

DELIBERATIVE CITIZENSHIP INITIATIVE

DAVIDSON COLLEGE



**ANNUAL
REPORT**

2021-2022

INTRODUCTION

In 2020 Davidson College initiated the Deliberative Citizenship Initiative (DCI), a campus- and community-wide project focused on promoting deliberation as an alternative to the non-constructive cross talk that has come to dominate our public discourse. The DCI seeks to empower individuals with the skills, resources, and spaces necessary to engage in productive, meaningful conversations across difference.

This annual report summarizes the DCI's second year of accomplishments. It reviews the DCI's mission, vision, goals, and central concepts of deliberative citizenship, humane instincts and deliberative dispositions. It highlights key statistics, participant testimonials, and the DCI's different programs, which include the Fellows Program, Deliberative "D" Teams, Deliberative Forums, Deliberative Citizenship Public Lecture Series, Deliberative Pedagogy Collaborative, Deliberation Research Program, and Outreach, Engagement, and Collaboration Projects.

With its more than doubling of the number of participants and launch of several new programs and partnerships, this report reveals how the DCI significantly expanded its impact in 2021-22 while continuing to adapt to the ongoing pandemic.

Read on to learn more about how it has done so...

DCI OVERVIEW

MISSION

The Deliberative Citizenship is designed to create opportunities for Davidson College students, faculty, staff, alumni, and members of the wider community to productively engage with one another on difficult and contentious issues facing our community and society.

VISION

Building democracy, one conversation at a time.

GOALS



TEACH DELIBERATIVE SKILLS



REINFORCE HUMANE INSTINCTS



BUILD MEANINGFUL COMMUNITY



CATALYZE CREATIVE SOLUTIONS



ANALYZE THE DELIBERATIVE PROCESSES OF THE INITIATIVE ITSELF



" DELIBERATIVE "

relating to discourse that contributes to both shared and new understandings of a particular issue that transcend previously-held positions and enable collective decisions and actions



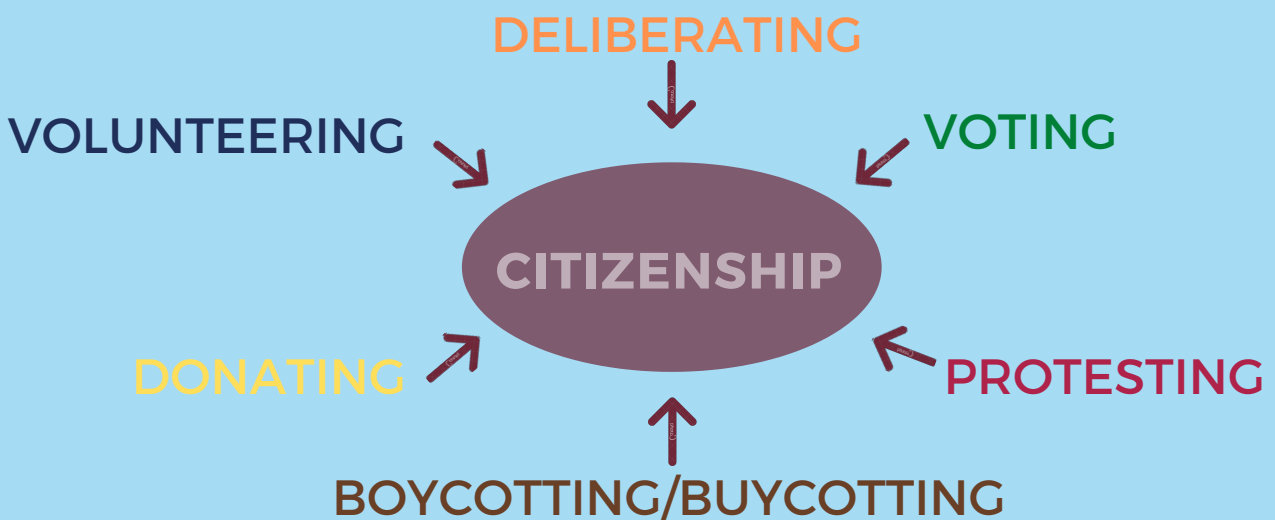
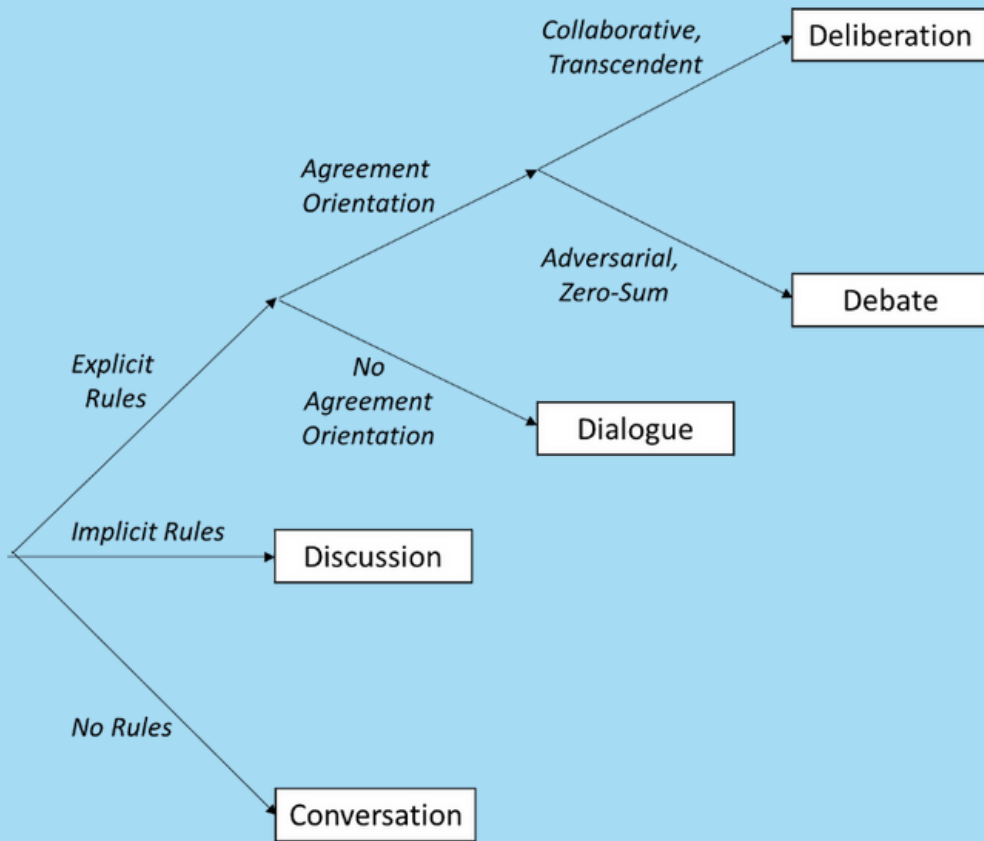
" CITIZENSHIP "

a sense of identity and set of actions, dispositions, and sensibilities associated with public life and the work of acting together to solve a society's common problems (independent of one's legal or immigration status)



DELIBERATIVE CITIZENSHIP

Deliberative citizenship encompasses multiple forms of discourse and complements other forms of citizenship



PROGRAMS

The work of the Deliberative Citizenship Initiative is divided into four program areas:



Deliberation Across the Curriculum

Deliberation on Campus

Deliberation in the Community

Research on Deliberation

HUMANE INSTINCTS

Throughout these programs, the DCI reinforces humane instincts that allow for transformative deliberative experiences:

COURAGE AND PRUDENCE

HUMILITY AND CONFIDENCE

COMPASSION AND KINDNESS

GENEROSITY AND GRACE

HONESTY AND CURIOSITY

JUSTICE AND FAIRNESS

LOYALTY AND FAITHFULNESS

SANCTITY AND PEACE

LIBERTY AND AUTONOMY

LOVE AND JOY

DISPOSITIONS

These humane instincts are supported by the DCI's emphasis on ten dispositions that its research and experience have found to be critical to the success of deliberative enterprises:

HUMILITY

CHARITY

ANTICIPATION

EGALITARIANISM

EMPATHY

ATTENTIVENESS

OPEN-MINDEDNESS

ACTION ORIENTATION

COMMUNAL ORIENTATION

EVIDENTIAL EMPHASIS

LEARNING ABOUT AND DOING DELIBERATION



DCI BY THE NUMBERS 2021-2022

D Team Participation Growth

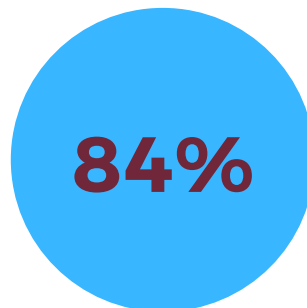


PROGRAMS

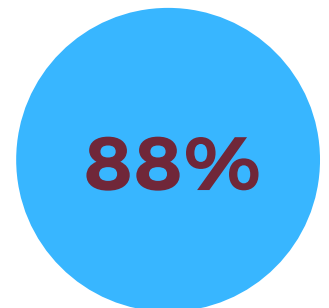
- 10** Fellows
- 218** D Team Participants
- 27** D Teams
- 15** DeeP Collaborative Faculty Members
- 250+** Forum Attendees
- 31** Training Participants

EVENTS

- 6** Expert Panelists
- 2** Deliberative Forums
- 1** Public Lecture
- 1** Training Workshop



**SATISFIED OR VERY
SATISFIED**
With Deliberative Forum
experience



**SATISFIED OR VERY
SATISFIED**
With D Team
experience

DCI BY THE NUMBERS 2021-2022

SUBSCRIBERS ALMOST TRIPLED

Recipients of bi-monthly newsletter and DCI Blog updates, members of WildcatSync portal, and YouTube channel subscribers

SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS MORE THAN DOUBLED

Across Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn

WEBSITE VISITORS INCREASED BY 58%

Individuals who have accessed the website in the past year

732

546

5440

IMPACT - PARTICIPANT TESTIMONIALS

"Thanks for doing this. It's gratifying to see Davidson engaging in this important conversation—not just for the sake of the college community, but because the way you (and other campuses) address this will have direct effects on our future society as students make their way in the world and spread what they learn at Davidson to other communities."

- Deliberative Forum Attendee

"This program was outstanding! Our panel discussion was fantastic thanks to gracious and kind facilitation by [our facilitator]. Thank you for this enriching opportunity to consider economic mobility in a civil discourse. I want to be on the email lists for upcoming events."

- Deliberative Forum Attendee

"This is a great program. There is a broad spectrum of participants in the groups. The program materials are balanced and well-prepared. The moderators are well-trained and understand the subjects covered by the groups. I was very satisfied with the program."

- D Team Member

"I appreciate this organization bringing people with different backgrounds and experience together to discuss how we can fix the issues at hand."

- Deliberative Forum Attendee

"D Teams via Zoom give students, alums, community members a chance to meet and learn, discuss, bolster, formulate, or reformulate their opinions about an issue because of the structured discussion. The most unique aspect is the wide spectrum of ages in the group. In my group it went from 20 - 80. There are not that many places where this intergenerational exploration occurs."

- D Team Member



IMPACT - PARTICIPANT TESTIMONIALS

"Appreciated the opportunity to engage with fellow alums, students, and community members. Evidence of Davidson's commitment to a lifelong love of learning and civic engagement."

- D Team Member

"Both parts of the program tonight made the evening successful. Hearing the perspectives of each panel member was invaluable. It was wise to have three people with different backgrounds, ideas of goals and solutions. That helped me better define my own perspectives. I really appreciated the small group session to hear individual perspectives, experiences and ideas for how to overcome barriers in a friendly, comfortable small group environment. Well done!"

- Deliberative Forum Attendee

"Since leaving Davidson twenty years ago, my circle of conversation partners seems to have become more and more homogenous. It was a privilege to sit in a circle where three generations (baby boomer, Millennial, and Gen Z); four different national-backgrounds (American, Romanian, Korean, and Indian); and a spectrum of political convictions were free to speak intelligently, honestly, and charitably."

- D Team Member

"First rate all the way. The experts provided clear, thoughtful, challenging context and the small group deliberations forced me to think in terms of realities for students, faculty and administrators. The event was well-organized. I particularly appreciated the involvement of students."

- Deliberative Forum Attendee

"Really awesome Davidson people - from the students to the older alums! We need more civil dialogues like this."

- Deliberative Forum Attendee

DCI FELLOWS

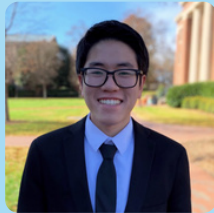
Deliberative Citizenship Initiative (DCI) Fellows spend the academic year playing a leadership role in the initiative by immersing themselves in deliberative theory and methods, helping select the topics for D Teams and deliberative forums, facilitating robust deliberations on those topics, and documenting their experiences through blog posts and reflections. Fellows have the opportunity to contribute to the urgent and important work of bringing people together to explore how and why their perspectives are both similar and different - and begin building common solutions to our collective challenges.

2021-2022 FELLOWS

Eight Davidson students, one Davidson staff, and one Davidson alum comprised the DCI's second Fellows cohort. [Click here for their bios.](#)



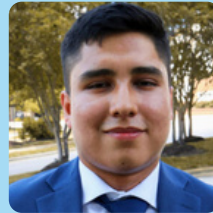
Nathanael Bagonza '24



Kevin Chen '22



Douglas Deutsch '23



Kevin Garcia-Galindo '24



Henry Griffith '24



Benjamin Kellogg '24



Kelly McLoughlin '25



Prithvi Rai '24



Elaine Hall '03

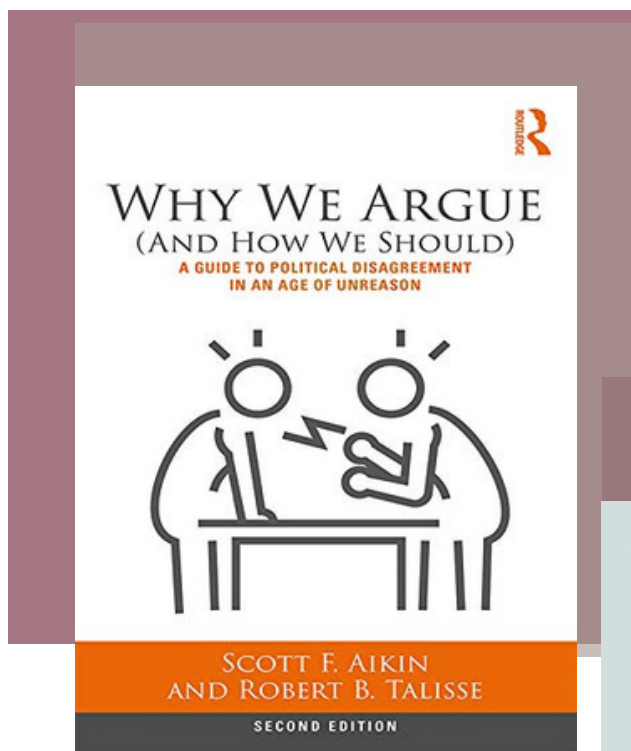


Meggie Lasher
Staff | Library



DCI FELLOWS

Over the course of the past year, the DCI Fellows analyzed and discussed deliberative ideas from a wide range of academic, practitioner, and news sources, including those shown below. They also explored how different humane instincts are relevant to deliberation and how different programs are fostering deliberation across the country. The Fellows applied what they were learning to facilitating D Teams and Deliberative Forum breakout groups. In the spring semester, they also developed and implemented their own individual, small-scale deliberative projects. The Fellows showcased the work of the DCI at Davidson's annual Verna Miller Case Symposium.



D TEAMS

DELIBERATIVE "D" TEAMS

D Teams are small groups of 5-10 individuals with diverse viewpoints who share a commitment to meet regularly, get to know each other on a personal level, and share their perspectives on difficult issues facing our society. Each D Team is facilitated by a DCI Fellow who has been trained and certified as a deliberation facilitator. D Teams provide a practical opportunity for members of the Davidson College community and the general public to engage across political and social differences, learn and practice deliberative skills, and discuss creative ideas to inspire change. The number of D Team members increased from **82 in 2020-2021** to over **200 in 2021-2022**.



DELIBERATIVE "D" TEAMS

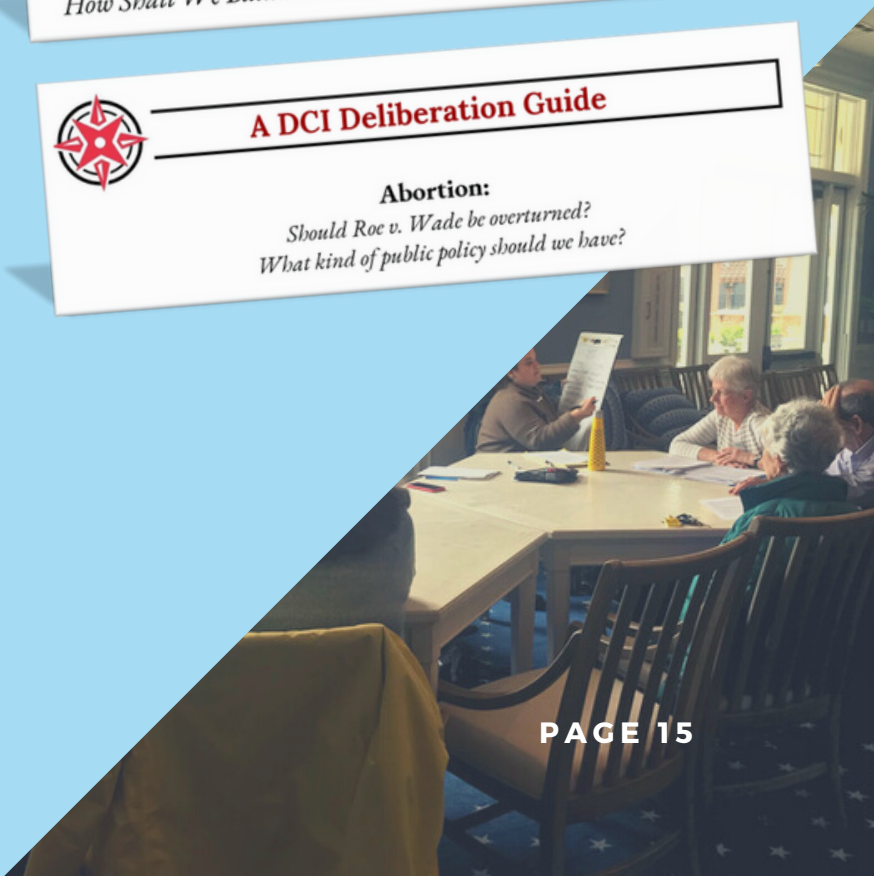
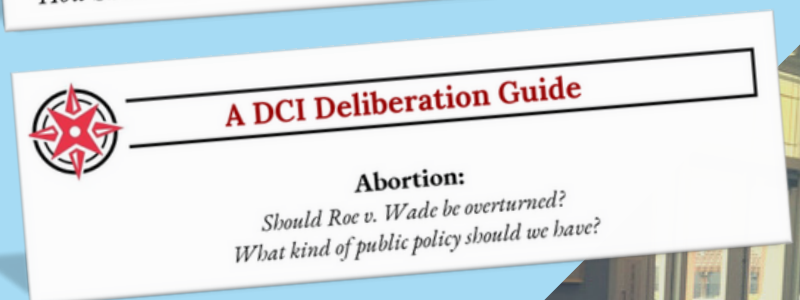
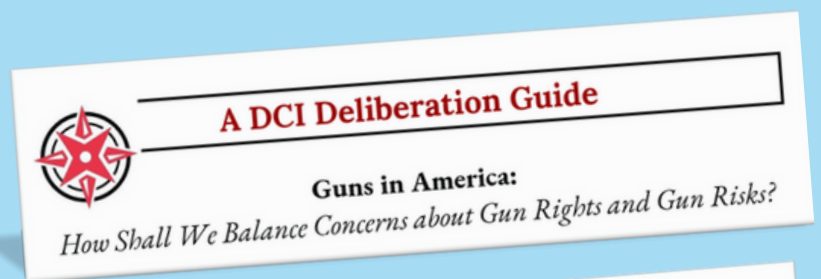
In 2021-2022, 27 D Teams met virtually via Zoom and in person. While initially intended as a COVID-19 safety measure, the virtual format enabled participation of individuals, including many Davidson College alumni, who might not otherwise have been able to travel to campus for in-person meetings. For each meeting, participants and facilitators are provided with a Deliberation Guide developed by the DCI. After each D Team session, the DCI distributes "Beyond the Deliberation" Pathway Guides, which suggest a wide range of resources, readings, and action steps for participants to get more informed, connected, and involved on the topic they have just discussed.

FALL D TEAM TOPICS

- The Future of Democracy
- Economic Mobility
- Our Housing Future

SPRING D TEAM TOPICS

- Gun Policy
- Abortion Policy
- College Admissions Policy



DELIBERATIVE FORUMS

In 2021-2022, the DCI hosted two Deliberative Forums - one-time events open to members of Davidson College and the wider public designed to introduce participants to the basic dispositions and skills of deliberation. The Deliberative Forums were hosted virtually via Zoom and began with panels of experts representing different perspectives on the issue at hand. DCI-developed Deliberation Guides were distributed to participants beforehand and were used by DCI-trained facilitators to guide conversations among participants in breakout rooms after the panel discussion. The fall 2021 Deliberative Forum focused on the relationship between free speech and inclusion on college campuses.



Pareena Lawrence
Yale University

Susan Brison
Dartmouth College

Keith Whittington
Princeton University

FALL 2021

Davidson College & The Deliberative Citizenship Initiative invite you to a virtual forum followed by facilitated small group deliberations

Nov. 4
7 to 9 pm

FREE SPEECH & INCLUSION

Are they in conflict or are they complementary?
How should they be effectively supported on college campuses?

DELIBERATIVE FORUMS

Hosted in spring 2022, the Economic Mobility Forum engaged questions such as, if the American dream does exist, how might we begin to understand this abstract concept? In our everyday lives, how do we define this idea of economic mobility, and what different ideas have been proposed to make it more achievable for everyone?



Sherri Chisholm
Executive Director,
Leading on
Opportunity

Kieth Cockrell
President,
Bank of America-
Charlotte

Patrick Garry
Professor,
University of South
Dakota

SPRING 2022

THE CENTER FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT,
THE DELIBERATIVE CITIZENSHIP INITIATIVE &
THE NORTH MECKLENBURG ECONOMIC
MOBILITY COLLABORATIVE
INVITE YOU TO ATTEND
AN EXPERT PANEL AND DELIBERATIVE FORUM



Economic Mobility:

*How Can the
American Dream
Be More Achievable
for Everyone?*

DELIBERATIVE CITIZENSHIP PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES

The DCI's guest speaker series introduces the Davidson community to different theoretical and practical approaches to deliberation. In spring 2021, Dr. Leila Brammer explored the relationship between freedom of expression and a healthy democracy in both an evening lecture on public discourse and an afternoon talk on deliberative pedagogy.



Leila Brammer

Director of the Parrhesia Program for
Public Discourse, University of Chicago

***"Democratic Discourse
in the Classroom:
Lessons from the
University of Chicago's
Parrhesia Program"***
&
***"Revitalizing Public
Discourse on Campus
and Beyond"***



FACILITATION TRAINING

The DCI hosted a deliberation facilitator training for the second cohort of Fellows, community members, DeeP Collaborative members, and Davidson faculty and staff in the fall of 2021. This 8-hour training introduced roughly 40 participants to specific skills to improve their ability to both listen and deliberate with others as well as facilitate such deliberations as part of D Teams, Deliberative Forums, and other deliberative events. This year, DCI Certified Facilitators moderated several breakout room forum discussions.



Hosting a Deliberation



Utilizing Expertise



Learning Different Styles of Facilitation



Asking Good Questions



Engaging with Deliberative Theory



Organizing a Deliberation



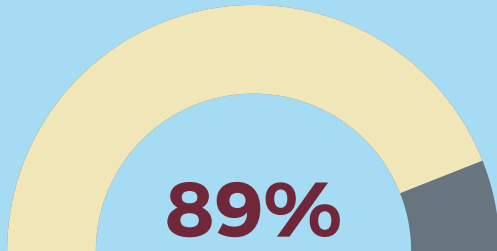
DELIBERATIVE PEDAGOGY FACULTY COLLABORATIVE

Faculty participants in the DCI's Deliberative Pedagogy (DeeP) Collaborative attended a full day hybrid workshop in August 2021. Dr. Graham Bullock (Political Science) and Dr. Daniel Layman (Philosophy) led ACS and Davidson faculty in exploring how to embed deliberation into their courses. The 15 DeeP members include faculty from Davidson College, Furman University, Morehouse College, Rollins College, Southwestern University, and Spelman College. Throughout the academic year, DeeP members met monthly as a collaborative and in small groups to share their progress in designing and teaching their deliberation-involved courses. In the summer of 2022, the DCI will be publishing blog posts written by Collaborative members about their experiences embedding deliberation into their courses.

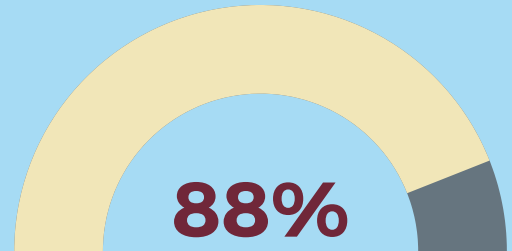


RESEARCH PROGRAM

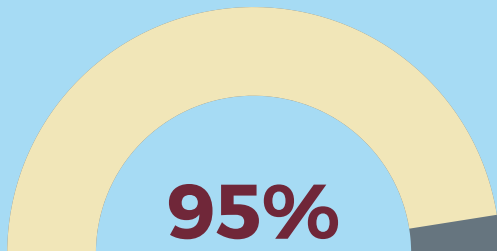
The DCI is committed to supporting research on deliberation and is systematically assessing the effects of its own activities by tracking, analyzing, and reporting on its inputs, processes, outputs, and outcomes. The DCI has distributed surveys to D Team and DeepP members, Deliberative Forum participants, and DCI Fellows to assess the impacts of its activities. In January and February 2022, the DCI presented some of its research and lessons learned at the NC Campus Compact PACE Conference and UNC Chapel Hill Symposium of Collegiate Programs for Public Discourse.



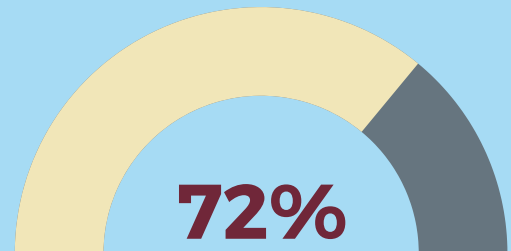
of Deliberative Forum respondents said the deliberation gave them sufficient opportunity to express their views



of D Team respondents reported being likely to recommend D Teams to a friend



of Deliberative Forum respondents said they carefully considered the views of others that were different from their own



of D Team respondents expressed confidence discussing political issues with those with whom they disagree

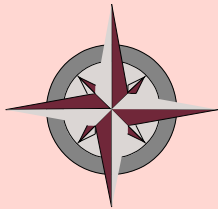
OUTREACH, ENGAGEMENT, AND COLLABORATION

In 2021-2022 the DCI expanded the scope of its work through various outreach, engagement, and collaboration efforts both on campus and in the wider community. Below is a list of such efforts:

- Partnership with **North Mecklenburg Economic Mobility Collaborative** on Economic Mobility Deliberative Forum
- Presentation to **Bailey's Glen retirement community** and Hosting of D Teams at their community center
- Classes on Deliberation at **Davidson College Presbyterian Church**
- Course on Deliberative Democracy with **Davidson Learns**
- Panel Presentations at **Campus Compact PACE Conference** and the **UNC - Chapel Hill Symposium of Collegiate Programs for Public Discourse**
- Presentations to **Davidson College Board of Trustees** and **Board of Visitors**
- Poster Presentations by DCI Fellows at the **Davidson College Verna Miller Case Research and Public Works Symposium**
- Collaboration with **Davidson College E. H. Little Library** on "Refresh Your Feed" info literacy program and freestanding DCI mobile display and related presentation at the **Liberal Arts Collaborative for Digital Innovation Conference (LACOL) Conference** at Davidson College
- DCI Fellows' personal projects included collaboration with **Davidson's Chidsey Leadership Program, Sustainability Office, Athletics Department, Dean of Students Office, and WALT-1610 Radio**
- Presentations given and deliberations hosted in **Davidson religion, sociology, and political science courses**
- Partnership with **Jay Hurt Hub** hosting DCI Training Workshop
- DCI Fellows hosted "**Commons Conversations**" for students over lunch on a variety of different topics

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

In addition to the DCI website, DCI has published a number of resources. These include deliberation guides, "how to" resources, a deliberation facilitator's handbook, digital badging and certification, and more! In 2022, the DCI launched a membership program that allows members access to these resources via the DCI website.



"How to Disagree"

"DCI Guide to One-on-One Conversations"

"Tips for Virtual Deliberation"

15 DCI Deliberation Guides

15 DCI Pathways Guides



SUMMARY

In the DCI's second full year, the pandemic continued to present both challenges and opportunities for the DCI. Most programming was limited to virtual formats, which allowed alums and members of the broader community to participate. The DCI was able to host several D Teams in the community as well as host a hybrid guest speaker event that allowed for both in person and virtual attendance.

Overall, the DCI was able to expand its programming to reach a wider audience, more than doubling D Team participation and social media followers from the previous year while maintaining rigorous quality standards for its events. The efforts of DeeP Collaborative members to embed deliberation into their courses expanded the DCI's impact across multiple departments and campuses.

Energized by the outstanding feedback, participation, and support from this past year, the DCI looks forward to 2022-2023 and more opportunities to build our democracy, one conversation at a time.

DCI LEADERSHIP

CO-CONVENERS AND STAFF

- **Graham Bullock**, Faculty Director, Associate Professor of Political Science
- **Daniel Layman**, Co-Convener, Associate Professor of Philosophy
- **Byron McCrae**, Co-Convener, Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students
- **Stacey Riemer**, Co-Convener, Associate Dean of Students and Director of the Center for Civic Engagement
- **Amoura Carter '07**, Center Director for Sylvan Huntersville
- **Holly Thomas**, Project Manager & Business Analyst at Davidson College
- **Nathanael Bagonza '24**, Student Co-Convener, Sophomore at Davidson College
- **Kevin Chen '22**, Student Co-Convener, Senior at Davidson College
- **Carla Cole**, DCI Coordinator at Davidson College

2021-2022 ADVISORY COUNCIL

- **Ike Bailey '95**, Batten Professor of Public Policy and Communication Studies at Davidson College
- **Chris Clunie '06**, Director of Athletics at Davidson College
- **Pam Dykstra**, Curriculum Chair for Davidson Learns
- **Lisa Forrest**, Leland M. Park Director of the Davidson College Library
- **Harrison Grooms '25**, First Year Student at Davidson College
- **Peter Henry**, Pastor at Davidson College Presbyterian Church
- **Jerry Hopkins '64**, Retired President of Worldwide Insurance Services
- **Marya Howell '91**, Director of Alumni and Family Engagement at Davidson College
- **Barbara Lom**, Professor of Biology at Davidson College
- **Lia Newman**, Director and Curator of Art Gallery at Davidson College
- **Evan Rothman '22**, Senior at Davidson College
- **Nora Sjue '24**, Sophomore at Davidson College
- **Walter Snipes**, Assistant Dean of Students and Director of Residence Life at Davidson College
- **Jayme Sponsel**, Assistant Director for Research, Learning, & Outreach
- **Abbey Tutterow '24**, Sophomore at Davidson College



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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