

STUDENTS FOR LIBERTY QUARTERLY

ANNUAL REPORT EDITION

SFL ANNUAL REPORT *a Year in Liberty*



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Letter FROM THE (outgoing) PRESIDENT

“FREEDOM DOES NOT COME IN PIECES. IT IS A SINGLE CONCEPT THAT WE MUST DEFEND AT ALL TIMES.”

-Alexander McCobin

By Alexander McCobin

Dear SFL,

This will be my last letter from the president in Students For Liberty’s Annual Report. After dedicating 10 years to student organizing for liberty, I have accepted a new role as co-CEO of Conscious Capitalism. While I will remain actively involved with Students For Liberty as a member of the Board of Directors, a donor, and an Alumni For Liberty member, I will begin working full time at Conscious Capitalism by September 1st. It has been an incredible decade, and I am pleased and excited to say that SFL is stronger than ever before.

By all metrics, the 2015–2016 school year surpassed all previous years for the organization. Here are a few points of comparison:

	2015-16	2014-15
STUDENT GROUPS	1,916	1,773
LEADERS TRAINED	1,574	686
CONFERENCES ORGANIZED	98	51
CONFERENCE ATTENDEES	19,834	9,000
MEDIA HITS	1,077	708

SFL is reaching more students and having a greater impact than ever before. More importantly, SFL is poised to continue its tremendous growth and be a critical organization in building a freer future.

A lot has changed over the past decade since I began the University of Pennsylvania Libertarian Association. Ayn Rand is no longer the principal introduction to libertarianism for young people. Physical catalogues of videos and books about liberty have been replaced by YouTube videos, online courses, and blogs as mainstream mediums of education. After two years in college, I nearly gave up on libertarianism because I thought I was the only person in the world who believed in these ideas; today there is a movement comprised of hundreds of thousands of libertarian students across the globe. Students For Liberty began as a handful of students and groups without a clear idea of what we were doing or where we were going. Today, SFL is a global movement for liberty that is bigger than anything anyone imagined was possible a decade ago.

Yet there are some things that have remained constant at SFL since our founding. In our first Annual Report, I wrote, “SFL is developing leaders of liberty at all levels in all fields.” What began as an implicit premise of the organization is now the organization’s explicit mission statement and the guide for every project SFL undertakes: SFL’s mission is to educate, develop, and empower the next generation of leaders of liberty.

In our second Annual Report, I stressed that young people are not opposed to capitalism as many attempt to portray, but rather they are first and foremost supportive of social liberties and opposed to hypocrisy. Over the following six years, we have seen this proven with polling data, election results, and a plethora of personal experiences. To defend liberty, we must remain principled and protect the image of liberty as independent of the dominant statist forces that wish to corrupt it. SFL has always stood for liberty in all areas of all people’s lives (economic, social, and intellectual freedom), and by continuing to do so, SFL will remain a leading force for good in the world. As I said during a 2010 speech that garnered attention for SFL, “Freedom does not come in pieces. It is a single concept we must defend at all times.”

Each report details incredible accomplishments of students around the globe. To read through SFL’s Annual Reports is to track the remarkable growth of the student movement for liberty. The pride we took in the third Annual Report of launching European Students For Liberty led to SFL having a presence in over 100 countries across the globe. The fourth Annual Report highlighted SFL’s accomplishment in organizing the first 1,000+ libertarian student conference, which is now a regular feature of the SFL year.

However, this year’s report highlights some of the

most impressive feats the student movement for liberty has accomplished to date. In North America, SFL leaders have merged an interest in ideas with dedication to issue activism. Over the course of the past year, SFL has sponsored over 100 activism events on issues ranging from free speech to gun rights to the global refugee crisis. Student leaders ran issue-specific conferences that focused on topics including free market environmentalism, tech freedom, free speech, and ballot issues (page 11). In Prague, the European Students For Liberty held its largest conference to date with 908 attendees (pages 16–17). In the Spanish-speaking Americas, Estudiantes por la Libertad has organized a groundswell of national student conferences that are advocating the philosophy of liberty as an alternative to the socialist policies propounded by many of their politicians (page 24). Students in new countries like Indonesia and Korea are taking up the SFL banner and starting their own movements (page 25).

The most impressive work this past year, though, came from Brazil where Estudantes Pela Liberdade’s (EPL) students and alumni have launched a movement that has already changed the government. Following a corruption scandal that rocked the South American nation, EPL alumni began a national movement that called for free market reform and the impeachment of the president, Dilma Rousseff. As I write this letter, Rousseff is preparing for trial. EPL has tapped into the growing demand from Brazilians for greater government accountability to teach the principles of individual liberty, limited government, and the rule of law. EPL alone has trained over 1,000 volunteer student leaders this year. And thanks to its work in promoting libertarianism, EPL has received mainstream media attention from outlets like *Foreign Policy*, *The Nation*, and *Public Radio International* (page 18).

I will make no predictions regarding SFL's future. For all the progress that has been made, SFL's work is not yet over. There are rising threats to liberty from statist forces on both the right and the left. Both state and non-state sponsored violence constitute ominous threats in the 21st century. The world of education is rapidly evolving, demanding industry actors like SFL keep pace.

However, I am more confident than ever that SFL is on the right path, has the best leadership, and is prepared to take on the challenges that will come its way. The search process for a new CEO at SFL is already underway, and I am optimistic that SFL will find a strong leader to guide SFL through its next phase. If SFL stays true to its purpose, continues to invest in its people, and perseveres through the difficulties that come its way, a freer future will be within reach for everyone.

I wish to conclude my final letter with the same message that led SFL's first fundraising letter in

2008, for it is as prescient today as it was then: "Students are not only the future, they are the present too." The passionate commitment of SFL's students and alumni to the principles of liberty is making a difference in the world. I remain steadfastly committed to SFL and hope you will too.

Sincerely & For Liberty,

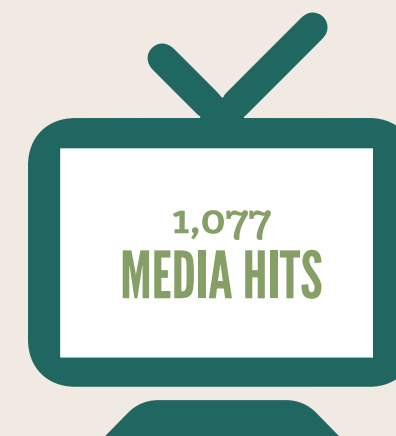
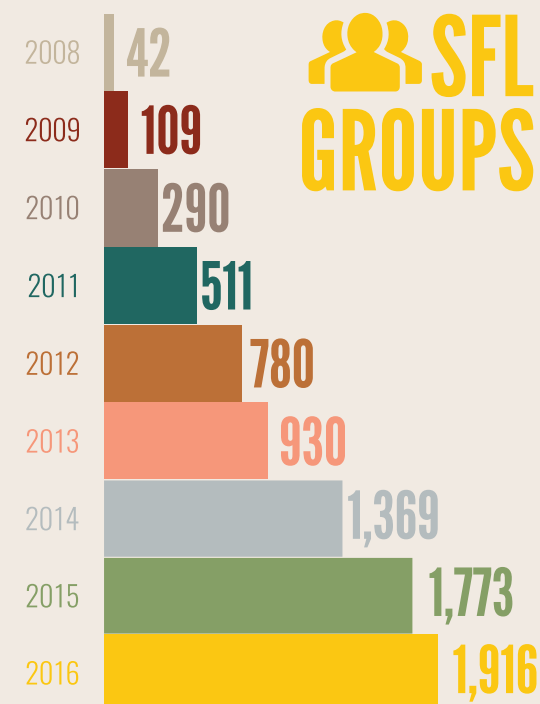


Alexander McCobin
 Co-Founder & President

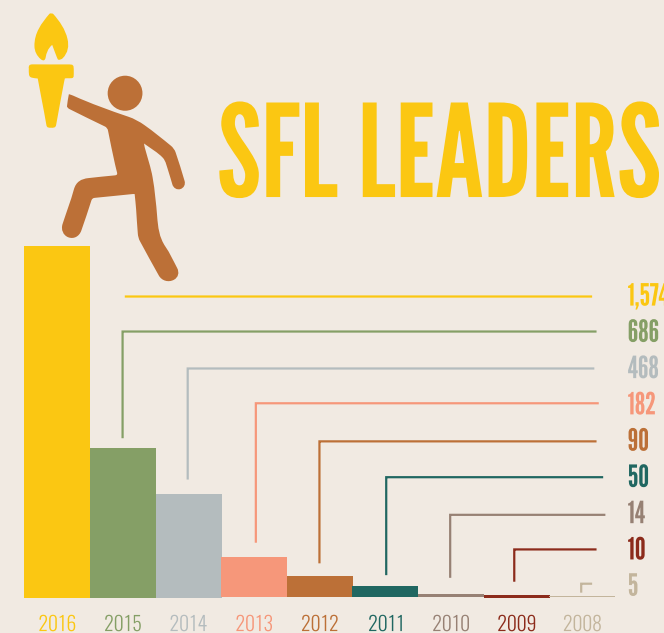


**"STUDENTS ARE NOT ONLY THE FUTURE.
 THEY ARE THE PRESENT TOO."**

-Alexander McCobin



REGIONAL CONFERENCES



SFL DEFEATS THREATS TO FREE SPEECH

By Casey Given

It's no secret that the 2015–16 school year has been one of the worst for free speech in higher education. With illiberal concepts like trigger warnings, safe spaces, and cultural appropriation infecting college campuses like a cancer, it's almost enough to give up hope for a return to freedom. But, even in the darkest times, there is light at the end of the tunnel.

Two examples from the past semester illustrate this optimism well.

Alex Reibman is an SFL Campus Coordinator and student at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. One morning in March, the student body on Alex's campus woke up to find "Trump 2016" chalked all over campus. For most reasonable people, this would be considered a non-event. Sidewalks are often chalked on college campuses as a way for students to express their opinions.

However, tolerance for free expression is difficult to find on college campuses today. Instead of shrugging off the chalkings, a group of students protested outside of Emory's administrative building demanding that the

school take action. Some students were literally brought to tears, expressing that they no longer felt safe on campus. Alex suddenly found himself as a lonely advocate for free speech on campus.

"For about a week, Emory University was the laughing stock of college campuses all across the country," Alex explains. "Several students and I were outraged by how a few protesters managed to characterize an entire university as oversensitive and coddled children. In response, we decided to do a chalking of our own."

Alex's group sprung into action, bringing their supply of chalk to the quad to encourage students to write anything in support of free speech. The event was an immediate hit: "Our group attracted a sizable crowd, including the attention of Emory's president, Jim Wagner, who wrote his own free speech message on the ground."

Alex just so happened to snap a photo of Wagner chalking for free speech, which has been republished in numerous outlets, including *The Dallas Morning News*, *Reason*, and *The Washington Times*. His one piece of advice to activists? "Timing is everything." Thanks to Alex's activism training from SFL's Campus Coordinator

Program, he was in the right place at the right time to spread support for free speech to national news outlets.

Unfortunately, Emory isn't the only school where SFL's student leaders have encountered illiberal challenges. Fortunately, it's also not the only one with a happy ending, either.

In the first week of April, SFL's student leaders at Florida Gulf Coast University hosted a conference on free market environmentalism as part of our Spring Focus Series. Featuring speakers from *Reason*, the Institute for Justice, and local Florida activists, the conference aimed to discuss market solutions to environmental problems.

Unfortunately, new ideas are not tolerated very well on campuses today. A number of events in the week leading up to the conference made SFL concerned. First, a FGCU campus activist started handing out a wildly untrue flier about SFL's mission and funding. Second, the local newspaper published a very biased article that framed the conference as a right-wing invasion of South Florida. Third, the Conference Director, Emily Reynolds, and a speaker received a number of eerie emails from activists implying that they would disrupt the conference.

The event initially began smoothly. Some audience members respectfully disagreed with the speakers, but that's ultimately what free speech is about—to facilitate the exchange of ideas. What happened next, however, was indefensible.

As one of the final lectures began about how fracking has been a fountain of prosperity for the United States, two student attendees stood up and started shouting down the speaker. Holding a banner that read, "DOWN WITH FRACKING, FREE MARKETS & CLIMATE DENIALISM," the two made their way to the front of the room, disrupting the entire conference.

Two campus police officers, who were already in the room, quickly escorted them off the premises along with another protester who continued to shout afterwards. As a result, the event went on as planned, and our attendees had the opportunity to engage with these ideas—a true victory for free speech.

While illiberal ideas may continue to infect college campuses, they stand no chance against the calm reasoning and constitutional protections that SFL's student leaders stand for. It is precisely libertarian students like Alex and our team at FGCU who are the light at the end of the tunnel.

That's why SFL decided to support 15+ free speech events across North America this spring with our Speak Freely activism grants. The future for freedom is limitless with your support of these leaders of liberty. ♦

Casey Given is SFL's
 Director of Communications.





By Sloane Frost

I still vividly remember the roundtable in 2007 where we first discussed the idea of a conference for pro-liberty students. Turning to my left, I brainstormed with Alexander McCobin, who was sitting at the end of the table, about how to develop these humble plans. Later that summer, we talked on the Metro about what to name such an event. A few months later, our team of five student organizers finalized plans for the first Students For Liberty Conference. When 100 students from three countries attended the first conference, we knew it was the start of something magical.

In the almost nine years since that roundtable discussion, so much has changed. The original team of SFL's founders—Alexander, Sam Eckman, and me—has remained actively involved with SFL, dedicating thousands of hours to growing the organization and the broader student movement. But we have not been alone. The Board of Directors has expanded to include other experienced and wise individuals dedicated to SFL's long-term success, Dan Grossman and Jeff Giese. Thousands of individuals have donated to provide the resources SFL needs to support the student movement for liberty. We have had the honor of learning from and working with so many talented individuals, and SFL is stronger today than we have ever been before.

As you read in his letter from the president, Alexander will be stepping down in the coming months. I could not be more thankful for what Alexander has done for SFL over the years and proud of what SFL has accomplished. Under his leadership, SFL grew from that small roundtable discussion to the cornerstone of an international student movement. Our network includes over 2,000 student groups, 1,400 of the most talented and passionate volunteer leaders in over 100 countries on all six inhabited continents, and

dozens of full-time staff split between U.S. headquarters and various countries around the world. Our programming serves tens of thousands of students each year with educational opportunities to learn about the principles of liberty, leadership training to become effective advocates of those principles, and resources to empower SFL's students and alumni.

SFLers around the globe represent the best of human potential, and this would not have happened without Alexander's leadership. From his love of philosophy to his penchant for studying business models and his campus activism, Alexander has motivated countless students to rise up and organize for liberty. If you have met Alexander, I am sure you know his deep devotion to SFL and our pro-liberty activism. In a world with many reasons to fear for the future of liberty, SFL stands strong in support of these most basic human values—economic freedom, social freedom, and intellectual and academic freedom.

As we look toward the future, I am glad that Alexander will remain on SFL's Board of Directors to continue to support SFL. The entire Board (including Alexander) is excited to work with a new CEO to build on the organization's remarkable success. Alexander will be staying with SFL part-time to facilitate the transition, and we will be conducting an extensive search for someone with the vision and skills to lead SFL in the next decade of its existence.

I am thankful for Alexander's years of service and look forward to building on the success that SFL has already achieved. ♦

Sloane Frost is SFL's Co-Founder and serves as Chairwoman of the Board of Directors.





SFL FOCUS SERIES CONCENTRATES ON SINGLE POLICY ISSUES

By Stephen Duke

In April, SFL hosted its first-ever batch of single-issue conferences across North America. These four conferences, dubbed the "Spring Focus Series," were one-day events concentrating on issues that matter most to students today. Topics included tech freedom, free market environmentalism, free speech on campus, and issues facing Californians on the ballot like marijuana legalization and gun regulation. The conferences brought out over 200 students across the continent to discuss these issues and learn more about what SFL has to offer. Attendees were very engaged in the discussion, as many were interested in the issues being discussed.

The Tech Freedom conference in New York covered a wide variety of issues, from crypto-currency to encryption. One highlight was a wonderful lecture from Fereshteh Forough, who runs an organization that teaches women and girls in Afghanistan how to code. The Free Market Environmentalism conference in Fort Myers, Florida, was very well promoted, to the point where students who didn't agree with the ideas being discussed decided to protest and disrupt the conference. Thankfully, it didn't last too long, and the attendees could get back to discussing the ideas.

Overall, these conferences have shown that students enjoy having variety in the types of events that SFL runs. We'll continue to work on ways to cater our programming to not only students interested in learning more broadly about liberty but also students who are interested in a particular issue area. This will serve to continue building our community for liberty and equip our leaders to promote liberty in a variety of different ways. ♦

Stephen Duke is SFL's
North American Events Manager.



Young Voices Releases E-book!

The United States is approaching another election, and already there is talk of how millennials will vote. Many column inches and TV segments are sure to be devoted to the political leanings and policy interests of this generation in the months to come.

And yet, millennial voices are routinely excluded from these debates.

This is where Young Voices comes in. With over 70 writers in more than 20 countries, Young Voices is uniquely placed to promote the views of this emerging generation.

Now, after months of anticipation, Young Voices is proud to announce the release of our very first e-book, *A Future for Millennials: Policies That Can Restore Prosperity*.

In a collection of 12 essays, Young Voices' top Advocates and a collection of guest authors propose innovative solutions to the policy challenges facing millennials.

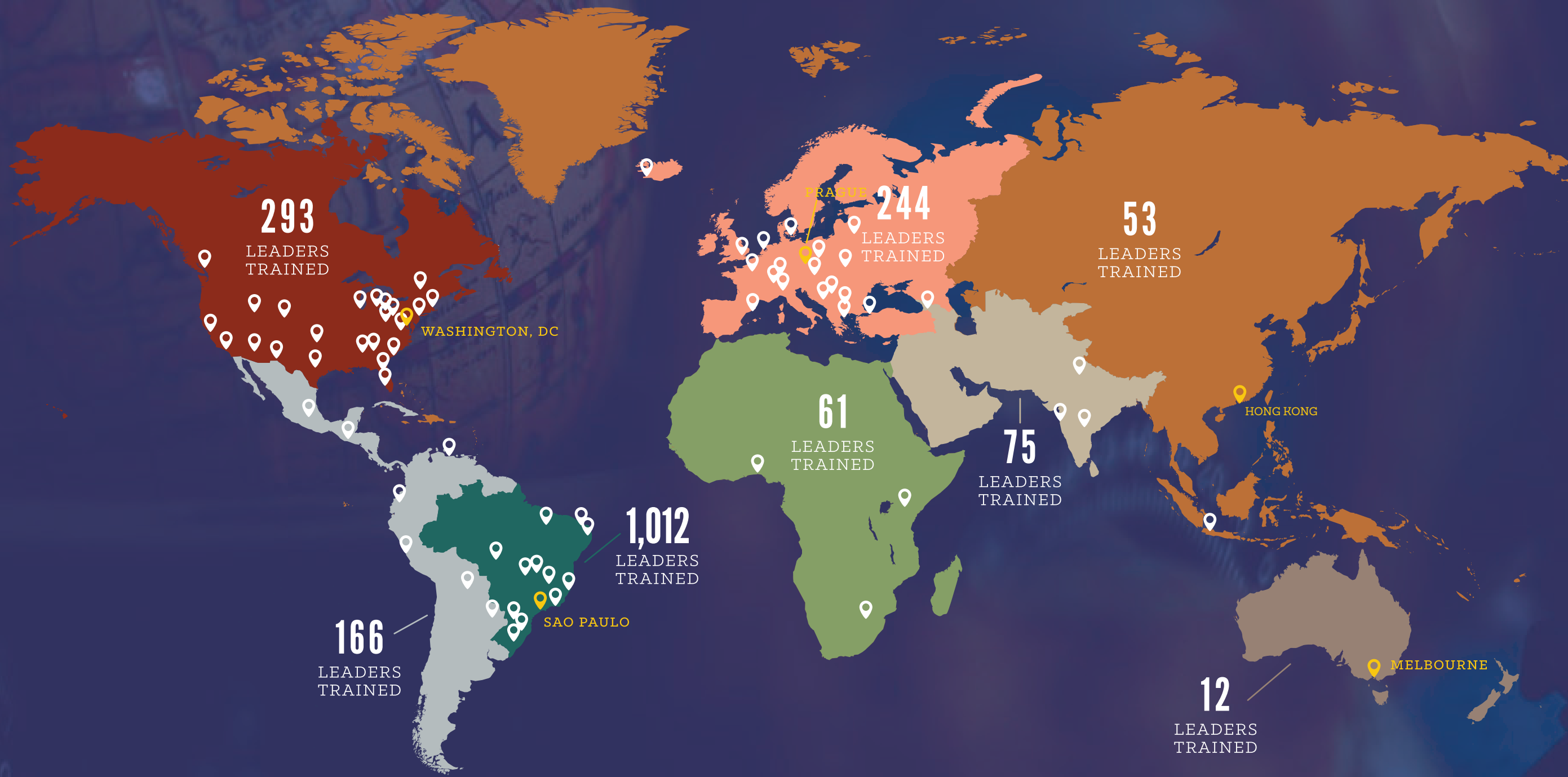
With topics ranging from internet freedom and free speech to criminal justice and immigration, these rising stars of the libertarian movement give their take on how to ensure future prosperity.

You can get your free copy of *A Future for Millennials* at Young Voices' website, youngvoicesadvocates.com. ♦



SFL AROUND THE GLOBE

FISCAL
YEAR **2016**



 REGION-WIDE CONFERENCES

 LOCAL CONFERENCES



PROFILES IN LEADERSHIP: JAMES MICHEL

Haiti is one of the last places one would expect to see SFL thriving, but SFL Haiti has been one of the fastest growing groups in our network. Jean Charles “James” Michel first reached out to SFL in the fall of 2015 and immediately enrolled in SFL’s Liberty 101 course and SFL’s Charter Teams Program.

James also began working to establish SFL and recruit other students, but he quickly realized the magnitude of the challenges he faced. Poor access to the internet made his participation in training difficult and he was often forced to cancel meetings with staff.

In addition to poor internet access, James discovered that he would not be allowed to host meetings at his university until he had twenty group members and received permission from two existing student groups. Instead, he found a restaurant that was willing to host his student group meetings, however, the restaurant asked that each participant order a juice for each meeting.

Many students could not afford to purchase a drink for each meeting, but James was determined to establish the group and decided to pay for all of the drinks himself. At first, James had to buy just four drinks, but as SFL Haiti took off, James quickly found himself purchasing over twenty drinks each week.

James has continued to purchase juice for all participants at each meeting, but he is hoping to receive recognition from his university soon. We congratulate James on his new position on the Es Libertad Executive Board! ♦



Liberty on the Rise in Malaysia

By Sam Teixeira

While Malaysia is considered one of the more modern countries in Southeast Asia, it’s also one of the more challenging countries in which to organize for SFL. Malaysia first joined the SFL network over two years ago and has grown steadily since that time to include four trained leaders. Unfortunately, these individuals still face fierce criticism and oversight from the government.

Like many other SFLers around the globe, Charter Teams members Hafizz Dzuklifi, MF “Paan” Farhan, Tarmizi Anuwar, and Zati Hanani Zainol are often forced to host their events at a restaurant or bar as the university will not permit their activities. Although private locations provide an opportunity to host SFL events, the Malaysian government watches SFL closely.

The Malaysian Special Branch, an intelligence agency, often sends agents to SFL events and attempts to shut them down. The Special Branch (SB) employs a variety of tactics in their attempt to silence libertarian students, but most often, the SB attempts to pressure the restaurant owner into banning SFL’s leaders and students from their business.

Despite the constant presence of Malaysian authorities at SFL events and other challenges like poor internet access, SFL Malaysia is one of the most enthusiastic groups in our network. The entire SFL family admires the courage and dedication of these individuals. We hope you’ll follow their progress on social media at www.facebook.com/malaysiasfl. ♦

Sam Teixeira is a
Student Programs Associate at SFL.



SFL FLOURISHES IN UKRAINE

By Aleksandar Kokotović

Following the great success of two Regional Conferences in Kiev and Lviv (which gathered more than 250 students each), European Students For Liberty (ESFL) leaders in Ukraine have continued the great work from the fall semester into the first months of 2016 as well.

There has been a visible growth of the SFL network in Ukraine through a big increase in leadership in ESFL, namely the Local Coordinator Program, as well as the aforementioned conferences in Kiev and Lviv. With the generous help of our sponsors and friends, we have managed to jump start the student liberty movement and bring more and more bright and talented individuals in from all parts of Ukraine. The message of peace, free trade, and individual liberty is getting louder and louder.

In the first months of 2016, Ukrainian Students For Liberty have continued working on their very successful project Liberty Classes which are gatherings of between 50-100 students in Kiev and Odessa to discuss economic liberalism, free trade, and open borders. This is a much-needed message in Ukraine in these times. After exploring this diverse set of topics, many stay engaged by working to promote liberty on the local level or applying to become a part of ESFL leadership. Many recognize the potential for both personal and professional growth that our programs provide.

Not only have our Ukrainian leaders been working hard on promoting the ideas of freedom at home, but they did so internationally as well. A Senior Local Coordinator Vladyslav Tiulchenko attended the International Students For Liberty Conference in DC and had the chance to meet leaders from all across the world. Ukraine also had a big delegation of students attend the European Students for Liberty Conference in Prague which was attended by over 900 students this March. Students For Liberty Ukraine has also been nominated for the Event of the Year by ESFL for the Liberty Classes project which introduced the ideas of liberty to over a 1,000 students.

Most importantly, the future looks even brighter! The new events and activities being planned include: a Liberty Camp in June (which should gather over 80 students to discuss the ideas of freedom), more Liberty Classes in Lviv and Kharkiv, and the next Ukraine Regional Conference being planned for next fall in Kiev. We definitely see a huge demand for the ideas of peace, love and liberty in Ukraine and we are looking forward to continue expanding our reach in the continuation of 2016. ♦

Aleksandar Kokotović is a
European Programs Manager for SFL.



LIBERTY SHINES ON EUROPE

AT ESFLC16

By Jan Škapa

In March, the 5th Annual European Students For Liberty Conference (ESFLC) welcomed a total of 908 participants passionate about the ideas of liberty at the Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic. It was the biggest gathering of young minds to date in Europe who will shape the future of our society in pursuit of a freer future.

The conference was organized by about 100 students who prepared three days of lectures, interactive sessions, workshops, outings, and much more. The event touched on topics like economic freedom, civil liberties, and entrepreneurship, with over 60 speakers. The theme of the conference was “Students We Should Remember.” On Friday, the conference keynote was delivered by Lawrence Reed of the Foundation for Economic Education, who told the crowd many stories of past heroes of liberty and why we need more in the future.

Michal Šindlář, one of SFL’s best student leaders in Europe, chose the theme of the conference and delivered the introductory talk about Czech student leaders who gave their lives for freedom. Specifically, he talked about Boris Kovaříček, who started a student group in Prague in the 1940s to connect pro-liberty students—only to be arrested and executed.

The two opening talks energized the attendees about the fight for a freer future. We couldn’t wish for a better start to this conference.

Saturday was a full day of workshops, short lectures, and outings—a great time to meet like-minded individuals in a niche area of their expertise. Session topics included everything from the impact of technology on education to practical photography. Groups of participants also left the conference venue and ventured to organized outings (including one to a shooting range), while others joined roundtable discussions with prominent speakers.

Later on, the ESFL Awards were given out to the best student leaders in Europe. Slobodan Franeta was selected as Student of the Year. Slobodan is an ESFL leader from Montenegro and has done an amazing job in promoting the ideas of liberty in his country and beyond. You can read more about Slobodan’s activism on page 19.

Maastricht Students For Liberty was selected as the Group of the Year, and Liberty Classes from Ukraine won Event of the Year. All the nominees were great and showcased the strength of the liberty movement in Europe right now.

The day ended with the Liberty Pitch competition, after which everyone moved to one of Prague’s hottest nightclubs to celebrate all the knowledge

gained. Chants of “Don’t Tread On Me!” under the tunes of two pro-liberty bands and a DJ could be heard throughout the night. The attendees were ecstatic!

The conference closed on Sunday, with multiple lectures and a keynote by Tom G. Palmer of the Atlas Network, who reminded us about why we actually fight for liberty. We do it to change the world.

Students departed Prague inspired. Since the close of the conference, ESFL has seen a huge spike in the number of applications for our top student programs. The new Executive Board in Europe now consists of individuals who proved themselves during the conference. SFL is more optimistic than ever about the prospects for liberty in Europe.

Jan Škapa is SFL’s IT Manager.



SFL Makes a Media Splash in Brazil

By Bernardo Vidigal

Estudantes Pela Liberdade (EPL)—Brazilian Students For Liberty—has generated a lot of press attention lately, gaining media hits almost every day. Brazil is going through a great deal of political change, and SFL's student leaders are driving it.

For 13 years, the Brazilian federal government has been controlled by the anti-market Worker's Party. For the first few years of its administration, the party's economic policies generated growth as commodity prices helped industry grow. However, their economic policies quickly came back to haunt the country.

To make matters worse, a major investigation from the Federal Police exposed corruption among the party's highest ranks. This police investigation discovered that the Brazilian state-run oil company, Petrobras, awarded contracts to construction firms that bribed major politicians. While the Worker's Party is no stranger to corruption, the bribery scheme in tandem with another scandal caused millions of Brazilians to call for the impeachment of President Dilma Rousseff.

Prior to the last election, the federal government covertly directed funds from state-run banks to pay its bills. According to Brazilian law, such a scheme is fiscal fraud and grounds for impeachment. The plot masked the dire fiscal situation of the country, making Rousseff supporters falsely believe the country was in good shape.

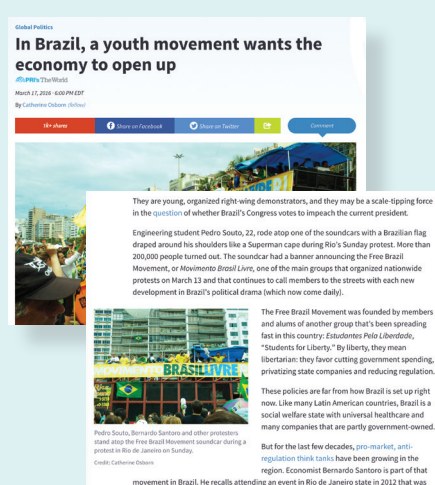
As a result, millions of Brazilians have become disillusioned with their government, stimulating massive growth for EPL as thousands of young people discover the ideas of liberty. Since libertarian ideas have not been prominent in Brazilian politics before, our community is in a strong position to spread them. As a result, exceptional leaders from Brazil have risen in SFL's ranks. In fact, EPL leader Julio Lins was awarded SFL's Student of the Year Award for his role in promoting small government to the masses.

This year, as impeachment drew closer, over six million people protested against Rousseff in March—the largest political movement in the history of the country. None of this would have happened without the help of EPL leaders like Julio.

The media has responded swiftly and strongly to these developments, writing numerous articles about EPL's activism. Not all the coverage was favorable, with numerous outlets implying or outright accusing EPL of calling for the protests. Of course, the organization itself did not do so: the leaders that EPL educated, developed, and empowered did.

Even the American press has joined in on the action, with EPL receiving write-ups in *Foreign Policy*, *The Nation*, and even a radio story from *Public Radio International*. This shows the success of our methods, which have helped the Brazilian libertarian moment arrive, with millions calling for reform. ♦

Bernardo Vidigal is an SFL
Brazilian Programs Associate.



AFL ALUMNI FOR LIBERTY CONGRATULATES NEW GRADUATES

By Laurie Rice

In May, 343 of SFL's student leaders graduated from college. We're so proud of these passionate young individuals. These students have given their time to learning at SFL's events and their energy to activism on their campuses.

Alumni For Liberty (AFL) is here to support new graduates. Through AFL, young men and women entering the next phase of their lives can stay committed to the ideas of liberty. AFL provides a community where they can connect with their peers and use our network to find job opportunities. We will provide content on emerging markets, local liberty issues, and people to connect with.

As students of liberty become alumni, they will also be ready to take on the charge to promote freedom in their own communities, in their own time, and in their own lives.

AFL is a project for young libertarians to embrace the responsibility of liberty. This means moving from theory to practice. It means a transition from a consumer of liberty to a producer. It means working for a freer world wherever you are. That can mean political engagement, but it can also be about lifestyle choices, intellectual associates, entrepreneurship, and philanthropy. It can be as simple as sharing ideas from libertarian organizations on social media or having conversations with people in one's life. Or, it can be as direct as donating money to help students hold events. Alumni are charged with bringing liberty into their adulthood and with helping to cultivate liberty in the next generation.

Liberty is the condition necessary for an optimal society of peace, individualism, and prosperity. AFL is for individuals who are ready to take on the rewarding and challenging responsibility to bring about the condition of liberty and to help build this optimal society.

We congratulate all students of liberty who will be graduating this spring. We are so proud of you, and so grateful for your intelligence and energy. Thank you for helping to build Students For Liberty.

Please join Alumni For Liberty as you continue to pursue liberty in your lifetime. Graduating students will soon be moving and changing emails. Please update your contact information at alumniforliberty.org to continue to be involved in the liberty community. ♦

Laurie Rice is a
current AFL member.



PROFILES IN ACTIVISM: THOMAS LAUGHLIN

SFL Alumnus Thomas Laughlin currently lives in the Philippines, where he is helping libertarian students form SFL groups. Thomas also helped SFL Charter Teams member Louis Lo found SFL-Hong Kong before moving to the Philippines. Here's what Thomas had to say about how alumni can stay involved and offer support to libertarian students around the world:

"There were very few mentors or institutions available back when we were starting our first pro-liberty student organization in 2008. Fortunately, we were able to network with great organizations like SFL and grow together over the following years. A similar situation exists in far-off places like here in Southeast Asia. I see it as my responsibility to help fledgling libertarian movements where I can as one of the few libertarians in this country of 105 million people. It's a lot of fun to see students take the first revolutionary step toward introducing ideas of liberty to communities that have only ever known a choice between autocracy and communism.

Simply being available to answer questions and check in routinely with an organization is usually all that tenacious groups need. It's important to remember that liberty is a popular value and is spontaneously exercised all around the world in a myriad of ways. Whether it's in the streets of Hong Kong protesting an encroaching foreign power or in the chaotic markets of Divisoria in Manila, liberty is everywhere. It's up to us to make sure it continues and grows from there." ♦



PROFILES IN LEADERSHIP: KEVIN FLANAGAN

European Students For Liberty Executive Board member Kevin Flanagan produced an online course titled *Ancient Ireland: Culture and Society* which he sells on the learning platform Udemy. This course is a detailed overview of Irish society prior to its conquest by church and state, a period of its past known as Gaelic Ireland. The course includes hours of content over 40 lectures covering a variety of topics which Kevin developed out of several years of research.

In this course Kevin articulates why Gaelic Ireland serves as a historical example of a decentralised society producing a high culture and with principles of law and justice that astound those lucky scholars who happen across them to this day.

Kevin holds a Bachelor's Degree in Law and Society and it was learning about Early Irish Law that partly inspired him to pursue this field. Since graduating, he founded the Brehon Law Academy and has spoken on these topics several times, including on the topic "Ancient Irish Anarchy" at ESFLC16.

Since joining ESFL in 2015 as a Local Coordinator, Kevin was elected to ESFL's Executive Board as a Regional Director and he is excited to now be joining us on staff as the European Local Coordinator Program Manager. You can sign up for his online course here: www.udemy.com/ancient-ireland-culture-and-society/ ♦



North America Prepares for a New Campus Coordinator Class

By David Clement

The school year may be coming to a close, but SFL's activism is only ramping up in North America. We are currently accepting applications for our next class of Campus Coordinators (CCs), SFL's premier leadership program for student activists.

Already, we have received over 100 applications from across the continent. We're aiming for an incoming class of 130 Campus Coordinators, and we're already close to hitting that goal. While the program has yet to begin, we can already feel the excitement and eagerness from the incoming class to promote the ideas of liberty on campus.

As in previous years, our new class will be made up of students from a diverse range of academic backgrounds. We have incoming CCs who are working towards degrees in cybersecurity, international relations, pre-law, mathematics, and even engineering. But, the diversity does not end at areas of study. Our incoming class is also diverse geographically, with incoming CCs from California to British Columbia, Florida to Ontario, and everywhere in between!

I could not be more excited for what our incoming student leaders will accomplish. The 2016-17 school year will be one to remember! ♦

David Clement is a North American Programs Associate at SFL



By Monica Lucas

SFLers across the state of Florida have been incredibly active this year, advancing liberty in a number of creative and far-reaching ways. SFL activists hosted three conferences, numerous academic speakers, a clothing drive, and dozens of activism events, Florida was one of the most successful states for libertarian activism this academic year.

Campus Coordinators Emily Reynolds and Lynanne Lowry at Florida Gulf Coast University have hosted speakers from Law Enforcement Against Prohibition and the Institute for Justice in addition to organizing activism events about free speech and the drug war. Their work has been so notable, in fact, that FGCU's Eagles for Liberty was nominated for Group of the Year at this year's International Students For Liberty Conference.

In the fall semester, SFL's Florida network hosted two conferences in the state, reaching another 140 students and drawing attention to a wide variety of issues such as the police state and entrepreneurship. The conferences were run by Executive Board Member Brittany Turner and Senior Campus Coordinator Emily Keehn, reaching students from across the state.

Another notable event in Florida this year was the Free Market Environmentalism Conference in the spring, which took place at Florida Gulf Coast University. Topics included property rights, Everglades restoration, and the issue of fracking. Over 80 students attended the event in person and dozens more were reached online.



At the University of Florida, Campus Coordinator Béla Cunningham put together a clothing drive to collect goods for local refugee families in coordination with SFL's Share Humanity Campaign. The drive generated plenty of donated items to help refugee families and was received with great enthusiasm by the student body.

At Florida State University, Campus Coordinators Giovanna Dasilva, Keegan Connolly, and Mike Avi hosted a number of events that focused on topics such as free speech and the drug war. They hosted speakers like Dan D'Amico of The Political Theory Project and a "Pizza and Politics" event to bring new students out to their group.

In addition to the on-campus activism going on in Florida this year, Senior Campus Coordinator Cory Massimino from Seminole State College has been working to advance liberty via online academic programs. He's had his hands in a number of different Virtual Reading Groups and runs SFL On Air, a weekly video podcast where SFL leaders get together to discuss topics like activism and current events.

Florida truly serves as a model for other SFL regions in the United States to draw inspiration from. ♦

Monica Lucas is SFL's North American Programs Director.



SFL PLANS MAJOR FREEDOMFEST ATTENDANCE

SFL is excited to announce that we will once again be offering student scholarships to attend FreedomFest this year! This will be our sixth year of bringing the best and brightest of the student movement to this mecca of liberty. FreedomFest is an annual festival where "free minds meet" to celebrate great books, great ideas, and great thinkers in an open-minded society. With speakers such as John Allison, Steve Forbes, Grover Norquist, and even boxing legend George Foreman, the conference is packed with leaders of liberty speaking to inspire and educate attendees. The theme for FreedomFest this year will be "Freedom Rising." The purpose of this scholarship is to provide students with an opportunity to develop leadership skills, network with activists in the liberty movement, and provide training and experience in fundraising. The scholarship includes a complimentary registration for FreedomFest, lodging covered at Planet Hollywood, and up to \$100 of support to help with travel costs. SFL is excited to bring the best and brightest young leaders once again to the largest libertarian conference of the year! ♦

STUDENTSFORLIBERTY.ORG/FREEDOMFEST-SCHOLARSHIPS-2016

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REGIONAL CONFERENCES SPREAD FREEDOM IN LATIN AMERICA

By *Julio Clavijo*

For the first time in its history, Estudiantes por la Libertad (EsLibertad) hosted a series of Regional Conferences throughout Latin America between November 2015 and April 2016. So far, more than 1,400 students have participated in the events in Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, Ecuador, Venezuela, Bolivia, and Paraguay.

Some of these countries hosted an SFL Regional Conference (RC) for their first time—Mexico, Peru, and Paraguay. In Venezuela, EsLibertad hosted our first conference at a university in the country—a huge milestone given past government obstacles. The conference took place in November at Universidad Católica Andrés Bello in Caracas City, where ideas about economic growth were discussed in the heart of the socialist country.

Guatemala’s RC also took place in November at the Theatre Don Juan in Guatemala City. The theme was “The Route of Liberty Without Borders,” where students learned about migration, entrepreneurship, and the meaning of freedom.

In December, Peru’s leaders hosted their first RC at the University of Pontificia Universidad Católica de Perú in the city of Lima. The theme was “Perú: Road to the Future.” Students from all over the country discussed, debated, and analysed Perú’s recent past and how liberty has been an important element in its economic development.

After the International Students For Liberty Conference in February, EsLibertad continued its RC series with Mexico’s first SFL event in March at Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. The

theme of the conference was “Mexico and Its Road to the Future” and featured well-known freedom advocates, including a sitting senator.

The RCs in Ecuador and Bolivia had the greatest attendance. In Ecuador, more than 400 college students attended at Universidad San Francisco de Quito. The event focused on liberal arts and included well-known media figures, including a comedian that spoke about freedom of speech. The conference also featured art along the hallway, and live performances took place while participants waited for registration.

Bolivia hosted its RC in April at Universidad Privada de Santa Cruz de la Sierra with the theme of “Liberty as a Lifestyle.” This was the RC with the biggest attendance in EsLibertad’s series, with 469 students. Topics included spontaneous order, classical liberal democracy, and freedom of speech.

Finally, April closed with the Paraguay RC hosted at Universidad Americana with the theme “Paraguay’s Road to the First World.” This was SFL’s first RC hosted in Asunción, covering topics such as public choice, Austrian economics, bitcoin, online privacy, startup cities, and social change.

EsLibertad’s year has shown that the seed of liberty is spreading throughout Latin America. As the year continues to unfold, students are joining EsLibertad’s cause to spread the message of liberty. More RCs and student initiatives are sure to come in Latin American countries where freedom is at stake. ♦

Julio Clavijo is the Es Libertad Program Director.



LIBERTY EXPANDS ACROSS SOUTH ASIA

By *Sam Teixeira*

Indonesia is the fourth-largest country in the world and is comprised of over 13,000 islands, making it very challenging to organize students. Moreover, Indonesia is still recovering from a long war between communists and fascists, which the fascists eventually won. However, the authoritarian regime was ousted in 1998 by a large student movement, making way for greater liberty.

Despite growing freedom after fascist General Suharto’s resignation, many Indonesians are hostile toward the ideas of liberty and liberalism generally. In 2015, however, Students For Liberty-Indonesia was founded to promote the philosophy of freedom and educate Indonesian students about the classical liberal philosophy.

SFL-Indonesia started with just one student in the summer of 2015, Rofi Uddarojat. Rofi worked hard to recruit others and, as a result, SFL has now trained six leaders in Indonesia, recruited 63 volunteers, and built our network to include over 400 students from two of the five major islands.

SFL-Indonesia has hosted a number of events in just a few months, including public discussions about Uber and the sharing economy, the inefficiencies of state-owned enterprises, and a three-part series on the regulation and prohibition of alcohol. SFL-Indonesia has also hosted a three-day workshop on social freedom and the market economy, which brought 60 attendees together to discuss the libertarian perspective.

Indonesia is leading the way for SFL in Southeast Asia and is hoping to host a Southeast Asia Regional Conference in Jakarta later this summer. SFL leaders Nicole Annabella, Imantaka “Taka” Nugraha, and Alfi Syahrin are leading the effort to host this conference, which they hope will draw attendees from all over Southeast and East Asia. ♦

Sam Teixeira is a Student Programs Associate at SFL.



PROFILES IN LEADERSHIP: SLOBODAN FRANETA

There are few leaders that show such dedication, skillfulness, and humility as Slobodan Franeta. Slobodan joined European Students For Liberty’s (ESFL) Local Coordinator Program in August 2015, and stood out from day one in a class of 200. He founded Montenegrin Students For Liberty, giving the country’s pro-liberty movement an identity. Slobodan surrounded himself with bright young leaders to create a community of liberty-oriented leaders in his small coastal country.

Slobodan also organized a Regional Leadership Forum for students in the Western Balkans. The event was a unique opportunity for young people who were caught in the biggest wars in Europe during the 1990s to discuss a strategy to advance liberty in their region. The Leadership Forum also included guests from Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Macedonia, and Slovenia. More than 80 students from local universities attended the second day of the retreat, where students got to present their work from the past months.

Slobodan also designed flyers and other promotional materials for ESFL groups around Europe, spreading the voice of liberty across the Old Continent.

For his work, Slobodan was recognized as ESFL’s Student of the Year at the ESFL16 in Prague and joined the Executive Board of ESFL in April 2016. ♦



Ecuador Earthquake Update from Es Libertad

A letter from Milica Pandžić

Hello everyone,

As you may know, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake hit my country, Ecuador. Over 650 people are reported dead, and thousands are left with nothing.

We have over 50 SFLers in Ecuador. Fortunately, we are all safe. But the situation in northern cities is bad. Reports say that 50–80% of the structures in those cities have collapsed. My home city, Manta, is devastated. Thankfully, my family is safe.

The team of EsLibertad Ecuador is doing everything we can to help the ones that were not as fortunate as we were. The biggest initiative is **#UnaBotellaPara** to bring clean water to the northern cities, as water is not widely available and is the biggest necessity. Locally, EsLibertad has collected over 3,000 bottles of all sizes, filled them with tap water, and sent them to the affected zones.

If you are interested in helping Ecuador, we invite you to donate to the Ecuadorian Red Cross: <http://tinyurl.com/sfl-ecuador-help>. There are a lot of

crowdfunding sites, but we recommend donating to the Red Cross. The Ecuadorian government is (inhumanely) trying to boycott civil society relief efforts, and the Red Cross is one of the few exceptions they will allow.

All the best,
Milica Pandžić
Chairwoman
Estudiantes por la Libertad



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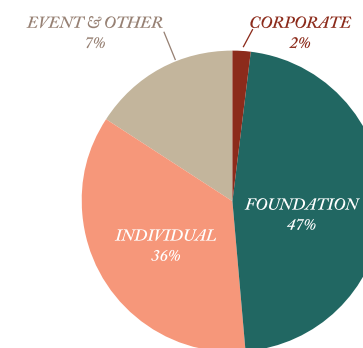
FY16 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Over the past year, SFL increased our revenue by more than \$500,000 compared to the previous year while constraining expenses to comparable levels. SFL maintains a strong financial position with over \$1.1 million in net assets at the end of the Fiscal Year. A growing donor base, increasing commitments from existing supporters, and efficiency improvements, position SFL prudently for future growth and fiscal health.

Below is the unaudited financial information for SFL's Fiscal Year that ran from May 1, 2015 to April 30, 2016.

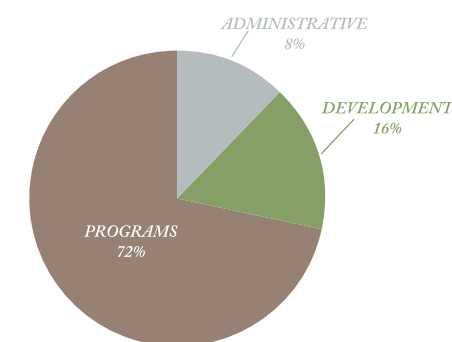
INCOME

Corporate: \$83,508.03
 Foundation: \$1,752,252.81
 Individual: \$1,334,211.27
 Event & Other Income: \$591,466.69
TOTAL INCOME: \$3,761,438.80



EXPENSES

Administrative: \$452,813.98
 Development: \$596,997.02
 Programs: \$2,631,254.40
TOTAL EXPENSES: \$3,681,065.40



NET ASSETS

\$1,101,471.10

IN-KIND DONATION VALUE

\$435,345.63

INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATE INCOME

\$821,800.66

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