

THE DELIBERATIVE CITIZEN

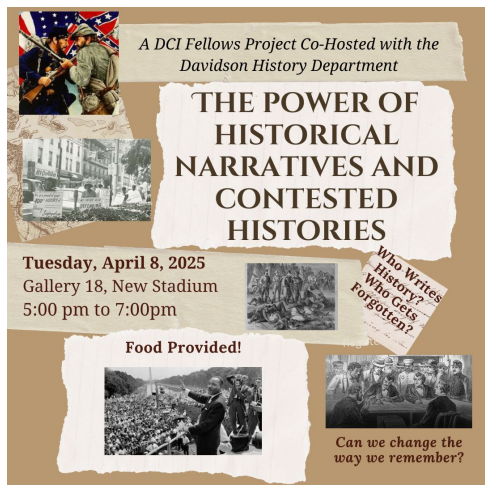
Δ Monthly Newsletter from the DCI



April 2025 Edition

Welcome to the third edition of the DCI's new publication, "*The Deliberative Citizen*." Read more below about our upcoming Deliberative History Forum and a Deliberative Forum on Free Expression at Davidson. You can also check out reports from our recent Deliberative Pedagogy (DeeP) Faculty Panel and Lunch, Deliberative Forum on the Legacies of WWII in the Asia Pacific, and Campus Conversation on the Honor Code, as well as several blog posts by our Student and Faculty Fellows. Enjoy!

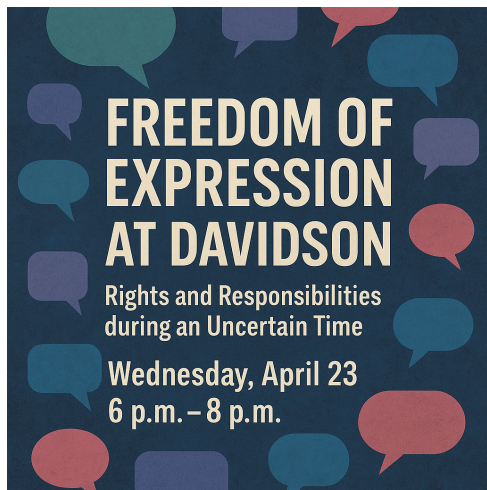
Upcoming Programs



Deliberative History Forum on The Power of Historical Narratives and Contested Histories

On Tuesday, April 8 from 5 pm to 7 pm in the New Davidson Stadium's Gallery 19, Davidson history professors Jonathan Berkey, Jakub Kabala, Hilary Green, Dáša Mortensen, and John Wertheimer will explore how historical narratives are constructed, challenged, and reclaimed. Attendees will also have an opportunity to discuss this topic among themselves. Food provided! Learn more about the forum at the link below.

[CLICK TO
REGISTER](#)



Deliberative Forum on Freedom of Expression at Davidson

As President Hicks announced in a recent email to the Davidson College community, the DCI is hosting, in collaboration with Professors Ike Bailey and Melissa Gonzalez, a Deliberative Forum entitled, “Free Expression at Davidson: Rights and Responsibilities during an Uncertain Time.” The event will be held from 6 pm to 8 pm on April 23. More details will be coming soon. We hope you can join us!

Announcements



DCI Fellows Program Application is Now Open!

Each year, the DCI selects 12-15 students to serve as **Deliberative Citizenship Fellows**. These fellows spend the year playing a leadership role in the initiative. They immerse themselves in deliberative theory and methods, help choose the issues for the year’s focus, facilitate robust deliberations on those issues, and reflect on and document their experiences as sponsors of these discussions.

Applications for the 2025-26 Fellowship Program are now open. All Davidson students are welcome to apply. Complete the application form on WildcatSync at the link below. The priority application deadline is May 2.

[APPLY TODAY](#)

Recent Programs



Deliberative Pedagogy (DeeP) Faculty Panel and Lunch

On Thursday, March 20 from 11:05 am to 12:15 pm, Professors **Maggie McCarthy** (German Studies, Davidson College), **Rebecca Alt** (Communications, Lenoir-Rhyne College), **Rebecca Harrison** (Philosophy, Vassar College), and **Shyam Gouri Suresh** (Economics, Davidson College) shared their work as members of the **Deliberative Pedagogy (DeeP) Collaborative**. Watch the recording of their panel discussion at the link below.

WATCH THE
RECORDING



Deliberative Forum on the Legacies of WWII in the Asia Pacific

On March 5, Davidson students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members gathered to learn about and discuss the legacies of World War II in the Asia-Pacific region. Participants generated ideas for interpretative materials that the DCI is helping to develop that will introduce the Ginkgo trees planted in Spring 2024 between Chambers, Wall, and the Library. Learn more at the link below.

LEARN MORE



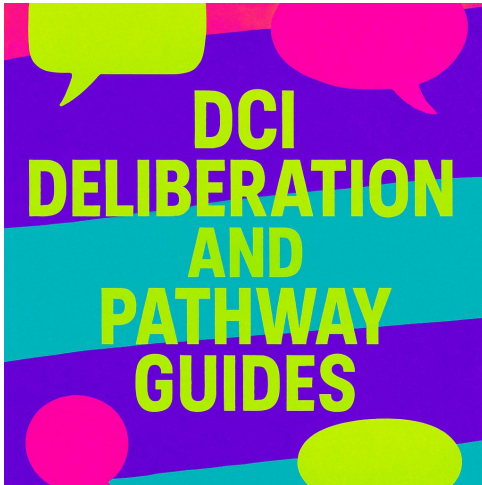
Campus Conversation about the Honor Code

Honor and academic integrity were the focus of a campus conversation co-hosted by the DCI, Honor Council, Student Government Association (SGA), and the Office of the Vice President of Student Life. Over 50 students, faculty, and staff gathered to deliberate about how a more robust

culture of academic integrity can be created at Davidson.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Spotlight



The DCI's Library of Deliberation Guides and Pathway Guides

After nearly six years of programming, the DCI has developed a series of issue guides across a wide range of topics, from abortion to immigration to climate change -- 26 different topics in total. For the first time, we have made all of our guides (through the Spring of 2024) available in one place on the DCI website (guides from this academic year will be added this summer). Check them out at the link below.

[CHECK THEM OUT](#)

Student Insights



Embracing the Power of Deliberation: Why Thoughtful Conversations Matter

DCI Fellow Bosisso Charles Takounadi '27 (TBC) asserts that deliberation "is more significant than just well-structured and healthy conversations; it is a true commitment to listening, understanding, inclusivity, and collective growth." He discusses how the DCI has helped him develop important skills while fostering community and stimulating important conversations on hard topics.

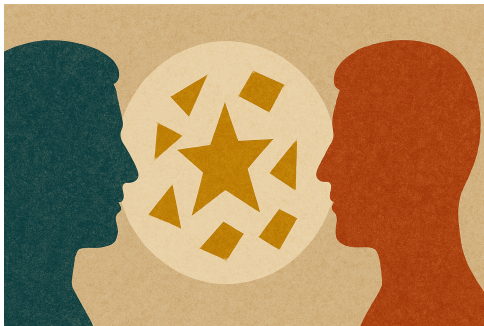
[READ THE POST](#)



How to Foster Internal and External Inclusion in D Teams

DCI Fellow Luna Noguchi '25 believes fostering inclusion is one of the most important roles of a deliberation facilitator. This involves both dissolving the barriers that prevent individuals from coming to the table as well as dismantling the barriers to full participation once people have joined the conversation.

[READ THE POST](#)



The Value of Seeing Others' End Goals

What if we focus more on what unites us than what divides us? Building on his experience as a DCI Fellow, Owen Brent-Levenstein '27 suggests that identifying our common goals can bring a deliberating group together and transform an unproductive argument into a constructive problem-solving exercise.

[READ THE POST](#)

Faculty Insights



Adding Deliberation to a Dance Course on Critical Writing

"Developing skills of critical analysis through the deliberative process," writes Kathleen Wessel, "was the most rewarding and impactful outcome from my time as a member of the DeeP cohort." Wessel, a senior lecturer in the Department of Dance Performance and Choreography at Spelman College, shares how the deliberative elements she added to her class helped her students build their skills "constructing, deconstructing, editing, and reworking good arguments," all of which connected to

contested questions about dance in modern society.

[READ THE POST](#)

DeeP Collaborative Series



Shyam Gouri Suresh
Davidson College

From Skeptic to Advocate: The Power of Deliberation in Economics Education

Is deliberation truly a distinct pedagogical tool, or is it merely a repackaging of traditional classroom discussion? This was a question that Shyam Gouri Suresh, Professor of Economics at Davidson College, pondered before joining the DCI Collaborative. He discovered that deliberative pedagogy does indeed deserve "a place in the broader landscape of active learning...[as] it stands out for its ability to push students toward deeper thinking, richer discussions, and a more profound connection to the material they study."

[READ THE POST](#)

Contribute to the Deliberative Citizenship Initiative

If you like what the DCI has been doing to support more productive public discourse at Davidson – in the classroom, across campus, and in the community – then you are welcome to make a financial contribution to the initiative. Simply click on the link below, select Other under “I want to support” and type in “Deliberative Citizenship Initiative,” and proceed from there. Any amount would help us continue to do the work of bringing people together to discuss the challenging and contentious topics facing our society.

[Give a Gift to the DCI](#)

Follow us on your favorite social media platform!



Davidson College

209 Ridge Road, Box 5000, Davidson, NC, 28035

This email was sent to {{contact.EMAIL}}
You've received it because you've subscribed to our newsletter.

[Update your preferences](#) |
[Unsubscribe](#)