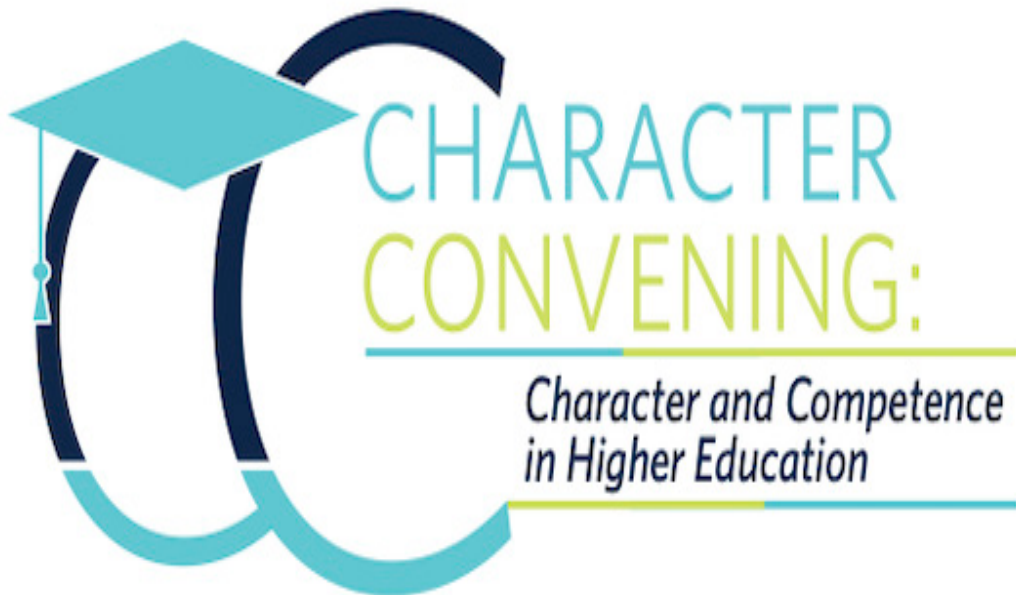


2024

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Pensacola Beach, Florida | May 13–15, 2024



Our Sponsors



Welcome

On behalf of the planning committee, it is our pleasure to welcome you to the 5th Annual Higher Education Character Convening at the Hilton Pensacola Beach! This convening brings together educators with a passion for character, virtue, and ethics in higher education to learn, network, and share ideas.

Samford University and University of West Alabama have partnered together to provide this convening. The keynote sessions will be led by Dr. Perry Glanzer from Baylor University. The keynote sessions will be unique in the fact that he will share information with you and then provide time for tables to discuss the newly presented information. There are four different breakout sessions where you will have the opportunity to hear from two different groups about research, roundtable discussions, or experiential sessions. There are several time periods to network with other universities while here. We hope you take advantage of the evenings to connect with others in the field over a nice meal or poolside.

Your presence is an indication of your commitment to helping students live flourishing lives. Thank you for sharing your knowledge, expertise, and presence at the 5th Annual Higher Education Character Convening.



01

Agenda At-A-Glance

Monday
May 13, 2024

4:00PM – 5:00PM

Registration

5:00PM – 7:00PM

Welcome Reception

Location: Pool 5 Deck

Tuesday
May 14, 2024

7:15AM – 8:15AM

Registration and Breakfast

Location: White Sands

8:15AM – 8:30AM

Welcome and Introduction of Keynote Speaker

Location: Emerald Coast

8:30AM – 9:30AM

Keynote and Discussion 1

Location: Emerald Coast

9:30AM – 10:30AM

Keynote and Discussion 2

Location: Emerald Coast

10:30AM – 11:00AM

Mid-Morning Break

11:00AM – 12:00PM

Breakout Session 1

Location: See below for location and topics

12:00PM – 1:00PM

Lunch

Location: White Sands



Agenda

At-A-Glance

Wednesday
May 15, 2024

1:15PM – 2:15PM

Breakout Session 2

Location: See below for location and topics

2:30PM – 3:30PM

Keynote and Discussion 3

Location: Emerald Coast

7:15AM – 8:15AM

Breakfast

Location: White Sands

8:15AM – 9:15AM

Lipscomb

Location: Emerald Coast

9:15AM – 10:10AM

Keynote and Discussion 4

Location: Emerald Coast

10:10AM – 10:15AM

Break

10:15AM – 11:05AM

Breakout Session 3

Location: See below for location and topics

11:10AM – 12:00PM

Breakout Session 4

Location: See below for location and topics

12:00PM – 12:45PM

Lunch

Location: White Sands

12:45PM – 1:00PM

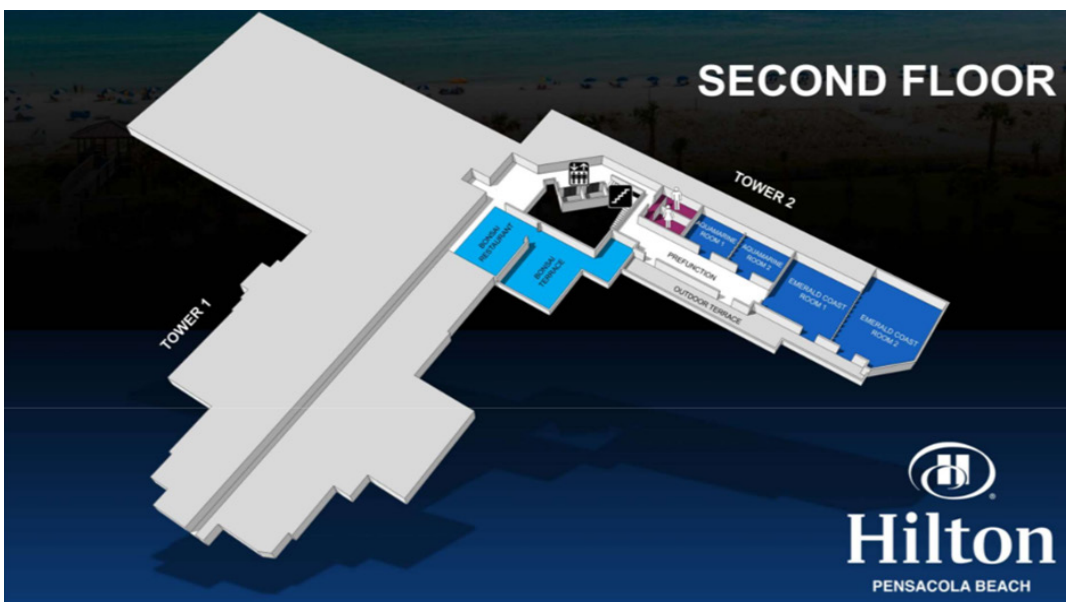
Closing Event

Location: White Sands

03

Hotel Map

Location facilities 



Address: 12 Via de Luna Dr, Pensacola Beach, FL 32561 US

Phone: 1 850-916-2999

04

Keynote Speaker



Perry L. Glanzer

Ph.D., Baylor University

PERRY L. GLANZER (Ph.D., University of Southern California) is a professor of Educational Foundations at Baylor University and a Resident Scholar with the Baylor Institute for Studies of Religion. He has also coauthored authored, or edited a dozen books including *Christian Higher Education: An Empirical Guide*, *Stewarding Our Bodies: A Vision for Christian Student Affairs*, *Identity Excellence: A Theory of Moral Expertise for Higher Education*, *The Dismantling of Moral Education: How Higher Education Reduced the Human Identity*, *The Outrageous Idea of Christian Teaching*, *Identity in Action: Christian Excellence in All of Life*, *Christ-Enlivened Student Affairs: A Guide to Christian Thinking and Practice in the Field*, *Restoring the Soul of the University: Unifying Christian Higher Education in a Fragmented Age* and *Christian Higher Education: A Global Reconnaissance*. In addition, he has written or co-written over one hundred journal articles and book chapters on topics related to moral education, faith-based higher education, and the relationship between religion and education. He is currently Editor-in-Chief of *Christian Scholar's Review* and edits the *Christ Animating*.

05

Agenda

of the conference

Monday

May 13, 2024

4:00PM – 5:00PM

Registration

5:00PM – 7:00PM

Welcome Reception

Location: Pool 5 Deck

Tuesday

May 14, 2024

7:15AM – 8:15AM

Registration and Breakfast

Location: White Sands

Menu: Southern Breakfast

8:15AM – 8:30AM

Welcome

Dean Anna McEwan, Samford University and Dean Jan Miller, University of West Alabama

Introduction of Keynote Speaker

Dr. Mike Hardin, Samford University

Location: Emerald Coast

8:30AM – 9:30AM

Keynote: Re-envisioning Character Education and Discussion 1

Dr. Perry Glazner, Baylor University

Location: Emerald Coast

9:30AM – 10:30AM

Keynote: Character Ed Ends: Purpose, the Good Life, and Human Flourishing and Discussion 2

Dr. Perry Glazner, Baylor University

Location: Emerald Coast

10:30AM – 11:00AM

Mid-Morning Break

11:00AM – 12:00PM

Breakout Session 1

Location: See below for location and topics

12:00PM – 1:00PM

Lunch

Location: White Sands

Menu: Chicken, Market Fresh Salad, and Pie

06

Agenda of the conference

1:15PM – 2:15PM

Breakout Session 2

Location: See below for location and topics

2:30PM – 3:30PM

Keynote: Understanding and Cultivating the “Irrational” Virtues and Discussion 3

Dr. Perry Glanzer, Baylor University

Location: Emerald Coast

**Wednesday
May 15, 2024**

7:15AM – 8:15AM

Breakfast

Location: White Sands

Menu: Hilton Quiche

8:15AM – 9:15AM

Exploring Virtue Based Leadership in Ethical Decision-Making

Robin Cayce and Lance Forman, Lipscomb University

Location: Emerald Coast

9:15AM – 10:10AM

Keynote: Accountability: A Key Virtue for Character Ed Consistency and Discussion 4

Dr. Perry Glazner, Baylor University

Location: Emerald Coast

10:10AM – 10:15AM

Break

10:15AM – 11:05AM

Breakout Session 3

Location: See below for location and topics

11:05AM – 12:00PM

Breakout Session 4

Location: White Sands

12:00PM – 12:45PM

Lunch

Location: White Sands

Menu: Vegetable Lasagna, Salad, and Cheesecake

12:45PM – 1:00PM

Closing Event

Location: White Sands

Breakout

Session 1

Tuesday
May 14, 2024

11:00AM–12:00PM Location: Aquamarine 1
Presenter 1

Research: Moral Reasoning Development Across Educational Levels: Insights from the Defining Issues Test (DIT-2)

Ghasim Nabizadehchianeh, University of Alabama; Sama Ebrahimi Bajgni, University of Alabama; David Walker, University of Alabama

Overview: This study compares moral reasoning in different education levels using Defining Issues Test (DIT-2)

Room Host: Yvette Bynum, University of Alabama

11:00AM–12:00PM Location: Aquamarine 1
Presenter 2

Research: Promoting Character Development Through Partnerships in Special Education

Hannah Kennedy, Samford University; Kate Scarborough, Samford University; Tarsha Shepard, Samford University

Overview: Through field experiences in Special Education, pre-service teachers participate in book study activities that involve selection, implementation, and design of character education lessons through literature. The presentation will involve practical strategies for incorporating character education.

Room Host: Yvette Bynum, University of Alabama

11:00AM–12:00PM Location: Aquamarine 2
Presenter 1

Research: Teach or Punish: A Qualitative Case Study of a Restorative Approach to School Discipline to Focus on the Moral Development of Students

Jennifer Underwood, University of Alabama

Overview: This descriptive case study examines how one school models a restorative justice approach to discipline to combat the exclusionary discipline practices that can cause harm to students and contribute to the school-to-prison pipeline.

Room Host: Samantha Deane, Boston College



Breakout

Session 1

Tuesday
May 14, 2024

11:00AM–12:00PM Location: Aquamarine 2

Presenter 2

Research: Facilitating Practical Wisdom Through Simulated Experiences

Andrea Mayfield, University of West Alabama; Kay Lucas, UWA; Brandon Walker, UWA

Overview: Compelling storytelling is a central component of a quality virtual learning experience. In our respect in the classroom simulation, we put the sim participant in the role of the teacher and immerse them in a school environment, where they must confront authentic challenges and uncomfortable situations, making choices that result in consequences.

Room Host: Samantha Deane, Boston College

11:00AM–12:00PM Location: Emerald Coast

Presenter 1

Roundtable Discussion: I Have a Friend in You: Critical Friendship at Work in Higher Education

Lori Doyle, Concordia University Irvine; Kara Chism, Samford University

Overview: This roundtable discussion will share tenets of the critical-friendship framework and allow participants to think through existing opportunities and benefits of feedback that flows from a place of critical friendship.

Room Host: Nancy Winfrey, Wake Forest

11:00AM–12:00PM Location: Emerald Coast

Presenter 2

Roundtable Discussion: Educating with Character: A Roundtable Discussion on the Impact of Developing Core Values for Students and Faculty

Hannah Zarzour and Paul McEwan, Hoover High School

Overview: Under the guidance of Hope Leadership Academy, Hoover High School has begun implementing core values into the lives of students, teachers, and community. Character Committee members will discuss how these values have impacted the school body.

Room Host: Nancy Winfrey, Wake Forest

Breakout

Session 1

Tuesday
May 14, 2024

11:00AM–12:00PM Location: Coral Reef

Presenter 1

Experiential: The Character Focused Approach: A Framework for Competency-Based Character Education

Mary Lombardo-Graves, Western Governors University; Caren Kurtz, Western Governors University

Overview: Our Character Focused Approach framework is supported by a skills and competency-based method to character education. Join this session to learn more and gain practical tools for applying and implementing the character focused approach.

Room Host: Beverly Gilbert, Arkansas State

11:00AM–12:00PM Location: Coral Reef

Presenter 2

Experiential: Why a Leader Chooses to Do the Right Thing?

Bill Cleveland, Samford University; Jane Cobia, Samford University

Overview: This session will be an interactive session where participants will complete "The Leadership Virtues Questionnaire" (LVQ) relating to prudence, fortitude, temperance, and justice items followed by a reflection on a moral hero.

Room Host: Beverly Gilbert, Arkansas State

10

Breakout Session 2

Tuesday
May 14, 2024

1:15PM–2:15PM Location: Aquamarine 1

Presenter 1

Research: How Does Your State Measure UP? A Review of Character Education Legislation in the Southern States

Brenda Mendiola, University of Alabama; Ben White, University of Alabama, Yvette Bynum, University of Alabama

Overview:The session provides an overview of character education legislation in 14 southern states along with an analysis of the congruence between state statutes and research-endorsed practices for effective character education. The information may prove helpful for those crafting and executing character education programs that not only meet legislative demands, but also adhere to the tenets of efficacious character education.

Room Host: Emily Farkas, Grand Canyon University

1:15PM–2:15PM Location: Aquamarine 1

Presenter 2

Research: High School Teachers' Experiences Implementing Character Education

Cristy York, Homewood City Schools

Overview:High school teachers' experiences implementing character education will be described in order to meaningfully contribute to what is currently known and unknown about teacher buy-in as it relates to character education at the secondary level.

Room Host: Emily Farkas, Grand Canyon University

1:15PM–2:15PM Location: Emerald Coast

Presenter 1

Roundtable Discussion: Framework for Processing Ethical Dilemmas

Jackie McBride, Arkansas State; Amany Salah, Arkansas State; Judith Jenkins, Arkansas State

Overview:This roundtable will include examples of ethical dilemmas and a framework for processing the ethical dilemmas that are utilized in graduate level educational leadership programs.

Room Host: Jane Cobia, Samford University

11

Breakout Session 2

Tuesday
May 14, 2024

1:15PM–2:15PM Location: Emerald Coast

Presenter 2

Roundtable Discussion: It's Not Just What You Do; It's Who You Are
Lisa Beckham, Samford University

Overview: The roundtable discussion will outline the Samford Educational Leadership program's journey to develop a new Leader Candidate Dispositions Assessment.

Room Host: Jane Cobia, Samford University

1:15PM–2:15PM Location: Coral Reef

Presenter 1

Experiential: Practically Integrating Character Development in Legal Education

Nancy Winfrey, Wake Forest

Overview: Join us for an overview of our integration strategy, stories of what worked, and by way of example, a brief process exploration of character traits that support professional identity development in your own context.

Room Host: Amy Benton, Samford University

1:15PM–2:15PM Location: Coral Reef

Presenter 2

Research: Beyond Basic literacy: Historic Examples of Character-Inspired Education

Clara Gerhardt, Samford University; Anna McEwan, Samford University

Overview: English educational initiatives from the 1700s onwards impacted the community and presented an ideal of character education that reached beyond basic literacy. Two significant movements were the "Sunday" schools and the "Ragged" schools.

Room Host: Nancy Winfrey, Wake Forest

1:15PM–2:15PM Location: Coral Reef

Presenter 3

Research: Books That Build Character: Teaching Character Development Through Children's Literature

Kate Scarborough, Samford University; Tarsha Shepard, Samford University; Hannah Kennedy, Samford University

Overview: Using high quality children's literacy and questioning strategies, teachers can address needed literacy and character development. Presenters will share initial findings from a qualitative study determining preservice teachers' ability to use literature to support children's character development.

Room Host: Amy Benton, Samford University

Breakout

Session 3

Wednesday
May 15, 2024

10:15AM–11:05AM Location: Aquamarine 1

Presenter 1

Research: Hidden in Plain Sight: Friendship and Moral Formation

Michael Hahn, St. Mary's University of Minnesota

Overview: Aristotelian and Christian insights on friendship are presented to argue that 1) a retrieval of friendship as a genuine Christian virtue is possible and 2) that friendship is a valuable method of Christian virtue formation.

Room Host: Nancy Erickson, St. Mary's University of Minnesota

10:15AM–11:05AM Location: Aquamarine 1

Presenter 2

Research: Character Development in the College Classroom:

Opportunities for Formative Influence

Kayla Wenth, Samford University

Overview: The nature of emerging adulthood provides a rich context for character development. Educators are uniquely positioned to support and strengthen the acquisition of character related values through recurring relationships and classroom experiences.

Room Host: Nancy Erickson, St. Mary's University of Minnesota

10:15AM–11:05AM Location: Emerald Coast

Presenter 1

Roundtable Discussion: Creating Data-Driven Research in

Character Education

Amanda Hilsmier, Samford University; Hannah Kennedy, Samford University; Amy Benton, Samford University

Overview: This roundtable discussion will focus on ways to collect data to show the impact of character education practices on the school environment.

Room Host: Kameron Brown, Samford University

10:15AM–11:05AM Location: Emerald Coast

Presenter 2

Roundtable Discussion: Modeling a Character Education

Curriculum in K-12 Athletics

Laura Casey, Vestavia Hills High School

Overview: Gain insights on how to intentionally develop coaches of character by exploring resources developed by high school athletic staff in collaboration with Samford University.

Room Host: Kameron Brown, Samford University

13

Breakout Session 3

Wednesday
May 14, 2024

10:15AM–11:05AM Location: Coral Reef

Presenter 1

Experiential: Community Engaged Learning as Platform for Character Education: A Two-Tiered Approach

George Daniels, University of Alabama

Overview: Conveying Character can happen in many ways when you're least expecting it. This interactive session engages attendees in thinking through ways to embed character education into community engagement experiences.

Room Host: Betty Sue Sparks, University of Tennessee – Knoxville

10:15AM–11:05AM Location: Coral Reef

Presenter 2

Experiential: Reflections on Practice: Using Moral Dilemma Videos to Simulate Decision Making for Educational Leaders

Lance Forman, Lipscomb; Robin Cayce, Lipscomb; Kesha Walrond, Lipscomb; Maureen Spelman, North Central College; Kathleen King, North Central College

Overview: Using contextualized ethical dilemma reflection frameworks, colleagues from Lipscomb University & North Central College collaborated to investigate the impact of written ethical dilemma scenarios versus ethical dilemmas depicted in videos.

Room Host: Betty Sue Sparks, University of Tennessee – Knoxville

14

Breakout Session 4

Wednesday
May 15, 2024

11:10AM–12:00PM Location: Aquamarine 1

Presenter 1

Research: Developing Virtue Literacy & Practical Wisdom in Aspiring School Leaders

Maureen Speilman, North Central College; Kara Chism, Samford University

Overview: This presentation will share pre/post qualitative and quantitative data to illustrate growth in candidates' noticing of situations in need of virtues, familiarity with virtue language, and development of virtue reasoning.

Room Host: Sharon Wysoglad, North Central College

11:10AM–12:00PM Location: Aquamarine 1

Presenter 2

Research: Using Clinical Placement Evaluations as a Means to Develop Intern Character

Myrtis Johnson, Samford University; Amy Hoaglund, Samford University

Overview: This presentation will outline how the Samford Teacher Education program uses the CCAST evaluation to encourage character development in teacher education candidates during the internship semester.

Room Host: Sharon Wysoglad, North Central College

11:10AM–12:00PM Location: Emerald Coast

Presenter 1

Roundtable Discussion: It Takes a Village: Growing and Sustaining Character Focused Systems

Clara Gerhardt, Samford University; Kristie Chandler, Samford University; Anna McEwan, Samford University

Overview: By creating conducive environments that include modeling and education, today's educators perpetuate values of character which become catalysts for transformation. We acknowledge the role of constitutive-, integrative-, blueprint functions and emotional regulation.

Room Host: Lee-Anne Oros, Arkansas State

15

Breakout Session 4

Tuesday
May 14, 2024

**11:10AM–12:00PM Location:Emerald Coast
Presenter 2**

Roundtable Discussion: Arkansas State University Character-Centered Leadership Research Plan

Beverly Boals Gilbert, Arkansas State; Rob Williams, Arkansas State; Alicia Shaw, Arkansas State

Overview:The session will provide an overview of A-State's Character-Centered Leadership program focusing on the three-pronged research plan while requesting feedback and suggestions from attendees.

Room Host:Lee-Anne Oros, Arkansas State

**11:10AM–12:00PM Location:Coral Reef
Presenter 1**

Experiential – Leadership for Emotionally Healthy Schools

Michael Hysten, Southern Wesleyan University; Melinda Bier, University of Missouri-St. Louis

Overview:This session focuses on leadership traits associated with cultivating emotionally healthy schools. The pandemic revealed the need for schools to address the mental well-being and emotional health of students, staff, and faculty.

Room Host: Andrea Mayfield, University of West Alabama

**11:10AM–12:00PM Location:Coral Reef
Presenter 2**

Experiential – Using Leadership Simulations to Engage Students in Virtuous Decision-Making

Kevin Jones, University of West Alabama

Overview:Using leadership simulations is a great way to allow aspiring leaders to exercise moral reasoning in decision-making in a non-threatening environment. Come and join the discussion of the power of simulations in virtue development.

Room Host: Andrea Mayfield, University of West Alabama



5th Annual Higher Education Convening Evaluation

At the indicated time, please take a few minutes
to complete this short evaluation of your
experience at the convening using the QR code.

Thank you!

A very special thank you to the universities that helped
plan the Higher Education Character Convening.

LIPSCOMB UNIVERSITY
SAMFORD UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY OF WEST ALABAMA
MARY LOMBARDO-GRAVES, WESTERN GOVERNORS
UNIVERSITY

Thank you to the breakout session presenters!
Our time was enriched by your presentations.

