

November 12, 2019

The DEJOY\WOS Family Foundation Sponsors Launch of The Burr Center

The DEJOY\WOS Family Foundation is proud to announce its support as a founding sponsor of The Burr Center for Legislative Studies at Wake Forest University. In appreciation of U.S. Senator Richard Burr's achievements, character and honorable representation of his district, state and alma mater, Wake Forest University has created an educational program focused on an underappreciated segment of democracy — the intensive process of lawmaking.



U.S. Sen. Richard Burr pledges his Congressional papers to Wake Forest University, his alma mater.

The Burr Center is a dynamic space inside the Z. Smith Reynolds Library, the hub of academic life on the Reynolds Campus. The Center takes students through the entire life cycle of legislation, which runs from idea generation to subcommittee and committee consideration to full-chamber passage to administrative rule-making. With the use of Burr's papers and memorabilia, which he pledged to the University in 2018, the Center will cultivate a profound inquiry into the process of government. This is an area of academia that few institutions pursue, but it is well suited to Wake Forest's instructional model, which fosters faculty-student collaboration and makes students active participants in their learning.

The initiative is overseen by the Burr Program Advisory Board, which works in conjunction with Wake Forest faculty to develop and shepherd the program and focuses on three core elements: student and young alumni engagement; public programs; and research.

Student and Young Alumni Engagement

The Burr Center is a hub of activity and information for students and young alumni interested in learning more about the process of governing and legislative policy-making.

Internships:

The Burr Center is a resource to students who are pursuing summer internships in Washington DC. Working closely with the Wake Washington Program, the Burr Center helps students navigate the maze of summer internships and connects student with opportunities in Washington.

Wake Forest Fellows:

Modeled after the popular Wake Forest Fellows program, students in their senior year will be able to apply for a one-year fellowship in Washington DC. Following graduation, a young alumnus can be employed by the University and posted in a Congressional office, agency, non-governmental organization or other place of interest. This competitive program is designed for the student who wants to pursue a career in public service in Washington.

Mentoring:

Special mentoring opportunities for the students engaged in the policy courses with the Department of Politics and International Affairs.

Public Programs

The Burr Center offers series of public programs that highlight Congress' role in policymaking, not just politics.

Created by the cooperation of the Burr Program advisory board and Wake Forest faculty, this initiative regularly brings active and recently retired members of Congress, other policy experts and analysts to Wake Forest and the Wake Washington Center for lively, honest exchanges in various formats.

Research

The Senator's papers and memorabilia are received and curated by the professional Special Collections and Archives team at the Z. Smith Reynolds Library in the heart of the Wake Forest campus. This location offers both security of these treasured documents and artifacts and makes them available to researchers in a systematic and reliable way.