



NC STATE UNIVERSITY

Institute for Emerging Issues

IEI Digest



Director's Log | May 2018

In Jonathan Haidt's book [The Righteous Mind](#), he identifies six virtues that exist in some form in most cultures. People value caring about other people; they have a sense of fairness; they exhibit loyalty; they accept authority; they value sanctity; they care about liberty.

The amount people care about each of these virtues varies from culture to culture and individual to individual: the relative value we place on those virtues effects our personal and political views, decisions and behavior.

For example, those we recognize on Memorial Day are people who were probably particularly motivated by loyalty to country; who acted under authority; who were willing to fight for liberty . . .

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Announcing ReCONNECT NC!

This month, the Institute for Emerging Issues announced [ReCONNECT NC](#), a new three-year initiative that aims to help reconnect North Carolina civically, socially and economically. The initiative will include six forums throughout the state as well as statewide work with partner communities and stakeholders. For the first time ever, IEI will be holding forums outside Raleigh, with forums slated for Asheville, Charlotte and eastern NC, as well as



Raleigh. The first forum kicks off September 2018 in Asheville and will focus on civic engagement. Learn more at reconnectnc.org.

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Students and IEI Staffers find 'Commons' Grounds

Recently, a group of NC State computer science students met with IEI staffers to offer their suggestions on how to make the [Emerging Issues Commons](#), located on the second floor of Hunt Library, more dynamic and engaging. The students received real world experience; IEI gained new insight on how to grow the interactive exhibit space that has been a focal point presenting IEI's work since 2012.

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Surveying Civic Engagement

Civic engagement is crucial for building healthy communities, part of why it will be a key focus of IEI's [ReCONNECT NC](#) initiative. Civic engagement's not always an easy concept to quantify or measure, but the **City of Fayetteville** found a way to measure civic engagement with a social capital survey distributed to residents in May, and a follow-up September community forum examining how citizens engage with their city's institutions.

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Spotlight | Maggie Woods, IEI Program and Policy Manager

Learn more about **Maggie Woods**, a policy and program manager here at IEI and a driving force behind IEI's new [ReCONNECT NC](#) initiative. A California native, Woods entered the public policy world through two years of AmeriCorps VISTA service and has a deep, personal passion for civic engagement and service.

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This Month on First in Future!

Be sure to tune in and subscribe to IEI's weekly program, ["First in Future: Where Emerging Ideas Take Flight."](#) This month, IEI Director **Leslie**



Boney talks with [Dr. Walt Wolfram](#), an NC State linguistics professor about the diversity of North Carolina dialects, NC State Provost [Warwick Arden](#) about NC State's role in every student's success and Apex high school student and DECA president [Jessica Hong](#) about entrepreneurship. Listen to these podcasts and others by visiting iTunes or emergingissues.org/podcast.

The First in Future podcast also airs on UNC-TV's North Carolina Channel each Tuesday at 8:30 P.M.! Check for shows and local channel listings here: <http://www.uncvtv.org/schedule/>.

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[High-speed Internet is not a frill. How we can get NC wired.](#)

News & Observer | May 4, 2018

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