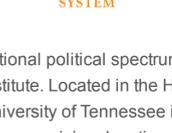


BAKER BUZZ

News and Events from the Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy



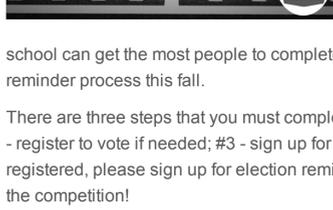
News & Events



Board of Fellows to the Institute of American Civics Announced

On August 31, UT System Pres. Randy Boyd [announced](#) the members of the Board of Fellows to the Institute of American Civics.

The board includes names from across the national political spectrum, reflecting the spirit of bipartisanship that defines the institute. Located in the Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, the institute will support statewide efforts to advance civic education and constructive debate and to foster a deeper understanding of the American government and the principles that contributed to the country's founding. To view the Board of Fellows and to learn more about the institute, click [here](#).



TN vs. FL Voter Challenge

The [Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy](#) has challenged the [Bob Graham Center for Public Service](#) at the University of Florida to a voter competition. The challenge is to compete over which

school can get the most people to complete the voter registration and election reminder process this fall.

There are three steps that you must complete: #1 - check registration status; #2 - register to vote if needed; #3 - sign up for election reminders. If you are already registered, please sign up for election reminders which count as points toward the competition!

All members of the Vol Nation are welcome to participate. This means you! The steps with links are provided on the University of Tennessee's [volsvote.utk.edu](#) website. The website includes a leaderboard that is updated weekly. The competition ends at midnight before the game, on Friday, September 23.



"Listen. Learn. Lead." Week Begins This Month

On September 19, 2022 the Baker Center will kick-off this fall's "Listen. Learn. Lead." Week with campus partners from across campus including [Student Life](#), [Diversity and Engagement](#), [Dean of Students](#), [Division of Student Success](#), and [Center for Student Engagement](#) among others.

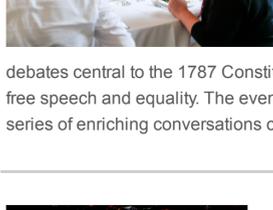
Inspired by Senator Baker's advice that the key to leadership was to be an "eloquent listener," the week will focus on voting and civic engagement. Events include a lunch for students to discuss the Constitutional Convention and finding common ground; an evening lecture from [Jeffrey Rosen](#), President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Constitution Center on the right to vote; a conversation on "[cancel culture](#)" with author and professor [Loretta Ross](#); a voter registration drive and celebration; as well as other related events.



Ambassador Harry Harris Delivers First Ashe Lecture of the Academic Year

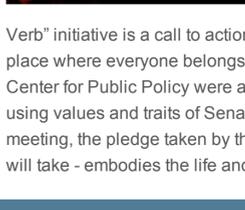
Nearly 200 people were in attendance - in-person or virtually - to hear former U.S. Ambassador to South Korea Harry Harris speak as part of the Baker Center's Ashe

Lecture Series on Tuesday, August 30. For those unable to attend, you can watch the lecture, [here](#). Ambassador Harris also met with Global Security Fellows and Baker students throughout the afternoon to discuss issues in the Indo-Pacific region.



Baker Center Hosts Second Event in its Constitutional Conversations Series

Faculty from across the University of Tennessee campus came together Sept. 1 at the Blount Mansion in Knoxville to join in conversations focused on the great debates central to the 1787 Constitutional Convention - issues of representation, free speech and equality. The evening was the second in the Baker Center's series of enriching conversations centered on the country's founding principles.



Class of 2026 Takes "Vol is a Verb" Pledge

On Monday night, August 22, the Class of 2026 came together in Thompson-Boling Arena to take the "Vol is a Verb" pledge.

Started by the Dean of Students, the "Vol is a Verb" initiative is a call to action as a community to help make the campus a place where everyone belongs. Faculty and staff at the Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy were asked to write a pledge for students to take, and using values and traits of Senator Baker that were identified at a previous board meeting, the pledge taken by the Class of 2026 - and the pledge future classes will take - embodies the life and legacy of Senator Baker.

Research & Engagement



Global Security Director to Present at Ocean Governance and Geopolitics Seminar

As a part of the [GEOSEAS](#) and [OCEANGO](#)V projects funded by the Norwegian Research Council, [Global Security Program](#) Director, [Krista Wiegand](#), will be presenting at the Ocean Governance and Geopolitics seminar in Oslo, Norway on September 6-7. Wiegand is the only

American scholar invited to this seminar, which includes 42 scholars and researchers from around the world. Wiegand will be presenting on a panel called "Challenges at Sea."

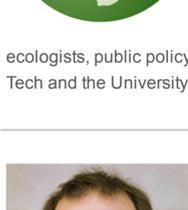
Dr. Wiegand also spent two weeks this past August in Southeast Asia, engaged in Track II security dialogues with diplomats, military officers, and scholars about U.S. relations with Southeast Asian countries in the context of the U.S. China rivalry and the South China Sea dispute.



Center's Directors Present as Part of MTAS' Impact Series

Center Directors [Bill Lyons](#), Policy Partnerships, and [Katie Cahill](#), [Leadership & Governance](#), provided more than 45 local municipal leaders in Tennessee with guidance on community engagement for shared decision-making as part of the Municipal Technical Advisory Service's IMPACT Series through the University of

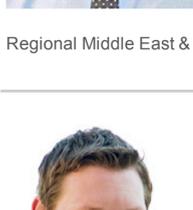
Tennessee's [Institute for Public Service](#). Cahill and Lyons were both happy to share their insights to help Tennessee's frontline public servants more effectively engage their constituents in public problem-solving.



Energy & Environment to Host Visiting Academic for Workshop

[Energy & Environment](#) Director, [Charles Sims](#), and Fellows [Paul Armstrong](#) and [Seong-hoon Cho](#) will be hosting visiting academics for a 3-day, NSF-funded workshop on governance and biodiversity conservation at the Baker Center from September 29 - October 1. The participants will include economists,

ecologists, public policy experts, and computer scientists from UTK, Virginia Tech and the University of Southern California.



Senior Fellow Matt Buehler Conducts Field Research in Morocco

[Dr. Matt Buehler](#), [Global Security](#) Senior Fellow, spent two months conducting field research in Morocco for his next book project on the U.S.-Morocco alliance. Dr. Buehler is a specialist of comparative politics and international relations in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. His first book, *Why Alliances Fail: Islamist and Leftist Coalitions in North Africa*, won the 2019 Southeast

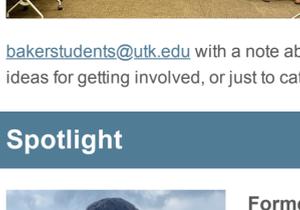
Regional Middle East & Islamic Studies book prize.



Fellow Christian Vossler Participates in 50th Anniversary of Clean Water Act Workshop

[Energy & Environment](#) Fellow [Christian Vossler](#) will give a presentation titled "Valuing Improvements in Watersheds: The Biological Condition of Gradient Ladder" at the Social Cost of Water Pollution Workshop. The workshop is in recognition of the 50th Anniversary of the Clean Water Act.

Teaching & Mentorship



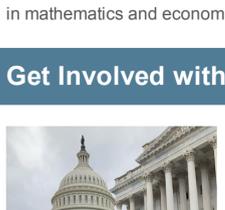
Calling on Baker Center Alumni

We are committed to engaging students with our most valuable resource: alumni. You can help the Center create a world where sound policy, thoughtful leadership, and informed citizens are the norm rather than the exception.

Please reach out to

bakerstudents@utk.edu with a note about what the Baker Center means to you, ideas for getting involved, or just to catch up.

Spotlight

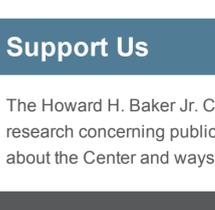


Former Baker Student, Fisher Latham, extends his Federal Reserve Internship

Former Baker Student Assistant, Fisher Latham, has extended his summer internship at the Federal Reserve with the FRED team through the remainder of the year as a data engineer. Latham worked at the Baker Center during the 2021-22 school year as a research intern for the [Energy & Environment program](#), assisting in the research of

the cost drivers of electric transmissions lines. Latham is a UTK senior, majoring in mathematics and economics, set to graduate May 2023.

Get Involved with the Baker Center



The Center is a home for civic engagement for students in all disciplines and at all levels. Through programs, events and lectures, and helpful faculty and staff, the Center aims to engage the community on the topics of Global Security, Leadership & Governance, and Energy & Environment. Visit bakercenter.utk.edu for more information.

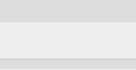
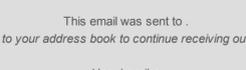
Some ways to get involved with the Center:

- [Minor in Public Policy Analytics](#)
- [Baker Scholars](#)
- [Baker Ambassadors](#)
- [Washington Fellows Program](#)
- [Events](#)

Support Us

The Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy is devoted to education and research concerning public policy and civic engagement. For more information about the Center and ways to support our efforts go to bakercenter.utk.edu.

Contact Us



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