Summer 2022 No. 23

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Micah Watson, Director

Ellen Lanser Hekman Program Coordinator / **Newsletter Editor**

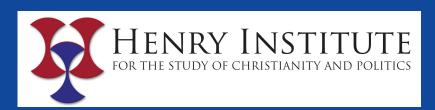
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Remembering Paul Henry

Paul B. Henry was born in Chicago on July 9, 1942, to noted theologian Carl F.H. Henry and his 1984 when he was elected wife Helga. His early years were in California and to the U.S. House of Illinois, as he graduated from Pasadena High School and then attended Wheaton College near Chicago. While an undergraduate, two significant experiences impacted his life: Henry worked as an aide for Congressman John B. Anderson of Illinois, leading to both his lifelong commitment to political involvement and to a long and lasting friendship between the two men. Paul also met his his years in Congress, future wife, Karen Borthistle.

Graduating from Wheaton College in 1963 with a degree in political science, Henry joined the Peace Corps for two years, working in Liberia and Ethiopia. When he returned to the U.S. in 1965, Paul and Karen were married, and Paul also was diagnosed with a brain tumor. He underwent enrolled in a Ph.D. program at Duke University as surgery a few days before being re-elected to his a Lilly Foundation Fellow in Christianity and Politics. He again worked for Congressman John Anderson during his graduate school years and continued to pursue his interest in the relationship between Christian faith and politics in his studies. In 1970, Paul received his Ph.D. and was offered a teaching position at Calvin College.

"I teach my students that the cause of God is still the greatest movement in history, the Word of God is still the most relevant book in the library, and that submission to God is still the most radical act of human freedom.'

Paul and Karen moved their young family to Grand Rapids, Michigan and from 1970 to 1978, Henry served as a professor of political science at Calvin College, teaching a variety of courses reflecting his dual interests in the theory and practice of politics. During his years at Calvin, he wrote a number of articles and books outlining some of his basic Christian perspectives on politics as he became involved in local and state government. In his book *Politics for Evangelicals*, he encompassed six general principles outlining his political standards for politics and faith.

In 1974, Henry was asked to be the new chair-

person of the Kent County Republican Party. The following year, he was appointed to the Michigan State Board of Education. where he served until 1978 when elected to the Michigan State House of Representatives. In 1982, Henry moved on to the

"Politics is not a simple battle between good or evil, or virtuous men and evil men, but rather it is about the give-andtake among competing interests and competing strategies for achieving a particular end."

—Paul B. Henry, *Politics for Evangelicals*

Michigan Senate until Representatives from the general Grand Rapids, Michigan geographical area. In 1990, the National Journal named Henry as one of the country's 11 rising politicians. During Henry served on the



Paul B. Henry

Education and Labor Committee, the Science and Technology Committee, and the Select Committee on Aging.

Two weeks before Election Day in 1992, Henry fifth term in Congress and regained sufficient strength to attend his swearing-in ceremony to the 103rd Congress. However, he died in Grand Rapids on July 31, 1993, at the age of 51, following a ninemonth battle with brain cancer. He is survived by his wife Karen and their three children, Kara, Megan, and Jordan.

Beth Bandstra, Henry's campaign manager and special assistant said in a 2012 lecture about Henry: "Death for Paul came too soon... the nation, state and community had lost a leader at a time not unlike today, when we —Paul B. Henry desperately need men and women like him. The words of his press

secretary Steven Ward were moving to all of us who knew and loved Paul Henry: "The examples he set through family life, his dedication to his constituents and his style as a lawmaker stand as a great legacy for our leaders to come."

Henry believed that the foundation for political action should rest on Christian humility, mature Christian social and political convictions, and a willingness to compromise for the common good. He emphasized the enormous need for Christians to engage in the political arena, and he affirmed the Reformed tradition that calls Christians to work for renewal in our fallen world.

> Henry held strongly to the U.S. two-party system with politicians (including Christians) called to be pragmatic and principled within this structure, exhibiting honesty and charity in the search to reach goals and make

> > [continued on page 3]

The People at the Henry Institute



Micah Watson is the Executive Director of the Henry Institute, a position he has held since early 2020. He is also associate professor of political science at Calvin University and the director of the Politics, Philosophy and Economics Program. He holds the Paul Henry Chair in Political Science and has degrees from the University of California Davis, Baylor University, and Princeton University. Along with his teaching duties and directing the

Institute, Watson has been involved in a number of projects over the past year, including the Henry Conversations podcasts (see article on page 12), working in an ongoing collaborative effort on an evangelical tradition of political thought with fellow political theorists from Wheaton and Westmont, several speaking engagements, extensive work on the biennial Henry Symposium on Religion & Public Life held in April (see article on page 9), and collaborating with the Ukrainian Catholic University on a lecture series related to building democracy.

Jordan Ballor is the Henry Institute's Associate Director, a role which includes assisting with sponsoring a number of Institute events, continued ongoing research, writing and scholarship, and interacting with students through the Civitas Lab and book discussion groups. He has held the position since mid-2021. Throughout the past academic year, Ballor has been actively involved with the First Liberty Institute and

has recently been appointed to the board of the Kuyper Leadership Fund. Jordan serves as the Kuyper Prize and Kuyper Conference Coordinator at Calvin University.



Corwin Smidt has been affiliated with the Institute as a Senior Research Fellow since 2012, when he retired from his position as Director of the Henry Institute. He is actively involved in research and is regularly invited to speak at conferences, academic gatherings and for various institutions and church groups. During the past year, he published articles in academic journals, participated in media interviews, served on the Review of Religious Research Editorial Board and also on an

Advisory Board for a Romanian journal, and reviewed a number of articles for scholarly publications.

Richard Mouw became a Henry Institute Senior Research Fellow in the fall of 2020 when he retired from the Institute of

Faith and Public Life at Fuller Theological Seminary. Mouw began his academic career in the Philosophy Department at Calvin College, and finished at Fuller after serving as the President of the institution and filling other roles with the Institute of Faith and Public Life. During the past academic year, Mouw was a featured speaker for the Van Lunen Conference on Executive Management in Christian Schools (Fall



2021). His most recent book, *How to be a Patriotic Christian* has just been published, and he continues to be involved in various writing and speaking opportunities.

John Bernbaum is joining the Institute for the upcoming



Bernbaum earned his history undergraduate degree from Calvin College, and has both a Masters and PhD from the University of Maryland. Most recently he headed Business & Education as Mission (BEAM), a private foundation investing in educational programs in the post-Communist world. He was the founder and past President of the Russian-American Institute in Moscow and

filled numerous roles for the Council on Christian Colleges & Universities (CCCU). Bernbaum has also worked for the State Department and taught history at several universities in the U.S. and abroad. He will be primarily focusing on scholarship involving the current Russian-Ukrainian war and concentrating on writing.

Ellen Hekman has served as the Institute's Program Coordinator since 2002, filling a position in which she actively plans events, coordinates details, administers the Institute's website and other communication avenues, and works with the Institute's staff and constituents. Hekman is a Calvin Political Science graduate, and prior to taking the position with the Henry Institute, she worked as a staff assistant for a U.S. Congressman, in research, banking,

insurance, and with a labor union, as well as filled numerous volunteer and leadership roles for church and school groups. \sim

Interested in our work?

The Henry Institute is funded primarily through interest earned on the endowment fund established when the Institute was founded in 1997, along



with periodic grants for specific programs, and also through private contributions from individual donors. We welcome your financial support for our work and programs. Online giving is available at https://connect.calvin.edu/giving/give-to-calvin; please use the specific chosen designation of the Henry Institute.

You may also send a check to the Institute at Calvin University with notation that your gift is for the Henry Institute.

Individuals who are potentially interested in sponsoring a specific program, or who would like to learn more about the Institute may contact Institute Director Micah Watson at mw45@calvin.edu.

We sincerely appreciate your support!

The Paul B. Henry Institute for the Study of Christianity and Politics

The Henry Institute is a research and civic engagement center that focuses on the interplay of faith and public life. Founded at Calvin University in 1997, the Institute is dedicated to convening scholars and practitioners, encouraging high-quality research and active public commentary, and fostering citizen involvement through public outreach and education.

We are inspired in our work by the life and legacy of educator and public servant Paul B. Henry, who committed his life to seeking justice through his deeply held convictions and his thoughtful practice. ~

appropriate decisions for the good of constituents and the country.

Throughout his public service, Paul Henry was known and admired for practicing political honesty and Christian charity, for his ability to find common ground, and for his wide-ranging concerns for justice, fairness, the environment, and people. In part, what distinguished him from many of his colleagues was his willingness to rise above partisan standards. While generally loyal to his party, he was not highly partisan. Henry deviated from party positions when he felt the issue called for a different stand. He was not obstinate or closed-minded about positions which he adopted but was willing to learn and change when the evidence appeared to warrant it.

In 1997, Calvin College established the Paul B. Henry Institute for the Study of Christianity and Politics to continue Henry's work of seeking to integrate Christian faith with political thought and action. The history and activities of the Institute over the past 25 years is reviewed on pages 4-5. ~

Portions of this article are based on



Corwin Smidt's presentation on Paul Henry to the Grand Rapids Historical Society at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum in the fall of 2009.

Paul Henry on politics and public life

"In assuming our political responsibilities—both constitutional and religious in character—we must avoid the danger of simplistically wedding the label of Christian to our own special interests. We must acknowledge our own finitude. We must be mindful of the principles of civility, tolerance, and civil rights, which God ordains to be enjoyed by all."

—Paul B. Henry, *Politics for Evangelicals*

"As we seek justice and mercy, as we seek Christian accountability or Christian values in society, we need to be sure that we are not doing some of the same things others are doing—masking greed under the banner of the Cross. I think the real danger at this point in the evangelical community is not the mistaken notion that Christians ought not to be involved... The danger lies in how we're being involved and whether we're listening and following, as it were, the promptings of the Spirit, or simply manipulating religious symbols."

-Paul Henry in an interview with Christianity Today, 1985

"Christians learn through their experiences in politics. They should be involved in public affairs all the time and not just at election time. We need Christians to work out their political decisions into principles. When Christ says to put the concern for others equal with self-concern, this is a Christian test... There is a need for less shallow Christian rhetoric and more content.

-Paul Henry in an interview with Eternity, 1988

"We are called to seek justice, to let our lights shine, to be the salt of the earth. Involvement in the political process is one of many ways in which the Christian community can be faithful to the redemptive power of the gospel. Political involvement means seeking justice in and through the public, institutional structures."

-Paul Henry in JustLife/88, 1988

About Paul Henry, from friends and colleagues:

"Paul was an example of what it means to be "thoroughly Christian." His faith shaped not only his intellectual and ethical assumptions but also how he treated people. His faith was obvious without being pushy or showy... He enjoyed and encouraged the give and take of argument and like to challenge students' easy answers.

—Gary Visscher, former student of Paul Henry at Calvin and later his press secretary in Lansing and Washington

"Many [class] discussions ended with differences unreconciled. But like most good arguments, the topics of the debates were soon lost. What remained was a profound sense of respect and tolerance for differing perspectives and the simple acknowledgement that ideology takes a second chair to a moral and conscientious human spirit."

—Mark Lagerwey, former student of Paul Henry at Calvin

"Paul loved the world of ideas, especially when those ideas involved relating faith and politics. As a scholar, Paul is perhaps best known for his book, *Politics for Evangelicals*, a work designed to give guidance to the growing numbers of evangelicals who were "returning from the wilderness" and getting involved in politics. To me, the most salient feature of the book was Paul's warning to avoid simplistic engagement in politics. Politics, he asserted, is "morally ambiguous" and Christians must approach politics with considerable humility.

What is most impressive about his political career is that Paul never avoided hard issues and never flagged in his effort to relate his Christian faith to his public service. "

-James Penning, Calvin College colleague of Henry

"First and foremost, Paul was a man whose faith in God was at the core of his being. It defined who he was and what he stood for. He viewed his whole life as a walk with Christ, which drew people to him for fellowship and leadership.

It was a signature of Paul's character that he was first and foremost responsible to God; he knew that a part of this responsibility included loving and caring for others. For Paul Henry public service was more than an opportunity to distinguish himself and further a career. It was an opportunity to give of himself for the benefit of others, an opportunity to speak against the squandering of national resources at the expense of hard-working taxpayers, and the privilege of bringing a biblical worldview to substantial moral dilemmas. It was his foundation in Scripture that provided the basis of his concern for others... It is on account of this spiritual foundation that Paul put hands and feet to his faith and strove to help people. Whether with the Peace Corps in Africa pouring his energies out for the benefit of impoverished peoples, or in the classroom guiding young minds toward higher principals, or in the halls of Congress defending those principles, Paul Henry demonstrated that a living faith is full of action."

—Mark Hatfield, U.S. Senator who served with Henry

"Life will always seem too short, and when you really think about it, our lives do not give any of us a long time to make our mark. We do the best we can with our lives. Paul made the very best of his, and because of his life, all of us have a better chance to make the very best of ours. Because of his life, our world is truly a better place."

—Fred Upton, U.S. Congressman who served with Henry

The Henry Institute Celebrates 25 Years

In 1997, the generosity of numerous dedicated donors culminated in an endowment to fund the Paul B. Henry Institute for the Study of Christianity and Politics, a research and civic engagement center focused on the interplay of faith and public life. Initial investments totaling over \$800,000 were donated in memory of educator and public servant Paul Henry, recognizing his life-long commitment to

seeking justice through deep conviction and thoughtful practice. For twenty-five years, the Institute has been committed to promoting serious reflection on the role of Christianity in public life

by encouraging citizen involvement through public outreach and education, convening events for students, scholars and practitioners, supporting training for students and teachers, and fostering highquality research and public commentary.



ducting research, writing scholarly works, and speaking publicly on topics related to Christianity and politics. Stephen Monsma began as a Senior Fellow in 2004 and was active with the Institute until his death in 2017. Corwin Smidt began his tenure as a Senior Fellow in 2012 after his retirement from the position of Executive Director and his tenure as a professor of Political Science at Calvin University. Li (Mary) Ma was a Research Fellow from 2012-2015. for two years beginning in 2013, Todd Huizinga was a Senior Fellow, and Darren Walhof was affiliated with the



Research Fellows with the support of the Henry Institute.

Other individuals who have been affiliated with the Henry Institute include Doug Koopman who served as the Program Director from 1997-2002. Koopman is also the editor of Serving the Claims of Justice: The Thoughts of Paul B. Henry

(complimentary copies of the book are available from the Henry Institute). Ellen Hekman is the Institute's Program Coordinator, a position she started in 2003. Since its inception, the

Institute and its affiliated scholars have received more than \$800,000 in additional grants and nearly \$660,000 in further funding dedicated to research and projects related to religion and public life. Donations from individuals have joined with grants from the Bradley Foundation, the Michigan Department of Corrections, the Issachar Fund, the United States Department of Labor, and the Acton Institute to continue the active work and programming of the Henry Institute.

Funding received from the Bradley Foundation covered numerous years of research conducted by Executive Director/ Senior Research Fellow Corwin Smidt as he headed the Cooperative Clergy Study Project, examining engagement and attitudes in the civic and political life of American Protestant pastors. The work involved four random surveys (in 1989, 2001, 2009, and 2017) to contact nearly 15,000 pastors across numerous religious faith traditions, allowing the researchers to compile an extensive database that is now included in the American Religious Data Archive for free public dissemination. The work also resulted in publication of a number of books presenting the data and







Faculty/student research related to faith and public life has been a primary focus of the Institute's work for twenty years, first through Junior Research Fellow appointments, and then as part of the Civitas Lab program. Beginning in 2003, student Fellows began working with Institute Directors and other Calvin faculty

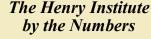
contributing to Smidt's reputation as a

the United States.

leading scholar on religion and politics in

members on a wide variety of research projects. The program was expanded to include more faculty, additional students, and new research efforts when the Civitas

[continued on page 5]



\$800,000 started the Paul B. Henry Institute for the Study of Christianity and Politics in 1997

Since 1997, the Institute has had *three* Executive Directors and seven Senior Research Fellows

\$1,460,000 has been raised through additional grants and donations since the Institute's founding

4 random surveys of 15,000 pastors were completed, with the data now housed at the American Religious Data Archive

128 student researchers have worked with 79 faculty members on over 100 projects

100 graduate and post-graduate scholars attended seven Pollsters and Parishioners Workshops

385+ Calvin students have participated in the Semester in Washington D.C. Program over 22 years

400 students have attended 37 Career Breakfasts

200 general lectures and events were sponsored by the Institute since 1997

25 Paul B. Henry Lectures have featured the interplay of religion and

10 lectures related to the Rule of Law have been sponsored for the Pruis Lecture Series

8 Henry Conversations Podcast episodes have been produced

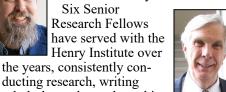
30+ books were published with support from the Henry Institute

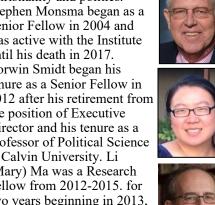
26+ conferences, workshops and Symposiums have been sponsored

















25 Years of Henry Institute Activities (continued from page 4)

Lab was launched in 2014. Through last year, research projects have included 128 students working with 76 faculty members and three Henry Institute Directors on over 100 projects. Extensive products have resulted from this collaboration, ranging from published books, articles, and research; conference presentations; podcasts; requests for comments and expertise from media sources; and more. Students have benefitted from strong mentorships, have developed excellent research and analytical abilities, and gained experience to help them gain internships, jobs, and graduate school positions.

From 2001 to 2010, as part of its emphasis on student involvement and training in research methodology, the Henry Institute sponsored seven week-long workshops for graduate and post-graduate students. The Pollsters and Parishioners Workshops included approximately 100 participants who received fully funded scholarships to focus on strategies and research results designed to measure

Research projects involving Institute Senior Research Fellows, affiliated faculty, and Civitas Lab students have explored wide-ranging topics, some of which include:

- Formative practices of civic hospitality
- Visualizing faith and citizenship
- Communicating virtuously across division in the church
- What is good food?
- Church responses to religious liberty and persecution
- Faith and citizen mobilization in Africa
- U.S. Constitutional issues
- School choice
- Clergy involvement in public life
- The politics of water
- Religious freedom for faith-based organizations
- Evangelical responses to globalization
- Assisting formerly incarcerated individuals as they return from prison
- Critical information needs in underserved communities
- Perspectives on patriotism and nationalism
- The moral power of stories
- Religious and political polarization in America
- Racial reconciliation in foster care
- Rustbelt religion and rural identity
- Trust, media and democracy

religion in American public life. The sessions were led by then-Institute Director Corwin Smidt and co-researchers Jim Guth (Furman University) and Lyman Kellstedt (Wheaton College).

The first Henry Semester in Washington D.C. was held in 2000 and hosts Calvin students in the nation's capital each year



for the spring semester. The students work at internships, consider various approaches to involvement in public life based on faith practices through networking and visiting a wide array of organizations, and learn about career options in diverse facets of public life. In 22 years, more than 385 students have participated, interning at a wide array of organizations, businesses, think tanks, Capitol Hill offices, and more.



Every year, the Institute sponsors a series of Career Breakfasts, providing the

opportunity for small groups of Calvin University students to meet informally with alumni and professionals who talk about their experiences and encourage careers in public life. Since its inception in 2016, 40 breakfasts have given more than 400 students the opportunity to consider various vocational paths, the intersection of faith and work, and involvement in politics and public life.

The Institute also regularly hosts lectures, with more than 200 events sponsored and co-sponsored since its founding, covering wide-ranging local, national, and global topics related to faith and public life delivered by speakers from around the world. The lectures, which are open to the public and the academic community, are intended to encourage broader thought and understanding, to engage citizen involvement in civic life, and to disseminate scholarly research.

The most visible of those lectures is the annual Paul B. Henry Lecture which features prominent religious political practitioners speaking about the interplay of religion and politics. Past speakers have included Paul Simon, John Lewis, Joshua DuBois, Ben Sasse, Melissa Rogers, Burns Strider, Robert Edgar, Dan Coats, Michael McCurry, Elizabeth Dias, Emma Green, Paul Hillegonds, Michael Cromartie, Ross Douthat, Nicholas Wolterstorff, Amy Sullivan, and many others. Recordings are available on the Henry Institute website.

The annual Pruis Rule of Law Lecture

Series started in 2010 and features speakers addressing issues related to the concept that no individual, from ruler to private citizen, stands above the law. Speakers have considered the rule of law in relationship to various philosophical topics, subjects, and countries, including the United States, China, Kosovo, India, Russia, economic growth, religious freedom, liberalism, and criminal justice. The Institute's website includes recordings of many of the lectures.

The Henry Conversations podcast, started in 2020, considers timely and timeless issues related to faith, politics, and culture. Eight episodes have been produced, with Institute Director Micah Watson interviewing featured guests from across the political and religious spectrum to discuss a range of interesting and thought-provoking issues.

The Institute has sponsored more than 26 conferences and seminars covering broadly ranging topics that encompass religion and public life. Session topics include consideration of social capital, aging, distributive justice, citizen mobilization in Africa, faith and pluralism, the civic mission of Christian schools, the Constitution, faith and democracy in America, Christians engaging culture, the AIDS pandemic and poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa, restorative justice, and the biennial Symposium on Religion and Public Life, among others. ~

More than thirty books have been published, edited and written with Henry Institute support and involvement. The following are just a few:

The Challenge of Pluralism Steve Monsma

Evangelicalism: The Next Generation Corwin Smidt

Serving the Claims of Justice Doug Koopman

Religion and Politics in America Kevin R. den Dulk

Latino Protestants in America

Mark Mulder

Jesus and John Wayne Kristin Kobes DuMez

This Land is My Land James Skillen

Democratic Theory of Hans-Georg Gadamer Darren Walhof

Surviving the State, Remaking the Church

The New Totalitarian Temptation **Todd Huizinga**

Awaiting the King

James K.A. Smith

The Embrace of Buildings

Lee Hardy

How to be a Patriotic Christian

Richard Mouw

Institute Support for Student Learning Opportunities

Religious Pluralism Conference

In February, the Henry Institute sponsored four Calvin University 3rd year students to attend the Religion in the Public Square Wheatley Institute Student Conference in Utah. This is the third year the Institute has supported Calvin student participation at the event, which includes five roundtable discussion groups on issues related to the annually selected topic.

For 2022, the students considered various aspects of *Religious Pluralism in a Polarized Age*, discussing relevant issues, identifying problems, and proposing solutions over the course of the 3-day event. Each participant signs up for a particular roundtable studying a specific concern, with the group led by a prominent leader in the selected field.

Calvin's Grace Lunger and 10 other students from across the U.S. explored religious literacy as a tool to increasing religious tolerance. She noted, "Each student applied religious tolerance differently in their daily lives. There were students from several faith traditions and worldviews which added a unique range to this discussion, opening my eyes to new issues and creative solutions. This diversity within the group created fruitful and enlightening discussions."

Student Anastasia Watson reflected on the conceptual space that the conference created



in the public sphere. Among the things she considered, were that "social impact can be simple; initiatives don't have to be expensive or complicated to address a need in a community. Building relationships and engaging with the present community is more powerful than we might realize. Our working groups were diverse, and although we disagreed about doctrine or politics, our friendship allowed us to work together instead of breaking down along lines of difference. In such a polarized age, this is crucial to remember when working within the conceptual space and thinking about what it means to live in a diverse civic society."

Calvin students Adham Rishmawi and Abigail Ham also attended the conference,

and Calvin's
Associate Provost
for the Global
Campus Kevin den
Dulk participated
as a group leader
at the event. ~



Healing Our Nations Program

The Henry Institute provided scholarship support for Calvin student Simone DeMan to participate in the Healing Our Nations program at Calvin. She shared the following thoughts about the experience when she returned from Liberia.

During the spring semester of my first year at Calvin University, I had the opportunity to go to Liberia as part of the *Healing Our Nations* experiment, through the Christian Reformed Church. Led by Professor Eric Washington, several Calvin students connected with some students in Liberia to explore Black identity in a post-colonialism world through the lenses of Liberia's complex and connected history with the United States. Early in the semester, we met virtually with the Liberian students and together explored Liberia's past and its relationship with the U.S.

Over Calvin's spring break we were able to visit the country on the



western middle coast of Africa, interacting with our Liberian cohorts and learning in-depth about Liberia's history as we traveled to historical sites, visited schools and churches, listened to the stories of native Liberians, and experienced the culture. We met Dr. C. Patrick Burrowes, who is an



accomplished author and historian who has researched and written extensively about the country, discussing a variety of topics that included citizenship, nationalism, and power. I was excited to utilize information I had learned in a Calvin political science class to better understand Liberia's political and economic challenges, giving me an opportunity to see my chosen academic major come to life.

Overall, this experience broadened my worldview and forced me to think critically about political and ethnic identity. I gained a new respect for my African heritage and a better understanding of the complex histories encompassed in the African Diaspora.



Career Breakfasts

In 2016, the Henry Institute created a program to provide opportunities for students to explore career options through informal meetings with professionals working in various fields over breakfast and conversation. Small groups of students meet with individuals from diverse vocations about six times each year. During the 2021-2022 academic year, the Institute sponsored Career Breakfasts with six professionals who work in public life.

- Justin Giboney, Founder and Director of the AND Campaign, talked about social justice and political activism.
- Jonathan Eigege,
 Africa Practice
 Associate with the
 Albright Stonebridge Group,
 shared about careers
 in international
 development
 relating to political
 and economic policies.
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- Alicia Smit Sinclair, Senior Consultant at Guidehouse, discussed a career in consulting and her experiences in various roles with the Canadian and U.S. governments.
- Dan Kotman, Chief of Staff in the district office of Michigan Congressman Tim Walberg, provided details about working in congressional staff and campaign jobs.
- Stephanie Vogelzang, Communication Specialist and National Review Institute Fellow shared her thoughts about discussing difficult topics surrounding faith in the public square.
- Elizabeth Shackelford, Senior Fellow on

U.S. Foreign Policy with the Chicago Council on Global Affairs and former U.S. Diplomat talked with students about working in the U.S. Diplomatic Corps, for the State Department, and



about setting career goals. ~

The 22nd annual Paul Henry Semester in Washington D.C.

Calvin's 22nd year of sponsoring the Henry Semester in Washington D.C. included 15 students who spent the spring semester living and working in the nation's capital. The semester was led by Calvin Psychology professor Emily Helder, who had also led the Program in 2017.

Students worked in internships from Monday through Thursday each week,



receiving academic credit for their internship experience, and also participated in two academic classes. On Tuesday evenings, Dr. Helder taught a course on Adoption Policy, exploring the policies and laws shaping the practice of both domestic and international adoption, including the impact of those policies on adoptees and the adoptive and biological relatives. In the international sphere, the class looked at both the impact of policies and treaties on child welfare reform within countries and relationships between countries, and the evolution of transracial adoption policies in the context of research on racial and ethnic identity development.

On Fridays, students took an academic course called *Faith in Public Life*, introducing them to various groups and individuals who come from a range of perspectives whose religious faith intersects with some aspect of American public life. Their speakers came from media outlets, non-profit organizations, various government departments and entities, faith groups, and elected officials.

Students lived in apartments at the Council of Christian Colleges and Universities site, along with other students from Christian institutions who were participating in the CCCU's American Studies Program.

"I really enjoyed leading the Semester in D.C. Program again

this past spring," noted Emily Helder. "Our first year of living with and learning alongside the CCCU American Studies

Program students allowed our group to develop relationships with students from other colleges and universities, as well as collaboration between Calvin and ASP faculty and staff. The diversity within our Calvin group and among all of the

students living at the CCCU allowed for thought-provoking discussions on important issues, such as race and ethnicity. And the experience was enriched through some excellent cultural events that we were able to enjoy, since COVID-19 cases remained low enough to allow a return to in-person events and excursions."

Each year, the Institute provides financial awards to several of the Calvin students

who are accepted into the Henry Semester in Washington D.C. Program. For the spring 2022 Semester. three participants received scholarships which were



Scholarship recipient Nehem David with donor Karen Henry Stokes

"The Henry Semester in Washington D.C. is so much more than just a cultural and learning experience; it gave me an opportunity to step out of my traditional college journey and for a semester don the cape of adult responsibility, opportunity, and perspectives. What personally stood out to me was the vibrant community of students from all over the world that I got to be a part of. I was able to converse with, learn from, and see the perspectives of students from diverse backgrounds and experiences, who were working in various organizations in D.C.

I also deeply benefitted both personally and professionally from countless noteworthy and admirable professionals and their willingness to mentor and cultivate a relationship with me. The Henry Semester certainly provides an excellent cultural experience that also promotes professional and personal growth."

-Nehem-Brainerd David



applied to the costs of of the spring semester program. Nehem-Brainerd David received a \$2,000 award provided by Karen Henry Stokes, and both Mya Veen and Isaac Rop were given \$500 scholarships. ~

2022 Students and their Internships

Sam Carrasco Little Lights Urban Ministry

Jewel Chung Mennonite Central Committee

Alice Crowe Ayu<u>da</u>

Nehem David International Justice Mission

Corinna DeVries
Just Homes

Blake Falk Shared Hope International

Michaela Giovannelli Congressman Bill Huizenga

Gerrit Michmerhuizen
Association for Diplomatic Studies &
Training

Marilyn Nguyen Children's Law Center

Ella Pastoor

Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute

Grace Pilarski
National Center on Sexual Exploitation

saac Rop
International Justice Mission

Sean Salamun
House Democratic Caucus

Isabel VanderMolen
Center for Strategic & International
Studies

Mya Veen Center for Public Justice

Faithful Christian Politics the subject of annual Rule of Law Lecture



The annual Pruis Rule of Law Lecture featured Justin Giboney, founder and director of the AND Campaign as he considered "Faithful Christian Politics" on September 29, 2021.

The "rule of law" refers to the concept that no individual—ruler or private citizen—stands above the law. To safeguard that principle, modern democracies typically bind governmental authorities to written, publicly disclosed laws and procedures.

This rule of law provides predictability: citizens can plan their lives because they have access to the rules of the game, and they know they can assert their rights under those rules if government acts arbitrarily. While those same laws and procedures can limit a citizen's own freedom to some extent, the principle of rule of law suggests such limitations, when reasonable, actually preserve freedom and guard against arbitrary government. Citizen involvement in forming policies and establishing laws through democratic procedures is integral to continuing a strong system of rule of law.

The Pruis Rule of Law Endowment was established at Calvin University in 2008 by Ed and Ruth Zeilstra in honor of long-time Calvin Business professor Don Pruis to promote an appreciation for the rule of law—an essential cultural and legal arrangement of great interest to Pruis. The Henry Institute is committed to fostering and promoting a renewed appreciation for the concept among students, faculty, staff, and the broader West Michigan community.

In his 2021 lecture, Giboney discussed his vision for what

Christians must find innovative ways to be critical, yet constructive participants in the marketplace of ideas.

—the AND Campaign

faithful Christian witnesses should look like in the public square today as they actively commit to civic participation and impact policies, laws, and public engagements. He challenged individuals on both sides of the aisle to place true Christian princi-

ples over partisanship. As the co-founder and president of the AND Campaign, he outlined the organization's Gospelcentered approach to civic engagement, advocating their concepts as a positive and workable framework for Christian political and social action in today's culture. According to Giboney, Christians of all political persuasions should place Christian principles over partisanship, relying heavily on faith commitments and beliefs that can speak clearly and directly to civic engagement and policy formation.

The AND Campaign is a coalition of biblical Christians who are determined to address the sociopolitical arena with the compassion and conviction of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Established in 2015 by Giboney, performance artist Sho Baraka and Rev. Angel Maldonado, the Campaign seeks to educate and organize Christians for civic and cultural engagements that result in better representation, more just and compassionate policies, and a healthier political culture as they fuse commitments to racial justice, antipoverty policies, and pluralism with conservative social views.

According to the Campaign website, "Urban Christians have a unique and powerful sociopolitical perspective that is not

fully represented by either of the two predominant political ideologies. It is a Gospel-centered worldview that is committed to redemptive justice (&) values-based policy. A lack of organization and a poorly maintained platform has left us in a situation where we are exploited for votes, but command little policy influence. Urban Christians must find innovative ways to be critical, yet constructive participants in the marketplace of ideas. We must rebuild our sociopolitical platform and infrastructure, while demonstrating that our faith is more important than our politics."

Giboney is an ordained minister, attorney and political Strategist, living in Atlanta, GA. He served as the co-chair of Obama for America's Gen44-Atlanta initiative, and in 2012 and 2016 Georgia's 5th congressional district elected him as a delegate for the Democratic National Convention. Giboney also served on the Urban League of Greater Atlanta Board of Directors and has written op-eds for publications such as *Christianity Today* and *The Hill*.

The Pruis Rule of Law Lecture series has been sponsored by the Henry Institute at Calvin since 2010, and features speakers who are researching issues related to the rule of law or who have personally experienced issues surrounding the development of the rule of law in countries around the globe.

The full lecture is available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=oyHZcl3AMig

Fall 2022 Rule of Law Lecture featuring Michigan Senator Ed McBroom

The annual Pruis Rule of Law Lecture for the upcoming year will feature Michigan State Senator Ed McBroom. He has represented the 38th district of Michigan (in the Upper Peninsula) since 2016, after having first served 6 years in the Michigan House of Representatives.

In the Senate, McBroom holds the chairmanship of the Senate Oversight Committee, and was serving in that position during the November



2020 elections. When allegations of voting irregularities arose after the election, McBroom and his Committee convened an investigation. After 8 months of interviewing witnesses, reviewing extensive documents, examining procedures throughout the election system and scrutinizing claims about corruption, the Committee concluded that the election results in Michigan were accurate and that claims of fraudulent activity were false.

Join us on October 19 at 6:00 pm in the Covenant Fine Arts Center Recital Hall at Calvin University for a not-to-be-missed lecture featuring Senator McBroom's reflections on the importance of upholding a strong and enforceable Rule of Law and his personal experience of its application to our overall election process and the 2020 election.

Eleventh Biennial Symposium on Religion and Public Life held at Calvin University



In early April, the Henry Institute held its eleventh biennial Symposium on Religion and Public Life at the Prince Conference Center on the campus of Calvin University. The Symposium provides opportunities to present research, foster personal and professional collaboration, and learn from thoughtful practitioners. Symposium attendance is open to anyone interested in the intersection of religion and public life.

The 2022 event included participants from across the U.S., Canada, and several European countries, with 83 individuals presenting research in conference sessions, contributing to a roundtable discussion, moderating or participating on a panel, or providing a plenary lecture. Sessions focused on a wide range of topics from religious liberty, to considerations of just war principles, to constitutional questions, to faith-based initiatives in the U.S. government, and more.

With the Henry Institute celebrating its 25th anniversary

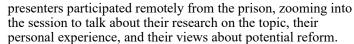


during 2022, a special session commemorating Paul B. Henry was a highlight of the event. Five friends who personally knew the Institute's namesake offered their memories of him from the various contexts of his career in higher education at Calvin,

his local and state political involvement, and his service as a Congressman for Michigan.

The Henry Institute and the Calvin Prison

Initiative co-sponsored two sessions that considered criminal justice reform. The first featured four Calvin Prison Initiative alumni from Handlon Prison presenting their papers on criminal justice reform, restorative justice, and the state of the U.S. prison system. The



The second session featured five individuals responding to Aaron Griffith's book *God's Law and Order: The Politics of Punishment in Evangelical America*. Two of the participants were former prisoners, and three were scholars who specialize in criminal justice reform and the historical relationship



between faith communities and American criminal justice.
The Symposium included two plenary lectures during the

event. The 2022 annual Henry Lecture featured Nicholas

Wolterstorff, Professor Emeritus of Philosophical Theology at Yale University and current Senior Research Fellow with the Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture at the University of Virginia. Wolterstorff lecture was titled *Fidelity in Politics*:



Christian Political Activity in the Tradition of Reformed Protestantism (see article on page 10). The second plenary session was sponsored by The Center for Public Justice for their annual Kuyper Lecture and featured Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach (Institute for Policy Research at Northwestern University), who spoke on The Ongoing Problem of Poverty: Food Insecurity, Families, and Faith.

The annual Kuyper Conference immediately preceded the Symposium. The Kuyper Conference was founded 24 years ago and focuses on topics related to the stream of neo-Calvinist

thought associated with Abraham Kuyper and others. Kuyper was a Dutch theologian, journalist, educator, statesman, social activist, and reformer. He lived from 1837-1920 and advocated that the Christian religion asks for a reformation of all parts of society.

Links to videos of the Symposium on Religion & Public Life plenary lectures, criminal justice reform session, and the *Remembering Paul Henry* panel can be found at: https://calvin.edu/

centers-institutes/henry-institute/programs/symposium/index.html

Additional information about the Kuyper Conference is available at https://calvin.edu/centers-institutes/de-vries-institute/kuyper-conference-prize/index.html





Fidelity in Politics: the 2022 Paul B. Henry Lecture

Each year, the Henry Institute brings a prominent Christian political practitioner to Calvin to speak about the interplay of religion and politics. The event is intended to inspire the University and the community to actively seek to integrate a Christian worldview with practical politics and public life. The lecture has featured individuals from both political parties, speakers from liberal and conservative viewpoints, scholars who have examined current political issues and questions, and prominent leaders of non-profit organizations actively working in the public policy arena.

The 23rd Paul B. Henry Lecture featured Dr. Nicholas Wolterstorff speaking on *Fidelity in Politics* as he addressed Christian political activity in the tradition of Reformed Protestantism, with Wolterstorff's thoughts about Paul Henry's clear modeling of that fidelity in his life and political action. Wolterstorff began his talk reminiscing about Henry, with whom he had a longtime friendship dating back to 1970 when Paul joined the Political Science Department and

Wolterstorff was a philosophy professor at Calvin. The two of them joined a number of other Calvin professors who

In the pursuit of justice, priority is to be given to the weak and vulnerable.

-Nicholas Wolterstorff

were actively talking about the growing interest of Christians in political involvement; their consensus was that Protestant politicians didn't have a framework to guide their political thought. The group began to draw on the rich political and social thought of Abraham Kuyper and the tradition of neo-Calvinism, applying it to the American political scene. Eight years after Henry came to Calvin, he decided to go into practical politics, running for elective office. Wolterstorff shared with the audience that Henry took the framework of Abraham Kuyper and neo-Calvinism with him into the political arena.

According to Wolterstorff, these principles included a neo-Calvinist understanding that all human beings are made in the image of God and therefore have ineradicable dignity, and that there is an objective moral law which applies to all humanity. Henry clearly endorsed the Kuyperian view that politicians who serve the common good have the dignity of being servants of God and those who knew him well have witnessed that this understanding animated Paul's own public service. According to Wolterstorff, Henry's writings and actions affirmed his belief that the primary goal of political activity is justice among citizens and institutions, and that in the pursuit of justice, priority is to be given to the weak and vulnerable.

Nicholas Wolterstorff is a Professor Emeritus of Philosophical Theology at Yale University, as well as a Senior Research Fellow with the Institute for Advanced



Studies in Culture at the University of Virginia. He taught previously at Calvin University (Philosophy Department), the Free University of Amsterdam, and the University of Notre Dame, and has also been a visiting professor at several other institutions. Wolterstorff received fellowships from numerous organizations, including the NEH and the Danforth Endowment, and has served as president of the American Philosophical Association and on editorial boards.



His writing includes numerous articles and books, including Religion and the Schools; On Universals; Reason within the Bounds of Religion; Art in Action; Works and Worlds of Art;

Education for Responsible Action; Until Justice and Peace Embrace; Faith and Rationality (which he co-authored); Rationality in the Calvinian Tradition (also co-authored); Lament for a Son; and Keeping

Faith: Talks for New Faculty.

The full lecture is available at: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GBiHYqO-Wid3RxJ_VIXUEG4lK5eTQLC/view

Other 2021-2022 Events Sponsored by the Institute

The *January Series* session by Sarah Steward Holland and Beth Silvers on January 12 was sponsored by the Institute, featuring the two popular podcasters talking about *Keeping it Nuanced: How to Have Grace Filled Political Conversations*. The two do not agree on all things political but have illustrated that people with differing political perspectives truly can have calm, grace-filled conversations about politics.

Watch the event here: https://calvin.edu/january-series/ livestream/2022/qaaxzrme64

The Henry Institute joined with several other Calvin departments and programs to sponsor *The Spirit of Soul Food* book talk with Dr. Christopher Carter on February 23. Carter merged a history of Black American foodways with a Christian ethical response to food injustice, revealing how racism and colonialism have long steered the development of US food policy.

Freedom or Equity: What is the Best Path Forward for America? featured Micah Watson and Ian Rowe of the American Enterprise Institute on March 15. Their public conversation explored our current racial divide in the United States, and how best to chart a path forward for America to be whole, hopeful, and an authentically inclusive "We the People."

Watch the event at: https://vimeo.com/695504636?embedded=true&source=vimeo-logo&owner=19732133

A small group of Calvin faculty and staff met together monthly from January through April to consider C.S. Lewis' *The Abolition of Man*. During the final session, C.S. Lewis expert Michael Ward joined the group.

2021-2022 Research in the Henry Institute Civitas Lab

The Henry Institute's commitment to enhancing student learning and civic engagement takes place in part each year through the sponsorship of our Civitas Lab. The Lab is a research incubator and learning community of undergraduate students who serve as paid research assistants to Calvin faculty on various projects.

Junior research fellows have been part of the Institute's regular programming since 2003, with more than 125 students working with 76 faculty members on over 100 projects through the years. The Civitas Lab continues that commitment to student development and faculty support and includes opportunities to develop community within the group of faculty mentors and student researchers through social settings and dinners during the academic year, as well as paying student wages to the junior research fellows as they assist faculty members with research projects.

During the 2021-2022 academic year, 13 students worked with eight faculty members on the following nine projects.

Early Modern Exegesis and the Kingdom of God: The Politics of the Gospel of Mark in the Era of the Reformation: Levi Yakuber conducted research with

Reformation: Levi Yakuber conducted research with Jordan Ballor investigating the primary and secondary sources on the gospel of Mark in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, with a special focus on the political dimensions of early modern exegesis of this biblical book. The work also supports a larger project on the commentary tradition on John in the Reformation era.



Levi Yakuber Senior majoring in Philosophy & Classical Studies from Canton, MI

> Jordan Ballor Henry Institute Associate Director



Rusted Religion: Emily Steen supported research conducted by Mark Mulder in a study that considers the intersection of rural and religious identities.



Emily Steen Sophomore majoring in Sociology, minor in Urban Studies & Theology from North Haledon, NJ

> Mark Mulder Calvin University Sociology & Social Work Department

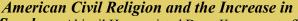


Henry Conversations Podcast Series: Grace Lunger worked with Micah Watson on the Henry Conversations Podcast project, assisting with research on podcast guests and completing technical editing and preparation of the episodes for publication.



Grace Lunger
Junior majoring in Political Science
& Strategic Communication
from Marshall, MI

Micah Watson
Calvin University Politics & Economics Department
Politics, Philosophy & Economics Program
Henry Institute



Seculars: Abigail Ham assisted Doug Koopman to finalize preparations for a forthcoming book on American civil religion and the increase in seculars, which he is co-authoring with Amy Black from Wheaton College. The book is scheduled for publication in late 2022.



Abigail Ham Junior majoring in Politics, Philosophy & Economics (PPE) & Writing, minors in Classics & Sociology from Sheffield, VT

> Doug Koopman Calvin University Politics & Economics Department



Live, Laugh, Love: A Cultural History of White Christian Womanhood: Karalyn Aardema and Tiffany Kajiwara collaborated with Kristin DuMez on a project that analyzes how Christian consumer culture has shaped the religious, economic, and political ideals of white Christian women.



Karalyn Aardema Junior majoring in History, minor in Global Development Studies from Holland. MI



Tiffany Kajiwara Senior majoring in Literature & Writing, minor in Film Studies from Des Plaines, IL



Kristin Kobes DuMez Calvin University History Department Gender Studies Program





Henry Conversations Podcasts Released

The Henry Conversations podcast series (started in 2020) continued during the past academic year, with several individuals joining Institute Director Micah Watson to consider issues related to faith, politics, and culture. The series includes featured speakers from across the political spectrum, and episodes are available on several platforms, including Spotify and Apple. During the 2021-2022 academic year, three conversations were added to the series, bringing the number of available episodes to eight. For a directory and links to the podcast recordings, go to https://calvin.edu/centers-institutes/henry-institute/henry-conversations-podcast/

Additionally, Dr. Watson was interviewed for an Acton Institute podcast in which he reflected on Paul B. Henry, the Institute's namesake, and his history, political activity, and philosophy in *Paul Henry and His Influence on Christianity and Politics*, available at: https://www.acton.org/audio/paul-henry-and-his-influence-christianity-and-politics

Episode 6

Watson interviewed Dr. Jordan Ballor as part of his role at the Center for Religion, Culture and Democracy. They discussed the CRCD's Shaftesbury Fellowship, the 2022 Kuyper Conference, and how contributions

of Dutch Reformed thinkers like Abraham Kuyper are relevant today, considering how we engage with thinkers who hold views that may be considered "cancellable" by today's standards?



Episode 7

Dr. Watson spoke with Dr. Anika Prather, professor at Howard University and co-founder of the Living Water School. Prather's research focuses on the Great Conversation and the Black

intellectual tradition. She discussed what led her to be an advocate for classical education, the Black classical tradition, and its importance for education today across all traditions.



Episode 8

Dr. Alan Noble (Oklahoma Baptist University) and Watson considered Noble's most recent book, *You Are Not Your Own: Belonging to God in an Inhuman World.* Dr. Noble's discussion of self-belonging and the "I just

need to" mentality with its endless horizon of tasks and goals are a particularly interesting theme. The episode offers applicable advice to push back against the influence of a "world built against the grain of how we're designed to live."



2021-2022 Research in the Henry Institute Civitas Lab (continued from page 11)

Mapping Applications for Re-entry: Ashlyn Franklin, Ron Hammond, Nathanael Kastner, and Sean Sword continued work on this long-term project with Jason VanHorn and Kevin den Dulk as they expanded the user-friendly intuitive map that provides state-wide information about Michigan facilities and organizations available to assist new parolees and individuals returning from incarceration.



Ashlyn Franklin Junior majoring in Social Work, minor in Political Science from Lansing, MI

> Ron Hammond Senior majoring in Human Resource Management from Owosso, MI



Nathanael Kastner Junior majoring in Geography, minor in Computer Science from Greeley, CO





Kevin R. den Dulk Calvin University Global Campus Politics & Economics Department

> Jason Van Horn Calvin University Geology, Geography, & Environmental Studies Department



Critical Information Needs in Underserved

Communities: Ben Honeyford, Sage McKissack, and Isaac Seiler conducted research with Jesse Holcomb on a project supported by the William & Flora Hewlett Foundation, using a public opinion survey and media content analysis to explore how communities of color stay informed about schools and education, and seeking to understand the role that media play in sharing education-related information to these communities. The team also worked on a second project, **Charting the Future of Public Service**

Journalism in collaboration with the Institute of Nonprofit News. The annual INN Index is a survey of nonprofit news publishers around the U.S., measuring trends in community engagement, business sustainability, and journalistic impact.



Ben Honeyford Junior majority in Sociology & Strategic Communication, minor in Urban Studies from Winnipeg, Manitoba







Issac Seiler Sophomore majoring in Politics, Philosophy & Economics (PPE), minor in African Studies from Rockford, MI



