



The Steamboat Institute

*Inspiring Americans to Greatness*

INSPIRING

AMERICANS

TO

GREATNESS

2022 \ \ ANNUAL REPORT



2022 Freedom Conference scholarship recipients with Keynote Speaker and Country music star John Rich.

**The Steamboat Institute promotes America's first principles and inspires active involvement in the defense of liberty.**

*The principles espoused by The Steamboat Institute are:*

- Limited taxation and fiscal responsibility
- Limited government
- Free market capitalism
- Individual rights and responsibilities
- Strong national defense

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**Here at The Steamboat Institute, we are Defenders of Freedom and Advocates of Liberty. We believe that America is a great nation because of our people not because of our government.**

The Steamboat Institute promotes America's first principles and inspires active involvement in the defense of liberty. Though we were founded in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, in 2008, The Steamboat Institute is not a place ... it's an idea — an idea that provides educational tools, information and inspiration to those who hold our founding principles dear.

Limited government, limited taxation and free market capitalism, individual rights and responsibilities, and strong national defense — these are the principles which have made America the greatest nation on Earth!

We take seriously the concept that freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction, and we intend to make sure that America grows stronger during our watch.

We create programs and initiatives to ensure America's freedom for future generations. Our Annual Freedom Conference brings Americans together to discuss the top issues facing the nation.

Our Campus Liberty Tour and Emerging Leaders Council allow us to reach the next generation with common sense ideas and the tools to be advocates of liberty in their communities. Our Tony Blankley Fellows are fighting the mainstream narratives in the media to reach millions of Americans with a message of hope for the future of our country.

Our events are tremendously popular because they provide unique opportunities for people to have direct and personal contact with nationally recognized leaders in conservative thought and policy. This is an essential component in our fight for freedom.

When we started The Steamboat Institute in 2008, it was out of genuine concern for the future of our country. The Steamboat Institute has succeeded beyond anything we could have imagined. We have found that there is a tremendous desire by many Americans to make a difference in their communities, their states and our nation.



# A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

## “Radio station said the pantsuit tweet was ‘racist’”

This headline on *Tucker Carlson Tonight*, which featured Steamboat Institute’s **Tony Blankley Senior Fellow Amber Athey**, sums up the descent into nonsense that is America’s current state of public discourse.

In contrast to this nonsense, Steamboat Institute proudly led the way in 2022 as a shining example of how civilized debate and discourse – of even the most contentious issues – is not only possible but is also essential to maintaining our democratic republic.

Did you know that there is “no room for debate on climate change” (according to some of the leading “climate experts”)? Well, neither did we! In 2022, Steamboat Institute’s **Campus Liberty Tour** featured five robust debates on climate science and the rush to net zero in greenhouse gas emissions. Without exception, students on college campuses show an eagerness to listen to both sides and to change their opinions in favor of policies which favor individual freedom, when presented with reasoned discussions of these hot topics.

In March 2022, Steamboat Institute hosted a 2-day summit in Steamboat Springs on **“The Nexus of U.S. Energy Policy, Climate Science, Freedom and Prosperity.”** Unlike the annual global climate summit hosted by the U.N., our Energy/Climate Summit featured actual climate scientists and a tour of a working coal mine which powers an adjacent generating station. We were proud that C-Span featured a 4-hour program, which included speakers and panels from this Summit.

In August 2022, Steamboat Institute returned to beautiful Beaver Creek, Colorado, for our **14th Annual Freedom Conference**, drawing hundreds of citizen leaders from across America. This inspiring weekend featured **Country music superstar and entrepreneur John Rich**, our **70th**

**U.S. Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo**, and 30 young leaders (ages 20-29) who attended on scholarships funded by our generous donors. Imagine the impact on these young leaders when they get to meet and mingle one-on-one with these influential and inspiring leaders!

An outgrowth of the Freedom Conference Scholarship Program is our growing network of influential young leaders who make up Steamboat Institute’s **Emerging Leaders Council**. In October 2022, we hosted our **2nd Annual ELC Leadership Summit** in Washington, D.C. It was inspiring to see these young leaders practicing on-camera media interviews, learning how to write and pitch op-eds, and developing a deeper understanding of and appreciation for America’s founding principles. I hope you will take a moment to view our list of 30 (and growing!) ELC members who hail from 17 states!

We can’t maintain our democratic republic without citizens and leaders capable of civilized debate and critical thinking. As the *Denver Gazette* Editorial Board noted in an op-ed on political divisions, *“Colorado’s Steamboat Institute – a respected convener of public policy debates on some of the most superheated issues of our time – has been doing its part to bridge gaps rather than burn bridges. The Institute’s signature debates showcase some of the keenest and most informed minds; instead of inciting a riot – they provoke thought.”*

As we enter our 15th year in 2023, Steamboat Institute will continue to rise above the nonsense and lead the way for those who love freedom and are fearless in defending it. We invite you to join us.

**Jennifer Schubert-Akin**  
Chairman, CEO and Co-founder  
The Steamboat Institute



# CAMPUS LIBERTY TOUR

Since 2018, Steamboat Institute has fearlessly entered the lion's den of college campuses with compelling debates on the most important issues facing our nation today, engaging conservatives, liberals and centrists. Our focus is on teaching students – and all who attend – how to think, not what to think.

Steamboat Institute's Campus Liberty Tour is a shining example of robust but civilized debate, with an emphasis on critical thinking skills. We cannot maintain our democratic republic without a populace capable of critical thinking and civilized discourse. With our Campus Liberty Tour debates, Steamboat Institute aims to address this problem.

In 2022, Steamboat Institute hosted five debates on college campuses around the country on one key issue: Climate Change and the Energy Crisis. While finding a debater to advocate for freedom and limited government is easy, finding an opponent has become increasingly difficult. Steamboat Institute applauds those who are willing to engage in robust civil debate and will continue to give both sides a fair and balanced platform to make their case.

After each debate Steamboat Institute publishes pre-and post-debate polling data. This data clearly shows that student minds are changed to favor freedom after attending these debates.

**“We want each and every one of our students to be critical thinkers, not to be preached at from a podium and told what to think. We encourage curiosity and civilized conversation, and we want our students to look at evidence and make their own interpretations after asking tough questions.”**

*– Prabudev Konana, Dean of the Robert H. Smith School of Business, University of Maryland, in opening remarks at Campus Liberty Tour debate on October 25, 2022*

# CAMPUS LIBERTY TOUR SCHEDULE

## Question debated:

**“SHOULD AMERICA RAPIDLY ELIMINATE FOSSIL FUEL USE TO PREVENT CLIMATE CATASTROPHE?”**

### March 1

#### University of Miami | Miami, FL

In-Person Attendance: 100

Moderated by Jillian Melchior – Editorial Board Member, *The Wall Street Journal*; Former Tony Blankley Fellow, Steamboat Institute

#### FEATURING

- » Alex Epstein – President and Founder of the Center for Industrial Progress, Author of *The Moral Case for Fossil Fuels*
- » General Wesley K. Clark (ret.) – Chairman and CEO of Wesley K. Clark & Associates; Former NATO Supreme Allied Commander, Europe

### March 2

#### University of Colorado Boulder | Boulder, CO

In-Person Attendance: 100

Moderated by Amber Athey – Washington Editor, *Spectator USA*; Tony Blankley Senior Fellow, Steamboat Institute

#### FEATURING

- » Alex Epstein – President and Founder of the Center for Industrial Progress, Author of *The Moral Case for Fossil Fuels*
- » General Wesley K. Clark (ret.) – Chairman and CEO of Wesley K. Clark & Associates; Former NATO Supreme Allied Commander, Europe

**Total Combined Online Views: 10,000**

## CAMPUS LIBERTY TOUR WATCH PARTIES



*Energy Management and Landman students from Colorado Mesa University view the debate with Steven Koonin and Andrew Dessler at the first CLT Watch Party.*

In 2022, Steamboat Institute saw an increased demand for debates across the country. Because we are unable to reach every campus in person, we launched Watch Parties to reach more students with each debate. Watch Party participants receive a private viewing link to screen the debate on their campus to a student group, alumni organization, or others. Attendees can participate in the pre- and post-debate polling and ask the debaters questions via QR code.

The first Watch Party, held at Colorado Mesa University to view the October 27th Oklahoma State debate, featured 40 students from CMU's Energy Management and Landman Club. The students were so engaged that they remained for an hour afterward to discuss the ideas debated.

If you would like more information on how you can host a CLT Watch Party, please contact Campus Liberty Tour Coordinator, Daniel Wagner at [Daniel@steamboatinstitute.org](mailto:Daniel@steamboatinstitute.org).

## Resolution debated:

# “CLIMATE SCIENCE COMPELS US TO MAKE LARGE AND RAPID REDUCTIONS IN GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.”

**October 25**

**University of Maryland  
College Park, MD**

In-Person Attendance: 200

Moderated by Sarah Westwood – Investigative reporter, *Washington Examiner*; Tony Blankley Fellow, Steamboat Institute

### FEATURING

- » Steven E. Koonin, Ph.D. – Author of *Unsettled: What Climate Science Tells Us, What It Doesn't, and Why It Matters*; Former Undersecretary for Science, U.S. Department of Energy
- » Daniel Schrag, Ph.D. – Director of the Center for the Environment, Harvard University

**October 26**

**University of Dallas | Irving, TX**

In-Person Attendance: 100

Moderated by Tom Rogan – Commentary Editor and Foreign Policy Writer, *Washington Examiner*; Tony Blankley Senior Fellow, Steamboat Institute

### FEATURING

- » Steven E. Koonin, Ph.D. – Author of *Unsettled: What Climate Science Tells Us, What It Doesn't, and Why It Matters*; Former Undersecretary for Science, U.S. Department of Energy
- » Gernot Wagner, Ph.D. – Climate economist, Columbia Business School; co-author of *Climate Shock*; author of *Geoengineering: The Gamble*

**October 27**

**Oklahoma State University, Hamm Institute of American Energy, Oklahoma City, OK**

In-Person Attendance: 150

Moderated by Philip Wegmann – White House Reporter, *Real Clear Politics*; Tony Blankley Senior Fellow, Steamboat Institute

### FEATURING

- » Steven E. Koonin, Ph.D. – Author of *Unsettled: What Climate Science Tells Us, What It Doesn't, and Why It Matters*; Former Undersecretary for Science, U.S. Department of Energy
- » Andrew Dessler, Ph.D. – Professor of Atmospheric Science, Texas A&M University

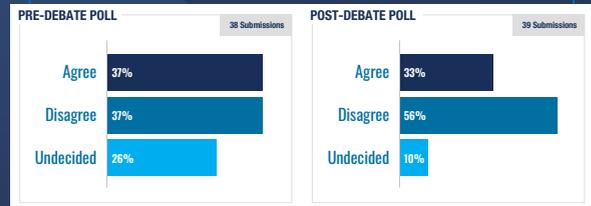
**Total Combined Online Views: 26,000**

“Climate science compels us to make large and rapid reductions in greenhouse gas emissions”

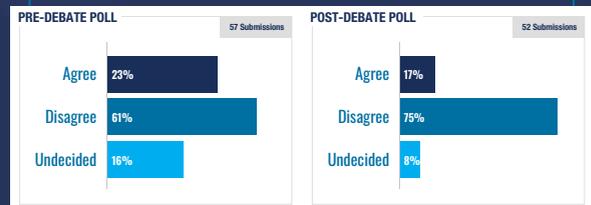
Tuesday, October 25, 2022 | University of Maryland  
with Steven E. Koonin and Daniel Schrag



Wednesday, October 26, 2022 | University of Dallas  
with Steven E. Koonin and Gernot Wagner

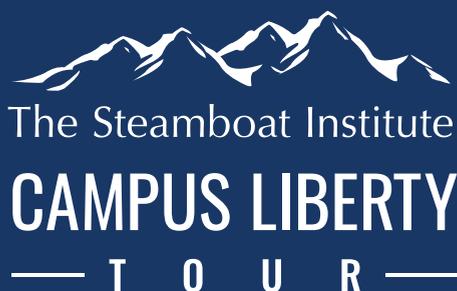


Thursday, October 27, 2022 | Oklahoma State University  
with Steven E. Koonin and Andrew Dessler



## CAMPUS LIBERTY TOUR ADVISORY BOARD

- Rajshree Agarwal – Director, The Ed Snider Center for Enterprise and Markets, Robert H. Smith School of Business – University of Maryland
- William B. Allen – Emeritus Dean and Professor, Michigan State University
- Brian Domitrovic – Senior Associate, Laffer Center for Supply-Side Economics
- Joshua Dunn – Executive Director, Institute of American Civics, University of Tennessee Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy
- Christina Elson – Executive Director, Center for the Study of Capitalism – Wake Forest University
- Lauren Golem – J.D., University of Colorado Boulder School of Law, 2020
- Robert Kaufman – Professor, Public Policy – Pepperdine University
- Hadley Heath Manning – Vice President of Policy, Independent Women’s Forum; Tony Blankley Senior Fellow, Steamboat Institute
- Jacqueline Pfeffer Merrill – Director, Campus Free Expression Project – Bipartisan Policy Center
- Judi Newman – Board of Trustees, University of Miami
- Jason Riley – Member of The Wall Street Journal Editorial Board; Senior Fellow, Manhattan Institute
- Ilya Shapiro – Senior Fellow and Director of Constitutional Studies for The Manhattan Institute
- Tina Snider – Executive Director, Tina Snider Foundation; Advisory Board, Benson Center for the Study of Western Civilization - University of Colorado
- Matthew Spalding – Kirby Professor, Constitutional Government; Dean, Van Andel Graduate School of Government – Hillsdale, Washington, D.C.; Board of Directors, Steamboat Institute.
- Ted Trimpa – Principal and CEO, Trimpa Group
- Brandon Van Dyck – Assistant professor, Government and Law – Lafayette College; founder and president, The Mill Series – Lafayette College
- Derek Wagner – Vice President, Intergovernmental and Community Affairs – Colorado Mesa University



*Elevating the Debate*



# 14TH ANNUAL FREEDOM CONFERENCE



*Freedom Conference attendees at the Keynote Reception on the Park Hyatt Lawn.*



*Country music star and entrepreneur John Rich performs at the Keynote Dinner of the 14th Annual Freedom Conference.*

**August 26-27, 2022**  
**Park Hyatt, Beaver Creek, CO**  
Attendance: 370

**Feature Keynote Speaker:**  
John Rich, Country Music Star and  
Entrepreneur



Steamboat Institute Tony Blankley Senior Fellow Philip Wegmann interviews Former Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo following his remarks on “Keeping America Free: Addressing the Threat of China.”

Steamboat Institute’s 14th Annual Freedom Conference returned to beautiful Beaver Creek, CO, for another inspiring, thought-provoking, and entertaining weekend. The breathtaking setting allowed for attendees and speakers to retreat into the Colorado Rockies for robust discussions on the state of the Supreme Court, the threat of China, cancel culture, school safety, the energy crisis, and much more.



Steamboat Institute Tony Blankley Fellow Sarah Westwood moderates a panel on “A Comprehensive, Common-Sense Plan to Secure Our Schools,” featuring The Honorable Kevin Stitt, Governor of Oklahoma; Laura Carno, Executive Director of FASTER Colorado; Brett Titus, retired Denver Metro SWAT team officer and creator of LifeSpot Technology; and John Castillo, father of Kendrick Castillo, the student who lost his life in the Colorado STEM school shooting in 2019.



Freedom Conference sessions are available on Steamboat Institute’s YouTube Channel

Featured speakers at the 14th Annual Freedom Conference included:

- » John Rich – Country Music Superstar and Entrepreneur
- » Michael R. Pompeo – 70th Secretary of State
- » Charles Payne – Host of “Making Money with Charles Payne” on Fox Business Network
- » U.S. Senator Steve Daines (R-MT) – Member of the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee
- » Ilya Shapiro – Senior Fellow and Director of Constitutional Studies at the Manhattan Institute
- » Wilfred McClay, Ph.D. – Victor Davis Hanson Chair in Classical History and Western Civilization at Hillsdale College
- » Jillian Kay Melchior – Editorial Board Member, *The Wall Street Journal*
- » Kevin Stitt – Governor of Oklahoma
- » Kenneth Wagner – Executive Director of the Hamm Institute for American Energy



# TONY BLANKLEY FELLOWSHIP FOR PUBLIC POLICY AND AMERICAN EXCEPTIONALISM



Sarah onstage with Lynda Davis, Tony Blankley's widow, at the 2022 Freedom Conference surrounded by past winners Hadley Heath Manning, Jillian Kay Melchior, Amber Athey, Philip Wegmann, and Carrie Sheffield.



2022-23 Fellow

## SARAH WESTWOOD

In 2022, Steamboat Institute was proud to award the 10th Tony Blankley Fellowship to Sarah Westwood, political and investigative reporter for the *Washington Examiner*. Prior to joining the *Washington Examiner*, Sarah was a White House reporter for CNN. She was also a Robert Novak journalism fellow at The Fund for American Studies and is a graduate of the National Journalism Center fellowship program. Sarah attended George Washington University. This talented young journalist embodies the wit and good humor that Tony Blankley possessed, while always keeping focus on individual liberty and the proper role of government.

## ABOUT THE TONY BLANKLEY FELLOWSHIP

The Tony Blankley Fellowship for Public Policy and American Exceptionalism was established by The Steamboat Institute to provide high-profile recognition and financial support to emerging conservative thought leaders who share the principles and ideals espoused by the late Tony Blankley and The Steamboat Institute. Those principles are limited taxation and fiscal responsibility, limited government, free market capitalism, individual rights and responsibilities, and strong national defense.

Tony Blankley (1948-2012) was editorial page editor of The Washington Times. He served as press secretary for Newt Gingrich during his tenure as Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives in the 1990s. He was also a regular panelist on The McLaughlin Group and later served as Executive Vice President with Edelman public relations in Washington, D.C. Mr. Blankley served as Conference Moderator for the Steamboat Institute's first three Freedom Conferences (2009, 2010 and 2011)



### SELECTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR THE TONY BLANKLEY FELLOWSHIP ARE:

- Lynda Davis, Ph.D. – widow of Tony Blankley
- Steve Hofman – Consultant; former U.S. Assistant Secretary of Labor
- Lauren Maddox – Senior Advisor, Holland & Knight, LLP; former Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of Education
- Hadley Heath Manning – Tony Blankley Senior Fellow; Vice President of Policy, Independent Women's Forum
- Thomas P. McDevitt – Chairman, Board of Directors, *The Washington Times*
- Ed Meese – 75th Attorney General of the United States
- John O' Sullivan – British commentator and former speechwriter for Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher; Senior Fellow with *National Review*
- John B. Roberts II – Author, former Reagan White House and Reagan-Bush '80 and '84 campaign senior staff; international political consultant
- Tom Rogan – Tony Blankley Senior Fellow; National Security Writer and Online Editor for *Washington Examiner*
- Matthew J. Spalding – Vice President of Washington Operations and Dean of the Van Andel Graduate School of Government for Hillsdale College in Washington, D.C.

## PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS OF THE TONY BLANKLEY FELLOWSHIP FOR PUBLIC POLICY AND AMERICAN EXCEPTIONALISM



**Tom Rogan**  
awarded 2014

*National Security Writer and Online  
Editor, Washington Examiner*



**Jillian Melchior**  
awarded 2015

*Editorial Board Member, The Wall  
Street Journal*



**Hadley Heath Manning**  
awarded 2016

*Policy Director, Independent  
Women's Forum*



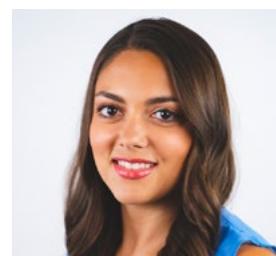
**Kelsey Harkness Bolar**  
awarded 2017

*Investigative Reporter and  
Documentary Film Producer*



**Philip Wegmann**  
awarded 2018

*White House Correspondent, Real  
Clear Politics*



**Amber Athey**  
awarded 2019

*Washington Editor,  
Spectator USA*



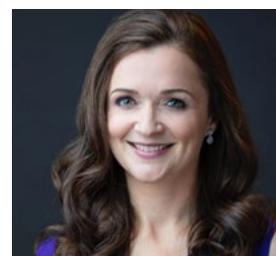
**Saagar Enjeti**  
awarded 2019

*Co-host, Breaking Points*



**Patrice Onwuka**  
awarded 2020

*Political Commentator, Newsmax;  
Host of "O'Connor and Company"  
on News Talk 105.9 WMAL,  
Washington, D.C.*



**Carrie Sheffield**  
awarded 2021

*Director, Center for the American  
Worker; Director, Center for American  
Values at America First Policy  
Institute*



**Amber Athey** stood strong against cancel culture after a joking Tweet about Vice President Kamala Harris' attire went viral, landing her a feature on Tucker Carlson.

Opinion  
**Biden's talk with Xi was good; his tempting of fate is bad**

By Tom Rogan, National Security Writer & Online Editor | November 15, 2022 02:16 PM

Twitter | LinkedIn | Facebook | Email | RSS



**Tom Rogan** writes for the *Washington Examiner* on U.S.-China relations following the G-20 Summit in Bali.



**Carrie Sheffield** was featured on Newsmax to discuss the ongoing controversy regarding gender after Cambridge Dictionary modified the definitions for "man" and "woman."



**Hadley Health Manning** reported on the FTX scandal and crypto currency regulations on Fox Business Network's "Making Money with Charles Payne."

**Kelsey Bolar** launched a new documentary series, "Identity Crisis," at Independent Women's Forum to expose the negative sides of the transgender movement.

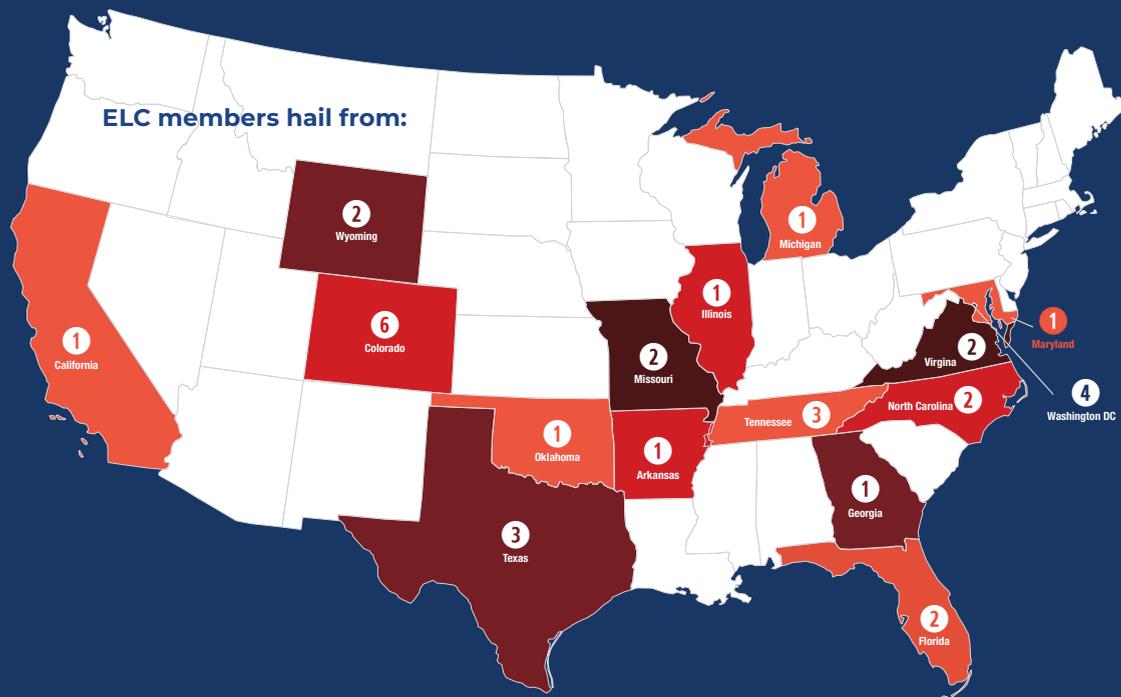
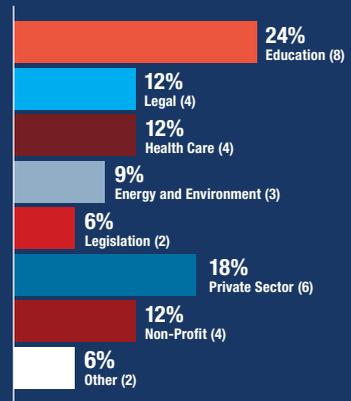


# EMERGING LEADERS COUNCIL

The Emerging Leaders Council (ELC) is a select group of young professionals from across the U.S. who are rising thought leaders, influencers, and policymakers.

This group includes 30 aspiring writers, educators, business leaders, lawyers, filmmakers, and more. Since 2017, ELC members have been attending the Annual Freedom Conference on scholarship, supporting SI events, writing and publishing op-eds, and changing the hearts and minds of their generation. With the support of The Steamboat Institute, ELC members are trained and educated on founding principles, media and journalism, persuasion, and leadership, allowing them to inspire their peers and create a chain reaction of engaged, liberty-minded citizens.

## Areas of Focus



# MEET OUR NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS



**Calvin Blaylock**  
Chief of Staff, Invictus Strategies



**Chesney Branson**  
Human Resources  
Generalist, Cedar Gate Technologies



**Jameson Broggi**  
First Lieutenant, U.S.  
Marine Corps



**Marilyn Broggi**  
Ph.D. Candidate, Journalism and Mass  
Communication, University of Georgia



**Michael Caplan**  
Program Coordinator,  
The Public Interest Fellowship



**Solomon Chen**  
APAICS Fellow, House Committee on  
Education & Labor



**Domine Clemons**  
Manager of Strategic Partnerships,  
OptimaEd



**Christina Eastman**  
M.A. Politics Candidate,  
Van Andel School of Statesmanship,  
Hillsdale College



**Gabriel Elbert**  
Engineer in the Aerospace Industry,  
ELC Board Liaison



**Eve Gersh**  
Manager, University of Texas  
Bee Campus USA  
Sustainability Program



**Lexie Golden**  
Post-baccalaureate  
Research Fellow, National  
Cancer Institute



**Cat Hendrix**  
National Alumni Affairs  
Director, ACE Scholarships



**Anthony Jones**  
MPA student and Teaching Assistant,  
Baylor University



**Neil Leach**  
Acquisition Landman,  
Rocking WW Minerals



**Juliet Lucas**  
Film & media student, filmmaker,  
content creator, Biola University



**Carter Mateer**  
Consultant, Deloitte Digital



**Paula Mateer**  
Business Analyst,  
Deloitte Digital



**Lauren McCarthy**  
Associate Counsel,  
Republican National Committee



**Peter Nassif**  
Staff Functional Consultant,  
Oracle NetSuite



**Anastasia Ratcliff**  
Senior Consultant, Oracle Health  
Science Global Business



**Zachary Rogers**  
Legislative Staff Member, Arkansas



**Kaitlyn Schiraldi**  
Attorney, Mountain States  
Legal Foundation



**Bobby Sena**  
Rollins Social Impact Hub, Campus  
Partnership InnovaTAR



**Stanton Skerjanec**  
Communications Manager, Mountain  
States Legal Foundation



**Marko Sukovic**  
Co-founder and General  
Manager, Surus Illinois



**Haley Supergan**  
Director of Development, Steamboat  
Institute



**Heidi Thom**  
Legislative Correspondent,  
House of Representatives



**Jovan Tripkovic**  
Teaching Assistant & Master of  
Political Science Student, University  
of Wyoming



**Stone Washington**  
Research Fellow, Competitive  
Enterprise Institute



**Marley Whittle**  
Projects Manager, Member Programs  
at National Association of Wholesaler-  
Distributors

# LIBERTY CHATS

The Liberty Chats Podcast (available wherever you get your podcasts) features 15-30 minute conversations with a variety of experts, leaders, journalists, and policymakers on what liberty means to them. Liberty Chats is produced by ELC members and covers a wide range of topics.



## Fun Facts about Liberty Chats:

- Listed in the top 50% of all Buzzsprout Podcasts
- Most popular location to have downloads - Denver, CO
- People in 34 countries have listened to the podcast

### ELC Alumni Board

**Karl Honegger**

Senior Accountant, ModivCare

**Lindsey Martin**

TSET Healthy Living Program Grant Director & Steamboat ELC Coordinator

**Matt Melchior**

Premium Sales Executive, Denver Broncos

**Cody Wisniewski**

Senior Attorney for Constitutional Litigation, Firearms Policy Coalition

## Top 5 Episodes of 2022



# 2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

*Developing the Next Generation of Leaders  
to Defend Liberty*

**October 13-15, 2022**

**Hillsdale College Kirby Center, Washington, DC**



*Emerging Leaders listen to a panel on “How to Create a Compelling Story” with Tony Blankley Senior Fellow Tom Rogan, Tony Blankley Fellow Sarah Westwood, and ELC Alumni Board member Cody Wisniewski.*



*Emerging Leader Chesney Branson receiving one-on-one media training from District Media Group President, Beverly Hallberg.*

SI’s Emerging Leaders spent two inspiring days at the 2nd Annual Leadership Summit at the Kirby Center, home of Hillsdale College’s Van Andel Graduate School of Government, in Washington, D.C. These rising stars learned media skills, studied first principles, practiced persuasion techniques, and made valuable connections.

Speakers at the 2nd Annual Leadership Summit included:

- » Newt Gingrich – 50th Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives
- » Rachel Bovard – Senior Director of Policy, Conservative Partnership Institute
- » Beverly Hallberg – President, District Media Group
- » Matthew Spalding, Ph.D. – Dean, Van Andel Graduate School of Government, Hillsdale College Kirby Center
- » Jillian Kay Melchior – Member of the Editorial Board, *The Wall Street Journal*
- » Mandy Connell – Host of *The Mandy Connell Show*, KOA Radio and iHeart Media
- » Katie Tubb – Research Fellow in the Center for Energy, Climate, and Environment, The Heritage Foundation



*Emerging Leaders with the 50th Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, Newt Gingrich, after his remarks at the 2nd Annual Leadership Summit.*



# THE NEXUS OF U.S. ENERGY POLICY, CLIMATE SCIENCE, FREEDOM AND PROSPERITY



*Students attending the Summit on scholarship from Colorado Mesa University tour the Trapper Coal Mine in Craig, CO, to kick off the 2-day Summit.*

**March 11-12, 2022**  
**Steamboat Springs, CO**  
Attendance: 200

All Energy and Climate  
Summit sessions are  
available on Steamboat  
Institute's YouTube Channel



**Whether it's bitcoin mining in Iceland, a ranching operation in Texas, or a woman owned business in Ethiopia, the need for affordable, abundant, reliable electricity is critical.**

Steamboat Institute hosted The Nexus of U.S. Energy Policy, Climate Science, Freedom and Prosperity to discuss realistic solutions to the energy crisis without bankrupting families and businesses or vastly lowering the standard of living. Well-intended mandates that threaten reliable power sources are too consequential to be enacted as virtue signaling. Steamboat Institute is proud to contribute to the national discourse on this issue and offer substantive debate and discussion.

Featured Speakers at the Summit included:

- » Steven E. Koonin, Ph.D. – Author of *Unsettled: What Climate Science Tells Us, What It Doesn't, and Why It Matters*
- » Alex Epstein – Author of *The Moral Case for Fossil Fuels*
- » Bjorn Lomborg, Ph.D. – President and Founder, Copenhagen Consensus Center; Author of *False Alarm: How Climate Change Panic Costs Us Trillions, Hurts the Poor and Fails to Fix the Planet*
- » Robert Bryce – Author, journalist, podcaster, and film producer
- » Patrick Moore, Ph.D. – Co-founder and former President of Greenpeace; Director of the CO2 Coalition
- » Blu Hulsey – Senior Vice President of HSE and Government Relations & Regulatory Affairs, Continental Resources
- » Jacki Pick Deason – Host and Producer of “The Jacki Daily Show”
- » Drew Bond – Co-founder and President, C3 Solutions



*Drew Bond, Co-founder and President of C3 Solutions, moderates a panel on “Why an ‘All of the Above’ Energy Strategy, including Oil, Gas, and Coal, is Essential for Freedom, Prosperity, and the Planet,” featuring Aurelia Skipwith Giacometto, 22nd Director of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Chris Wright, CEO of Liberty Energy.*



*Alex Epstein, author of The Moral Case for Fossil Fuels, and Andrew Dessler, Professor of Atmospheric Science at Texas A&M, debate “Should America Rapidly Eliminate Fossil Fuel Use to Prevent Climate Catastrophe?”*



*Steamboat Institute Emerging Leaders Council members who attended the Summit on scholarship pose with Keynote Speaker, Dr. Patrick Moore.*



# COURAGE IN EDUCATION AWARD

**The Steamboat Institute established the Courage in Education award to recognize courage and leadership in promoting intellectual diversity and free speech on campus and in advancing conservative thought and policy.**

The Courage in Education award is granted each year to an institution, member of academia, or student who demonstrates a commitment to open inquiry, free speech, and intellectual diversity – traditional ideals of higher education that have been usurped in recent years in favor of identity politics and free speech restrictions.



## 2022 Courage in Education Award Recipient

### ILYA SHAPIRO

*Senior Fellow and Director of Constitutional Studies,  
The Manhattan Institute*

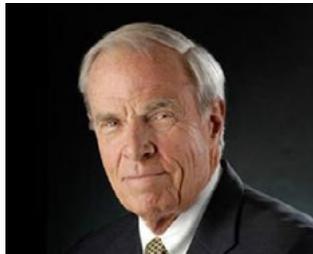
At the end of 2021, Ilya was named Executive Director of Georgetown University's prestigious law school's Center for the Constitution. Shortly before he was to assume his new position in January 2022, Ilya was placed on administrative leave by the University after he spoke out against President Biden's statement that his next Supreme Court nomination would be based on race and gender.

Instead of cowering to the University administrators, Ilya spent the next several months being an outspoken warrior for the First Amendment and battling cancel culture. In early June, Georgetown reinstated Ilya but made it clear that he could be subject to further disciplinary action for future statements. Rather than subject his family to continued attacks and to work in a hostile environment, Ilya made the principled decision to step down from his position, taking a courageous stand against a university which seeks to silence diversity of ideology.

**“I don’t think of myself as a particularly courageous person – I write and talk for a living – but if refusing to live by the lies of the educational establishment counts as courage these days, then I’m happy to lead the charge into that den of vipers.”**

*– Ilya Shapiro*

## PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS OF THE STEAMBOAT INSTITUTE'S COURAGE IN EDUCATION AWARD



**Bruce D. Benson**

*President of the University of Colorado  
2016*



**Brandon Van Dyck**

*Assistant Professor of Government  
& Law, Lafayette College  
2017*



**Wallace D. Loh**

*President of the University of Maryland  
2018*



**Samuel J. Abrams**

*Professor, Sarah Lawrence College  
2019*



**Hillsdale College**

*2020*



**Jameson Broggi**

*2nd Lieutenant, United States Marine  
Corps, Advocate for South Carolina  
REACH Act.  
2021*



# MEDIA COVERAGE

Steamboat Institute's events in 2022 were widely covered by the media, with major stories in Colorado and throughout the nation. This coverage amplified Steamboat Institute's message to reach millions of readers, viewers, and listeners, with a publicity value of hundreds of thousands of dollars.

## OUR 2022 MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

**C-Span** featured four segments of the Energy and Climate Summit on "Book TV," reaching 50,000+ Americans with each airing.

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**ABC 7 Denver** covered both the Energy and Climate Summit and the 14th Annual Freedom Conference.

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**Watts Up With That**, the world's most viewed site on global warming and climate change, covered the Energy and Climate Summit and the Campus Liberty Tour debates.

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**Grand Junction Daily Sentinel** featured an op-ed on the 1st Campus Liberty Tour Watch Party.

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**The Wall Street Journal** published a letter to the editor by Jennifer Schubert-Akin on "Climate Activists Refuse to Make Their Case."

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**E&E News, Colorado Politics, and Steamboat Pilot** also covered the Energy and Climate Summit.

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**RealClear Politics, Vail Daily, and The Denver Gazette** all covered the 14th Annual Freedom Conference.

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**Townhall** and **Craig Daily Press** covered the Fall 2022 Campus Liberty Tour Energy and Climate debates.

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**Reason Magazine** and **The Wall Street Journal** continued coverage of Colorado Governor Jared Polis saying he thinks the CO state income tax should be zero at the 2021 Freedom Conference.

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Regular op-eds were published in Colorado and national newspapers, including on the following topics:

- » Common-sense approach to secure our schools
- » The importance of robust, civil debate
- » Energy policy and skyrocketing prices
- » Campus cancel culture

**Combined op-ed reach: Approximately 4.2 million**



**Combined media reach: Approximately 10 million**



# SOCIAL MEDIA

## 2022 Freedom Conference

YouTube Views: 1791

Facebook/Instagram Reach: 5715



### Facebook

Followers:	5462 (+1%)
Reach:	213,859
Engagements:	53,202
Audience:	61% Male 38% Female 1% Unidentified



### Instagram

Followers:	2955 (+4%)
Reach:	161,940
Engagements:	10,992
Audience:	50% Male 42% Female 8% Unidentified



### Twitter

Followers:	6529 (+7%)
Impressions:	818,700
Profile visits:	57,348
Audience:	74% Male 26% Female



### YouTube

Subscribers:	4023 (+151%)
Views:	230,966
Audience:	75% Male 25% Female

## Top Videos of 2022



Dr. Patrick Moore  
Carbon and Climate Catastrophe  
**122,000 Views**



Bjorn Lomborg  
The Cost of Climate Alarmism  
**52,000 Views**



Steven E. Koonin, Ph.D.  
What Climate Science Tells Us, What It  
Doesn't, and Why It Matters  
**33,000 Views**



# LEGACY CIRCLE

**To make permanent our Mission and Founding Principles, Steamboat Institute launched the Legacy Circle in 2020. Legacy Circle members pledge to include Steamboat Institute in their estate and deferred giving plans.**

Legacy Circle members are acknowledged in our programs, on our website and at our annual Freedom Conference. In addition, Legacy Circle members are invited to special private receptions with speakers at certain Steamboat Institute events and will be invited to join in special trips to locations such as New York City or Washington, D.C. where we arrange special activities (such as personal tours of Fox News or Fox Business Channel, meeting high-profile leaders in government, media, business and entertainment, and other unique opportunities).

Thank you to those who have joined us in making this commitment to future generations of freedom loving Americans.

For more information about the Legacy Circle, please contact Jennifer Schubert-Akin: [jsa@steamboatinstitute.org](mailto:jsa@steamboatinstitute.org)

## LEGACY CIRCLE MEMBERS



Rick Akin and Jennifer Schubert-Akin

Cathy Grawe

Roger and Patricia Burton

Gary and JoAnne Hofmeister

Cheri Carsten

Irene Johnson

Lynda Davis

Ron and Chenza Lazof

John Denton, M.D.

Douglass Loring

Bill and Susan Friesell

Joanna and Otis Wragg



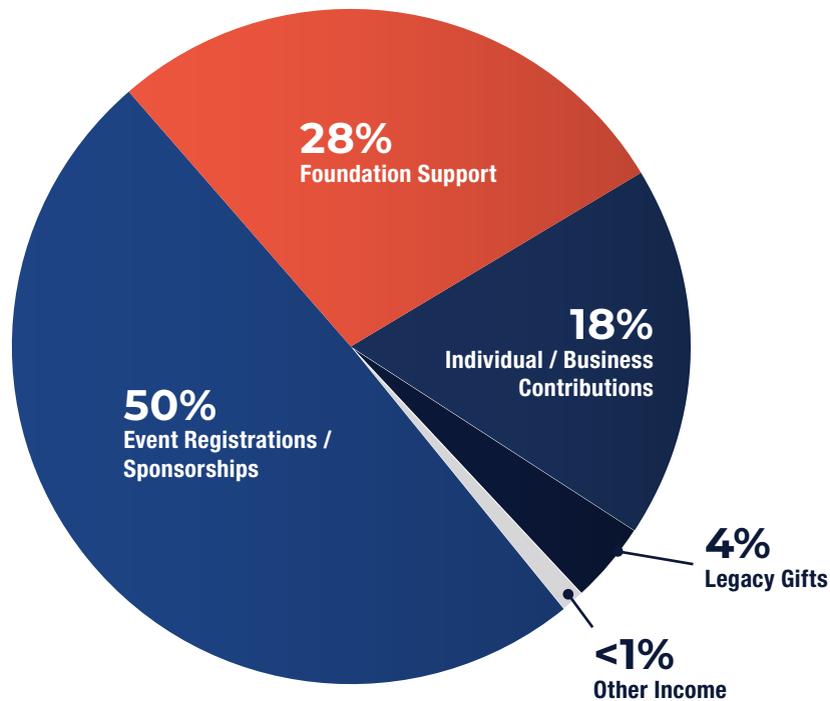
# 2022 REVENUE & EXPENSES

	2022	2021
<b>REVENUE CATEGORIES</b>		
Foundation Grants	\$430,133	\$284,005
Individual/Business Contributions	\$272,671	\$320,605
Legacy Gifts	\$61,532	-
Freedom Conference Registrations/Sponsorships	\$549,816	\$510,951
Energy/Climate Summit	\$179,944	\$3,004
Campus Liberty Tour	\$46,920	\$78,132
ELC Leadership Summit	\$4,918	\$2,550
Other Income	\$2,382	\$116
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$1,548,316</b>	<b>\$1,199,363</b>
<b>EXPENSE CATEGORIES</b>		
Payroll Expenses, including consultants and contract staff	\$421,612	\$347,424
Freedom Conference	\$398,919	\$338,226
Campus Liberty Tour	\$309,322	\$211,775
Tony Blankley Fellowship	\$27,566	\$30,226
Energy/Climate Summit	\$202,176	\$21,254
Emerging Leaders Council	\$46,105	\$45,841
Fundraising expenses	\$32,774	\$18,698
General operating expenses	\$62,919	\$52,631
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,501,393</b>	<b>\$1,066,075</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>\$46,923</b>	<b>\$133,288</b>



# FUNDING SOURCES

The Steamboat Institute gratefully acknowledges the support of individuals, organizations, and foundations in carrying out our mission:



## 2022 FOUNDATION SUPPORT

The Bradley Foundation  
Diana Davis Spencer Foundation  
The Deason Foundation  
El Pomar Foundation  
Jack Roth Charitable Foundation

PEMA Foundation  
The Snider Foundation  
The Summers Foundation  
Woodford Foundation for Limited Government



# MEET OUR PEOPLE

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*Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder  
Steamboat Springs, Colorado*



**Rick Akin**  
*Vice Chairman and Co-Founder  
Akin Law Firm, LLC  
Austin/Denver/  
Steamboat Springs*



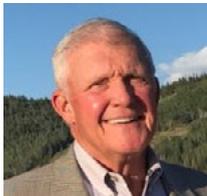
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Director of the U.S. Fish and  
Wildlife Service*



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**Bridgett Wagner**  
*The Heritage Foundation  
Washington, D.C.*

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Gary Hofmeister  
Chenza Lazof

Ronald C. Lazof  
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Irene Johnson  
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Randy Thornton  
Michael Williams

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*Steamboat Springs, CO*

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*Special Events Coordinator*  
*Denver, CO*

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*Consultant*  
*Los Angeles, CA*

Amanda Cordsen  
*Graphic Designer*  
*Denver, CO*

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*Special Events Coordinator*  
*Denver, CO*

Haley Supergan  
*Director of Development*  
*Hendersonville, TN*

Daniel Wagner  
*Campus Liberty Tour Coordinator*  
*Elmwood Park, NJ*

## THE STEAMBOAT INSTITUTE PROMOTES AMERICA'S FIRST PRINCIPLES AND INSPIRES ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT IN THE DEFENSE OF LIBERTY:

- » Limited taxation and fiscal responsibility
- » Limited government
- » Individual rights and responsibilities
- » Free market capitalism
- » Strong national defense

Please consider making a donation to The Steamboat Institute. Your support helps us defend liberty and promote our nation's first principles.

The Steamboat Institute is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, non-partisan organization. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.



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# PRAISE FOR THE STEAMBOAT INSTITUTE

“We are actually getting a closer and more in-depth look at all things climate change. Everybody has very specific views on it and how it really affects us and the world around us, but I’ve never been in a place that has gone so in depth about climate change, and it’s just really interesting to hear everybody’s positions on it.”

– Ethan Warrick, Colorado Mesa University Student and Energy and Climate Summit Scholarship Recipient

“I learned so much more than I ever would have doing research on my own or watching videos. There is something about that in-person interaction that just can’t be found anywhere else. The ideas shared during that weekend have given me a lot to think about and I believe they have set me on a path to investigating policy solutions that will protect our freedom.”

– Eve Gersh, 2022 Freedom Conference Scholarship Recipient and Emerging Leaders Council Member

“When people ask me what they can do to fight the speedy creep of socialism and critical race theory and every other thing undermining our nation, now I’m going to tell them to donate to the Steamboat Institute because they are fighting the way I want to fight, which is with information. They are kicking off another series of debates that will tour college campuses to expose college students to the ideas of liberty and free markets while pushing back on the ideas of socialism. Donate to them. Give them your support. They aren’t a think tank, they are a battle tank.”

– Mandy Connell, host of the Mandy Connell Show, KOA Radio and iHeart Media

“Steamboat has a habit of making certain that they are discussing the issues that are in the news and that matter most to all of us.”

– Philip Wegmann, Tony Blankley Senior Fellow

“Steamboat provided me with incredible support in ensuring the passage of the SC REACH Act. South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster signed into law the legislation I wrote requiring all SC college students to take a three-credit-hour class on the U.S. Constitution, Declaration of Independence, and the Federalist Papers to graduate. Steamboat worked with me on that initiative for years. Because of Steamboat’s help, every year 21,000 SC college students now read America’s founding documents for themselves. I have been honored to work with Steamboat the last three years. I am so grateful for Steamboat’s coaching, input, and mentorship.”

– Jameson Broggi, Emerging Leaders Council Member; 2021 Courage in Education Awardee

“The significance of this most civil and professional debate extends beyond the subject matter of climate change. The debate we witnessed gave hope that through the efforts of folks like the Steamboat Institute, the debaters and the open-minded attendees that politics, extremism and ideology can be put aside when an “all hands-on deck” approach is needed.”

– Kenneth Scissors, M.D. and Ray Pilcher, Campus Liberty Tour Debate Attendees, Cleantech Business Coalition members