



SMU Cary M. Maguire Center for
Ethics & Public Responsibility

**THINKING BIG.
DOING GOOD.
TOGETHER.**

2022-2023 Annual Report

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

"To suppose that any form of government will secure liberty without any virtue in the people, is a chimerical idea."

- James Madison (1788)

William F. May, founding Director of the Maguire Ethics Center, often emphasized that "public virtue" ranked second only to the term "liberty" at the time of the American Revolution. Virtue, he argued, entails "a readiness to sacrifice self-interest to the common good."

The theme of our 2022-2023 academic year is to enhance that notion of virtue by working to connect our communities. After all, we must live in connection if we are to understand the perspectives and intentions of those with whom we disagree. Developing our public culture is foundational to addressing the problems that stand before us.

As you read this report, *Thinking Big. Doing Good. **Together.***, you will learn about the Center's efforts to support faculty, staff, student, and community programming. Yet hopefully, you will see more in the faces of our participants. You will see the students who brought energy and optimism as they worked to promote the civic value of voting during the midterm elections. You will find people engaged in civic dialogue as we explore topics of public concern. You will see the connections SMU continues to build with leading scholars from other institutions, partnering to explore the critical issues of the day. You will see SMU working to elevate the stature of community role models through our J Eric Jonsson Ethics Award. Not only is this award a recognition of the challenges, risks and problem-solving skills of the awardee, it is also a testament to our emerging leaders that the struggle to build community, to forge deeper connections, and build a better Dallas are worth it. You will meet some of our own SMU emerging leaders who have spent time in reflection as they compete for the annual ethics prize or spend their summers performing important public service during their ethics fellowships. It has been a busy year!

We would be remiss if we did not acknowledge that our Maguire Center community successfully transitioned into leadership. Program Specialist Adria Richmond left us last August, and Associate Director Candy Crespo assumed a new position in April. Not only are they dear friends and trusted colleagues, but they have been the backbone of our Center's activities over the past few years. The Center is so fortunate to have added Rylee Bailey as our coordinator, beginning last August. A graduate of SMU, former president of Armstrong Commons, and an Resident Assistant there, she brings a wealth of knowledge about the student experience to our programming. Joining us in May was Matt Nadler, a familiar face on the SMU campus who served as a Residential Commons Director and Assistant Director of Employer Relations for the Hegi Family Career Development Center before coming to the center. We are delighted to have his deep knowledge of systems and processes to guide us through our future planning.

The year ahead looks bright. We hope you will join us in celebrating a successful year and working to make this one even more meaningful!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Rita Kirk". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping "R" and "K".

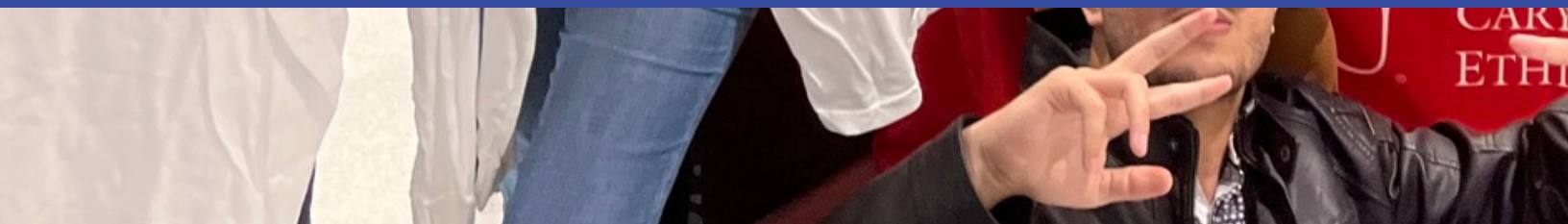
RITA KIRK, PH.D.

WILLIAM F. MAY ENDOWED DIRECTOR



LEARNING TOGETHER

"Many ideas grow better when transplanted into another mind than in the one where they sprang up." - Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr.



PARTY AT THE POLLS

Despite being one of the largest and most powerful voting blocs in the U.S. electorate, most young people don't go to the polls on Election Day. For some, it is because of political disinterest, but for a significant portion of young voters who choose to stay home, it's primarily due to their lack of knowledge about the voting process, including what forms of identification are acceptable to vote, voter registration deadlines, and how to vote when living away from home.

For the 2022 midterm elections, the Maguire Ethics Center launched a campaign to promote informed voting among SMU community members to combat the information gap.

Leading up to Election Day, the Ethics Center offered Mustangs various bits of information important to voting. This came in the form of an [informed voting guide](#) on the [Ethics Center Blog](#) along with yard signs placed around campus with a QR code leading those who scanned it to [VOTE411.org](#), a non-partisan online hub for checking voter registration and learning about candidates and their policy positions organized by the League of Women Voters Education Fund.

On Election Day, Ethics Center student staffers hosted an informed voting booth in the Hughes Trigg Student Center where they passed out "I Voted" buttons and Maguire Ethics Center swag and answered questions about the voting process.

"What we're trying to remind them is that voting is an important responsibility and it's not just that they vote, but that they know who they're voting for," Dr. Kirk said to CBS 11 News in an article published on Election Day.

This event was received well by students, faculty, and community members who voted at SMU. The Ethics Center plans to host another event like this for Texas's 2024 Super Tuesday primary election in March.

On October 26 and 27, U.S. Congressman **Colin Allred** and U.S. Congressional Candidate **Antonio Swad** visited Boaz Commons for "Honest Conversations with 2 World Changers." The Maguire Ethics Center provided shirts, voting guides, and voting buttons for the event to further our informed-voting campaign.



PURSUIT OF LIFE

HOW LITERATURE ENHANCES HEALTHCARE

The Maguire Ethics Center partnered with Perkins School of Theology for *Pursuit of Life: How Literature Enhances Healthcare*. This symposium highlighted the latest in academic palliative care research, teaching, and practice with a focus on the intersection of healthcare and the humanities.

The conference was one result of a years-long collaboration in the areas of spirituality and palliative care between SMU and Baylor Scott and White Health led by Jack Levison, Steve Long, and Robert Fine. Jack Levison is the W.J.A. Power Professor of Old Testament Interpretation and Biblical Hebrew at Perkins School of Theology, Steve Long is SMU's Cary M. Maguire University Professor of Ethics, and Robert L. Fine, M.D., is the Clinical Director in the Office of Clinical Ethics and Palliative Care at Baylor Scott and White Health.

Levison and Fine both attended the 2018 Spirituality for Life Conference, an ecumenical gathering sponsored by the Vatican, Houston Methodist Hospital and M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. That event brought **together** palliative care and spiritual leaders to explore ways to integrate spirituality into palliative clinical practice, and inspired Levison and Fine to develop a book, *The Pursuit of Life*, which they co-edited with SMU graduate student Kelsey Spinnato. Many of the speakers at the Spirituality for Life conference contributed chapters to the book.



Fine says that spirituality and palliative care have natural connections; both fields seek to address the whole person, body and soul. Unlike other medical specialists, palliative care specialists do not focus on specific organs such as cardiology for the heart, neurology for the brain, or hepatology for the liver.

"Rather, palliative care specialists lessen all sorts of pain, including the total pain, the total suffering of those facing the most serious of illnesses," Fine said. "They do not seek to treat disease, but rather to diagnose and treat the suffering that inevitably falls on the shoulders of those who face disease." Suffering may involve physical pain but also social, emotional and spiritual pain.

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Kathryn B. Kirkland

Kathryn B. Kirkland, MD, a professor of medicine at the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth, with a secondary appointment at The Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice, serves as chief of the section of palliative medicine. She holds the Dorothy and John J. Byrne, Jr., Distinguished Chair in Palliative Medicine.

Her primary scholarly interest is in the field of narrative medicine, which focuses on building capacity of clinicians to receive the stories of others, and to use them to ensure that patients receive individualized healthcare that is aligned with their values. She has received grant support from the Mellon and the Gold Foundations for work in medical humanities.

Levison adds that spirituality is shared through stories; the Bible begins by telling the story of pain. Storytelling offers possibilities for helping address spiritual and emotional pain, as Siddhartha Mukherjee writes in his book, *The Emperor of All Maladies: A Biography of Cancer*. "Medicine ... begins with storytelling ... Patients tell stories to describe illness; doctors tell stories to understand it. Science tells its own story to explain diseases."

By bringing **together** people of different disciplines, Levison added, *The Pursuit of Life* gathering highlights the value of a university like SMU.

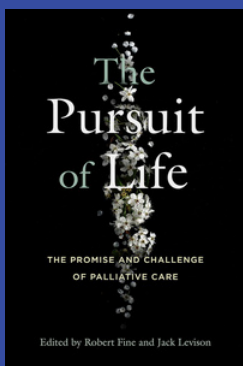
"This is an example of bringing **together** people from a wide range of disciplines for the betterment of humanity," he said.



Ethics Center Director Dr. Rita Kirk asks Dr. Kirkland a question.



Dr. Kirkland delivering the keynote talk.



The Pursuit of Life: The Promise and Challenge of Palliative Care

The Pursuit of Life: The Promise and Challenge of Palliative Care (Penn State University Press, December 20, 2022) examines crucial concerns in palliative care, including the proper balance between comfort and cure for the patient, the integration of spiritual well-being, and the challenges of providing care in the absence of basic medical services and supplies.

Chapters were submitted by leaders in palliative care, healthcare and spirituality, including Robin W. Lovin, former Perkins dean and Cary M. Maguire University Professor of Ethics Emeritus at Southern Methodist University, and Charles Millikan, Vice President for Spiritual Care and Values Integration for Houston Methodist.



Perkins School of Theology Professor Dr. Jack Levison



SMU English professor Dr. Timothy Rosendale asks a question.



PETER S. BRODSKY HONORED WITH 2023 J. ERIK JONSSON ETHICS AWARD.

PROBLEM-SOLVER. CHALLENGE-ACCEPTOR. RISK-TAKER. LEADER.

In recognition of his civic and philanthropic contributions to our city, state and nation, the Maguire Center for Ethics and Public Responsibility was honored to recognize Peter S. Brodsky with the 2023 J. Erik Jonsson Ethics Award.

The award luncheon took place on March 22 at the Arts District Mansion where roughly 285 people celebrated Peter's servitude and accomplishments. SMU Vice President of Development and External Affairs Brad E. Cheves welcomed guests and 2018 J. Erik Jonsson recipient and chair of the Maguire Center advisory board Bobby B. Lyle to recognize past recipients and board members in attendance. Past J. Erik Jonsson Ethics Award recipients David Brown, Nancy Halbreich, Lyda Hill, Bobby Lyle, Caren Prothro, Michael Sorrell and Ron Steinhart attended the luncheon.

Peter Brodsky's name is synonymous with innovative servant leadership in the City of Dallas. Peter's passion for public service and bettering our community is multifaceted and includes impactful work in education, homelessness, social services, and thoughtful urban development.

"SMU challenges our students to think big and do good," SMU President R. Gerald Turner said. "Peter does just that and is an example for our students to model and learn from as they go out into the world."

Peter serves as the Board Chair of Housing Forward (formerly Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance), the lead agency of Dallas and Collin Counties' homeless response system. He is a board member and long-time volunteer for KIPP Texas Public Schools, a network of 59 public charter schools with nearly 34,000 PreK-12 students in Austin, Dallas, Houston, and San Antonio. From 2016-2020, Peter chaired the Dallas Animal Advisory Commission, where he explored root causes of and solutions for Dallas' stray dog crisis, a critical social issue that further highlighted the need for affordable services for underserved Dallas residents.

"If you give students an 'A' teacher, an 'A' principal, and every day you send them home to an 'F' life, you have not made their lives significantly better," Paul Quinn College President and 2022 J. Erik Jonsson Award recipient Michael Sorrell said. "You have to have access to things that make their lives easier, and Peter understands the need to connect all those dots."



Colleagues and friends alike agree that his intellect, compassion, and ingenuity have changed the archetype of the modern-day civic leader.

"Peter is there to give it his best by being in the community and feeling the pain the community feels," Alpha Business Images founder and president Sophia Johnson said.

Now, Peter and his wife Lael are working to address inequities in southern Dallas by transforming former Red Bird Mall into one of the largest mixed-use commercial developments in the area. Though the \$200 million development is not yet complete, Peter's work has already spurred vast economic growth in southern Dallas through 1,500 new jobs in offices, shops, medical facilities, and restaurants.

"People seem to think there is a fork in the road – either you are going to make money or do good, and those things have to come **together**" former Dallas mayor Mike Rawlings said. "For students at SMU, Peter is the perfect example of that."

Taking time to recognize and honor leading citizens of Dallas is central to the Maguire Ethics Center mission and helps define our community. The 26th annual award luncheon was a tremendous success, raising over \$200,000 to support research and programming. Thank you to everyone that helped make the 2023 luncheon a success, and we look forward to seeing you again in 2024.

2023 J. ERIK JONSSON ETHICS AWARD HOST COMMITTEE

Ralph W. Babb, Jr.	Hilda C. Galvan	Debra Hunter Johnson	Erle Nye
Lindsay & George Billingsley	Jennifer & John Gates	Matrice & Ron Kirk	Elizabeth Carlock Phillips
Jan Hart Black	Celeste & Charles Glover	Lisa & Peter Kraus	Carolyn & Karl Rathjen
Marla & Michael M. Boone	Samantha & Scott Goldstein	Eleanor & John Lemak	Lizzie & Dan Routman
Talmage Boston	Margo E. Goodwin	Carol & John Levy	Byron Sanders
Jill Louis & Randy Bowman	Nancy Strauss Halbreich	Fay and Brian Lidji	Gowri N. & Alex Nila K. Sharma
Stacey and David Brodsky	Marianne & Lee Hark	Janie & Jack Lowe, Jr.	Ken Smith
Rebecca & Ken Bruder	Linda & Mitch Hart	Lottye Brodsky-Lyle	Miguel Solis
Bryan & Stephanie Carter	Doug D. Hawthorne	Leslie MacLean	Natalie & Michael Sorrell
Nita & Cullum Clark	Ken Hersh	Deb & Clint McDonnough	Ronald G. Steinhart
Kimberley Elting & Stewart Cohen	Blainey Maguire Hess	Janie & Cappy McGarr	Roslyn Dawson Thompson
Linda Pitts Custard	Marguerite Hoffman	Frank Mihalopoulos	Annette & Jack Vaughn
Effie & Brian Dennison	Regen Horchow	Debi & Peter Miller	Dee & Trey Velvin
Christopher J. Durovich	Marissa & Michael Horne	Tricia Miller	Carol & Ben Vig
Ruben E. Esquivel	Walter J. Humann	Katie & Grant Moise	Darla & Mark Whitaker
Terry J. Flowers	Tracey Nash-Huntley & David S. Huntley	Mollie & Dave Monaco	Kern Wildenthal
Jack Furst	Sophia & Willis Johnson	Sharon Lyle & Mark Mutschink	Abby & Todd Williams

2023 J. ERIK JONSSON ETHICS AWARD PRESENTING SPONSORS



NANCY ANN AND RAY L. HUNT

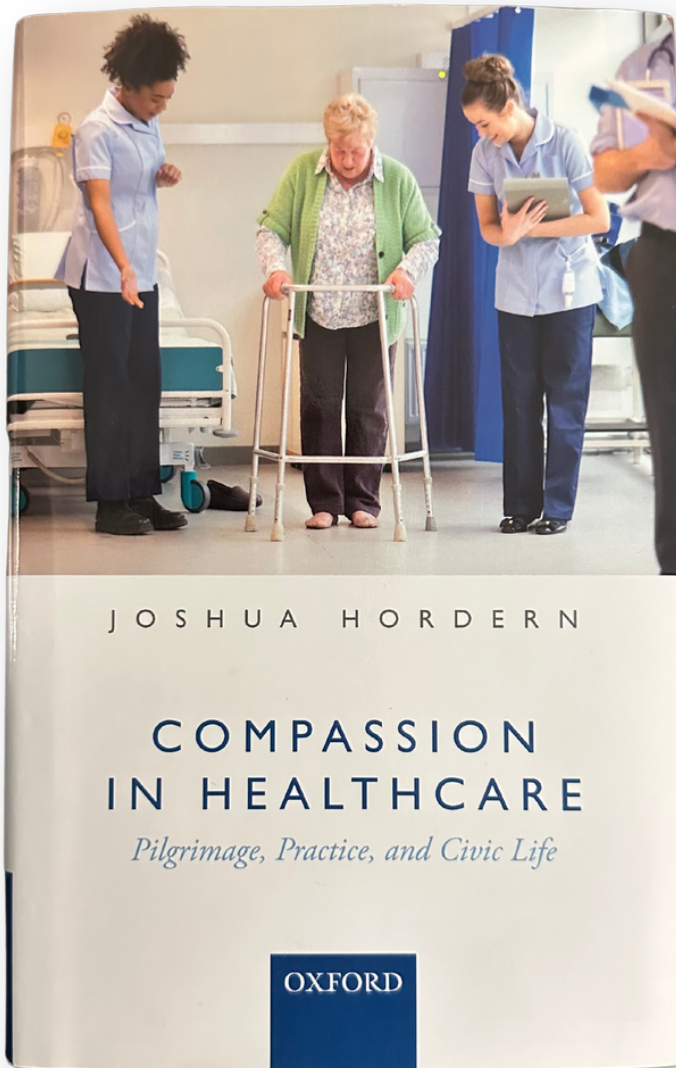


About the J. Erik Jonsson Ethics Award

Since 1997, the J. Erik Jonsson Ethics Award luncheon has served as the Center's primary fundraising event, supporting our dynamic programs that serve the SMU faculty, staff, and student body as well as our community at-large. The support from this event directly funds the Center's annual operations and ensures its continued success.

The J. Erik Jonsson Ethics Award is named in honor of the public-spirited former mayor of Dallas. It is given to individuals who epitomize the spirit of moral leadership and public virtue. The founders of our nation foresaw that the ideal of liberty alone would not sustain our country unless accompanied by the concept of "public virtue," a sacrifice of self and resources for the public good. The Maguire Center is proud to present this award to people whose careers should be recognized, honored, and modeled.

Healthcare & Human Flourishing



Looking to learn more about the intersection of bioethics, moral reasoning, and political philosophy, the Maguire Ethics Center along with other participants from SMU, Houston Methodist Hospital, Baylor Scott and White Health, and SMU's Perkins School of Theology convened the interdisciplinary research cluster and reading group, "Healthcare and Human Flourishing." The research cluster was convened by Maguire Ethics Center Endowed Director Dr. Rita Kirk, Perkins School of Theology Assistant Dean of Hybrid Education Dr. Dallas Gingles, and Cary M. Maguire University Professor of Ethics Emeritus Dr. Robin Lovin.

Dr. Gingles described the Maguire Ethics Center as "the institutional home of this joint research – both as a clearinghouse for communications between the research partners and as a funder of ongoing research activities."

"This research cluster also served SMU's research mission by integrating us into a research hospital, thus expanding our research portfolio into the medical humanities," Dr. Kirk said.

The immediate work of the cluster consisted of convening a reading/response group around Oxford professor Joshua Hordern's recent book *Compassion in Healthcare: Pilgrimage, Practice, and Civic Life*. In each meeting, at least one member of the research group delivered a written response to Hordern's work. For the first meeting, Dr. Lovin delivered the first written response.



“Joshua Hordern does not provide us with explicit answers to all of our questions,” Dr. Lovin writes. “But he offers us an account of politics and society within which we can explore them. Most important, he does not separate personal, professional, social, and political questions into neat compartments, each governed by its own theory. To think of ethics in terms of human flourishing requires us to consider the interactions between the different circles of responsibility in which our lives are lived and to appreciate the diversity of the individual and national narratives that result.”

The research cluster convened three more times and culminated with a public lecture with Dr. Hordern in April. During his three-day visit, Ethics Center leaders and partners met with Dr. Hordern outside of the public lecture resulting in the development of new partnership opportunities with the McDonald Centre for Theology, Ethics & Public Life at Oxford University.

“In the realm of ethical inquiry, where ideas and values converge, this new relationship between the Maguire Ethics Center and the McDonald Centre represents a transformative milestone,” Kirk said. “This partnership emboldens the Ethics Center to scale new heights, fortifying its commitment to fostering dialogue, promoting ethical awareness, and shaping a world where principles and compassion reign.”



Joshua Hordern, Ph.D.

Joshua Hordern is Professor of Christian Ethics in the Faculty of Theology and Religion and a Fellow of Harris Manchester College at the University of Oxford. He is also an ordained minister in the Church of England. He has worked extensively with colleagues in healthcare on themes such as compassion in healthcare, medical professionalism, vaccine hesitancy and precision medicine. Publications include *Compassion in Healthcare: Pilgrimage, Practice and Civic Life* (Oxford University Press, 2020) and *Advancing Medical Professionalism* (Royal College of Physicians, 2018).

MUSEUM NEUTRALITY IN AN AGE OF DISCONTENT

2023 Maguire Ethics Center Public Scholar Greg Warden

In an era marked by the pressing concerns of sustainability, representation, and diversity, our society finds itself immersed in a landscape defined by polarized viewpoints and heightened political awareness, largely shaped by the pervasive influence of social media. Matters like climate change and inclusivity now hold center stage, prompting us to ponder the responsibilities that museums bear in this context. Should these cultural institutions take a definitive stance on these issues, or is it more appropriate for them to maintain impartiality in the face of societal transformations?

The concept of neutrality, defined as refraining from supporting any particular side in a conflict, emerged as a crucial aspect of the 2023 Maguire Public Scholar Lecture given by Dr. P. Gregory Warden, inaugural Mark A. Roglán Director of the Custard Institute for Spanish Art and Culture. Drawing from his vast expertise and extensive research, Warden shared his insights into the pervasive political dimensions present in museum practices, challenging attendees to reevaluate their understanding of these cultural institutions.

Throughout his lecture, Dr. Warden delved into the notion that "everything is political." He acknowledged the influence of influential theorists such as Michel Foucault. He also emphasized the importance of understanding that any decision made within a museum carries political implications. "Any choice, anything we do in a museum or elsewhere is, in a way, a political act," Dr. Warden asserted, highlighting the need for heightened awareness in museum practices.

Drawing attention to an exhibit at the Mother's Museum, Dr. Warden asserted that even seemingly apolitical displays are imbued with political undertones. "So different away from what we've done before here, but it's certainly political. It's not a political moment." This observation emphasized the profound influence of politics on the interpretation and exhibition of art within museums.



Pictured left to right: Linda P. Custard, Ethics Center Advisory Board Member; Amanda Botseth, Director, Meadows Museum; P. Gregory Warden, 2023 Maguire Public Scholar and Director of the Custard Institute for Spanish Art and Culture; Sam Holland, Dean, Meadows School of the Arts; Rita Kirk, Director, Maguire Ethics Center.

Dr. Warden further explored various topics central to the critique of museums, including decolonization, restitution, and debates over ownership and control. He highlighted the complexity of these issues, mentioning the restitution of objects from different cultures, exemplified by the famous case of the Elgin Marbles at the British Museum. Additionally, he touched upon the emergence of "identitarianism," emphasizing the growing expectation for museums to connect with the identities of the communities they serve.

Throughout his lecture, Dr. Warden also referred to social media discussions and the hashtag #MuseumsAreNotNeutral, recognizing the value of public discourse on museum ethics and politics. He acknowledged the legitimacy of questions regarding the connection between museums and the communities they serve.

In his lecture, Dr. Warden provoked thoughtful contemplation on the political nature of museums. By challenging prevailing assumptions and emphasizing the need for critical examination, he encouraged the audience to reevaluate the role of museums in society. As the lecture concluded, it became evident that Dr. Warden's insights would continue to shape discussions within the field of museum studies, fostering ongoing dialogue, inclusivity, and a deeper understanding of the political dimensions within museums.



2023 Public Scholar: P. Gregory Warden

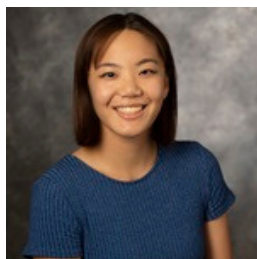
P. Gregory Warden is the inaugural Mark A. Roglán Director of the Custard Institute for Spanish Art and Culture. Warden was a faculty member at SMU for 30 years, where he was a University Distinguished Professor of Art History. An award-winning and beloved teacher, he is also an internationally recognized scholar whose work has been supported by the Kress Foundation and the National Endowment for the Humanities. His current recent research interests are heritage, architectural conservation, and the application of digital technologies to issues of preservation. A native of Italy, Warden was the founder, Principal Investigator, and co-Director of the Mugello Valley Archaeological Project and excavations at Poggio Colla, a joint mission of SMU, Franklin University, Marshall College, the University of Texas, the Open University (UK), and the University of Pennsylvania. In 2012 he joined Franklin University as president before returning to SMU in 2022.



Maguire Public Service Fellows have volunteered in a vast number of diverse internship placements. Through such opportunities, students gain concrete information about others' needs, as well as differing perspectives on how to resolve them. Drawing on their university education and personal talent, Fellows hone their skills and gain both humility and self-confidence to become bold, curious and creative leaders. The goal of the Fellowship is to enable students to engage in public service where financial circumstances might not otherwise allow.



Working in the marketing department of the Human Rights Initiative to prepare for an annual storytelling project to celebrate International Human Rights Day in December and a smaller version of the program on International World Refugee Day in June. Tasks included writing essays, research, and creating a cultivation packet for sponsors, donors, and storytellers.



Planning, setting up, and executing science experiments at the Sci-Tech Discovery Center, an interactive children's museum that focuses on science, math and technology. Also assisted in running the summer camp for first and second graders.



Contributing to the Dallas Jewish Historical Society's Oral History Program interviewing and cataloging life histories of members of the Jewish community of Dallas. Specifically, the experiences of Jewish people living in North Dallas that were impacted by the October 2019 tornado and their recovery.



Working to ethnographically analyze the impact of La Voz de la CONFENIAE, a radio program started by the Confederation of the Indigenous Nationalities of the Ecuadorian Amazon with the goal of spreading public health information and cultural broadcasts to amazon communities.



Recovering the stories of women at the FUU Church from when the Women's Alliance raised funds in support of *Roe v. Wade* during the late 1960s and early 1970s, allowing for a different narrative to emerge that complicates the relationship between the ethical beliefs about abortion and religion.



Researching recommendations for the City of Dallas Environmental council regarding monetizing the urban forest of Dallas and helped to protect, and enhance the ecosystem, trees, and green spaces of Dallas to improve public health. Also researched implementing a city forest credit program that requires the urban tree canopy to be maintained, preserved, and protected.

While the overall US clean energy transition has been analyzed, the state of Texas's specific energy transition has not been studied. The combination of the state's large cluster of high carbon emitters, proximal capacity to geologic carbon storage capacity, and an existing backbone of pipeline infrastructure places it in a unique position to directly provide clean energy to the Texas grid using carbon capture and storage (CCS).

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES THROUGH APPLIED ANTHROPOLOGY

2023 PUBLIC SERVICE FELLOW NICHOLAS SIMPSON REFLECTS ON HIS SUMMER IN ECUADOR

In the fall semester of 2020, I started working for Dr. Brian Zoltowski in his experimental biochemistry lab at SMU. At that time, I had little understanding of what high-level academic research entailed, but the prospect of diving into the world of scientific exploration excited me. Little did I know that this experience would lead me to discover a profound love for the process of knowledge creation.

Simultaneously, I was nurturing my passion for the social sciences. Dr. Paul Farmer, a physician-anthropologist specializing in global health at SMU, caught my attention, and I found myself captivated by the idea of applied anthropology. While continuing to work for Dr. Zoltowski, I began expanding my research interests and dedicated my free time to an independent project on Dallas' racial history. This project aimed to understand how past inequalities shaped the city's cross-cultural health profile, deepening my interest in using the social sciences to study the well-being of underprivileged populations.

During this time, I also met Dr. Carolyn Smith-Morris through her Introduction to Medical Anthropology class. Dr. Smith-Morris became a valuable mentor, and I was thrilled when she offered me the opportunity to join her on a newly developing research project in collaboration with Andrés Tapia, director of communications for la Confederación de Nacionalidades Indígenas de la Amazonia Ecuatoriana (CONFENIAE).

In the early days of the pandemic, Andrés initiated a community-controlled radio program called La Voz de la CONFENIAE. It aimed to provide nearby Indigenous communities with news, public health information, and culturally relevant entertainment. This endeavor was especially vital given the ongoing marginalization of Indigenous peoples by the Ecuadorian government and the devastating impact of a massive oil spill in the upper Ecuadorian Amazon. Andrés referred to this confluence of challenges as a 'triple pandemic,' making La Voz' broadcasts all the more critical.

Two years into the radio program's existence, Andrés approached Dr. Smith-Morris about conducting an impact assessment study. I eagerly joined the research team, which involved immersing myself in the radio communications literature and the trajectory of Indigenous rights in Latin America. My role was to assist in the collaborative research project and later spend the second half of summer 2022 in Ecuador to collect and analyze data at the radio station while immersing myself in CONFENIAE's daily operations and community life.

Before my departure to Ecuador, however, civil unrest erupted in the country, prompting me to postpone my travel plans. The unrest exposed the unjust living conditions that disproportionately affected Ecuador's Indigenous communities due to President Guillermo Lasso's neoliberal policies and a deal with the International Monetary Fund that exacerbated the affordability crisis. The protests, coordinated by CONFENIAE's governmental counterpart, CONAIE, resulted in securing a list of ten popular demands for change.



2023 PUBLIC SERVICE FELLOW NICHOLAS SIMPSON REFLECTS ON HIS SUMMER IN ECUADOR CONTINUED

Finally able to travel, I journeyed to Quito and collected data from various government offices before joining Dr. Smith-Morris for the drive to CONFENIAE headquarters in Puyo. Working tirelessly with our CONFENIAE partners, we set up the research study and began data collection. Though Dr. Smith-Morris had to return to the U.S. after four days, I continued my work in Ecuador with the help of two brilliant employees from the radio station.

Our data collection took us to various communities, including Unión Base, Tzawata, and Yukutais. In Yukutais, we faced treacherous roads and impassable bridges, highlighting the challenges faced by these remote communities. However, the warmth and hospitality of the people and their willingness to participate in the study made the experience unforgettable.

After an intense and rewarding data collection period, I returned to the U.S. but my collaboration with CONFENIAE was far from over. Dr. Smith-Morris and I continued to analyze data and prepare manuscripts for publication, aiming to bring more visibility and resources to the organization.

This transformative experience solidified my decision to pursue anthropology after graduation. Working in allyship and pragmatic solidarity with communities fighting for their sovereignty has shown me the true power of anthropology as a vessel for resource redistribution and recognition of suppressed movements. I am immensely grateful for the opportunity to learn from CONFENIAE and the Indigenous communities it represents, and I extend my heartfelt appreciation to the Cary M. Maguire Center for Ethics and Public Responsibility for supporting this incredible journey.



2022-2023 ETHICS ESSAY PRIZE WINNERS

Now in its third year, the [Ethics Essay Prize](#) has continued to inspire and engage undergraduate and graduate students enrolled at SMU. The contest's main objective is to encourage the development of ethical discernment, imagination, and thoughtful reflection among our students, fostering a sense of unity and shared values. Through their insightful essays, participants have explored a wide range of ethical issues, drawing inspiration from personal experiences, academic pursuits, and societal observations. This program has facilitated meaningful discussions on the role of ethics in our lives and provided invaluable insights into the perspectives of our diverse student body. As part of our commitment to promoting ethical exploration and intellectual growth, the contest awards cash prizes to the top three essays and honors other commendable contributions. The Ethics Essay Prize competition has become an integral part of our annual initiatives, reinforcing the Maguire Ethics Center's dedication to fostering ethical awareness, empathy, and **togetherness** among the SMU community.

UNDERGRADUATE WINNERS



FIRST PLACE

Zoe Roberts

"Is Overcoming Personal Prejudice an Analogy for Ethical Politics?"



SECOND PLACE

Daniel Ryan

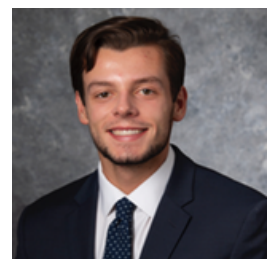
"Ethical AI: The Dilemma of Responsibility in AI"



THIRD PLACE

Evan Johnson

"Oil & Gas: An Ethical Quandary"



HONORABLE MENTION

Nicholas Simpson

"Ethical Considerations of Industry, Consumerism, and the Ethnographer"

GRADUATE WINNERS



FIRST PLACE

Luis Zambrano

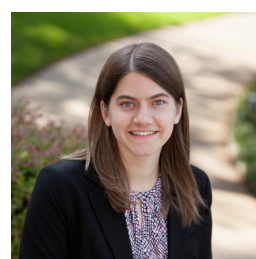
"What the Twelve Steps' 'Design for Living' Can Teach about Ethics, Morality, and the Self"



SECOND PLACE

Melissa Almonasi-Mulero

"Structural Racialization: Why do we continue to ignore it?"



THIRD PLACE

Marie Schramper

"Worship for the Anxious: Existential Anxiety, Christian Liturgy, and Tillich's Courage to Be"



HONORABLE MENTION

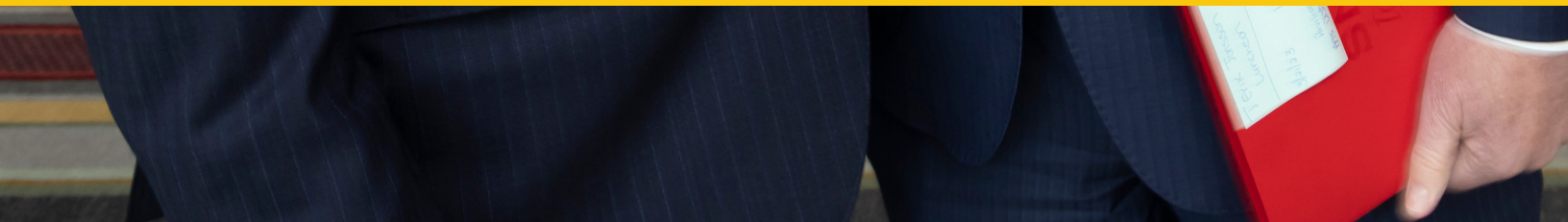
Carolyn Mason

"Sister, Sister: Racial Tensions and Complacency with Whiteness in American Sororities"



GROWING TOGETHER

"The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new." -Socrates



ETHICS CENTER ADVISORY BOARD

The Ethics Center Advisory Board members serve three-year terms and meet twice each academic year.



Ralph W. Babb, Jr.
Comerica Incorporated and Comerica Bank, ret.



Nancy Strauss Halbreich
Dallas Philanthropist and Civic Leader



Ronald G. Steinhart
Dallas Civic Leader



Jan Hart Black
Dallas Civic Leader and Former Dallas City Manager



Douglas D. Hawthorne
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Omar Suleiman
Yaqeen Institute



Michael M. Boone
Haynes and Boone, L.L.P.



Blainey Maguire Hess
Maguire Oil Company



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Talmage Boston
Shackelford, Bowen, McKinley & Norton



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Kern Wildenthal
Children's Medical Center Foundation



Randy A. Bowman
AT LAST!, Inc.



Ashlee Hunt Kleinert
The Good Foundation

EX OFFICIO



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SMU Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs



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The Dallas Morning News



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Tracey M. Nash-Huntley
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Rita Kirk
William F. May Endowed Director of the SMU Maguire Ethics Center



Terry J. Flowers
St. Philip's School and Community Center



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Hilda C. Galvan
Jones Day



Elizabeth Carlock Phillips
The Phillips Foundation



Margo E. Goodwin
Mayor of the City of Highland Park



Ken Smith
Revitalize South Dallas Coalition

FACULTY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Faculty Advisory Committee consists of selected senior faculty members from SMU and the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas.



Gary Brubaker
SMU Guild Hall



D. Stephen Long
Cary M. Maguire University Professor of Ethics
Perkins School of Theology



Charles E. Curran
Perkins School of Theology



Pamela Metzger
Deason Institute for Criminal Justice Reform
Dedman School of Law



Jill DeTemple
Religious Studies, Chair



Rebekah Miles
Ethics
Perkins School of Theology



Dallas Gingles
Perkins School of Theology



Daniel Orlovsky
History
Dedman College



Fred Grinell
Cell Biology
UT Southwestern



Helen Reynolds
Economics
Dedman College



Kenneth M. Hamilton
History
Dedman College



Luke Robinson
Philosophy
Dedman College



Alice Kendrick
Advertising
Meadows School of the Arts



John Z. Sadler
Director of Ethics in Science and Medicine
UT Southwestern Medical Center



Maribeth Kuenzi
Director, The Niemi Center
Cox School of Business



Aurelie Thiele
EMIS
Lyle School of Engineering



Carrie La Ferle
Advertising
Meadows School of the Arts



Theodore Walker
Ethics
Perkins School of Theology



Alida Liberman
Philosophy
Dedman College

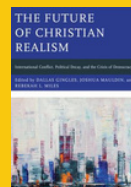


Bonnie Wheeler
English
Dedman College

FACULTY AND STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS



Dallas Gingles promoted to Assistant Dean of Hybrid Education
Associate Professor of Practice in Systematic Theology and Christian Ethics Dallas Gingles was promoted to Perkins School of Theology Assistant Dean of Hybrid Education.



Rebekah Miles, Dallas Gingles, and Joshua Mauldin's book The Future of Christian Realism: International Conflict, Political Decay, and the Crisis of Democracy was released.

In the world's most developed democracies, anxiety about the future of democracy is palpable. The tension between moral aspiration and moral despair has reached a point of crisis. Christian realism arose during a similar time of crisis, when Reinhold Niebuhr used the insights of the Christian tradition to interpret the clash between democracy and totalitarianism.



Alida Liberman Awarded Prize for Excellence in Philosophy Teaching

The Prize for Excellence in Philosophy Teaching, sponsored by the American Philosophical Association (APA), the American Association of Philosophy Teachers (AAPT), and the Teaching Philosophy Association (TPA), recognizes a philosophy teacher who has had a profound impact on the student learning of philosophy in undergraduate and/or pre-college settings.



Routledge Companion to Christian Ethics, edited by Stephen Long and Rebekah Miles, is released.

The Routledge Companion to Christian Ethics brings **together** two different but related disciplines; the first is contemplative or theoretical, asking what are the beliefs or doctrines that characterize Christianity, whilst the second is practical, asking what are the ethical practices that attend its teachings.



Maguire Ethics Center Director Rita Kirk awarded Visiting Fellowship at the Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard University.

This fellowship will support her research project: Election Integrity and the Politics of Trust. Part of this research project will be conducted at SMU in coordination with the Bush Library. Other portions will be conducted at the Kennedy Library and through connections with other Harvard Fellows.



Helen Reynolds Awarded the "Extra Mile Award" at the Hilltop Excellence Awards.

The Extra Mile Award is awarded by Students for New Learning to faculty members who have shown great sensitivity to those who learn differently.

ETHICS CENTER FACULTY & STAFF

Dr. Rita Kirk

William F. May Endowed Director

Rita Kirk holds the rank of Professor at SMU as both an Altshuler Distinguished Teaching Professor and a Meadows Distinguished Professor. Kirk has been awarded both the prestigious "M" Award and the Outstanding Faculty Teaching Award by the SMU student body. As an academic, she is recognized for her analysis of political and persuasive campaigns. She is the author of several award-winning books and numerous articles, including Political Empiricism: Communications Strategies in State and Regional Elections; Hate Speech, a book analyzing implications for hate discourse in public communication, with coeditor David Slayden; and Soundbite Culture: The Death of Discourse in a Wired World. Specializing in communication strategy, she has more than 30 years of experience as a strategist for city council, mayoral, state, U.S. Representative, and gubernatorial races.

In addition to her political consulting, she has served as a communication consultant to several national and multinational corporations on public policy matters. Kirk and research colleague Dan Schill conducted dial tests for CNN and ABC-Hearst/Argyll during the 2008 Presidential primary and general elections debates and continue to work with them during Presidential State of the Union addresses. Kirk holds a bachelor's degree in Communication/Political Science and a master's degree in communications, both from the University of Arkansas. She received her Ph.D. in Communications from the University of Missouri.

If you could describe this year in one word, what would it be and why?

Grounded. This year produced sweeping changes in our Center staff. We want each person to develop a foundation for growth, knowing that our friendships and support will continued beyond the confines of the Center. Candy Crespo (13 Years) and Adria Richmond (7 Years) dedicated their energies to getting us to where we are today. Now, Rylee Bailey and Matt Nadler will build on that foundation. Exciting opportunities for continued growth are before us.

Matt Nadler

Associate Director

Matt Nadler serves as the Associate Director for the Cary M. Maguire Center for Ethics and Public Responsibility. Through this position, he is excited to work with students, faculty, staff, and the greater DFW community to encourage Ethics education and research. Prior to starting in the Ethics Center, Matt has worked for the division of Student Affairs at SMU in the Hegi Family Career Development Center and Residence Life and Student Housing. During that time Matt received the Courageous Change Leader award for his work and embodiment of the division.

Matt received a B.A. in Political Science and a minor in Philosophy from Niagara University, followed by a master's degree in Higher Education Administration from The Pennsylvania State University. Recently, Matt has conducted research and published journal articles examining college students' sense of belonging and the impact of the co-curricular experience on employability.

What was your favorite Ethics Center memory from 2022-2023?

Joining the team! While I've worked with both Dr. Kirk and Rylee Bailey in the past, having the opportunity to work as a team member has allowed me to get to know these two even better. I'm excited to continue learning and growing as a team.

Rylee Bailey Coordinator

Rylee Bailey is the program coordinator of the Maguire Center. Rylee co-manages daily operations of the Center including the Maguire Public Service Fellowship program and Center student staffers. In addition, she co-manages the Center's annual fundraising and academic events and prepares correspondence and reports, including the Center's annual report. Rylee also manages the creation of internal and external marketing and design and is the producer of the Ethics Center's podcast "[SoundEthics.](#)" Rylee is also earning her master's degree in liberal studies from SMU. Rylee graduated from SMU in May 2022 with a Bachelor of Arts in Corporate Communications and Public Affairs. As an undergraduate, Rylee was recognized by the National Ethics Project for her contributions to the Center's blog. She was also recognized as the 2022 Outstanding CCPA Student in Political Communication at SMU.

What is one thing that you learned from the Ethics Center this year?

People want to talk about ethics. It's a reassuring reminder that ethical considerations hold a significant place in our lives and society as a whole. Witnessing how conversations around ethics can shape perspectives, guide decision-making, and foster positive change among SMU faculty, staff, and students and the Dallas community has been one of the most rewarding aspects of my work at the Ethics Center.

STUDENT STAFFERS

Rebekah Ramos

Rebekah Ramos is a junior at SMU majoring in Psychology and minoring in Spanish and has been with the Maguire Center since March 2022. She is an HSF Scholar and a member of CRU. She enjoys cooking, exercising, going to the movie theater, and playing with her dog. She plans to pursue a doctorate degree in Clinical Psychology post-undergraduate.

Christopher Hess

Christopher Hess is a sophomore at SMU, majoring in Finance with a double minor in History and Sports Management. On campus, he is the founder of the culinary club SMU Bites, a member of the Energy Club, Real Estate Club, as well as an executive member of the business fraternity, Alpha Kappa Psi. Christopher also enjoys playing intramural sports, growing coral in his aquarium, and hiking.

Jasmine Patrick

Jasmine Patrick is a senior at SMU double majoring in marketing and film. She is from Portland, OR and is graduating in May 2023. She serves as the social media assistant for the Maguire Ethics Center beginning in January 2023. Jasmine also serves as President of Fro and Secretary of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. on campus. She enjoys shopping, going to the movies, and writing. She plans to work at Levi's as a Marketing Analyst in San Francisco post-graduation.

Emma Barrett

Emma Barrett is a sophomore at SMU, majoring in Corporate Communications and Public Affairs and minoring in Law and Legal Reasoning. She is a Society of Scholars member and the membership chair of SMU's Phi Alpha Delta. Emma also serves as a member of Engage Dallas, where she volunteers her time to help the Dallas community. In her free time, she enjoys exercising, walking her dogs, trying new restaurants, and reading books.

RETIRING FACULTY AND STAFF

The Maguire Ethics Center is thankful for the contributions these individuals made during their time on the Hilltop and wishes them all a happy retirement.



Dr. Charlie Curran

Charles Curran, Elizabeth Scurlock University Professor of Human Values, retired at the end of spring 2023. A Catholic priest and moral theologian, he came to SMU in 1991. Curran grew up in Rochester, New York, and was ordained in the Diocese of Rochester in 1958. Never afraid to tackle the most controversial matters in ethics, Curran was forced to leave a position at Catholic University before coming to SMU. He earned two doctorates in sacred theology at Academia Alfonsiana and the Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, and is well-known for his work in Catholic moral theology, social ethics, and the role of the church as a moral and political actor in society. He has authored or edited approximately 70 books, including Tradition and Church Reform: Perspectives on Catholic Moral Teaching (2016), Catholic Moral Theology in the United States: A History (2008) and Loyal Dissent: Memoir of a Catholic Theologian (2006). He was the first recipient of the John Courtney Murray Award of the Catholic Theological Society and elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. The former president of three national academic guilds, Curran has been described as "arguably the most influential U.S. moral theologian" over the last half century.



Tony Pederson

Tony W. Pederson, professor of journalism, retired at the end of the spring 2023 term after 20 years at the University. Pederson served 19 years as the Belo Foundation Endowed Distinguished Chair in Journalism. He earned his B.A. from Baylor University and M.A. from Ohio State University. Before coming to SMU, Pederson was senior vice president and executive editor of the Houston Chronicle. Pederson served as a Pulitzer Prize juror and chair of the Pulitzer Prize International Committee 2001-2002. His teaching focused on ethics in news media, and he taught 14 years in the SMU-in-London Program. He served as president of the Inter American Press Association in 1999 and president of the accrediting council for schools of journalism and mass communication in Latin America from 2006 to 2018. He was a member of the founding board of the SMU Human Rights Program. He received the "M" Award, Thomas W. Tunks Distinguished Citizenship Award, Meadows School of the Arts Distinguished Professor Award and Willis M. Tate Award. Pederson is a fellow at the Charles Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics at the University of Mississippi, where he will continue writing and lecturing. He retires as professor emeritus in journalism.



Caroline Brettell

Caroline Brettell, professor of Anthropology in Dedman College, joined the SMU faculty in 1988 after beginning her teaching career at Loyola University of Chicago. She earned her Bachelor of Arts at Yale University and her Master of Arts and doctorate at Brown University. At SMU, she served as chair of the Anthropology Department on two separate occasions as well as dean ad interim of Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences. Professor Brettell was honored with the Faculty Career Achievement Award, the Laurence Perrine Prize for Outstanding Teaching and Research, the "M" Award, the Caren Prothro Faculty Service Award, and the SMU Distinguished University Citizen Award. Professor Brettell was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2017. Her major research focus is the anthropological study of human migration and gender. Professor Brettell is author, co-author/editor or co-editor of 14 books, 2 edited journal issues, 58 book chapters, 53 journal articles, many reviews, given numerous invited lectures, and presented over 50 papers at national and international conferences. She retires as professor emeritus of Anthropology.

The Maguire Ethics Center extends its heartfelt gratitude to Candy Crespo and Adria Richmond for their exceptional dedication and unwavering passion exhibited throughout their tenure with the center. Their contributions have been instrumental in shaping the remarkable success that defines the Ethics Center today. As they venture beyond this chapter, we hold a profound aspiration that their transformative influence will persist, enabling them to catalyze positive change on a global scale.



Candy Crespo



Adria Richmond



**CARY M. MAGUIRE CENTER FOR
ETHICS AND PUBLIC RESPONSIBILITY**

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