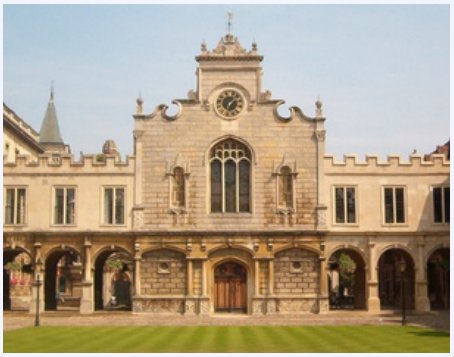
SPRING 2025

RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE SOCIETY

'Dwelling together, let us learn'



Meet the Executive Team

Karen K. Inkelas
University of Virginia
Executive Team Co-Chair

Jamie Penven
Virginia Tech University
Executive Team Co-Chair

Laura Ammon
Appalachian State University

Bryan Austin
Purdue University

Natalee Erb
Vanderbilt University

Paige Hicks
University of Chicago

Deborah Keene
University of Alabama

Matt McCabe
University of Miami

Jennifer Stephens
Elon University

Nick Tippenhauer
Princeton University

Welcome, Residential College Enthusiasts!

Residential College Society Executive Team Co-Chairs

The Residential College Society (RCS) is a professional network of faculty, staff, and students at over 80 higher education institutions across the United States who share knowledge, build community, and advance scholarship about the residential college experience. Founded in 2016 by a group of scholar-practitioners who wished to advance their understanding of these special environments, our motto, *Cohabitantes Discamus* ("dwelling together, let us learn") is emblematic of our core values of living and learning in community.

We come together annually in the fall for our Symposium, typically held on a university campus, to gather, expand our professional networks, share knowledge, and build community. This year, we are thrilled and excited to make our first visit to the **University of Alabama and be hosted by The Blount Scholars Program**. The Symposium, "The Art of Living: Living, Learning, and Liberal Education," promises to delve deeply into the pursuit of knowledge, the life of the mind, and the meaning of higher education.

However, the RCS is more than its annual Symposium! We offer a residential college scholarship reading list, an interactive map of residential colleges across the U.S., and the names and contact information for several consultants with rich expertise in residential colleges. For more information, feel free to peruse our website.

Whether you are new to the world of residential colleges or are a seasoned professional, we believe that RCS has something to offer and hope you will become part of this vibrant community! We look forward to seeing you in Tuscaloosa, at the University of Alabama this October.

Learn more at residentialcollegesociety.org



About RCS

Residential colleges have a rich history in higher education worldwide, taking many forms and functions.

Founded in 2016, the Residential College Society seeks to transform higher education by providing a learning network for faculty and student affairs educators to share knowledge, build community, and advance scholarship about the residential college experience.

In an effort to focus the purpose of the Residential College Society, a “residential college” is defined as a collegiate residential environment in which **live-in faculty** play an integral role in the programmatic experience and leadership of the community.

The initiatives, programs, and services of the Residential College Society are focused on **experience, scholarship, knowledge, and community**.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 2025 RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE SYMPOSIUM

OCTOBER 29-31

THE ART OF LIVING: LIVING, LEARNING, & LIBERAL EDUCATION

Join us for the 12th Annual Residential College Symposium, hosted by **The Blount Scholars Program at the University of Alabama**.

For more information, visit
residentialcollegesociety.org

CALL FOR PROPOSALS
SUBMIT BY MAY 1

The focus of this year's conference is the notion of living a life at the intersection of residential learning and liberal education. Each in its way is concerned to expand the idea of students making a living beyond simply earning money or having a career. In their emphasis on living with others as both the means and end of education, residential colleges and liberal arts curricula alike situate the pursuit of knowledge with respect to the broader participation in society of which employment is only a part. Thus, in the face of the increasing tendency to reduce undergraduate study to career preparation alone, both residential learning and the liberal arts attempt to restore a sense of holism to the project of education, insisting upon its connections to all elements of living a life.

The conference will host scholars, teachers, and student affairs personnel from across the country to fulfill the symposium's traditional mission of extending learning networks and sharing knowledge about all facets of the residential college experience. In addition, we hope to attract scholarship that examines the vision of liberal education in order to extend the notion of "making a living" beyond simply preparing for a career to preparing for all aspects of living a life with others.

PRESENTATION FORMATS

Proposals of 250-500 words may be submitted to the proposal portal between **March 15 and May 1, 2025**. Submitters will receive word on whether their proposals have been accepted by mid-June. This year's symposium will feature three different presentation types. Use the following to determine which presentation format is best suited for your topic.

SINGLE

35-minute presentation, 15-minute discussion

Presenter(s) prepare a 35-minute presentation on a topic and then facilitate a 15-minute discussion/Q&A with attendees.

HOST

50-minute roundtable discussion over lunch

This format does not require a formal presentation; rather the proposer mediates a discussion on the proposed topic with interested participants during lunch.

PANEL

Three 20-minute presentations, 15-minute discussion

Three presenters each deliver a 20-minute paper/presentation. After the final presentation, there will be a 15-minute discussion/Q&A with attendees.

Panel submitters have two submission options:

1) Submit an individual proposal, which the conference organizers will group with others by topical affinity

2) Submit a proposal identifying all three panel presenters

SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL AT

BLOUNT.AS.UA.EDU/ARTOFLIVING/

POSSIBLE TOPICS

Topics might include:

- **Definitions:** accounts of the constructive ends and means of liberal education
- **History:** accounts of the history of residential and/or liberal education
- **Structures:** examinations of residential/liberal education's constitutive and evolving institutional features, and their connection to other institutional structures
- **Contexts:** research concerning the differing institutional contexts in which residential/liberal education operates
- **Challenges:** analyses of the challenges to liberal and residential education at the present moment and proposals for strategies to meet them

Institution Spotlight

The Blount Scholars Program at the University of Alabama

The Blount Scholars Program is a liberal arts living-learning community, housed within the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Alabama (UA). Students earn a liberal arts minor through their Blount coursework. Blount partners with UA's Honors College and all students admitted to the Blount Program are automatically admitted to the Honors College.

Around 120 students enter the program each year. First-year students live in the Blount Living-Learning Center together, resulting in a tight community among each cohort. The first floor of the center houses classrooms and offices, while the upper levels house students. The Blount curriculum comprises a total of eight courses (20 hours: 6 three-hour seminars and 2 one-hour convocation lectures) taken over the course of the student's time at the university.

The House of the People, Blount's student government, hosts events throughout the year for all grade levels. Blount is a close-knit community, offering small class sizes that cultivate strong relationships between students and faculty, a rarity at an institution with over 40,000 students.



Connect with The Blount Scholars Program

Fred Whiting, PhD
Director
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Deborah Keene, PhD
Assistant Director
Coordinator of First-Year Experience
RCS Executive Team
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Learn more at
https://blount.as.ua.edu.

Do not miss your chance to visit and learn more about the program during the 2025 Residential College Symposium!

Join Us on LinkedIn

Community requires connection! We are updating our LinkedIn page and launching a space for faculty and staff in the living learning community sphere to come together. Follow our page to share program ideas, challenges, or ideas for collaboration and get to know one another. Invite your colleagues to follow the page as well!

https://linkedin.com/company/residential-college-society