

SNIDER FOCUS

FALL 2019

www.edsnidercenter.org



Capitalism vs. Socialism Debate, September 17, 2019

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

By: DR. RAJSHREE AGARWAL

“Many people reject the possibility of win-win outcomes. They think of trade as something adversarial, pitting one person against another. They view markets as places of competition, rather than collaboration first and foremost.”

Once again, my academic year began with the welcoming of new Maryland Smith freshmen to the business school. This time I had an opportunity to conduct an eye-opening exercise, and the ability to conduct a pre and post-survey of the participating students which focused on their understanding of the role of free markets on personal enterprise. This [infographic](#) reveals the survey results.

In other news, in September we had the second of our debate series, co-sponsored with the Steamboat Institute. This one, [“Capitalism vs.](#)

[Socialism,”](#) brought in a packed audience of students and faculty to the Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center to see Yaron Brook, author of “Free Market Revolution: How Ayn Rand’s Ideas Can End Big Government,” debate Bhaskar Sunkara, author of “The Socialist Manifesto: A Case for Radical Politics in an Era of Extreme Inequality.” It was an illuminating discussion with a robust Q&A session afterward.

In addition, I’ve concluded my five-part OpEd series for Forbes entitled [“The CEO of Me.”](#) Like the quote at the start of this report, the series focuses on how we can plan our own trajectory, and strategize how we conduct business and who we choose to do business with.

You can learn more about some of our other recent programs, initiatives, and research developments below.



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News of Snider Enterprise Leadership Fellows (SELF)

High School Innovators Shine: The Magic of SELF

In its fifth year, SELF, our two-week residential summer program gives high school students a real taste of college, as well as exposure to the business world. The culmination of the 2019 program was when the fellows presented business idea pitches to industry professionals. These ideas included potential solutions to real world problems and included affordable, enhanced GPS technology, a variety of apps including one for ex-convicts to find employment and mental health support, one for tracking emergency personnel, one to help people on the autism spectrum find community, and one to encourage meditation and mindfulness.

Amod Mather, a rising sophomore at the University of Maryland, an RA for

SELF explained “We worked with the students not only on resident life, but we also helped them with their presentations,” Mather, who was himself a SELF fellow prior to coming to Maryland, explained that it was eye-opening and useful to help the SELF fellows work through their challenges. “Everyone gets really, really close,” he said. “We call it the magic of SELF.”



Spotlight on Research



Ed Snider Center Research Affiliate Steve Sonka to give a presentation this month at the Vatican’s Conference on Food Loss and Waste Reduction.

Dr. Sonka’s presentation “The need for systemic and market-based approaches and collaboration” will detail how the efforts to reduce post-harvest loss in developing countries have framed the problem as a lack of technology. However, experience has shown that providing technology alone is not likely to be successful. Sonka’s research at the Snider Center has also documented the key role of markets and the need for private/public collaboration in attaining effective linkages.

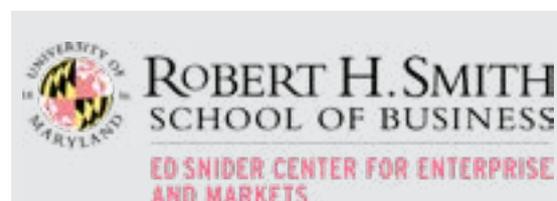
Photo: Mature Mangos Piled on the Ground Awaiting Transport to Market in Kenya

Board News



“The obstacles facing foreign companies seeking to establish or expand operations in the U.S. are formidable.”

Volume Three of Ed Snider Center Board member Richard Levick’s e-book series, [“Navigating US Regulatory, Legal & Communications Hurdles.”](#) offers insights and recommendations for foreign companies willing to do the extra homework needed to overcome the obstacles of doing business in the US.



Other News

Ed Snider Center Student Leadership Award 2020



The Ed Snider Center rewards UMD students for the positive contributions they make to their communities - on campus and off - and to society in general.

Our student leadership award is in its third year and we look forward to once again rewarding UMD students who lead by example and make positive contributions to society. All full-time UMD students with a minimum 3.0 GPA are eligible to apply. We look for students with a deep commitment to and a sustained investment in community, colleagues, teammates, family and/or friends. The top three prizes for Innovation, Resilience, or Enterprise are \$1200 with nine other finalists to receive \$300 each. Students are encouraged to apply and can get more information [here](#).

THE INC. TANK



Recent guest Jack Bobo on the future of food production:
"If we can get to 2050 without cutting down our forests and draining our rivers, lakes, and aquifers, in many ways, we're good forever."

On our fall season of The Inc. Tank podcast, Christina Elson's guests range from Jack Bobo of Futurity Foods, Jennifer Gordon of the Global Energy Center to Dr. Hon Pak of 3M Health Innovation Systems. What they all have in common is the ability to take complex issues involving converging technologies and break them down for the podcast audience. In order to catch an episode and to subscribe, go to www.theinctank.org.

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