

# 2021 CHARACTER AND THE PROFESSIONS CONFERENCE

## SUMMARY REPORT



### CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

The 2021 Character and the Professions Conference explored the role of character across six professional contexts: business, engineering and technology, law, medicine, public life, and religious leadership. The conference hosted 35 keynote speakers and panelists across fifteen sessions centered around seven key themes: Diversity, Business, Engineering and Technology, Law, Medicine, Public Life, and Religious Leadership. The conference also included live interpreting services in Chinese and Spanish.



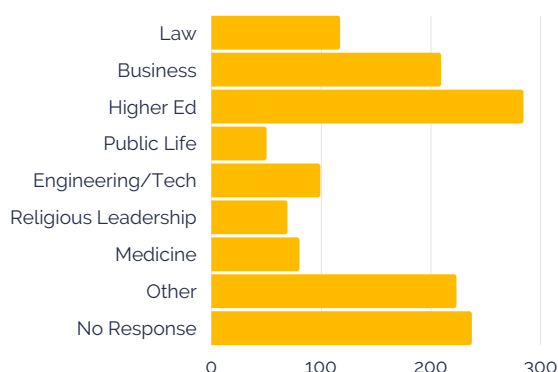
### ATTENDEES

At least 1,337 people attended the conference,\* including 304 attendants of the Face to Face event. Conference registrants represented 47 countries and territories and at least 24\*\* were represented at the conference. U.S. registrants came from 43 states, and at least 38 states were represented. The countries or regions most represented among attendees who registered included the United States of America (786, 76.1 %), followed by the United Kingdom (22, 2.1%), and Canada (4, 0.4%). The U.S. states that had the most attendees included: North Carolina (351), Virginia (30), and Pennsylvania (21).

\*Some unregistered attendees were able to unexpectedly access the session Zoom links or used a different Zoom account to access the event. This number represents a conservative estimate of all conference attendees. Subsequent attendee analysis is based on the confirmed 1,033 attendees, not including the Face to Face participants.

\*\*The location of the Face to Face event attendees could not be confirmed.

IMAGE 1. PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION OF ATTENDEES



### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION

Attendees represented a wide variety of professional fields, with most attendees affiliated with Higher Education (284, 27.49%); "Other" (223, 20.76%); Business (209, 21.59%); and Law (117, 11.33%). 206 attendees that registered (19.94%) identified with multiple professional fields listed.

# 1,337

People attended the conference, including 304 Face to Face event attendees.

# 47

Countries and territories were represented among registrants, and at least 24 were represented among attendees.

# 97%

Survey respondents (65) said that the conference was valuable in highlighting ideas about character in professional contexts.



## WAKE FOREST AFFILIATION

The majority of registrants (1,853, 79.39%) and 648 (60.34%) attendees affiliated themselves with Wake Forest University in some way, demonstrating the support for the conference across campus. The largest group of WFU-affiliated registrants were alumni or parents of a current or former students (237, 22.94%), followed by current WFU students (190, 18.39%) and WFU faculty/staff members (167, 16.17%).

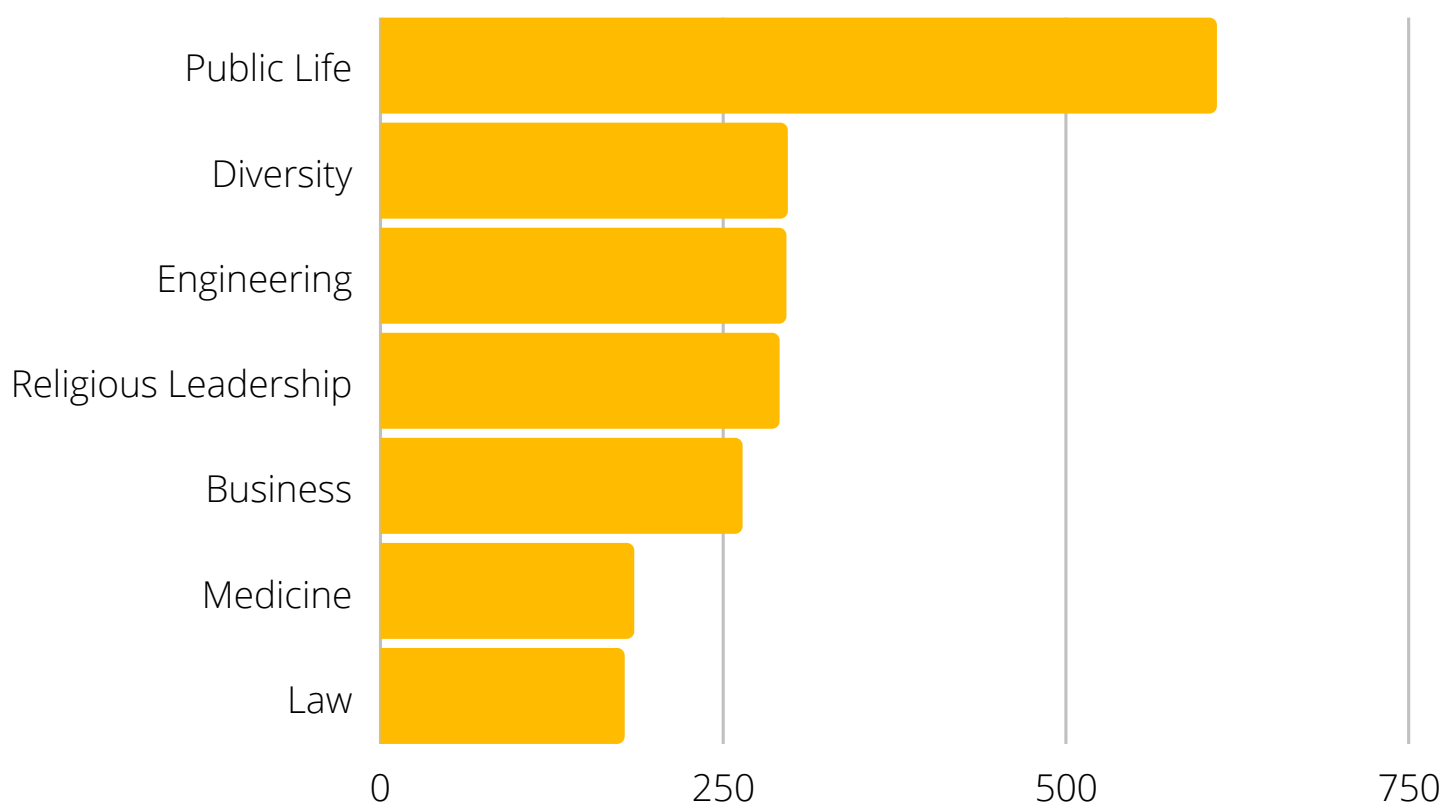
## SESSION ATTENDANCE

2,334 people registered for the conference, with an average registration of 700 registrants for both the keynote and panel discussion for each session (excluding the Face to Face session).

The following three sessions had the most attendees:

- Public Life (609)
- Diversity (296)
- Engineering (295)

**IMAGE 2. SESSION ATTENDEES**



# CONFERENCE FEEDBACK

97%

Survey respondents (65) reported that the conference was “quite valuable” or “very valuable” in highlighting ideas and insights about character in professional contexts.

94%

Survey participants "somewhat agreed" or "strongly agreed" that the conference impacted how they will think, feel, and/or act in future professionals settings.

98%

Respondents said that they would participate in more events like this in the future.





## IN THEIR WORDS:

“

In this tumultuous time where injustice surrounds us and we struggle to rebuild our world, we need a focus on what character is and what it means to all. Understanding how to build it and incorporate it into our lives holistically.

”

“

*The best one word to sum up my experience was 'insightful.'*

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*"The significant role of character in professional life was clearly presented and demonstrated in the lives of diverse people."*

"More than before the conference, I see the power and potential of making character an essential element of our political life."