William & Mary
WASHINGTON CENTER
2020 ANNUAL REPORT
The William & Mary Washington Center will thrive as an integral part of the greater W&M community, boldly producing innovative opportunities for all.
2019-2020 was a great year for the W&M Washington Center. Picking up from the summer’s *Listening Campaign*, the Center’s five priorities took hold:

1. Integrate with the University
2. Be Visible
3. Increase Communications with the University
4. Create Equitable and Clear Opportunities for Faculty in D.C.
5. Reconsider the D.C. Semester Program Model

These priorities guided our work and allowed the Center to form stronger connections with partners on campus, engage in university-wide thinking, and develop innovative practices within our daily operations. A complete summary may be found here: [www.wm.edu/dc/listening](http://www.wm.edu/dc/listening).

As the school year started, the Washington Center was pleased to offer the first-ever Business-themed semester. Featuring Professor Don Rahtz, the D.C. Semester Program students were able to engage with internships, speakers, and alumni around the topic “International Commercial Diplomacy”. Following the fall semester, the D.C. Winter Seminars enrolled a record 76 students in three courses for a robust and energizing start to the new year.

Although the year started like any other year, by March we began to experience incredible change in the world, the country, higher education, William & Mary, and certainly the Washington Center as well. Throughout the spring and continuing into the summer, the Washington Center has worked collaboratively to support university-wide needs and values while also pivoting our own programs and practices to serve our students and alumni. The road has been interesting, but we have learned a great deal about what we can accomplish when we are innovative and integrated with the university.
The Washington Center followed university policies during pandemic and, like most offices, did some pivoting in order to offer safe and quality academic programming. Most notably, our D.C. Summer Institutes moved from in-person to online, and despite the shift, students who participated shared with us that they had a fulfilling and inspiring experience, complete with opportunities to learn from incredible speakers and network with alumni. The three faculty who taught (Tim Barnard, Jaime Settle, Drew Stelljes) did an incredible job and we are grateful for their tremendous efforts. The D.C. Summer Session classes, which are typically hybrid, also moved to be entirely online and feature new faculty and course topics not previously offered in the Center. Students will continue to enroll through early July, and interest has been positive.

Since the Washington Center has always operated "remotely" from the main campus in Williamsburg, the team's own transition to teleworking was not a shock. In fact, opportunities for the team to engage with the university increased significantly between March-June 2020:

- Rhys Tucker began serving on the External Communications Squad of the Unified Communications Team
- Roxane Adler Hickey began serving as the Alumni Engagement Squad leader for the Career Pathways Team
- Erin Battle began serving on the Faculty Engagement Squad of the Career Pathways Team

To help serve students, alumni, and staff impacted by pandemic and the shift to a more remote world, the Washington Center was pleased to offer innovative opportunities for our community to engage, including:

- Twice weekly "Corona Coffee Conversations" in April and May
- Five online events for alumni and students
- An online internship course open to all students

Finally, in early June, along with many others, the Washington Center shared a statement condemning racism and injustice in our country: www.wm.edu/dc/message. Our commitment to continuing this important work will be seen in work we do over the next year and beyond, as we have pledged to prioritize anti-racist practices in all of our endeavors and elevate Black voices.

We know everyone has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic in countless ways, and in closing the year in review, we offer our sincere sympathies to the many families and friends who have lost loved ones over the past few months.
The Center awarded 21 scholarships for a total of $52,487 in aid.

After awarding the summer 2020 scholarships, there is $61,665.34 available in scholarship funding for Study in D.C. students. (Figure represents total remaining gifts from one annual fund and two scholarship funds).

Additionally, beginning this year, we are thrilled to start awarding scholarships to our first Patrice & Jim Comey fellows, whose experience will be funded by our inaugural endowment from W&M alumni Patrice Comey ’82 and Jim Comey ’82.

NOTE: In March, when the pandemic forced us to move DCSI online, we gave students the opportunity to withdraw at no cost. Among those who opted out were three scholarship awardees. As a result, $12,800 in scholarships went unused, bringing the final count to: 18 scholarships, for a total of $39,687 in aid.
ACADEMICS:
D.C. SEMESTER PROGRAM

2019-2020 IN REVIEW

FALL 2019

- Theme: International Commercial Diplomacy
- Professor: Don Rahtz, Mason School of Business
- Enrolled students: 9
- Sample of Internships:
  - Women for Women, U.S. Department of State, Washington International Trade Association, Civic LLC, American Enterprise Institute, U.S. Department of Justice, Asia Foundation, Bipartisan Policy Center
- Sample class speakers/site visits and alumni mentor organizations:

"From watching the sunset over the city to working at the State Department, my time in D.C. was better than I could have imagined!"
- Riley Busbee '21

SPRING 2020

We did not receive enough student interest to run the D.C. Semester Program. Instead, we focused our efforts on reorganizing the outdated program to better suit the needs and wants of students today. The new D.C. Semester Program will be introduced in spring 2021.
**ACADEMICS:**

**D.C. WINTER SEMINARS**

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**2019-2020 IN REVIEW**

- **Professor:** Amy Oakes, Government Department
- **Enrolled students:** 17
- **Sample class speakers/site visits:**
  - Hudson Institute, National Counterterrorism Center, U.S. Department of State, Council on Foreign Relations, Heritage Foundation, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

**Topic: Public Health: Health Equity, Sustainability and Well-Being in a Global Age**
- **Professors:** Sarah Menefee and Alison Scott, Kinesiology and Health Sciences Department
- **Enrolled students:** 33
- **Sample class speakers/site visits:**
  - Whitman Walker Health, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Senator Tim Kaine (VA), The Arc of D.C., National Association of Medicaid Directors, Bread for the City

**Topic: Urban Education: Policy, Practice, and Leadership**
- **Professor:** Drew Stelljes, School of Education
- **Enrolled students:** 26
- **Sample class speakers/site visits:**
  - D.C. Public Schools, The Literacy Lab, The Dream Project, Department of Education, KIPP D.C., Office of the State Superintendent of Education

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*Urban Education students with young alumni teachers*

*Students and alumni at the D.C. Winter Seminars Speed Networking Reception*
In response to the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic, the D.C. Summer Institutes moved to a completely online format, including remote internships. The two-week speaker/site visit course was conducted via Zoom and included the same opportunities as it would in-person, thanks to our gracious alumni and talented faculty.

**Topic: American Politics**
- Professor: Jaime Settle, Government Department
- 12 students
- Sample of Internships:
  - D.C. Witness, Myers for Governor, The Dream Project, Stimson Center, Solar United Neighbors, Trammell & Company
- Sample class speakers/site visits and alumni mentor organizations:
  - Jen Psaki ’00, former White House Director of Communications, Sen. Tim Kaine, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Charles Koch Foundation, Pew Research Center

**Topic: Leadership & Community Engagement**
- Professor: Drew Stelljes, School of Education
- 17 students
- Sample of Internships:
  - Volunteers of America, Generation Hope, Global Water Challenge, Death Penalty Information Center, Center for Economic and Social Justice, Brady: United Against Gun Violence
- Sample class speakers/site visits and alumni mentor organizations:
  - Civic, ImpactMakers, Special Olympics, Building Tomorrow, EdConnective, James Comey ’82

**Topic: News & Media**
- Professor: Tim Barnard, Film & Media Studies Department
- 7 students
- A sample of Internships:
  - J6 Labs, StoryFit, Armed Services Arts Partnership, WashingtonExec, Attic Light Films
- Sample class speakers/site visits and alumni mentor organizations:
  - Paula Reid ’05, CBS News, American Film Institute, The Intercept, Discovery, POLITICO, C-SPAN

*2020 News & Media students at the Entertainment Software Association*
Like the D.C. Summer Institutes, we were able to pivot to allow 2020 D.C. Summer Session to be conducted completely online. We were able to replicate the speaker series as well as the networking receptions with great student feedback.

**SESSION I**

**Topic: From Protest to Policy: Gender in Political Process**
- **Professor:** Claire McKinney, Government and Gender, Sexuality & Women Studies Departments
- **Students:** 16
- **Sample class speakers and alumni networking attendees:**
  - Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee, CNN, Capitol Hill, Direct Persuasion

**Topic: The History of Washington D.C.: Promise & Paradox**
- **Professor:** Adrienne Petty-Roberts, History Department
- **Students:** 31
- **Sample class speakers and alumni networking attendees:**

**SESSION II**

**Topic: Courageous Leadership**
- **Professor:** Drew Stelljes School of Education
- **Students:** 24*
- **Sample class speakers and alumni networking attendees:**
  - D.C. Public Schools, Civic LLC, Dr. Marcy Levy Shankman ’90, Michael Powell ’85

**Topic: Policy Tools in U.S. National Security**
- **Professor:** David Trichler, Global Research Institute
- **Students:** 28*
- **Sample class speakers and alumni networking attendees:**
  - Madeline Albright, Bob Gates, U.S. Army, U.S. Department of State

**Topic: Social Media & Global Rhetoric**
- **Professor:** Liz Losh, English and American Studies Departments
- **Students:** 18*
- **Sample class speakers and alumni networking attendees:**
  - Twitter Ethics, WITNESS, Ferguson Syllabus

*NOTE: Session II enrollments are estimated as of June 24, 2020
"In just two weeks of class for DCSI, I have managed to form lasting relationships and feel confident that I will have many new friends on campus and beyond" following my time in the program.

- Maddy Humphries ’22
D.C. Summer Institutes 2020
THE FUTURE of STUDY IN D.C.

The Washington Center is excited to announce some changes coming to our academic programming. We believe that these changes will allow for increased flexibility and for even more students to study in D.C. in 2020-2021.

THE NEW SEMESTER PROGRAM

Coming Spring 2021

The new D.C. Semester Program will include three new D.C.-based courses, no housing requirement, and internships in any topic! This flexible program allows students to focus on their specific career interests during a semester of their choosing in a new high-impact, experiential learning model.

The three academic courses for W&M credit:

- Washington Program Internship: Six interdisciplinary credits while students work an internship in the field of their choice. Students still receive all the same support and guidance from Washington Center staff as they apply to opportunities and during their experience.

- Washington Program Reflection: Two interdisciplinary credits where students use development theories to help reflect on and make connections to their internships.

- "D.C.: Past, Present, and Future": Four interdisciplinary credits in which students will engage in a speaker/site visit-based course. This course is designed to be taught by multiple professors across multiple disciplines and to expose students to D.C. through a variety of perspectives.

D.C. WINTER SEMINARS

Coming January 2021

We are also excited for two new changes to the D.C. Winter Seminars!

For the first time, we will have four seminars for students to choose from.

Also, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we will be running the D.C. Winter Seminars in two sessions. All four seminars will run in a blended fashion – partially in person and partially online.
NEW FACULTY

We look forward to welcoming 17 faculty members to the Washington Center in 2020-2021!

Roxane Adler Hickey, Washington Center
Nick Balascio, Geology
Tim Barnard, Film & Media Studies
David Brashear, Muscarelle Museum of Art
Liz Canuel, Virginia Institute of Marine Science
Jim Kaste, Geology
Rebecca Latourell, Global Research Institute
David Long, Mason School of Business
Liz Losh, American Studies & English
Heather Macdonald, Geology
Dan Maliniak, Government
Claire McKinney, Government
Adrienne Petty-Roberts, History
Jaime Settle, Government
Drew Stelljes, School of Education
Betsy Talbott, School of Education
David Trichler, Global Research Institute

We thank our Academic Advisory Group (see more below) for their insights during the faculty selection process.

First-time faculty members are listed in **bold**
The Washington Center hosted many successful student and alumni events this year. Through our new event system, we also served a variety of departments across campus to host their own class visits, student trips, and other meetings in our Center.

The most important update for the Washington Center this past year is the addition of a new Event & Office Coordinator. Elisabeth Merrifield ’18 joined the team in October, coming to use from her previous position at Swem Library. Elisabeth has been a fantastic addition and has already done many great things for the Center. We’re thrilled to have her!

A FEW HIGHLIGHTS:

• The annual Study in D.C. Alumni Reunion
• The annual Faculty & Staff D.C. Trip
• The annual Mug Night Benefit
• An online event entitled, “Courageous Leadership in Crisis Panel Discussion,” Featuring Nicole Lynn Lewis ’03, Michael Powell ’85, and Todd Stottlemyer ’85
• An online alumni panel discussion entitled, “How to Develop Professional Soft Skills and Network Effectively,” Featuring Crystal Bailey J.D. ’09, Doug Bunch ’02, J.D. ’06, Chloe Madvig ’18, and Jason Maga ’00
• An online event for students entitled, “Getting Started in the Jobs Search Process Today,” moderated by Bob Adler Hickey and featuring Ameer Ali, Sanam Boroumand ’00, Ryan Croft, and Kip Wright
• An online event for students and alumni, entitled, "How an Entrepreneur’s Commitment to Giving Changed a Community," featuring Peter Kadens of The Kadens Family Foundation, facilitated by Drew Stelljes Ph.D. ’07, Nicole Fratianne, and Graham Henshaw
• The Geology & Environmental Science Departments hosted a D.C. area alumni reunion in the Center
• A VIMS MSCI class hosted guest speakers and a reception in the Center

NOTE: Many virtual events can be seen at www.wm.edu/dc/onlineevents

The Washington Center hosted 76 events in 2019-2020
NEW IN EVENTS

FACULTY & STAFF CONSULTATIONS

The Washington Center launched a new opportunity for faculty and staff to consider taking advantage of the Washington Center. Our Faculty & Staff Consultations are a great way for faculty and staff to schedule meetings with expert Washington Center team members, who can explore the many possibilities that exist in D.C. and at the Center. Faculty can schedule consultations to discuss any topic. A few discussions that are already prepared, and can be tailored to any school, department, or course topic, include:

- How to bring your class up to D.C.
- How to host an event for alumni in the D.C.
- How to engage D.C.-area speakers for your classes (in D.C. or back on campus)
- How the Center can be a temporary workplace for traveling W&M employees
- Learn more about what the Washington Center does
- Learn more about the Washington Center’s teaching opportunities

Learn more about our faculty & staff consultations at www.wm.edu/dc/consultations

VIRTUAL EVENT PLANNING HELP

While in-person events may be on hold, the Washington Center is still available to help faculty and staff plan D.C.-based speakers for virtual events! Fill out the form at www.wm.edu/dc/events.

RENTAL RATE POLICY

New to the 2019-2020 year was the Washington Center’s implementation of a modest rental rate policy. The policy went into effect in the late fall and allows for the Washington Center to better serve the needs of the greater W&M community while maintaining the Washington Center’s facilities and associated event costs. This policy also brought the Washington Center space into alignment with practices on main campus (e.g. the Wren building, the Mason School of Business, the School of Education, and others). The Washington Center space is available to rent for W&M departments and non-W&M entities.

Since the implementation, we had 16 reservations totaling $2,325 in new revenue.

(Since the pandemic shut down in-person events beginning in March, no new revenue was generated after that time.)

Those interested in hosting events at the Center can view the full policy and submit an Event Request Form at www.wm.edu/dc/events.
In 2019-2020, the W&M Washington Center budget was made up of 40% university funding, 9.5% student rent payments, and 50.5% student tuition/fees, for a total of $989,671.85. Expenses came in at $958,874.91 (broken down below), allowing us to return surplus funding to the university. Conditions surrounding COVID-19 dramatically reduced spending planned for the end of the fiscal year, enabling us to save for upcoming years of leaner budgets. For 2020-2021, we will be following the university’s practice of spending only on mission-critical initiatives and operations.

NOTE: The figures below represent the Center’s operational budget only, and do not include scholarship funds.

CASH INFLOWS: $989,671.85

NOTE: Not included here is Center rent, which is paid by the Real Estate Foundation.
CASH OUTFLOWS: $958,874.91

- Staff Expenses, $425,632.75
- Student Housing, $193,142.00
- Student Programming, $48,034.24
- Administrative Expenses, $43,925.43
- Advisory Board/Alumni Events, $7,864.35
- Faculty Salaries/Housing, $225,963.14
- Program Recruiting/Advertising, $14,313.00
Although admittedly different than initially intended, 2019-2020 still marked a wonderful year for the Washington Center.

From record Winter enrollments and more new Advisory Board members than even anticipated to a new strategic plan and online internships, the Washington Center accomplished what it set out to do this year, and more. A few highlights not already included above are:

**TEAM UPDATES**
- Erin Battle was promoted to Interim Associate Director of the Washington Center.

**FACULTY UPDATES**
- The Center started a new Academic Advisory Group (AAG) to provide academic insights and advise the Washington Center team in making academic decisions. Inaugural AAG members are:
  - Adam Barger
  - Carrie Cooper
  - Dawn Edmiston
  - Elizabeth Harbron
  - Hiroshi Kitamura
  - Sallie Marchello
  - Sue Peterson
  - Anne Rasmussen

**ADVISORY BOARD UPDATES**
- The W&M Washington Center Advisory Board concluded its first year. A huge thank you to Molly Wolff ’99 who served as inaugural chair and who brought this important board into being and set it on a trajectory for future success. Molly is succeeded by Scott Wilkinson ’94, MBA ’99, who will take over as chair effective 7/1/20.
- A special thank you to the three members rolling off in June 2020, who have added so much to this board by generously giving their time, talent, and treasure to the Center:
  - Gay Hee Lee ’99
  - Jen Psaki ’00
  - Harrison Roday ’13
- **New members joining:**
  - Glenn Ballard ’00
  - Alex Bartholomaeus ’94
  - Pat Kirby ’10
  - Richard Kraemer ’94
  - Ashley Pettway-Carter ’13
  - Trevor Rudolph ’06
  - Meredith Viens Delaware ’03
• The team developed and produced the Washington Center’s first-ever Strategic Plan (available on the Center website) which will guide the Center into 2025.

• Roxane and Erin were approved to teach W&M Washington Center internship courses as adjunct professors. This is an incredible opportunity for Roxane and Erin, but it also allows the students to engage with local experts to reflect on personal work experiences and D.C. faculty to focus on their areas of expertise. Roxane is slated to begin teaching in the new D.C. Semester Program starting Spring 2021 and the position will be rolled into her current responsibilities as Interim Director.

• The Center fully integrated it’s practices into many existing university systems, including communications, events, internships, job sharing, and more.

• The Center team prioritized and participated in professional development opportunities:
  ◦ Rhys attended the NASPA Strategies Conference in New Orleans focused on providing practitioners with the knowledge and skills to effectively address collegiate alcohol and drug abuse prevention, mental health, sexual violence prevention and response, and well-being through a variety of comprehensive and integrative approaches.
  ◦ Roxane participated in the 2019-2020 Women’s Network Virginia (the state affiliate of the American Council on Education Women’s Network) Senior Leadership Seminar, allowing her the opportunity to network with other emerging women leaders and established leaders in higher education across the Commonwealth.
  ◦ Erin took an Adobe Creative Cloud course
  ◦ Rhys took an online budgeting course
  ◦ The entire Center team participated in a StrengthsFinder analysis with the help of Babs Bengston from W&M HR
  ◦ Although postponed due to pandemic, the Washington Center and D.C. Regional Advancement were proud to come together in creating the first-ever William & Mary D.C. Metro Volunteer Leadership Summit & Reception, intended to bring the larger D.C.-area alumni community into one, unified, Tribe. (We still hope to host this event in the future!)

• On June 16, 2020, Molly Harris welcomed Rose “Rosie” Margot James Harris to the world. Congratulations to Molly and her beautiful family!
Progress made over the last year only energizes the path forward to more growth for the Washington Center. We’re excited that some of the changes you’ll see include:

- Gabe Cancio-Bello ’20 will join the team in a temporary position from July 2020 – January 2021. Gabe will manage the D.C. Winter Seminars for 2021, filling in for Molly while she is on leave. Gabe was an intern with the Center in summer 2019 and we’re thrilled to welcome him back!

- This fall, the Center along with partners from across campus, plans to launch a series of leadership webinars, gauging interest in a larger pilot course. Stay tuned for information on how to register!

- The aforementioned new D.C. Semester Program model will launch in Spring 2021. Broad topics, flexible housing, and a new credit model will allow more students to participate throughout the year.

- Finally, 2021 marks the 20th anniversary of the W&M Washington Center. We hope you will join us in celebrating throughout the year. A special thanks to a committee of volunteers, helping to plan and design a year of recognition for the W&M Washington Center. Members are:
  - David Carter ’01
  - Meghan Comey ’03
  - Nataki Corneille ’97
  - Matthew Erpelding MBA ’18
  - Kayla Sharpe’ 17
  - Tim von Stetton ’16

Stay tuned for more information on events and interactive opportunities in 2021!