Teaching Tomorrow’s Leaders
Free Enterprise Leadership Challenge embarks on nationwide tour
Memo From: John Dodd, President

Subject: Teaching Young Leaders

Not long ago, I sat at a wonderful event with a few hundred other conservatives to hear a panel of national leaders discuss the current state of our economy. After the three members of the panel finished their presentations bemoaning the fiscal insanity and lack of understanding of free enterprise in Washington, the audience was given a chance to ask questions. One gentleman asked how we could get this message to our young people, specifically those in high school. I’ll never forget one panel leader’s answer. He simply said, “Don’t worry sir, once they get a paycheck they will become conservatives.” I don’t know about you, but I found this answer to be most disappointing.

You see, I fear that too many of our young people won’t even be able to earn a decent paycheck, much less learn about government taxes. The unemployment/underemployment rate for college graduates is now at 50 percent and student loan debt stands at $1 trillion. Additionally, only 15% of high school students will find summer jobs this summer because college grads and undergrads are being forced to take the minimum wage entry level jobs that used to be the purview of high school students. With most liberal university professors attacking our free enterprise system, what are we to do? I for one do not believe that counting on young people to become conservative once they receive their first paycheck is very effective.

Senator Helms cared deeply about young people. Meeting and teaching them about our country’s founding principles on their visits to Washington was always a priority for him during his 30 year career in the U.S. Senate. The Jesse Helms Center carries on the Senator’s vision by developing innovative programming aimed at teaching our young people the principles of limited government and traditional values.

Inside our newsletter, you’ll read summaries of recent events and our plan to expand our Free Enterprise Leadership Challenge. We are making a real difference as more of the young men and women we have impacted over the years are becoming business leaders and elected officials, as well as student leaders at their universities. We simply could not have this impact if it were not for your continued financial commitment to our mission. Thank you for all you have done and all you continue to do for the Jesse Helms Center.
SECOND ANNUAL VICTORY CELEBRATION

Event honors the 1976 election that saw Reagan win his first presidential primary with the help of Helms

The second annual Reagan-Helms Victory Celebration was held on May 29 in Raleigh to commemorate the historic 1976 North Carolina presidential primary where then-candidate Ronald Reagan achieved his first victory with the help of Senator Jesse Helms. Down in the polls, Helms’ direct public support and campaign appearances spurred North Carolinians into action and helped give President Reagan his first presidential primary victory. Over 100 friends of the Helms Center heard from Congresswoman Virginia Foxx as she shared thoughts on principled leadership and why we need more principled conservatives in office.

Congresswoman Foxx helped present the 2012 John P. East Excellence in Public Service award to North Carolina Senate President Pro Tempore Phil Berger. Congresswoman Foxx was elected to her fourth term representing North Carolina’s Fifth district in the United States House of Representa-
Free Enterprise Leadership Challenge continues national expansion

It all started with Senator Helms’ vision for the purpose of the Jesse Helms Center. The Senator did not like the idea of a center with his name on it, and he did not want a “dusty museum.” However, he did like the idea of developing programs to help young people.

So with that directive in mind, the Free Enterprise Leadership Challenge (FELC) was created. Helms Center President John Dodd led the charge, and quickly realized that just teaching students about our nation’s free enterprise system wasn’t enough.

“If the Helms Center was going to make a direct impact on the lives of young people, if we were to have them truly understand what has made our country great, then we realized that we had to engage them in a way that made them active partners in the free enterprise system,” said Dodd. So, in 1995, the Jesse Helms Center hosted the first FELC program on the campus of Wingate University.

A unique curriculum was created using an experiential learning model—teaching concepts and principles through interactive assignments. The opportunity to expand came first in 2011, when we hosted a one-time session of the program at Houston Baptist University in Houston, Texas.

This summer, we are hosting four sessions of FELC. We recently just wrapped up sessions one and two, at Wingate University and Northwood University in Dallas, Texas. The remaining two sessions are at Campbell University (July 15-19) and at Northwood University in West Palm Beach, Florida (July 22-26). Additionally, with the support of the E.A. Morris Charitable Foundation, two E.A. Morris Banquets are being conducted to expose our friends and supporters to the students attending FELC. N.C. State Associate Head Men’s Basketball Coach, Bobby Lutz gave an incredible speech on achieving one’s potential at our Wingate program. John Amuchukwu, headmaster at Upper Room Christian Academy will be the featured speaker on July 17 at Campbell.

“One day, these young people will be leaders in their communities. They’ll be business owners, parents, voters and employees. We must do what we can to ensure that they understand free enterprise and recognize that the alternative to capitalism is an ever expanding government and economic stagnation,” Dodd emphasized. Do you want to be a part of FELC’s expansion effort? Share a monetary gift to support a student’s attendance using the envelope inside this newsletter. Or, recommend FELC to a student, educator or community group you know by emailing Lindsay@Jessehelmscenter.org. For more giving options, contact Brian Rogers, Chief Operating Officer, at (704) 233-1776. ext. 4.
U.S. Senator Marco Rubio delivers first major foreign policy address at Jesse Helms Center Lecture

Wingate University was the scene for the Jesse Helms Lecture Series featuring U.S. Senator Marco Rubio delivering his first major address on foreign policy. The highly regarded senator from Florida spoke about America's role in the world to a crowd of over 500 students, faculty and Helms Center friends. Rubio's call for a strong national defense and a return to a conservative foreign policy was well received. Senator Rubio's remarks were covered by many national media outlets, including MSNBC, and footage of the event was streamed online. Following his remarks, Rubio answered questions from Wingate University students. Visit www.jessehelmscenter.org to view Senator Rubio's full speech. Click on 'Programs' then 'Lecture Series' to watch the archived footage. Below is a portion of Senator Rubio's landmark foreign policy address at Wingate University.

"AMERICA'S ROLE IN THE WORLD"

"President Reagan challenged the evil empire. 'Tear down this wall,' he demanded, and it came down. We won the cold war not by coddling dictators, but by confronting them and by standing up for the principles that defined us since the formation of our great republic.

As I think about the challenges of the 21st century, challenges that range from upheavals in the Middle East to the fiscal crisis back home, I am mindful of Ronald Reagan's example and of Jesse Helms. I'm guided by their understanding that America's strength lies in its ideals. And if we are to make this century another American century then we must be prepared to fight for those ideals. Fundamentally, I believe that the world is a better place when the United States of America is strong and prosperous.

And I don't believe that America has the power or means to solve every issue in the world. But I do believe that there are some critically important issues where America does have a meaningful role to play in resolving crises that are tied to our national interests. If we refuse to play our rightful role, the world will pay a terrible price.

And it is our responsibility to clearly outline to the American people what our proper role in the world is, and what American interests are at stake, when we engage abroad.

At the core of our strength are the self evident truths of the Declaration of Independence: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; that governments exists to secure these rights; and that it derives its just powers from the consent of the governed."
U.S. Senator Jon Kyl speaks at annual Jesse Helms Lecture in Washington, D.C.

Senator Jon Kyl recently delivered the third annual Jesse Helms Lecture at The Heritage Foundation in Washington, DC.

The lecture series began in 2010 with former U. N. Ambassador John Bolton delivering a critique of the Obama’s administration’s policies at the United Nations and was followed in 2011 by U.S. Senator Mike Lee discussing the dangerous Law of the Sea Treaty, currently being considered by the U.S Senate. Senator Kyl’s speech, Why Conservatives Should Fund and Support a Strong National Defense, was delivered to congressional aides and conservative activists and streamed live on the Heritage Foundation’s vast national and international network.

Senator Kyl talked about the challenges our nation’s military faces with budget cuts and America’s role in the world. An portion of Senator Kyl’s speech appears below.

Visit www.jessehelmscenter.org to hear an excerpt of Senator Kyl’s speech.

"I believe Jesse Helms would concur with our effort today to make the case for preserving a robust U.S. military capable of backing our security goals. In fact, in 1976, in an address to the Conservative Political Action Conference, Senator Helms spoke of a similar crisis of confidence, and he admonished us not to bow to the pervading cynicism about America’s role in the world....

We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to Senator Helms because he did not throw in the towel when the “going got tough.” Moreover, we know that on the biggest national security questions of his day, although Senator Helms often found himself out of step with fashionable opinion, he persevered, and history proved him right time and time again.

In the 1970s, it was fashionable to accept the Soviet Empire as a permanent feature of the global landscape. But Senator Helms established a friendship with the great Russian dissident Alexander Solzhenitsyn; he maintained solidarity with other freedom fighters behind the Iron Curtain; and he continued to speak out against the evils of Communism....Remember President Reagan’s answer to the question about his doctrine for the Cold War: ‘We win, they lose.’ And Margaret Thatcher’s admonition, ‘Don’t go wobbly on me.’ These were the leaders who were in it for the long haul—to win. Today’s conservatives must be equally committed, even when we are tired and stressed—remaining true the doctrines of Thatcher, Reagan, and Helms.”
Former White House aide shares story with students

Timothy Goeglein, Vice President for External Relations for Focus on the Family, visited with over 400 Covenant Day Upper School students at their Matthews, North Carolina campus. Goeglein, who grew up in Indiana, was an advisor to President George W. Bush and served as the liaison for the President to the conservative movement. A poor choice led to his abrupt departure from the White House all of which is detailed in his recent book “The Man in the Middle: An Inside Account of Faith in Politics in the George W. Bush Era.” Goeglein not only shared his personal story with students, he openly talked about the role that his Christian faith played during his career. Following his meeting at Covenant Day, Goeglein spoke at a special Helms Center luncheon, giving a keynote address on The Role of Faith in Politics. Helms Center friends heard about the faith-based problems facing our nation and how faith is an integral part of the political landscape.

BB&T lectures feature notable economists

Dr. Robert Lawson, BB&T Scholar Vasyi Khokhla and Wingate University professor Dr. Joseph Ellis

Dr. Robert Lawson, Jerome M. Fullinwider Chair in Economic Freedom at Southern Methodist University, shared findings recently released in the Economic Freedom of the World Report (a publication of the Fraser Institute). Lawson reported that the world’s largest economy, the United States, has suffered one of the largest declines in economic freedom over the last 10 years, pushing it into tenth place. Much of this decline is a result of higher government spending and borrowing, as well as lower scores for legal structure and property rights protection. For more information about the annual Economic Freedom of the World report, visit www.freetheworld.com.

Dr. Tyler Cowen, the General Director of the Mercatus Center at George Mason University, discussed his latest best-selling book The Great Stagnation: How America Ate All the Low-Hanging Fruit, Got Sick, and Will (Eventually) Feel Better. Cowen contends that America must develop policies that promote creativity and innovation if it is to retain its title as a world superpower. Cowen is the co-author of the popular blog Marginal Revolution and was named “America’s Hottest Economist” by Bloomberg Businessweek in 2011.
The Standard

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JUNE 17-21 - FELC at Wingate University (Wingate), just outside of Charlotte, North Carolina

JUNE 24-28 - FELC at Northwood University (Cedar Hill campus), just outside of Dallas, Texas

JULY 15-19 - FELC at Campbell University (Buies Creek), just outside of Raleigh, North Carolina

JULY 22-26 - FELC at Northwood University in the heart of West Palm Beach, Florida

www.felcexperience.org