



HIGHER EDUCATION SUMMIT ON FREE SPEECH AND INTELLECTUAL DIVERSITY

NOVEMBER 29, 2023 • UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

Goal: Create action plans—at individual college campuses and across the Commonwealth—to ensure free speech and intellectual diversity are hallmarks of a Virginia education.

Objectives:

1. Identify current strengths, challenges, and opportunities to build a culture of free speech and intellectual diversity on each campus;
2. Learn from best practices—from Virginia and across the nation—on how to protect and nurture a culture of free speech and intellectual diversity; and
3. Initiate the creation of an individualized plan of action for every institution to foster free speech and intellectual diversity.

This Summit is hosted in partnership with the University of Virginia. The Governor’s office thanks the [Karsh Institute of Democracy](#) and [Think Again](#) for their thought partnership in developing and hosting this Summit.

AGENDA

- 8:30 AM** **DOORS OPEN; REGISTRATION AND HETERODOX ACADEMY
COFFEE HOUR**
Newcomb Hall Ballroom
Coffee and pastries provided
- 9:15 AM** **WELCOME**
James E. Ryan, President, University of Virginia
Aimee Rogstad Guidera, Virginia Secretary of Education
- 9:25 AM** **INTRODUCTORY REMARKS—SETTING THE COURSE FOR THE
SUMMIT**
Margaret Spellings, President and CEO, Bipartisan Policy Center,
and Former United States Secretary of Education
- 9:40 AM** **PANEL OF PRESIDENTS—EXAMPLES OF STRONG POLICIES IN
VIRGINIA**
Moderator: Melody Barnes, Executive Director, UVA Karsh
Institute of Democracy
Jonathan Alger, President, James Madison University
Kevin Hallock, President, University of Richmond
Anne Kress, President, Northern Virginia Community College
Cedric T. Wins, Superintendent, Virginia Military Institute
- 10:40 AM** **PANEL RESPONDENT**
Jered Cooper, Student, University of Virginia
- 10:45 AM** **PANEL—NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES, WHERE WE ARE GOING**
Moderator: Leslie Kendrick, White Burkett Miller Professor of Law
and Public Affairs and the Elizabeth D. and Richard A. Merrill
Professor of Law, University of Virginia School of Law
Michael Regnier, Executive Director, Heterodox Academy
Mike Wasserman, Vice President of Growth and Development,
Constructive Dialogue Institute
Raj Vinnakota, President, Institute for Citizens and Scholars
- 11:40 AM** **PANEL RESPONDENT**
Dr. Jonathan White, Professor of Leadership and American Studies,
Christopher Newport University

- 11:50 AM** **KEYNOTE INTRODUCTION**
Peter Lee Hamilton, Student, UVA School of Law and Darden
School of Business
- 12:00 PM** **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**
Governor Glenn Youngkin, Governor of Virginia
- 12:30 PM** **LUNCH—PRESIDENTS DEPART FOR COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS
MEETING**
ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION
*Based on what teams heard from college and university presidents,
national leaders, and the Governor, teams will dive into action
plan creation.*
- 1:20 PM** **PANEL—VIRGINIA ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVES, WHAT IS
WORKING**
Moderator: Martin Brown, Chief Diversity, Opportunity, and
Inclusion Officer, Virginia Office of the Governor
Mary Kate Cary, Director, Think Again at UVA
Michael Poliakoff, President, American Council of Trustees and
Alumni
Gerard Alexander, President, Blue Ridge Center
- 2:10 PM** **PRESENTATION FROM THE FOUNDATION FOR INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS
IN EDUCATION**
Laura Beltz, Director of Policy Reform, FIRE
John Coleman, Legislative Council, FIRE
- 2:55 PM** **PANEL RESPONDENT**
Mya Wilcox, Student, James Madison University
- 3:00 PM** **ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**
*Teams will develop a tangible plan including specific, measurable,
and attainable metrics.*
- 3:45 PM** **CLOSING REMARKS**
Aimee Rogstad Guidera, Virginia Secretary of Education
- 4:00 PM** **SUMMIT CONCLUDES**