



The Forum on Education Abroad
2021 Annual Business Meeting
& State of the Field Survey

- Enda Carroll
- Tracey Bradley
- Melissa Torres
- Amelia Dietrich





Welcome Remarks

Presented by Enda Carroll,

Chair of the Board,

Associate Director, Center for Study Abroad

University College Dublin

AGENDA

- Board Chair's Welcome Remarks
- Report of the Council Chair
- Report of the President & CEO
- Management and Financial Report
- State of the Field Survey Summary
- Q&A





Board Updates

- New Board Members & Slate of Officers
- COVID-19 Response
- Major Board Accomplishments
- 2021-27 Strategic Plan

Board Members (2019-20)

- **Tracey Bradley**, *ex officio*,
Tennessee Consortium for International Studies/Pellissippi State Community College
- **Thomas M. Buntru**,
Universidad de Monterrey
- **Joy Gleason Carew**, *University of Louisville*
- **Enda Carroll**, *University College Dublin*,
(Board Chair)
- **Kerry J. Edmonds**, *Hollins University*,
(Board Treasurer)
- **Christopher Elliott**, *University of Virginia*
- **Martha Johnson**, *University of Minnesota*
- **John Lucas**, *ISEP, (Board Secretary)*
- **Paul J. McVeigh**, *retired*,
Northern Virginia Community College
- **Eveadean Myers**,
Prairie View A&M University
- **Susan Popko**, *Santa Clara University*,
(Board Vice Chair)
- **Patricia H. Scroggs**, *Howard University*
- **Lorna Stern**, *Arcadia*
- **Bruce Sillner**, *SUNY New Paltz*
- **Dawn Whitehead**, *AAC&U*



Welcome to our new Board members

New Members (July 2020)

- **Bill Martens**, *CFO, IES Abroad*
- **David Sadoff**, *Managing Director, Clooney Foundation for Justice*

New Members (January 2021)

- **Roslyn Artis**, President, Benedict College
- **Paula Fontana**, Vice President Strategic Programming Initiatives, National Black MBA Association
- **Hilary Landorf**, Exec Dir, Office of Global Learning Initiatives, Florida International Univ
- **Nicole Stokes**, Associate Provost for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, St. Joseph's Univ



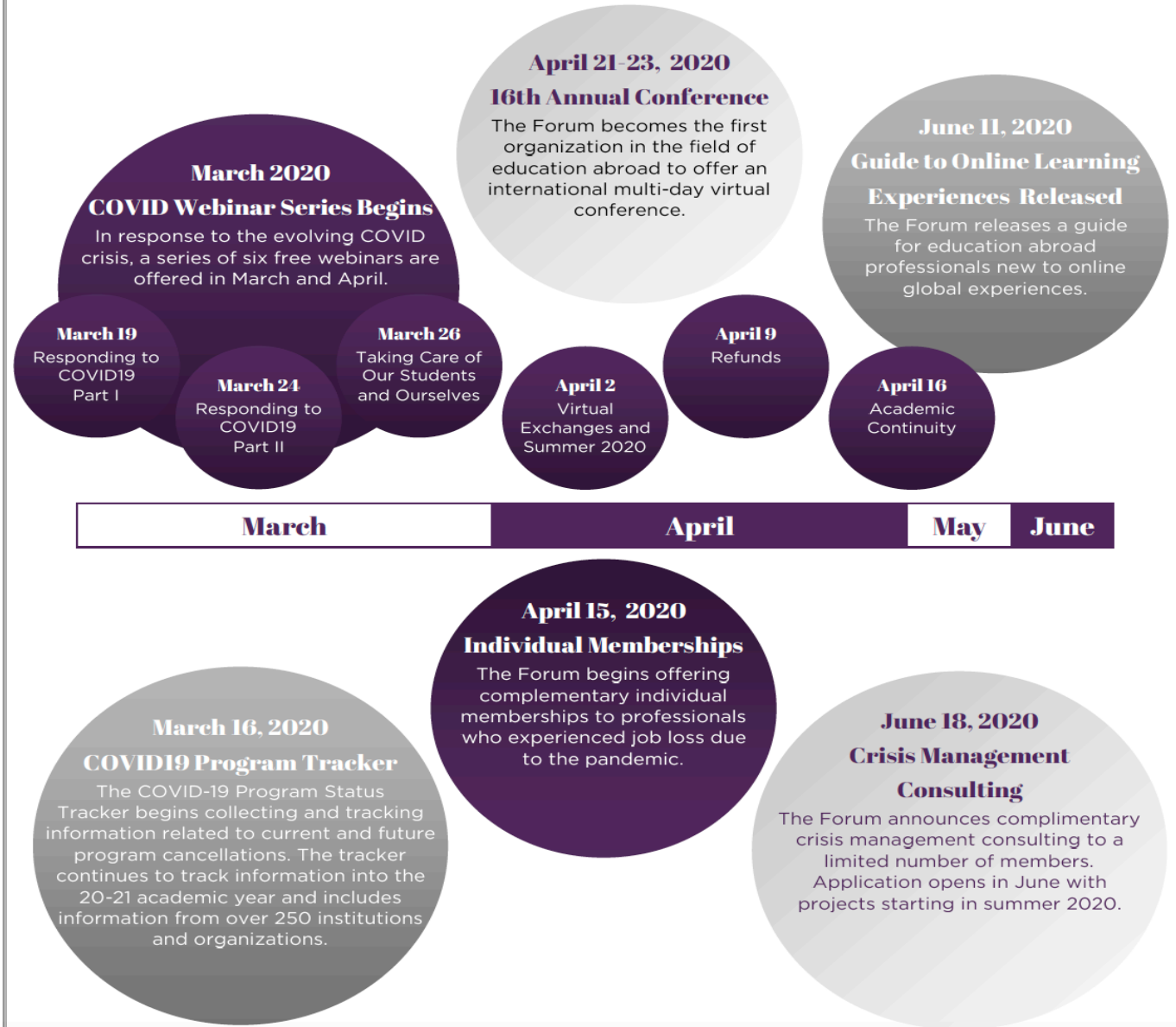
New Board Officers effective July 1, 2021

- **Chair: John Lucas**, President & CEO, ISEP
- **Vice Chair: Dawn Michelle Whitehead**, VP of the Office for Global Citizenship for Campus, Community, and Careers, AAC&U
- **Treasurer: Kerry Edmonds**, Vice President, Finance & Administration, Hollins University
- **Secretary: Martha Johnson**, Assistant Dean of Learning Abroad, University of Minnesota





COVID19 Response



Major Board accomplishments

- Authorized pivot to 2020 and 2021 virtual conferences
- Authorized PPP and EIDL loan applications
- All board and executive committee meetings conducted virtually
- Held membership dues steady for 2020 & 2021 and authorized a “reset” to Level 1 for most members in the coming fiscal year
- Adopted [new diversity statement](#)
- Created an ambitious new 6-year strategic plan



We are committed to advancing equity, diversity and inclusion and eliminating structural racism and inequities within the organization, the field of education abroad, and our communities.

Core Beliefs:

- We believe that equity, diversity, and inclusion should be embedded within the structure of the organization and integral to the *Standards of Good Practice for Education Abroad*.
- We believe that the inclusion and celebration of each individual's intersecting identities, experiences, and abilities enriches our organization and our work with members, professionals, and students.
- We believe that education abroad can be a tool for cultivating anti-racist and decolonial thought in students and stakeholders.
- We believe in creating safe spaces and brave spaces for belonging, communication, sharing and learning.
- We believe we have the responsibility to actively inform and engage the field of education abroad in a way that fosters inclusion, promotes equity, and combats structural racism systemically and sustainably.

How We Manifest This:

By engaging in dialogue, collaboration, sharing best practices, research and innovation, and professional development, The Forum strives to address and provide critical resources and a forum for discussion for the field of education abroad, with particular consideration of groups who have been historically excluded or marginalized impacting access to education abroad.

2021-27 Strategic Plan



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2021-27 STRATEGIC PLAN SUMMARY

OUR PURPOSE
The Forum on Education Abroad

CULTIVATES EDUCATORS

WHO CHAMPION

HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATION ABROAD EXPERIENCES THAT



**IGNITE
CURIOSITY**



IMPACT LIVES



**CONTRIBUTE TO
A BETTER WORLD**

OUR VISION
The Forum envisions a future in which

EDUCATION ABROAD



is integral to the mission of higher education,

MEETS STANDARDS OF GOOD PRACTICE,
and
IS ACCESSIBLE TO ALL STUDENTS.

**STRATEGIC PRIORITY:
BUILD THOUGHT LEADERSHIP**



INTERNATIONAL EXPERT



WIDELY CITED RESEARCH

**STRATEGIC PRIORITY:
GROW OPERATIONS**



MISSION-ALIGNED PARTNERSHIPS



MUST-HAVE TRAINING/PROGRAMMING



DIVERSIFY FUNDING FOR FORUM PROGRAMS, SERVICES, AND/OR OPERATIONS

**STRATEGIC PRIORITY:
GROW MEMBERSHIP**



INCLUSIVE MEMBERSHIP



MEMBER ENGAGEMENT



MEMBER IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

**STRATEGIC PRIORITY:
IMPACT ACADEMIA**



EXPAND TO HIGH SCHOOL



REIMAGINE EDUCATION ABROAD



GLOBAL CITIZENS



EDUCATION ABROAD IN ACADEMICS

VISION SNAPSHOTS

BIG THINK BIG
BY 2025, we will see...



INCLUSIVE MEMBERSHIP

Inclusive membership from a diversity of organizations and individuals



MUST-HAVE TRAINING / PROGRAMMING

We have a variety of training programs, resources and events that stretch beyond the Standards of Good Practice.



REIMAGINE EDUCATION ABROAD

Forum will have played a major role in guiding and facilitating the reemergence of global education



MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

All Forum members (institutions and individuals) have engaged with a Forum event or program



INTERNATIONAL EXPERT

The Forum on Education Abroad is recognized as an international expert and is recognized globally as THE standards setting body in education abroad.



EDUCATION ABROAD IN ACADEMICS

Education Abroad has made a demonstrated contribution to student learning goals and outcomes in such a significant way that education abroad has been integrated to every academic major.



MISSION-ALIGNED PARTNERSHIPS

The Forum will have developed partnerships with mission-aligned organizations within the field and outside.



GLOBAL CITIZENS

The Forum has developed a strategy and framework for including issues of equity, diversity and inclusion and the recognition of the roles that power and privilege play into intercultural learning that informs global citizenship – including a set of suggested attributes, skills, outlooks that define/suggest what it means to be a global citizen.



DIVERSIFY FUNDING

The Forum has new sources of funding and revenue, thus enabling a larger percentage of member fees to be focused on creating benefits/resources that focus on members' successes and engagement which will create pathways for underrepresented groups and members of all kinds.



MEMBER IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

Members can articulate the value of Forum services and resources that help them to achieve their organizational/institutional goals.



WIDELY CITED RESEARCH

We are regularly sought out to collaborate on new research projects and our research is widely cited by educators, the media, and other internal and external audiences.



EXPAND TO HIGH SCHOOL

The Forum has expanded its reach beyond post-secondary to serve high school education abroad



Forum Annual Business Meeting: Updates from the Council

Presented by Tracey Bradley

Chair, Forum Council

Executive Director, Tennessee Consortium for

International Studies

Council Members (2020-21)

- **Keshia Abraham,**
Abraham Consulting Agency
- **Tracey Bradley,** *Tennessee Consortium for International Studies, (Council Chair)*
- **Brian Brubaker,** *Penn State University*
- **Christina Carroll,** *Florida State University*
- **Elena Corbett,** *AMIDEAST*
- **Annette Mares-Duran,** *University of New Mexico, (Council Secretary)*
- **Devin Foxall,** *The School for Field Studies*
- **Emily Gorlewski,** *Wesleyan University*
- **Hannah Kilgore,** *Trinity College Dublin*
- **Joy Phaphouvaninh,**
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- **Kyle Rausch,** *Purdue University Northwest*
- **Uttiyo Raychaudhuri,** *University of Denver*
- **Craig Rinker,** *Georgetown University, (Council Vice Chair)*
- **Leo Rowland,** *SACI Florence*
- **Bianca Schonberg,**
University of Houston – Clear Lake



Thank you, Chris

A big thank you **Chris Carroll** who is rotating off the Council in 2021!!



Council Election

- Please consider nominating yourself or a colleague to the Council
- Elections will be held this spring
- Contact Natalie Mello at mellona@foruma.org if you'd like more information about the roles and responsibilities of the Council



2020-21 Overview

- 14 active working groups and committees
- Over 250 colleagues
- Continue to strive for diverse representation
- Calls for Standards Consensus Body



Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Around the World

- Proposed edits to The Forum's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Statement based on comments received from the public.
- Conducted a survey of international colleagues outside The Forum's typical network to determine their needs and how The Forum can best serve them.
- Based on survey results, three sub-groups were formed: one to document the voices of international colleagues discussing what EDI means in the cultural context, a second to revise and improve The Forum's EDI webpage with more resources that benefit the international audience, and a third to develop a podcast to highlight the voices of diverse international colleagues and their work.



Learning from HBCUs, TCUs, MSIs and Community Colleges about Education Abroad



- Gathering resources on best practices by HBCU, TCU's and MSIs
- Identifying needs in the field and what new resources that can be developed

Collaborating Across Institutions

Developing a survey to assess meaningful ways of collaborating across an organization to further education abroad. Questions to be addressed:

- What are barriers to collaboration?
- How do other offices prefer to collaborate?
- What activities do they collaborate on with the education abroad office?
- How could collaborations benefit each office?





Aligning with the UN SDGs: Environmental Impact

- Early discussions determined that the group's focus would be on sustainable development, which is described as the pathway to sustainability.
- Completed a draft of Guidelines for Applying the UN SDGs in Education Abroad
- Collecting existing supporting resources and best practice examples
- A public comment period ran January 14 - 28, and the final version will be posted on the web in time to debut at the Annual Conference.

Research Advisory

- The group meets monthly to review data and help provide feedback on analysis, interpretation, and presentation of collected data, particularly the State of the Field.
- Provide feedback on ideas for upcoming data collection efforts.



Global Online Learning



- **Institute held on February 4th**
- 90 participants representing 19 different countries
- Keynote address from Desiree Williamson, Foreign Affairs Officer and former director of the Collaboratory, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, US Department of State
- 15 sessions



Mid-Career

- Drafted a definition for “mid-career professional” in the field of education abroad
- Created a list of existing resources for mid-career professionals in our field and identified a list of needed/missing resources
- Created a video of six mid-career professionals discussing their career paths, opportunities and challenges in this field
- Drafted a short survey to be shared amongst the working group and (hopefully) with other Council working groups on the skill sets, experiences, and barriers faced by mid-career professionals education abroad.

Financial Models and Structures

- Finalized research methodology, to begin collecting data in February 2021.
- On track to have a new resource that identifies our field's most common financial models and the pros and cons of each, to be completed by June 2021.



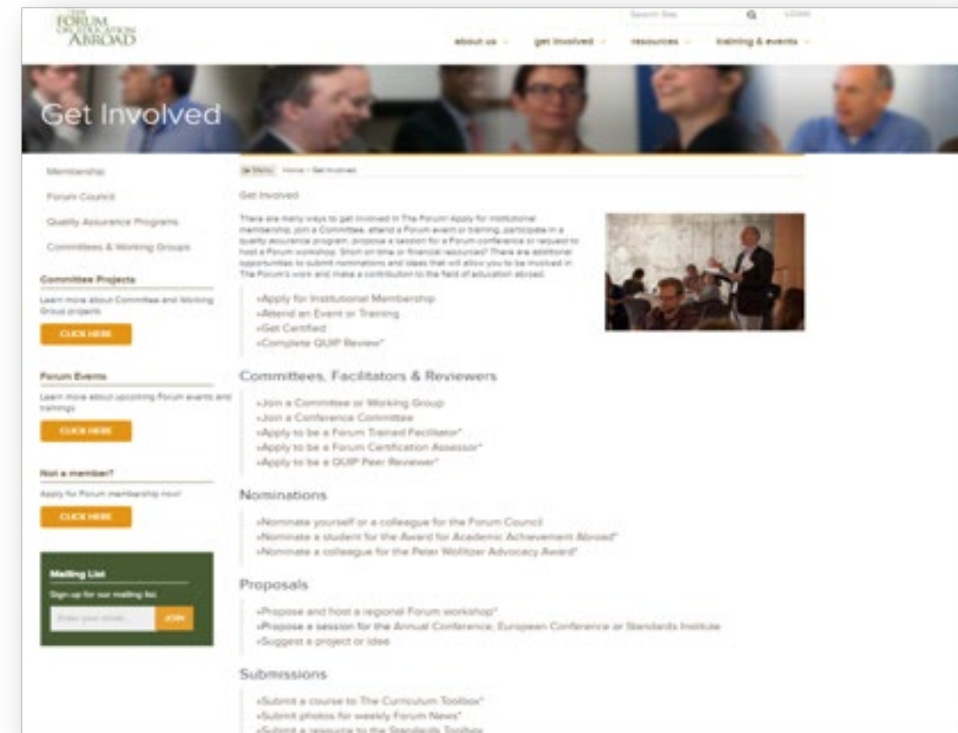
Standing Committees

- Standards Toolbox Resources
- Award for Academic Achievement Abroad (AAAA) Selection & Mentor Committee
- Curriculum Award Selection Committee
- Standards Institute Planning Committee
- The Wollitzer Award Committee
- Annual Conference Committee



Getting Involved

- Working Groups & Committees
- Facilitators
- Assessors
- Peer Reviewers & Consultants
- Nominate yourself
- Member Resources
- Proposals
- Submissions
- More details on The Forum website & through *Forum News* updates





Forum Annual Business Meeting: Report on The Forum

Presented by Melissa Torres

President and CEO

Membership: Pre-COVID19

2019-20

- 815 Members
- 91.7% renewal rate

61.96%	■	U.S. colleges & universities
10.18%	■	U.S. providers
7.24%	■	institutions outside the U.S.
7.12%	■	community colleges
3.19%	■	affiliates
5.77%	■	providers outside the U.S.
3.07%	■	reciprocal
0.98%	■	charitable foundation
0.49%	■	U.S. systems

Membership: During COVID19

2020-21 (projected)

- ~650 Members
- 76% renewal rate

Pathways Grants

- 18 offered, 14 accepted
- 50% of membership dues
- 100% applicants awarded funding

Since Forum membership has traditionally been based on historical rates of student mobility, we expect that most Forum members will be classified at the Level 1 tier of membership for the FY2021-22.

Although this will result in a significant loss of revenue to the organization, we understand the difficult economic realities facing our members and are committed to making membership affordable and accessible.

Our Association Management Software platform now enables more timely data collection, automating invoicing and facilitating a quicker return to a more normal distribution of membership levels as the field rebounds.



New & Updated Resources

- Positive feedback on 6th ed. of the *Standards*, especially on EDI as a Guiding Principle and the inclusion of environmental sustainability.
- New & updated resources:
 - *Guidelines for Conducting Education Abroad During COVID-19*
 - *Best Practices in Responding to Sexual and Gender-Based Misconduct*
 - *An Education Abroad Professional's Guide to Online Global Learning Experiences*
 - *Code of Conduct, 3rd edition*
 - *Advancing the UN Sustainable Development Goals through Education Abroad*

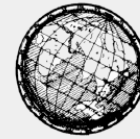


Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, & Belonging

- EDI one of four Guiding Principles in 6th edition of the *Standards*;
- Council's first EDI working group began in 2015;
- 100% of our committees and working groups have 20% underrepresented members;
- Diversified our team via choice of professional service contracts & consultants;
- New webinar series, student-focused workshop, book series, & Nobel programs.

- Still a lot more work to be done!
- Be more explicit about rooting out structural racism within our own organization and the field at large;
- Provide an action plan to accompany our new diversity statement.





Frontiers: The Interdisciplinary Journal of Study Abroad

Frontiers: The Interdisciplinary Journal of Study Abroad is a platinum open access journal. All articles are available on the internet to all users immediately upon publication and at no cost to readers or authors.



38% increase in subscribers



2 regular and 2 special issues



28 articles published



7 book reviews



65 article submissions



361 Twitter Followers



41,356 Impressions

New in 2020!

Frontiers Website

The new website features: Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) for the entire archive spanning 25 years of Education Abroad research and thought leadership; an improved user experience for manuscript submission and review tracking; real-time article download statistics; article abstracts in multiple languages; and much more!

[Learn More](#)

[Subscribe](#)



Meet Dr. Audrey J. Murrell, the new Editor of Frontiers!

Audrey J. Murrell, Ph.D.

University of Pittsburgh

- Professor of Business Administration, Psychology, Public and International Affairs
- Senior Research Fellow, David Berg Center for Ethics and Leadership
- Kenneth R. Woodcock Faculty Fellow

Online Resources

1. Forum Jobs
2. Standards of Good Practice for Education Abroad
3. COVID19 Program Status Tracker
4. COVID19 Resource Page
5. Guidelines

Forumea.org

370,192
Website visits

81,280
Visits outside the U.S.

Social Media



9.05% ↑



18.82% ↑



10.43% ↑

New & Updated Programs

35+ virtual events offered since April 2020:

- 16th Annual Conference held virtually in April
- Institute for Online Global Learning – Feb 4, 2021
- 5th European Conference – October 2020
- Virtual Study Abroad Fair – October 2020
- Global Senior Leadership Symposium – December 2020
- Numerous webinars, Critical Dialogues, and workshops!



New Partnerships



NOBELPRISSET
The Nobel Prize

Stevens Initiative



Management Report

- Over 250 volunteers have supported and contributed to The Forum's work this year, even during the tumultuous pandemic period.
- Implemented Rhythm Software, new Association Mgmt Software.
- Contracted with Beth Blaney & Associates for bookkeeping and Andrew Woods-Ballard for CFO/budgeting responsibilities.
- The entire Forum staff has been working remotely since March 2020 and will remain virtual indefinitely.



Revenue Streams

To offset revenue loss from membership dues, we:

- Conducted new Institute for Online Global Learning & planning for a new in-person institute in October or November 2021
- New Forum Consulting service
- Virtual event hosting for partners
- *Standards in Action* book series (4 in process, 2 coming out in 2021)
 - Deepening Impact through Inclusion in Education Abroad
 - The Half Yet to Be Told: Study Abroad and HBCUs

Financial Report

- The Forum finished the 2019-20 fiscal year with a surplus of \$126,280USD. The surplus is due mainly to the reduced expenses associated with a virtual conference.
- The Forum's cashflow has benefited from two Small Business Administration Loans: Payroll Protection Program (PPP) loan (\$210,528USD) and an Economic Injury Disaster Loan (\$149,900USD).
(We anticipate 100% forgiveness of the PPP loan and are in the process of applying for a second round.)
- Last year's surplus will help offset a projected deficit in the current fiscal year due to the impact of COVID-19. Additional steps have been taken to reduce costs in the coming year through a reduction in force, reduced attendance at conferences and exhibiting, and tightening control over program and administrative expenses.
- Successfully utilizing a virtual platform to hold The Forum's 16th Annual Conference, Accelerated Residency, and two Institutes has preserved critical revenue streams for the organization and paved the way for increased geographic reach for future activities.



Financial Report

- The market value of The Forum's endowment as of December 31, 2020 is \$2,291,586 while the book value is \$1,705,532.
- This investment serves as a reserve fund for The Forum and also assists with operating costs, when needed.
- Maher-Duessel conducted The Forum's audit for FY19-20, which was deemed clean, once again. The Forum was complimented by auditors on our financial handling of the effects of the pandemic.



Financial Report

- The Audit Report and Financial Statements will be available shortly on The Forum website, along with the IRS Form 990. Additional financial information can be found at:

<https://forumea.org/about-us/policies-reports-2/financial-statements/>

- Dickinson College hosts The Forum and provides nearly \$100,000 in in-kind contributions, including the building on campus that houses The Forum's offices, payroll, benefits, and human resource services for Forum staff, as well as technology and infrastructure support for operations.



Thank you!

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