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Philip Zelikow Appointed Counselor of the U.S. Department of State

Charlottesville, VA — February 25, 2005 Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice today announced the appointment of Philip Zelikow, director of the University of Virginia's Miller Center of Public Affairs and White Burkett Miller Professor of History, as counselor of the U.S. Department of State.

Though the position has been vacant since 2001, the office of the counselor is not new; it has been part of the State Department's organization since 1909. The counselor serves as a principal officer of the department.

As counselor, Zelikow will serve as a senior advisor on major problems of foreign policy identified by the secretary of state. He will undertake special assignments as directed by the secretary, including international consultations and negotiations. Also, pursuant to Rice's guidance, he may make independent decisions and initiate actions on matters that otherwise might require the secretary's time and attention.

Most recently, Zelikow served as the executive director of National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States, better known as the "9/11 Commission," which completed its work in July 2004. "Philip Zelikow has done admirable work at the Miller Center, and it is no surprise that he has been given a significant role in the State Department," said John T. Casteen III, president of the University of Virginia. "During his tenure here as a professor of history and as director of the Miller Center, he has brought the real world of public policy and national decision-making to the University's scholarly work. He has enriched the center's programs, and through them, the University's place in public life."

"Philip Zelikow has brought tremendous energy and vision to the Miller Center, and he leaves an indelible imprint," said Dan Frierson, chairman of the Miller Center Governing Council. "While we hate to see him depart, we commend and honor his tremendous commitment to public service."

Throughout the past six years, under Zelikow's direction, the Miller Center has grown tremendously in breadth, depth and vision. The list of accomplishments is impressive:

- Dramatic expansion of the center's spoken history efforts, with three new presidential oral histories (Reagan, George H.W. Bush, and Clinton)
- Establishment of a new primary research initiative, the Presidential Recordings Program, resulting in the publication of eight volumes that bring readers into the Oval Office during the Kennedy and Johnson administrations
- Growth of the center's physical presence and resources at the University of Virginia, with construction of the Thompson Pavilion and establishment of the Scripps Library and Multimedia Archive
- Significant contributions to national public policy solutions with the bipartisan 2001 National Commission on Federal Election Reform, chaired by Presidents Carter and Ford, and the 2002 Markle Task Force on National Security in the Information Age
- Dramatic growth in the Center's public outreach, through its highly popular Forum program, now aired on the Internet and on television, as well as its expansive online presence through its Web site, millercenter.org and AmericanPresident.org
- Leadership in fostering the next generation of the nation's brightest scholars, through the establishment of National Fellowships in Contemporary History, Public Policy and American Politics

After serving in government with the Navy, the State Department and the National Security Council, Zelikow taught at Harvard University before assuming his professorship at the University of Virginia and the job of directing its Miller Center of Public Affairs in 1998. The Miller Center is the nation's largest research center on the American presidency, leading the way in basic research regarding how the United States is governed at the highest levels. Zelikow is the author or co-author of numerous books and articles, and a regular teacher of large and popular courses on the Second World War and on the Cold War.

From 2001 to 2003, he served as a member of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board. From January 2003 until its completion in July 2004, he served as the executive director of the 9/11 Commission. He was executive director of the National Commission on Federal Election Reform, chaired by former Presidents.

Carter and Ford, as well as the executive director of the Markle Foundation Task Force on National Security in the Information Age. Zelikow has also been the director of the Aspen Strategy Group, a policy program of the Aspen Institute.

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