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Miller Center Awards Fellowships to Nine Accomplished Scholars

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA., May 22, 2008 -- The University of Virginia's Miller Center of Public Affairs has selected nine scholars for 2008-09 Fellowships in American Politics, Foreign Policy and World Politics. The fellowship awards each fellow a one-year $20,000 grant to complete their dissertation, which explores America's relationship to the world, public policy questions, twentieth-century politics, or governance in the United States.

This year, the Miller Center received a total of 187 applications from scholars across the country in a variety of fields that include history, political science, economics, American studies, international relations, and sociology. The applications were judged on their scholarly quality and their potential to shed new light on important political and public policy questions.

As part of the Fellowship, each fellow is paired with an academic mentor, a leading national scholar in the fellow's field of study. The program also offers the option of residency, so that fellows may come to Charlottesville and take advantage of the Miller Center's wealth of academic resources.

"Fellows are chosen on the basis of their first rate scholarship and also on their potential contribution to pressing contemporary problems" said Governing America in a Global Era (GAGE) Co-Chair Brian Balogh. "For example, Christopher Jones' project sheds light on the importance of infrastructure in the transportation of energy by examining businesses that constructed canals, pipelines, and generating plants."

The Miller Center has awarded 83 fellowships since 2000. A majority of recipients have gone on to tenure-track positions or prestigious post-doctoral fellowships at leading colleges and universities. Others are now in public service or at non-profit foundations.

Jesse Driscoll, Stanford University, Department of Political Science (Comparative Politics, International Relations)
"Exiting Anarchy: Militia Politics and the Post-Soviet Peace"

Kathryn Gardner, Notre Dame University, International Relations
"Politicizing Religion: A Comparative Look at the Origins and Development of Muslim Incorporation Policies in France, Great Britain, and the United States, 1945-2008"

Nicole Hemmer, Columbia University, Department of History
"Messengers of the Right: Media and Modern American Conservatism"

Stefan Heumann, University of Pennsylvania, Department of Political Science
"The Tutelary Empire: State- and Nation-Building in the 19th Century U.S."

Christopher Jones, University of Pennsylvania, Department of History and Sociology of Science
"Energy Highways: Canals, Pipes, and Wires Transform the Mid-Atlantic"

David Karpf, University of Pennsylvania, Department of Political Science
"Network-Enhanced Goods and Internet-Mediated Organizations: The Internet's Effects on Political Participation, Organization, and Mobilization"

Walter Ladwig, University of Oxford, International Relations
"Assisting Counterinsurgents: U.S. Security Assistance and Internal War, 1946-1991"

Anne Peters, University of Virginia, Department of Politics
"Special Relationships, Dollars, and Development: U.S. Foreign Aid and Economic Development in Egypt and Jordan, 1952-2007"

Emily Zackin, Princeton University, Department of Politics
"Positive Rights in the Constitutions of the United States"

to the governance of the United States, with special attention to the central role and history of the presidency.

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