UKLEJA CENTER FOR ETHICAL LEADERSHIP

2017-2018 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 13th year of operations, the center enthusiastically engaged students, faculty, and community leaders through programs and activities that embody its core values of integrity, servant leadership, excellence, and empowerment. The dynamic staff team consisted of Jane Roeder, Interim Director; Kathleen Lacey, Faculty Director; Brenda Freshman, Research Director; and Nia Salapare, Student Assistant.

Governing Council

The Governing Council actively engaged in the center’s programs by attending board meetings, serving on committees, attending events, and providing strategic direction and financial support. Under Steve Goodling’s strategic leadership, board discussions focused on advancing our vision of integrating ethics into every course at CSULB and planning and producing the 2017 Nell and John Wooden Ethics in Leadership Award event.

Nell and John Wooden Ethics in Leadership Award

Almost 200 people gathered for an intimate evening on the iconic stage of CSULB’s Carpenter Performing Arts Center to celebrate presentation of the annual Nell and John Wooden Ethics in Leadership Award. The evening was full of splendor and inspiration with the 2017 award honoring Gregory Boyle, founder of Homeboy Industries in Los Angeles, the largest gang intervention, rehabilitation, and re-entry organization in the world. Christopher Lengyel shared a profoundly personal story about how the Ukleja Center’s Student Leadership Institute changed his life, moving many people to tears by his courage and vulnerability. Speaking on behalf of Gregory Boyle, Miguel Lugo shared riveting stories about the impact Gregory Boyle’s ethical leadership has had on his life. Most event sponsors hosted a student and/or professor at their tables, making for stimulating dinner conversations. The event concluded with Louise Ukleja and Greg Wooden, Nell and John’s grandson, presenting the award and it earned over $12,000 net proceeds for Ukleja Center programs.
Twenty-two students participated in our 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, DENSO, Honda, and JetBlue Airways. For their community service project, the students led games and art workshops for young men and women residing at Juvenile Hall.

Ethics at The Beach

The annual Ethics at The Beach workshop featured a dynamic keynote presentation, core values exercise, and panel discussion. Through her moving personal story, Melanie Washington showed students the power of forgiveness in ethical leadership. Students then had an opportunity to discover their core values during an interactive electronic core
values exercise. A CSULB alumni panel consisting of an attorney, financial services executive, and talent acquisition specialist shared real-world examples of ethical lapses and consequences they have observed in their professional lives. Almost 200 students attended the half-day workshop with the Associated Business Students Organization Council and Student Center for Professional Development as event partners.

Ethics Across the Curriculum

To advance our vision of having an ethics module in every CSULB course, fourteen $3,000 stipends were awarded to faculty for integrating three-hour ethics modules into their courses through Ethics Across the Curriculum. This year’s program extended the Ukleja Center’s reach into five colleges. We congratulate the following faculty on their pedagogical stipends:

- Edwin Achola: *Asset-based Assessments: An Ethical Approach to Transition Assessment*
- Hyowon Ban: *Ethics in Digital Cartography using Big Data and Geographic Information Science*
- Michelle Barrack: *Ethics of Dietary Supplement Use in Nutrition and Dietetics*
- Erin Biolchino: *Using Personal and Professional Ethics in Educational Administration*
- Andrea Caban: *The Ethics of Performing in Accent: Exploring Sociolinguistic Implications*
- Belinda Daughrity: *Ethics in Speech-Language Pathology: Effectively Working with Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Clients*
- Nina Flores: *The Ethics of Educational Advocacy and Activism*
- Sarvenaz Hatami: *Ethics in Language Testing*
- Todd Henneman: *Ethics of Aggregation*
- Youngok Jung: *The Danger of a Single Story: Developing Ethical Approaches*
• Laurel Richmond: *Ethical Considerations when Supervising Recreation Staff*

• Roudi Roy: *Fertility Treatment Options and the Ethical Responsibilities of Family Life Educators*

• Reo Song: *Ethics and Corporate Social Responsibility in International Business*

• Amy Wax: *The Dark Side of Leadership: Power, Ethics, and Enacting Change*

**Faculty Ethics Research Grants**

In support of its research pillar, the center again offered two $5,000 Faculty Ethics Research Grants to support original ethics research that will contribute to the body of knowledge in disciplinary and interdisciplinary ethics. During the fifth year of this program, we are pleased to congratulate the following faculty stipend recipients:

• Amber Johnson: *Ethical Considerations for Engaging Black Populations in Research: A Community Perspective*

• Suzie Weng: *Social Work Provision in the Medical Context*

**Faculty Ethics Roundtable**

Over 35 faculty members attended a Faculty Ethics Roundtable to share best practices in teaching and researching ethical leadership. Presentations were made by Jennifer Fleming and Terence Witkowski, 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.
Jane Roeder and Kathleen Lacey attended and presented at the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics (APPE) annual conference in Chicago, Illinois. Their presentation on *Starting a Student Leadership Institute* at the Ethics Center Directors Summit modeled the way for other university ethics centers to follow our lead by engaging students, alumni, board members, and the local business community through such a program. Our center also served as a conference sponsor, providing an opportunity to introduce a film during one of the breakout sessions.

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 Aaron Cash, a highly-acclaimed dancer, choreographer, actor, and performer, as its Leader-in-Residence. Over the course of his career, Aaron’s amazing talent drew the attention of many high-profile artists including Paula Abdul, Cher, Michael Jackson, and Frank Sinatra. Through a series of classroom presentations, a keynote talk, and arts panel presentation, Aaron inspired students with his stories of overcoming adversity and turning ethical obstacles into leadership lessons.
In addition to its Leader-in-Residence events, the center offered Faculty Fellows programs featuring David Maggard, Chief of Police in the Office of Operations at Los Angeles World Airports; Justin Rudd, Founder of Community Action Team; and Mary Zendejas, Executive Director of Professional Abilities of America. Through 20 campus presentations to over 1,175 students majoring in fields as diverse as criminal justice, journalism, marketing, art, recreation and leisure studies, and gerontology, our Faculty Fellows engaged students by sharing real-life ethical leadership challenges they have faced and how they resolved them.

All of the Ukleja Center’s programs and services were made possible through the generous support of our local philanthropic community, especially the Ukleja, Dickson, Ober, and Owen families, Bess J. Hodges Foundation, and Mary Thoits. 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!