

Heterodox Academy Conference 2022

June 12-14 | Denver, Colorado

Renewing Spaces of
Knowledge and Trust

heterodox  academy

Welcome to HxA Conference 2022!

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to HxA Conference 2022 in beautiful Denver. Since we last convened in person at HxA's 2019 conference, we have all endured significant world events that continue to reshape society and higher education as we know it. Your presence here is a testament to your resilience and your dedication to improving our colleges and universities. We hope you come away from this gathering feeling inspired, connected, and reinvigorated as you continue to advocate for open inquiry, viewpoint diversity, and constructive disagreement on your campus.



great minds don't always think alike,
but we are here to think together



“Renewing Spaces of Knowledge and Trust,” an urgent call to action, is our conference theme this year. As one perpetually senses these days, trust is at an all-time low in our nation.

Confidence in institutions, including universities, has eroded, and credible knowledge often feels difficult to come by. How can we turn the tide of receding trust, especially within institutions of higher learning? Our esteemed lineup of plenary speakers and concurrent panelists will explore the challenge and endeavor to find solutions.

For the next few days, as you connect with one another and explore the wealth of programs we have planned, we invite you to embrace your sense of curiosity. At HxA, we strive to exemplify the values we hope to see across higher education: intellectual charity, constructive dialogue, authenticity, and more. The HxA Way explores these ideals in greater depth. We encourage you to consider and practice them at this conference and beyond. Be rigorous and charitable with one another. Learn, challenge, and contribute. After all, “great minds don't always think alike,” but we are here to think together.

Sincerely,
Team HxA

Who We Are

Heterodox Academy (HxA) is a nonpartisan nonprofit that works to improve the quality of research and education by promoting open inquiry, viewpoint diversity, and constructive disagreement in institutions of higher learning. Our community is made up of more than 5,000 professors, educators, administrators, and students who come from a range of institutions — from large research universities to community colleges. They represent nearly every discipline and are distributed throughout 49 states and across the globe.

Mission

To improve the quality of research and teaching in colleges and universities by increasing **open inquiry, viewpoint diversity, and constructive disagreement.**

We aspire to create college classrooms and campuses that welcome diverse people with diverse viewpoints and that equip learners with the habits of heart and mind to engage that diversity in open inquiry and constructive disagreement.

We see an academy eager to welcome professors, students, and speakers who approach problems and questions from different points of view, explicitly valuing the role such diversity plays in advancing the pursuit of knowledge, discovery, growth, innovation, and the exposure of falsehoods.

Join the HxA network!
Scan me in to your smartphone's
camera app to learn more



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John Tomasi
President, Heterodox Academy

“When you stand up for HxA’s triumvirate of open inquiry, viewpoint diversity, and constructive disagreement, you are standing up for ideals and practices that are essential to scholarly and scientific progress.”



Renewing Spaces of Knowledge and Trust

Our society is facing a crisis of trust. We've lost faith in our institutions, and higher education is far from exempt. Fear and distrust pervade our classrooms and campuses, while tribalism politicizes education and research. But all is not lost, and gatherings like this make us hopeful for the future. That's why we've chosen to center our conference around the theme: **Renewing Spaces of Knowledge and Trust.**

Our plenary sessions and concurrent panels gather scholars and practitioners who are committed to the health of our academic institutions. Our panelists will address this theme from the microcosm of a syllabus to the macrocosm of the national media, from the nuances of research to the big-picture decisions of campus leadership, and from the smallest of individual actions to the broadest of policy changes.

How do we address this crisis? How do we restore trust in one another, in our educational institutions, and in the teaching, learning, writing, thinking, and conversing that produce knowledge? We're here to seek solutions to these imperative questions.

We're glad you're here to help.

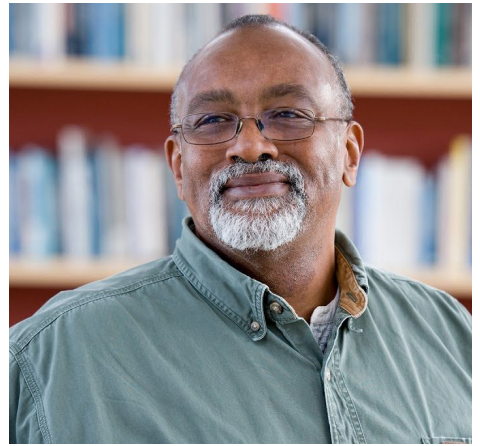


Shirley Mullen
President Emerita, Houghton College

“The commitment to **“follow the evidence wherever it leads”** has long been the foundational core of professional integrity within the academy. No matter what the discipline, no matter whether one is a researcher or a teacher, no matter the mission statement of one’s institution, no matter even the growing diversity of views as to what counts as reliable evidence — this is the mantra that binds the guild of higher education together.”



Snapshot Schedule



Snapshot Schedule | Sunday, June 12

This year's conference features a variety of programming including invited plenary panels, concurrent sessions proposed and led by HxA members and friends, spaces for networking and connecting, a poster session, and a cocktail reception, complete with mountain views.

Use the below snapshot schedule to plan your time, and refer to the detailed schedule for more information about each session.

11:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Location

Check-In and Registration

2nd Floor

**1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
and
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM**

**Organization
Workshop Leader
Location**

Pre-conference workshops

pre-registration required, detailed description: pg 16

The Joy of Heterodoxy

The Village Square
Liz Joyner
Maroon Peak

**Organization
Workshop Leaders
Location**

What Progress Really Looks Like: Weighing In for a Liberal Approach to Social Justice

Counterweight Support
Elizabeth Spievak and Michael Burke
Mt. Columbia

**Organization
Workshop Leader
Location**

Get Out of Your Rut! How to Build a Professional Support Group

Heterodox Academy
Kyle Sebastian Vitale
Mt. Oxford

**Organization
Workshop Leader
Location**

Cultivating Collaboration Among Diverse Stakeholders

Myco Consulting
Deb Mashek
Mt. Princeton

**Organization
Workshop Leader
Location**

Neither Obstacle nor Obsolete: Religion as an Untapped and Powerful Tool for Bridge-Building

Interfaith America
Noah J. Silverman
Mt. Yale

**Organization
Workshop Leader
Location**

The HxA Way and K-12 Classrooms: Designing for Success

Heterodox Academy
Samantha Hedges
Mt. Wilson

Snapshot Schedule | Sunday, June 12, continued

4:45 PM - 5:45 PM

Group Meetings, Light Dinner, and FreeIC

Description

HxA Group Meetings and Light Buffet Dinner

Gatherings for HxCommunities, new and local members, and anyone looking for a good conversation

Location

Colorado Ballroom

Description

Free Intelligent Conversation Session

Session for anyone looking to get into deeper discussion with others

Location

Maroon Peak

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Opening Keynote

Description

Detailed description: pg 22

Speakers

Welcome, Opening Remarks, and Open Inquiry Awards Ceremony

John Tomasi and Jonathan Haidt

Location

Aspen Ballroom

8:15 PM - 9:45 PM

Live Entertainment

Detailed description: pg 22

Description

Blocked and Reported with Jesse Singal and Katie Herzog

Live Podcast Show

Location

Aspen Ballroom



Erec Smith

Associate Professor of Rhetoric, York College of Pennsylvania

“Regarding reasons why American citizens are losing trust in each other, the growth of “tribalism” is the easy answer... I believe the various “tribes” in American society are a result of an inability to do two things: (1) acknowledge that other groups have a particular concatenation of values, attitudes, and beliefs, and (2) recognize that, quite often, **our differences do not stem from a difference in values, attitudes, and beliefs, but difference in how we relate to them.**”

Snapshot Schedule | Monday, June 13

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM
Location

Buffet Breakfast
Colorado Ballroom

8:30 AM - 9:45 AM

Morning Plenary
Detailed description: pg 24

Speaker
Location

How to Be a Winsome Disrupter
Kyle Sebastian Vitale
Colorado Ballroom

10:00 AM - 11:15 AM
Presenter

Morning Concurrent Sessions
Detailed description: pg 24

Presenters
Moderator
Location

Academic Freedom: Dangers and Distractions
Brian Soucek, Elizabeth Niehaus, and Jonathan Friedman
Michelle Deutchman
Aspen Ballroom

Presenter
Location

A Socratic Approach to Fostering Curiosity, Humility, and Empathy in the Classroom
Matthew Burgess
Maroon Peak

Presenters
Moderator
Location

What Is Our Role in the Classroom?
Andrew Hartz, John Recchiuti, and Jukka Savolainen
Martha McCaughey
Mt. Columbia

Presenters
Moderator
Location

Removing the Blinders: Truth-Seeking Across Academic Disciplines
David Most, Oliver Traldi, and Jeffery Donaldson
Spencer Baker
Mt. Oxford

Presenters
Moderator
Location

Salvaging Anthropology: Strategies for a Vibrant and Heterodox Disciplinary Future
Paul Brodwin, Andrew Gardner, and Dan Eisenberg
Andrew Gardner
Mt. Princeton

Presenters
Location

Libraries as Partners in Heterodoxy: History, Current Conflicts, and Best Practices
Caroline Nappo and Edward Remus
Mt. Yale

Presenter
Location

Building Bridges, Deepening Understanding: A Community Crossover Approach
Tom Ancona
Mt. Wilson

Snapshot Schedule | Monday, June 13, continued

11:30 AM - 12:45 PM

Morning Concurrent Sessions

Detailed description: pg 31

**Presenter
Location**

Reclaiming Discourse: Freedom of Expression on Campus, in Classrooms, and in Communities

Leila Brammer
Aspen Ballroom

**Presenter
Location**

Creating Consensus and Making Decisions: Tools to Categorize Controversy

Tim Mahoney
Maroon Peak

**Presenter
Location**

How Unintentional Contempt from Academic Problem-Solvers Fuels Mistrust in Institutions

Ashley Hodgson
Mt. Columbia

**Presenter
Location**

Constructive Disagreement: Practical Approaches for Strengthening Dialogue Skills

Joseph Bubman
Mt. Oxford

**Presenter
Location**

Baldwin's Paradox: Rethinking University Telos as Curiosity, Critical Thinking, and Creativity

Catherine Johnson
Mt. Princeton

**Presenter
Location**

Improving the Intellectual Environment in High School: A Roundtable Discussion

Samantha Hedges
Mt. Yale

**Presenter
Location**

The Mind as "Sacred Space": Reenvisioning Trust in Pursuit of Knowledge

Holly Hamilton-Bleakley
Mt. Wilson

**11:30 AM - 12:45 PM
Location**

Lunch Buffet

Colorado Ballroom

Snapshot Schedule | Monday, June 13, continued

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Afternoon Plenary

Detailed description: pg 35

Speakers
Moderator
Location

Renewing Trust: Truth, Journalism, and Higher Education

Rich Lowry, Holden Thorp, Batya Ungar-Sargon, and Matthew Yglesias
Scott Jaschik
Aspen Ballroom

3:45 PM - 5:00 PM

Afternoon Concurrent Sessions

Detailed description: pg 35

Presenters
Moderator
Location

Building Trust in Divided Times

Clay Routledge, Emily Chamlee-Wright, and Robert Talisse
Ben Klutsey
Aspen Ballroom

Presenter
Location

How to Write an Op-Ed

Randell J Kennedy
Maroon Peak

Presenters
Moderator
Location

Engaging Social Justice Narratives

Matt Moreali, Ronald Sundstrom, and William Mattox
Andrew Jason Cohen
Mt. Columbia

Presenter
Location

Common Law Grounds: Facilitating Conversations Across the Political Divide in Law Schools

Deborah Hellman
Mt. Oxford

Presenter
Location

From Wicked People to Wicked Problems: How to Use Deliberative Engagement to Transform Polarized Conversations

Martin Carcasson
Mt. Princeton

Presenters
Moderator
Location

Building Trust and Curiosity in the Classroom

Phillip Olt, Carrie Lobman, and Robert Carroll
Quentin Langley
Mt. Yale

Presenter
Location

Research-Based Strategies for Fostering Trust and Curiosity in the Classroom

Jake Fay
Mt. Wilson

Snapshot Schedule | Monday, June 13, continued

5:15 PM - 6:15 PM

Group Meetings and FreeIC

Group Meetings

Description

Gatherings for HxCommunities, new and local members, and anyone looking for a good conversation

Location

Colorado Ballroom

Free Intelligent Conversation Session

Description

Session for anyone looking to get into deeper discussion with others

Location

Maroon Peak

6:30 PM

Poster Session and Evening Reception: Celebrating Our Members

Detailed description: pg 41

Location

Pinnacle Club, 38th Floor



Jonathan Haidt

Cofounder and Board Chair, Heterodox Academy

“Our goal is not to include every possible viewpoint. Our goal is to attain enough diversity, and enough room for diverse viewpoints to be aired without fear of consequences — **that orthodoxies get disrupted and the normal processes of debate and disconfirmation can work their magic**”

Snapshot Schedule | Tuesday, June 14

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Morning Concurrent Sessions

Detailed description: pg 42

What Leaders Need to Know: Principles and Practices for Increasing Open and Collegial Dialogue in Higher Education

Presenters
Location

Sharon Floyd and Allison Ellsworth
Maroon Peak

Helping or Harming?: Data from the First-Ever Trigger Warning Meta-Analysis

Presenter
Location

Benjamin Bellet
Mt. Columbia

When the "HxA Way" Collides with Brandolini's Law

Presenter
Location

Erich Vieth
Mt. Oxford

Canceling "Canceling": The View from the Medieval Inquisition

Presenter
Location

Christine Caldwell Ames
Mt. Princeton

A Call to Grace, Humility, and Compassion: Understanding Suffering in Schools

Presenter
Location

Joseph Polizzi
Mt. Yale

The Art and Science of Forgiveness

Presenter
Location

Frederic Luskin
Mt. Wilson

9:15 AM - 10:15 AM

Morning Concurrent Sessions

Detailed description: pg 45

Reacting to Student Complaints: Faculty Self-Censorship, Rigor Reduction, Caution, and Demoralization

Presenter
Location

Martha McCaughey
Maroon Peak

Operationalizing "Civil Discourse" on College Campuses

Presenter
Location

Lindsay Hoffman
Mt. Columbia

Beyond Surveying: How to Use the CES to Foster Positive Change on Campus

Presenters
Location

Mark Urista and Rob Camp
Mt. Oxford

Snapshot Schedule | Tuesday, June 14, continued

Presenters
Location

Exploring the New HxA Best Practices Guide
Kyle Sebastian Vitale and Samantha Hedges
Mt. Princeton

Presenter
Location

CHECK Yourself: How to Be More Curious and Less Judgmental
Erin McLaughlin
Mt. Yale

Presenters
Location

Implementing the Campus Expression Survey: A Workshop
Shelly Zhou and Steven Zhou
Mt. Wilson

10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Plenary Brunch
Detailed description: pg 48

Speakers
Moderator
Location

Courageous Leadership in Times of Distrust: A Presidential Panel
Roslyn Clark Artis, Lynn Pasquerella, and Michael Roth
Shirley Mullen
Colorado Ballroom

12:00 PM - 1:15 PM

Afternoon Plenary
Detailed description: pg 48

Speakers
Moderator
Location

How to Have Conversations That Work
Glenn C. Loury and John McWhorter
Erec Smith
Aspen Ballroom

1:15 PM - 1:30 PM

Closing Remarks

Location

Closing Remarks from John Tomasi, President of HxA
Aspen Ballroom

1:30 - 2:30 PM
Location

Resource Table and Meet Team HxA
Colorado Foyer

NOTE: Looking to learn more about organizations doing work related to HxA's mission? Our partner organizations will be tabling throughout the conference and would love to chat! You can find them in the Aspen Foyer, outside the Aspen Ballroom. More information about our partner organizations can be found on page 63.





Detailed Schedule



Detailed Schedule | Sunday, June 12

11:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Check-In and Registration

Location

2nd Floor

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
and, repeated
3:00 - 4:30 PM

Pre-conference workshops

pre-registration required



The Joy of Heterodoxy | The Village Square

Workshop Leader
Location

Liz Joyner, The Village Square
Maroon Peak

Description

As toxic polarization continues its rise, the battle of “us vs. them” tends to flood the zone with sludge. The severity of this problem on campus makes it easy to lose touch with the joy and transcendence of practices that help us embrace our differences and work together toward the production of knowledge. In this workshop, Joyner, founder of the Village Square — an organization that gathers citizens voluntarily in large numbers to disagree — will help participants explore how a joyful pursuit of open inquiry can do more than just save our sanity; joy might be our most powerful tool for restoring trust in our institutions and one another.

One of HxA’s Applied Heterodoxy instructors and cofounder of the Respect + Rebellion project, Joyner will share frame-shifting strategies culled from decades of practice, like “taking the carom shot” and “thinking center out,” that bring more joy to our heterodoxy.

Participants will come away with:

- Fresh ways of thinking about challenges educators face — and potential solutions
- Concrete models that can make disagreement less of a slog and more of a hero’s journey
- Less fear, more hope, and, with any luck, more joy

About the Organization

The Village Square is devoted to building civic trust between people who don’t look or think alike and has a decade and a half of experience elevating the value of difference of opinion in a way that draws large numbers of people together in the common cause of constructive disagreement. The Village Square talks about the things your mother warned you to never discuss in polite company — politics, religion, and race. They’ve hosted hundreds of conversations with tens of thousands of people, leveraging contact and systems theories (and food) to build strong communities across our differences.

Detailed Schedule | Sunday, June 12, continued



What Progress Really Looks Like: Weighing In for a Liberal Approach to Social Justice | Counterweight Support

Workshop Leaders Location

Elizabeth Spievak and **Michael Burke**, Counterweight Support
Mt. Columbia

Description

This workshop draws on Counterweight’s organizational expertise to explore two primary approaches to social justice — liberal and critical. While these two approaches may appear similar to an unfamiliar observer, this workshop clarifies their fundamental philosophical and practical differences, along with their real-world consequences for public policy, academic institutions, and everyday life.

During the workshop we will explore the liberal approach to social justice with its focus on individualism, pluralism, and universalism, grounded in the human capacity for reason and truth. We will examine the benefits of adopting a liberal approach to social justice over a critical one, whose potentially valuable aspects are often lost in its focus on collective identity, conceptions of power, and relative conceptions of truth.

Participants do not need to arrive with an understanding of these terms. The workshop will define them and use an interactive approach to explore why a liberal conception of social justice is essential to meaningful progress and a just world.

Participants will come away with:

- An understanding of critical social justice (CSJ) and the nature of the debate around it
- An understanding of why CSJ and liberalism are ideologically opposed rather than complementary
- An understanding of what liberal social justice is, its merits over a critical approach, and methods for adoption

About the Organization

Counterweight is a UK-based nonpartisan liberal humanist organization and educational platform providing support to individuals confronting illiberal ideology in the workplace and in education. It is committed to liberal values like freedom of speech, tolerance, and the marketplace of ideas.



Matthew Yglesias *Slow Boring*

“Discerning the truth is hard, and it requires debate and dissent.”

Detailed Schedule | Sunday, June 12, continued

Get Out of Your Rut! How to Build a Professional Support Group | Heterodox Academy

Workshop Leader
Location

Kyle Sebastian Vitale, Heterodox Academy
Mt. Oxford

Description

Faculty life can be lonely. We craft research agendas in quiet reading rooms and at crowded conferences, face mountains of grading, and only rarely check in with one another. This life becomes even more lonesome when our research and beliefs fall outside the norms of our departments or disciplines.

And yet, so much professional growth happens when we engage with one another — trading notes on teaching, borrowing writing strategies, commiserating in difficult seasons. Are we barred from this sense of community if our beliefs and inquiries are countercultural or we feel pressure to stay quiet? Might it actually be exciting heterodox praxis to suggest that communities of practice are essential to our work? If so, how do we build reliable, supportive communities into our professional lives? What practices can prevent us from sticking it out in our own little ruts?

HxA has spent years uniquely dedicated to cultivating faculty support groups and communities of practice. Participants will walk away from this workshop with:

- Strategies and approaches for cultivating professional support groups centered on teaching, writing, and campus life
- Collaborative reflection on questions like How often should we meet? Where? What should we do together and between meetings?
- Examples of existing and ideal professional group arrangements
- A plan for their own in-person or virtual community



Glenn C. Loury

Merton P. Stoltz Professor of the Social Sciences and
Professor of Economics, Brown University

“People should be made uncomfortable, people should be unsettled, people should be challenged, people should hear arguments that they perhaps have never heard before. **They should be able to deal with disagreement.**”

Detailed Schedule | Sunday, June 12, continued



Cultivating Collaboration Among Diverse Stakeholders | Myco Consulting

**Workshop Leader
Location**

Deb Mashek, Myco Consulting
Mt. Princeton

Description

Many people have mixed feelings about collaboration. On the one hand, they know collaboration is essential to achieve complex goals. On the other hand, they know collaboration is a slog. People pull in different directions. There's desperately little communication and even less follow-through. One person ends up doing all the work. The result? Friction mounts. Projects fizzle. Great people walk.

Here's why: Very few of us ever receive any formal training in how to collaborate well.

In this interactive session, Mashek will draw on her deep experience as a close relationships researcher, collaboration facilitator, and award-winning teacher to reveal what you need to know to build healthy and productive interorganizational collaborative relationships.

In this workshop participants will:

- Examine the meaning of collaboration
- Reflect on their personal and organizational interests in pursuing truly collaborative projects
- Identify the extent to which they and their potential partners have in place the necessary capacities and supports for feasible and sustainable interorganizational collaboration
- Explore points of overlap and tension in the mindsets, concerns, enthusiasms, and drivers of potential stakeholders
- Identify specific practices individuals and organizations can take to better position themselves to realize the promise and potential of interorganizational collaborations

You will walk away from this session with tools and perspectives to strengthen your current and future collaborative relationships.

About the Organization

Myco Consulting LLC provides advising and professional development to leaders looking to cultivate collaboration among diverse stakeholders in order to accomplish ambitious goals.

Detailed Schedule | Sunday, June 12, continued



Neither Obstacle nor Obsolete: Religion as an Untapped and Powerful Tool for Bridge-Building | Interfaith America

Workshop Leader Location

Noah J. Silverman, Interfaith America
Mt. Yale

Description

Imagine you are launching a bridge-building initiative. Maybe it's a campus program, classroom assignment, or national conference. You take care to create a space where people from diverse identities and divergent perspectives can engage one another productively. You intentionally invite people from a variety of races, ethnicities, gender identities, sexual orientations, political perspectives, and educational backgrounds. But what about religious backgrounds?

For specific historical and cultural reasons, religious identity has often been deemphasized in efforts to engage diversity proactively, especially in academia. But not only is this a glaring oversight of a frequently salient and often underattended form of identity, religious traditions and identities also bring unique assets to bridge-building work.

Interfaith America has worked with over 500 campuses, multiple Fortune 500 companies, and governmental institutions to inspire, equip, and connect leaders and institutions to unlock the potential of America's religious diversity.

In this workshop participants will come away with:

- A deeper understanding of the unique, salient, and contested role of religious identity in American higher education and U.S. culture
- Insight into and examples of the distinctive assets that religious traditions bring to bridge-building efforts, and viewpoint diversity
- Concrete strategies and approaches for more effectively engaging the religious identities and diversities of their context

About the Organization

Religious diversity is a foundational American strength. Formerly known as Interfaith Youth Core, Interfaith America is building a nation that achieves that promise for the common good. We are a national nonprofit working toward an America where people of different faiths, worldviews, and traditions can bridge differences and find common values to build a shared life together. Our mission is to inspire, equip, and connect leaders and institutions to unlock the potential of America's religious diversity.

Detailed Schedule | Sunday, June 12, continued

The HxA Way and K-12 Classrooms: Designing for Success | Heterodox Academy

Workshop Leader Location

Samantha Hedges, Heterodox Academy
Mt. Wilson

Description

How can high school leaders and educators create a school or classroom environment that encourages open inquiry? How can curricula and pedagogical approaches ensure that diverse viewpoints are fairly represented? What conditions need to be in place for the possibility of constructive disagreement?

Learning environment design informs the extent to which teachers can easily embed the values of open inquiry, viewpoint diversity, and constructive disagreement into their instructional practices. Even when the curriculum is set, teachers can inventively design the environment in such a way that these values are the norm.

The HxA Way and accompanying instructional frameworks are available to help create such an environment. This workshop will introduce high school leaders and educators to these existing frameworks and offer an opportunity for participants to plan how to adopt or adapt all or pieces of the frameworks into their instructional design. In addition, the workshop will provide the space for participants to brainstorm and test out these ideas with fellow school leaders and educators.

Participants will walk away with:

- Knowledge about instructional frameworks that align with HxA's values
- Collections of ideas from peers regarding how to implement these values
- Preliminary plans for how to adapt their own instructional design

4:45 - 6:00 PM

Group Meetings, Light Dinner, and FreeIC

HxA Group Meetings and Light Buffet Dinner

Location

Colorado Ballroom

Description

Looking to meet and chat with fellow conference goers? Come say hi! This time is yours to network, chat, and make new friends however you'd like.

HxCommunities have designated tables in the Colorado Ballroom for any current or interested members to meet and chat. We'll also have tables for new members (joined within the last six months) and local members to meet.

Detailed Schedule | Sunday, June 12, continued

Free Intelligent Conversation Session

Location Maroon Peak

Description Want something more? Participate in a Free Intelligent Conversation to experience some fantastic approaches for engaging in conversation about real topics with others.

This time is yours to network, chat, and make new friends however you'd like. Feel free to grab some food from the Colorado Ballroom and bring it with you to this session.

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM **Opening Keynote**

Welcome, Opening Remarks, and Open Inquiry Awards Ceremony | John Tomasi and Jonathan Haidt

Location Aspen Ballroom

Description Kick off HxA Conference 2022 with inaugural president John Tomasi and board chair and cofounder Jonathan Haidt! They'll touch on our conference theme, chat about all things HxA, and present the 2022 Open Inquiry Awards. Read more about the 2022 awardees on page 57.

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM **Live Entertainment**

Blocked and Reported with Jesse Singal and Katie Herzog

Location Aspen Ballroom

Description Join journalists Katie Herzog and Jesse Singal as they host a live taping of *Blocked and Reported*, their podcast about internet nonsense — a subject that goes hand in hand with the conversation about free expression on campus. The duo will discuss some of their experiences covering campus free-speech controversies and why there's reason for hope, and will interview a very special surprise guest.

About the Podcast Journalists Katie Herzog and Jesse Singal scour the internet for its craziest, silliest, most sociopathic content, part of an obsessive and ill-conceived attempt to extract kernels of meaning and humanity from a landscape of endless raging dumpster fires. (And sometimes they talk about other stuff, too.)



Detailed Schedule | Monday, June 13

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM

Buffet Breakfast

Location

Colorado Ballroom

Description

Start your day off with some coffee and a hearty buffet breakfast. Drop in anytime during this time slot.

8:30 AM - 9:45 AM

Morning Plenary



How to Be a Winsome Disrupter | Kyle Sebastian Vitale

Location

Colorado Ballroom

Description

How do we face the maelstrom of cultural change hitting our research, teaching, and campus life? How can individuals possibly change a massive university environment? By being winsome disrupters. Join the director of programs at HxA to explore how winsomely disrupting new assumptions, approaching our work differently, and telling better stories can win others to our cause and shift the winds of higher ed.

10:00 - 11:15 AM

Morning Concurrent Sessions

On Monday and Tuesday, there will be opportunities for conference attendees to select from a number of session options. These sessions span a range of topics relevant to our mission and conference theme, and include both panels and individual presentations. We encourage you to peruse the program and attend the sessions that best fit your interests and professional needs. Sessions will include time for Q&A.



Academic Freedom: Dangers and Distractions

Brian Soucek, Professor of Law, University of California - Davis
Elizabeth Niehaus, Associate Professor at the Department of Educational Administration, University of Nebraska – Lincoln
Jonathan Friedman, Director of Free Expression and Education Programs, PEN America

Moderator

Michelle Deutchman, Executive Director of the UC National Center for Free Speech and Civic Engagement

Location

Aspen Ballroom

The media often paints a picture of constant protest from intolerant students and cancel culture writ large as posing an existential threat to academic freedom.

Detailed Schedule | Monday, June 13, continued

Indeed, there are forces undermining academic freedom, but they are myriad and not paid equal attention. Join Deutchman, executive director of the UC National Center for Free Speech and Civic Engagement, as she moderates a nuanced conversation with three other experts about major threats to academic freedom that often garner less media attention and the critical dangers they pose to academia's future.

Part 1: Outsourcing Academic Decisions

Brian Soucek, Professor of Law, University of California - Davis

Soucek will argue that university ranking systems present a far greater threat to academic freedom than nearly any of the dangers that dominate the media. Catering to criteria set by outsiders like U.S. News & World Report fundamentally affects who gets admitted and hired, what gets taught, and how money is spent at American universities, even those celebrated for their commitment to academic freedom.

Part 2: Self-Censorship or Just Being Nice? Understanding College Students' Decisions About Classroom Speech

Elizabeth Niehaus, Associate Professor at the Department of Educational Administration, University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Niehaus will argue that despite their popularity, student surveys often tell us very little about how students navigate decisions about classroom speech. Findings from more in-depth, mixed-methods research show that students' decisions about speaking up in the classroom are generally based on reasonable and often positive considerations of context, audience, and whether they have something productive to add. These findings complicate how we understand the "free speech crisis" in higher education.

Part 3: Why Educational Gag Orders Are a Profound Threat to Heterodoxy

Jonathan Friedman, Director of Free Expression and Education Programs, PEN America

Legislatures nationwide are proposing laws that intrude into higher education with bans on teaching certain topics, including direct attacks on "CRT," gender studies, and American history. Friedman will examine these threats to heterodoxy in the academy, and why many university leaders, faculty members, and public commentators have been relatively quiet about them, downplaying their chilling effect on academic research and teaching.

Detailed Schedule | Monday, June 13, continued

A Socratic Approach to Fostering Curiosity, Humility, and Empathy in the Classroom

Matthew Burgess, Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies, University of Colorado – Boulder

Location Maroon Peak

Description This presentation will walk through a Socratic polling exercise designed to promote curiosity, humility, and empathy, and to set the stage for future constructive disagreement in the classroom. The exercise has been used with students in Sustainable Economies at the University of Colorado – Boulder, a course that was noted in Burgess’s 2020 Open Inquiry Award for Teaching. Through this talk, the audience will learn the intended pedagogical lessons of this approach and its common results in four years of teaching.

What Is Our Role in the Classroom?

Andrew Hartz, Adjunct Professor of Clinical Psychology, Long Island University
John Recchiuti, Saffell Endowed Chair in Humanities and Professor of History, University of Mount Union

Jukka Savolainen, Professor of Sociology and Criminology, Wayne State University

Moderator **Martha McCaughey**, Professor of Sociology, Appalachian State University

Location Mt. Columbia

Description The panelists, all participants in HxA’s Writers Group, will share approaches to and benefits of embracing open inquiry in their teaching. How do we get past the defense mechanisms, competing ideologies, and difficult faculty dynamics that challenge open inquiry, and what benefits arise from embracing it in our classrooms?

Part 1: Splitting: The Defense Mechanism That Wrecks Dialogue and How to Beat It

Andrew Hartz, Adjunct Professor of Clinical Psychology, Long Island University

Hartz will explain the intrapsychic processes behind “splitting,” or framing individuals, groups, or ideas in all-or-nothing terms in order to avoid the mix of feelings that most issues evoke. After considering the unconscious and emotional basis of splitting, Hartz will explore how to identify it and evidence-based techniques to overcome it in the classroom and other contexts.

Detailed Schedule | Monday, June 13, continued

Part 2: Competing Perspectives: Teaching in the Context of American Ideals and Institutions

John Recchiuti, Saffell Endowed Chair in Humanities and Professor of History, University of Mount Union

Recchiuti will explore tested approaches to teaching competing ontological, political, social, and economic perspectives at play in the ideals and institutions of liberal democracy (i.e., freedom of speech and religion, commercial society). He will draw on extensive teaching experience in the Western canon. Participants will also be invited to share their ideas.

Part 3: The Kids Are Alright: Practicing Heterodoxy on Campus

Jukka Savolainen, Professor of Sociology and Criminology, Wayne State University

Savolainen will explore the variation in openness to heterodox ideas between students and faculty/administrators on an ethnically and socioeconomically diverse campus. He will share experiences documenting high tolerance for viewpoint diversity among undergraduate students despite significant resistance to heterodoxy among faculty colleagues and administrative peers. These observations suggest that, at least in this environment, the student body may be the most productive pathway to promoting viewpoint diversity on campus.



Removing the Blinders: Truth-Seeking Across Academic Disciplines

David Most, Associate Professor, School of Education, Colorado State University
Oliver Traldi, Graduate Student in Philosophy, University of Notre Dame
Jeffery Donaldson, Professor of English and Cultural Studies, McMaster University

Moderator **Spencer Baker**, Graduate Researcher, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

Location Mt. Oxford

Description A deep issue lies just underneath the surface of the modern university: Over the last 200 years, the pursuit of truth has become separated into disciplines that develop their own unique dogmas as their traditions and literatures unfold. When disciplines become too self-important, failing to interact and weigh their ideas against each other, fiefdoms of orthodoxy spring up and further isolate each discipline from other methods of pursuing truth. In this session, the panelists will explore how different areas of study within the humanities and social sciences can take off their blinders and place the pursuit of truth ahead of disciplinary assumptions.

Detailed Schedule | Monday, June 13, continued

Part 1: Challenging Orthodoxy in Science: The Problem of Significance Testing

David Most, Associate Professor, School of Education,
Colorado State University

The ubiquitous ritualistic practice of (mis)using “significance testing” to make meaning of data is quite pervasive across many disciplines. It is very common for those performing the ritual to draw substantive conclusions that are inconsistent with what a thoughtful analysis of evidence might suggest. This talk will shed light on the nature and consequences of this problem and explore reasons for resistance to challenging beliefs about this practice and changing behavior.

Part 2: The Rise of Political Epistemology

Oliver Traldi, Graduate Student in Philosophy, University of Notre Dame

Epistemology is the subfield of philosophy concerned with how we should reason and what we should believe. Political epistemology is the part of epistemology that asks what we should believe about politics and how our existence in a politicized society affects how we should reason. This talk will explain some findings in and obstacles for political epistemology and how they relate to the principle of viewpoint diversity.

Part 3: Whole Worlds: Literature’s Idea of the Truth

Jeffery Donaldson, Professor of English and Cultural Studies,
McMaster University

In his recent book *The Constitution of Knowledge: A Defense of the Truth*, Jonathan Rauch advocates a “truth-based” or “reality-based” approach to knowledge that is strongly scientific in its conception. However, we need an alternative coherence-based model of truth that includes our understanding of imaginative and literary cosmologies, like that advocated by Thomas Kuhn more than 60 years ago in his book *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*. In a minor correction to Rauch’s argument, this presentation proposes an understanding of truth that encompasses both humanist thinkers and scientific theories and models.

Detailed Schedule | Monday, June 13, continued



Salvaging Anthropology: Strategies for a Vibrant and Heterodox Disciplinary Future

Paul Brodwin, Professor of Anthropology, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee
Andrew Gardner, Professor of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Puget Sound
Dan Eisenberg, Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of Washington

Moderator **Andrew Gardner**

Location Mt. Princeton

Description With a concern for diversity at its epistemological core, the mainline discipline of anthropology has long been interested in heterodoxy and difference in all its human manifestations. In the discipline's contemporary rendition, however, anthropology is rife with stresses, fractures, and tensions. In some estimations, anthropology's concerns have increasingly distilled around a narrow set of issues that reject its own disciplinary history. In this session, three anthropologists consider strategies, ideas, and practices for sustaining the topical and intellectual breadth of anthropology, thereby potentially reaching new heterodox horizons. The panelists will draw on experiences as teachers and researchers from both the scientific and humanistic traditions that anthropology straddles.

Part 1: Partisanship and Methodological Debate in Contemporary Cultural Anthropology

Paul Brodwin, Professor of Anthropology, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee

Brodwin will describe contemporary challenges to ethnography — a method founded on interpretive generosity and the suspension of judgment. He will explore how to sustain those principles while researching topics, such as policing and carceral practices in the U.S., that typically summon up politicized defensiveness and/or condemnation.

Part 2: Framing Sociocultural Anthropology to New Generations of American Undergraduates

Andrew Gardner, Professor of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Puget Sound

Gardner will develop and describe a set of six interrelated themes that speak to anthropology's historic strengths and its ongoing utility in the century that lies before us. He will elaborate on anthropology's foundational concern with the continuum of human diversity, delineate the multifaceted utility of the ethnographic tradition, describe the social scientific legacy around which anthropology was constructed, marvel at the latitude of anthropology's interests and the holistic vantage point that results, and, finally, assert the ongoing vitality of the culture concept to all these endeavors.

Detailed Schedule | Monday, June 13, continued

Part 3: Anchoring Ourselves to the Scientific Method to Combat Biases

Dan Eisenberg, Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of Washington

Eisenberg will suggest practical means of combating our own and others' biases in science. Specifically, he will discuss the importance of preregistration of hypotheses and methods before data analysis, and other open science methods, as ways to constrain our biases, improve our science, and better allow our data to speak truly, be it supporting heterodox or orthodox perspectives.

Libraries as Partners in Heterodoxy: History, Current Conflicts, and Best Practices

Caroline Nappo, Adjunct Lecturer, University of Illinois at Urbana – Champaign
Edward Remus, Assistant Professor and Social Sciences Librarian, Northeastern Illinois University

Location Mt. Yale

Description Despite recent tendencies toward ideological capture among librarians, libraries remain natural sites for hosting curated debates and facilitated dialogues encompassing diverse viewpoints.

This session will discuss the historical origins of intellectual freedom in libraries and the recent “neutrality debate” in librarianship (and its implications for free expression). It will also showcase an ongoing federal grant-funded project at the Northeastern Illinois University Libraries, “Perspectives on the Constitution,” that positions the library as a partner in heterodoxy on campus and offers a practical model that libraries can deploy in partnership with academic departments, grant-funding agencies, and members of the public.



Kyle Sebastian Vitale
Director of Programs, Heterodox Academy

“Our students are quietly ready to be more courageous on campus. Let’s support the ideals and the designs that help them get there.”

Detailed Schedule | Monday, June 13, continued

Building Bridges, Deepening Understanding: A Community Crossover Approach

Tom Ancona, Associate Director, Joseph McKeen Center for the Common Good, Bowdoin College

Location Mt. Wilson

Description Over the last four years, Bowdoin College has partnered with a local nonprofit called Make Shift Coffee House on a series of programs that bring together Bowdoin students, staff, and faculty with community members for “What Matters” conversations around partisan issues. This program has brought increased diversity of thought to campus and helped build students’ dialogue skills and understanding for those whose views differ from their own. The goal of this session is to share the goals and experiences of the What Matters Community Crossover as well as how we structured, planned, and funded these programs. There will also be time to model a small dialogue with session attendees so that they can experience how these facilitated conversations work.

11:30 AM - 12:45 PM

Morning Concurrent Sessions

Reclaiming Discourse: Freedom of Expression on Campus, in Classrooms, and in Communities

Leila Brammer, Director, Parrhesia Program for Public Discourse, University of Chicago

Location Aspen Ballroom

Description Discourse rests at the entangled nexus of academic inquiry, freedom of expression, democratic practices, and civic education. The testing and refining of ideas necessary for academic inquiry depends on the ability to seek out and engage multiple perspectives as well as difference and disagreement. This workshop provides a proven framework as well as models and practices to seek and productively engage communication about, with, and across differences and disagreements.

The session will include a grounding of freedom of expression as a discursive question, a brief introduction to the theory of discourse, a diagnosis of the limitations of current modes of discourse, and principles and practices for vigorous, inclusive, and productive discourse, accompanied by participant exercises.

Detailed Schedule | Monday, June 13, continued

Creating Consensus and Making Decisions: Tools to Categorize Controversy

Tim Mahoney, Associate Professor and Department Chair of Educational Foundations, Millersville University

Location Maroon Peak

Description For many academics, few areas reveal the gulf between theory and practice more clearly than the process of making decisions. The pandemic highlighted that gulf by turning every decision into a crisis. Using his experience as a department chair as a case study, Mahoney will engage participants in conversation about the decision-making process and propose employing classification systems like Thorndike's epistemic criterion to help build consistency between belief and practice.

How Unintentional Contempt from Academic Problem-Solvers Fuels Mistrust in Institutions

Ashley Hodgson, Associate Professor of Economics and Department Chair, St. Olaf College

Location Mt. Columbia

Description Unintentional contempt can arise when scholars focus their problem-solving efforts primarily where they have agency in providing solutions for others. As a result, scholars may view certain populations as either victims or problems to solve, rather than as groups with values and traits to be admired and called upon for solutions. These attitudes may be an important factor in the decline of trust in institutions, as people may discount facts, information, or good intentions from those who exhibit contempt toward them. Hodgson will lay out a case for rational distrust of contempt and provide solutions for scholars to remedy the problem. Small-group discussion will follow the presentation.



Shirley Mullen President Emerita, Houghton College

“The HxA conference dates us to discover whether an academic community of trust, mutual empowerment, and respectful shared inquiry can inspire rigor and motivate our efforts as effectively as fear of looking foolish or failing to make the grade.”

Detailed Schedule | Monday, June 13, continued

Constructive Disagreement: Practical Approaches for Strengthening Dialogue Skills

Joseph Bubman, Founder and Executive Director, Urban Rural Action, and Adjunct Professor, Georgetown University

Location Mt. Oxford

Description In this interactive session participants will learn practical frameworks for facilitating constructive dialogue across differences and practice using these frameworks in small-group conversations to explore different perspectives. Bubman will share case studies and best practices from the Mid-Atlantic Hx Community for engaging students in dialogue across differences. Participants will walk away with clear, accessible dialogue frameworks and structured exercises to deploy on campus and in their classrooms to promote open inquiry, explore viewpoint diversity, and constructive disagreement.

Baldwin's Paradox: Rethinking University Telos as Curiosity, Critical Thinking, and Creativity

Catherine Johnson, Assistant Lecturer, LeaRN Program, University of Wyoming

Location Mt. Princeton

Description In his essay "Notes of a Native Son," James Baldwin shares a profound realization: He must accept both reality and humans as they are AND fight with all his strength for justice and equality. This, as this presentation argues, is what's missing from the purposes that inform American higher education: a willingness to grapple with complex, contradictory truths, and to navigate the many paradoxes that life presents. Rather than force our efforts around a single reductive idea, we must respond to this problem by embracing a multitiered approach to university purpose that includes stoking curiosity, cultivating critical thinking, and embracing creativity in the classroom. Johnson will share the most current research on curiosity, critical thinking, and creativity across disciplines, and open a conversation about how these methods might offer a nonpartisan approach to the crisis of purpose in academia.

Detailed Schedule | Monday, June 13, continued

Improving the Intellectual Environment in High School: A Roundtable Discussion

Samantha Hedges, Program Manager, Heterodox Academy

Location Mt. Yale

Description HxA has spent the past year exploring the extent to which our principles of open inquiry, viewpoint diversity, and constructive disagreement are embraced and implemented in American high schools. During this session, HxA's program manager and thought leaders in the field of K-12 education will discuss the findings and recommendations from this yearlong exploration and consider what actions schools, districts, and organizations should take next. The audience will be invited into the conversation to help contemplate the questions: How best can the recommendations be implemented into high schools and classrooms? And what recommendations need to be added?

The Mind as "Sacred Space": Reenvisaging Trust in Pursuit of Knowledge

Holly Hamilton-Bleakley, Assistant Adjunct Professor of Philosophy, University of San Diego

Location Mt. Wilson

Description Hamilton-Bleakley will sketch out a philosophy of teaching built on a deeper philosophical theory that asserts the dignity and sacredness of the individual human person. Drawing on concepts in Aristotelianism, Kantianism, and Christian Existentialism, she will argue that the Kantian notion of the individual as an end-in-themselves enables the understanding that the individual is not a tool or an object to be used or manipulated or dominated for another's ends. One result of this line of thinking is that the individual's mind comes to be seen as a "sacred space." As such, it must ultimately be respected as a space of noncoercion, where others may engage but not attempt to dominate, manipulate, or force a certain result upon the individual in the pursuit of knowledge.

12:45 - 1:45 PM

Lunch Buffet

Location Colorado Ballroom

Description Take a break and recharge as you enjoy lunch.

Detailed Schedule | Monday, June 13, continued

2:00 - 3:30 PM

Afternoon Plenary



Renewing Trust: Truth, Journalism, and Higher Education

Rich Lowry, Editor in Chief, National Review

Holden Thorp, Editor in Chief, Science

Batya Ungar-Sargon, Deputy Opinion Editor, Newsweek

Matthew Yglesias, Cofounder, Vox.com

Moderator

Scott Jaschik, Founder and Editor, Inside Higher Ed

Location

Aspen Ballroom

Description

What role does journalism play in overcoming growing disinformation and fractured media? How do we address the cycle of alarmism in higher education reporting? Join Jaschik, Lowry, Thorp, Ungar-Sargon, and Yglesias for a discussion about trust and knowledge in challenging times.

3:45 - 5:00 PM

Afternoon Concurrent Sessions



Building Trust in Divided Times

Clay Routledge, Distinguished Professor of Business,
North Dakota State University

Emily Chamlee-Wright, President, Institute for Humane Studies,
George Mason University

Robert Talisse, Professor of Philosophy, Vanderbilt University

Moderator

Ben Klutsey, Director, Academic Outreach and the Program on Pluralism and Civil Exchange, Mercatus Center, George Mason University

Location

Aspen Ballroom

Description

Many surveys show that in America over the past few decades, trust in institutions has been on the decline. Moreover, social trust, the trust we have for one another in society, has also continued to decrease sharply since the 1960s. The decline in trust seems to correlate with increased polarization and difficulties in addressing our society's problems together. This panel will look at the state of trust (in one another and institutions) in America, the psychology of trust, its relevance for sustaining a liberal democracy, and some ideas for building trust in divided times.

Detailed Schedule | Monday, June 13, continued

Part 1: The Psychology of Trust

Clay Routledge, Distinguished Professor of Business,
North Dakota State University

This presentation will review the survey data on trust, including by age cohorts. It will provide perspectives on trust from psychology and discuss the effects of a low-trust environment on the deliberative aspects of a democratic society.

Part 2: Trust and Tribalism in the Good Society

Emily Chamlee-Wright, President, Institute for Humane Studies,
George Mason University

Liberal institutions tame but do not eliminate our tribal tendencies. This presentation will discuss how, when things go well, we achieve the pluralistic ideal: the rich, intimate sphere of an “us” — family, friends, and our various communities — without resorting to power and without the anxious fear of a “them.” The session will discuss what is required, institutionally and culturally, to improve our odds of achieving and sustaining that ideal.

Part 3: The Role of Trust in Sustaining Democracy

Robert Talisse, Professor of Philosophy, Vanderbilt University

This presentation will review the rise of belief polarization and its effects on trust in society. It will also explore whether trust is necessary for a self-governing society of political equals, and what political equals owe to one another.

How to Write an Op-Ed

Randell J. Kennedy, President and Founder, Academy Communications

Location Maroon Peak

Description National media write about higher education, new research, teaching, and emerging campus issues on a daily basis, often quoting faculty sources in their news coverage. Insightful college and university faculty also frame their own insights by developing thoughtful guest columns, op-ed pieces, and commentaries for print and online opinion pages, essay columns, and blogs.

Why should academic experts consider promoting their own insights in the opinion pages? What is an op-ed piece, and how is it different from an editorial? How should they be developed and to whom should they be pitched? What are some of the ways social media should be factored into the equation? This session will include the 10 most effective op-ed tactics to employ and the five common mistakes to avoid when developing an opinion piece, as well as other tips and insights to become an effective thought shaper in the opinion pages.

Detailed Schedule | Monday, June 13, continued



Engaging Social Justice Narratives

Matt Moreali, Seminar Instructor, Southern Oregon University
Ronald Sundstrom, Professor of Philosophy, University of San Francisco
William Mattox, Director, Marshall Center for Educational Options, James Madison Institute

Moderator **Andrew Jason Cohen**, Professor of Philosophy and Founding Director of the PPE Program, Georgia State University

Location Mt. Columbia

Description Social justice is a topic of interest and debate in schools and on campuses across the U.S. Cohen will moderate a conversation around three approaches to addressing social justice narratives in classrooms and on campuses that add more nuance to dialogue around our most pressing societal issues. The presenters will delve into how equity can be better understood, philosophical debates around freedom, and what historical events can teach about the art of persuasion.

Part 1: Exchanges in Equity: Reengaging Core Equitable Principles and Avoiding Common Misapplications

Matt Moreali, Seminar Instructor, Southern Oregon University

Equity is a ubiquitous but mystifying concept in higher education, and the weight of its authority makes it prone to misuse. Moreali will describe equity's fundamental principles and how common misapplications undermine its essential function.

Part 2: Narratives of Freedom

Ronald Sundstrom, Professor of Philosophy, University of San Francisco

What narratives are told in the philosophy we teach about freedom? What philosophy is present in narratives of freedom not normally included in our discipline's curriculum? Sundstrom will explore how to put American slave narratives, and classics of Black American political thought, into conversation with the classics of the social contract tradition and liberalism.

Detailed Schedule | Monday, June 13, continued

Part 3: Counter Speech: Helping Students Learn Constructive Engagement Over “Cancel Culture”

William Mattox, Director, Marshall Center for Educational Options, James Madison Institute

In December 1960, a group of Florida A&M students staged a sidewalk protest challenging segregated lunch counters. The protest signs they carried were ripped up by detractors, but rather than responding in kind, the students continued their nonviolent approach to persuasion. Mattox will describe how stories such as these can be used to teach the merits of counter speech as a more effective form of persuasion than cancel culture.

Common Law Grounds: Facilitating Conversations Across the Political Divide in Law Schools

Deborah Hellman, Professor of Law and Professor of Civil Liberties and Human Rights, University of Virginia School of Law

Location Mt. Oxford

Description Common Law Grounds (CLG) facilitates discussion and debate among students and faculty across the ideological spectrum with the goal of identifying and articulating areas of agreement about core values and practices, isolating points of substantive disagreement, and fostering a culture of open and civil dialogue about legal and political issues. We pursue these goals not under the naive impression that compromise is always possible or even desirable. Rather, we do so out of a conviction that for a constitutional democracy to survive and thrive, citizens — especially lawyer-citizens — must remain as attuned to what they have in common as they are to what divides them.

In this session, Hellman, together with current and former student leaders, will elaborate on the successes and challenges the group has faced, discuss strategies for spreading CLG to other law schools, and solicit input and questions from the audience.



Batya Ungar-Sargon
Deputy Opinion Editor, *Newsweek*

“A press that is so solidly on the side of the powerful few, so solidly of it, that afflicts the afflicted and comforts the comfortable, will hasten our demise. And that should terrify us all.”

Detailed Schedule | Monday, June 13, continued



From Wicked People to Wicked Problems: How to Use Deliberative Engagement to Transform Polarized Conversations

Martín Carcasson, Professor of Communication Studies, Colorado State University, and Founder and Director, CSU Center for Public Deliberation

Location

Mt. Princeton

Description

Using the case study of the Colorado State University Center for Public Deliberation, this session will focus on how to better engage diverse audiences on difficult issues in order to elevate the quality of public discussion, particularly in reaction to the current level of political polarization and hyperpartisanship. This session will use the framework of “wicked problems” to reframe complex issues in a way that allows for more nuanced conversations. The presentation will discuss a range of tools to elevate discourse, namely deliberative engagement processes. Students from the Center for Public Deliberation will also be in attendance to share their experiences in the program and be available to answer questions.



Building Trust and Curiosity in the Classroom

Phillip Olt, Assistant Professor of Higher Education Student Affairs, Fort Hays State University

Carrie Lobman, Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Learning and Teaching, Rutgers University Graduate School of Education

Robert Carroll, Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Illinois at Urbana – Champaign

Moderator

Quentin Langley, Adjunct Faculty, Gabelli School of Business, Fordham University

Location

Mt. Yale

Description

How can teachers and university instructors help students trust one another’s intentions and exercise authentic interest about differing perspectives in the classroom? In this panel, three case studies will be presented that highlight three approaches to generate curiosity in classrooms and on campus.

Part 1: Duoethnography as a Qualitative Methodology to Create Deep Engagement Across Differences

Phillip Olt, Assistant Professor of Higher Education Student Affairs, Fort Hays State University

Applying the qualitative research approach of duoethnography to the instructional setting, this presentation will discuss a methodology to create deep, sustained engagement by students across differences.

Detailed Schedule | Monday, June 13, continued

Part 2: Play, Performance and the “How” of Curiosity

Carrie Lobman, Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Learning and Teaching, Rutgers University Graduate School of Education

As an experienced improviser, educator, and performer, Lobman will discuss the role of playfulness and performance in generating curiosity and supporting collective creativity on campus and in the classroom.

Part 3: Joie de Vivre in the Flipped Classroom: A Testimony

Robert Carroll, Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Illinois at Urbana – Champaign

In teaching game theory to apprehensive students, Carroll will share his technique to engage students in storytelling that employs their creativity and abstract thinking to transcend polarizing topics.



Research-Based Strategies for Fostering Trust and Curiosity in the Classroom

Jake Fay, Director of Education at OpenMind

Location

Mt. Wilson

Description

A great education shapes students as thinkers and learners while offering them a supportive environment to grapple with complex topics and forge their own worldviews. Unfortunately, increasing ideological fissures in the United States has threatened the spirit of open inquiry in schools and on college campuses.

This workshop will teach research-backed strategies to help educators foster a classroom climate of trust and curiosity, which are necessary ingredients for open inquiry. Specifically, educators will learn how to set classroom norms of openness and curiosity; design activities, discussions, and assignments to build students' perspective-taking skills; and navigate tense moments to get conversations back on track.

Detailed Schedule | Monday, June 13, continued

5:15 PM - 6:15 PM **Group Meetings and FreelC**

Group Meetings

Location Colorado Ballroom

Description Looking to meet and chat with fellow conference goers? Come say hi! This time is yours to network, chat, and make new friends however you'd like.

HxCommunities have designated tables in the Colorado Ballroom for any current or interested members to meet and chat. We'll also have tables for new members (joined within the last six months) and local members to meet.

Free Intelligent Conversation Session

Location Maroon Peak

Description Participate in a Free Intelligent Conversation to experience some fantastic approaches for engaging in conversation about real topics with others.

6:30 PM **Poster Session and Evening Reception: Celebrating Our Members**

Location Pinnacle Club, 38th Floor

Conference Reception

Description Please join us while we are together in person — for the first time in three years! — to recognize our members. Our members represent 49 states, 65 countries, and 1,468 campuses. They advance open inquiry, viewpoint diversity, and constructive disagreement on their campuses, in their classrooms, and in their disciplines. HxA would not exist without our members. The reception will take place next door to the Grand Hyatt; exit the main lobby, cross the breezeway into the next building, and take the elevators on the left up to the 38th floor. Current members are encouraged to attend. Prospective members and other conference attendees are welcome to join this celebration.

Poster Session

Description We're pleased to showcase the wide range of research our members and colleagues are conducting to broadly study the campus expression climate. We have curated posters on specific campus expression research projects and campus interventions, which will be exhibited during the evening reception. Posters will include context for their methods, goals, iterative processes, and obstacles, and how the data can positively impact campus expression climate.

Detailed Schedule | Tuesday, June 14

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Morning Concurrent Sessions



What Leaders Need to Know: Principles and Practices for Increasing Open and Collegial Dialogue in Higher Education

Sharon Floyd, Associate Professor of Human Resources,
University of Massachusetts Global

Allison Ellsworth, Instructor and Composition Coordinator,
Arizona State University

Location

Maroon Peak

Description

Educational environments generally promote a hierarchical culture, where the value of individuals is based on their rank or job title. This session explores how educational leaders can address this cultural norm and increase faculty belonging, collegiality, healthy dialogue, and individual self-efficacy regardless of professional level. Attendees will learn how administrators can implement the Empowering Leadership framework and, relatedly, how organizational branding and values alignment can attract and retain faculty, administrators, and staff who champion safe and collaborative environments.

Part 1: Building a Culture That Values and Promotes Open Inquiry and Constructive Dialogue

Sharon Floyd, Associate Professor of Human Resources,
University of Massachusetts Global

Healthy educational communities enable members to freely express their individuality within a safe and collaborative environment, and thrive when organizations purposefully align these principles with their core mission and vision. This presentation will explore ideas and best practices to increase alignment between university branding, culture, and values, leading to the attraction and retention of employees who champion open and constructive dialogue.

Part 2: Empowering Leadership: A Framework That Promotes Faculty Dialogue, Agency, and Self-Efficacy

Allison Ellsworth, Instructor and Composition Coordinator,
Arizona State University

Ellsworth will explore the Empowering Leadership framework, which forwards principles like sharing information and power, deep listening, openness to varying perspectives, and creating environments where disagreement and collegiality coexist. Education leaders practicing these principles can create healthy organizations that encourage faculty to cocreate spaces of agency, expertise, and self-efficacy regardless of perspective.

Detailed Schedule | Tuesday, June 14, continued



Helping or Harming?: Data from the First-Ever Trigger Warning Meta-Analysis

Benjamin Bellet, Ph.D. Candidate, Clinical Science, Harvard University

Location Mt. Columbia

Description Current research around trigger warnings (statements warning individuals about content in order to allow them to prepare for or avoid it) is mixed. Some studies find they slightly reduce negative emotions, pointing to their potential as disability accommodations for vulnerable individuals. Others suggest they are clinically inert, shaping neither avoidance behavior nor anxiety responses to content. Still others suggest they may, ironically, increase anxiety responses. Regardless, the lack of meta-analysis considering effect sizes in the aggregate allows for cherry-picking of specific studies to suit one's position or actions. Responding to this gap, Bellet will present the results of a meta-analysis of all trigger-warning studies to date, focusing in particular on how they affect avoidance behavior and anxiety response. Bellet's presentation will share findings and explore implications for educational policy, pedagogical practices, and the care of vulnerable students.



When the "HxA Way" Collides with Brandolini's Law

Erich Vieth, Attorney and Adjunct Professor of Law, Saint Louis University School of Law

Location Mt. Oxford

Description Brandolini's law, also known as the "bullshit asymmetry principle," states that "the amount of energy needed to refute bullshit is an order of magnitude larger than is needed to produce it." When applied to daily interactions, this means that the longer some conversations go on, the less meaningful they become. While we may do our best to diligently practice the "HxA Way," others may still fling ad hominem attacks or use weak arguments, false dichotomies, and uncharitable interpretations that drag things down. In this session, Vieth will explore these common frustrations and offer strategies — drawn from his experience as a trial lawyer — to help keep contentious conversations on track.

Detailed Schedule | Tuesday, June 14, continued

Canceling “Canceling”: The View from the Medieval Inquisition

Christine Caldwell Ames, Professor of Medieval European History, University of South Carolina

Location Mt. Princeton

Description Inquisitions against heresy in medieval Europe teach particular lessons for opposing “cancel culture.”

While inquisition sought the reintegration of contrite heretics into church and society, this goal was often obstructed by local communities who, from fear or hostility, instead excluded and ostracized them. Inquisitors adopted specific strategies to overcome this social exclusion, and this session asks how we might adapt, and successfully deploy, these strategies in the secular environment of the modern West.

A Call to Grace, Humility, and Compassion: Understanding Suffering in Schools

Joseph Polizzi, Associate Professor of Educational Leadership, Sacred Heart University

Location Mt. Yale

Description This presentation shares the findings of the study “Understanding Suffering in Schools: Shining a Light on the Dark Places of Education.” Because suffering is a constant companion to human striving, the findings suggest that listening to and valuing the voices of suffering students is necessary for understanding the detrimental impact school can have. In this way, educators are better positioned to see how suffering in school lives in juxtaposition to the pursuit of success, happiness, and joy. Participants will gain an understanding of the habits of heart and mind fundamental to alleviating suffering, such as humility, compassion, and grace, and a solemn yet spirited vision for the future of schools.



Jonathan Haidt Cofounder and Board Chair, HxA

“HxA was not created to help conservatives or liberals. It was created to help universities guard what makes them the crown jewels of American society: their ability to bring people together and harness their diversity to make all of them smarter, stronger, and better able to play a constructive role in a complicated democracy.”

Detailed Schedule | Tuesday, June 14, continued



The Art and Science of Forgiveness

Frederic Luskin, Director, Stanford Forgiveness Projects

Location Mt. Wilson

Description In this session, Luskin will distinguish the principle of forgiveness from condoning, justice, reconciliation, and acceptance, while suggesting forgiveness as a practice essential for resilience and happiness. The presentation will review the research, practices, and interventions developed by the Stanford Forgiveness Projects (SFPs) as well as other relevant research on the effect of forgiveness on physical, relationship, and emotional well-being. Using SFP case studies from Northern Ireland, Sierra Leone, World Trade Center, and Columbia, the presenter will outline simple, transferrable skills that allow for the creation of a future with less conflict.

9:15 AM - 10:15 AM

Morning Concurrent Sessions



Reacting to Student Complaints: Faculty Self-Censorship, Rigor Reduction, Caution, and Demoralization

Martha McCaughey, Professor of Sociology, Appalachian State University

Location Maroon Peak

Description This presentation will share the results of a campuswide survey of all faculty on a large, public university campus and a set of follow-up interviews, which examined how faculty members responded to student complaints outside of their student evaluations. Findings reveal that nearly half of faculty respondents report that student complaints create a chilling effect on instructional practices — instructors become more cautious, reduce rigor, self-censor, and become demoralized — and these reactions are exacerbated by concerns about the administrative response to student complaints. In addition to presenting these findings, the presentation will explore implications for how university personnel can foster a learning environment that embraces open inquiry and academic freedom.

Detailed Schedule | Tuesday, June 14, continued

Operationalizing “Civil Discourse” on College Campuses

Lindsay Hoffman, Associate Professor of Communication and Associate Director of the Center for Political Communication, University of Delaware

Location Mt. Columbia

Description We often talk about “civil discourse” on college campuses without ever fully agreeing on what — exactly — that means. Hoffman will present preliminary results from a campus climate survey at the University of Delaware, along with some updates on current data collection with Free Intelligent Conversation. She will also examine a variety of conceptualizations and related concepts in an effort to move toward consistent identification and measurement of outcomes. There will be a discussion among participants about how to conduct annual campus surveys, increase response rate, analyze data, as well as learn about some pitfalls to collecting student data. The discussion will also be open to participants regarding best practices for reporting results to university administrations.

Beyond Surveying: How to Use the CES to Foster Positive Change on Campus

Mark Urista, Communication Faculty, Linn-Benton Community College
Rob Camp, Student Leadership Coordinator, Linn-Benton Community College

Location Mt. Oxford

Description For several years now, Linn-Benton Community College (LBCC) has successfully administered HxA’s Campus Expression Surveys to its entire student body and all employees.

This presentation will provide a brief recap of the steps taken to administer both surveys and what LBCC did with the results. Participants will gain insights that can help them administer the CES at their institutions and use the results to foster a campus climate that encourages open inquiry, viewpoint diversity, and constructive disagreement.

Detailed Schedule | Tuesday, June 14, continued



Exploring the New HxA Best Practices Guide

Kyle Sebastian Vitale, Director of Programs, Heterodox Academy
Samantha Hedges, Program Manager, Heterodox Academy

Location Mt. Princeton

Description Conference attendees received a copy of HxA's new best practices guide, Reclaiming the Culture of Higher Education. This copy is a draft — an initial collection of ideas culled from experts in the field intended to start a conversation. In this session, participants are invited to continue the conversation: to learn about the Guide's inception, discuss its contents and structure with others, and be among the very first to offer feedback as we look to grow it into its ultimate form. Participants are highly encouraged to review the Guide before attending to ensure engaging conversation and productive dialogue!



CHECK Yourself: How to Be More Curious and Less Judgmental

Erin McLaughlin, Educator and Founder of Positive-Ed Consulting

Location Mt. Yale

Description This presentation will introduce an inquisitive, introspective method of preparing for constructive conversation called "CHECK Yourself." The method was built on the science of positive psychology and a teaching model of viewpoint diversity based on self-awareness, intellectual humility, and actively open-minded thinking. This practical and easy-to-remember approach works in classrooms, faculty rooms, and boardrooms alike. Participants will walk away with a unique method that begins not with active listening but with active questioning. And those questions are the ones we ask ourselves. In this way, we aim to create a truly inclusive culture based on curiosity instead of judgment. The onus is on us.



Implementing the Campus Expression Survey: A Workshop

Shelly Zhou, Researcher, Heterodox Academy
Steven Zhou, Ph.D Candidate in Psychology, George Mason University, and Data Analyst, Heterodox Academy

Location Mt. Wilson

Description HxA created the Campus Expression Survey (CES) to measure campus expression climate among college students. It specifically asks about their degree of reluctance to discuss several controversial topics, reasons they might feel such reluctance, and related observations about campus climate. HxA created and administered the survey annually to U.S. undergraduate students for the past three years. The published results and the administration manual, which allows others to administer it themselves, are available on the HxA website.

Detailed Schedule | Tuesday, June 14, continued

10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Description



Plenary Brunch

Courageous Leadership in Times of Distrust: A Presidential Panel

Roslyn Clark Artis, President and CEO, Benedict College
Lynn Pasquerella, President, American Association of Colleges and Universities
Michael Roth, President, Wesleyan University

Moderator

Shirley Mullen, President Emerita, Houghton College

Location

Colorado Ballroom

Description

As HxA's 2021 Campus Expression Survey revealed, students continue to feel reluctant about sharing their beliefs on campus and in the classroom. With cancel culture chilling faculty voices as well, how should campuses evolve to meet these challenges and those of the coming years? Join Mullen, Roth, Artis, and Pasquerella as they bring their leadership experiences to bear on this critical question.

A seated brunch will be served during this session.

12:00 PM - 1:15 PM

Moderator



Afternoon Plenary

How to Have Conversations That Work

Glenn C. Loury, Merton P. Stoltz Professor of the Social Sciences and Professor of Economics, Brown University
John McWhorter, Associate Professor of Linguistics, Columbia University

Location

Erec Smith, Associate Professor of Rhetoric and Composition, York College of Pennsylvania

Description

Aspen Ballroom

McWhorter and Loury are excellent at productive conversation, as fans of the Glenn Show podcast know well. They know how to listen, ask, argue with evidence, and stay engaged. Come hear Smith chat with them about what makes a conversation productive and how we can better approach others in discussion.

Detailed Schedule | Tuesday, June 14, continued

1:15 PM - 1:30 PM



Closing Remarks

Closing Remarks from John Tomasi, President of HxA

Location

Aspen Ballroom

Description

Join HxA president John Tomasi as we wrap up HxA Conference 2022 and reflect on our time together.

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Description

Resource Table and Meet Team HxA

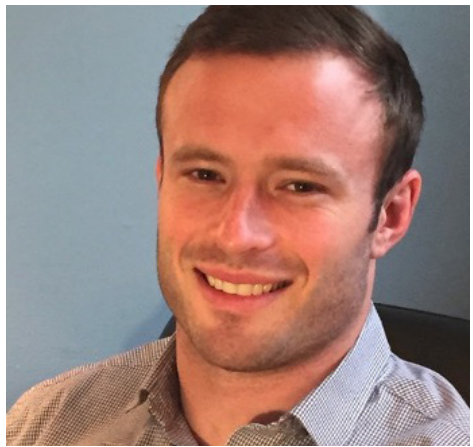
Grab some HxA tools and resources before you leave! Team HxA will be on hand and would love to chat.



Michael Roth

President, Wesleyan University

“The tendency to find scapegoats for one’s misery provides pleasures of righteousness across the political spectrum. Critical thinking alone will not turn us from such pleasures; reason alone never supplants sentiment. **We need critical feeling — practiced emotional alternatives to the satisfactions of outrage**”





Plenary Speakers



Plenary Speakers | Speakers appear alphabetically



Roslyn Clark Artis
President and CEO, Benedict College

Roslyn Clark Artis is the 14th president of Benedict College, a private, historically Black liberal arts college in Columbia, South Carolina, and previously served as the 13th president of Florida Memorial University. An innovator and thought leader on issues of higher education, she has published countless articles and editorials on topics related to higher education equity and inclusion as well as the complexities associated with leading minority serving institutions.

Jonathan Haidt
Cofounder and Board Chair, Heterodox Academy

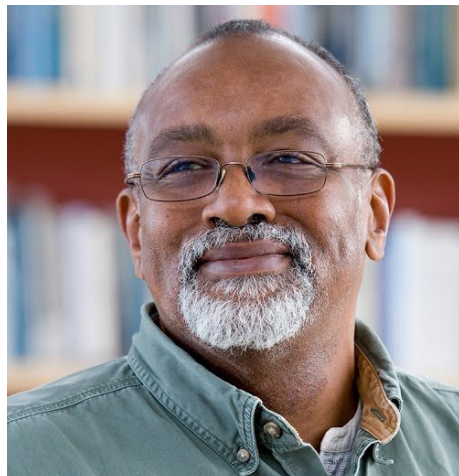
Jonathan Haidt is a social psychologist at New York University's Stern School of Business and the cofounder and board member of Heterodox Academy. His research examines the intuitive foundations of morality, and how morality varies across cultures – including the cultures of progressive, conservatives, and libertarians. He is the author of the New York Times bestsellers *The Righteous Mind: Why Good People Are Divided by Politics and Religion*, and *The Coddling of the American Mind: How Good Intentions and Bad Ideas Are Setting Up a Generation for Failure* (co-authored with Greg Lukianoff).



Scott Jaschik
Founder and Editor, Inside Higher Ed

Scott Jaschik is one of the three founders of *Inside Higher Ed*, where he leads the editorial operations, overseeing news content, opinion pieces, career advice, blogs and other features.

Plenary Speakers, continued



Glenn C. Loury

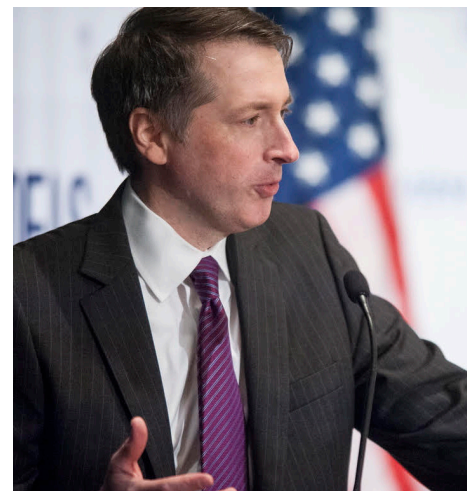
Merton P. Stoltz Professor of the Social Sciences and Professor of Economics, Brown University

Glenn Loury has published over 200 essays and reviews, and his books include *One by One from the Inside Out: Essays and Reviews on Race and Responsibility in America*; *The Anatomy of Racial Inequality, Race, Incarceration and American Values*; and *Ethnicity, Social Mobility and Public Policy: Comparing the US and the UK*.

Rich Lowry

Editor in Chief, National Review

Rich Lowry is the editor in chief of *National Review*. A syndicated columnist and a political commentator, he writes a weekly column for Politico. He is the author of *The Case for Nationalism: How It Made Us Powerful, United and Free and Lincoln Unbound*, which follows Abraham Lincoln's climb to the presidency. He is a frequent guest on NBC's *Meet the Press* and the TODAY show.



John McWhorter

Associate Professor of Linguistics, Columbia University

John McWhorter is an associate professor of linguistics at Columbia University and studies creole language, sociolects, and Black English. He is the author of over 20 books on race relations, hip-hop, and African American culture; *Woke Racism: How a New Religion Has Betrayed Black America* is his most recent.

Plenary Speakers, continued



Shirley Mullen
President Emerita, Houghton College

Shirley Mullen is the president emerita of Houghton College, where she served for 15 years, retiring in May 2021. Prior to becoming Houghton's president, she served at various times as a classroom professor, chief academic officer, and residence life director.

Lynn Pasquerella
President, American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U)

Lynn Pasquerella is the president of the American Association of Colleges and Universities. She previously served as the president of Mount Holyoke College. A philosopher whose work has combined teaching and scholarship with local and global engagement, Pasquerella has written extensively on medical ethics, metaphysics, public policy, and the philosophy of law.



Michael Roth
President, Wesleyan University

Michael Roth is the president of Wesleyan University. He previously served as Hartley Burr Alexander Professor of Humanities at Scripps College, associate director of the Getty Research Institute, and president of the California College of the Arts. He is the author of the award-winning book *Beyond the University: Why Liberal Education Matters*. His newest book, *Safe Enough Spaces: A Pragmatist's Approach to Inclusion, Free Speech, and Political Correctness*, addresses some of the most contentious issues in American higher education.



Plenary Speakers, continued



Erec Smith
Associate Professor of Rhetoric and Composition,
York College of Pennsylvania

Erec Smith is an associate professor of rhetoric and composition at York College of Pennsylvania. He is a cofounder of *Free Black Thought*, a website dedicated to highlighting viewpoint diversity within the black intelligentsia.

Holden Thorp
Editor in Chief, *Science*

Holden Thorp became the editor in chief of the Science family of journals in October 2019. He came to *Science* from Washington University, where he was provost from 2013 to 2019 and where he is the Rita Levi-Montalcini Distinguished University Professor and holds appointments in both chemistry and medicine.



John Tomasi
President, Heterodox Academy

John Tomasi is the inaugural president of Heterodox Academy, coming from Brown University, where he was the Romeo Elton 1843 Professor of Natural Theology and taught and wrote about political theory and public policy. At Brown, he was twice awarded university prizes for excellence in undergraduate teaching. His latest book, *Free Market Fairness*, draws simultaneously on moral insights from defenders of economic liberty such as F. A. Hayek and advocates of social justice such as John Rawls to offer a new theory of liberal justice, committed to both limited government and the material betterment of the poor.

Plenary Speakers, continued



Batya Ungar-Sargon
Deputy Opinion Editor, *Newsweek*

Batya Ungar-Sargon is the deputy opinion editor of *Newsweek*. Her book *Bad News: How Woke Media Is Undermining Democracy* came out in October. She has a Ph.D. from UC Berkeley and lives in New York.

Matthew Yglesias
Cofounder, *Vox.com*

Matthew Yglesias cofounded the popular news website *Vox.com* in 2014, where he currently works as a senior correspondent covering politics and economic policy. He is the author of three books, most recently *One Billion Americans: The Case for Thinking Bigger*.



Holden Thorp
Editor in Chief, *Science*

“This is a critically important time, when we have such pressing challenges in the world, to demonstrate the wonder of science and to advocate for the ideals of evidence, reproducibility, and scientific reasoning.”



Open Inquiry Awards



Open Inquiry Awards 2022

To address society's most intractable problems, we must weave together the best ideas from a range of perspectives. Without a campus and classroom environment that welcomes open inquiry, viewpoint diversity, and constructive disagreement, important questions and ideas go unexplored, key assumptions go unchallenged, and tribalism goes unchecked, eroding the quality of research and teaching.

HxA presents the Open Inquiry Awards to honor exemplary institutions and individuals who are leading the way in improving classrooms, campuses, and scholarship by championing these values.

This year, inaugural president John Tomasi will confer three awards on behalf of HxA:



Leadership Award | Roslyn Clark Artis

Presented to an individual who has most effectively championed the principles of open inquiry, viewpoint diversity, and constructive disagreement in the academy and beyond.



Courage Award | Dorian Abbot

Presented to an individual who has demonstrated consistent courage in pursuing truth and bravery in championing the principles of open inquiry, viewpoint diversity, and constructive disagreement in the academy despite social and professional costs.



Exceptional Student Award | Emma Camp

Presented to an undergraduate or graduate student who has made vital and durable contributions to open inquiry, viewpoint diversity, and constructive disagreement in higher education.

Leadership Award

Roslyn Clark Artis is the 14th and first woman president of Benedict College. Previously, Artis served as the 13th and first woman president of Florida Memorial University. An active HxA member, Artis is a contributor to HxA's Best Practices Guide and has been an expert panelist for roundtable discussions on the current state of diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives in higher education.

Artis has been recognized nationally for her commitment to the proliferation and transformation of colleges and universities that serve underrepresented people of color. She was named Female HBCU President of the Year by HBCU Digest, a Top 35 Leading Women in Higher Education by Diverse Issues in Higher Education, and, in 2020, President of the Year by Higher Ed Dive for her leadership in navigating the challenges of the pandemic.

Artis is a model for promoting and enacting HxA's core values of open inquiry, viewpoint diversity, and constructive disagreement on campus. Guided by a strong moral compass, she has been fearlessly committed to standing up for freedom of expression, challenging entrenched conventions and orthodoxies, and pushing students to think beyond their current horizons. She is an inspirational leader and a guide for those who seek to improve the quality of research and teaching in higher education.



You should never be intellectually safe on a college campus. The brain is a muscle. It ought to hurt; it ought to burn. I want to stretch it; I want to push you beyond what is comfortable.

Roslyn Clark Artis, "DEI Training Programs: What Do They Aim For? What Should They Aim For?", Heterodox Academy



Courage Award

Dorian Abbot is an associate professor of geophysics at the University of Chicago and the comoderator of HxA's HxSTEM Community. Abbot uses mathematical and computational models to understand and explain fundamental problems in earth and planetary sciences. His work centers on problems related to climate, paleoclimate, planetary habitability, and exoplanets.

In addition to his work as a geophysicist, Abbot is passionately committed to an ideal of fairness and building the next generation of scholars. He advocates for a system of Merit, Fairness, and Equality (MFE) "whereby university applicants are treated as individuals and evaluated through a rigorous and unbiased process based on their merit and qualifications alone."

Although Abbot's views on diversity initiatives came under intense scrutiny and led to the cancellation of his October 2021 talk at MIT's John Carlson Lecture, he has demonstrated consistent courage and bravery in championing his beliefs despite the costs he has endured. He has become a household name in higher education for being a professor who chose courage over fear, the pursuit of truth over group conformity, and free inquiry over censorship of any kind.



The purpose of a university is the discovery and transmission of knowledge, which requires the free and open exchange of ideas. However, complete academic freedom has ceased to exist at most universities, threatening their main mission.

Dorian Abbot, "My ACTA "Hero" Acceptance Speech", *Heterodox STEM*





Exceptional Student Award

Emma Camp graduated from the University of Virginia in 2022 with a degree in philosophy and English. While at the University of Virginia, she was a Jefferson Scholar, a regular freelance writer for *Reason Magazine*, and a HxA Student Affiliate.

With a passion for debate and critical inquiry, Emma has been outspoken in her support for freedom of speech on college campuses. In her pursuit to uphold and protect free inquiry, she interned for the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education and wrote extensively about campus speech for *Reason Magazine*, *Persuasion*, *The Cavalier Daily*, *FIRE Newsdesk*, and most recently, the *New York Times*.

Emma's pointed and honest *New York Times* op-ed, "I Came to College Eager for Debate. I Found Self-Censorship Instead," reverberated around the nation, reinvigorating national debates about the speech climate on college campuses. As a student suddenly thrust into the spotlight, Emma has remained as principled and constructive as ever. In the face of derogation and unconstructive pushback, she has demonstrated exceptional bravery in championing the principles of open inquiry, viewpoint diversity, and constructive disagreement.



We must keep advocating for a culture which values free expression—even if this is a phenomenon for which it is particularly difficult to be persuasive... The idea that ideological diversity and free thought should be held as important values is increasingly hard to come by.

Emma Camp, "Why My NYT Article Caused So Much Fury", *Persuasion*





Our Collaborators

We are excited to host a variety of organizations who share our goals and are doing essential work in related spheres. Come check them out and pick up some new resources and ideas.



Our Collaborators



Academic Engagement Network (AEN)

The Academic Engagement Network (AEN) is an independently run and nonpartisan nonprofit organization headquartered in Washington, D.C., engaging, educating, and empowering faculty and staff on university and college campuses across the U.S. to oppose efforts to delegitimize Israel; promote campus free expression and academic freedom; support research, education, and robust dialogue about Jewish identity and the Jewish experience in the academy; and counter antisemitism when it occurs on campus.



Academic Freedom Alliance (AFA)

The Academic Freedom Alliance (AFA) is an alliance of college and university faculty members who are dedicated to upholding the principle of academic freedom. This principle is central to the mission of our institutions for the pursuit of truth and knowledge. Our members from across the political spectrum recognize that an attack on academic freedom anywhere is an attack on academic freedom everywhere.



American Council of Trustees and Alumni (ACTA)

The American Council of Trustees and Alumni (ACTA) is an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting academic excellence, academic freedom, and accountability at America's colleges and universities. Launched in 1995, we are the only organization that works with alumni, donors, trustees, and education leaders across the United States to support liberal arts education, uphold high academic standards, safeguard the free exchange of ideas on campus, and ensure that the next generation receives an intellectually rich, high-quality college education at an affordable price.



Bipartisan Policy Center (BPC)

The Bipartisan Policy Center (BPC) is a Washington, D.C.-based think tank that actively fosters bipartisanship by combining the best ideas from both parties to promote health, security, and opportunity for all Americans. BPC's Campus Free Expression Project, which believes a free and open society depends upon the free and open exchange of ideas, promotes campus policies and programs that foster a safe and welcoming environment for robust intellectual exchange.



BridgeUSA

Through college and high school chapters, BridgeUSA is leading the fight against polarization and apathy among students across the country. We don't advocate for compromise. We advocate for dialogue between different perspectives to build better understanding between Americans.

Our Collaborators, continued



Cato's Sphere Education Initiative

Cato's Sphere Education Initiative works with grades 5–12 educators and administrators to provide them with the knowledge, experience, resources, and professional development opportunities to bring difficult conversations on the most pressing issues to the classroom and equip our country's students to engage in civil dialogue. By bringing facts and reason to the conversation, and through emphasizing viewpoint diversity, Sphere works to rekindle the foundation of civic culture in America.



Civic Spirit

Civic Spirit educates, inspires, and empowers schools across faith traditions to enhance civic belonging, knowledge, and responsibility in their student and faculty communities.



Foundation Against Intolerance and Racism

The Foundation Against Intolerance and Racism (FAIR) is a nonpartisan organization dedicated to advancing civil rights and liberties for all Americans, and promoting a common culture based on fairness, understanding and humanity.



The Foundation for Individual Rights in Education

The Foundation for Individual Rights in Education's mission is to defend and sustain the individual rights of students and faculty members at America's colleges and universities. These rights include freedom of speech, freedom of association, due process, legal equality, religious liberty, and sanctity of conscience — the essential qualities of liberty. FIRE educates students, faculty, alumni, trustees, and the public about the threats to these rights on our campuses and provides the means to preserve them.



FreeIC

Free Intelligent Conversation (FreeIC) is a nonprofit organization that facilitates engaging conversations between strangers in public places.

Our Collaborators, continued



Interfaith America

Religious diversity is a foundational American strength. Formerly known as Interfaith Youth Core, Interfaith America is building a nation that achieves that promise for the common good. We are a national nonprofit working toward an America where people of different faiths, worldviews, and traditions can bridge differences and find common values to build a shared life together. Our mission is to inspire, equip, and connect leaders and institutions to unlock the potential of America's religious diversity.



OpenMind

OpenMind is a research-driven nonprofit with a mission to equip the next generation with the habits of heart and mind to bridge divides. OpenMind's primary offering, the OpenMind Online Program, is an interactive, psychology-based learning experience that fosters intellectual humility, empathy, and belonging across classrooms and campuses. By 2025, OpenMind plans to serve 1 million students and 20,000 professors and educators annually. OpenMind is currently expanding their suite of resources to include tool kits for college leaders and additional resources for professors and students in order to reach that ambitious goal.



The Village Square

The Village Square is devoted to building civic trust between people who don't look or think alike in American communities. They host a rich variety of well-attended in-person and digital gatherings, bringing citizens together to find common ground. Find them online at villagesquare.us or check out their college speaker pair project at respectandrebillion.com.

Playing cards available throughout the conference space are generously donated by The Deep. The Deep is on a mission to overcome polarization, division, and closed-mindedness by asking questions that build bridges — not bubbles. Their questions are designed to liberate people from the good-and-bad, black-and-white thinking that is polarizing — and paralyzing — our society.

What is the Wi-Fi password?

We are offering complimentary Wi-Fi to all attendees within our conference space (the second and third floors of the Denver Grand Hyatt). If you are staying at the Grand Hyatt, you'll need to use a different code (provided by the front desk upon check-in) to access the internet in your hotel room.

Network Name: Hyatt-Meetings
Password: HxA2022

How can I get in touch with HxA staff during the conference?

HxA staff and volunteer support are present throughout the conference. Anyone with a purple lanyard is happy to help with any questions you may have.

If you're unable to find support in the moment, the registration table on the second floor (next to the escalator) will be staffed during all programming hours.

How can I get in touch with the hotel staff?

The Grand Hyatt's front desk is staffed 24/7 and they are happy to assist. You can also call them at 303-295-1234.

FAQs

Are masks required?

The HxA conference is following all CDC guidelines, as well as federal, state, and local COVID requirements.

At this time, Denver County and the state of Colorado are not mandating masks, and do not have other COVID-related requirements. However, we encourage all conference-goers to engage in events as their health preferences suggest.

Masks are provided at the registration desk and in the Aspen and Colorado ballrooms.

For other questions or concerns related to COVID precautions, please get in touch with an HxA staff member.

I have dietary restrictions. What should I do during meals?

We're committed to providing conference attendees with meals that fit your needs and have communicated with the hotel caterer to provide meals based on the restrictions indicated during attendee registration.

If you have food allergies or another special diet, please consult the labels on the buffet tables during the meals. For other restrictions, like kosher meals, there will be a separate section of the buffet.

When is checkout? What should I do with my luggage?

The Grand Hyatt's checkout time is 11 am. If you're staying at the Hyatt, we will have a staffed bag check available on Tuesday, June 14, in the Mt. Harvard room on the 3rd floor of the conference space. Please bring your bags to Mt. Harvard prior to the brunch plenary session and HxA staff can direct you to the bag check.

If you're not staying at the Hyatt, please check your luggage at the front desk of the hotel you're staying at.

Welcome to Denver!

Whether you're extending your stay or just hoping to see as much of the city as you can during the conference, there's plenty to check out.

Due to its elevation of 5,280 feet above sea level, Denver is nicknamed the Mile High City. The elevation means that golf balls go 10% farther when hit, but it also means that it's important to remember the altitude and the thinner, drier air that comes with it.

Tip for your stay in Denver

Transportation

Even when visiting without a car, Denver is accessible through public transportation and ride-share apps. Downtown Denver is connected to the airport via a rail service known as the A line, which takes 37 minutes and costs \$10.50. The free MALLRIDE bus (which runs along Denver's 16th St. Mall) can connect you between Union Station and the Grand Hyatt. The Grand Hyatt is on Welton Street between 17th St. and 18th St., a walk of only 1.5 blocks from the Welton St. stop.

To see where else public transportation can take you, visit www.rtd-denver.com.

Drink plenty of water.

This is the top tip to combat any elevation effects.

Monitor your alcohol intake.

The effects of alcohol are stronger here!

Watch your physical activity.

Exercising is harder; start slow, especially if you're only visiting for a few days.

Pack for sun.

Denver has over 300 days of sunshine per year, and the sun is stronger due to the elevation.

Dress in layers.

Even in the summer, temperatures can drop quickly, especially after sunset.

Policies

What is the COVID-19 policy for the conference?

Heterodox Academy (“HxA”) Conference COVID-19 Disclaimer

Given the danger of possible infection from coronavirus/COVID-19, including each of its now known and future strains (collectively, “COVID”), you should not attend the Heterodox Academy Conference 2022, to be held June 12–14, 2022, in Denver, Colorado (the “Conference”), unless you are prepared to follow all venue and other requirements adhered to by HxA at the time of the Conference. By your voluntary attendance at the Conference, you assume the risk of possible COVID infection and all other related risks, and you waive and release any and all COVID-related claims of any kind whatsoever that you or your spouse/partner, heirs, or representatives may have against HxA and each of HxA’s members, directors, officers, agents, representatives, employees, and other personnel (collectively, the “HxA Parties”) from or related to your attendance at the Conference. You acknowledge that many individuals and groups will be using the hotel facilities during the dates of the Conference (as well as other facilities that will be used by us during such time, including without limitation restaurants), and that HxA will have little, if any, ability to control any interactions among either attendees and/or the other users of such facilities. HxA will comply with, and will ask that all attendees comply with, all applicable state and local laws, as well as all venue rules and regulations, regarding COVID-related matters. For instance, but without limiting the foregoing, the venue may require that you wear a face mask during all Conference-related indoor events. You acknowledge that you will be required to affirm upon your arrival at the Conference (and that your participation will be reliant on your affirming) that you have no COVID-related symptoms, that you have recently not been exposed to anyone with COVID-related symptoms, and that you will notify us immediately of any changes in your status.

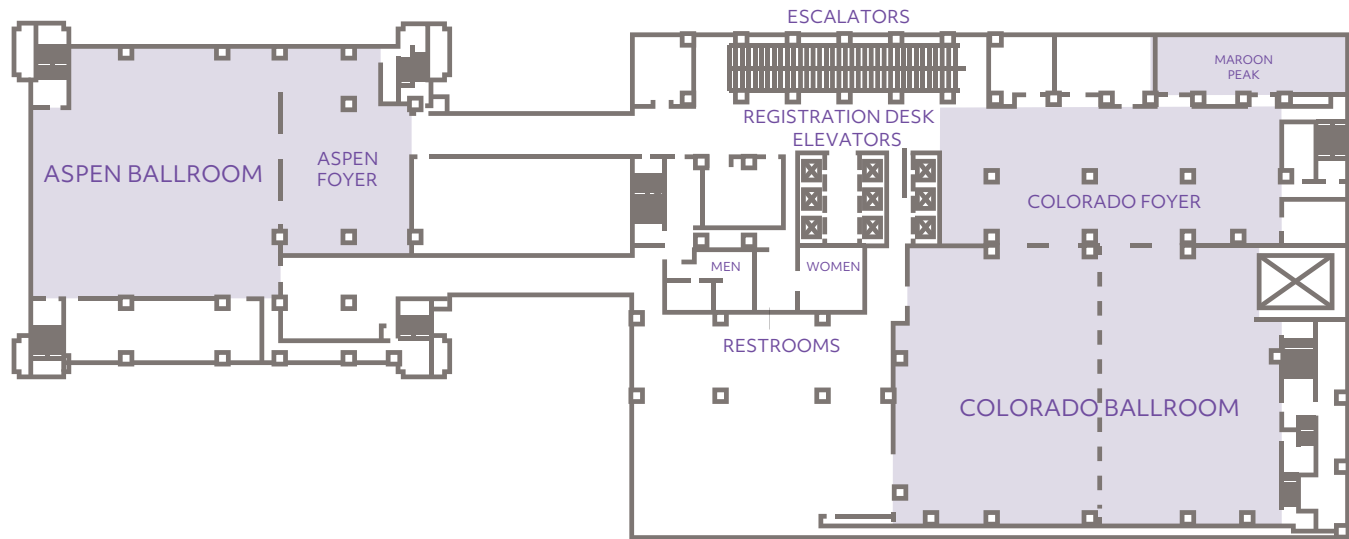
What is the AV policy?

HETERODOX ACADEMY (“HXA”) CONFERENCE RECORDING NOTICE

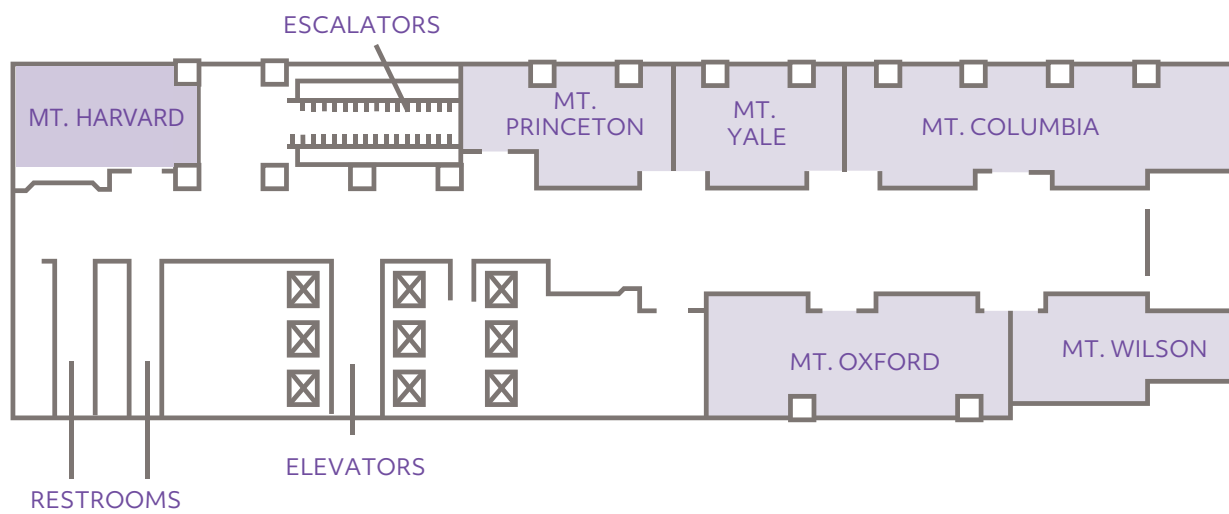
HxA will be photographing, videotaping, and otherwise recording the Heterodox Academy Conference 2022, to be held June 12–14, 2022, in Denver, Colorado (the “Conference”), and using the resulting footage for promotional and other purposes. You hereby grant HxA the exclusive, perpetual, worldwide, irrevocable, royalty-free and fully paid right and permission to use, distribute, publish, exhibit, digitize, broadcast, display, reproduce, and otherwise use your name, image, likeness, voice, and biography (or any copyrighted material or trademarks owned and displayed by you) in any manner or media whatsoever (whether now known or hereafter known) including without limitation for the purposes of advertising or trade in promoting and publicizing the Conference, HxA, and/or our services, whether appearing in or derived from such footage, or whether provided to us from you or any third party. You acknowledge that you shall have no right to approve any use of the recordings we make or the results and proceeds of your attendance at the Conference, and that you have no right of attribution. You further acknowledge that HxA shall be able to alter, edit, modify, or delete the recordings as it deems necessary and that HxA shall not be liable for any distortion or other negative effect resulting from the publication, distribution, transmission, or reproduction of such recordings. For clarity, HxA has the right, but not the obligation, to use all such recordings as it determines in its sole discretion.

Conference Floor Plans

Second Floor



Third Floor



Join the HxA Network!

We'd love to stay connected. Sign up for our weekly newsletter today and never miss out on our latest content, events, and workshops.

Eligible individuals are also invited to consider membership with HxA.

Current students, faculty, staff, and administrators (along with other higher ed professionals) are encouraged to join HxA's membership program. Among the numerous benefits to membership include:

- Invitations to members-only discussions, panels, and other events
- Exclusive award and funding opportunities of up to \$30,000
- Access to HxCommunities: Connect with HxA supporters in your field or local area.
- Opportunities to share your research to the HxA Community through our Member Spotlight Series



members

1. Psychology
2. Philosophy
3. Political Science
4. Economics
5. History

top disciplines



states



countries

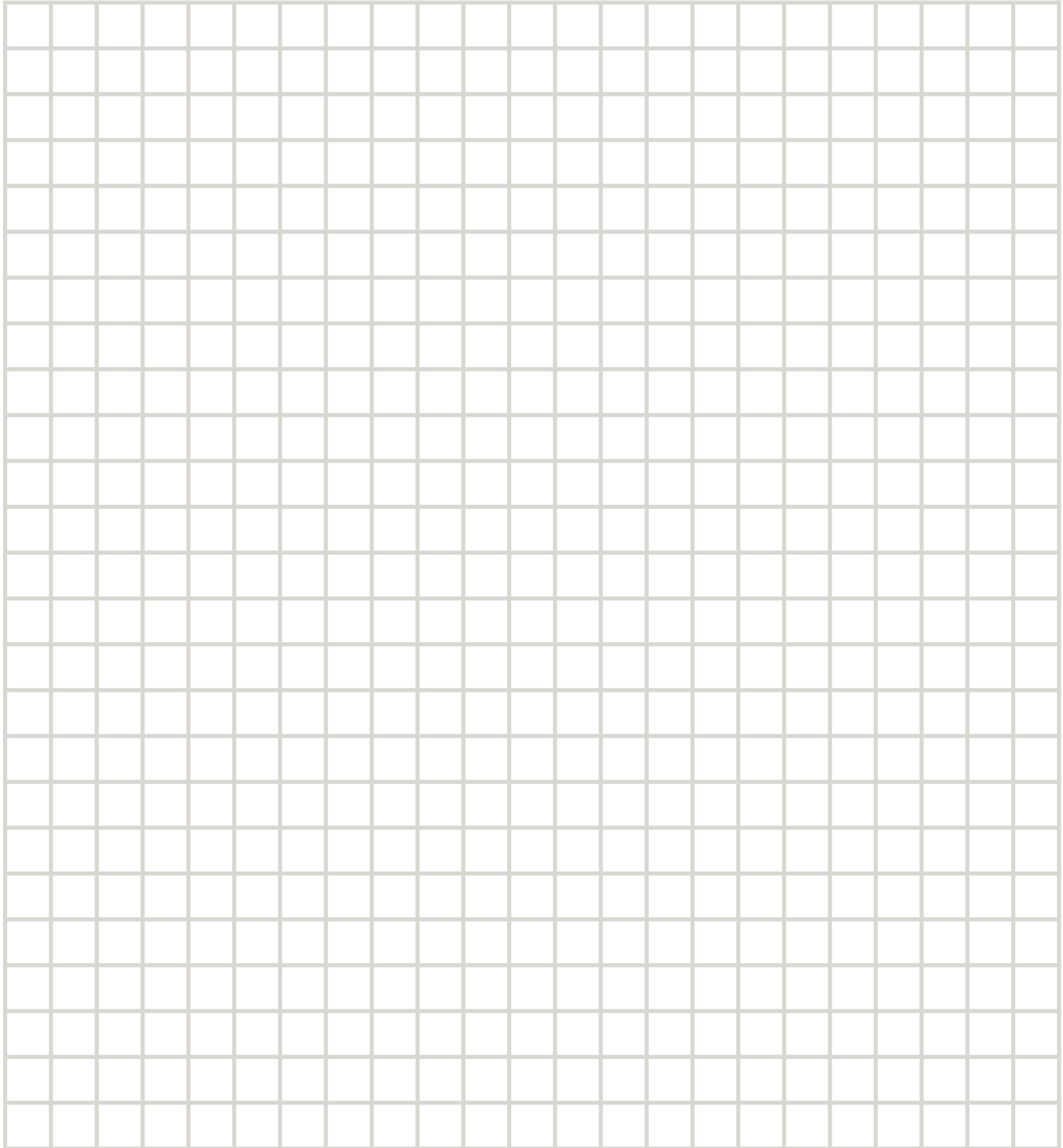


John Tomasi
President, Heterodoxy Academy

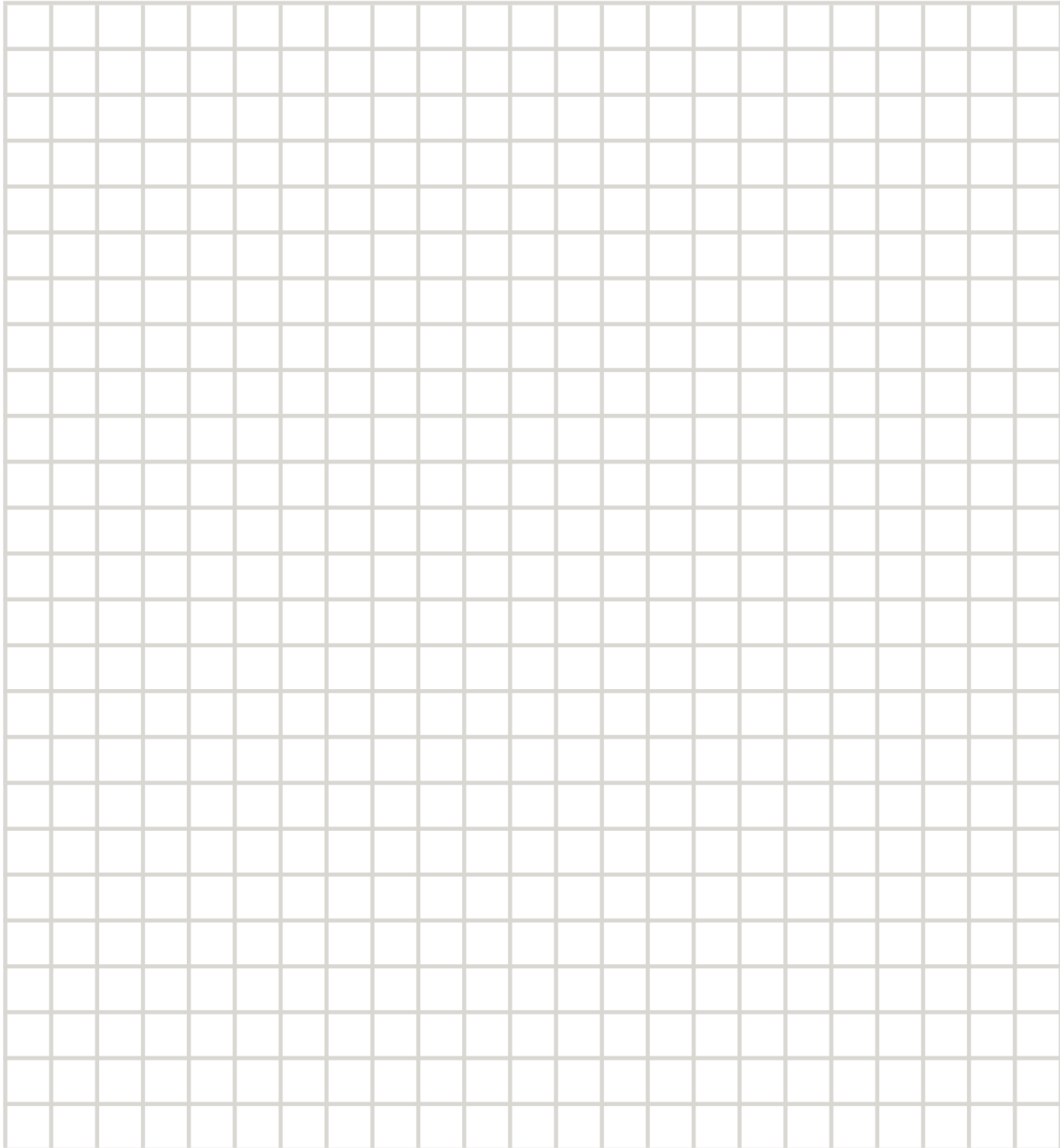
"Being non-partisan does not mean being non-political.

Heterodox Academy, as I understand it, is a profoundly political organization. Its principles of membership reflect a commitment to one broad and inclusive approach to social progress, and thus a rejection of various rival approaches."

Notes



Notes





Fun Fact: *Though the names of our meeting rooms are fitting for an academic conference, they are actually named for the Collegiate Peaks range in the Rocky Mountains, located in central Colorado. Mt. Harvard is the third highest peak in the state!*



#HxConference22