Pro Humanitate Institute
MISSION: learn. engage. act. transform.

Charged with serving as the programmatic facilitator of our university motto, Pro Humanitate, the Pro Humanitate Institute (PHI) is a core of learning, teaching, service, and action that transforms the ethos of Wake Forest University into an explicit mission connected to clear practices with meaningful social justice outcomes.

We sustain authentic relationships with local and national partners as we work with students, faculty, and staff to encourage deep academic learning, foster transformative civic engagement, and address community-identified needs in order to build more meaningful lives and a more just world.

Kaylan Baxter, Director of Planning and Assessment
Marianne Magjuka, Executive Director
Sylvia Oberle, Senior Fellow
Shelley Sizemore, Director of Academic Programs and Community Based Research
Mike Ford, Director of Legacy and Philanthropy
Sylvia Oberle, Senior Fellow
Rolisa Tutwyler, Business Manager
Kelly Larrimore, Office Manager
Fahim Gulamali, Assistant Director of Social Justice Education
Melissa Harris-Perry, Faculty Director
Brad Shugoll, Assistant Director of Public Engagement
Camry Wilborn, University Fellow

Based in Philanthropy
Invested in your legacy.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>PHI By The Numbers</th>
<th>10,269</th>
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<tr>
<td>Miles traversed by 28 Wake the Vote participants as they traveled across the country learning about political engagement</td>
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<td>355</td>
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<td>Volunteers recruited and managed by four VISTA members, who also leveraged $1,000 in cash resources and $1,726 in-kind donations</td>
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<td>$380,376</td>
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<td>Raised for cancer research through 2016-2017 Brian Piccolo events</td>
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<td>100</td>
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<td>Faculty, students, staff, and community members attended Data Dives in 2016-2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>83</td>
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<tr>
<td>Students attended Branches, an annual student-led social justice retreat</td>
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<td>1,941</td>
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<td>Tamika D. Mallory, Carmen Perez, and Linda Sarsour draw a crowd in Wait Chapel</td>
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<td>14,510</td>
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<td>Meals were distributed by Campus Kitchen in 2016-2017</td>
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<td>3,120</td>
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<td>Internship hours completed at 13 sites during the 2017 Summer Nonprofit Immersion Program</td>
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<td>130</td>
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<td>First-year students participated in 3 PHI pre-orientation programs: Deacon Camp, SPARC, and BUILD</td>
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<td>4,800</td>
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<td>Service hours completed in one week of Wake Alternative Break trips</td>
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<tr>
<td>120</td>
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<td>High school students participated in 60 lab demonstrations for STEM @ Wake</td>
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LEARNING

PHI supports the academic mission of the university by investing in community-based learning inside and outside of the traditional classroom. Our programs and collaborations reflect a value for learning that is experiential, rigorous, and critically reflective.
Named after a popular nickname for Winston-Salem, the Dash Corps program provides theoretical and practical experiences for students to learn about a capacity building approach to campus-community partnerships. Over the year, students engage in workshops, seminars, and four month long action projects with a civic or non-profit organization.

Projects are generated in large part from our civic and non-profit community partners who propose short term projects that would be an appropriate fit for a Dash Corps team. In 2016-2017 we connected thirty-five first and second year students with six projects and seven non-profit community partners.

Students spend the fall semester engaging in bi-weekly seminar and site visits to learn more about the Winston Salem community. For example, in September, students participated in an Asset Based Community Development workshop led by Amy Lytle of Hands on NorthWest NC and Nikki McCormick of Second Harvest Food Bank. This session introduced students to a theoretical framework for engaging with the surrounding community and equipped them with the ability to identify assets in Winston-Salem.

In October, the Dash Corps team traveled to City Hall for a seminar on local government and insight into the mayor’s Poverty Thought Force. These experiences introduced students to key non-profit and civic partners that are working towards positive community change.

Throughout the fall, students spent time directly with their partner agencies to craft a scoping document and timeline for the spring semester. As students completed this process, they gained valuable project management and communication skills. During the spring semester, the students worked directly with their partner agencies to work towards their group goals and craft a final project sustainability document to ensure the work moved forward after the students’ Dash Corps projects were completed.

In addition to engaging with their community partners, student teams came together for monthly large group sessions where they presented on the progress and challenges of their projects to their peers. Over the course of the semester, students honed their presentation skills for a final exhibition to campus and community partners in April.

2016-2017 Dash Corps Projects:
Samaritain Ministries
Yadkin River Keeper
Forsyth Community Food Consortium

SECU Family House
Forsyth Humane Society
Experiment in Self-Reliance
Wake the Vote started as a reasonable program: pull together a couple dozen diverse college students; travel to early caucus and primary states; volunteer for local campaigns during the summer; travel to the nominating conventions; engage in voter education and GOTV efforts in the fall; have an election night party; go to the inauguration. On paper the plan was ambitious, but hardly outrageous. However, as the primary season unfolded, co-directors Dr. Melissa Harris-Perry and Marianne Magjuka, staff leads Dr. Dani Parker Moore and Fahim Gulamali, and the diverse cohort of 22 students watched as the program evolved into something quite extraordinary.

When the process began—in Iowa, New Hampshire, and South Carolina—the students were randomly assigned to work for a new candidate each weekend, which meant they often worked for campaigns or parties they didn’t necessarily support. The goal was to allow students to learn about the mechanics of campaigns and to develop perspective-taking by having an intense, immersive experience across the political aisle. In our deeply divided nation, few of us rarely have a chance to actively work with others who are genuinely different from us. The experience can be enlightening.

Back in February 2016, Erica Jordan, a committed Democrat, drew a Marco Rubio campaign assignment in Iowa. She was not happy about it, and was especially disheartened when she realized she was the sole African American volunteer at the chilly Des Moines field office. But all of that changed when the candidate himself made a surprise visit. Erica wrote in her reflection essay, “He took the time to shake every hand that was extended and earnestly thank volunteers for their time and effort. The fervor the Senator left in his wake was palpable. People threw themselves into the task of phone banking with a remarkable energy, and I found myself being swept up in the momentum.”
"The most memorable experience was meeting Senator Marco Rubio while phone banking in South Carolina, observing and participating in the enthusiasm and excitement that motivated Rubio supporters was amazing."
 - Daniella Feijoo, ’19

"Having the opportunity to directly compare politics from both sides of the aisle in one of the most memorable elections seasons is hard to beat."
 - Chizoba Ukairo ’17

When we moved onto New Hampshire, Erica was a self-described “born-again Democrat,” but her time on the Rubio campaign was important. She learned how good and reasonable people can get caught up in moments of personal charisma. And you can bet if she ever runs for office she has learned the power of visiting field offices and thanking volunteers personally.

While Erica was phone-banking for Rubio, two of the cohort’s more vocal conservative members, Ryan Wolfe and Carl McPhail, were wrestling with the challenge of their assignment to the Hillary Clinton campaign. In his essay Ryan reflects, “My canvassing assignment in the morning did not disappoint. Hillary’s Urbandale field office was a highly organized, complicated operation. As someone who could never imagine voting for her, it was interesting to go door to door and hear the reasons why voters supported Hillary.”

After being thrust across the aisle during the primaries, the Wake the Voters worked for candidates and issues of their own choosing. They logged thousands of hours with campaigns, organizations, and nonpartisan Get Out the Vote efforts. Hannah Dobie went to Tennessee to increase the number of women elected in the state. David Ajamy and Zach Bynum became committed organizers for voting rights in North Carolina. Daniella Feijoo represented Wake the Vote at a national conference for young voters in California. And Katherine Cassidy kept up an impressive track record of logging serious canvassing miles, in pearls.

To read the full story, visit Medium’s “Why I am attending Trump’s Inauguration: To make America greater than it’s ever been” by Melissa Harris-Perry, first published on January 20, 2017.
The Summer Nonprofit Immersion Program (SNIP) is an intensive, two-month, residential summer fellowship for undergraduate students. The program deepens academic learning, fosters transformative civic engagement, and addresses community-identified needs in Winston-Salem.

Thirteen students and community partners are selected annually through a process that seeks to enhance student learning and build capacity in the nonprofit. In addition to focusing on project-based outcomes at their sites, SNIP students participate in weekly seminars that include assigned readings, site visits, and guest lectures by local and national WFU alumni working in the nonprofit and public service sectors.

In 2017, SNIP interns engaged in a variety of projects, including producing an annual report, planning a statewide listening tour, developing volunteer recruitment resources for nonprofits, leading fundraising and volunteer recruitment efforts, and advancing best practice research to support strategic plans. SNIP focuses on project-based learning as a tool to better understand and explore careers in nonprofit and community-based work.
TEACHING

PHI is proud to support outstanding teaching in formal and informal settings, led by activists, faculty, community members, students, and staff. Through workshops, conferences, panel discussions, courses, and symposia, PHI advances opportunities for our entire community to better understand and impact the world.
Data Dives was created as a way to broaden the sharing of findings from institutional surveys, program evaluations, and other tools. Each Data Dive session includes data that is disaggregated by demographic characteristics, such as race/ethnicity, gender, and sexual orientation, with a goal of helping participants to better understand the different experiences and outcomes across subpopulations on campus.

Data Dive sessions have included data from such nationally administered instruments as the College Senior Survey and Thriving Quotient Survey in addition to survey and focus group data from PHI programming, such as Wake the Vote. Sample data points might include: Does enrollment in a First-Year Experience course impact students’ sense of belonging? Are students of color as likely as their peers to view themselves as leaders? How does poverty relate to education level in Winston-Salem and Forsyth County?

Data Dives enhances the potential for organizational change through data-driven decision-making among campus and local community members. Each dive ends with a facilitated discussion of participants’ reactions to the data, stories that might inform what they have learned, and tangible actions they might take to narrow disparities on campus and in the community.

In evaluations of the program, participants have reported an appreciation for heightened awareness, demonstrated gained knowledge around specific concepts as well as data analysis, and identified relevant plans of action.
ACE FACULTY FELLOWS

6 FELLOWS:
Departments include divinity, politics, engineering, psychology, education, and law.

Fellows are chosen based on their proposed community-based projects. Selections are made through a partnership between community residents and a faculty advisory board.

The Academic and Community Engaged (ACE) Faculty Fellowship is an incentivized opportunity for faculty members who engage in community-based work as a core pillar of their teaching, research, and scholarship. Faculty members produce project-based outcomes, working to expand and enhance the quality of community engagement among faculty while collaborating with community members to address local challenges.

As ACE Advisory Council chair and former ACE Fellow Dr. Alessandra Von Burg explains “Faculty members commit as ACE Fellows for two years, developing a long-term project that connects to both their teaching and their scholarship. For the past 15 years, ACE Fellows have designed and implemented service-based class assignments, empowered students to find new ways to be engaged, and fostered strong relationships with our surrounding community. As partners, everyone involved in ACE, faculty members, students, staff, residents, and community organizers, work together to put into practice the academic rigor of the classroom in the livelihood of the community, engaging together.” In 2016, the program expanded to a two year commitment, and created a place-based focus in the Boston-Thurmond neighborhood.

2016-2018 ACE Faculty Fellows:

Alan Brown (Education)  Sara Dahill-Brown (Politics)  Michael Gross (Engineering)  Derek Hicks (Divinity)  Eranda Jayawickreme (Psychology)  Barbara Lentz (Law)
Faculty members teaching ACE courses employ a variety of methods to deeply engage with students and community members, integrating academic learning with community goals.

In 2016, the undergraduate faculty approved a designation for community-engaged courses – the first of its kind at Wake Forest. Academic Community Engagement (ACE) courses connect academic content to community engagement through collaboration with community partners.

PHI partnered with the ACE Advisory Council, chaired by Associate Professor Alessandra Von Burg, to advance the designation. The new course designation will serve as a way to recognize, support, and assess community-engaged courses. Many of these courses are already being taught in the College, and we will work with faculty to develop new courses across disciplines.

ACE courses align with the Carnegie Community Engagement Classification, which recognizes “the collaboration between institutions of higher education and their larger communities (local, regional/state, national, global) for the mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources in a context of partnership and reciprocity.”

ACE Advisory Council:
Lisa Blee (History)
Hana Brown (Sociology)
Alessandra Von Burg (Communication)
Ron Von Burg (Communication)
Sherriann Lawson-Clark (Anthropology)

Lucas Johnston (Religion)
Melissa Harris-Perry (Politics)
Michael Pisapia (Politics)
Heidi Robinson (Counseling)
Christina Soriano (Dance)
Betina Wilkinson (Politics)
In the first year of his ACE Fellowship, Dr. Alan Brown launched the Paisley Sports Literacy Program with undergraduate football captain Wendell Dunn. Brown is an Assistant Professor of English Education and Director of the Secondary Education Program in WFU’s Education Department. The Sports Literacy Program, launched on site at Paisley IB Magnet Middle School in the Boston Thurmond Neighborhood, represents a realization of Brown’s teaching and research interests that also addresses a community identified need.

The program has four goals: support youth through academic, social and community engagement; empower students who are interested in sports to read and write for enjoyment; explore social issues that affect the lives of adolescents and young adults through literature; and improve literacy skills and practices that support learning across content areas and promote college and career readiness.

The program lasts the bulk of the academic year, with weekly after school meetings led by Brown and Dunn, during which students engage with The Contender and other important works of fiction focused on sports. At the end of the first year of the program, the students were able to spend the day discussing the book with Contender author Robert Lipsyte thanks in part to contributions from both campus and community funders. Dr. Brown’s scholarship has both informed and been informed by community based projects like this one, his book Developing Contemporary Literacies Through Sports was published in 2016.
SERVICE

Through legacy programs, service traditions, and philanthropy, PHI fosters an environment in which students, faculty, and staff engage in ongoing civic learning and engagement. Student organizations and peer leaders connect members of the campus community to meaningful service opportunities in Winston-Salem.
During Spring Break, students explore various social justice issues through the Wake Alternative Break program. From March 5-11, 2017, 100 student participants and 20 student leaders traveled to ten different sites within driving distance of Winston-Salem. During the week, students focus on group reflection, critical reading, trip blog, and direct service projects. WAB trips are student-led and organized.

In Spring 2017, 12 student participants and two student leaders had the opportunity to participate in the biannual Civil Rights Tour. The Civil Rights Tour is an opportunity for students to learn about the Civil Rights Movement by traveling to key sites in the South of the United States. The students begin the tour in Memphis, TN, where they visited the National Civil Rights Museum, and learned about grassroots organizing at the Midsouth Peace and Justice Center. They toured the Dexter Avenue King Memorial Church and Parsonage and visited the Southern Poverty Law Center in Montgomery, AL. Students then partnered with the Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project to renovate a community center in Selma, AL. The students completed the tour in Atlanta, GA, where they met with the Southern Education Foundation to discuss the intersections of modern civil rights efforts and education; to visit the Center for Civil and Human Rights; and to tour Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s childhood home.

**2017 WAB Trips:**

- Asheville, NC (Domestic Violence)
- Atlanta, GA (Displaced Peoples)
- Chicago, IL (Latino Social Services)
- New Orleans, LA (Disaster Relief)
- Ohio (Sustainable Farming)
- Roanoke, VA (Public Health)
- Shenandoah, VA (Mindfulness)
- US South (Civil Rights Tour)
- Washington, DC (Interfaith Activism)
- Washington, DC (Education Access)
Philanthropy

HIT THE BRICKS

In 2016, brought together over 1,400 students, faculty, and staff to raise money and awareness in the fight against cancer. This community wide tradition had a beautiful fall day on Hearn Plaza and participants ran a record setting 28,814 laps and raised $52,342.63 for the Brian Piccolo Cancer Research Fund.

Throughout the day teams engaged in fun events and activities such as a wacky lap, an “anything but feet” lap, and a Krispy Kreme donut lap. This year’s event also included words of encouragement from Stan Cotton—the voice of the Demon Deacons—the captains of the Wake Forest Football team, President Hatch and Dr. Boris Pasche the director of the Wake Forest Comprehensive Cancer Center.

As the sun was setting and the competition drew to a close, all the remaining participants took a silent reflective lap around the quad and heard from student speakers who are battling or have survived a battle with cancer. Hit the Bricks brought the campus community together for a day of fun competition and mindful reflection about how cancer affects us all.

WAKE ‘N SHAKE

Wake ‘N Shake is a highly successful and record-breaking Dance Marathon. The event hosted over 1,400 students and raised a total of $334,337.64 in 12 hours in support of the Brian Piccolo Cancer Research Fund.

A “Grammy’s” theme, including songs and dances inspired by some of the music industry’s most iconic performers, kept morale high. We welcomed eight fantastic “Team Champions” who all shared their powerful and emotional stories about their personal fight against cancer.

WOMEN’S PHILANTHROPY IN ACTION

In partnership with the Women’s Center at Wake Forest University, the Pro Humanitate Institute, and the Women’s Fund of Forsyth County, students analyze various traditions of philanthropy within historical and cultural contexts, examine the root causes of social issues facing women and girls in Forsyth County, evaluate grant proposals, and collaborate with peers to make recommendations about which proposals the Women’s Fund of Forsyth County should support.

Through ongoing dialogue and reflection, students explore their individual beliefs, values, and attitudes, and synthesize diverse perspectives. Students become members of the Women’s Fund of Forsyth County, and engage with programs such as the Social Change Exchange and Annual Luncheon.

This program is open to Wake Forest University undergraduate students who identify as women.
**Pre-Orientation**

**DEACON CAMP**

“Deacon Camp was the perfect start to my Wake Forest experience. It helped me develop a strong sense of pride for my school and gave me the opportunity to create meaningful relationships with my fellow classmates and student leaders.” - Stephen Bechtel ’19.

Bechtel, one of the student directors of Deacon Camp, poignantly portrays the opportunity first-year students have to orient themselves to campus during pre-orientation week.

In 2016, 64 first-year students and 24 mentors came together to learn about Wake Forest’s traditions. From visiting the Old Campus to meeting with Provost Rogan Kersh, Dean Michele Gillespie, and Professor Herman Eure, first-year students learned about Wake Forest’s history, the importance of Pro Humanitate, and how to make the most of their Wake Forest experience.

**B.U.I.L.D.**

Building University Inclusion through Leadership and Diversity (BUILD) is a pre-orientation program that orients incoming students to campus and community through social justice.

During the program, students are challenged to think about identity, power, and privilege. They are immersed in activities citywide, including a social justice scavenger hunt, workshops, documentary screenings, and a collaboration with Winston Salem’s Authoring Action group.

Students learned about social justice programs on campus, and had a chance to meet key staff members and visit offices that serve as resources on campus.

**S.P.A.R.C.**

Fifty-five first year students and twenty-three student leaders participated in the Students Promoting Action and Responsibility in our Community (SPARC) pre-orientation program.

SPARCies volunteered with 14 community partners, watched a documentary on food access in partnership with the Forsyth Community Food Consortium, helped raise the walls on the Wake Forest sponsored Habitat house and participated in fun traditions such as costume bowling and Humans vs. Zombies.

First-year students were placed into groups of three to four with two upperclass student leaders. The leaders guided the service activities, answered questions about Wake Forest University and helped serve as mentors to students as they began their time on campus.

Students were able to reflect on their experiences through evening activities with their student leaders and dinners with the other PHI pre-orientation programs.

As part of this program, SPARC invited Sylvia Oberle, Senior Fellow in the Pro Humanitate Institute, to share her perspective as a 40-year resident, former editor of the Winston Salem Journal, and former executive director of Habitat for Humanity of Forsyth County. During her talk, Sylvia introduced students to the Boston-Thurmond neighborhood and the work she is doing to support community leaders working on a place-based initiative to support positive community growth.
PHI builds community through ongoing, sustainable action with local community residents and leaders. We believe the way forward towards a better collective future is built by actions that are consistent, participatory, and capacity building.
The Winston Salem Community Action Coalition (WSCA) is a project focused on poverty alleviation in Winston-Salem. WSCA addresses access to affordable housing, increased financial literacy and asset-building, and job preparedness programs for youth, elderly, and low-income populations.

In Winston-Salem, the poverty rate disproportionately affects youth and populations of color. About one in every three children in Forsyth County lives in poverty. Approximately half of Hispanic/Latino residents and 33% of African-American residents live in poverty, compared to 1 in 10 White, Non-Hispanic residents. Furthermore, some communities experience concentrated poverty. One such area is the Boston-Thurmond Neighborhood, which sits on the edge of Wake Forest University campus.

On October 29, 2015, Mayor Allen Joines, Councilman Derwin Montgomery, and Wake Forest University Provost Rogan Kersh announced the formation of the Winston-Salem Poverty Thought Force. The 21-member panel was chaired by Kersh and comprises a broad range of civic and academic leaders. The AmeriCorps*VISTA project aligns with the work of the Thought Force, and builds capacity in the areas of Economic Opportunity, specifically as they connect to housing and homelessness, jobs and workforce development, and financial literacy and asset development. These VISTA members commit to one year of national service, during which they develop strategy, recruit and train volunteers, identify and write grants, plan and execute new programs, and advertise opportunities in the community.

The Winston-Salem Community Action Coalition focuses on three areas: 1) Access to safe, affordable housing; 2) Financial literacy and asset development; and 3) Programs to train individuals and improve access to employment. The VISTA members work to build permanent infrastructure in several community organizations. In housing, we partner with Habitat for Humanity of Forsyth County. In 2016, Katy Forrest worked alongside Habitat employees and community members to strengthen volunteer recruitment processes, expand outreach capacity, audit vacant properties, and work with the neighborhood association. In financial literacy, we partner with the Experiment in Self-Reliance (ESR). Deb Marke worked with organization employees and community members to bolster financial literacy curriculum, track program effectiveness, and recruit volunteers. In employment, we partner with Winston-Salem Urban League. Kendra Callwood recruited and trained volunteers for the Senior Program and Youth Summer Employment Program, and reached out to employers and community members for the annual career fairs. Kendra assisted in developing and executing new programs focused on entrepreneurship and business development for the Urban League, as well. Finally, Michelle Butler developed assessment methods to measure the impact of anti-poverty initiatives in each of the other areas.
PHI aims to engage students, staff, and community members in programs that develop core competencies, such as perspective-taking, advocacy, purposeful leadership, identity development, and civic action.

BRANCHES

A student-led social justice retreat, Branches is a signature program designed to engage students in dialogue about race, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, ability, socio-economic status, and religion. In October, 83 students gathered in King, North Carolina, for the third annual retreat. In data collected about the experience, students consistently describe Branches as a formative experience and highlight the retreat as a pivotal moment in their college experience. One student said, “Branches provided an environment free of judgement and a safe space where all viewpoints could be heard without being discredited.”

Another participant commented, “It was the most empowering and enriching experience I have encountered at Wake Forest. I loved the comfort, security, and safety felt in the room.” Participants learn skills to engage with others and work for change on campus and in the larger community. “I’ve always felt really self-conscious that my activism was too quiet or too safe,” one student said. “But this weekend I really tapped into the power of my own voice and developed a confidence I can definitely use going forward.”
SOCIAL JUSTICE INCUBATOR

In November 2016, PHI launched the Social Justice Incubator (SJI), a space for students to collaborate, engage, and organize around issues of social justice, located in the lower lounge of Kitchin Hall. Students convene in the SJI to discuss national and campus issues, form dialogue groups around issues of identity and justice, host speakers, organize actions and incubate ideas, and educate the campus community about issues of social justice.

A few core discussion groups include Class Talks, a student-led dialogue group aimed at engaging students from low-socioeconomic backgrounds at Wake Forest; Chai Chaat, a group focused on exploring South Asian identity; and UndocuDeacs, an advocacy group that supports and advances justice for undocumented immigrants. In addition, the student executive board of SJI offers Self-Education Sundays as an opportunity to gather and discuss a contemporary justice issue.

Students organized around local and national issues, including a protest of House Bill 2, a campaign to encourage Winston-Salem to adopt Sanctuary City designation, and a Speak Out in defense of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). In each case, students used SJI to explore the issues more deeply, make signs, organize campaigns, and discuss next steps.

WOMEN'S MARCH DISCUSSION

In April, the Pro Humanitate Institute hosted Linda Sarsour, Carmen Perez, and Tamika Mallory, co-chairs of the Women’s March on Washington, in their first public appearance after the March.

Sarsour, Mallory, and Perez joined faculty director Melissa Harris-Perry to discuss activism, movement-building, and feminist leadership. The event was held in Wait Chapel, and brought together almost 2,000 students, faculty, staff, and community members. This event was an example of the role that activists play as public intellectuals and teachers. Like all great teachers, the four panelists engaged authentically with the audience, challenged us to question our assumptions, and brought us to a deeper level of knowledge.
Since its founding in 2006, CKWFU has engaged over 10,000 volunteers, contributing over 30,000 volunteer hours and recovering over 400,000 pounds of food.

"Because of Campus Kitchen, I developed my passion for food justice and was inspired by some of the most incredible individuals within the Winston Salem community." – Moriah Gendy ’16

Campus Kitchen is a student-powered effort to redistribute food across Winston-Salem in partnership with nearly 20 non-profit partners, fulfilling our mission to strengthen bodies, empower minds, and build community. Relying on donations from Aramark at Wake Forest and local grocery stores, student leaders pick-up, prepare and deliver fresh produce and nutritious meals every day of the week.

In our tenth year, we continued to grow by upgrading our kitchen space, adding new partnerships, and expanding our summer meal service by nearly 3,000 additional meals. In the summer of 2016, we purchased a new 72 cubic foot refrigerator that over doubled our storage capacity for fresh produce. This investment allowed us to introduce more fresh produce into our meal preparation and opened up opportunities to pick-up from multiple grocery stores. In January we added Lowe’s Foods on Reynolda Road as a new partner in our daily pick-up schedule.

Another new opportunity allowed CKWFU to partner with General Mills and Aramark to host an “eat a bowl, give a bowl challenge.” During the month of October, for every bowl of cereal eaten in a dining facility on campus, Aramark provided a matching donation to Campus Kitchen. In total, CKWFU received 9,600 bowls of cereal, which were donated across our partner networks including the Children’s Home, El Buen Pastor, and Azalea Terrace.

In the summer of 2017, CKWFU took on an exciting new venture serving as a USDA Summer Feeding Sponsor to support students eligible for free/reduced price lunch in our community. CKWFU provided meals through a six week partnership with the Freedom School at the Anna Julia Cooper Center. Each week day, CKWFU served breakfast and lunch for the fifty children enrolled in the program. The summer interns planned, cooked and served nearly 3,000 meals. With a health conscious menu, CKWFU focused on being creative about ways to get children to eat full meals. This was achieved through food items such as quesadillas, rice and pasta dishes that included significant amounts of vegetables hidden inside. At the end of the summer, CKWFU won a NC Rising Star Award which recognizes new sponsors that ran a superior first year of operation with a menu that promoted a healthy lifestyle. CKWFU was also nominated for a "Turnip the Beet" nutrition award from the USDA.
"This is one of the most enjoyable and humbling pathways to get connected to the people of Winston Salem."
- Francis Sto Domingo '19

Beyond the meal and produce delivery, CKFWU also organized and participated in educational and empowering programming. These events brought students together to discuss and reflect on food access and food justice both locally and globally.

CKFWU hosts an annual week of events in coordination with the national Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week. This series of events brings the campus community together to consider the social issues facing the Winston Salem and the larger national and global community. Through panels, documentary screens, and volunteer opportunities, students are connected to community organizations like Habitat for Humanity, the Bethesda Center, and Samaritan Ministries that work to eradicate hunger and homelessness in Winston Salem.

Each November, CKFWU hosts Turkeypalooza, where scratch-made Thanksgiving meals are prepared for community partners. In 2017, CKFWU used local turkeys and fresh produce to craft a seasonal menu that featured a roasted fall vegetable squash, green bean casserole, cranberry sauce, and pumpkin cookies. Nearly 100 student volunteers participate in four-hour cooking shifts each day of the week to prepare all the food. This year, CKFWU cooked and delivered just over 300 meals for our regular community partners, including a special donation of 100 meals to Samaritan Ministries. Turkeypalooza relies on generous donations from the Wake Forest campus community and this year, student leaders raised $2,200 to fully fund the program.

Another signature event includes the Food for Thought series, which invites campus partners to cook a meal in the CKFWU kitchen and share more about the recipe’s origins and cultural significance. Food for Thought partners for 2016–2017 included OLAS and KASA.

In 2016, Campus Kitchen was also proud to host Hunger U, an organization that travels to colleges to help raise awareness about root causes of food insecurity around the world. CKFWU hosted the mobile trailer just outside of the Kitchin Hall lounge. Students were challenged to think about global hunger through an interactive exhibit and quiz.