

newsletter

TENLEY STUDY CENTER

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DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Dear Friends of Tenley,

THE YEAR IS NOW IN FULL SWING AND TENLEY IS HUMMING WITH ACTIVITY.

As you will read in the next couple pages, the Sophomore *Career Orientation Seminar* has had a great line-up of speakers so far this year. Joseph Sypal, one of the seminar participants, will tell us about his experience attending the different presentations. Whether the topic was cybersecurity, civil service, sports leadership, academia, or business entrepreneurship, the monthly events have introduced our students to great career opportunities and the means to reach them. Ricky Ybarra, who coordinates the Seminar, continues to invite terrific speakers.

Mike Cheely has been leading the Freshman *Big Picture Seminar* this year. Over the last few months, participants have had the chance to discuss topics as varied as time management, true friendship, character growth, and goal setting. Each session has included a presentation and an opportunity for a Socratic discussion of the topic. In the coming months they will have a chance to discuss virtuous leadership, the importance of reading, and the gift of freedom.

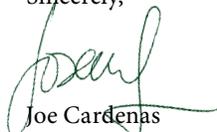
Junior Year is a key time for students to firm up their college prospects. But making this final selection of colleges to apply to is an arduous process. There are tests to take, essays to write, colleges to visit, etc. The *College Orientation Seminar* seeks to supplement and reinforce what the college counselors in the participants' schools provide. So far this year, I have introduced topics such as how to make a preliminary list of colleges, how to prepare for a college visit, and how to make sure one has a productive summer. This semester I will discuss with the seminar participants topics such as the need to study the humanities in a tech world and keeping one's character and faith in college.

Lucas Lopes has been leading the *Truth on Trial Seminar* for the seniors. This seminar seeks to help the participants acquire the intellectual tools to combat the ideology-driven curriculums found in most college campuses. So far this year, students have been introduced to great thinkers who have dealt with issues as varied as evolution, relativism, and secular humanism. Before the year ends, they will also have discussed individualism, personal rights, the meaning of marriage, and the role of work in one's personal development.

Finally, I just wanted to let you know that, as in previous years, Tenley Study Center is coordinating all of its summer programs with Youth Service International. These programs include *High School and Beyond*, the *Practical Leadership Seminar*, the *Peru Service Project*, the *Philosophy and Ethics Seminar*, and the *Midtown Achievement Program*. See our website at tenley.org or ysi.org for details about each program including content, dates, and intended grade.

Once again, thank you so much for your generosity in supporting Tenley Study Center. It is precisely that generosity that allows us to continue our work in forming young men of character and mettle.

Sincerely,


Joe Cardenas

Tenley Study Center is dedicated to the academic and character development of men of all ages. Its activities encourage them to see their studies, work and family responsibilities from the perspective of character growth and service to others. The spiritual dimension of Tenley's activities is entrusted to Opus Dei, a personal prelature of the Catholic Church.



director's note



The Sophomore Career Orientation Seminar

BY JOSEPH SYPAL (HEIGHTS '22)

I AM A SOPHOMORE AT THE HEIGHTS SCHOOL and this is my second year attending the monthly Tenley High School Seminars. These seminars aim to widen the views of high school students in a practical way. The sophomore seminars, in particular, further this pursuit through talks on a variety of professional careers. The result of attending these seminars is that I have become aware of many careers and received a general sense of what they each entail.

The first lecture took place in the beginning of September. The topic was Intelligence and the speaker was Mr. Nicholas Dujmovic. Mr. Dujmovic discussed the different aspects of intelligence, including gathering information through means such as espionage and covert action.

Espionage was explained in great detail with several important components described, including the role of the case officer who tries to recruit spies, searching for people who might be willing to give classified information on their country to the United States. Of particular interest to all was Mr. Dujmovic's statement that covert action against a foreign country can be undertaken only if the United States is able to claim "plausible deniability".

Mr. Greg Monahan gave the second seminar of the year which was on law enforcement and cyber security. Mr. Monahan spoke about his personal experience. He began by talking about working for the Treasury Department and aiding in the arrests of drug smugglers in the southwest. He also described his undercover assignment as a money launderer, a person who illegally takes 'dirty' money from a criminal and turns it into clean money through a sequence of banking transfers. Mr. Monahan also told us of his work on a cyber security team in the Washington D.C. area.

Later that month, Brad Soderberg, assistant coach of the University of Virginia's basketball team, spoke to us about leadership and being a man of faith. Coach Soderberg also



Coach Soderberg speaks to the sophomores about what is it like to be an Assistant Coach to an NCAA Basketball Championship team.



described what it took for his team to win the NCAA Basketball Tournament in 2019.

Mr. Dan Beatty gave an engaging presentation on engineering in November. He began his lecture with an explanation of the general role of engineers in our society—designing useful products, solving problems, and testing different materials. Mr. Beatty also described the different types of engineers to include civil, mechanical and nuclear engineers as well as traffic, computer and industrial engineers.

The December seminar focused on politics and was given by Hon. Michael Ferguson, who was a member of Congress for 10 years representing a district from New Jersey. His lecture format centered on his life journey as opposed to a general career path in politics which made the presentation really engaging. One of the key ideas he tried to instill in us is how often people give up after a first try—when in fact these early tries, especially when they don't seem to go as we planned, can teach us a lot about ourselves and how to move forward. He told us, for example, about his first election when he ran for a local seat against the incumbent officeholder. Unfortunately, the election did not go Mr. Ferguson's way; however, he learned a lot from that experience and a few years later, he ran again in a different district in New Jersey and won.



Hon. Michael Ferguson tells the sophomores about the importance of serving one's country and being civically involved.

Mr. Edward Moss spoke to us Sophomores about business entrepreneurship. He began by telling us about his early years trying to make it as a musician and then his transition to the business world. Mr. Moss, now a successful Financial Advisor, started working at Meryl Lynch and quickly realized how important it was to have a solid work ethic. Because of that, Eddy easily outperformed every single one of his coworkers. He encouraged all of us to develop that kind of healthy professional drive that sees one's daily work as a way to improve those around him and society at large.

These seminars have helped me understand the many career paths I can take, expanding my horizons and exposing me to professions that I had never even considered. ★

READ 'ROUND THE WORLD

WHERE DO YOU READ THE TENLEY NEWSLETTER?

Send photos of a clear face, newsletter, and iconic background to jamesferstl@verizon.net.

Almaty, Kazakhstan ★ Arizona ★ Bhutan ★ Cabo San Lucas, Mexico ★ Cologne Cathedral, Germany ★ Hanover, New Hampshire ★ Kansas
★ New Delhi, India ★ NY, NY ★ Ohio ★ Portugal ★ Santa Ana, El Salvador ★ Singapore ★ Tashkent, Uzbekistan ★ Washington, DC

