



## WILLIAM F. BUCKLEY, JR. PROGRAM AT YALE

111 Whitney Avenue  
New Haven, CT 06510  
[www.buckleyprogram.com](http://www.buckleyprogram.com)



Christina Hoff Sommers spoke at a Buckley Program event in January 2015.



George Will headlined our inaugural Disinvitation Dinner in April 2015.

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# William F. Buckley, Jr. Program at Yale 2014-2015 Annual Report

## Message from the Chairman of the Board, Roger Kimball M. Phil '82

It's been another banner year for the William F. Buckley, Jr. Program at Yale. Lauren Noble, our *imperatrix* and *magistra ludi*, has the particulars of the program's crowded season below. I will detain you but briefly in discharging my twofold task.

First, I'd like to say a word about what has emerged as a major leitmotif in the symphony that is WFB Program. We've hosted dozens of speakers on as many subjects and have sponsored debates, panels, reflections, convocations, and symposia. But one subject that keeps returning, like one of Friedrich Nietzsche's bad dreams, revolves around the issue of free speech. When we invited the great Muslim apostate Ayaan Hirsi Ali to Yale a while back, there was the expected outcry from the Muslim Students Association. For a moment, it looked as though a nasty confrontation was brewing. But Yale's new President Peter Salovey stepped up to the plate and provided a ringing endorsement not only for the WFB Program but also for the principle of free speech.

It would be nice if President Salovey's defense of free speech as an indispensable adjunct to the thriving of a free society were more broadly embraced by those institutions which we've entrusted to perpetuate intellectual freedom. But the sad truth is that our colleges and universities, though lavishly funded and granted every perquisite which a dynamic capitalist economy can offer, have become factories for the manufacture of intellectual and moral conformity. Political correctness, not robust debate, reigns supreme on most campuses, and the preposterous policing of "micro-aggressions" and dissemination of surreal "trigger warnings" have become *de rigueur* at many institutions that, not so long ago, could have described themselves without irony as institutions of higher education. One sign of this corrosive virus is the popular game of "disinvitation." It works like this: A prominent commentator is invited to address a college or university. But his or her record is scrutinized for sentiments that might be deemed offensive to a protected class of putative victims. Even the nationally celebrated columnist George Will was first invited and then disinvited from a college — Scripps — because someone somewhere found something he wrote or said "offensive."

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Buckley Fellows at the inaugural Disinvitation Dinner.



Chairman Roger Kimball's message cont.

I take one of my own personal mottos from the 19th-century American man of letters William Dean Howells: the problem for a critic, he said, is not making enemies but keeping them. One should not be gratuitously offensive, of course, but if you don't provoke people you probably are not speaking the truth. I am proud that Lauren was able to draw attention to the national embarrassment that the rash of disinvitations represents by starting what promises to be an annual event, the Disinvitation Dinner. Our first honoree was none other than the great George Will who, I am happy to report, did yeoman's service by offering plenty of observations sure to offend the delicate snowflakes at Scripps and other institutions who are more concerned about perpetuating their state of swaddling timidity than becoming adults.

My second order of business is to dilate on a neglected virtue that Bill wrote an entire book about: gratitude. Aristotle, you'll remember, said man was the "rational animal." I sometimes wonder if "ungrateful animal" wouldn't be more accurate. For however intermittently rational we and our fellow *homo sapiens* may be, there is no doubt that most of us are consistent in practicing ingratitude. I'd like to redress that at least a mite by registering our profound gratitude to you, our friends and supporters, for making the missionary work of the WFB Program possible. Lauren has done an amazing job at transforming what just a few short years ago was a lonely student initiative (she was the student who brought along the initiative) into a bustling testimonial to the power of Bill Buckley's distinctive brand of conservative thought. The program has had national recognition, you've seen our work on C-SPAN and in the press, but here's a critical truth: we couldn't have done it without you. Look around our culture, especially the culture of our universities. It's a pretty sorry sight, isn't it? The William F. Buckley, Jr. Program at Yale is offering an adult alternative. I hope you will continue to make our important work possible.

Thank you and Godspeed.



Buckley Fellows at the inaugural Disinvitation Dinner.

## Message from the Founder & Executive Director, Lauren Noble '11

As the William F. Buckley, Jr. Program at Yale looks forward to another semester, I am delighted to fill you in on our productive and exciting 2014-2015 academic year. Launched just over five years ago, the Buckley Program has dedicated itself to promoting intellectual diversity on Yale's campus. Through our efforts, we have made different points of view a regular, typically unremarkable occurrence at a time when one sadly cannot say the same for many other college campuses.

Of course, that is not to suggest that we haven't faced detractors of our own. When word got around campus last September that we planned to host the courageous activist Ayaan Hirsi Ali as part of the annual Irving Brown Lecture Series, the Yale Muslim Students Association tried to pressure us into disinviting her. Dozens of campus groups signed on to the MSA's open letter criticizing Ms. Hirsi Ali and the Buckley Program's decision to give her a platform.

The Buckley Program refused to submit to this attempt at public intimidation by the self-appointed speech police. What were the consequences of standing up firmly for free speech? Shouting? Boycotts? Riots?

Quite the contrary. The actual lecture went off without a hitch. Every seat in one of Yale's largest lecture halls was filled. Hundreds of students lined up down the block were turned away due to lack of space.

In spite of trigger warnings and other politically correct fads, the demand for a different point of view still exists. And while carrying the banner for intellectual diversity and open debate on a college campus isn't always easy, it's important and necessary.

Our namesake, Bill Buckley, understood this fact. Upon the founding of *National Review*, he wrote:

The inroads that relativism has made on the American soul are not so easily evident. One must recently have lived on or close to a college campus to have a vivid intimation of what has happened. It is there that we see how a number of energetic social innovators, plugging their grand designs, succeeded over the years in capturing the liberal intellectual imagination. And since ideas rule the world, the ideologues, having won over the intellectual class, simply walked in and started to run things.

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Buckley Fellows with James Taranto at our fourth annual conference.

Founder & Exec. Director Lauren Noble's message cont.

Then and now, ideas rule the world. It is with this in mind that the Buckley Program will continue to stand up for the honest exchange of ideas in one of the quarters of intellectual life where it is most desperately needed.

I invite you to read more about our activities and how we have enriched the campus conversation over the past year through Firing Line Debates, conferences, seminars, lectures, and more. From our fall 2014 conference on the 50th anniversary of James Burnham's *Suicide of the West* to our inaugural Disinvitation Dinner, there can be little doubt that our success would not be possible without the support of people like you. We are deeply grateful to all those who have bolstered our efforts and made New Haven home to a defender of free speech, limited government, and free enterprise.

While we are pleased with the impact we've made thus far, we recognize that we still have a lot more work to do. Fortunately, we are blessed with steady friends and volunteers, including our Board of Directors and Student Board.

The year ahead holds much promise, with one of the highlights sure to be our fifth annual conference on November 6th. I hope you'll be able to join us then or at one of our many other events throughout the year.

In the meantime, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at [Lauren@BuckleyProgram.com](mailto:Lauren@BuckleyProgram.com) with questions, comments, or ideas.



Buckley Fellows with Dr. Michael Auslin.

## Message from the Student President, Zach Young '17

Growing up, I didn't have to look far for a good debate. My mother is a lifelong Democrat, my grandparents were socialists, and my father voted for Reagan. This made for an interesting time at the dinner table—to say the least.

Little did I know then that Bill Buckley broadcast these same kinds of debates to millions of Americans, albeit with much better vocabulary. His show, *Firing Line*, epitomized a conservative ideal of open discourse. Like my dinner table, it brought together people from across the ideological spectrum. And in doing so, it gave vigor and power to the intellectual life of a nation.

Yet today, it is the free exchange of ideas that is under fire.

Institutions of higher education have succumb to an age of trigger warnings, micro-aggressions, and identity politics, of disinvited guests and censored content. "Free speech" might as well mean speech that is *free* from potentially unsettling thoughts and ideas.

With this academic climate, the mission of the Buckley Program—to promote intellectual diversity, to foster open political discourse, and to expose students to differing viewpoints—is needed now more than ever.

And what better place to fill that need than at Yale, long the national stage for challenging leftist orthodoxies. Bill Buckley, when he wrote *God & Man at Yale* a year after his graduation, ignited a nationwide debate about the leftward shift of elite universities. The Federalist Society—founded at Yale Law School—sparked a movement that has spread coast-to-coast. The Buckley Program follows in this tradition by defending free speech in all corners and shedding light on overlooked ideas. We are incredibly proud to set this example for colleges around the country.

Just this past year, we brought Christina Hoff Sommers to talk about "freedom feminism" and Jason Riley to explain why liberal policies *might actually make it tougher* for black Americans to succeed. We hosted Firing Line debates on whether to restore relations with Cuba and legalize marijuana. Over fifty students joined our program as fellows, carrying with them Bill Buckley's legacy for a new generation.

None of this could happen without the support of friends like you. On behalf of the Student Board and our community of 120 student fellows, I thank you for standing with us.





# 2014-2015 ACADEMIC YEAR *Events In Review*

This past academic year, the Buckley Program hosted seventeen events, including lectures, Firing Line debates, and seminars.



Our Firing Line Debate on Conceding Castro's Cuba: A Productive Partnership or a Capitulation to Authoritarianism?

## FALL 2014

- **Saturday, September 6th:** Seminar with Dr. Alvin Felzenberg on William F. Buckley, Jr.
- **Monday, September 15th:** Lecture by Ayaan Hirsi Ali on the Clash of Civilizations: Islam and the West, made possible with the generous support of the Irving Brown Lecture Series and Young America's Foundation
- **Wednesday, September 24th:** Seminar with Dr. Bruce Caldwell on F. A. Hayek
- **Tuesday, October 14th:** Firing Line Debate on the War on Drugs, featuring Governor Gary Johnson, Dr. Kevin Sabet, and Dr. Sally Satel
- **Monday, October 27th:** Panel Discussion on Barry Goldwater, the 1964 Election, and A Time for Choosing: 50 Years Later, featuring Congressman Barry Goldwater, Jr., Dr. Lee Edwards, Craig Shirley, and Professor Beverly Gage
- **Friday November 14th:** Fourth Annual Conference on the 50th anniversary of James Burnham's *Suicide of the West*. Participants included Michael Hayden, Professor Donald Kagan, James B. Burnham, John O'Sullivan, Steven Hayward, Roger Kimball, Avik Roy, R. R. Reno, James Taranto, Professor Noël Valis, KT McFarland, Ibn Warraq, James Kirchick, and Professor Charles Hill.
- **Friday, December 5th:** Lecture by Professor Douglas Laycock on religious liberty, co-sponsored with the Yale Law School Federalist Society



The third panel of our fall 2014 conference.

## SPRING 2015

- **Thursday, January 22nd:** Lecture by Christina Hoff Sommers on "Trigger Warnings, Male-Shaming & Moral Panic: It's Time to Reboot Feminism"
- **Wednesday, January 28th:** Firing Line Debate on Cuba with Professor Carlos Eire and Ian Vásquez
- **Friday, February 6th:** Seminar with Peter Collier on Jeane Kirkpatrick
- **Monday, February 23rd:** Lecture by Jason Riley on his book, *Please Stop Helping Us: How Liberals Make It Harder for Blacks to Succeed*
- **Monday, March 9th to Friday, March 13th:** Spring Break Honors Seminar with Dr. Alvin Felzenberg on William F. Buckley, Jr. and His Enduring Influence
- **Tuesday, March 24th:** Lecture by Jim DeMint on Academic Censorship as a Political Weapon
- **Wednesday, April 1st:** Seminar with Dr. Michael Auslin on security in Asia
- **Tuesday, April 7th:** Seminar with Richard Brookhiser on Alexander Hamilton
- **Wednesday, April 15th:** Disinvitation Dinner featuring George F. Will
- **Tuesday, April 21st:** Lecture by Andrew C. McCarthy on U.S. National Security in the Age of Islamic Extremism

## ALUMNI REUNION EVENTS 2015

- **Saturday, May 23rd:** Lecture by Professor Donald Kagan on "Education and Patriotism"
- **Friday, May 29th:** Lecture by Judge James L. Buckley on his book, *Saving Congress from Itself: Emancipating the States and Empowering Their People*

Be sure to check out our website at [www.buckleyprogram.com](http://www.buckleyprogram.com) for video footage of some of these events.

## Preliminary FALL 2015 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

For the latest updates on events, please join our e-mail list by contacting [Lauren@BuckleyProgram.com](mailto:Lauren@BuckleyProgram.com). We are in the process of adding more events, so please stay tuned. Further details regarding times, topics, and locations will be announced as events approach.

### Saturday, September 12th

Seminar on speechwriting with Chris Michel

### Wednesday, September 16th

Screening of *Best of Enemies*

### Thursday, September 24th

Talk with Professor Jonathan Haidt

### Monday, September 28th

Lecture by Charles Krauthammer, made possible with the generous support of the Irving Brown Lecture Series and Young America's Foundation

### Wednesday, October 14th

Panel on Anti-Semitism in the 21st Century featuring Dr. Charles Small and Professor Ruth Wisse. Moderated by Rabbi Leah Cohen

### Thursday, October 22nd to Saturday, October 24th

Fall Break Honors Seminar on the Intellectual Foundations of Modern Conservatism with Professor Steven Hayward

### Monday, October 26th

Seminar with Jay Nordlinger on his book *Children of Monsters: An Inquiry into the Sons and Daughters of Dictators*

### Friday, November 6th

Fifth Annual Conference. See below for detailed information



Student President Zach Young speaking at the Disinvitation Dinner.



Jason Riley speaks at a Buckley Program event in February 2015.

## Save The Date: November 6, 2015

Please save the date for the Buckley Program's Fifth Annual Conference on The Future of Free Speech: Threats in Higher Education and Beyond on Friday, November 6, 2015 at Yale University.

The afternoon and evening will feature panel discussions followed by a reception and dinner with a keynote address.

U.S. Senator Ben Sasse will deliver the evening keynote address. Other speakers will include Professor Charles Hill, Dr. Geoffrey Kabaservice, Roger Kimball, Professor Jytte Klausen, Greg Lukianoff, Anne Neal, Dr. James Piereson, Professor Bradley A. Smith, James Taranto, Professor Noël Valis, Kevin D. Williamson, and Nathaniel Zelinsky.

Further details will follow. Until October 6th, a block of hotel rooms is available at the Omni Hotel. Please mention the Buckley Program when you call. Reservations may also be made online using the group code 14600111405.





## Inaugural Disinvitation Dinner

On April 15th, the Buckley Program hosted its inaugural Disinvitation Dinner at the Pierre in New York City. Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist George F. Will delivered the keynote address. Mr. Will, who was disinvited last year by Scripps College, made the case **“that free speech has never been, in the history of our republic, more comprehensively, aggressively, and dangerously threatened than it is now.”**

We encourage you to watch the video or read the transcript of his remarkable speech, both of which are available on our website. The Disinvitation Dinner drew a crowd of 189 people and raised over \$197,000 for our efforts. We are grateful to all of those who bought tickets and especially the evening’s sponsors. Thanks to our generous supporters, several dozen Buckley fellows were able to attend.

As Mr. Will noted in his remarks, “One would like to say that this is the first and last such dinner. I suspect not...I’m not sure we want to cure the current hostility to speech on campus if it means we won’t have more dinners like this.”

So long as speakers continue to be disinvited, you can count on the Buckley Program to re-invite them, and we hope you’ll be able to join us for next year’s Disinvitation Dinner. Please stay tuned for details.



George Will at the Disinvitation Dinner.

## Conference 2014

On Friday, November 14, 2014, the Buckley Program hosted its fourth annual conference. The conference, which began with opening remarks by Professor Donald Kagan, featured three afternoon panels examining the life and political thought of James Burnham, liberalism at home today, U.S. foreign policy, and the challenges to Western survival.

Following the panels, attendees headed over to the Omni Hotel for a reception and dinner. General Michael Hayden, the former Director of the NSA and CIA, delivered the keynote address. Approximately 225 students, faculty, alumni, and friends of the Program attended the conference.

The entire event can be viewed on our website. The panel discussions may also be viewed on C-SPAN.



The 2015 Student Board

## Student Fellows Program

In the 2014-2015 academic year, the number of student fellows grew to 120. Through this program, Yale students get the opportunity to meet with guest speakers over a meal, receive free books, and attend conferences. In February, for example, we sponsored five Buckley fellows attending the Conservative Political Action Conference. In April, dozens of Buckley fellows attended the inaugural Disinvitation Dinner in New York City.



Buckley Fellows at the Disinvitation Dinner.

## Honors Seminars

In March 2015, we launched our Honors Seminar Program. The purpose of this program is to build upon our efforts to introduce students to ideas otherwise absent from the classroom and do so in greater depth than our lectures or one-day seminars might permit.

The pilot seminar, which was held over the first week of spring break, explored the life and thought of William F. Buckley, Jr. as well as the rise of modern conservatism. In fact, this class was an intensive, condensed version of the original seminar that in part inspired the creation of the Buckley Program. We were pleased to be able to welcome Dr. Alvin Felzenberg back to campus to teach this seminar.

We are also delighted to report that we will be hosting another seminar this fall, taught by Professor Steven F. Hayward. This seminar will be held over the October break and will cover the intellectual foundations of modern conservatism. Held over three days, participating students will read selections of *The Federalist Papers*, F. A. Hayek, Edmund Burke, Russell Kirk, Michael Oakeshott, Henry Hazlitt, and others.

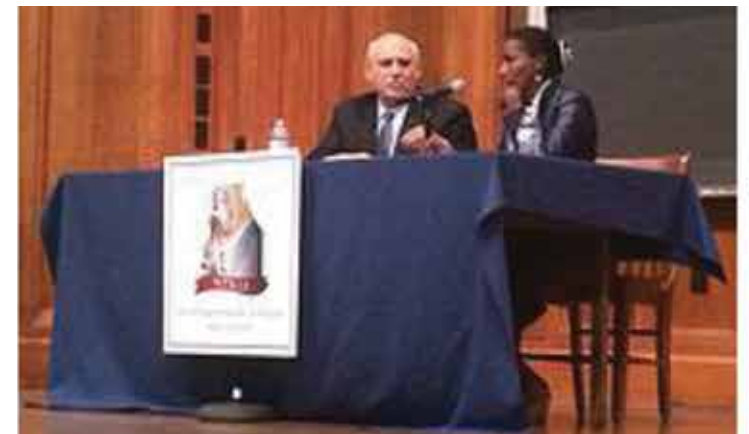
Professor Hayward is the Ronald Reagan Distinguished Visiting Professor at Pepperdine University’s Graduate School of Public Policy, and was the inaugural visiting scholar in conservative thought and policy at the University of Colorado at Boulder in 2013-14. He participated in our fall 2014 conference and we are excited to be able to host him once again.



Speakers at our panel discussion on Barry Goldwater, the 1964 Election, and A Time for Choosing: 50 Years Later.

## Buckley Program Names Inaugural Research Fellow

In August 2014, the Buckley Program named Dr. Alvin S. Felzenberg as its inaugural Research Fellow. Dr. Felzenberg’s residential college seminar in 2010 provided essential inspiration in the creation of the Buckley Program. We were thrilled to be able to offer some support for his forthcoming biography of our namesake.



Professor Harvey Goldblatt and Ayaan Hirsi Ali

## Save The Date: February 27, 2016

On Saturday, February 27th, the Buckley Program will host a **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of *Firing Line***, the television show Bill Buckley launched in 1966. Further details will be announced as the date approaches.



Heritage Foundation President Jim DeMint joined us on campus to give a talk in March 2015.



## What The Press is Saying...

"The Disinvitation Dinner fills a need given an academic culture that is increasingly hostile to free inquiry...The dinner event is in keeping with Buckley's mischievous sense of humor along with his determination to challenge conventional liberal thinking."

-THE WALL STREET JOURNAL EDITORIAL

"The Buckley Program has stated that Hirsi Ali will speak as planned, and they do not intend to invite a pre-approved counterpoint. That is as it should be. To yield to the petitions of these aggrieved student groups would only facilitate the evaporation of intellectual diversity at one of America's premier institutions of learning. At least a few Yalies are still interested in *Lux et Veritas*."

-NATIONAL REVIEW EDITORIAL



Former Student President Rich Lizardo delivers remarks at our fourth annual conference.

## Essay Contest

In fall 2014, the Buckley Program sponsored an essay contest connected to the theme of the conference, James Burnham's *Suicide of the West*. Judged by Yale professors, contest winners received awards during the conference dinner.

Theresa Oei '15 won the first-place prize of \$1,000, Thomas Hopson '16 won the second-place prize of \$500, and Adrienne Elliott '16 won the third-place prize of \$250. The winning essays can be read on our student blog, The Beacon.

## The Beacon

Our student blog launched last year, The Beacon, includes commentary from Buckley Program student fellows, essay contest winners, and interviews with guest speakers. The Program's student fellows interviewed guests including Andrew McCarthy, Richard Brookhiser, Michael Auslin, Jim DeMint, Jason Riley, Carlos Eire, and Christina Hoff Sommers.



Buckley Fellows at the Disinvitation Dinner.

## Internship Program

This summer, the Buckley Program sponsored five Yale undergraduates completing internships at publications and think tanks. Internship locations included *National Review*, *The New Criterion*, Gingrich Productions, the Manhattan Institute, and *Forbes* Opinion. Interns receive a stipend of \$4,000, making the experience affordable to students of all backgrounds.

This is our fourth summer offering this program, which is popular with not only the Program's student fellows, but also other Yale students. In 2015, each position received an average of ten applications. We were also pleased to be able to provide a partial stipend to another Yale student interning in Washington, D.C.

## What Students Are Saying...

"This past year, I have been afforded some incredible opportunities thanks to the Buckley Program. From attending the Disinvitation Dinner in New York to interviewing former Senator Jim DeMint for our blog The Beacon, I found my second year as a student fellow to be intellectually enriching and filled with great memories. One event that will remain prominent in my memory for years to come is certainly the Ayaan Hirsi Ali lecture last September. As a member of the student board, I was directly confronted both in my formal position as Membership Director and as a Yale student by the prominent campus effort to censor Ms. Hirsi Ali's lecture. Despite this campus opposition, the Buckley Program held steadfast to its mission of promoting intellectual diversity and defending free speech, which resulted in one of the Program's most successful and highly attended events. This experience was not only rewarding in itself but also reflected the excellent work being done by the Buckley Program; that is, directly defending free speech on Yale's campus even in the face of opposition. Yale is fortunate to have an institution like the Buckley Program, which provides a glimmer of hope as intellectual diversity dwindles and free speech comes under fire across college campuses nationwide."

-JOSH ALTMAN '17

"When I came to Yale, I was extremely nervous that I was going to be the only conservative voice on campus. More than that, I was terrified that I would be discriminated against because I was a conservative. Of course, one of those was a correct assumption. However, finding the Buckley Program was a God-send when it came to preserving my sanity, and making me love Yale. My favorite speaker that the Buckley Program brought this past year was Christina Hoff Sommers, an expert on combatting modern radical feminism. Anytime you mention feminism on a college campus, you're guaranteed to get everyone riled up, and this was no exception. Not only was her speech brilliant and enlightening, but the way she responded to the outrageous questions posed to her by the leftists in the room was inspiring. She clearly knew what she was talking about, and could easily combat any leftist attempting to throw her off or even make an illogical argument, like they so often do. After her speech came my favorite perk of the Buckley Program, I was able to have dinner with Christina! It is one thing to hear someone you admire speak, but it is so special to be able to sit down and break bread with them. That is what I love about the Buckley Program. Not only do we get to bring these speakers to a school that desperately needs some intellectual diversity, but we get to have face-to-face discussions with them, hearing more about them and the fights they have fought, which often mirror our own struggles on campus. The Buckley Program has been a lifeline for me on a campus that places no value on intellectual diversity, and I cannot fully express my gratitude for its existence and growth."

-ARYSSA DAMRON '18

"The Buckley Program's consistent pursuit of open intellectual discourse has been an invaluable part of my Yale experience. Over the past few years, the program has grown from a small circle of friends to a community of students interested in pushing political discussion on campus. Through Buckley, I have had the opportunity to eat lunch with Gov. Jon Huntsman, speak with Arthur Brooks and engage with Prof. Carlos Eire on the Cuba question. I will always be grateful for that."

-UGONNA EZE '16

"I first heard about the Buckley Program when I attended the lecture, Clash of Civilizations: Islam and the West, presented by activist Ayaan Hirsi Ali last September. As a young freshman at Yale, the diverse and interesting speakers the program invited to campus intrigued me. I chose to become a fellow in the William F. Buckley Program because I truly value the strong, conservative voices and the intellectual diversity that the organization brings to the Yale campus. The lectures are always thought provoking, the seminars never fail to teach me something, and throughout my time with the program, I have made friends that will last a lifetime."

-ALEXIS GURGANIOUS '18

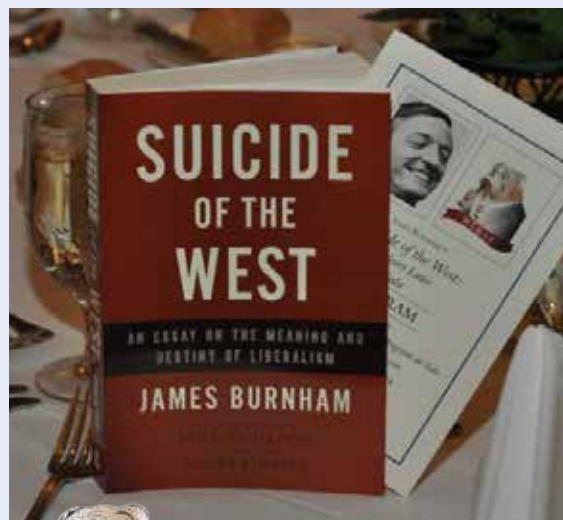
"The William F. Buckley, Jr. Program provides a space for intellectual diversity to thrive on Yale's otherwise leftist leaning campus. During my two years as a Buckley fellow, I have had the opportunity to learn from leading business executives and debate with conservative and libertarian professors, pundits, and politicians. No program at Yale is as well-organized or adept at putting students in close personal contact with those who they aspire to be. The Buckley Program fosters debate that would not be heard otherwise, provides opportunities for summer internships in NY and DC, and above all else allows students to learn about the other side of history and discuss the entire political spectrum. This forum is unique at Yale, and the Buckley Program surpasses Yale's many other political and debate programs. The Buckley Program is filling the void left after William F. Buckley, Jr. passed away, standing up to the Vidal and Schlesingers of today, standing firm in our commitment to leave Yale as well-educated, free-thinking leaders of tomorrow, not indoctrinated progressives, cheering failed policies while maintaining perfect political correctness."

-KYLE TIERNEY '17



Professor Donald Kagan speaks at one of our alumni reunion events.

## 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reprint of *Suicide of the West*



To complement our fall 2014 conference, the Buckley Program commissioned a 50th anniversary reprint of James Burnham's 1964 book. The new edition, which was published by Encounter Books, includes a foreword by John O'Sullivan and an introduction by Roger Kimball. Conference dinner attendees received copies of the book.

If you have not already done so, we encourage you to check it out. As Matthew Continetti wrote in *National Review*, the book is "worth revisiting, not only for its cutting analysis, but also because it introduces the reader to the cold and breathtaking precision of its author's intellect. For the stoic, detached, empirical, hard-boiled, penetrating, realist mind of James Burnham is something to behold, to admire, to emulate."





# What Recent Graduates Are Saying...

"For the previous two summers, generous stipends from the Buckley Program have allowed me to pursue unpaid internship opportunities that have been very rewarding. Interning at *The American Spectator* in summer 2013 was an excellent experience that provided me a foundation in editorial skills that I continue to cultivate to this day. And interning at the Ethics and Public Policy Center last summer gave me a wonderful window into the the think-tank world of public policy at different levels of government. At both places, I honed my skills in editing and research, and I made great friendships and connections. I am thankful to the Buckley Program for making these experiences, among many, many others, possible."

-RICH LIZARDO '15

"When I arrived at Yale, I was politically apathetic and uninformed. A liberal Democrat by default, I was surprised when policy debates and philosophical conversations began leading me down a different road. By attending the Buckley speaker events and meeting other student Fellows, I found a community of brilliant, introspective thinkers. The William F. Buckley, Jr. Program defined my Yale experience, and I would not be where I am today without it."

-AMALIA HALIKIAS '15

# What Supporters Are Saying...

"As an alum often disappointed by headlines about my alma mater, I am deeply inspired by what the Buckley Program has accomplished, not only for intellectual diversity on campus, but for the reputation of Yale itself. I've never been more proud to be a Yale graduate."

-MATTHEW MEDEARIS '01

"The Buckley Program brings to the Yale campus a much needed conservative podium and platform, where all members of the university community, but especially students, can explore and consider what it means to be part of a civil society and a free enterprise economy. I am exceedingly pleased that Yale now permits reunion gifts to the university to be directed towards support of the Buckley Program."

-RICHARD R. WEST '60

# What Speakers Are Saying...

"The William F. Buckley Program at Yale represents the highest ideals of the man after whom it is named: a searching engagement with serious ideas and the civilized discourse that makes true intellectual exchange possible. The Buckley Program fellows offer proof that the leaders of the next generation take their civic responsibilities seriously, and that today's degraded political environment will be reshaped by those committed to the strengthening of our society. It also offers hope that our universities will rediscover their true diversity, by embracing for honest discussion the best which has been thought and said."

-MICHAEL AUSLIN

"The people who have enjoyed a fairly untrammelled freedom to violate the First Amendment are going to be surprised by the ferocity and skill and intellectual power of the First Amendment defense and the idea of a university that the William F. Buckley Program represents."

-GEORGE F. WILL

"The most hope I've seen here, maybe ever, and certainly in recent times."

-PROFESSOR DONALD KAGAN

"Thank you very much for not only responding to Brandeis, but also to saying, when you are confronted with the same challenge of Brandeis, for sticking up for academic freedom."

-AYAAN HIRSI ALI



Roger Kimball, Professor Steven Hayward, and James B. Burnham at the November 2014 conference.

# SOCIAL MEDIA

109,401 Total YouTube Views

176 Countries Represented by Viewers

1,438,121 Estimated Watched Minutes

392 YouTube Channel Subscribers

982 Facebook Likes

219 Twitter Followers

Like us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter to receive updates on our activities.

# Contact Us

If you would like to join our e-mail list or have a question about our programs, please feel free to contact our executive director, Lauren Noble, at **Lauren@BuckleyProgram.com**. To learn more about our efforts, you can also visit our website, **www.BuckleyProgram.com**. We look forward to hearing from you.

# How To Support

The Buckley Program is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. We rely entirely on the generosity of donors like you. Tax-deductible contributions can be made online at **www.buckleyprogram.com/donate** or by mail at:

**William F. Buckley, Jr. Program at Yale**  
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*We are incredibly grateful for your support.*  
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