FALL 2026

ANNUAL REPORT 2025-2026



iDEA
Initiative at Scripps College



A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Over the past decade, the IDEA Initiative has been instrumental in propelling the College towards the goal of fostering a more inclusive, equitable, and accessible community, reflecting the College's sustained commitment to Scripps' Principles of Community and Institutional Values.

As we look towards the next decade, the Equity and Justice (EJ) Leadership Team considered how it could continue to evolve the IDEA Initiative. The team turned to the presidential advisory Committee on Innovation, Dialogue, and Engagement (CIDE) for advice. The students, staff, and faculty on CIDE encouraged the EJ Team to solidify its identity and scale up its impact. Thus, during the 2025–26 academic year, it did just that. Starting with a name change, the EJ Team became the IDEA Leadership Team, reflecting its effort to solidify its identity and more directly connect its work to the IDEA Initiative.

Informed by these insights, the team spent the past academic year expanding its programs and initiatives and better aligning its work to the IDEA Initiative.The following report provides an overview of these important and significant improvements. Thanks to the IDEA Leadership Team and CIDE for their exceptional work on behalf of the College.



AMY MARCUS - NEWHALL

PRESIDENT OF SCRIPPS COLLEGE



IDENTITY & IMPACT

The 2024-2025 academic year marked a significant milestone—the 10th anniversary of the College's IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access) Initiative. Over the past decade, IDEA has been instrumental in propelling the College towards the goal of fostering a more inclusive, diverse, equitable, and accessible community.

As we looked towards the next decade, the Equity and Justice Leadership Team considered how we could continue to evolve the initiative. We looked to CIDE, the presidential advisory Committee on Innovation, Dialogue, and Engagement for advice, and the committee encouraged the EJ Team to solidify our identity and scale up our impact. Thus, during the 2025-2026 academic year we did just that. Starting with a name change, the EJ Team became the IDEA Leadership Team, in order to help the community understand that the work our team accomplishes was directly informed by the IDEA Initiative.

Informed by CIDE's insight, we spent the past academic year expanding our programs and initiatives and better aligning our brand to our work. We look forward to continuing this work during the 2026-2027 academic year.

IDEA LEADERSHIP TEAM



DENISE NELSON NASH

VP, SECRETARY OF THE BOARD, CONVENER OF THE IDEA INITIATIVE



NAYANA BOSE

ASSOCIATE DEAN OF FACULTY



STACEY MILLER

ASSISTANT VP OF STUDENT AFFAIRS



FRANCESCA SIMMONS

IDEA GRADUATE FELLOW



IDEA FELLOWSHIP

This year, after reviewing the needs of the community, the Racial Justice and Equity was refreshed as the IDEA Fellowship. In the fall, we provided the final faculty fellowships, granting fellows $4000 to support projects that increase awareness, programming, and scholarship on community.

In the spring, our new Associate Dean of Faculty, Nayana Bose, launched the new IDEA Student Fellowship. The new fellowship provided applicants with two workshops to learn more about the project proposal process and application expectations, as well as receive feedback from the IDEA Leadership Team on their application. The grant was also increased to $4,500, and the faculty stipend increased to $1,000.

Finally, we expanded the scope of the projects, inviting students to conduct summer research and design community-engagement projects to advance scholarship on community building with a focus on issues related to advancing opportunity, innovation, social welfare, and well-being of the community. Our inaugural IDEA Student Fellows will present their projects at the Scripps Research Tea Fall 2026.

IMPACT 2026



STUDENT FELOWS

Nesserine Bouda
Mentor: Luis Salés

Kate King
Mentor: Lara Deeb

Elizabeth Clark
Mentor: Jenna Monroy

Jimena Sanchez
Mentor: Christina Edholm

FACULTY FELOWS

ANNE HARLEY

SOUND BATHS AND GROUP SOUNDING: COMMUNITY WELLNESS, BREATHING FOR RELAXATION, GROUP IMPROVISATION, AND RESONANT SELF-AWARENESS

PATRICK VAN HORN

NUDGING TOWARD INCLUSION: ECONOMIC WELL-BEING AS FOUNDATION FOR COMMUNITY BUILDING AT SCRIPPS COLLEGE



$5,500

Total amount of funding each students received this year, including faculty stipend. This was a $900 per project increase from previous years, where students received $4,000 in funding and faculty mentors received $600.

2

Two faculty received the final awards for the IDEA faculty fellowship. The faculty fellowship concluded in 2026 to allow for more fudning for student fellows and their faculty mentors.

4

Four students were awarded fellowships this year. Topics range from supporting low income international students, to investigating the enviormental and economic impact of data centers in the Inland Empire.

90%

Increas in applicants. Nine students applied for the IDEA fellowship this year, and 15 students attended informaiton sessions in the Spring semester



COMMUNITY GATHERINGS

This year, we had over 100 community members join us for our Community Gatherings. It has been incredibly exciting to see how Community Gatherings have grown since 2022, and we were delighted to create space for students, faculty, and staff to connect and build community in a fun and casual setting. For 2025-2026, we partnered with SCORE, Core Faculty, Admission, and Arts/Art Conservation/Media Studies to host four community gatherings this year.

Some Community Gathering highlights from the year include welcoming SCORE Director Alesha Knox; decorating cookies with Core Faculty; learning about the incoming Class of 2030 with Admission; and creating keychains with a 3-D printer with the Art students and faculty.



100+

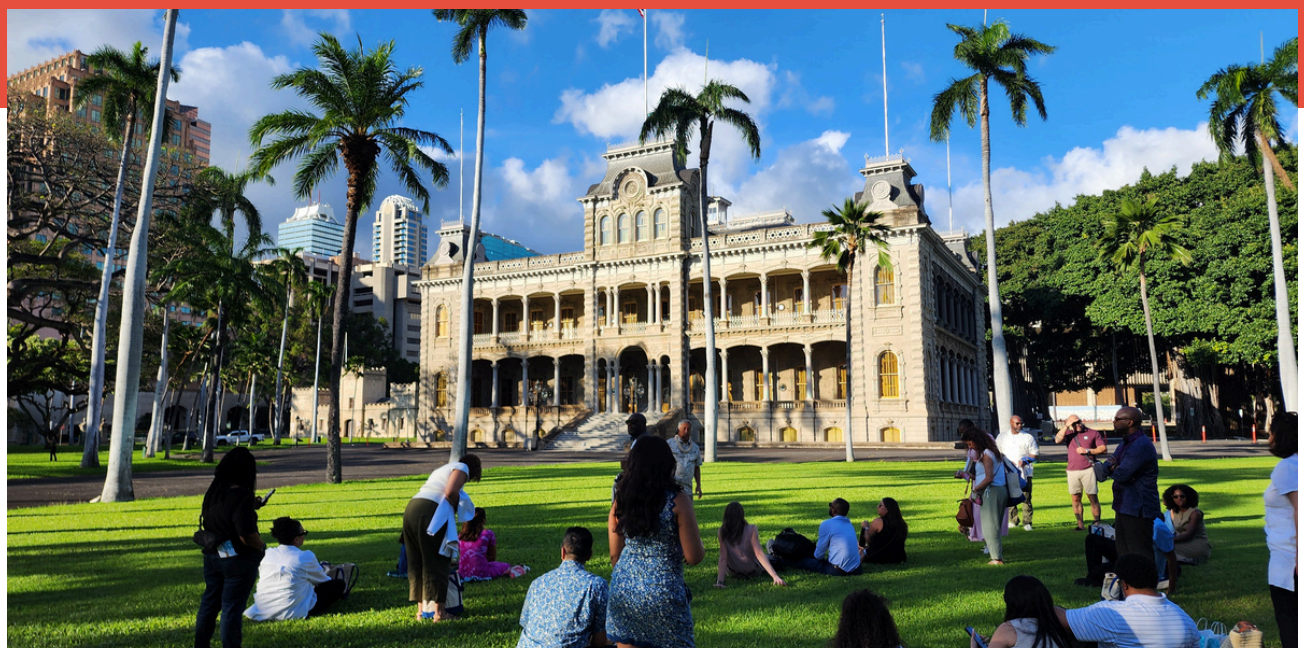
The collective number of attendees at all of our 2025-2026 Community Gatherings

5

The number of Community Gatherings hosted during the 2025-2026 academic year.

IMPACT

2026



ADDTIONAL ENGAGEMENT

Students, Staff, and Faculty

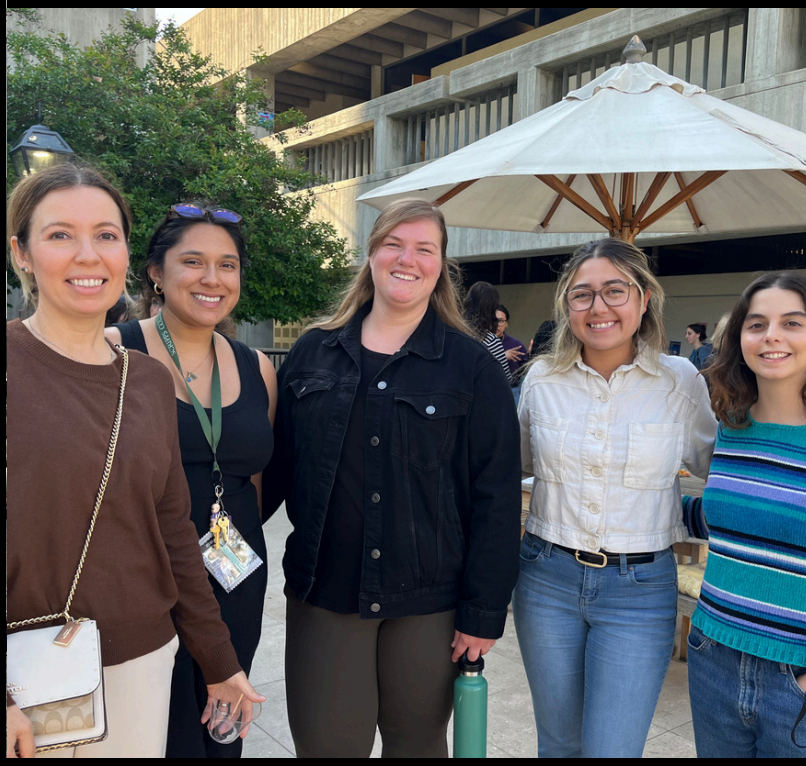
This year, with the addition of Dr. Stacey Miller, Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs, the IDEA Leadership Team expanded our methods of student engagement. We co-hosted a SAS Snack in the Fall, held a Fall and Spring SAS dinner, and co-hosted a SCORE Late Night Finals Snack.

In March, the IDEA Initiative sponsored three Scripps community members to attend the **Hawai‘i Conference: Mālama Kaiāulu (Caring for Community).** The conference offered an immersive opportunity to explore the critical issues impacting Native Hawaiians and other marginalized communities, and explored topics such as youth mental health, housing equity, culturally grounded education, and access to meaningful workforce opportunities.

Listening Sessions and Circles

In the Fall, the IDEA Leadership Team hosted listening sessions for students, faculty, and staff to meet the new members of the IDEA team and share what was on their minds regarding the current climate on campus and in the country. In the spring, we transitioned to listening circles, a more intimate conversation that allowed community members to express concerns and lead the conversations.






Juliet Nail


SCRIPPS COMMUNITIES OF RESOURCES AND EMPOWERMENT
SCRIPPS COLLEGE
Community Gathering





IMPACT

IDENTITY 2026



CIDE

This academic year, CIDE (Committee on Innovattion, Dialouge, and Engaement) focused on expanding the committee's institutional profile. In the Fall, CIDE members spent two Wednesdays at Noon sharing the history of CIDE and surveying what “Belonging” meant to students. In the Spring, CIDE hosted a Wednesday Tea and shared the history of the committee’s impact with the community. You can see how CIDE has changed Scripps since 2017 HERE.

Nayana Bose
Associate Dean of Faculty

Vanessa Chavira
Co-Chair, Staff Council

Claire De Chain
Co-Chair, Staff Council

Lyanne Dominguez, ‘13,
Associate Director of Admission

Jessica Jauregui-Gonzalez
Research Associate, Assessment and Institution Research

Sofia Patel Mayes ‘26
SCORE Student Rep

Durga Mekkoth ‘28
SAS Diversity and Inclusivity Chair (Spring)

Stacey Miller
Interim Assistant VP of Student Affairs

Denise Nelson Nash, ‘76
Vice President, Secretary of the Board of Trustees, Convener of the IDEA Initiative

Francesca Simmons, ‘14
IDEA Graduate Fellow

IDENTITY 2026







BESPOKE ITEMS

This year, the IDEA Leadership Team invested in new materials to help expand our identity across campus. Two items that made a major splash were our IDEA hoodies, and our custom Owala water bottles. Students, faculty, and staff were able to win these items at our final Community Gathering of the year, and students had an additional opportunity to win items at the SCORE X IDEA Late Night Finals Snack.

We commissioned the design for the Owala water bottles from Scripps student Sumiko Yasumura. Sumiko created an adorable design for the IDEA Initiative, and we are excited to use it in future swag. Now we just need a name for our IDEA squirrel!

IDENTITY 2026



NEWLETTERS

The IDEA Initiative Newsletters produced four newsletters during the academic year, sent out in October, December, February, and April. Each newsletters communicate updates, spotlights community members, asks for feedback, and provides resources and inspiration. We hope you continue to enjoy the newsletters to keep updated on all that we are doing and keep in contact with IDEA.

INVESETMENT 2027



CAMPUS CLIMATE SURVEY

Under the guidance of the Office of the President, the IDEA Leadership team will partner with Institutional Advancement to administer a campus climate survey in Spring 2027.

We will be using the HEDS (Higher Education Data Sharing Consortium) instrument with the goal to understand the current Scripps environment by capturing how students, faculty, and staff experience the campus — including feelings of belonging, safety, inclusion, and respect across different identity groups.

The survey will launch in Spring 2027 and we will provide survey insights with the community in Fall 2027. Additionally, the President and Vice Presidents will implement changes based on what is learned through the survey.