



# The Programming Pod

2019-2020

By: Will Applewhite, Liam Bendezu,  
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## Who We Are

**Our Purpose** - The mission of the Parr Center is to "nourish and foster ethical reflection on campus and beyond". Public programming is a central component of that mission, and where we found our work for the 2019-2020 academic year.

**Our Vision** - We wanted to focus on improving the Parr Center's existing lecture series as well as providing ideas for new event formats. We also sought to implement new survey tools, to gauge attendee engagement at future events.

**Our Goals** - Our main goal was to create Speaker Dossiers for those considered for the 2020-2021 Parr Center Presents lecture series. Additionally, we sought to create proposals for two new events to be held next year: The Chancellor's Lecture in Ethics and The Fellow Lecture.

**Our Audience** - In general, we aimed to provide input that would favor the interest of the UNC student body as a whole. Our focus remained here because we have close ties to UNC students through the Parr Center Undergraduate Fellowship as well as through our individual social groups.

## What We Did

**Speaker Dossiers** - Each pod member researched a handful of potential speakers, and completed a dossier on each candidate. Speakers included: Barry Lam, Mikyoung Kim, and Stewart Butterfield. Dossiers contained information on their careers, lecture topics, and publications. These dossiers were reviewed by the Parr Center Director, Sarah Stroud and the Associate Director, Rob Willison

**The Chancellor's Lecture in Ethics** - Our pod proposed a revival of the Chancellor's Lecture in Ethics. This lecture was a once annual event featuring an invited, influential ethics scholar. The lecture was designed to be open to the Carolina community and provide insight about the role of ethics in our daily lives. The Chancellor's Lecture in Ethics is typically co-sponsored UNC College of Arts & Sciences and the Office of the Chancellor. It was last held in 2016 with distinguished speaker, Dr. Kwame Anthony Appiah.

**Proposal by:** Caitlin Davis, Ananya Mallik, Sid Sirdeshmukh

**The Fellow Lecture** - Our pod proposed an addition to the Parr Center programming calendar starting in the Fall of 2020, "The Parr Center for Ethics: Fellow Lecture." The fellows lecture is designed to serve as a platform for undergraduate fellows to host a public figure of their choice to speak at the Parr Center. This lecture is proposed to be more of a "conversational interview," with the hope that it is more inviting and accessible to viewers from all academic disciplines. The subject matter will be designed to be appealing to undergraduate students.

**Proposal by:** Liam Bendezu, Annie Evans, Will Applewhite

## Going Forward

**Impact** - A significant portion of the work we did this year was in preparation for the 2020-2021 academic year. While we have not held these events yet, our thorough work has provided the Parr Center with the momentum and means to carry out these plans with ease. Additionally, our work has provided us with the chance to create proposals in a safe and productive environment. In Fall 2020, conditions allowing, we plan to carry out our proposed Fellow Lecture. If we are able to host our event, we will utilize a system we created to track event attendance and satisfaction. This will help us, and the Parr Center, improve our planning for future events.

**Next Steps** - With a goal to host the inaugural Fellow Lecture in Fall 2020, we plan to solicit suggestions for possible speakers from members of the Fellowship, create a short list, and submit a proposal to our Director and Assistant Director. Upon their approval, we will then begin to solidify concrete plans for the event. Additionally, we hope to officially revive the Chancellor's Lecture in Ethics in Spring 2021. To do this, we need to confirm final elements of our proposal with our Director and Associate Director, and begin the process of reaching out to the UNC College of Arts & Sciences and the Office of the Chancellor.



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