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Miller Center Releases a New Blueprint for Climate Policy

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA., April 22, 2009—The Miller Center of Public Affairs at the University of Virginia has released a **Climate Policy Blueprint**, the report of the National Conference on Climate Governance held Dec. 11–12, 2008, in Charlottesville, Va. It is online at: <http://millercenter.org/archive/climate>.

While the scientific arguments about climate change have long dominated the debate, this effort focuses on how climate change affects the government, and the government's capacity to follow through on various policy options. Under the direction of Dr. Barry Rabe, Professor of Public Policy at the University of Michigan's Gerald Ford School of Public Policy and a Visiting Scholar at the Miller Center, a number of the country's preeminent scholars on climate change policy have offered their thoughts and recommendations about how to create a viable governance strategy to cope with the effects of climate change.

Among their recommendations:

- **Require transparency and emissions disclosure.** Mandate through federal legislation an emissions registry and disclosure process.
- **Rebuild analytical capacity.** Create a new entity to provide reliable guidance and analysis on climate change and the impact of policy.
- **Streamline committee jurisdiction and relearn oversight.** Redefine congressional committee and subcommittee roles and oversight.
- **Rebuild agency capacity.** Prepare various federal agencies, units and staff to assume a constructive role in governance.
- **Take federalism seriously.** State experience offers the federal government real-world lessons and a foundation for an intergovernmental partnership.
- **Begin to price carbon.** All options require clear political communication, and design that minimizes the risk of manipulation and error.
- **Cultivate allies.** Explore cross-national partnerships at multiple levels, perhaps beginning with our North American neighbors.

The report also contains highlights from the **2008 National Survey on American Public Opinion on Climate Change and Policy Opinions**, commissioned by the Miller Center and conducted by Muhlenberg College, measuring public attitudes about climate change, the government's role in dealing with it, and viable policy options.

Video, audio, and materials from the National Conference on Climate Governance are online at: <http://millercenter.org/archive/climate>

Brookings Institution Press will publish an edited, peer-reviewed volume of the scholars' papers from the conference later this year.

The Miller Center of Public Affairs is a leading nonpartisan public policy institution aimed at bringing together engaged citizens, scholars, members of the media, and government officials to focus on issues of national importance to the governance of the United States, with a special interest in the American presidency.

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