



Center for Free Enterprise

University of Louisville College of Business



2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Center for Free Enterprise



FROM THE DIRECTOR

Steve Gohmann

The 2021-22 school year has drawn to a close, and we at the Center for Free Enterprise are breathing a sigh of relief. We entered into the fall semester hopeful for a “normal” year of in-person events and programming. And while mask mandates remained in force for most of the year, and we noticed some trepidation in the form of slightly lower attendance rates, for the most part we resumed normal activities. And it was great.

We brought back in-person programming, including our Menard Family Lecture Series, reading groups, and various social functions. And we found that participants were as happy to be in the auditorium and seated together for meals as we were. See “Ready to be In Person” on page 7.

During the 2021-22 school year, we continued and even broadened our collaborations with external organizations like the Institute for Humane Studies. Together with IHS, we co-sponsored an all-day discussion colloquium each semester and co-presented a series of entrepreneurship research seminars. We also gathered local business executives from the Young Presidents Organization for a luncheon talk by Menard Family Lecture Series guest speaker Amity Shlaes. Internally, we worked with the College of Business Cardinal Bridge Academy to bring entrepreneur T.K. Coleman to CBA high school students. And we once again partnered with the Forcht Center for Entrepreneurship as a sponsor of the 2021 Cardinal Challenge.

We said so long (hopefully not goodbye) to some of our favorite students as they graduated and moved on to continue their academic journeys or begin their careers. See our Student Spotlights starting on page 15, and we think you’ll understand why they were CFE favorites. We are confident these rock star students are off to improve the well-being of society through their chosen areas of study and work.

The pages that follow provide more detailed descriptions of our busy year. Take a look at all we’ve been up to and what we’re planning for the 2022-23 school year. Follow us on social media or check out our website for updated programming information throughout the year. As always, we hope you will make plans to join us at one or more of our upcoming events.

Stephan F. Gohmann, PhD

Director, Center for Free Enterprise
BB&T Distinguished Professor of Free Enterprise
Professor of Economics

BY THE NUMBERS

The reach and impact of CFE programming, 2021-2022

MENARD FAMILY LECTURE SERIES

	Attendees
<i>New Deal 2.0: A Look at History's Record & Implications for Today</i> , Amity Shlaes	125
<i>Does Bigger Government Serve America Better Than the Private Sector? A Luncheon With YPO Bluegrass Chapter</i> , Amity Shlaes	30
<i>School Choice: Dispelling the Myths</i> , Corey DeAngelis	120
<i>Miss Virginia: Movie Screening & Discussion</i> , Virginia Walden Ford	60
<i>The Economics of Your Dreams</i> , T.K. Coleman	80
<i>Cardinal Bridge Academy Collaboration: Valley High School</i> , T.K. Coleman	50
<i>China Movie Shorts: Screenings & Discussion with the Producers</i> , Robert Anthony Peters, Patrick Reasonover	60
<i>Drugs, Drones, & Disasters: Markets are Everywhere</i> , Abigail Blanco, Stefanie Haefele, Audrey Redford	55

READING GROUPS

	Participants
Fall Reading Group #1/Gohmann, Diaz	15
Fall Reading Group #2/Lennon	12
Spring Reading Group #1/Gohmann, Diaz	15
Spring Reading Group #2/Bennett, Lennon	9

CLASSES/COLLOQUIA/SEMINARS

Econ 201: Principles of Microeconomics/Lennon	190
Econ 331: Labor Economics/Pinkston	8
Econ 355: Health Economics/Munnich	25
Econ 375: Capitalism & Economic Freedom/Gohmann	32
Entr 350: Entrepreneurship/Bennett	34
Entr 350: Entrepreneurship/Diaz	37
Entr 402: Entrepreneurship II/Bullock	21
Entr 403: Entrepreneurship III/Diaz	13
Entr 715: Entrepreneurship & Environment/Bennett	3
Fall Discussion Colloquium: Entrepreneurship/Diaz Co-sponsored with the Institute for Humane Studies	12
Spring Discussion Colloquium: Anarchism and its Challenges/Hobbs Co-sponsored with the Institute for Humane Studies	16
Managing Risk & Uncertainty: The Challenges of Entrepreneurship Research Symposia, co-presented with the Institute for Humane Studies	45
Entrepreneurship & Regional Economic Development Research Symposia (part 1 of 3), co-presented with the Institute for Humane Studies	14
College of Business Research Seminar: Visiting Scholar Gary Wagner, PhD	25
College of Business Research Seminar: Visiting Scholar Sven-Olov Daunfeldt, PhD	27



2021-2022 PROGRAMMING

MENARD FAMILY LECTURE SERIES

NEW DEAL 2.0: A LOOK AT HISTORY'S RECORD & IMPLICATIONS FOR TODAY

Amity Shlaes, Bestselling author; Chair, Calvin Coolidge Presidential Foundation

September 22, 2021

Bestselling author Amity Schlaes opened our Menard Family Lecture Series this fall with our first in-person talk since February 2020. She discussed the government expansion plans of Franklin Roosevelt in the 1930s and Lyndon Johnson in the 1960s, which assumed that government could serve America better than the private sector, and offered comparisons to what is happening today in the U.S. As part of Amity's visit, the Center worked with the Young Presidents Organization (Bluegrass Chapter), to host a luncheon with local business executives. Amity provided the keynote address, "Does Bigger Government Serve America Better Than the Private Sector?"

SCHOOL CHOICE: DISPELLING THE MYTHS

Corey DeAngelis, National Director of Research, American Federation for Children; Executive Director, Educational Freedom Institute

November 3, 2021

As one of the nation's top authorities on school choice, Cory has heard all the objections from opponents of educational freedom. He debunked some of the most common misconceptions about school choice, and shared why his research confirms communities should embrace choice for their families, not fight it.

MISS VIRGINIA: MOVIE SCREENING & DISCUSSION

Virginia Walden Ford, Author and Parent Advocate; Subject of *Miss Virginia*

November 9, 2021

Our event began with a screening of *Miss Virginia*, the movie based on the experiences of Virginia Walden Ford, and how she fought to bring school choice to her son's school system in Washington, D.C. Following the showing attendees heard from Ford about her experiences.





THE ECONOMICS OF YOUR DREAMS

T.K. Coleman, Entrepreneur; Director of Entrepreneurial Education,
Foundation for Economic Education
February 16, 2022

In the first event of the spring semester, T.K. Coleman shared real world examples and personal anecdotes for living one's best life in a passionate and inspirational talk. Prior to his presentation at the College of Business, T.K. visited Louisville's Valley High School to speak to high school students about realizing their dreams. See related story on page 12.

CHINA MOVIE SHORTS: SCREENINGS & DISCUSSION WITH THE PRODUCERS

Robert Anthony Peters and Patrick Reasonover, Film Producers
March 1, 2022

Our second Movie Night of the school year featured award-winning short films *Empty Skies* and *Tank Man*. Following the showings, producers Robert Anthony Peters and Patrick Reasonover discussed the making of the films and their importance in shining a spotlight on the catastrophic consequences of total government control.

DRUGS, DRONES, & DISASTERS: MARKETS ARE EVERYWHERE

Abigail Blanco, Associate Professor of Economics, Bellarmine University; Stefanie Haeefele, Senior Program and Operations Director of Academic & Student Programs, Mercatus Center at George Mason University; Audrey Redford, Assistant Professor of Economics, Western Carolina University
March 23, 2022

Our panel of economists discussed the benefits of markets, and how they pervade nearly every social interaction we have, including their own diverse areas of research. The attendees, mostly economics students, were highly engaged in this panel discussion.





LUNCHES WITH THE SPEAKERS

When schedules permit, we host luncheons with our guest speakers, students, and faculty, creating an informal setting for discussion and camaraderie. Our students often cite these opportunities to network with the speakers as favorite memories.

VISITING SCHOLARS

In addition to larger, wide-scale events, the Center sponsored several visiting scholars during this school year. Organized by Professor Daniel Bennett, the guest speakers spoke in classrooms, as well as larger faculty research seminars.

In November, two free market social entrepreneurs were guests in Dr. Bennett's undergraduate entrepreneurship class. Claire Kittle Dixon, founder and executive director of Talent Market, spoke on 10 lessons she learned on her accidental journey to social entrepreneurship.

Dr. Sam Staley, director of the Devoe Moore Center at Florida State University, talked about his experience as a social entrepreneur that includes founding the Buckeye Institute, a state-based free market think tank in Ohio, and establishing Reason Foundation's urban policy project. Dr. Staley also discussed how the students in his undergraduate social entrepreneurship course develop social enterprises that adopt a for-profit business model.

This spring, Dr. Bennett hosted Gary Wagner, PhD, for an entrepreneurship PhD class, as well as a presenter at the College of Business' Research Colloquium Series. Dr. Wagner, Acadiana Business Economist and Endowed Chair at University of Louisiana-Lafayette, presented "Does State Tax Reciprocity Affect Interstate Commuting? Evidence from a Natural Experiment."

Sven-Olov Daunfeldt, PhD, from the Institute of Retail Economics presented "Acqui-hires and Organo-hires: Human Capital Formation in Scaling New Ventures." Dr. Daunfeldt was a guest in the PhD class as well.





READY TO BE IN PERSON

After nearly 19 months of mostly remote work, virtual classes, and online events, the Center for Free Enterprise decided to offer in-person programming again this fall. And going by attendance at the first talk, students and the community were ready for the change.

A presentation by New York Times bestselling author Amity Shlaes was the first CFE program of the semester. Shlaes also serves as chairman of the board of trustees for the Calvin Coolidge Presidential Foundation and presidential scholar at The King's College (in New York City). Her talk brought in more than 125 attendees. An additional off-site luncheon with Shlaes attracted 30 local business executives.

“We’re thrilled to be back in person with our events,” said Steve Gohmann, director of the Center. “The opportunity for students to have face-to-face interaction with the speakers, faculty, and their peers is just so valuable.”



Gohmann’s thoughts were echoed by students who attend CFE programs, like senior economics and political science major Julianna Sims. “Last year, I was happy that we were still able to have events, but because they were virtual, there was a lack of connection with others. As a senior this year, it is exciting to see my classmates and professors back in action and back in person.”

Briant Grant is a senior economics major who participates in reading groups and a recent all-day discussion colloquium on entrepreneurship. “I am glad that CFE events are back in person because it enables me to talk and share ideas with others sitting around me. It is a big help to be able to converse with my peers.”



READING GROUPS

Called rewarding, beneficial, enriching by participating students

Each semester the Center sponsors student reading groups that promote learning and growth for participants outside the traditional classroom. During the past year, the CFE hosted two (in-person) groups each semester, allowing nearly 60 students the opportunity to read books they probably wouldn't read on their own, and engage in civil discussion with their peers, developing their critical thinking and public speaking skills. The reading group program is offered to students in all majors and at all undergraduate grade levels. Books and meals are provided at no cost to the students and those who meet participation requirements are awarded scholarships.

Students enjoy the engagement and socialization the groups provide and many participate in the programming throughout their college careers. They cite the importance of the free and open discussion that the groups allow, along with the fellowship with students outside their own majors, as top benefits of participating.



“ .. the CFE reading groups achieve a healthy and open dialog on topics not discussed in the classroom. The students who attend these groups are respectful of one another's opinions and try to learn and grow from each other's perspectives. ”



THE BOOKS WE READ

Fall 2021

The Great Society, Amity Shlaes

The Road to Serfdom, Friedrich Hayek

Great Myths of the Great Depression, Lawrence Reed

Regime Uncertainty: Why the Great Depression Lasted So Long and Why Prosperity Resumed after the War, Robert Higgs

Money: The True Story of a Made-up Thing, Jacob Goldstein

The Big Short, Michael Lewis

The Deficit Myth, Stephanie Kelton

Spring 2022

The Essential Hayek, Donald Boudreaux / *The Essential Adam Smith*, James Otteson

The Essential Milton Friedman, Steven Landsburg / *The Essential James Buchanan*, Donald Boudreaux, Randall Holcombe

The Essential Ronald Coase, Lynne Kiesling / *The Essential UCLA School of Economics*, David Henderson, Steven Globberman

From Mao to Market, Andrew Wedeman

Entrepreneurship in China: The Emergence of the Private Sector, Andrew Atherton, Alex Newman

Capitalism Without Democracy, Kellee Tsai

WHAT STUDENTS HAVE TO SAY ABOUT READING GROUPS

“ This is my last semester here at UoFL, and I can confidently say that this reading group has been one of the most rewarding, beneficial and rounding experiences that I have been a part of at the University. From the book discussions to meeting authors and prospective employers, it has broadened my thinking and network of contacts tremendously.

”

“ Book club has allowed me to enrich my educational experience in college and connected me with other students of different backgrounds to connect over shared interests and great conversation.

”

“ ... the reading group has allowed me to expand my knowledge in ways that I am not allowed to during my studies.

”

“ In a tense and intolerant college atmosphere, these reading groups allow for free and open discussion without derision.

”

“ I genuinely enjoy this opportunity to challenge my knowledge over subjects outside of my comfort zone.

”

“ An enriching step into a collective intellectual salon without the traditional confined roles of a classroom.

”

“ I enjoyed these conversations more than I do in any other class or department at UoFL. Stimulating debate, good information.

”

“ Being a reading group member has enabled me to take part in the discussion-based learning that I craved upon entering college. Reading group is valuable for students who want an enriched educational experience.

”



TOGETHER WE'RE BETTER: CFE COLLABORATIONS

THE INSTITUTE FOR HUMANE STUDIES

Since our founding in 2015, the Center has worked collaboratively with the Institute for Humane Studies on undergraduate student programming and academic research seminars. This year was no exception, with fall and spring discussion colloquia and an academic research series on entrepreneurship.

Fall Discussion Colloquium: Entrepreneurship

Faculty Discussion Leader: Fabian Diaz, PhD

Students from various University of Louisville majors, as well as from neighboring Bellarmine University, gathered in October for an all-day discussion on entrepreneurship, led by Professor Fabian Diaz.

Spring Discussion Colloquium: Anarchism and its Challenges

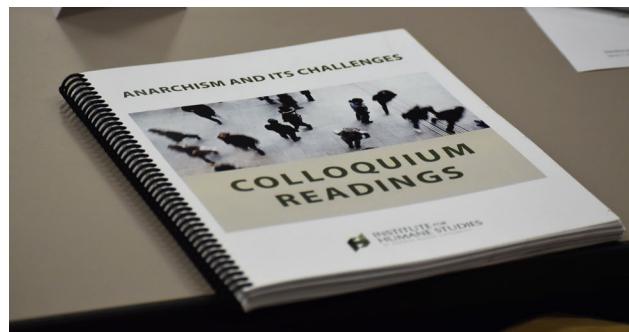
Faculty Discussion Leader: Bradley Hobbs, PhD

Held in March, this seminar assembled attendees from UofL, Bellarmine, and Clemson University for an all-day discussion on anarchism, led by Clemson economics professor Brad Hobbs.

What They Said: Comments from students on the colloquia

“ This colloquium offered a new and exciting experience that facilitated the exchange of ideas and theories, helping develop deeper critical thinking and friendly discussion between fellow students.”

“ Having a safe, open space where everyone can weigh in their thoughts was relieving. Everyone reading the same material, exposed to the same ideas, and being able to meet and discuss is the core of effective, Socratic learning.”



COLLABORATIONS

IHS, continued



Academic Research Symposia

Managing Risk & Uncertainty: The Challenges of Entrepreneurship

This seminar was held in Denver in August 2021. Attendees included junior faculty and PhD students from a variety of universities. It was the third in a three-part series, co-produced with IHS.

Strengthening Entrepreneurial Communities:

Exploring Entrepreneurship at the Regional & Local Level

The first seminar in this series of three was held virtually in May 2022. It attracted attendees – PhD students and junior faculty - from a number of universities. The remaining seminars will be held in June (Entrepreneurial Ecosystems) and August (Regional Entrepreneurship Policy).



YOUNG PRESIDENTS ORGANIZATION

Prior to her talk to open the Fall Menard Family Lecture Series, Amity Shlaes spoke to a group of local business executives at a luncheon co-sponsored by the Young Presidents Organization Bluegrass Chapter. Thirty members attended Amity's keynote address, "Does Bigger Government Serve America Better Than the Private Sector?" followed by a book signing.





COLLABORATIONS

Continued

CARDINAL BRIDGE ACADEMY Entrepreneur T.K. Coleman has been described as a passionate voice for possibility. T.K. brought that passion to Louisville in February as a guest speaker in the Center for Free Enterprise Menard Family Lecture Series. Dozens of UofL students, faculty, staff, and members of the community were treated to T.K.'s unique take on making things happen for yourself, as he presented "The Economics of Your Dreams."

But before he ever set foot on UofL's campus, T.K. spoke to another group of students, this one at Louisville's Valley High School in southwest Jefferson County. Collaborating with the College of Business' Cardinal Bridge Academy, the Center for Free Enterprise introduced about 50 high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors to T.K. Coleman's positivity and insight. During the interactive session with students, T.K. used stories and personal anecdotes to relay his message of hard work, persistence, and creating your own positive outcomes.

"What a fabulous opportunity for our students (and staff)—we all needed a lift and T.K. Coleman delivered," said Valley teacher Marla Paschal. "There was a lot of talk about the event throughout the building yesterday, and for the remainder of the day. I hope the message he delivered sinks in and spreads like wildfire. We can't get enough positive messages to our students."

The collaboration between the Center and the Cardinal Bridge Academy seemed like a natural one, given both groups' missions focus on improving people's lives. "The Center for Free Enterprise was founded to illustrate the role of innovation and entrepreneurship in making lives better," said Center director Steve Gohmann. "T.K. is a living, breathing example of that and the perfect spokesperson for young people who are just beginning their academic and career journeys."

The Cardinal Bridge Academy offers high school juniors and seniors opportunities to sharpen their business, technology, and leadership skills, earn college credit hours through dual-credit classes, and establish early direct admission into the College of Business. Currently in place in three local high schools, the CBA is poised to grow to other schools and impact even more students' lives.

TRAVEL | EDUCATION | RESEARCH

CONFERENCES ATTENDED BY CENTER AFFILIATED FACULTY

Academy of Management Annual Meeting	August 2021
American Economic Association Annual Meeting	January 2022
ASHEcon Annual Meeting	June 2021
Association of Private Enterprise Education Annual Meeting	April 2022
Babson College Entrepreneurship Research Conference	June 2022
FreedomFest	July 2021
Institute for Humane Studies Academic Research Series	June 2021
Institute for Humane Studies Academic Research Series	August 2021
Mercatus Center Annual Summit	July 2021
Public Choice Society Annual Meeting	March 2022
Southern Economic Association Meetings	November 2021

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

Daniel Bennett, “Greasing the Wheels of Growth: Reduced Enforceability of Noncompete Agreements as an External Enabler of High-Growth Entrepreneurship,” Economics Department Research Seminar, presented with Entrepreneurship PhD student **Michael Araki**, November 2021.

Daniel Bennett, “Populist Discourse and Entrepreneurial Action: The Role of Political Ideology and Institutions,” presented at UofL College of Business Research Colloquium, November 2021.

Daniel Bennett, “Populist Discourse and Entrepreneurial Action: The Role of Political Ideology and Institutions,” presented at Challey Institute for Global Innovations and Growth at North Dakota State University Human Progress & Flourishing seminar, March 2022.

Daniel Bennett, “Political Disruptions, Institutional Uncertainty & Entrepreneurial Action,” presented at Managing Risk and Uncertainty: The Challenges of Entrepreneurship research seminar, sponsored by Institute for Humane Studies and Center for Free Enterprise, August 2021.

Daniel Bennett, “Populism and the Allocation of Entrepreneurial Effort,” presented at 2022 Public Choice Society annual conference, March 2022.

Fabian Diaz, “Legitimacy, Online Reviews, and Informal Entrepreneurship,” presented at 2022 Public Choice Society annual conference, March 2022.

Fabian Diaz, “Legitimacy, Online Reviews, and Informal Entrepreneurship,” presented at 2022 Babson College Entrepreneurship Research Conference, June 2022.

Stephan Gohmann, “Developing Center Connections,” presented at the Association of Private Enterprise Education (APEE) Meetings, April 2022.

Stephan Gohmann, Josh Pinkston, Dina Chaika, “Does the Minimum Wage Affect Labor Market Concentration?” presented at Southern Economic Association Meetings, November 2021.

Conor Lennon, “Employer Sponsored Health Insurance and Labor Market Outcomes for Men in Same-Sex Couples: Evidence from the Advent of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis,” presented at ASHEcon Annual Meeting, June 2021.

Conor Lennon, “Employer Sponsored Health Insurance and Labor Market Outcomes for Men in Same-Sex Couples: Evidence from the Advent of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis,” presented at University of Bath, November 2021.

Conor Lennon, “Did the Affordable Care Act’s Medicaid Eligibility Expansions Crowd Out Private Health Insurance Coverage?” presented at Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting, November 2021.

Conor Lennon, “Employer Sponsored Health Insurance and Labor Market Outcomes for Men in Same-Sex Couples: Evidence from the Advent of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis,” presented at Electronic Health Economics Colloquium Series, November 2021.

Conor Lennon, “Employer Sponsored Health Insurance and Labor Market Outcomes for Men in Same-Sex Couples: Evidence from the Advent of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis,” presented at CSQIEP Seminar Series, December 2021.

Conor Lennon, “Female Educational Attainment, Marriage, and Fertility: Evidence from the 1944 G.I. Bill,” presented at American Economic Association Annual Meeting, January 2022.

AWARDS, RECOGNITION, SERVICE

Daniel Bennett, University of Louisville Student Champion, 2020-2021.

Daniel Bennett’s AOM conference paper, “Populist Discourse and Entrepreneurial Action: The Role of Political Ideology and Institutions” was selected as one of the best accepted papers and an abridged version was published in the conference proceedings. <https://journals.aom.org/doi/10.5465/AMBPP.2021.248>.

Daniel Bennett received \$4,190 grant from the Institute for Humane Studies to facilitate open access publication of research article, “Populism and Entrepreneurial Action: The Role of Political Ideology and Institutions” in *Journal of International Business Studies*.

Daniel Bennett organized two research paper sessions (“Public Policy and Entrepreneurship” and “Political Economy of Economic Development”) for the 2022 Public Choice Society annual conference.

Daniel Bennett served on the Executive Committee of the Public Choice Society as a member of the Board of Directors.

Daniel Bennett served on the dissertation committee of PhD student Kirsten Bullock, who is graduating this spring and will be joining the University of Illinois at Chicago as a faculty member in the fall.

Daniel Bennett provided consultation to Utah Department of Commerce on policies to help the state encourage more entrepreneurship, February 2022.

Fabian Diaz served as discussion leader of the all-day discussion colloquium on entrepreneurship co-sponsored by CFE and the Institute for Humane Studies, October 2021.

Steve Gohmann, Faculty Favorite, 2020-2021.

Conor Lennon’s *Journal of Health Economics* paper (with former CFE faculty Keith Teltser and Jacob Burgdorf) was featured in the “Freakonomics, M.D.” podcast in early December. <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/freakonomics-m-d/id1577556965?i=1000543805137>.

Conor Lennon received the University of Kentucky Institute for the Study of Free Enterprise Summer Research Award, Summer 2021.

Conor Lennon, Program/Scientific Committee Member for 2022 ASHEcon Annual Meeting.

Conor Lennon, selected as a submission reviewer for the *Journal of Economic History*, the *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, the *Southern Economic Journal*, and the *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*.

Elizabeth Munnich is a co-investigator on a project that was awarded a \$1.2 million 3-year R01 grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. The study will examine whether ambulatory surgery centers provide high-quality care for pediatric dental surgical procedures that is less costly than the same procedures provided in hospitals. The project team includes researchers from the RAND Corporation, University of Louisville, and University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

Sadek Showkat, entrepreneurship PhD student, received the Most Promising Junior Entrepreneur Scholar Award from the Virtual Summer Seminar in Entrepreneurship Research (VSSER).

STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

While the participants in our programming tend to be high-achieving students, we had an unusually successful group of seniors who participated in our events and reading groups this school year, as well as throughout their time at the University of Louisville. We've watched them develop critical thinking, interpersonal, and discussion skills through participation in our reading groups, colloquia, and interactions with guest speakers. We're so proud of their many accomplishments and can't wait to see how they make the world a better place.



DINA CHAIKA, who received her BS in economics with minors in mathematics and finance, has been active with the Center since her sophomore year. A member of the UofL women's tennis team, Dina also worked as a CFE sponsored research assistant for econ faculty. At commencement in May, Dina was named the Outstanding Graduate in Economics, and was awarded the Woodrow Strickler Leadership Award for Economics. Dina was also awarded the Don Lavoie Fellowship and was accepted to attend the Public Choice Conference in August 2021. The Mercatus Center's Don Lavoie Fellowship program is a competitive online fellowship program with the

main purpose to give participants opportunities to study key ideas in political economy and learn how to utilize these ideas in academic and policy research. "I feel like it (the fellowship) is a great opportunity to exchange valuable ideas in political economy with other fellows and test some of my own ideas by participating in discussions. It will also provide some kind of networking opportunity for me with like-minded scholars and fellows." In the fall, Dina will begin work on her PhD in economics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. "I'm thankful to the Center for Free Enterprise for giving students an opportunity to not only get involved in intellectual discussions, but also for inspiring them to be creative. That has been very important to me."

EMILY DAVIS graduated with her BS in economics and minors in mathematics and political science, and will continue her education, pursuing a PhD in economics at the University of Notre Dame. Emily was one of only 25 students to be awarded Notre Dame's Presidential Fellowship. In addition, as a CFE sponsored research assistant to econ faculty in the College of Business, she learned that a paper she is working on with professors Beth Munnich and Jose Fernandez was accepted to the 2022 ASHEcon (American Society of Health Economists conference). At commencement in May, Emily was named the Carl Abner Outstanding Senior in Economics. "The Center for

Free Enterprise is one of the things I will miss the most about my time at UofL. Through the books I read, lectures I attended, and students and faculty I engaged with, I was challenged in an environment that encouraged me to grow as a scholar and a person. The opportunities I had with the Center affirmed my passion for economics. The Center helped me realize I could never be bored learning about economics, and played a crucial role in my decision to pursue a PhD in economics."



BRIANT GRANT has been an active member of CFE programming since his freshman year at UofL. One of his favorite memories is from his first reading group. “(Dr.) Gohmann asked everyone what our majors were. At the time I was a marketing major and he looks at me and says that I am just pre-econ. By the end of my first semester in a reading group I switched majors to economics.” Briant graduated with his BS in economics with a PPE (Philosophy, Politics, and Economics) minor, and will work in a consulting position for NTT Data. He plans to attend law school eventually.



EKATERINA (KATYA) KOVATSENKO

who graduated with a degree in bioengineering, has been with the CFE since her freshman year. Her diverse educational background brought varying perspectives to our discussions, and she appreciated the opportunity to interact with peers from different areas of study. “The program provides a unique opportunity for students from different backgrounds to come together and freely share their thoughts on economics topics. Even as a bioengineering major, I was able to share my perspective on issues. In short, the CFE

reading group really served as a melting pot of sorts for people of different cultural backgrounds and disciplines. Although all the groups that I participated in were interesting, my favorite topic was about the American healthcare system. There were three books that discussed the past, present, and future of the healthcare system and these books/discussions truly opened my eyes.” Katya has been awarded a prestigious Fulbright Scholarship, and will begin an English Teaching Assistantship in Bulgaria as part of the program.

CATHERINE LEWIS graduated Summa Cum Laude with her degree in economics and finance, and double minors in international business and Spanish. In May, she was recognized by the College of Business for her Academic Achievement in Economics. She has been accepted into the Financial Development Program at GE Appliances and will complete her MBA online with the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University. “Being a member of the CFE reading group over my college career has been one of the most enlightening, impactful, and meaningful extracurriculars in which I have partaken. I have made invaluable friendships with like-minded people and met a network of incredible and inspiring professionals. Not to mention that it was so fun being able to nerd out over economics and push my thinking in ways my classes could not. I am forever grateful to the opportunities that the reading group has given me and will truly miss it after I graduate!”





ANDREW SAMUEL received his bachelor's degree in economics and will be working in the healthcare software field. He plans to continue studies in data science and economics. Andrew was a Zorn Scholar, Mary A. Lenihan Scholar, and Roggenkamp Veteran's Descendant Scholar. He is a member of the Pi Sigma Alpha National Political Science Honor Society and of the Order of the Omega, a leadership honor society for members of fraternities and sororities. He also served as president of the Kappa Sigma fraternity during his senior year. On his participation in CFE programming, Andrew commented, "The CFE has been a fascinating and practical experience for my academic journey. Between the readings, discussions, dinners and events, and connections made along the way-- it's hard to choose a favorite memory. One thing is certain, however:

I am grateful for the program's wonderful donors, professors, and staff who give us these opportunities."

JULIANNA SIMS earned her BS in economics and political science. She has been an active participant in CFE programming since her freshman year. She was chosen to complete legislative internships at both the state and national level, working for Sen. Jimmy Higdon in Frankfort, and for the House Committee on Oversight and Reform in Washington, DC. Julianna plans a career in lobbying and grant writing, and will pursue a master's in public policy. "Thank you, Center for Free Enterprise! My college experience would not have been the same without your support and programming."



COMING THIS FALL

MENARD FAMILY LECTURE SERIES, FALL 2022

In addition to classroom learning, our students – future business leaders themselves - benefit from hearing from experienced executives and entrepreneurs. Our fall speaker series will feature three current or former CEOs discussing various aspects of running businesses. Our lectures are free and open to all. Event details will be available at UofLFreeEnterprise.org.



HOWARD BEHAR

Retired President, Starbucks Coffee Company;
Author

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27



ROBERT L. LUDDY

Founder/President, CaptiveAire Systems;
Founder/Chairman, Franklin Academy, St.
Thomas More Academy, Thales Academy

MONDAY, OCTOBER 24



MAGATTE WADE

Entrepreneur; Founder/CEO, SkinIsSkin

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

CFE FACULTY & STAFF



*Stephan F. Gohmann, PhD
Director, Center for Free Enterprise; BB&T
Distinguished Professor of
Free Enterprise; Professor of Economics*



*Tracy Dunaway
Executive Administrative Assistant*



*Donna Zinser Clark
Marketing and Events Manager*



*Conor Lennon, PhD
Assistant Professor of Economics*



*Fabian Diaz, PhD
Assistant Professor of Entrepreneurship*



*Daniel Bennett, PhD
Assistant Professor of Entrepreneurship*

IN MEMORIAM

*Daniel (Danny) Holt, PhD
Associate Professor of Entrepreneurship
(CFE-affiliated)
1967-2022*



CENTER FOR FREE ENTERPRISE

University of Louisville | College of Business

Founded in August 2015, the mission of the Center for Free Enterprise is to engage in research and teaching that explores the role of enterprise and entrepreneurship in advancing the well-being of society. The Center gives students the opportunity to learn about the use of innovation, creativity, and entrepreneurial thinking in their work, no matter their intended major or career choice.

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