2016-2017 Accomplishments

Designed as a university-wide interdisciplinary center of excellence and housed in the College of Business Administration, the Ukleja Center for Ethical Leadership offers training to enhance the integration of ethics in everything we do. During its twelfth year of operations, the center continued to engage students, faculty, and community leaders through programs and activities that embody its core values of integrity, servant leadership, excellence, and empowerment.

Over 170 students attended the annual Ethics at The Beach workshop featuring presentations by the center’s Faculty Director, Kathleen Lacey, and Alexandra Billings, actor, teacher, and transgender activist. Dr. Lacey shared a practical framework for ethical decision-making and Ms. Billings addressed the workshop’s theme of Having the Courage to Do the Right Thing with highlights from her inspirational life story.
This year brought some staffing changes to the center with Dean Michael Solt stepping down as Director and appointing Jane Roeder as Interim Director. Kathleen Lacey returned as Faculty Director and Brenda Freshman continued as Research Director. Nia Salapare, student assistant, added her event planning expertise to all of the center’s programs and activities. In her new role, Ms. Roeder represented the center at the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics’ annual conference held in Dallas.

Twenty-four students participated in this year’s two-semester Student Leadership Institute to explore ethical leadership issues related to business, education, healthcare, and other professional fields. This course enables participants to discover their core values and build a strong ethical foundation upon which future decisions can be made. Teamwork, community service, and networking with guest speakers are integral to the program. Through off-campus classes hosted by the local business community, the course featured guest speakers from companies such as Boeing, JetBlue Airways, and Target. For their community service project, students provided workshops and fun-filled activities for families at Precious Lamb Preschool, which focuses on breaking the cycle of homelessness.
Over 35 faculty members attended a Faculty Ethics Roundtable to share best practices in teaching and researching ethical leadership. Presentations were made by Maria Claver and Cheryl Rock, past recipients of the center’s Ethics Across the Curriculum and Faculty Ethics Research stipend programs, to assist faculty in submitting successful grant proposals for funding support through these two programs.

In support of its research pillar, the center continued to offer two $5,000 faculty stipends to support original ethics research that will contribute to the body of knowledge in disciplinary and interdisciplinary ethics. During the fourth year of this stipend program, we are pleased to congratulate the following faculty recipients:

- Niloofar Bavarian: *Pharmacological Cognitive Enhancement: Examining the Ethical Principles Guiding College Students’ Abstention*
- Gwen Shaffer: *How Mobile Phone Surveillance Contributes to Digital Inequalities for Disadvantaged Urban Residents*
Fourteen $3,000 stipends were awarded to faculty for integrating three-hour ethics modules into their courses through the **Ethics Across the Curriculum** program. This year’s program extended the center’s reach into four colleges at CSULB. We congratulate the following professors on their pedagogical stipends:

- Rachel Blaine: *Ethical Considerations for Future Registered Dietitian Nutritionists*
- Maria Claver: *Ethical Considerations Regarding End-of-Life Issues*
- Nat Hansuvadha: *Shaping Special Education Teachers’ Mindsets: Ethical Decision-Making for Students with Disabilities*
- Heloiza Herscovitz: *Ethics in Literary Journalism*
- Pei-Fang Hung: *The Ethical Decision-Making Process in Speech-Language Pathology in Health Care Settings*
- Andrea Johnson: *Students Creating an Ethical Learning Environment in a Mathematics Classroom*
- Jeff Kress: *Ethical Issues in Sports*
- Jung Mee Mun: *Ethics in Fashion Product Development: Socially Responsible Design*
- Danny Paskin: *Ethics in Social Media: An Online Primer for Student*
• Amy Cabrera Rasmussen: *Putting Your Knowledge to Work: Ethics, Research, and Political Science Careers*

• Cheryl Rock: *Ethical Ramifications of Counterfeit Food and Food Fraud*

• E. Gerrie Schipske: *Ethical Dilemmas of Human Resources Management Relative to the Process of Recruiting, Selecting, Training, and Retaining Employees*

• Cory Wright: *Ethical Reasoning in Philosophy and Film*

• Yun Yin (Susan) Zhong: *Human Exploitation: Ethical Dilemmas in the Hospitality and Tourism Industry*

---

*Kathleen Lacey presenting at ASHRAE’s 2017 Annual Conference in Long Beach*

To expand our **Community Engagement Pillar**, Faculty Director Kathleen Lacey was a featured presenter at ASHRAE’s annual conference at the Long Beach Convention Center. Speaking to air conditioning, heating, refrigeration, and other engineering professionals, Dr. Lacey provided them with practical tools for ethical decision-making and articulated the benefits of a code of ethics within a global engineering organization.
The William Dickson Faculty Fellows program engages leaders from the corporate, government, and nonprofit sectors with CSULB faculty and students. This year’s cohort featured Mary Zendejas, founder of Professional Abilities Association of America, as its Leader-in-Residence. Through a series of classroom presentations, Ms. Zendejas inspired students with real-life examples of ethical leadership challenges within the nonprofit sector, as well as her tenacity in overcoming adversity in her personal life.

In addition to its Leader-in-Residence events, the center offered Faculty Fellows programs with Justin Rudd, founder of Community Action Team. During seven classroom presentations, Mr. Rudd engaged students in lively discussions about ethical challenges in event planning, nonprofit management, and public relations. Over 300 students had an opportunity to engage with the center’s Faculty Fellows this year.
All of the Ukleja Center’s programs and services are made possible through the generous support of our local philanthropic community, especially the Ukleja family, Astro Aluminum Treating Company, Bess J. Hodges Foundation, Lindora Clinic, Mark Ober, the Owen family, SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union, Signal Hill Petroleum, and Mary Thoits.

The center also receives tremendous wisdom, guidance, and support from its Governing Council advisors. Chaired by Louise Ukleja, the advisory council met three times during the year with members also serving as ambassadors for the Ukleja Center. Our sincere thanks go to the following board members:

- Jane Close Conoley (CSULB)
- Chip Espinoza (Concordia University)
- Marvin Flores (CSULB Associated Students, Inc.)
- Drew Gagner (St. Mary Medical Center Foundation)
- Steve Goodling (Long Beach Convention & Visitors Bureau)
- Cynthia Graff (Lindora Clinic)
- Mark Guillen (Molina Healthcare)
- CJ Harmatz (Long Beach Memorial Medical Center)
- David Maggard (Los Angeles World Airports)
- Dan O’Connor (CSULB)
- Debra Russell (Signal Hill Petroleum)
- Dana Schuller (SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union)
- Tim Selchau (California Bank and Trust)
- Louise Ukleja (Opportunity Schools)
Our purpose – equipping people with the transformational power of ethical leadership – is both a worthy and lifelong mission. The Ukleja Center for Ethical Leadership looks forward to a bright future with even more opportunities to bring our mission to life!