William F. Buckley Jr. Program at Yale

2011-2012

Annual Report

Message from Lauren Noble '11, Founder

Since our founding in the winter of 2010, the Buckley Program has grown immensely. Today, we are close to passing the \$200,000 mark in funds raised, thanks to both supportive foundations and individuals. We have developed roots on campus, becoming an integral part of its academic geography. And we are poised to continue growing and making an impact at Yale. I hope you take the time to read this newsletter and learn more about what we are doing in New Haven.

I am deeply grateful to those who have shown their trust in this Program and its leadership. We started with an ambitious goal — to provide true intellectual diversity at Yale — and many joined us in making that goal a reality. I want to thank all of our donors for their generosity. As we look into the future, I hope to continue reporting more blue skies and smooth sailing.

Message from Nathaniel Zelinsky '13,

Student President

On behalf of the Buckley Program, I am happy to report a successful end to the 2011-2012 academic year — and what a year it has been. We started at a clipped pace and never looked back. Beginning in September, the Program brought 19 guest speakers to Yale's campus, averaging almost one a week in the spring semester. Lecturers included Harvard Professor Harvey Mansfield, Ambassador L. Paul Bremer '63, and *The Wall Street Journal*'s Steve Moore.

Our November gala-conference on the 60th anniversary of *God and Man at Yale* saw close to 200 guests come to New Haven for an afternoon of panel discussions and an evening of tributes by members of the Buckley family and Dr. Henry Kissinger.

In February, we sent 20 students on a subsidized educational trip to the Conservative Political Action Conference in DC, where they spent three days observing the conference activities. That same month, we launched our new debate series, in partnership with the Rosenkranz Family Foundation. The first two



Harvard Professor Harvey Mansfield speaks to students as part of a Pierson College Master's Tea. At bottom left, sits Pierson Master Harvey Goldblatt. Credit: Henry Ehrenberg, Yale Daily News.

debates explored the Supreme Court's interpretation of the 2nd Amendment and the role of American foreign policy. For their support of this activity, we would like to thank the generosity of the Rosenkranz Family Foundation, Robert Rosenkranz '62, and Nicholas Quinn Rosenkranz '92, LAW '99.

This April, students published an essay contest, which drew submissions from across the Yale community. And the summer will see the fruition of our internship program, when three undergraduates will receive stipends to work at *National Review, The New Criterion*, and *The American Spectator*.

Overall, the Program is healthy and growing — we are at the center of campus activity. As always, I welcome your comments, so please feel free to contact me via email at Nathaniel@BuckleyProgram.com.

SPRING AT A GLANCE

- 1 Conference on God & Man at Yale
- 19 Guest Speakers
- 2 Debates
- 2 Not-for-Credit Seminars
- **10 Partnering Organizations**
- 1 Essay Contest
- 3 Summer Internships

In Focus: Summer Internship Program

The purpose of the summer internship program is to link highly talented Yale students with enriching summer opportunities. This summer, three students will work at *National Review, The New Criterion,* and *The American Spectator* for 9 to 10 weeks. Thanks to our donors, the Buckley Program is able to provide our interns with a \$3000 living stipend, so that this experience is affordable to students of all backgrounds, regardless of their means.

In coming years, we hope to expand the internship program to include more employers and a possible fellowship for students interested in doing independent research.



From left to right, Bill Kristol, Dr. Henry Kissinger, and Professor Donald Kagan at the November gala-conference on *God and Man at Yale*.

In Focus: Not-for-Credit Seminars

The Buckley Program is dedicated to facilitating new academic offerings at Yale. Just this year, we spurred the Political Science department to teach a for-credit seminar on William F. Buckley, Jr. and the role of public intellectuals in politics. But, as we work for these course offerings to expand, we have devised an entirely student-run program to fill gaps in Yale's academic offerings. Our not-for-credit seminar series brings prominent thinkers to Yale for one-day workshops on topics ranging from philosophy to economic policy.

The spring semester saw two seminars. In February, New-Orleans based developer Kenneth Bickford led a roundtable talk on conservative urbanism. This April, *Weekly Standard* editor William Kristol led a discussion

on the definitions of conservatism, examining the work of Strauss, Buckley, Hayek, and others.

We are pleased to announce a partnership with the Apgar Foundation to continue our not-for-credit seminars in the years ahead.

What Students Are Saying

"The Buckley Program is exactly the kind of program we need on Yale's campus. The Program not only opens up political dialogue by bringing in a number of intelligent speakers, but also gives a broad group of conservative students the opportunity to work together.

I am looking forward to the Program's events next year and I expect to learn a lot from both the speakers and my friends in the Program."

-Mark DiPlacido '15, Student Fellow

"The Program's rich assortment of lectures from key leaders and thinkers - combined with the opportunities to meet and converse with them directly - make this one of Yale's most enriching and exciting new organizations."

-John Aroutiounian '15, Student Fellow

Save the Date

A Conference Celebrating Sixty Years Since Whittaker Chambers' *Witness*

Friday, November 30th, 2012

Yale University, New Haven Connecticut

HOW TO SUPPORT

We deeply appreciate all your support.

Donations can be made online at

www.buckleyprogram.com or by mail at:

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