

**The Fishlinger Center for Public Policy Research
Annual Report, 2022-2023 (FY 2023)**

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Please do disseminate or cite without the Fishlinger Center's written consent

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The Fishlinger Center for Public Policy Research: Annual Report 2022-2023 (FY 2023)

Fishlinger Center: Introduction and Background

In February 2015, the College of Mount Saint Vincent created the Fishlinger Center for Public Policy Research, with funds generously contributed by William Fishlinger, a trustee of the College. Under leadership of the advisory board chair, Provost Guy Lometti, and Director James Donius, the Center undertook a series of polling projects designed to serve the Center's academic, pedagogical and ethical mission. It conducted ongoing nation-wide polling on topics such as human trafficking, health care, poverty, domestic violence, drug addiction, education and the environment.

In 2019-2020, Fishlinger Center Director James Donius retired and Professor Matthew Archibald became the director. The Center was re-located to the sociology department, and its structure and mission were updated.¹

While the original mission aimed to illuminate public opinion on key public policy and social issues leading to meaningful debate and dialogue, and constructive action, the current mission aims to advance theoretically-informed, policy-relevant research surrounding social, economic and political problems, underlying constructive social action.

In brief, the Fishlinger Center transitioned from a mechanism to describe public attitudes on social and political issues to one in which it investigates factors impacting salient social, economic and political issues of our contemporary world. It does so by focusing on three streams of research, broadly construed, in health and healthcare, education, and, social and economic inequality. In these areas, the Center functions as a resource for faculty, students and the broader community, and promotes learning in a variety of programs that extend throughout the College, from the social sciences to history, data analytics and nursing.

Fishlinger Strategic Plan FYs 2020- 2024

During the 2021 and 2022 fiscal cycles, the Center's mission was revised and updated. A strategic plan was developed and implemented which more accurately reflected the newest mandate: moving away from polling to scholarly research.

In 2023, as the College of Mount Saint Vincent begins to adopt a university structure, the mission, goals and objectives of the Center will be modified to reflect the needs of this extended structure and its various scholarly and learning communities. It is significant to note that the

¹ See Appendix A and URL links for Fishlinger history, including original mission and advisory board; also, Fishlinger Annual Reports 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022.

central aim of the Fishlinger Center, to provide action-oriented research underpinning public decision-making remains unchanged in its broad dimensions, even as the opportunities for doing so shift.

Mission

The Fishlinger Center for Public Policy Research serves as a vehicle for dialogue and constructive action on public policy issues. The Center conducts policy-relevant research on social, political, and economic problems confronting local, national and global communities. It is a resource for faculty, students, and other institutions in the design, execution, and translation of social science research underlying political decision-making. As a core resource within a liberal arts institution, the Center aims to enhance the pedagogical relationship between the College, its students, faculty, administration, alumni, and the broader community with regard to matters of ongoing public concern, such as disparities in health and healthcare, education and social and economic inequality. The Center promotes faculty and student research, and teaching, for a deeper understanding of our common humanity and moral commitments. The Center provides a mechanism through which the research capabilities of the College can be matched with external funding streams, combining expertise, and capacities across disciplines and multiple institutions to address important social, political, and economic problems.

Priorities

The Fishlinger Center conducts research investigating policy-relevant social, political, and economic problems. During the past five-year cycle, the mission was operationalized with two leading objectives: 1) promotion of faculty/student/partner scholarship, teaching and learning, and; 2) development of external relationships.² Faculty/student/partner relationships include not only faculty-student mentoring along the lines of independent study, internships and traditional research teams, but faculty and student project-affiliation with nonprofits, such as the University Neighborhood Housing Project (UNHP), Ad Council, and Just as I am (JAIA) youth empowerment,³ as well as academic institutions within the New York region, and beyond.

For the second goal, cultivating external relationships, the Center has done so on a number of research and teaching projects (see below for its network of affiliated faculty, students and administrators).

² In previous annual reports, this particular aim covered the development of external funding streams. However, to do so first required cultivating external research partners with development capacities.

³ JAIA, for example, is a 501(c)3 non-profit located in NYC. It emphasizes personal development leadership for teens and young adults 16-21 yrs. JAIA co-creates with youth to build healthier communities by promoting mindfulness, mental health literacy, and moral/ethical development. Its leadership includes former Fishlinger student leader Angelina Villa.

The following Center objectives outline five years' worth of projects and programs which were used to promote faculty/ student/ partner scholarship and build our network. By the 2022-2023 FY we had built up a sizable network of affiliated faculty and students, both within CMSV and external to the College. Doing so has been consistent with the strategic plan of the College (2021-2022), and its first goal: To enhance our liberal arts, professional academic, and co-curricular programs, in this case, by integrating Fishlinger more fully into the College with an emphasis on faculty and student collaboration on scholarship and service activities (see <https://mountsaintvincent.edu/about/the-college/strategic-plan/>).⁴

Objectives

Actionable goals and their objectives motivating faculty/student/partner scholarship, teaching and learning, which have also helped develop external relationships are described in Table I (below).

⁴ The initial text recommended the College more fully integrate the Fishlinger Center for Public Policy research, into the activities of the College “and continue to emphasize, support, and market faculty and student collaboration on scholarship and service activities through these programs.” The Center would do so in Academic year 2022-2023 and those involved would include: Director Fishlinger Center for Public Policy Research, Provost, Director of Public Relations and Marketing, Senior Vice President for Enrollment and External Relations. Assessment for success would entail: Increased participation of faculty/student research projects using the resources of the Center, and Presentations of findings from Fishlinger Center research at local, regional, national conferences annually. Importantly, the president’s strategic planning committee argued that: “Budget impact [is] neutral given current resources allocated” (from Draft: College of Mount Saint Vincent 2022-2025 Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives 4.17.2022).

Table I. 2019-2024 Priorities and Objectives

Year	Priority Area	Objective	Organizing tasks	Goal benchmarks	Goal met / note on status
Yr1: 2019-2020	Scholarship/ Pedagogy	Generate faculty and student commitment. Develop research streams.	Interview faculty/ students. Set up Undergraduate Research Program. Consensus for three focal areas: health/healthcare, education, (e.g., undergraduate/ graduate education, research methodologies) and social/economic inequality (e.g., race/ethnicity, class, labor, immigration)	Participation in Center and/or URP	June 2020
		Formalize processes for undergraduate research to contribute to Fishlinger Center	Use of Fishlinger-generated resources (e.g., data); Sponsor student and faculty events	UG Center	June 2020
Yr1: 2019-2020	Scholarship/ Pedagogy	Formalize processes for students to do professional data reports.		See example student climate survey report excerpt p. 24	Revised: third stream open to international affairs, and environment subsuming inequality
		Involve approximately 15% of CMSV students in Fishlinger related learning.		60 students * 3 semesters (spring 2019, fall 2020, spring 2020)	Ongoing: Soc 307, survey research, covers part of this goal. Fishlinger-sponsored events serve another part
Yr1: 2019-2020	Scholarship/ Pedagogy	Establish system for storing Fishlinger data at the Center, rather than relying on external partners for storage.		Center data storage on CMSV Cloud	June 2020
		Funding	Identify funding sources	Interviews center directors	List of funders
Yr2: 2020-2021	Scholarship/ Pedagogy	Reinforce faculty and student commitment through project development	Coordinate faculty/ student research papers and pedagogy. Update and implement Undergraduate Research Program	Accumulation of papers and talks thru Center and on URP website	September 2020-June 2021
		Increase to 25% CMSV students in Fishlinger-related learning			Ongoing: Soc 307, survey research, covers part of this goal. Fishlinger-sponsored events serve another part

	Funding	Shift polling/survey focus to include three central research streams and related research objectives Identify/rank likeliest grant sources as well as long term funding grants and partners	Begin application process	Submit application(s)	September 2020-June 2021. Completed. Begun spring 2020
Yr3: 2021-2022	Scholarship/ Pedagogy	Identify faculty and student leadership, as well as collaborators at other institutions for research and funding development Pipeline of student training and participation for student roles in Center operations Recruitment of students/faculty	Work with faculty/ students on research papers and pedagogy aimed at higher profile dissemination Organize workshops/ symposia for scholarship and pedagogy Classes and sponsored events	Accumulation of papers and talks thru Center and on URP website. Integrate other data sources into Center Conduct workshops Fall 2021 Increase in numbers of collaborators	Selection of scholarship abstracts in Appendix B See also faculty affiliates (section below) Workshops not implemented. Classes and sponsored events more effective. See student affiliates (section below) Ongoing: Incomplete (need to network partners on grants)
	Funding	Seek long term funding sources	Begin long-term application process	Review application(s)	
Yr4: 2022-2023	Scholarship/ Pedagogy	Promote faculty-student-partner scholarship	Work with faculty/ students on research papers and pedagogy aimed at higher profile dissemination See College strategic plan for increasing integration of Fishlinger into the College	Accumulation of papers and talks thru Center and on URP website. Integrate other data sources into Center	Completed and ongoing: growing scholarship- see titles and abstracts in Appendix B See also faculty affiliates (section below) Workshops not implemented. Classes and sponsored events more effective. See

Table I

	Funding	Begin tasks linked to funding	Initiate funding stream	Submit application	student affiliates (section below) Ongoing: Incomplete Outreach necessary for funding Ongoing: planning with CMSV administration ⁵
Yr5: 2023-2024	Scholarship/ Pedagogy	Continue to promote faculty-student-partner scholarship Develop next 5-year plan 2024-2029	Organize 2025 health and health policy summit/ conference Review grant opportunities	Edited volume and conference papers	
	Funding	Continue funding tasks	Initiate funding stream	Successful application	

⁵ As noted in several places above, the June 2022 CMSV strategic plan urges the College to: “More fully integrate the Fishlinger Center for Public Policy research into the College ... (<https://mountsaintvincent.edu/about/the-college/strategic-plan/>). Integration has taken place through extensive outreach across disciplines (see projects with nursing and humanities). Marketing and promotion is slated to take place fall 2023 with a revised Fishlinger website.

Leadership

Director of the Fishlinger Center for Public Policy Research

Matthew E. Archibald is the Director of the Fishlinger Center for Public Policy Research at the College of Mount Saint Vincent. He holds a faculty appointment as Associate Professor of Sociology. He brings broad experience to the Fishlinger Center that spans academic, private, and public sectors. Prior academic appointments include Emory University, Bates and Colby Colleges, and Michigan State University. Private and public sector positions include the Massachusetts' Department of Education and the Office of the Commissioner of Probation, as well as, Hornby Zeller Associates and the Public Consulting Group.

Professor Archibald has led Fishlinger for several years (2019-present), His past leadership roles include: Colby College Health Committee and advisor to the Colby Science, Technology, Society, and Global Studies programs. At Emory University, he helped coordinate the Center for Health, Culture, and Society in the Rollins School of Public Health, as well as its Graduate Fellowship Program. He served as the director of the undergraduate Certification Program in Social Research and Data Analysis, the co-director of Emory Study Abroad Program, Comparative Health Care Systems, and as the director of the department's graduate seminar(s).

Professor Archibald's teaching and scholarly work addresses medical sociology, health, illness and healthcare, and organizations. One strand of his current work focuses on disparities in healthcare. In this area, he and his colleagues and students have examined national trends in behavioral health, as well as local characteristics of healthcare networks. Another area of scholarship investigates unemployment and healthcare.

Professor Archibald received his Ph.D. and M.A. in sociology from the University of Washington, Seattle. He received his B.A. in philosophy from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Director of Undergraduate Research at the Fishlinger Center for Public Policy Research

The Director of Undergraduate Research at the Fishlinger Center for Public Policy Research, College of Mount Saint Vincent, Omar Nagi, Ph.D. holds a faculty appointment as Associate Professor of Sociology. The founder of the Undergraduate Research Directorate in 2010, which focused on undergraduate research interests in the social sciences, Professor Nagi brings more than a decade's worth of institutional experience and depth to the Fishlinger Center.

Prior leadership includes his role as the founding Director of the Master's Program in International Development and Service (IDS). He also led an assessment of the Orange County community health network, and, in the St. Louis area, a project focused on voting outcomes of school board ballot initiatives.

Professor Nagi's teaching and scholarly work addresses the sociology of political economy with emphasis on health care, social inequality, social change and human development. Another core area of expertise is social research methods and statistics.

He has won a number of awards including the Robert K Perry L Perry Award (2013) for Outstanding Mentorship of Faculty and Students (National Association of Ethnic Studies). In 2011, he was named Teacher of the Year. Professor Nagi also received a CMSV award for digital storytelling in collaboration with IPSL, St. Mary's and Western Oregon University.

Professor Nagi received his Ph.D. in sociology from the State University of New York - Albany and his M.A. in sociology from Southern Illinois University- Edwardsville. He received his B.A. in economics from the American University in Cairo.

2022-2023 Program Activities: Overview

Background summary 2019-2022: In 2019-2020, faculty- and student- organized activities at Fishlinger shifted from polling to three functional research/ teaching and learning streams: health/ healthcare, education and social and economic inequality (e.g., minority youth, immigration, unemployment). In 2020-2021, we continued this transformation with greater effectiveness, securing external funding to train students in quantitative methods in order integrate them into the Center as research assistants. In 2021-2022, the Center created research opportunities that extended our network of collaborators, and included training of students through work study, internships, independent study opportunities and temporary apprenticeships. Fishlinger also sponsored student and faculty events relevant to the scholarly and pedagogical mission of the Center. ⁶ The result of all this activity was the successful completion of a handful of research projects; initiation of several new projects; continued training of students in research methods, and; organization of Center-sponsored events related to research/ teaching and learning and social justice.

Summary 2022-2023: In 2022-2023, the Center solidified its external relationships through collaborative research projects, teaching opportunities, such as in-class talks, peer review of classes and faculty-faculty advanced training collaborations (e.g., a nursing faculty dissertation proposal) and service (e.g., ad hoc nursing dean search committee, faculty mentoring). In addition, the director of undergraduate research, Omar Nagi, was able to secure a 200k grant with the University of New Hampshire (NE), Intelligence Community (IC) Centers for Academic Excellence (CAE), which connected Fishlinger with their network of faculty and programs. A former CMSV student and Fishlinger intern has been working from Spain on administering the project and CMSV students are now being recruited for appropriate trainings. Nagi and the director of Fishlinger have been actively involved in the NE IC CAE program over the course of FY 2022 focusing on budgets, training and recruitment.

All of these activities extended our network of collaborators, and included training of students through work study, internships, independent study opportunities and temporary apprenticeships. Fishlinger also sponsored student and faculty events relevant to the scholarly and pedagogical mission of the Center. The result was the ongoing production of research projects; initiation of several new scholarly projects; continued training students in research methods, and; organization of Center-sponsored events related to research/ teaching and learning and social justice.

These activities are illustrated below in the section on 2022-2023 Program Activities. As in years past, they cover projects undertaken during this past year intended: 1) to solidify the Center's faculty research core by extending our collaborative network to conduct research projects in health/healthcare, education and socio-economic justice, which, as in previous fiscal cycles,

⁶ For past events, see *Fishlinger Center Annual Reports 2019-2020, 2020-2021*.

entailed modifying Center budgets, training students for new positions, orienting faculty collaborators through meetings and discussions; 2) to foster greater student involvement in the Center's research programs by building on an educational grant developed for statistical training that has been used in social science methods classes and for Center training of undergraduates who work as interns and research assistants- we now use this as foundational for our data analytics majors who work for Fishlinger, and; 3) to sponsor policy-relevant student and faculty events that addressed current social problems.

As noted above, as a consequence of these activities, the Fishlinger Center has become more deeply integrated into the life of the College, consistent with the College's 2022 strategic plan.

Fishlinger as Center for Faculty and Student Research

Fishlinger has been able to create a rich and vibrant community of scholars working individually and collaboratively, linked to one another through Fishlinger affiliation and supports. In 2022-2023, Fishlinger brought nursing and psychology together on a number of papers that investigated the field of behavioral health. Fishlinger also extended its external network of collaborators to include advanced students at other universities as well as faculty from other institutions. These collaborators worked with the Center on several projects. The topic areas in these papers and conference presentations, racial/ethnic health and healthcare disparities, stress and disability, and behavioral disorders are salient to the Fishlinger and College missions to promote social equality and justice.

Faculty Affiliates

CMSV Faculty Affiliates

Matthew Archibald, Associate professor sociology, Director Fishlinger
Omar Nagi, Associate professor sociology, Director undergraduate research
Alanna Kavanagh, Assistant professor nursing, Director graduate nursing
Pamela Behrman, Adjunct professor psychology
John McCullagh, Assistant professor psychology
Aydasara Ortega Torres, Adjunct professor psychology
Chunfang Chen, nursing

External Affiliates

Rachel N. Head, Assistant professor, University of Tulsa
Soohyun Park, PhD student Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy,
University at Albany
Oliver Ponce, Masters Public Policy (June 2022) NYU
Jordan Yakoby, former assistant professor nursing and director
undergraduate nursing; current Touro University

Research Projects

Papers

Archibald, Matthew E., Rachel Head, Jordan Yakoby and Pamela Behrman. 2023. "An Examination of Exposure and Vulnerability to Stress from Chronic Illness and Its Impact on Mental Health and Long-Term Disability among Non-Hispanic White, African American, and Latinx Populations." In Jennie Jacobs Kronenfeld (Ed.) *Research in the Sociology of Health Care* 33 Pp. 83-101. New York: Emerald Publishers.

Archibald, Matthew E., Pamela Behrman, and Jordan Yakoby. 2022. "Racial-Ethnic Disparities Across Substance Use Disorder Treatment Settings: Sources of Treatment Insurance, Socioeconomic Correlates and Clinical Features," *Journal of Ethnicity in Substance Abuse*, Vol. 21, Number 2; Pp. 1-25

Archibald, Matthew E., Pamela Behrman and Chunfang Chen. 2023. Unpacking Linkages Between Substance Use Disorder Treatment Access, Duration and Completion to Better Understand Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Care (Under review Society of Behavioral Medicine, 2024 conference)

Archibald, Matthew E. 2022. Inequality, Intersectionality, and Medical Diagnoses: How Recent Theories of Social Categories Improve Our Understanding of Behavioral Health (Under revision)

Conferences

Archibald, Matthew E., Rachel Head and Pamela Behrman, "How Substance Use Disorder Treatment Access Shapes Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Treatment Duration and Completion: Tests of Several Non-Normal Structural Equation Models," Section on Drugs and Society, American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, August 2023.

Archibald, Matthew E., Pamela Behrman, Jordan Yakoby, John McCullagh and Aydasara Ortega Torres. "The impact of residential instability and serious psychological distress on substance use disorders: Testing exposure and vulnerability hypotheses for Non-Hispanic White, African American, and Latinx populations," Section on Drugs and Society, American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA, August 2022.

Archibald, Matthew E., Jordan Yakoby, Pamela Behrman, John McCullagh and Aydasara Ortega Torres "An examination of chronic illness, distress and long-term disability among Non-Hispanic White, African American, and Latinx populations." Conference on Social Stress Research Bi-Annual Meeting, Savannah Georgia, June 2022.

Fishlinger as Center for Faculty and Student Pedagogy

The nexus of Fishlinger and other College departments, including sociology, psychology, education, nursing, and most recently, history (e.g., medical humanities minor), creates a research-apprenticeship framework by which students learn skills in CMSV courses (e.g., social sciences, natural sciences, data analytics, math, healthcare management, education, history-medical humanities minor), develop internship and independent study projects through Fishlinger, become involved in work study, affiliate with our research team, transition to an external work or academic project (vis-à-vis entry-level post-BA jobs or graduate school), then return as collaborators to lead research projects connected to Fishlinger. Despite some of the obvious Covid-imposed constraints of years gone by, Fishlinger has been able to solidify this framework. From year to year, Fishlinger-affiliated students gained important skills that helped them find work or matriculate in a graduate program in their area of interest (e.g., typically social work, public advocacy, sometimes data analytics). Later, they were invited to give presentations and lead discussions with CMSV students and other Fishlinger affiliates. In some cases, these students served as informal mentors for students interested in pursuing an area of interest.

CMSV Faculty Affiliates in Pedagogy

Catherine Sharbaugh, nursing
Alanna Kavanagh, nursing
Ron Scapp, Professor education

CMSV Student Affiliates (current and former)

Curtis Siaw, data analytics
Raina Gengo, data analytics
Siobhan Hoffman, psychology and sociology
Jazmely Urena, sociology
Dhym Vixamar, liberal arts/ sociology
Lyneeth Navarro, sociology
Angelina Villa, sociology
Mia Peters, sociology
Wantoe Wantoe, public policy
Malachi Kirk, business
Cameron Velasquez, business
Rakim Rotger, business

Pedagogy and Teaching Projects (current and former)

Small Business Unit Project Tutorial, 2021, 2022, 2023: Lead- Soohyun Park, former research assistants - Oliver Ponce, Cameron Velasquez, Malachi Kirk, Rakim Rotger; current – Curtis Siaw and Raina Gengo

Immigration and Mobility, 2023: Dhymis Vixamar

Substance Abuse and Recovery project, 2021: Siobhan Hoffman

Gender and Body Image project, 2022: Lyneeth Navarro

Criminology and Racial Injustice, 2021: Jazmely Urena.

Minorities and Mental Health, 2021: Angelina Villa

Dissertation tutorial 2022: Jonathan Rosenberg, business department

Dissertation proposal 2023: Alanna Kavanagh, nursing

AACN Faculty Scholars grant; Foundation for Academic Nursing, 2022: Alanna Kavanagh, nursing

Fishlinger Center Sponsored Events

The Fishlinger Center sponsors a variety of campus events aimed at enhancing our communal purpose. Events generate ongoing interest in the Center and Center activities, which helps us to develop projects that will benefit the College and community. These activities are strategic, offering opportunities for individual and group accomplishment. They are solidaristic in that sponsorships link individuals and groups, and larger collectives of people, on a continuing basis.

For example, during the past fiscal cycle (2021-2022), the Fishlinger Center sponsored a number of events, including a panel of faculty and students who led a dialogue based on their experience as participants in the global movement of people migrating to western countries in the late twentieth and early twenty-first century. Apropos of which, a former minister of education in the Ukraine (Ana Novosad, November 2021), met with CMSV faculty, students and administrators to discuss the challenges of life in societies that experience socio-political and economic upheaval.

During the past fiscal cycle, 2022-2023, although Fishlinger continued to organize panels and workshops and other events, in an effort to integrate the Center more fully into a range of CMSV events and activities (and not just those we sponsored), Fishlinger devoted resources (e.g., labor time, funds, knowledge) to supporting schools, programs, departments and groups on campus,

For example, as part of its pedagogical mission, Fishlinger served to organize a panel for the President's fall 2022 Leadership and Health Summit. Following the summit, Fishlinger was involved in interviewing job candidates from a variety of healthcare backgrounds for the position of Dean of Nursing. For student organizations, Fishlinger has always worked closely with SGA and student clubs. In the fall of 2022, the Center joined CMSV's model UN club in Philadelphia for their fall conference.

Panels, Events, Workshops, Conferences 2022-2023

Fishlinger- sponsored, co-sponsored and supported events

“Ethnographies and Homelessness.” Anne Roschelle, sociology SUNY New Paltz, November 2022

“Careers in Social Work across Occupational Areas.” Riquelmy Lamour, LCSW, adjunct CMSV sociology October 2022

“Youth Empowerment,” Just as I am (JAIA) minority youth mental health and empowerment advocacy group, Angelina Villa and Sally Hipsher, October 2022

“Whitewashing Education: The 1619 Project, Critical Race Theory, and Beyond.” The Department of History, the Department of Religious Studies and Philosophy, the Women’s Studies Program and the Fishlinger Center, April 2023.

“Coffee & Conversation- Advancing the Liberal Arts in the Classroom, Excellence in Teaching,” March 2023.

Participant in events sponsored by other organizations, groups and departments

“A Focus on Health Equity in Health Professions Education and Academic Research” CMSV Health Equity and Social Justice Panel, October 27, 2022

“Health Care Panel” CMSV Accounting Society and Business Department, April 2023

Model UN, Philadelphia conference, fall 2022

University of New Hampshire (NH), Intelligence Community (IC) Centers for Academic Excellence (CAE); Workshops on Intelligence Teaching – spring 2023; fall/winter 2022-2023

CMSV Dean of Nursing School, search committee, 2022-2023

CMSV Professional Learning Community workshop attendee, 2022-2023

CMSV promotion of Montclair State University post-B.A. training programs in data analytics, March 2023.⁷

National Science Foundation Professional Development. “Master the techniques of writing superior winning NSF proposals Writing/Designing Winning NSF Proposals Live Online Workshop,” March 2023

Professional Learning Community 2022-2023

10/5 – Centering Place in our Pedagogy w/ Special Guest Fernanda Vidal, Teaching & Learning Fellow at The Graduate Center, CUNY

10/19 – Mid-semester Reflections

11/2 – Tapping into Crowdsourced, Research Projects to Improve Student Engagement w/ Special Guest Dr. Brian Haney, Assistant Professor of Biology

11/16 – Canvas Advanced Training

⁷ As in years gone by these sessions provided panels of faculty and graduate and undergraduate students detailing the benefits of programs in Master of Arts in Social Research & Analysis, and, Graduate Certificate in Data Collection & Management.

2/21 – Overview of Open Access Resources w/ Special Guest Joe Levis, Director of the Seton Library at CMSV

3/7 – Mid-semester Reflections

3/28 – Continuing Conversation on AI and ChatGPT w/ Special Guest Dr. Jon Burmeister, Assistant Professor of Philosophy at CMSV

Table II. 2021- 2022 Budget Allocations, including earlier years 2018-2020

Organizational/ Departmental Operating Expense Budgets through FY22											
Fishlinger Center for Public Policy											
Orgn:	523										
Fund:	11001										
Acct	Account Description	FY18 Actual Expense	FY19 Actual Expense	FY20 Approved Budget	FY20 Actual Expense	FY 21/22 New acct codes	FY 21/22 New acct description	FY21 Approved Budget	FY21 Actual Expense	FY22 Approved Budget	FY22 Actual Expense
						6303	Student worker stipend	-	-	2,000.00	1,174.00
7021	Photocopying	330.25	114.2	-	-	7021	Photocopying	300.00	-	300.00	300.00
7201	Conference Expenses	1,252.95	2,419.81	-	-	7201	Conference Expenses	1,000.00	-	1,000.00	1,000.00
7228	Prof Develop - Academic A	57.78	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7281	Memberships	198	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7309	Supplies	-	-	1,800.00	-1,800.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
7319	Miscellaneous Expense	73.23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7329	Food Expenses	1,148.29	261.32	-	-	7329	Food Expenses	100.00	-	100.00	489.43
7333	Business Travel	224.14	358.5	-	-	7333	Business Travel	100.00	-	100.00	0.00
7373	Recruitment - Students	-	60.24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7412	Fishlinger Center Advisory F	-	-	1,000.00	-1,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
7413	Develop and Field Suveys	20,307.50	26,060.00	28,000.00	-28,000.00	7413	Develop and Field Suveys	25,000.00	-	25,000.00	0.00
7414	Training	2,500.00	-	2,000.00	-2,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
7415	Sample	-	-	11,000.00	-11,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
7492	Contracted Services	23,315.00	2,331.00	10,000.00	-10,000.00	7492	Contracted Services	10,000.00	2,500.00	10,000.00	0.00
7562	Telephone	960	200	1,000.00	-1,000.00			-	-	-	-
Total		50,367.14	31,805.07	54,800.00	-54,800.00			36,500.00	2,500.00	38,500.00	2,963.43

Table II

Appendix A – Fishlinger Center History, Mission and Board 2015-2020

In February 2015, the College of Mount Saint Vincent announced the creation of the Fishlinger Center for Public Policy Research. With funds generously contributed by William Fishlinger, a trustee of the College, the Center was designed to study public policy issues through independent and objective research conducted by students, faculty, and other members of the academic community. A distinctive feature of this Center was the Polling Center.

In its early years, under leadership of the advisory board chair, Provost Guy Lometti, and Director James Donius, the Center undertook a series of projects aimed at drawing attention to the College, by conducting ongoing nation-wide polling on topics such as human trafficking, health care, poverty, domestic violence, drug addiction, education and the environment. These studies were intended to provide faculty and students hands-on experience with survey design, data collection, and research analysis.

After experimentation with different approaches to polling and analysis, the Polling Center coalesced around a continuous/annual public opinion poll investigating Americans' sociopolitical and economic attitudes, expectations, beliefs and values. The Fishlinger Optimism Index was developed as a key component of these annual surveys. The Fishlinger Optimism is a measure of public opinion centered on Americans' attitudes about current and future sociopolitical and economic issues. It is derived from nationally representative data about trust in public officials, social/political issues, beliefs about the United States' place in the world, and a series of value statements dealing with individuals' feelings of success and security, among other issues.

Original Mission

The Fishlinger Center's mission is to illuminate public opinion on key public policy and social issues through independent empirical research that will serve as a vehicle for meaningful dialogue and constructive action. The Center's research is intended to elevate and extend the College's recognition, by positioning it as a reliable, if not, premier, source of current public opinion research and analysis. These core goals will enhance the reciprocal relationship between the College, its students, faculty, administration, alumni and the broader regional community. Alongside the Center's contribution to scholarship and public discourse, it is uniquely mandated to be a resource for undergraduate education.

Facilities

The Center, located in Founders' Hall, is equipped with twenty-six work stations for both internet and telephone data collection. Software packages for analysis and data collection include Decipher and IBM SPSS. In addition, the Center is a member of the IBM academic initiative. This provides the Center with access to IBM's advanced analytic packages for modeling and

predictive analytics as well as Watson artificial analysis and machine learning. Facilities include a conference room designed for qualitative interviewing and focus groups.

FY 2015-2020 Advisory Board

The former advisory board consisted of experts from academia, public service, and industry. Board member William Fishlinger and his wife Joan generously provided the Center's start-up funding.

Directors (Donius, Archibald)

Karen Chaplin, M.Ed. Educator, Community Activist, and Nonprofit Board Member

William J. Fishlinger Founder, Chairman and CEO, Gramercy Risk Holdings LLC

Alexandra Fishlinger-Calame President and Founder, Rack-It-Up

Vincent Fitzgerald, Ph.D. Associate Professor of Communication, College of Mount Saint Vincent

Charles L. Flynn, Jr. President, College of Mount Saint Vincent

Anthony Foleno Senior Vice President for Strategy and Evaluation, Ad Council

Howard Gershowitz Senior Vice President, Mktg., Inc.

Guy Lometti, Ph.D. (Advisory Board Chair) (Retired) Provost and Dean of the Faculty, College of Mount Saint Vincent

Donna A. Lopiano, Ph.D. President, Sports Management Resources

Joseph Russo COO, Omnicom Public Relations

David Schliecker Vice President, Food Network/Cooking Channel Brand Research (Scripps Networks Interactive)

Appendix B – Center Scholarship

URLS for publications and conference presentations, works in progress, and other research projects produced by the Center, are located on the Fishlinger website.

Appendix C – 2023 Academic and Non-Academic Assessment Reports

The following Appendix covers academic and non-academic assessment reporting rubrics for the Fishlinger Center.

Because Fishlinger is a hybrid division, it has academic and non-academic functions, we include both types of reporting schemas.

I. Non-academic

Each department will prepare an annual report that demonstrates the cyclical process of assessment and how it relates to the College's [strategic plan](#) and [mission](#). The report will state departmental goals, identify critical indicators of effectiveness, present data, and note the changes/improvements made based on the data presented.

Department: Fishlinger

Date: FY 2022-2023

1. What are the departmental goals and how do these relate to the strategic plan and mission of the College?

Fishlinger is a social science research Center that investigates factors impacting salient social, economic and political issues of our contemporary world, linked to CMSV's pedagogical and social justice foci (see link between Fishlinger mission and CMSV's mission).

It functions as a resource for faculty, students and the broader community, to promote learning (measured by projects, contacts, affiliations, and collaborations).

It does so by generating research focusing on three streams of research, broadly construed, in health and healthcare, education, and, social and economic inequality (see papers and conferences above).

2. What are the critical indicators of effectiveness used within the department?

Increasing number of faculty involved in projects, outreach (new projects initiated), papers published and presented at conferences.

3. What data can the department report on which measures these indicators of effectiveness?

See Annual Reports as well as individual studies.

4. What changes/improvements have been made based on the data?

Expanding network of collaborators from health and healthcare to include education, business and other disciplines.

II. Academic

Each department will prepare an annual report that demonstrates the cyclical process of assessment and how it relates to the College's Learning Outcomes and [Mission](#). The report will state program learning objectives, identify critical indicators of effectiveness, present data, note the changes/improvements made based on the data presented, and future assessment plans.

Department: Fishlinger

Date: FY 2022-2023

1. What are the program learning objectives and how do these relate to the College Learning Outcomes and mission of the College?

Fishlinger generates research focusing on three streams of research, broadly construed, in health and healthcare, education, and, social and economic inequality (see papers and conferences above). It does so by integrating faculty, students and the broader community, into the research process. There they learn mastery of skills and content knowledge that contribute to their development as individual learners and in their social, economic and political roles as world citizens.

These learning objectives are consistent with other departments across the College: mastery of appropriate analytic skills, excellence in writing and verbal communication, and critical insight.

Assessment takes place at each stage of the learning process, in both one-on-one conversations, trainings sessions, and, in team collaborations.

Team members who have not mastered necessary skills are trained in areas in which they have strengths or, if they choose, provided remedial instruction, depending on their motivation.

2. What are the critical indicators of effectiveness used within the department?

Critical indicators for effectiveness are (availability) motivation and productivity.

3. What data can the department report on to measure these indicators of effectiveness?

Annual report contains indicators of collaboration and involvement which reflect motivation and productivity.

4. What changes/improvements have been made based on the data?

Initial interviews of team members are more stringent than in the past.

End: 2022-2023 Annual Report