

PERSON, PLACE, & THING:
BEYOND THE NOUN OF LEADERSHIP



2020-2022

SEMINAR 3

Recommended Resources



William C. Friday
Fellowship FOR HUMAN
RELATIONS

Recommended Resources

The William C. Friday Fellowship for Human Relations fosters the kind of learning and unlearning made possible in the in-between spaces where individual truth claims and deep-seated beliefs are both nurtured and challenged by practices of relationship. The work of recognizing and bracketing assumptions—about ourselves and others; about pasts, presents, and futures—grows individual and collective capacities to see, hear, and know differently.

Wildacres Leadership Initiative (WLI) welcomes any and all to continue journeying with the current class of William C. Friday Fellows on a path toward rest, reflection, reckoning, and relationship. The 11th fellowship cohort began its two-year journey with a formal InGathering ceremony on September 30, 2020 before spending Seminar One grappling with the prospect of arriving, being, and becoming during a global pandemic. The full convening guide for Seminar One can be accessed at this link. Recommended Resources from the first seminar weekend can be accessed at this link.

Seminar Two was held from March 10–14, 2021, when Fellows gathered both virtually and in socially-distant, outdoor regional convenings to build on fellowship foundations laid in October 2020. In preparation for this second convening, Fellows considered a series of invitations designed to pave the way for their return to the work of the fellowship and to one another. Seminar Two took up the question “Why am I here?” with sessions and conversations exploring how purpose plays out in particular places. In addition to probing with curiosity at core beliefs that can be cornerstones and stumbling blocks alike, Fellows continued to engage people, places, and things that matter to communities across North Carolina. The full convening guide for Seminar Two can be accessed at [this link](#). Recommended Resources from the second seminar weekend can be accessed at [this link](#).

Seminar Three was held from July 22–July 25, 2021 at the Trinity Center on Pine Knoll Shores. The first residential experience of the 2020–2022 fellowship class took advantage of a different kind of access to both time and place. In preparation for this third convening, Fellows considered a series of invitations designed to call attention to both individual and shared questions surfacing along an unfolding fellowship journey. Seminar Three paired the question “What is my gift?” with the object of incense and invited Fellows to consider the value of things that burn hot on their way to burning up and burning out. In contrast to the formal, full-weekend convening guides designed to promote virtual connection in Seminars One and Two, Seminar Three’s residential experience invited a different approach. All Seminar Three materials can be accessed in the Recommended Resources that detail all sessions offered. That guide follows below.

The following list of materials extends the offerings of the 2020–2022 Friday Fellowship beyond the seated class. Compiled and curated by curriculum designer, lead faculty, and WLI deputy director Meredith Doster, this guide shares keywords, core values, and critical questions as they emerge and evolve across the 2020–2022 fellowship journey. All materials are rooted in the critical thoughtwork of the 2020–2022 fellowship framing “Person, Place, Thing: Beyond the Noun of Leadership” co-designed by Doster with Dr. Georgette “Jojo” Ledgister. From first to final convening guide, Doster authored all remaining materials in a role generously funded by Wildacres Leadership Initiative (WLI), a program of Wildacres Retreat in Little Switzerland, North Carolina. Doster shares her words and the public scholarship they represent as gift with the 2020–2022 Friday Fellowship cohort, the greater WLI community, and all others. Specifically, Doster shares this curriculum as an open access educational resource (OER) via a [CC BY-NC-SA license](#). (For a full statement on authorship and citation, please see “Words, Work, and Witness” in the 2020–2022 framing.)

The Seminar Three resource guide that follows includes and references a wide variety of materials. Inclusion herein (as either link or citation) does not constitute permission to reprint or re-use. Instead, it signals engagement with someone else’s work. Please honor the licensing and copyright terms of any materials cited.

Will you join the 2020–2022 Friday Fellows in circling back for this thing called fellowship? Seminar Three moved the seated class from questions of place to practices of gifting.

What is your gift?

ARRIVING

Resources

Guiding Questions

MEETING IN THE MIDDLE – THE GIFT OF FELLOWSHIP

Resources

Guiding Questions

INGATHERING

Resources

Guiding Questions

GIFTING PEOPLE – MORNING MEETING

Resources

Guiding Questions

PAIRED WALK – A PRACTICE

Resources

Guiding Questions

SURFACING QUESTIONS

Resources

Guiding Questions

READING THE ROOM

Resources

Guiding Questions

LISTENING ACROSS TIME AND SPACE – ANCESTRAL LETTERS

Resources

Guiding Questions

SPICES AND SAUCES

Resources

Guiding Questions

FRIDAY FELLOWS INTERVIEW SERIES

Resources

Guiding Questions

TIDAL TEACHINGS

Resources

Guiding Questions

GIFTING PLACE – MORNING MEETING

Resources

Guiding Questions

PLACES THAT MAKE OR BREAK US – THE POLITICS OF PRESERVATION

Resources

Guiding Questions

SELECTING, SORTING, SCAFFOLDING – MAPPING FELLOWSHIP

Resources

Guiding Questions

'TIS A GIFT

Resources

Guiding Questions

GIFTING THINGS – MORNING MEETING

Resources

Guiding Questions

OBJECT LESSON – FROM PERSON, PLACE, AND THING TO PROBLEMS

Resources

Guiding Questions

LEAVE TAKING

Resources

Guiding Questions

Arriving

The 2020–2022 Friday Fellowship is a two-year practicum in human relations that draws attention to and raises awareness of people, places, and things that matter. For the first time in their shared fellowship experience, many members of the cohort journeyed to the same place on the North Carolina shore to enjoy extended time together. Coming and going are part of every day life, but a journey does not always end upon arrival. What does it take to fully arrive in any place? As they settled into a retreat center and its rhythms, Fellows were invited to attend to their own practices of arrival. **Presence matters.**

Resources

Anne Kennedy. "The Arrivals." From Poetry, February 2018. Copyright © 2018 by Anne Kennedy. Reprinted by Poetry Foundation.

Lena Khalaf Tuffaha. "Upon Arrival." From Water & Salt. Copyright © 2017 by Lena Khalaf Tuffaha. Reprinted by permission of Red Hen Press.

Rapsody with J. Cole. "Sojourner," from Eve. Studio album. Produced by 9th Wonder. 2019.

Kelsey Waldon. "Getting There," From The Goldmine. Self-released album. Copyright © 2014 by Kelsey Waldron

Guiding Questions

What is the relationship between "getting there" and arriving?

What practices help you fully arrive in a place or room, at a table or in community?

What is the work of arrival? When does it begin and end?

Meeting in the Middle – The Gift of Fellowship

In this opening session of Seminar Three, assembled members of the 2020–2022 Friday Fellowship sat together in person for the first time. Lead faculty Meredith Doster retraced the cohort's storied journey to a midpoint moment that was both new beginning and next chapter. The concept of the middle ground was an important touchstone across the seminar weekend. With a room seated and soon-to-be unsettled, Doster raised questions about the relationship between workshops and things like work; success and things like seminars;

and meaning and things like metrics, before reissuing the call to (re) consider – always – the order of relationship, reflection, reckoning, and rest at the heart of the fellowship's invitations. **Preambles matter.**

Resources

Elijah Alexander. "The Middle Ground: W.H.Y. N.O.T.?" TEDxYouth@LincolnStreet, June 2018.

Alison Kim. "Why Reaching Middle Ground is Hard, but Important." TEDxYouth@PVPHS, March 22, 2019.

Kauther Mohammed. "The Middle Ground." TEDxYouth@ASK, March 2019.

Guiding Questions

What does (the/a) middle ground mean to you? Where does it sit? In what register does it speak? And to whom?

What does meeting in some kind of "middle" require?

What kind of meanings can a middle produce?

InGathering

With beginnings revisited, the Fellows walked a short distance to the ocean for an InGathering ceremony. Circling up on the sand, the Fellows called themselves together using simple tools they have been practicing since their first convening. The 2020–2022 Friday Fellowship teaches a six-step convening model that begins with "calling in" to hold space for the naming of who and how those gathered wish to be (seen and heard) in a particular moment. Fellows continued their work of arriving by honoring one another – and their many differences – with their time and attention. **Process matters.**

Resources

Keguro Macharia. "Difference: An Audre Lorde Archive." *The New Inquiry*, July 24, 2017.

Steven Henry Madoff. "Black Mountain: Pedagogy of the Hinge." *On Curating*, Issue 43: Revisiting Black Mountain: Cross-Disciplinary Experiments and Their Potential for Democratization, 2019.

"Evie Shockley vs. Gathering." The VS Podcast, August 17, 2021.

Nicola Soekoe, "A More Possible Meeting: Initial Reflections on Engaging (As) the Oppressor." Yale Human Rights. & Development Law Journal, Volume 20, Issue 1, 2019.

Guiding Questions

Who are you gathering in? For what purpose?

What forms and practices of "gathering" exist in your communities?

If you are gathering in community, who and how will you be together?

Gifting People – Morning Meeting

Each day of the seminar weekend began in a morning meeting. An exercise in gathering, meetings can provide opportunities to practice (being in) fellowship together. The six-step convening model that undergirds the 2020–2022 Friday Fellowship design is one way of understanding a shared practice that ritualizes both individual and shared experiences. In addition to moving through the convening model together, these morning meetings included gifts shared by each member of the leadership team. On this first morning, WLI director Hunter Corn shared reflections on those that matter to him and his communities. **People matter.**

Resources

Scott Berinato. "The Restorative Power of Ritual." Harvard Business Review, April 2, 2020.

Luna Greenstein. "The Power of a Morning Routine." National Alliance on Mental Illness, August 9, 2017.

Marcel Schwantes. "This 23-Minute Morning Ritual Is the Perfect Way to Start Your Day, Says Science." Inc., October 17, 2016.

Benjamin Spall. "I've Interviewed 300 High Achievers About Their Morning Routines. Here's What I've Learned." The New York Times, October 18, 2021.

Dimitris Xygalatas. "Why people need rituals, especially in times of uncertainty." The Conversation, March 25, 2020.

Guiding Questions

How do you start your days?

What kind of rituals sustain you? Are there any daily routines that do not serve you?

What is the relationship between starting well and finishing strong?

Paired Walk – A Practice

The paired walk is a beloved practice of the Friday Fellowship. Following each morning meeting, Fellows set out in groups to walk and talk together. Something happens when we get out of our chairs and move; especially after sitting for a while. Alongside other commitments, the Friday Fellowship hopes to model a careful balance between sitting still and standing up, between listening in and speaking out, between taking (in) and giving (back).

Perambulation matters.

Resources

Cathering Fairweather. "[In troubled times, a ritual walk can clear the mind and soothe the soul](#)." *The Guardian*, October 31, 2020.

Marilyn Oppezzo. "[Want to be more creative? Go for a walk](#)." TEDxStanford. April 2017.

Maria Popova. "[Wanderlust: Rebecca Solnit on How Walking Revitalizes the Meanderings of the Mind](#)." *The Marginalian*, June 3, 2015.

David Whyte. "[Camino](#)." From *Pilgrim*. Many Rivers Press. Copyright © 2012 by David Whyte. Reprinted online by permission of the author.

Guiding Questions

Where are you going? Who is walking with you?

What kinds of meetings could turn into walks?

Where and how do you think/remember/imagine best?

Surfacing Questions

Across the two-year experience, Fellows are engaging foundational questions about their lives and leadership. In preparation for Seminar Three, Fellows were asked to brainstorm questions they hope to consider together. Before sharing their questions, lead faculty Meredith Doster reintroduced some of the dialogue partners whose questions have been core to the 2020–2022 design. Remembering the work of Gregory C. Ellison and Georgette "Jojo" Ledgister, Jonathan Z. Smith, Zora Neale Hurston, Alexis Pauline Gumbs, S. Brent Plate, and fellowship namesake Bill Friday, the Fellows heard from cohort member LaTanya Pattillo who revisited an early moment in her own fellowship journey. During the powerful unrest following George Floyd's murder in the summer of 2020, LaTanya reached out to her cohort members with a question and invitation. This session concluded with LaTanya raising her question once more. **Persistence matters.**

Resources

kari edwards. "the clock is on time." From obedience (Factory School, 2005). Copyright © kari edwards. Used with permission of Frances Blau, literary executor.

Elena Georgiu. "Questions in the Mind of a Poet While She Washes Her Floors." From Mercy Mercy Me by Elena Georgiou. Copyright © 2000. Reprinted by permission of the University of Wisconsin Press. All rights reserved.

Leslie K. John. "The Surprising Power of Questions." *Harvard Business Review*, May–June 2018.

LaTanya Pattillo, "Middle-aged Mom." *Walter Magazine*, 2019.

Guiding Questions

What do the following questions, and statements about questions, ask of you?

Gregory C. Ellison II (*Fearless Dialogues*)

Who are you?

Why are you here?

What is your gift?

How does it feel to be a problem?

What must I do to die a good death?

Zora Neale Hurston

There are years that ask questions and years that answer.
(*Their Eyes were Watching God*)

Jonathan Z. Smith

Questions always survive answers.

Alexis Pauline Gumbs

What if you could breathe like whales who sing underwater and recycle air to sing again before coming up for air? What if you could breathe like coral from a multitude of simultaneous openings connected to one source built upon the bones of all your dead? What if you could breathe like cyanobacteria who made the sky into oxygen millions of years ago and sent their contemporaries to a world of sulfur deep under ocean and ground? What then? And by then, I mean now.
(*Dub: Finding Ceremony*)

S. Brent Plate

What does it mean to be human? (*A History of Religion in 5 ½ Objects*)

William C. Friday

Did I reach out as far as I could? Did I serve as many people as I could?
Did I give back as much as I could, and did I do this with conviction?

LaTanya Pattillo

How can we engage our cohort around this unrest in a productive way?

Reading the Room

Having first considered a variety of questions pitched at different registers and scales, the 2020–2022 Fellows read their own questions to one another. The Fellows began by writing a question important to them (and to their fellowship experience) on a piece of paper and placing it in a bowl. After all questions were drafted and collected, each Fellow picked someone else's question to read out loud. After allowing their chosen question to resound in the room, Fellows walked to a far wall where they taped each question to what became a collage of inquiry. The time it took for each Fellow to read, pause, walk, and return modeled a pace at which reverence operates. An exercise in reading the room and in voicing someone else's truth claims, this session was a practice of hearing and honoring that which matters to individuals and to others. **Pause matters.**

Resources

John Cage. "4'33," performed by William Marx, McCallum Theater, Palm Desert, California.

Sophie Hardach. "[Why you should read this out loud](#)." *BBC Neuroscience*, September 17, 2020.

Lennox Morrison. "[The subtle power of uncomfortable silences](#)." *BBC Worklife*, July 18, 2017.

Max Nisen. "[How the Most Effective People Learn to Read the Room](#)." *Business Insider*, January 18, 2013.

Ali Walker. "[How to Read and Lead the Room](#)." TEDxUNSW Sydney, March 5, 2019.

Guiding Questions

The following questions were written and shared by the 2020–2022 Friday Fellowship cohort.

How do you stand up for yourself and exemplify your worth in a traditional environment?

What is the purpose of life? And how do we live in such a way to fulfil that purpose?

How can we bring playfulness to process and productivity?

What are you doing to take care of yourself and keep your cup full?

Who or what was your biggest disappointment and how did you overcome it?

What is it you fear the most when it comes to building relationship?

Who/what is the named community you care the most about outside of family and friends and how do you create/maintain authentic relationship to that who or what?

How mindful are you of your privileges and how do you use them to help others?

How do we address population inequality and what actionable processes can we initiate to elicit change?

What are the guideposts to help usher us toward the world as it should be?

How are they different than the rules, measurements, parameters, conventional rewards of the world as it is? How do we be intentional and wholly human centered to not recreate or become the thing we hope to change?

Can we sit in difference when we choose only one question? Is it ok to not agree but support others out of mutual respect? Can I become we?

How might the lives of black people living in North Carolina, and subsequently across America, have been different if the 1898 coup d'état in Wilmington, NC had never occurred?

What great things are you working on and how can we help?

How do we hear everyone's stories in a narcissistic world?

Tell me a time when you had to take initiative to practice inclusion. How did it make you feel? What was the result?

How do "answers" limit inquiry? Growth? Change?

How do we reconcile/reckon with those who have wronged us/others/ community? We can't ostracize everyone. What's the barrier to inclusion when someone is forgotten/erased/cancelled?

What questions will our descendants wish they could ask us?

We are all in influential positions in service to people in our respective communities. How do you/are you building community with those your work is designed to serve? How are you building power in/transferring power to that community?

How can we engage our cohort around this unrest in a productive way?

How can we work together to best change systemic issues (racial inequity, education inequality, the criminal justice system, etc.) from the top? And how can we do so without judging and attacking people who are on the same side working toward the same goal?

Listening across Time and Space – Ancestral Letters

*Seminar Three drew heavily on the work of scholar-poet-practitioner Alexis Pauline Gumbs. Drawing inspiration from the ancestral work Gumbs models in Dub: Finding Ceremony, Seminar Three invited Fellows to consider the work and wonder of listening and learning across time, space, species, and plane. In small groups, Fellows shared letters they had written either to or from an ancestor. Continuing to hone a listening practice attuned to all kinds of difference, Fellows considered distinctions between assignment and need, program and practice, and between life, death, and the time that passes in between. **Posterity matters.***

Resources

Katy Barron and Frank Stasio. "[Alexis Pauline Gumbs Redefines Ancestry in 'Dub.'](#)" North Carolina Public Radio, February 19, 2020.

Lisa Factora-Borchers. "[Alexis Pauline Gumbs: Everything that Made Us Still Belongs to Us.](#)" *Guernica*, September 17, 2020.

Alexis Pauline Gumbs. "[Finding Ceremony: The Future in Praxis.](#)" Meridians, A 20th Anniversary Symposium, John Hope Franklin Humanities Institute, Duke University, March 4, 2020.

Alexis Pauline Gumbs, Ed Pavlić and Ivelisse Rodriguez, editors. [Ancestors](#). MIT Press. Winter 2021.

Guiding Questions

Where are you from? Who are your people?

What is your birthright? What are its burdens and its blessings?

How far back are you willing and able to listen?

Spices and Sauces

The 2020–2022 Friday Fellowship pairs invitations to think deeply and reconsider generously with hands-on, heart-centered engagement. Previous seminar weekends saw Fellows baking treats and making pinch pots, puzzling together and growing sprouts. In Seminar Three, Fellows were invited to make scented things to accompany the weekend's focus on the object of incense and its corresponding sense of smell. On a porch overlooking a salt marsh that released its own scents into the air, some Fellows mixed spices into BBQ rubs and sauces while others combined gentle flavors into soothing teas.

Peppercorns matter. Pekoe, too.

Resources

Jennifer Gonzalez Interview with John Spencer. "[What is the Point of a Maker Space?](#)" Cult of Pedagogy Podcast. May 20, 2018.

Rachel Herz. "[Do scents affect people's moods or work performance?](#)" *Scientific American*, November 11, 2002.

Georgia Douglas Johnson. "[When I Rise Up](#)." Public Domain. Published in Poem-a-Day on February 10, 2018, by the Academy of American Poets.

Jaspal Riyait and Melissa Kirsch with Tejal Rao. "[Welcome to Our Museum of Smells](#)," *The New York Times*, November 18, 2020.

Colleen Walsh. "[What the nose knows](#)." *The Harvard Gazette, Science and Technology*, February 27, 2020.

Kirsten Weir. "[Scents and Sensibility](#)." *Science Watch* Volume 42, No. 2, American Psychological Association, February 2011.

Guiding Questions

What kind of scent memories come to mind? Where do they take you?

What does the sacred smell like to you?

The value of incense lies in its ritual burning. What can we learn from things we use and use up? What about the relationship between purpose and price? What makes something precious?

Friday Fellows Interview Series

Across the 2020–2022 Friday Fellowship experience, Faculty Fellow Darin Waters is sharing stories about his native North Carolina alongside the historical expertise he showcases regularly on [The Waters and Harvey Show](#). In this third installment of the Friday Fellows Interview series that builds on the legacy of fellowship namesake Bill Friday whose program *North Carolina People* ran for over thirty years, four Fellows joined Waters for a conversation about their lives and leadership. An exercise in public-facing storytelling, engaged conversation, and in a practice of oral history, this ongoing interview module invites Fellows to see themselves and others as co-creators of histories in their making. **People matter. Pasts, too.**

Resources

Chris Fitzsimon. "[Filling Bill Friday's Shoes](#)." *NC Policy Watch*, October 19, 2012.

William C. Friday. [North Carolina People](#). A Program of the UNC System. PBS North Carolina.

Ingrid Ockert. "[How Oral History Opens Up the Past.](#)" *Distillations*. A Publication of the Science History Institute. June 11, 2019.

State Archives of North Carolina. [Oral History Unit](#). North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

Guiding Questions

Where do you look and listen for North Carolina stories?

What kinds of histories (her stories, too) are you collecting and amplifying?

Who could you invite into conversation (public or private) about their life, learning, and leadership?

Tidal Teachings

*As luck would have it, Seminar Three coincided with a Buck Moon that rose over a full tide. There are endless things to learn from all kinds of relations; like those between tides and timing and moons waxing and waning. After the interview session, some Fellows stayed on the beach to watch the moon and waters rise. **Planets matter. Plankton, too.***

Resources

Stefania Heim. "[So Torn by My Tides.](#)" Copyright © 2018 by Stefania Heim. Originally published in Poem-a-Day on November 30, 2018, by the Academy of American Poets.

"[July's Full Buck Moon.](#)" *The Farmer's Almanac*, July 16, 2021.

Craig Santos Perez. "[ars pasifika.](#)" Copyright © 2020 by Craig Santos Perez. Originally published in Poem-a-Day on May 22, 2020 by the Academy of American Poets.

Cecelia Rodriguez. "[15 Spectacular Photos Of July's Full 'Buck' Moon Around The World.](#)" *Forbes Online*, July 24, 2021.

"[North Carolina's Other Ocean.](#)" *Exploring North Carolina*. PBS North Carolina. Season 2, Episode 7. 2006.

Guiding Questions

What is rising and falling in your life?

What kind of attention does it take to notice a pattern or interval?

What will surely circle back time and again?

What can we learn from the rhythms of nature?

Gifting Place – Morning Meeting

Each day of the seminar weekend began in a morning meeting. An exercise in gathering, meetings can provide opportunities to practice (being in) fellowship together. The six-step convening model that undergirds the 2020–2022 Friday Fellowship design is one way of understanding a shared practice that ritualizes both individual and shared experiences. In addition to moving through the convening model together, these morning meetings included gifts shared by each member of the leadership team. On this second morning, faculty fellow Darin Waters shared reflections on the kinds of places that matter to him.

Place matters. Poets, too.

Resources

Richard Downes. "[For What We are About to Receive: Poetry as Ritual](#)." *Disability Arts Online*, May 1, 2018.

January Gill O'Neil. "[Old South Meeting House](#)." Copyright © 2016 by January Gill O'Neil. This poem was commissioned by the Academy of American Poets and funded by a National Endowment for the Arts Imagine Your Parks grant.

[Poets in Place](#). Southern Spaces. Emory Center for Digital Scholarship. Ongoing Series.

Dennis S. Ross. "[Ritual is Poetry in Action](#)." *On Being Blog*, May 2, 2015.

May Yang. "[Meeting Place](#)." From *To Whitey & the Cracker Jack* (Anhinga Press, 2017). Copyright © 2017 by May Yang. Reprinted by permission of Anhinga Press.

Mathew Zapruder. "[What Poetry Can Teach Us About Power](#)." *Literary Hub*, August 16, 2017.

Guiding Questions

What kind of rituals structure and serve the meetings you attend and lead?

What is the role of poetry, or other powerful prose, in moving a conversation or convening in any number of directions?

What kind of poetry sits in and speaks from the places meaningful to you and your communities?

Places that Make or Break Us – The Politics of Preservation

In this third installment of Faculty Fellow Darin Waters' place-based teachings, the cohort considered the practices and politics of preservation. Following Waters' reflections on seminal if under-studied moments in North Carolina histories (Seminar One) and foundations of American democracy (Seminar Two), this session drew inspiration from a pre-seminar planning retreat at a Madison County, North Carolina jail-turned-boutique hotel. Waters shared insights into three different kinds of places that have been differently preserved: Stephens-Lee High School in Asheville, North Carolina, the Historic Preservation Office of the Biltmore Estate, and Main Street and surrounding areas of Newport, Connecticut. Considering the relationship between preservation and erasure, the 2020–2022 leadership team expanded the conversation to consider self-preservation strategies and other modes of survival. **Preservation matters. Politics, too.**

Resources

Jenny Bevan. "Our Disposable Architecture." TEDxCharleston, May 26, 2015.

Randal Mason. "Theoretical and Practical Arguments for Values-Centered Preservation." *Cultural Resource Management (CRM): The Journal of Heritage Stewardship*, Summer 2006.

North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office. North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

Colleen Redman. "If these walls could talk." *Loose Leaf Notes*, October 29, 2020.

Pamela Thompson. "Self-Care According to Audre Lorde." *The Beautiful Project Journal*, Winter 2018, Issue 3.

Karin Wolf. "How Historic Preservation Shaped the Early United States." *The Smithsonian Magazine*, May 14, 2020.

Guiding Questions

What kind of people, places, and things warrant preservation?

Whose stories become (the) histories that matter? What buildings and statues became monuments to those histories?

What is the relationship between materiality and meaning and between preservation and our many pasts?

Selecting, Sorting, Scaffolding – Mapping Fellowship

*In a dynamic session that invited Fellows to map any number of trajectories of their fellowship experience, the class sorted, scaffolded, and selected questions to pair with future seminar themes. Working together, Fellows led in a variety of ways to produce one possible roadmap for future engagement. As is often true, the resulting map was not the same thing as territory itself; nor are the frameworks the room produced the balance or measure of this particular fellowship experience. As the circle strained and stretched and stressed, this question remained: How will we be with one another? **Possibilities matter. Personhood, too.***

Resources

adrienne maree brown. "The Darwin Variant, and/or Love of the Fittest." Personal blog, August 19, 2021.

Joe Goode Performance Group. "When We Fall Apart." Z Space, San Francisco, California, June 2012. See also: <https://joegoode.org/jgpg-work/when-we-fall-apart/>.

Art Kleiner. "The Thought Leader Interview: David Kantor." *Strategy + Business*, May 28, 2013.

Dawn Onley. "How Leaders can make Better Decisions." *HR Magazine*, August 29, 2019.

Margaret Wheatley. "Who Do We Choose to Be?" The Change Lab AI Summit, August 7, 2020.

Guiding Questions

What happens when scarcity (of time, of resource, of grace) unsettles a room?

What kind of learning unfolds over time?

What does it feel like to sit with an unanswered question or unfinished process?

How do we honor the different styles of leadership and learning that show up in our classes, conference rooms, and communities?

'Tis a Gift

*Seminar Three's guiding question (What is my gift?) shaped many of the weekend's sessions and conversations before coming to life in a giving ceremony that celebrated fellowship as it is grown, made, and shared across North Carolina. Each Fellow brought a wrapped item from their home community to share. Sitting under an outdoor pavilion, Fellows stepped up to a table laden with gifts to shower one another with love. **Presents matter. Presence, too.***

Resources

Linda and Charlie Bloom. "[Honoring the Rule of Reciprocity](#)." *Psychology Today*, October 10, 2015.

Lewis Hyde. "[The Gift and the Commons: Creativity and the Public Good](#)." PNCA and Lewis and Clark Graduate School of Education and Counseling Center for Community Engagement, February 3, 2010.

Robin Wall Kimmerer. "[Reciprocity](#)." 28th Headwaters Conference, "Science, Story and Justice," Center for Environment and Sustainability, Western State Colorado University, October 6, 2017.

Ilana Strauss. "[The Myth of the Barter Economy](#)." *The Atlantic*, February 26, 2016.

Guiding Questions

What is your gift?

How do you share your gift(s) with others?

What does reciprocity mean to you?

What kinds of economies operate in your life and communities?

Gift of Things – Morning Meeting

Each day of the seminar weekend began in a morning meeting. An exercise in gathering, meetings can provide opportunities to practice (being in) fellowship together. The six-step convening model that undergirds the 2020–2022 Friday Fellowship design is one way of understanding a shared practice that ritualizes both individual and shared experiences. In addition to moving through the convening model together, these morning meetings included gifts shared by each member of the leadership team. On this third and final morning, lead faculty Meredith Doster shared reflections on the things that matter to her.

Ps matter. All of them.

Resources

Kenny Chesney. "[The Good Stuff](#)." *No Shirt, No Shoes, No Problem*. 2003.

[Creating Communities of Practice](#). The Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium. CC-BY-NC-SA.

Meredith Doster. [mamaw's masons](#). *Word Made Life*. 2021.

[Is This All There Is](#). *The Immanent Frame*. Social Science Research Council.

Yolanda de Miguel. "[Small Things Matter](#)." TEDxAlmendaMedieval, 2016.

Etienne Wenger. "[Communities Of Practice: Learning As A Social System](#)." *The Systems Thinker*.

Guiding Questions

How do people, places, and things shape your lived experience, your learning, and your leadership?

What kinds of things are you borrowing from, building on, and beyond?

Does matter matter? Why or why not?

What kinds of economies operate in your life and communities?

Object Lesson – From Person, Place, and Thing to Problems

In a final session, lead faculty Meredith Doster revisited foundations core to the 2020–2022 fellowship experience. Offering reflections on the work of fellowship as it plays out in circles, collectives, and communities, Doster shared insights into the six-step model that welcomes difference as valued dialogue partner. Seminar Three's midpoint moment concluded in a reconsideration of the relationship between program and practice, and between assignment and need.

Practice matters.

Resources

Roseanne Haggerty. "[How to Solve a Social Problem](#)." TEDxAmherst College, 2013.

Doug Lederman. "[When is a Learning Community Not a Learning Community?](#)" *Inside Higher Ed*, March 4, 2020.

Marilyn Nelson. "[Generous Listening](#)." *On Being Gathering*, 2018.

"[Why do we believe that difference is a problem?](#)" An Interview with Achille Mbembe. *Latitude: Rethinking Power Relations*. Goethe-Institut Brasilien, 2019.

Guiding Questions

What kinds of problems can fellowship help solve?

What kinds of problems does fellowship perpetuate?

What is the relationship between fellowship, community, and social change?

Leave Taking

Much like arriving, taking leave from a place (people and things, too) is a process. Before saying their farewells, Fellows shared in the work of stripping the altar of sacred things. In addition to packing up items brought from home, Fellows walked across the retreat center's campus to gather pieces of themselves that might have been dislodged or opened up along the way. Checking in with themselves, Fellows considered the relationship between clearness, closing, and coming back for more. **Packing up matters.**

Resources

Gil Fronsdal. "[The Practice of Leaving a Retreat](#)." Insight Retreat Center, September 2016.

Joy Katz. "[Poem](#)." Copyright © 2017 by Joy Katz. Originally published in Poem-a-Day on March 14, 2017, by the Academy of American Poets.

Parker Palmer. "[The Clearness Committee](#)." *The Courage to Teach*. Center for Courage and Renewal.

Guiding Questions

What is the relationship between beginnings and endings?

How do we take leave from one another?

What does closure look, feel, and sound like?

How do we navigate a kind of learning that lingers?

Person, Place, & Thing:

Beyond the Noun of Leadership



William C. Friday
Fellowship FOR HUMAN
RELATIONS