

A photograph of the Rockefeller Center building facade, featuring a red brick structure with a prominent pedimented roof. The pediment contains a large, semi-circular window with a radial pattern. Below the pediment, three rectangular windows with white frames are visible. The lower portion of the building has three large, arched openings. The sky is clear blue, and there are green trees on the left and right sides. A semi-transparent green banner is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the title text.

# Rockefeller Center

## *2021-2022 Annual Report*





# Letter from the Director

The 2021-2022 academic year featured new beginnings and the spirit of optimism. In particular, Dartmouth College attempted to move beyond the global pandemic with a return to in-person programming, of course doing so with a range of precautions such as face coverings, regular testing, and vaccinations. The Rockefeller Center played its part by offering a range of hybrid programming and public events as conditions warranted. Despite the challenges, we persevered in our mission to serve students, faculty, and the wider community, including our loyal alumni. And by all measures we did so successfully.

I probably cannot say this enough, but our success would not have been possible without the dedicated staff of the Rockefeller Center. The past few years have been challenging, and I appreciate how hard the whole Rockefeller team—staff, faculty, and students—have worked to implement new ways of conducting programs, classes, and internships. I hope you appreciate their work as much as I do when you see the highlights in the annual report

As the pages of this report will detail, hundreds of students participated in Rocky programming and thousands of people tuned in for our public events. We had robust attendance in our classes and programs, due in part to the asynchronous program delivery methods that were pioneered in the midst of the pandemic. On this note, I am also proud of our co-curricular team, which was the recipient of Dartmouth College's 2022 Lone Pine Innovation Award.

In terms of programming, like the previous academic year, global events were on our minds—including a war in Europe, high inflation, and a faltering economy. All of these events transpired amid the continued political fallout in Washington, DC and some notable off-cycle elections



and high-profile Supreme Court decisions that will set the stage for the upcoming midterm elections. Consistent with our desire to foster public debate in a nonpartisan fashion, the Rockefeller Center held or sponsored more than two dozen public events designed to help the community better understand the changing world around them.

We ended the year on an especially powerful note with several hundred people who gathered in a ballroom at the Hanover Inn for a discussion of “The Defense of Ukraine” with U.S. Senators Rob Portman '78 (R-OH) and

Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH). The event (pictured) was a huge success and included many attendees online as well as from several Dartmouth graduating classes who were visiting Hanover for their reunions. I heard repeatedly that the bipartisan foreign policy discussion was highly informative and exceptionally constructive. Our team is already thinking of new ways to offer programming during reunion weeks in the future. So, especially to the members of my own graduating class—the Class of 1993—who will be celebrating our 30th anniversary next year, stay tuned.

The new beginnings theme mentioned earlier was also evident in terms of personnel changes at the Rockefeller Center. Our longtime Finance Manager, Lynn Spencer, bid us farewell in the spring as part of a retirement that now has her sailing the oceans. In addition, one of our staff members charged with running the First-Year Fellows program, Hannah Andritsakis, moved to the private sector as did Serge Severenchuk, a postdoctoral fellow who had helped manage our Policy Research Shop for the last few years. In their places and to round out our organizational chart, we hired Whitney Rosenbaum, Mary-Margaret Chaffee, and Michael Wales. We wish those who have left the best and welcome our new arrivals.

These staff changes are a prelude to the impending retirements of Ron Shaiko and Sadhana Hall. These two members of our senior leadership team at Rocky have decades of combined experience, and we discovered quickly that it is virtually impossible to replace either of them in a one-for-one fashion. As such, we have already started to work on the transition. Longtime faculty member, Professor Herschel Nachlis, is shadowing Ron to administer our curricular programs and Sociology professor, Kristin Smith, is helping run the Policy Research Shop. Likewise, we welcome Julie Kalish to the center in a more formal fashion so she can continue to offer her immensely popular public policy course on writing in the public policy world as well as a new course on civic leadership. As always, we will continue to look for ways to innovate programmatically and within the public policy minor, which remains one of the most popular degrees at Dartmouth.

Finally, we bid farewell to several members of our Board of Visitors at the end of their terms: Lisa Friel '79, Mike Kennealy '90, and Maya Wiley '86 will be missed greatly. We welcome, however, a new Dartmouth alum to the Board, Peter Sisitsky '97. To these individuals, and to all the Friends of the Rockefeller Center, thank you for your support and for helping to make everything you will see in the following pages possible.



Sincerely Yours,

Jason Barabas '93

Director, Nelson A. Rockefeller Center  
for Public Policy and the Social Sciences

# Rocky by the Numbers

**32**

Students participated in the Class of 1964 Policy Research Shop producing 12 nonpartisan reports for Vermont and New Hampshire policy makers



**529**

Dartmouth students participated in at least one term or year-long class or program at the Rockefeller Center

**400**

Enrollments in 16 Public Policy courses



**1,631**

In-person attendees and 2,139 livestream viewers of 24 Rocky Watch Programs in 2021-2022 school year



# Senior Profiles



**Dhwani Kharel '22**

"One of my most formative experiences at Dartmouth was the First Year Fellows program. Fellows introduced me to a phenomenal group of classmates who I had not met prior to the program and who are now among my close friends at Dartmouth. Working at the Congressional Research Service opened up many more opportunities and gave me a chance to work on significant projects, like the first presidential impeachment, that most college students—much less freshmen—would not be able to work on. My fellows mentor, Elizabeth Rybicki, is still a source of support, and I am incredibly grateful to the program for pairing me with her."

*Dhwani won the Truman Scholarship for "outstanding leadership potential" in government or nonprofit service.*

"The Public Policy 85 trip to DC this past December was a highlight of my Dartmouth experience. Throughout the fall, our class studied the United States' approach to public health, and we developed a number of reforms aimed at making the provision of healthcare more efficient and equitable. During our trip, my classmates and I were able to stress-test and revise these reforms through intimate conversations with leaders in government, nonprofits, and private businesses. I am grateful to our rockstar professor, Herschel Nachlis, and Rocky staff & donors for providing this incredible experiential learning opportunity to Dartmouth seniors!"



**Nathan Pucci '22**

"The Rockefeller Center has so many opportunities for any student interested in public policy, and I am thankful for everyone at Rocky who has helped me achieve my goals throughout the last four years. Participating in the First-Year Fellows program through the Rockefeller Center was one of the highlights of my Dartmouth experience. The opportunity to participate in an internship in Washington, D.C. after my freshman year was incredible, and I learned so much from both my internship as well as the Civic Skills Training programming in Hanover and D.C. from Rocky. Living in D.C. with 21 other '22s was one of my favorite parts of the Fellows experience — I was able to explore D.C. and find lifelong friendships. I am beyond grateful for everything Rocky has helped me do during my time at Dartmouth, including conducting my own research in the Policy Research Shop and funding my senior honors thesis. The Rockefeller Center has played a key part in my time at Dartmouth and has greatly influenced my plans for the future."



**Addison Dick '22**

# 2021-2022 Public Programs



Constitution Day Lecture

*The Science of the Constitution*  
Sonu Bedi



*From Dartmouth to Wall Street to Rome*  
Amb. Lewis M. Eisenberg



*Leadership: What's Your Blueprint?*  
Sadhana Hall



*Willing to Pay? A Reasonable Choice Approach*  
Sven Steinmo



*Renewing Trust in Democracy*  
Greg Garre '87 and Neal Katyal '91



Thurlow M. Gordon 1906 Lecture

*Politics, Markets, and Populism: Antitrust at the Crossroads*  
Noah Joshua Phillips '00



Class of 1930 Fellow Lecture

*The Rise and Fall of the COVID-19 Pandemic*  
Nicholas Christakis



Perkins Bass Distinguished Visitor

*Harm Reduction - One Way to Reduce Addiction and Follow the Science*  
Judge Tina Nadeau



Veterans Day Lecture

*Veterans Today and the Wars in which They Have Served*  
President Emeritus James Wright



*Reproductive Justice and U.S. Law*  
Kimberly Mutcherson and Mary Ziegler



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Lecture

*Fixing What We Face: How Racial Justice Can Save Our Democracy*  
Maya Wiley '86



Roger S Aaron '64 Lecture

*Uncivil Democracy: Race, Poverty, and Civil Legal Inequality*  
Jamila Michener





*Careers in Public Policy*  
Hassan Y. Hassen, Mike Kennealy,  
Regina Speed-Bost, and  
Kelsey Woerner Speers

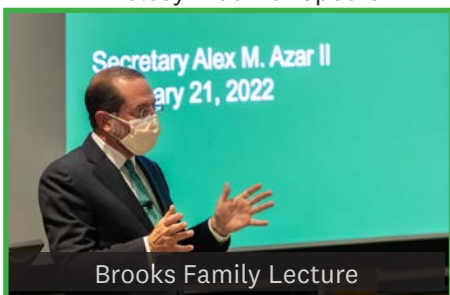


*Julian Assange: Visionary or  
Villain*  
Nabiha Syed



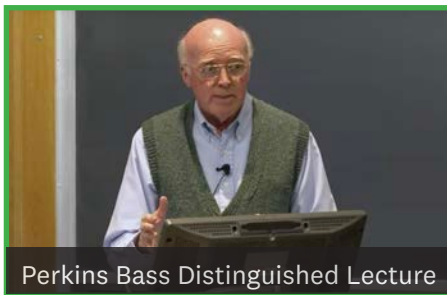
Public Lecture Honoring Brice Acree

*Changing the Conversation  
around Mental Health*  
Judge John T. Broderick, Jr.



Brooks Family Lecture

*Operation Warp Speed*  
Alex Azar '88



Perkins Bass Distinguished Lecture

*Elections and their Impact on  
American Democracy*  
Bill Gardner



William H. Timbers '37 Lecture

*How Woke Can a Juror Be?*  
Sonali Chakravarti



Stephen R. Volk '57/Law Day

*Courts, Myths, and the  
Foundation of Liberty*  
Judge Beth Robinson



Bernard D. Nossiter '47 Lecture

*Covering American Democracy: It's  
Not a Game (At Least It Shouldn't Be)*  
Bill Barrow



Portman Lecture in the Spirit of  
Entrepreneurship

*Orvis: Conscious Capitalism*  
Simon Perkins and  
Bill McLaughlin D'78, T'81



*The 60th Anniversary of  
Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Visit  
to Dartmouth*  
Martin Luther King III



*Police Force Size and  
Civilian Race*  
Morgan C. Williams, Jr.



*The Defense of Ukraine: A  
Conversation*  
Senator Rob Portman '78 (R-OH) and  
Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)

# Public Programs Highlights



## **The Defense of Ukraine: A Conversation with Senator Portman '78 (R-OH) and Senator Shaheen (D-NH)**

During reunion weekend 2022, U.S. Senators Rob Portman '78, R-Ohio, and Jeanne Shaheen, D-NH, spoke to a packed crowd in the Hanover Inn Grand Ballroom. Both lawmakers have taken an active role in supporting Ukraine during the ongoing crisis. Portman is co-chair of the bipartisan Senate Ukraine Caucus and a member of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, while Shaheen is a member of the Senate Committees on Armed Services, Foreign Relations, Appropriations, and Small Business and Entrepreneurship. They spoke of the effect of Russian disinformation and the importance of continued public support for Ukraine.

## **Towards Social Justice with Martin Luther King III**

To commemorate the 60th anniversary of his father's address at Dartmouth College, Martin Luther King III, the eldest living child of civil rights leaders Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King, spoke in Spaulding Auditorium. His keynote address at Dartmouth's Social Justice Awards covered topics from racially motivated voter suppression to the mass shooting in Buffalo, NY that targeted Black shoppers. King encouraged Dartmouth students to get involved in civil rights movements and extolled the importance of young people exercising their voices at the ballot box.





## Uncivil Democracy: Race, Poverty, and Civil Legal Inequality with Jamila Michener

Cornell University Associate Professor Jamila Michener delivered the Rockefeller Center's Roger S. Aaron '64 lecture titled "Uncivil Democracy: Race, Poverty, and Civil Legal Inequality." Michener shared ethnographic evidence gathered from her experiences interviewing individuals and organizations tangled in the civil legal system. She provided critical background on the importance of the system and described the myriad factors that make attaining justice within the system so difficult, particularly for individuals in low-income communities.



## Renewing Trust in Democracy: The Role of Courts with Gregory G. Garre '87 and Neal Katyal '91

On October 21, 2021, the Rockefeller Center, the Warren B. Rudman Center at the UNH Franklin Pierce School of Law, and the New Hampshire Institute for Civics Education co-hosted a conversation with Greg Garre '87 and Neal Katyal '91 titled "Renewing Trust in Democracy: The Role of Courts." Moderated by Laura Knoy, former host of NHPR's "The Exchange," their discussion centered on the role of the Supreme Court in maintaining a balanced democracy, the threats facing the Supreme Court of the United States to maintain this role, and how Garre and Katyal's own extensive experience as advocates have informed their understanding of the Court's critical work.



## The Rise and Fall of the Covid-19 Pandemic with Nicholas Christakis

Returning to campus, Dr. Nicholas Christakis of Yale University joined members of the Dartmouth community to discuss the coronavirus pandemic. Christakis directs the Human Nature Lab and works within the fields of network science, biosocial science, and behavioral genetics. His talk focused on his 2020 best-selling book *Apollo's Arrow: The Profound and Enduring Impact of Coronavirus on the Way We Live*. He offered a global history of widespread disease, discussed the social costs of such public health crises, and made predictions on the eventual conclusion of the Covid-19 pandemic.



# Public Policy Class Back in Action



**Meeting with Alex Azar '88**

Azar, the Secretary of Health under former President Donald Trump, and Mike Pyle '00, the Chief Economic Advisor to current Vice President Kamala Harris). Throughout these discussions, I was able to better understand the challenges inherent within the system that complicate the overarching process of enacting tangible change, especially in regard to health care infrastructure, legislation, and innovation in the United States.

Although I was initially under the impression that I developed a certain expertise regarding these topics on campus, these testimonies had an indescribable impact on further refining my existing base of knowledge (which likely would not have occurred without this “mini-FSP”). However, by evaluating the impact of policy in this subject area (which I was entirely unfamiliar with prior to the class), I felt like I was able to find myself engaged in an environment that (surprisingly) combined my interests in economics, data, and policy, while simultaneously finding myself in a course serving as the epitome of Dartmouth’s liberal arts education.”

-Sasha Kokoshinskiy '22

“Coupled with numerous tips and general career advice from many accomplished professionals, Public Policy 85 was a great way to work alongside my classmates in order to discover an unfiltered version of Washington D.C., in an attempt to understand government from the inside out, as opposed to evaluating it from the outside-in.

With the class being accompanied by a trip to Washington to supplement the discussions and debates we had in class, the various panels and meetings that we attended played a significant role in shaping my understanding regarding the function of government (we met with a number of professionals from all over D.C., such as Alex



**At a Bob Dylan Concert**



**Exploring Washington D.C.**



# First-Year Fellows Returns to D.C.

The First-Year Fellows program was able to return in-person to Washington D.C. this summer for the first time since 2019. Prior to beginning their fellowships, students participate in a Civic Skills Training (CST), an immersive two-week professional development training held on-campus and in Washington DC. During the First-Year Fellows Program, the students live together in tightknit groups in student housing in the Congressional District, near Capitol Hill, while they complete fellowships in government and non-profit organizations. Through their fellowships, students have a unique opportunity to work directly on public policy initiatives across different sectors, such as law, advocacy, public health, education and more.



**Sen. Robert Portman (R-OH) with Sadhana Hall, Jason Barabas, and Ron Shaiko**



**On the Capitol Steps**

"My experience as a FYF has been invaluable. From being able to work with my mentor at World Resources Institute, global research organization, to utilizing Dartmouth's DC alumni network, to first-hand seeing the public policy process unfold in DC, I've better come to understand the future I want to see for our world and for myself as a member within it. I've gained confidence in being a professional leader and resilient change-maker, skills that I will surely use as I look forward to pursuing a career in law."  
-Mei Xu '25



**Students meet with U.S. Senator Tammy Duckworth of Illinois while on Capitol Hill**



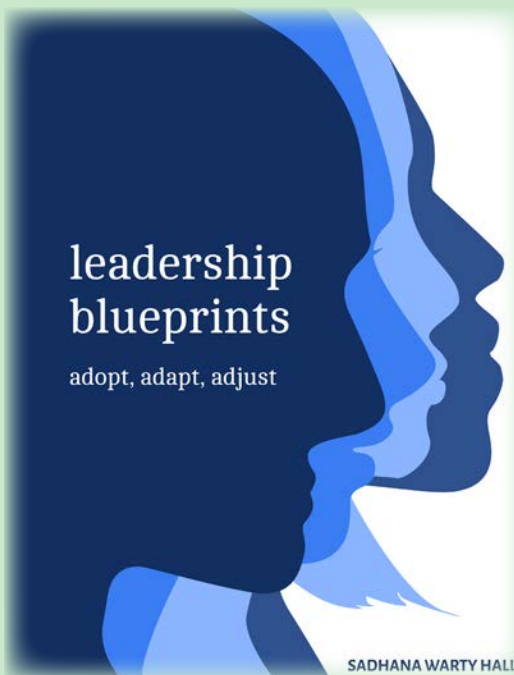
**Hanging out on the D.C. Mall**

# Faculty Update

Two members of the curricular team at the Rockefeller Center traveled to Tallahassee, Florida in April to attend the 2022 State Politics and Policy Conference. The conference is the official gathering of the State Politics and Policy section of the American Political Science Association, one of the top academic professional organizations worldwide.

Professor Jason Barabas presented a research paper co-authored with a current undergraduate student, Cristina Javens '23, titled, "Rockefeller Republicans Redux: Political Moderates on the Right in New York State." Professor Ron Shaiko presented a paper titled, "State Courts as Program Implementers: The Case of Drug Courts in New Hampshire." Both projects grew out of public events programming at the Rockefeller Center and illustrated how scholars at Rocky are able to explore linkages between contemporary policy developments and academic research. The conference was hosted by the Department of Political Science in the College of Social Sciences and Public Policy at Florida State University (FSU), which served as a homecoming for Prof. Barabas who was on the faculty at FSU from 2006 to 2013. It also marked a return to the conference circuit for all those who attended since this scholarly gathering had been canceled in previous years due to the global pandemic.

## Alumni Reflection



Leadership Blueprints was published in July of 2021 and includes a description of the full continuum of leadership programs offered by Rocky. Program impact can be best measured by what participants think about them—years after they have graduated and are now pursuing their interests and careers. Alumni continue to describe the impact of these programs. We often hear these thoughts by alumni who stay in touch with us, like this reflection is from Amrita Sankar '12 who participated in three of our leadership programs.

"Through the leadership programs at the Rockefeller Center I was given an actionable toolkit to navigate the workplace and the confidence to stay true to my values. My training to empathize with diverse stakeholders, adapt to dynamic challenges, and problem-solve collaboratively all stem from the rigorous curriculum crafted by Rocky. These lessons taken to heart will take a lifetime to master!"



# Board of Visitors

**Kal Alston '80**

**James Badenhausen '87**

**Welton Chang '05**

**David Duckenfield '88**

**Lisa Friel '79**

**Monica Higgins '86, Tu'90**

**Ann Kappler '79**

**Michael Kennealy '90**

**Amanda B. Lierman '07**

**Maxine Lum Mauricio '93**

**Mary Pavel '88**

**R. Bruce Rich '70**

**Michael Rockefeller '86**

**Alvaro Saralegui '78**

**Leah Wright Rigueur '03**

**Catherine Solomon '82**

**Ariel Dora Stern '05**

**Maya Wiley '86**

**Timothy Harrison '78 - Chair**

**Gregg Lemkau '91 - Board of Trustees Liaison**

# Staff and Faculty

**Jason Barabas**

*Director*

**Sadhana Hall**

*Deputy Director*

**Ronald Shaiko**

*Senior Fellow  
Associate Director,  
Curricular and  
Research Programs*

**Herschel Nachlis**

*Research Assistant  
Professor of  
Government, Policy  
Fellow*

**Daniel Shroeder**

*Research Scientist  
Policy Research Shop  
Manager*

**Serge Sverenchuk\***

*Postdoctoral Research  
Associate  
Policy Research Shop  
Manager*

**Anne Sosin**

*Policy Fellow*

**Charles Wheelan**

*Senior Lecturer and  
Policy Fellow*

**Hannah Andritsakis\***

*Program Officer*

**Joanne Blais**

*Program Officer for  
Public Programs and  
Special Events*

**Mary-Margaret  
Chaffee**

*Program Officer*

**Robert Coates**

*Assistant Director*

**Robin Frye**

*Program Officer*

**Laura Hemlock**

*Program Officer for  
Communications and  
Creative Services*

**Laura Mitchell**

*Program Officer  
for Curricular and  
Research Programs*

**Whitney Rosenbaum**

*Financial Manager*

**Lynn Spencer\***

*Financial Manager*

**Leslie Wagner**

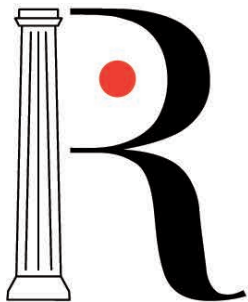
*Program Officer*

\*Left the Center  
in 2022









**Nelson A. Rockefeller  
Center for Public Policy  
and the Social Sciences  
at Dartmouth**