

Fall 2022

Helms School of Government Newsletter - Fall 2022

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Helms School of Government Newsletter

Fall 2022

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Welcome from Dean Hurt



Dean Robert Hurt

Greetings from the Helms School of Government!

As our Liberty students head to Christmas break, we wanted to share with you our latest Helms School newsletter for Fall 2022.

In August, we were thrilled to welcome the Class of 2026 to Liberty – along with all our returning Helms School students.

In addition to our new students, we were also pleased to welcome our newest professors Scott Strobel, Aaron Van Allen, and Wesley Vorberger who bring extensive experience and expertise in the fields of intelligence, national security, government, criminal justice, and law. We are grateful to all our outstanding faculty members for all their dedication and work in training the next generation of leaders in our government and our criminal justice system.

In addition to our new faculty, we were blessed to have a number of distinguished guests engage with our students throughout this Fall semester. These guests included Vice-President Mike Pence, former Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell, former Chief of Staff to the Vice-President Marc Short, former White House advisor Tim Goeglein, former Assistant to the President and Executive Director of the Abraham Accords Institute Robert Greenway, former Principal Executive of ODNI Neil Wiley, former USS Cole Commander Kirk Leopold, former US Assistant Solicitor General Kannon Shanmugam, Liberty graduate and Department of Homeland Security Special Agent Doug Gilmer, and Liberty graduate Second Lieutenant Grace Tinkey. We were also pleased to be joined by Virginia Attorney General Jason Miyares as we hosted our Second Annual Law Enforcement Appreciation Lunch.

We were also pleased to lead groups of our students on several trips to Washington DC and Richmond. Students were able to engage with senior diplomats throughout the semester at the Chinese, Israeli, and Swedish embassies. In addition, students visited and provided open-source intelligence briefings at the Pentagon, the Office of Naval Intelligence, as well as at the FBI and the Virginia State Police Fusion Center in Richmond. Students also had the opportunity to engage with former Solicitor General Paul Clement at the Heritage Foundation and to participate in the Mid-Atlantic European Union Simulation.

While our students and faculty have been hard at work in the classroom, we are pleased that our Moot Court and Mock Trial teams have also been busy winning tournaments and that the editors of our Journal of Statesmanship and Public Policy have published their latest volume –as they prepare to co-host our third annual [Spring Public Policy Conference](#) entitled the “Promise of the Declaration: Building on the Legacy of ‘Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness’” on April 12 -14, 2023 here at Liberty.

In closing, we want to again thank all our outstanding faculty members for the work they do every day in training Champions of Christ. We are especially thankful to those professors who traveled to Israel to represent Liberty at the Ariel University Genocide Conference in November. In addition, please join us in thanking former Dean Ron Miller for his leadership, steadfastness, and grace during his years leading and building our Helms School online degree programs.

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

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

New Associate Dean Dr. Jason Ross



Dr. Jason Ross

The Helms School of Government is pleased to announce that Dr. Jason Ross has been named Associate Dean for all online programs, and Amanda Trent has become the new Chair for our Criminal Justice Program.

Dr. Ross joined the faculty of Liberty University in January 2020 as Associate Professor and Online Department Chair for Doctoral Programs and Research. Under his watch, our department's doctoral programs in criminal justice, public administration, and public policy have grown from a few hundred students to over 2,300 students. In March 2021, Dr. Ross was named Interim Associate Dean for Online Operations. This role had him overseeing seven full time faculty and staff, sixteen instructional mentors, and over three hundred adjunct faculty to serve the needs of almost ten thousand students in our department's programs.

Before joining Liberty University, Dr. Ross had senior leadership roles in several educational organizations including the Institute for Humane Studies at George Mason University, the Ashbrook Center at Ashland University, and the Bill of Rights Institute. He has his Ph.D. from Georgetown University, has published articles and reviews in American Political Thought, Law and Liberty, and the University Bookman, and has spoken at several academic conferences including events sponsored by the National Association of Scholars. When he is not on duty, he and his family – wife Susan, son James, and daughter Caroline – enjoy visiting the many historic sites that central Virginia has to offer. Read more on Dr. Ross [here](#).

New Criminal Justice Program Chair Amanda Trent

Professor Amanda Trent started her career in corrections at Roanoke City Sheriff's Office in 1997 and worked in the jail for several years before moving into a law enforcement capacity as a civil process/warrant service officer. Major Trent also served as a supervisor in the court security/services division, leaving the agency as a member of the transition team for the Western Virginia Regional Jail. Major Trent served as the Professional Standards Unit Lieutenant responsible for background investigations, training, accreditation and safety/sanitation as well as all criminal incidents and internal investigations at the facility and served as Captain of the Services Division before being promoted in March 2013 to the Major over the Services Division. Amanda Trent came to Liberty in Fall 2020 and is now a Professor of the Helms School of Government and has been named the new Criminal Justice Program Chair.



Professor Amanda Trent

Professor Trent holds a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Roanoke College and a master's degree in Criminal Justice from Radford University. She is in the final stages of her doctoral degree in Criminal Justice at this time. Her thesis is focused on the utilization of medication-assisted treatment, specifically opioid antagonists in a correctional setting. Read more on Professor Trent [here](#).

Welcome to our New Professors Scott Strobel, Aaron Van Allen, & Wesley Vorberger



New Professors at the Faculty Retreat



Professor Scott Strobel

Professor Scott Strobel joins us this year after an extensive intel career in the Air Forces Central Command and National Security Agency. Strobel's previous experience included working as an intelligence collection manager, counterterrorism, and geopolitical analyst. He has performed intelligence work around the world and is joining us to teach Strategic Intelligence.

Professor Aaron Van Allen joins us this semester as a full-time faculty member after serving as an adjunct instructor for six years. Since 2013, Van Allen has also worked for the people of the Sixth Congressional District of Virginia for two separate members of the US House of Representatives. He will continue to teach more Government and Economics classes.



Professor Aaron Van Allen



Dr. Wesley Vorberger

Dr. Wesley Vorberger, a lawyer by trade, is a graduate of Liberty University Helms School of Government and the LU School of Law. Dr. Vorberger recently served as General Counsel for the Greenville County Sheriff's Office. During law school he served as editor of the law review and after law school he served as a clerk for the Honorable Norman Moon of the US District Court in the Western District of Virginia. He will be teaching Pre-Law and Criminal Justice. Read more about our new faculty [here](#).

New Staff Positions



Titus Pettman, Lia Tsamoutalidis, and Sharene Duncombe

Titus Pettman was recently promoted to be our new department Director of Operations. Since 2013, Titus has served the Helms School as a student worker, GSA, and Assistant Director. He's the right-hand man to Dean Hurt, overseeing daily operations, department finance, IT, and photography!

Lia Tsamoutalidis graduated from the Helms School just this last spring, and we are thrilled that she has joined our team as our new Faculty Secretary. While a student, Lia became an indispensable part of our Helms School team and now serves as a liaison to our faculty, students, alumni, and prospective students. You may also find her around campus for events including CFAW and Experience LU.

Sharene Duncombe was recently promoted to be our new Faculty Support Coordinator. She works to help professors with academics, guest visitors, and event/travel coordinating. Sharene has been married to her husband David for almost 30 years and lives with her three children in Bedford County. Read more about Titus, Sharene, and Lia [here](#).

Welcome to Our New Students Fall Semester



Donuts with Dean Hurt and New Students



Faculty Meet with New Students at the Helms
School Academic Welcome

The Helms School of Government was grateful for the opportunity for our new students and parents to meet our outstanding Helms faculty at our Academic Welcome at the beginning of the semester! We were encouraged by our students looking forward to their classes and to the exciting opportunities in store.

The Helms School of Government had a blast hanging out with our students at the Pizza with Professors Event! Students and Professors enjoyed pizza together, met with Helms School clubs, and played cornhole and spike ball on the lawn.



Professor Roenicke with Students at Pizza &
Professors Event

Welcome to Vice President Mike Pence



Dean Hurt Introducing Vice President Mike Pence at Convocation



Vice President Mike Pence with HSOG Students

The Helms School of Government was delighted to welcome Vice President Mike Pence to Liberty University once again! Following Convocation, Vice President Pence met with some of our distinguished Helms students for an exclusive lecture and question & answer session. We are always honored to have Vice President Pence visit our campus and look forward to having him again in the future. Read more about his visit [here](#).

Welcome to Governor Bob McDonnell & Marc Short



Governor Bob McDonnell

Former Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Bob McDonnell, came to visit with our classes. Governor McDonnell is a great friend to the Helms School of Government, and we are always grateful for his willingness to invest in our students. He spoke about relevant issues such as the national debt, inflation, and elections. The Governor also answered a variety of questions from the audience and prospective students who visited Liberty for CFAW. We were grateful to have Governor McDonnell, and we look forward to his next visit! Read more about his visit [here](#).

The Helms School of Government hosted Marc Short, former Chief of Staff to Vice President Mike Pence and White House Director of Legislative Affairs under President Trump. Mr. Short lectured in multiple classes covering topics such as tax reform, criminal justice, and economic policy. We are thankful our students had this opportunity to hear from him and hope you enjoyed his visit! Read more about his visit [here](#).



Marc Short with Dr. Gai Ferdon and Students

Robert Greenway & Neil Wiley



Robert Greenway

Robert Greenway, former Assistant to the President and current Executive Director of the Abraham Accords Institute visited classes as students learned about his tremendous work in the US Army, the Defense Intelligence Agency, and the National Security Council in the White House. We hope you enjoyed your time at Liberty and hope to see you on campus soon! Read more about Robert Greenway's visit [here](#).

The Helms School of Government and the Strategic Intelligence Society were honored to host Neil Wiley, former Principal Executive of ODNI and DIA Director of Analysis! Mr. Wiley spoke to students regarding modern strategic intelligence and national security initiatives. It is always a pleasure to have him visit, and we are thankful for our student leadership at SIS to provide these opportunities. Read more about Neil Wiley's visit [here](#).



Neil Wiley

Captain Kirk Lippold (Ret.) & Captain Tom Bortmes (Ret.)



Captain Kirk Lippold (Ret.)

The Helms School of Government was delighted to welcome and host Captain Kirk Lippold, USN (Ret). Captain Lippold was the Commanding Officer of the USS Cole which suffered a catastrophic attack from a ship-borne improvised explosive device delivered by a terrorist cell. The suicide attack was conducted by al Qaeda terrorists nearly a year before the September 11, 2001 attacks. He and his sailors managed to save the ship from sinking; however, not before seventeen American sailors lost their lives and nearly 40 injured in this horrible terrorist attack. Our national security and intelligence students learned about national security challenges, a military perspective on the importance of timely intelligence, and effective leadership strategies.

Our students expressed their sincere gratitude to him for his presentation on a difficult and complex set of topics. We thank Captain Lippold for his service to the Nation and look forward to his next visit to the Helms School of Government! Read more on Captain Lippold [here](#).

Captain (USN/Retired) Tom Bortmes visited the Helms School of Government and lectured in several National Security and Intelligence classes and provided a lecture on the Art of Elicitation to the Strategic Intelligence Society. Captain Bortmes (left) and Professor Tony Cothron (right) stand in front of the USS Cassin (DD-382) battle flag on display in the Jerry Falwell Library at Liberty University. USS Cassin's flag was given to Jerry Falwell Sr. by a crewman who served aboard Cassin, which was sitting in dry dock at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii on December 7, 1941 when the Japanese attacked the United States. Captain Bortmes and Rear Admiral Cothron have a special relationship with USS Cassin, as they both served in command of the Office of Naval Intelligence, where the ship's bell resides and is used for official Navy ceremonies such as change of commands and 9/11 remembrance ceremonies. We are grateful to Captain Bortmes for investing in our students during his visit! Read more about his visit [here](#).



Capt. Tom Bortmes and Admiral Cothron with USS Cassin Flag

Kannon Shanmugam, Tim Goeglein, & Rebecca Heinrichs

Special guest and former US Assistant Solicitor General Kannon Shanmugam visited several classes and spoke at a lunch with the Helms School of Government pre-law students. Mr. Shanmugam is Chair of the Supreme Court and Appellate Practice Group at Paul Weiss in Washington, D.C. and has argued 35 cases in front of our nation's highest court. We are grateful to Mr. Shanmugam for engaging with our Helms School students. Read more about his visit [here](#).



Kannon Shanmugam



Tim Goeglein

The Helms School of Government was excited to welcome back Tim Goeglein, Vice President of External and Government Relations of Focus on the Family. Mr. Goeglein also served as special assistant to President George W. Bush and was the Deputy Director of the White House Office of Public Liaison. We are always thankful for his dedication to speaking with our students in his great expertise and look forward to Mr. Goeglein's next visit to Liberty! Read more about Tim Goeglein's visit [here](#).

Senior Fellow at Hudson Institute Rebecca Heinrichs visited with students at the Helms School of Government and the Alexander Hamilton Society. Ms. Heinrichs is an expert in U.S. national defense with a special focus on strategic deterrence, which is the calculated discouragement of another nation's actions. Facing the China-Russia friendship, Ms. Heinrichs highlighted the importance of enhancing America's strength, defense, and deterrence in the future. We are incredibly thankful to Ms. Rebecca Heinrichs for investing in our students and speaking about our nation's next steps that will prove critical to the international system! Read more about her visit [here](#).



Rebecca Heinrichs

Special Agent Doug Gilmer & Second Lt. Grace Tinkey



Doug Gilmer

The Helms School of Government was pleased to welcome back 1990 Liberty graduate and Resident Special Agent in Charge for Homeland Security Investigations Doug Gilmer to engage with our students. We are grateful to have Agent Gilmer join us to speak on the issue of human trafficking and other important topics. He brought many valuable insights from his experience into our classes and gave us the opportunity for great discussions surrounding pressing issues. Read more about his visit [here](#).



Grace Tinkey with ROTC Students



Grace Tinkey

The Helms School of Government was honored to welcome Second Lieutenant Grace Tinkey, a 2021 Liberty graduate, to her alma mater. In 2021, Tinkey flew with her squadron on a C-17 cargo transport into Afghanistan as a part of Operation Allies Refuge, a mission to evacuate at-risk Afghan civilians from the country during the last moments of the United States withdrawal. She made significant contributions and worked with her team to save many lives throughout the mission; we are incredibly thankful for her service. During her visit, Lt. Tinkey met with many of our Helms and ROTC students in classes and a special luncheon in her honor. As a Champion for Christ, she encouraged students to “bloom where you’re planted.” We thank Lt. Grace Tinkey for her honorable service to the nation and for sharing her wisdom and experience with our students. Read more about her visit [here](#).

Law Enforcement Appreciation Luncheon with Virginia Attorney General Jason Miyares



Attorney General Jason Miyares at the Law Enforcement

The Helms School of Government and the Liberty School of Law hosted their Second Annual Law Enforcement Appreciation Luncheon with local Sheriffs and Police Chiefs representing state and local agencies from Central and Southside Virginia. Virginia Attorney General Jason Miyares was the keynote speaker. We are grateful to all the brave men and women of law enforcement who put on the uniform every day to protect and serve. Read more about the Law Enforcement Lunch [here](#).

Students Visit Chinese and Swedish Embassy

The Helms School of Government Dean Robert Hurt, Professor Scott Roenicke, and Dr. Mary Prentice led a delegation of International Relations students to Washington to discuss bilateral relations with Chinese and Swedish diplomats at their respective embassies. While there, the students were able to tour the embassies and to substantively engage with the diplomats on a wide range of topics. We are thankful to our hosts for their hospitality and for the opportunity for our students to engage with foreign leaders in these settings. Read more about the trip [here](#).



Students with Chinese Embassy Officials

Students Visit Israeli Embassy



Dean Hurt and Professor Roenicke Present a Portrait to Israeli Embassy Officials

The Helms School of Government traveled to the Embassy of Israel in Washington to learn about the critical importance of the US-Israeli relationship. During the visit, students were able to engage with the Minister-Counselor for Political Affairs Dovrat Zilberstein on the Israeli approach to Counter-Terrorism. We are grateful to the Embassy of Israel for hosting us and to Professor Scott Roenicke for leading our Liberty delegation! Read more about the trip [here](#).

Liberty Analytical Support Initiative (LASI) Visits Pentagon



LASI Students at the Pentagon

A team of Helms School of Government students constituting the Liberty Analytical Support Initiative (LASI) visited the Pentagon to brief senior Department of Defense officials within the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security. The topic for analysis this semester was selected by Pentagon officials and represents a critical national security challenge currently under consideration by the U.S. Government. Students from diverse fields of study directly engaged senior decision-makers with their ideas for how the U.S. national security architecture can effectively address the challenges facing our country. Read more about the Pentagon visit [here](#).

Students Visit Office of Naval Intelligence

Helms School of Government students in the Advanced Intelligence Analysis class visited the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI). Dean Robert Hurt and Professor (Rear Admiral, USN, Retired) Tony Cothron presented a bible and a framed photograph showing the flag of USS Cassin (DD-372) displayed in the Jerry Falwell library. Attacked and sunk during the surprise attack by the Japanese on Pearl Harbor in 1941, the bullet-holed, oil-stained flag from USS Cassin was a gift to Dr. Falwell by the last surviving crewmember. ONI and Liberty have a “special” relationship since the Navy command has possession of the ship’s bell from USS Cassin (shown in picture below) and uses it for ceremonial purposes. ONI’s Deputy Commander Andrew Richardson was pleased to receive the Liberty gifts and to hear about USS Cassin’s flag, eighty-one years to the day after the Pearl Harbor attack. Liberty students enjoyed learning about ONI’s mission of providing timely, relevant, and predictive intelligence on maritime threats across the globe. They were also able to provide a presentation to ONI based on research from a class project and meet with junior analysts to learn about work in the Intelligence Community.



Dean Hurt, Admiral Cothron, and Students Pose with the USS Cassin Bell

Liberty Analytical Support Initiative (LASI) Visits FBI



LASI Students at the FBI Richmond Center

forward to continuing our partnership with the FBI colleagues in the future!
Read more out the LASI Richmond Visit [here](#).

Members of the Helms School's Liberty Analytical Support Initiative (LASI) traveled to the Richmond office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to present to FBI agents a national security-related assessment that was the result of an independent research project conducted by Helms School student analysts. We thank the FBI and Special Agent Jett for the amazing opportunity to engage with the FBI here at Liberty and in Richmond. We also congratulate the LASI team for its successful presentation to the FBI. We look

Students Visit Virginia State Police Fusion Center

The Helms School of Government Special Projects Group traveled with Dr. Joel Cox to the Virginia State Police Headquarters in Richmond to brief agents with the Virginia Fusion Center on the threat of intellectual property theft in Virginia by foreign actors. The group was tasked with this project by the Fusion Center in the early fall. The students did an outstanding job of briefing the agents. The Fusion Center agents were impressed by the work product and asked permission to share the document with other state fusion centers. We are grateful to the Virginia State Police for protecting the citizens of the Commonwealth and for giving our students the opportunity to work on such an important project. Congratulations to Dr. Cox and to our students for a job well done. Read more about the VSP visit [here](#).



Students Present at Virginia Fusion Center

Pre-Law Students Visit Former US Solicitor General Paul Clement at the Heritage Foundation



Paul Clement

The Helms School of Government and the Liberty University School of Law students visited the Heritage Foundation in Washington, D.C. for a Liberty Forum hosted by Tim Goeglein. Guest speakers at the Forum included Paul Clement, 43rd Solicitor General to the United States; Roger Severino, former Director of the Office of Civil Rights in the Department and Human and Health Services; and Carrie Severino, President of the Judicial Crisis Network. These outstanding speakers focused on the value of practicing law in the nation's capital and on the importance of the judicial selection process. Read more about the trip [here](#).

Students Participate in European Union Simulation

Helms School professor Dr. Mary Prentice led a group of her government students to Washington, D.C. to participate in the Mid-Atlantic European Union Simulation program. During the 4-day program in the nation's capital, students attended briefings at the Romanian, Latvian, Bulgarian, and Georgian embassies and met with diplomats engaged in U.S./European relations. The European Union Simulation is designed to encourage students to play the roles of leaders of European countries, take part in the deliberative process, and practice the art of diplomacy in pursuing different policy agendas. We are thankful for Dr. Prentice, our students, and this enriching student experience! Read more about the trip [here](#).



Students pose in Front of the Latvian Embassy

Moot Court and Mock Trial Team Wins



The 2022-2023 Moot Court Team

In October, Liberty University fielded three Mock Trial teams to compete at the Davidson College Invitational Tournament. The tournament was comprised of 4 jury trial rounds, where each team represented the Plaintiff and the Defendant twice. The teams that we competed against included those from the University of Kentucky, Davidson, Miami, Auburn, and others. Of our three Liberty University teams competing in the tournament, one team received First Place and another team came in Third Place. Among individual awards: Emma Scharstein and Danielle Glick won awards for Top Attorney; while Dylan Coombs, Jack Liechty, Sophie Ekstrom, and Caleb Correll won awards for Top Witness. Read more about this trip [here](#).

Three Liberty teams competed in Regionals hosted by Texas A&M School of Law, with two teams qualifying for the national tournament in January. Madison Bennett and Anna Alfredson won two ballots in the preliminary rounds. Tori Hu and Emma Scharstein were both named top advocates at the tournament, and Jack Liechty and Colton Hughes won the Regional Championship.

In Columbus, Ohio, two of our moot court teams competed at Capital University Law School. The team of Cameron Vis and Sophia Ekstrom finished as Regional Champions. In the final round, they faced our second team of Riley Banker and Emerson Allen. This marked the first time Liberty has both teams in a Regional Final, and the win at Texas A&M also marks the first time the Moot Court team won two Regional Championships in one year! Read more about this trip [here](#).

Before Thanksgiving, our Liberty Moot Court teams competed in multiple competitions. At Texas Tech, both teams finished in the top 16 teams. In Fitchburg Massachusetts, four teams competed and made it to the second day of competing. One team made it to the top 16, and another to the top 8 teams. At Eastern Michigan, our team also made it to the top 16 teams! That's a wrap for the Fall semester! Congratulations to all the Liberty Moot Court teams! Read more about Moot Court [here](#).

Journal of Statesmanship & Public Policy

Spring Public Policy Conference



The Helms School of Government is excited to announce the release of Volume 3, Issue 1 edition of the Liberty University Journal of Statesmanship & Public Policy! Articles in this issue cover topics such as international relations, local history, and a special edition, “Twenty-One Years Later: Reflections on 9/11.”

The Journal of Statesmanship & Public Policy aims to provide an engaging analysis of issues in international and domestic policy, national security, and political philosophy from a thoughtful, ethical, and Christian perspective. Read more about the journal [here](#).



The Helms School of Government and the Journal of Statesmanship & Public Policy is pleased to announce the Third Annual Spring Public Policy Conference entitled “Promise of the Declaration: Building on the Legacy of Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness,” here at Liberty on April 12-14, 2023. Our Founders’ vision in the Declaration of Independence arose from their understanding that our natural rights come not from monarchs, principalities, or governments, but from God and from their understanding that these rights could only be guaranteed through a system based upon self-government, free enterprise, and the Rule of Law.

Visit the conference page [here](#) for more information.

Faculty Spotlights

Dr. Mary Prentice & Dr. Tom Metallo



Dr. Prentice (Left) on a Panel with Alexander Hamilton Society

Meet Dr. Mary Prentice! She has been a part of the Helms School of Government faculty since 2011 and came on board full-time as an Associate Professor in 2018. Before coming to Liberty, Dr. Prentice served in the U.S. Department of State in Ghana and Washington, D.C, and served as Congressional staff in the Senate. She enjoys teaching Biblical worldview, philosophy, and international relations. She, along with Dr. Kahlib Fischer, led the effort to establish the Helms School's Journal of Statesmanship and Public Policy and our annual Spring Public Policy Conference. Dr. Prentice encourages all students not to be afraid of the road less taken and to follow

God's calling wherever it may take them. Read more on Dr. Prentice [here](#).

Helms School of Government Professor Dr. Metallo has devoted much of himself to successfully teaching and mentoring Liberty students for many years. He uses his walk with Christ and travels around the world to teach students about the many different cultures, languages, and worldviews he has experienced throughout his life. Take a look at the recent Liberty Champion article featuring Dr. Metallo's story of how he came to Christ and developed a love for teaching and public policy! Read Dr. Metallo's article [here](#).



Dr. Metallo (middle) with Student and Professor Presley

Liberty University Professors Present at Ariel University Conference in Israel



Dr. Mantilla, Dr. Fischer, Dr. Snead, and Dr. Udobong with Dr. Hilly Moodrick

Dr. Kahlib Fischer and Dr. Edna Udobong of the Helms School of Government traveled with History Professor Dr. David Snead and Law School Professor Dr. Yuri Mantilla to Ariel University in Israel to participate in the inaugural conference hosted by Ariel's Center for the Research and Study of Genocide. The week-long conference entitled "The Holocaust and Genocide in the 21st Century: A Grievous Yet Never Ending Story," hosted many exciting panels, including a panel presented by the Liberty professors entitled "Judeo-Christian Perspective on Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity." There was also an online research panel presented by Liberty University Law and Helms School students.

Dr. Fischer serves as a research fellow at the Center and Liberty University was a proud sponsor of the Conference. The conference offered a great opportunity for our professors to present a historical and biblical perspective on genocide and crimes against humanity. Read more about the visit [here](#).

Thank You Dean Ron Miller



Dean Ron Miller

Please join us at the Helms School of Government in congratulating Dean Ron Miller on his successful 11 years here at Liberty University! While we are sad to see him go, we are deeply grateful for the years that he has given to our students and to his colleagues at the Helms School.

Since starting with the Helms School online program in 2011 when it only had three degree programs (one Associate, Bachelors, and Masters) and 1,900 students, his leadership, steadfastness, grace, and drive helped grow our online department to include 85 degree programs (Associates, Bachelors, Masters, Doctoral, Certificates, & Minors) with 9,700 students enrolled today. The Lord has blessed Liberty mightily.

As a friend and brother in Christ, Dean Miller's shepherding spirit has honored the Lord in the work he has accomplished throughout his time at Liberty. We will miss Dean Miller's leadership and gracious spirit as he continues to follow the Lord's calling on his life. Thank you, Dean Miller!

Read more on Dean Miller [here](#).

LIBERTY UNIVERSITY

HELMS SCHOOL *of*
GOVERNMENT

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<https://bit.ly/HSOGNewsletter-Fall2022>



Many thanks to Titus Pettman, Lia Tsamoutalidis, and Samantha Harris (HSOG '24)
for their efforts in compiling this Fall 2022 Newsletter.