Get to Know Us
and Our Goals!

**OUR MISSION:** Through our events, panels, speakers, and discussions, we hope to advance the objectives of the Parr Center by bringing ethical consideration to the forefront of the minds of our fellow students and staff, regardless of their major or background. We aim to promote thoughtful and informed ethical engagement about the most pressing issues of our time in a welcoming and insightful setting.

**Creepy Crawlin’ Caldwell: Discussion Stations**

We decorated the entire department and prepared stations for our guests to learn about spooky ethical topics!

**Ethical Eating: Panel Discussion**

On Tuesday, November 19, 2019, from 6pm-8pm, the Carolina Forum for Ethics hosted a panel discussion on Ethical Eating. Thanks to local catering, inspirational holiday recipes, and effective outreach, this event was able to fill up the room. The panel featured UNC faculty and experts, guiding an open conversation through the different ethical considerations around food. As an event that was open to the public, not only did it encourage students to thoughtfully consider their food practices over thanksgiving break, it also introduced many new people to The Carolina Forum for Ethics and the Parr Center.

Some of the questions discussed, which remain relevant and worthy of your consideration:

- **Are consumers morally responsible for researching the foods and producers they buy from?**
- **Are we wronging with this choice? Do some people have more of an obligation than others?**
- **How much research are we obligated to do before we buy a diamond?**
- **What does the moral weight associated with decisions to vote look different in different countries?**

In January we discussed the use of social media to create unsustainable standards. Is editing photos before you post them unethical? Do we have an obligation to be patient and honest in our representations of ourselves online?

In February, we discussed whether or not there is a moral duty in addition to our civic duty to vote. Are we doing something immoral if we choose not to vote? Who are we expecting with this choice? Is it better to stay informed or just choose not to vote?

In March, we planned to discuss blood diamonds and the ethics of diamond labor production. How much research are we obligated to do before we buy a diamond? Who does the responsibility for sourcing products? Are they ethically faithful? Does the moral weight associated with ethical decisions make them more effective in purchasing expensive goods?

In April, we planned to discuss state-level forgiveness of groups for past injustices in collaboration with the Forum Pod. Should states forgive groups for past injustices? Would it be helpful for everyone to think of the group that they feel are being wronged?

Unfortunately, we were unable to participate in March and April's events due to the outbreak of COVID-19.

**Fourth Friday Food for Thought: Quad Conversations**

Every fourth Friday of the month, the members of the Carolina Forum for Ethics meet to pod through the quad and engage members of the Carolina community in important contemporary ethical topics. Armed with cookies and informational flyers, we asked students questions about their stances on ethical issues.

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**Coming Soon...**

This event was originally planned for March of 2020, however, with the presence of COVID-19, we have rescheduled for Fall of 2020. Stay tuned!

**RESEARCH**

- From the National Resources Defense Council:
  - ○ 1/3 of the food we eat relies in part on the honeybee population
  - ○ 42% of bee colonies collapsed in 2019
  - ○ Four factors that put bee colonies at risk:
    - ■ urbanization leading to the loss of habitat
    - ■ pesticide use
    - ■ disease and pathogens from miles
    - ■ climate change

**IMPORTANT QUESTIONS**

- Is it more worthwhile to pursue efforts to save the bee population, or efforts to make our food supply less dependent on bees?
- Is there any intrinsic value in protecting species from decline and extinction?
- What moral obligations do we have to animal species such as bees?

**REFERENCE**


**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

It’s impossible to encapsulate our appreciation for the Parr Center with only a few sentences. A special thank you to our Director, Sarah Abraham, in her Director of Undergraduate Programming, Sally Moore, and to the entire Parr Center staff for everything you do and for all the opportunities you provide us. You make UNCs home!