

# EVENTS

## FALL 2019

### JACKSON FAMILY CENTER FOR ETHICS & VALUES

**October**

**3**

THURS.  
4:30 P.M.

**True Generosity Means More Than Just Giving.**  
Philosopher's Corner with Christian Miller, Ph.D.  
Brittain Hall, Room 101

The Gates Foundation is the world's largest private philanthropic organization. But is Bill Gates really generous? Christian Miller (Wake Forest) will consider various tests which can help reveal genuine generosity. Is there evidence that what is given away was important to the donor, or that she cared about them in some way? Does the donor tend to give even when external rewards, such as publicity or tax benefits, do not come into play? Do they seem to be donating out of a sense of obligation, or freely and joyfully? None of these is a perfect test, but together they help us look into the hearts of others, and our own as well, to see whether true generosity lies there.

**October**

**24**

THURS.  
4:30 P.M.

**Silence as Love: Literature and Cultivating Moral Attention.**  
Philosopher's Corner with Kristina Grob, Ph.D.  
Brittain Hall, Room 101

Grob will present two key moments in Virginia Woolf's *To the Lighthouse* as illuminating examples of the idea of loving attention that is central to Iris Murdoch's moral philosophy (especially in her seminal work *The Sovereignty of Good*). These moments in the novel reveal that much of the work involved loving others is, and must be, wordless, inarticulable or silent. We can become better aware of how hard loving others is by attending to how frequently love requires us to quieten our whining and complaints – to “get over ourselves”, shut up and just listen – and noticing how difficult this is to do. Works of art, such as Woolf's, which recognize the humanness of this requirement of silence and show its value can, therefore, help us to become better at attending to others in order to love them.

## NOVEMBER

**07**

THURS.  
4:30 P.M.

**Ask a Young Person**  
Tea & Ethics Panel Discussion  
Lackey Chapel

Ever wondered what a “clap back” is or why it's fun to “spill the tea”? Aren't sure if it's OK for your nephew to have a “side hustle”? Worried about the effect of blockchain technology on the gold standard? We might be able to help!

In collaboration with OLLI, the Jackson Center presents a panel of Jackson Scholars and CCU undergraduates in a town-hall style discussion aimed at closing the cultural, social and ethical generation gaps between today's “Gen Z” college students and those of us born in the previous millennium. The panel will represent a broad cross-section of Coastal's diverse undergraduate population. Panelists will field common, comical and even controversial questions submitted in advance by OLLI students, before opening up the floor for questions from, and discussion with, the audience.

## DECEMBER

**03**

THURS.  
4:30 P.M.

**Invisible Disabilities**  
Tea & Ethics Panel Discussion  
Lib Jackson Student Union, Room A-201

This event aims to increase awareness of the range of invisible disabilities and foster dialogue about how we can be more supportive, accessible and inclusive to disabled members of the CCU and Horry-Georgetown communities. The panel will also speak to how conceiving of disability as a form of diversity (with a particular focus on neurodiversity), can reframe some of the historically deficient narratives surrounding disability by moving the discourse from a focus on accommodations to one of genuine inclusion of a range of viewpoints. Presented in collaboration with the office of Accessibility and Disability Services.

COASTAL CAROLINA UNIVERSITY®  
*J*ackson Family Center  
for Ethics and Values



Newsletter  
Spring 2019

INSPIRING INDIVIDUALS TO MAKE ETHICAL AND VALUE-  
BASED DECISIONS AND, THUS, LEAD LIVES OF  
COURAGE, COMPASSION AND INTEGRITY.

“My time as a Jackson Scholar provided me with an understanding of how to be a better person, both in my community and in my personal life.”

-Jason Renne

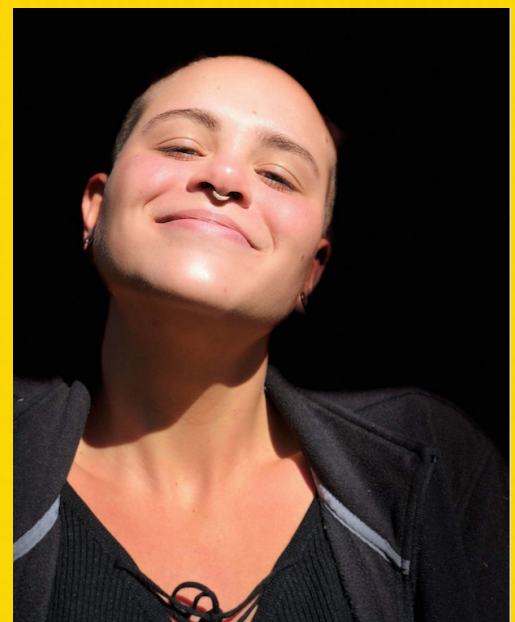


“The Jackson Scholars Program helped me gain a deeper understanding of the philosophical grounding for sociological theory and apply ethical theories and values to contemporary moral issues related to social justice. Additionally, the program gave me a sense of place on campus and a supportive community. I am so grateful for the Jackson Center and my experience as a Jackson Scholar. After graduation, I will be pursuing a Ph.D. in sociology in hopes of becoming a professor and researcher.”

-Krystina Millar

“I met my first lifelong college friend through this program, and I keep volunteering because of the family atmosphere!”

-Yaicha Ocampo





## Graduating Jackson Scholars



Left to right: Krystina Millar, Shadaisha Hamilton, Jason Renne, Yaicha Ocampo and Emily Thibeault.

Bottom right corner: Kaitlyn Dallis

# A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR, David Holiday

Courage. Compassion. Integrity.



This spring has been a busy and successful one. The center hosted a total of eight events, including public lectures from visiting speakers and panel discussions led by Coastal students, faculty and staff. We also hosted Horry County middle schoolers for our annual After-School Ethics Academy (ASEA), and welcomed eight new Jackson Scholars into the program.

The Jackson Scholars continue to do impressive things – some of the highlights of their achievements are listed on page 7. In addition to these, a group of scholars joined me and Alan Lam (our assistant director) on CCU's fifth annual Out of the Darkness Walk to Fight Suicide. This event was created by the LiveWell Office under the initiative of Chris Donevant-Haines (the office's assistant director), and is designed to bring visibility to the problem of suicide and attempted suicide, which is an unfortunately frequent occurrence on college campuses and among veterans. We were glad to contribute to both the walk as a show of public support for this worthy cause, and to make a modest contribution to their fundraising efforts at the event - helping them reach their goal of \$10,000!

The junior Jackson Scholars did great work at the ASEA and have been taking their first course, titled "Introduction to Ethics." We were glad to host Shannon Detzler, front office manager at the Ocean Lakes Family Campground, for an orientation session on the Jackson family and the Jackson companies. This helped the new scholars understand the origins of the center and the Jackson Scholars Program, with a focus on our relationship with the Conway and Myrtle Beach communities, and the personal examples of ethical leadership set by Nelson and Mary Emily Jackson (in whose name and honor the center was created). Thanks to Shannon for giving up an afternoon and making the inland trek to CCU's campus!

I was also proud to represent the Jackson Family Center and Coastal Carolina University as president of the South Carolina Society for Philosophy at the society's annual conference, which was attended by philosophy faculty from institutions across the state. The conference was held at USC Columbia, in their pristine and impressive new law school. Cora Diamond (Emeritus Professor, University of Virginia) did double duty as the visiting ethicist at the Jackson Family Center and the keynote speaker at the conference (details on that inside). Her presentation on Iris Murdoch's humanist conception of empiricism in ethics was extremely well received by the members of the society.

*D.A. Holiday*

## IN THIS ISSUE

Event Highlights - pp. 2-3

After-School Ethics Academy - pp. 4-5

Medical Ethics and Confucian Ethics - p. 6

Community Conversations Initiative and Other News - p. 7

Graduating Jackson Scholars - pp. 8-9



THE JACKSON FAMILY CENTER  
FOR ETHICS AND VALUES  
COASTAL CAROLINA UNIVERSITY  
P.O. BOX 261954  
CONWAY, SC 29528-6054

[COASTAL.EDU/JACKSONCENTER](http://COASTAL.EDU/JACKSONCENTER)  
[FACEBOOK.COM/JACKSONCENTER](https://FACEBOOK.COM/JACKSONCENTER)  
834.349.4149

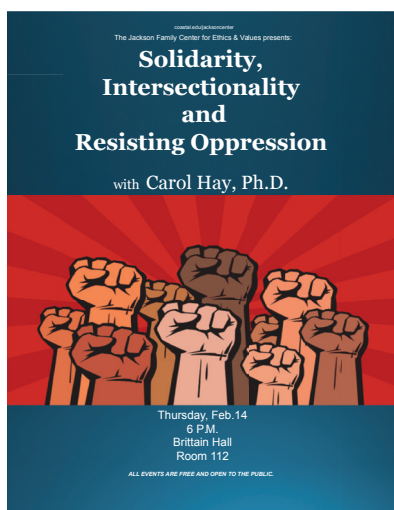


## Empty Belly Ethics

Professor Sarah Worth (Furman University) spoke to us about the ethics of hospitality. This is an eminently Southern virtue, and forms the centerpiece of the moral philosophy of Emmanuel Levinas, a leading post-war Continental moral philosopher. Worth discussed how different ethics looks if it begins from a bodily conception of the human being as a hungry creature, rather than the pictures of an agent as a “rationally autonomous mind” or “self-interested maximizer” at the heart of the standard modern ethical theories of Kantian deontology and utilitarianism. An ethics based on hospitality, Worth argued, presents a more inclusive and wholesome approach to thriving civic communities. It also, however, poses unique challenges. In particular, hospitality requires us to create and maintain a healthy guest-host relationship, which balances the ethical obligations of hosting (accommodation, welcoming and provision) with those of being a good guest (gratitude, receptivity and acceptance) in a sensitive, flexible and structured manner.



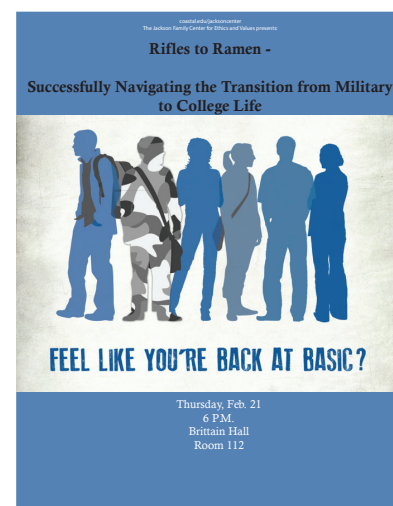
## Solidarity, Intersectionality and Resisting Oppression



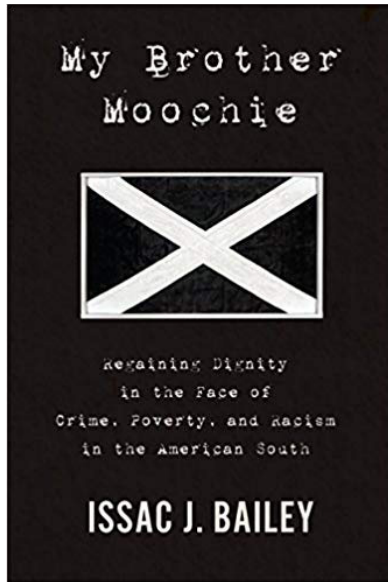
Professor Carol Hay (U.Mass Amherst) presented an application of Kantian moral theory to issues in social justice. She focused on the question of whether – i.e., when, why and how – oppressed groups have a moral responsibility to band together, or present a unified front, in working to change unjust social structures. The talk was well-attended and sparked a lively discussion over the questions about effective activism for social change and the obligation to show solidarity. During her time at Coastal, Hay also visited class sections in the “Philosophy of Sex and Gender,” and “Ethical Theory.” In the latter, she presented her current research work on how contemporary feminism can reconcile itself with novel understandings of femininity springing from the transgender community. Hay was also kind enough to host a mentoring lunch for aspiring philosophers at Coastal, where she discussed her experiences as a first-generation college student and woman in a male-dominated and traditional academic discipline, and how she balances her research and scholarly work with her social and political commitments as an activist. Her visit created a strong and positive “buzz” among the Jackson Scholars and students in sociology and women’s and gender studies, and we hope to host her again in the future!

## Rifles to Ramen - Successfully Navigating the Transition from Military to College Life

Many faculty at Coastal can attest to how the discipline, determination and maturity instilled through military service makes student veterans some of the most rewarding Coastal students with which to work. However, student veterans also face a set of distinctive challenges when transitioning from life in the military to civilian life at college and work. Our panel of veterans, each from a different branch of the military, included past and present Coastal students, as well as University staff. They led a discussion about the financial, emotional or behavioral, social and bureaucratic roadblocks to student veteran success. Each panelist spoke from experience about how they successfully made this transition and gave perspective on what we could do better as a college community to enable present and future student veterans to thrive at CCU. The discussion which followed raised some constructive and informative points, such as: the Students Veterans Association (SVA) serves a broad military-affiliated constituency at CCU, including military dependents; and ways in which Coastal students and faculty can be more sensitive to the special situation of student veterans. This event would not have been possible without collaboration from SVA, and was facilitated by Alan Lam (CCU alumnus and Army veteran). The SVA serves a large and diverse body of students, and we hope that it continues to receive the support and recognition it deserves for its excellent work advocating for student veterans at the campus, county, state and national levels.



## Community Conversations Initiative featuring Issac Bailey



Issac Bailey (on the microphone) speaking to the audience.

This year, the Community Conversations Initiative met each Thursday in Lackey Chapel to explore and discuss topics in social justice. In the fall, the group explored contemporary racism under the guidance of Carolyn Ellis as discussion leader. For the last month of the semester, we were joined by Issac Bailey, who served as a guest speaker guiding us through discussion of his new book “My Brother Moochie.” He shared his experiences of, and personal struggles with, growing up in a context of racism and poverty in rural South Carolina, and worked with us to produce practical, local strategies for combating these social evils.

In spring, the initiative read and discussed Jon Meacham’s work of political and social history, “The Soul of America: The Battle for Our Better Angels.” Meacham argues that although the American story has dark and difficult chapters, we have been sustained and united even in the gloomiest of times by a belief in progress. The group used Meacham’s book and their own life-experiences to reflect on contemporary problems in social justice and how we came to today’s America. The group has since been engaging with the relationship between religion and science and how capitalism impacts the health and cohesion of our society.

---

## Other News

The Jackson Scholars, junior, senior and alumni, continue to thrive and achieve ever-more impressive things! Some of our notable achievements from the last few months can be found below.

Cameron Carroll (2018-20) won a Student Achievement Funding Research Fellowship (whereby CCU helps to fund her biochemical research projects), as well as admittance to a competitive summer research program with opportunities to present at conferences won through INBRE (IDeA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence – a program in the National Institute of General Medical Sciences).

Maria Castro (2019-21) was won the departmental award for the Outstanding Freshman Student of the Year in Philosophy.

Alexis Clark (2019-21) is a 2019 Disney Dreamer (a competitive academy for leadership, professional development and positivity). She is also a National Merit finalist.

Lauren Palazuelos (2018-20) won the departmental award for the Outstanding Junior of the Year in Philosophy, and has been named editor-in-chief of CCU’s literary magazine Archarios.

Anaiya Moore (2018-20) has been accepted into the Wall Fellows Program – she is the first Jackson Scholar to achieve this!

Krystina Millar (2017-19) has accepted a place in Ph.D. program in sociology at Indiana University Bloomington. She also won the Ronald D. Lackey Service Award (an annual award for a Coastal Carolina senior who serves the University community with conspicuous service through involvement and leadership in campus and community activities)!

Yaicha Ocampo (2016-18) has accepted a place in Coastal’s master’s in communication graduate program.



## Medical Ethics: Respecting - But Sometimes Challenging - Patients' Values

Medical Ethics:  
Respecting, But Sometimes  
Challenging, Patients' Values

A public lecture by professor Daniel Brudney

Thursday, March 28 at 4:30 P.M. in Brittain Hall, Room 112

David Holiday and Daniel Brudney

Professor Daniel Brudney (University of Chicago) presented work in applied ethics which he developed by working with physicians as a biomedical ethics teacher, and during his time as the visiting scholar at the National Institutes of Health. Brudney focused on how physicians can balance their dual responsibilities to both respect their patients' autonomy, and to recommend and encourage best courses of treatment. Sometimes, when these two duties conflict, it is not appropriate for doctors to challenge patients' values, for instance, when patients refuse treatment due to articles of their religious faith. At other times, when patients make dangerous decisions on the basis of, say, silly or perverse reasons, it would seem ethical (permitted or even required) for a physician to challenge their patients in order to safeguard their health and well-being. But, Brudney asked, "What moral principles ground the distinction between those cases in which doctors should challenge patients' values and those where they should not?" This session was attended by a group of local physicians, including members of the ethics committee at Conway Medical Center, who brought valuable practical insights, based on real-life experience, to the discussion.

Brudney also attended an ethical theory class. There he spoke about his personal history studying under, and then becoming a scholar on, the political philosopher John Rawls. He answered questions from students and philosophy faculty about Rawls' Theory of Justice and political liberalism, with a focus on the Rawlsian approach to luck egalitarianism.

## Caring for Loved Ones, a Confucian Approach

Professor Kevin DeLapp (Converse College) spoke to us about the Confucian idea of filial piety, the idea that we owe special care and respect to members of our family. On the classical model, filial piety shows itself primarily in respecting one's elders, say by taking care of old and infirm parents, or showing deference to their wishes and authority. However, DeLapp argued that the Confucian virtue also applies to non-familial relationships of moral hierarchy and authority, such as those between teacher and student, doctor and patient, or ruler and citizen. He also stressed how the Confucian model sees duties of filial piety going both up and down the hierarchy of authority and respect, so that parents also have a duty to protect or advance the interests and well-being of their children.

DeLapp presented Confucianism as a living tradition in ethics. This tradition unites theory and practice, and can help to solve problems in contemporary ethical theory (such as those faced by feminist care ethics). In particular, the Confucian tradition provides a range of resources for resolving the challenge posed by abusive relationships. These sketch out different ways in which we can respect a parent who is failing as a parent (violating the normative requirements of their familial role), or when we should act to protect ourselves from harmfully toxic romantic or professional relationships.

DeLapp also joined an ethical theory class for a discussion of what attracted him to Confucian "communitarian" ethics, an approach which takes as its basic moral unit human communities rather than the free rational individual. This session was attended by CCU philosophy faculty, who were interested to learn more about an approach to ethics which differs so radically from the Western approach to ethics and our traditions of moral theory.

Caring for loved ones:  
a Confucian approach

A public lecture by professor Kevin DeLapp

Thursday, April 4 at 4:30 P.M. in Wall Boardroom, Room 222

## First in my Family

The Jackson Center was pleased to host a panel of students and faculty, themselves all the first people in their families to attend university, in a discussion about what it means to be a “first generation” student, and the special challenges and opportunities that come with this identity. The students were Yaicha Ocampo, a Jackson Scholar program alumnus and soon-to-be graduate student in CCU’s master’s in communication degree program, and Caitlin Hallam, who leads the “CCUFirst” student organization with her sister, Courtney. We had a lively, light-hearted and fun discussion, but also identified some serious obstacles faced by first-gen students, including: financial difficulties and school-job balance; knowledge gaps about the University as an institution and the various services it offers; and mental and emotional issues of isolation and stress. Coastal is a “first-gen friendly” university. A high proportion of CCU students (25-30 percent) are the first people in their family to attend college, as were many of our faculty and staff.

This summer’s freshman Orientation will include a new breakout “campus networking” session specifically aimed at first-gen students and their families. The panel and audience discussed how the session can help make first-gen students feel at home, valued and supported as they start their journey through higher education and the exciting careers that it makes possible. This event was supported by CHANT411, Coastal’s information service, which can answer any question any CCU community member sends them. CHANT411 is at the front line of the battle to close the knowledge gaps which can hinder first-generation students, and we appreciate their enthusiastic involvement and continued support!



An open discussion about the distinctive challenges and opportunities that come with being the first person in your family to go to college. The audience will be invited to offer suggestions about how to design an orientation session focused on such students and their families.

Thursday, Feb. 28  
at 6 P.M.

Brittain Hall,  
Room 112


ALL EVENTS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

## The Problem of Impiety

main@ethics.jacksoncenter.edu  
The Jackson Family Center for Ethics & Values presents:

**The Problem of Impiety:  
Are there moral limits to human  
interference with nature?**

A public lecture by our visiting ethicist Cora Diamond



Thursday, March 7 at 4:30 P.M. in Wall Boardroom, Room 222  
ALL EVENTS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

This year’s visiting ethicist was Cora Diamond, Emeritus Professor at the University of Virginia. Diamond is a pre-eminent scholar of early analytic philosophy, having pioneered the interpretative tradition of “resolute” readings of Frege and early Wittgenstein which transformed the scholarship on their philosophy of logic and language. She is also an influential moral philosopher, with interests in: the work of Iris Murdoch and Elizabeth Anscombe; the relationship between ethics and literature; and our relationship to animals and wild nature. Diamond’s talk presented a problem raised by David Hume. Hume challenges us to show how we can reasonably claim that certain ways of treating nature are wrong (“unnatural,” “sick” or involve us wrongly “playing God”) without appealing to a superstitious conception of the sacred. This is a challenge to both religious people who believe that faith and reason should align, and to any secular, pluralistic liberal society (which cannot base its public policy on direct appeals to religious doctrine). Having explained Hume’s problem, Diamond presented various responses to it. These included: Kant’s conception of rational autonomy as having intrinsic and unconditional worth; Elizabeth Anscombe’s conception of human life and the processes of creating and maintaining it as an appropriate object of awe; and the responses of other contemporary moral philosophers.

During her time at the center, Diamond hosted an “open office hours” session for CCU undergraduates, attended by Jackson Scholars and students in the ethical theory course, in which she answered questions about her work in ethics, her vegetarianism and her experiences as woman in academic philosophy. Diamond was also invited to be keynote speaker at the South Carolina Society for Philosophy, where she presented her work on Iris Murdoch’s “humanistic” approach to moral philosophy as a rejection of the positivism (scientific objectivism) of mainstream analytic ethics. This invitation would not have been possible without the support of the Jackson Center in bringing Diamond to South Carolina, and helping to administer and organize her visit. The society is grateful for our role in facilitating her visit.



## After-School Ethics Academy 2019

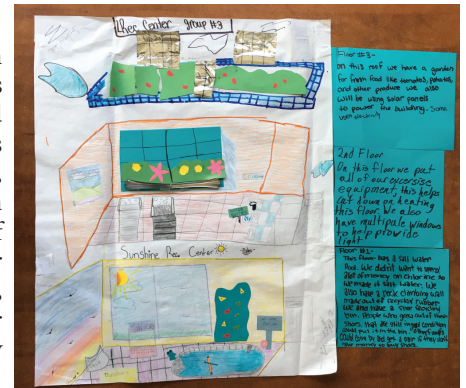


Left to right: Cameron Carroll, Shianne Needle, Corbin Walls, Dylan Valladares, Rory Buffkin, Yaara Sylvester, Zaire Johnson and Maria Castro.  
Not pictured: Annika Rauhut.

This year's After-School Ethics Academy (ASEA) was attended by 54 students. The participating middle schools were: Aynor, Blackwater, Conway, Forestbrook, Loris, Myrtle Beach, Ocean Bay, Socastee, St. James and Whittemore Park. Our topic was sustainability: the applied ethics of balancing economic, social and environmental goods in business (corporate social responsibility), design and public policy. Academy participants were given an introduction to sustainability ethics, and led through some small-group discussions on the topic by the Jackson Scholars. We also enjoyed informative, inspirational visits from: two Solar Ambassadors, Coastal undergraduates who recently completed a project to add solar panels to Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10804 (Little River, S.C.); and a CCU eco rep, a student peer educator who promotes sustainable living at CCU and in the surrounding communities.

This year, ASEA gave participants the chance to put their academic and leadership skills to work in a group-based design competition. Participants formed teams of six to eight sixth grade students and a pair of Jackson Scholars. Over the second and third weeks of the academy, the groups researched and produced poster projects on sustainable design and innovation in areas such as: school lunch menus focused on local and healthy foods; recreation centers which serve the community without costing the planet; and public information campaigns to help keep the coast clean and free of harmful litter. The groups presented their work at the end of the third week to a panel of three judges: David Holiday, director; Jeremy Monday, coordinator for Sustain Coastal (the TD Campus and Community Sustainability Initiative); and Darcy Coughlan, teaching associate of the HTC Honors College and Center for Interdisciplinary Studies (who teaches in sustainability and environmental policy). Both the judges and the Jackson Scholars were impressed by the hard work and bright ideas of the sixth graders. They showed real research chops, looking into local fish populations and agriculture and casually using technical terms such as “antioxidant polyphenols” in discussion! They were also impressively original, producing inventive solutions to sustainability challenges, such as drinking straws made of ice to replace single-use plastic ones (genius!). All of the teams produced fine projects and, as our photos show, the academy reverberated with positive energy and enthusiasm.

The winning team, whose project (pictured right) designed a sustainable recreation center. They scored highly for inventiveness, their clear economic and “jobs-based” focus and thorough background research. Their polished presentation to the judges reflected both a high level of group coordination and great public speaking skills from the group’s two presenters. Their design involved elements such as electricity-generating treadmills, a salt-water swimming pool, and a high proportion of recycled or re-purposed design elements. The team was lead by Cameron Carroll and Maria Castro, and consisted of the following students: Annika Rauhut, Ocean Bay Middle, Corbin Walls, Blackwater Middle; Dylan Valladares, Aynor Middle; Rory Buffkin, Loris Middle; Shianne Needle, Myrtle Beach Middle; Yaara Sylvester, Conway Middle and Zaire Johnson, Blackwater Middle. Congratulations to the team – they’ve set a high bar for next year’s academy participants to aspire to!





# The Six Teams at ASEA



Team 1  
Project: Litter Awareness Campaign



Team 2  
Project: Recreation Center



Team 3  
Project: Recreation Center



Team 4  
Project: Sustainable School Lunch Menu



Team 5  
Project: Sustainable School Lunch Menu



Team 6  
Project: Sustainable School Lunch Menu