rounds. In each round, the Scholars proved to be well-prepared, well-spoken and committed. All of us here at the Center are proud of the participating students, and we look forward to next year's competition.





Sarah Robinson

2013-2015



After she graduated in 2015, Sarah Robinson was offered a job at Conway Elementary School, which is where she did her internship. For the last three years, she has had the privilege of teaching 4- and 5-year-olds in the Child Development Program there. Sarah is on numerous committees in the school, including the Leadership Team and School Improvement Council. She is also a club sponsor for the Nature Club. Sarah once again became a Chanticleer in Fall 2017, as a graduate student in the College of Education's program for Literacy, Language and Culture.

Courtney Mullis

2013-2015



After Coastal, Courtney Mullis went on to graduate school at Wake Forest University. She graduated in May with a Master of Arts in English. Courtney has now moved to Pittsburgh to attend a Ph.D. program at Duquesne University and obtain a Ph.D. in English literature. Currently, she is the instructor for an undergraduate first-year composition class, as well as working in the Writing Center at Duquesne University.

Joseph Fleming

2013-2015



Joseph Fleming is currently enrolled in the Master of Public Administration program at Savannah State University. His anticipated graduation is Dec. 9, 2017, and he is focused on finishing strong. He has also begun a job search and applied for positions with public organizations. Over the summer, Joseph completed an internship with the City of Columbia in South Carolina. As a Mayor's Fellow, he supported the Mayor's Office staff through clerical tasks. Recently, Joseph was accepted to participate in the 2017 Mellon Emerging Scholars Conference hosted by Queen's College. The theme of the conference is Sustaining Diverse and Inclusive Communities. He will be presenting a concept called reverse gentrification that was inspired by the 2016 Summer Teachers and Scholars Institute at Columbia University. During the institute discussions on gentrification, he brainstormed about how gentrification could look in a Southern or rural context. This analysis focused solely on gentrification from a cultural perspective. Joseph is excited to see where this project takes him!



Shelby Dangerfield

2013-2015

Shelby Dangerfield is a 2016 graduate of Coastal Carolina University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in musical theater. Two months after graduation, she moved to New York City to seek out auditions and a job in personal styling. She learned what “a few blocks” really means to the native New Yorker, and after two fantastic months of working and walking, and auditioning, she was offered her first postgraduate job at a dinner theater in Lancaster, Penn. Shortly before arriving in Pennsylvania, Shelby was also offered a job aboard a beautiful Disney cruise ship, the Disney Fantasy. Shelby currently continues to work aboard the Disney Fantasy and will finish her contract in September. She has been portraying characters such as Rapunzel, Sleeping Beauty and Mary Poppins. Shelby credits the Jackson Center for opening her eyes to new possibilities and new ways of thinking that helped her venture into the world with confidence and an open mind. She is excited to get back to New York for a while and pursue her future.



Darcy Barr

2014-2016

After graduating from Coastal Carolina University in 2015 with a B.S. in biology, Darcy was accepted into Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM) in Spartanburg, S.C. Currently a second year medical student, she will graduate with the Class of 2020 with a doctorate in osteopathic medicine (D.O.) and hopes to practice either general surgery or obstetrics and gynecology. She is an active member of the American Medical Women’s Association (AMWA), Student National Medical Association (SNMA), Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) and currently serves on the VCOM-Honor Code Council and as a VCOM-admissions ambassador. This summer, she worked as a mentor for the Summer Educational Enrichment (SEE) program, a weeklong camp designed to encourage teenagers from the Spartanburg community to pursue future careers in science and medicine. In her spare time, she volunteers at St. Luke’s Free Medical Clinic, spends time with her family, and plays softball.

Julietta Marks

2014-2016

Since graduating from Coastal, Julietta has moved on to pursue her master’s degree in international affairs with a focus on the implementation of policy. Her thesis is thus far based in political ideology with an engrained taste of the ethics of power politics. Aside from working for Century 21, Julietta is also interning on an Air Force base shadowing the defense commissary director.





Community Conversations Initiative

This semester, the Jackson Family Center for Ethics and Values was proud to sponsor the Community Conversations Initiative. The Community Conversations Initiative is an outgrowth of the 2015-2017 Lackey Chapel Social Justice Meetings facilitated by Marva Lackey. The initiative had two goals. First, to create a safe space for community conversations that feature compassionate listening and openness to diversity as a foundation for empowering and supporting the growth and development of social justice initiatives. Second, to develop the capacity of members of the initiative to facilitate the creation of community conversation circles in a variety of locations in Horry County and develop programming related to this initiative for the Jackson Family Center for Ethics and Values. The members of the Community Conversations Initiative met in Lackey each Wednesday to discuss a chapter from Parker Palmer's book titled *Healing the Heart of Democracy*. This community cultivated engaging and productive conversations regarding our nation and its people. We look forward to continuing the conversations next semester starting Jan. 3, 2018. We will be using the book titled *Crucial Conversations: Tools for Talking when Stakes are High* by Al Switzler, Joseph Grenny and Ron McMillan.





Can Vindictiveness Be a Virtue?



Professor Kevin Guilfooy from Carroll University in Waukesha, Wis., presented the paper “Can Vindictiveness be a Virtue” during the *Philosopher’s Corner* series on Oct. 19, 2017. Guilfooy, who specializes in medieval philosophy and the philosophy of language, argued that the desire to harm those who have wronged us in the past might in certain situations be a valuable and beneficial trait. Needless to say, the paper generated a very lively and controversial discussion.





Kira Elton

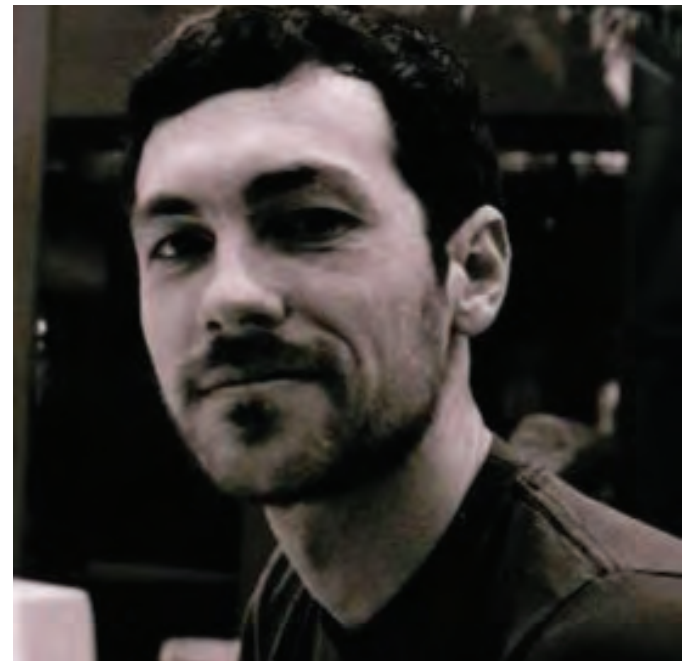
2015-2017

Kira Elton graduated in May of 2017 with her Bachelor of Arts in sociology. Since graduation, she has been traveling across Europe. Some of the places that she has visited thus far include: Scotland, Spain, Italy, Greece, England, Ireland, the Netherlands, Germany and the Czech Republic.

Merwan Luck

2015-2017

After completing his time as a Jackson Scholar in December 2016, Merwan Luck accepted a paid internship with BMW Manufacturing Co. in Spartanburg, S.C., working full time as a software developer. The internship started in January 2017 and was originally set to end in December of the same year; however, it was extended to May of 2018 and will likely lead to a permanent position with the company. Merwan is graduating December 2017 with a B.S. in information systems and a minor in philosophy. In his transition from intern to salary position, he expects to be working on projects involving AI, machine learning, robotics, app/software engineering and IT.



Albert “LaTrez” Chestnut

2015-2017

LaTrez Chestnut graduated in May of 2017 with a bachelor’s degree and is currently a manager at Publix and an employee at the Christian Academy of Myrtle Beach. At the Christian Academy, LaTrez is the co-offensive coordinator for the football team, head basketball coach for the junior varsity basketball team, and first assistant of the varsity basketball team. Recently, he has begun to explore graduate programs and hopes to complete a master’s degree in sports management.

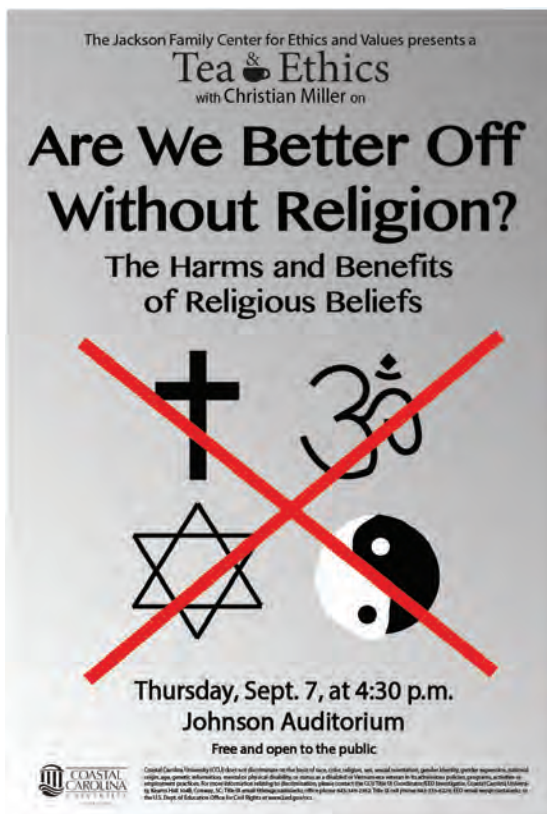




Are We Better Off Without Religion?



Christian Miller, David Holiday, Nils Rauhut



On Sept. 28, 2017, Christian Miller, professor of philosophy at Wake Forest University, returned to Coastal to offer yet another presentation to students, faculty and the local community. In the past, Miller has presented on his work on moral psychology, highlighting virtues such as honesty and tests of character. This year, he chose to present on a topic relatively new to himself: the ethics of religious belief systems and new atheism. In discussing the effects of religion on society, Miller focused on the arguments of noted atheist Sam Harris. Questions covered included: Can secular thinking and religion coexist? Can religion be damaging to society? Are all attempts at the secularization of society virtuous? Should atheists reconsider the benefits of allowing religious beliefs to flourish? This event had one of the largest turnouts in the Center's history. More than 140 students, community members, and faculty and staff showed up to hear Miller speak. Discussion after the presentation was lively and thought-provoking and guided by Miller himself.



The Challenges of Being a First Generation College Student



Ed Perez, Yaicha Ocampo, Carlie Todd, Jaime McCauley, Teresa Burns

Senior Jackson Scholar Yaicha Ocampo, a first-generation college student, helped the Jackson Family Center for Ethics and Values put together a Tea & Ethics panel discussion on the challenges and opportunities that come with being a first-generation college student. Panelists included Ed Perez, Department of Philosophy/Religious Studies; Ocampo; Carlie Todd, Jackson Scholar; Jaime McCauley, Department of Sociology; and Teresa Burns, associate dean, Department of Physics. The first event of the semester drew a wonderful turnout of 85 students, faculty and community members combined. Discussion was lively and engaging. As a result of this event, David Holiday, along with the help from some students and other faculty members, are working to create a session for incoming first-generation college students and their parents to attend as a part of Orientation the summer before they begin classes.

Artificial Intelligence and the Ethics of Future Warfare



Senior Jackson Scholar Nicholas Smith



Jonathan Acuff, Nicholas Smith, Jonathan Smith, Jonathan Trerise

As a part of our Tea & Ethics series, senior Jackson Scholar and intelligence and national security studies major Nicholas Smith helped put together “Artificial Intelligence and the Ethics of Future Warfare.” This event was a panel discussion, which included panelists Jonathan Acuff, CCU assistant professor of politics; Jonathan Smith, CCU professor of politics and director of the intelligence and national security studies program; Jonathan Trerise, CCU assistant professor of philosophy; and Smith. One hundred and fifteen students, faculty and community members showed up to hear what the panelists had to share about the use of artificial intelligence in warfare and the concerns that may arise as a result.