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## Oct. 21: What Do Virginians Think About Climate Change?

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA., Oct. 16, 2008—The University of Virginia's Miller Center of Public Affairs will unveil the results of the **Report of the Virginia Climate Change Survey** – a poll measuring Virginians' views about climate change and government's role in dealing with it – in a panel discussion on **Tuesday, Oct. 21 at 5:30 p.m.**, presented by the Miller Center's Governing America in a Global Era (GAGE) program.

Authors **Barry Rabe**, Miller Center Visiting Scholar from the University of Michigan, and **Christopher Borick**, Director of the Institute of Public Opinion at Muhlenberg College, will share key findings from the first survey of public attitudes toward climate change among Virginia residents, conducted via a statewide telephone survey in September (660 respondents, +/- 4%). They will discuss whether Virginians think climate change is real; what factors have influenced their views; and what they think about various government policies in effect in other states, and that are being considered in the Commonwealth.

The panel will feature comments from:

- **Vivian Thomson**, U.Va. Assistant Professor of Politics; Director of U.Va.'s Environmental Thought and Practice program; and Vice Chair of the Virginia Air Pollution Control Board;
- **L. Preston Bryant, Jr.**, Virginia Secretary of Natural Resources; and
- **John H. Gibbons**, Assistant to the President for Science and Technology and Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy under President Clinton

"This event will shed important light on the **public's** perception of legitimate approaches to global warming," said Rabe. "Although climate change is generally viewed as a global matter, a growing number of states are taking major steps to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions."

The Report of the Virginia Climate Change Survey is part of a larger national survey initiative that will be presented at the Miller Center's **National Conference on Climate Governance, Dec. 11–12, 2008**.

The **Report of the Virginia Climate Change Survey** will take place at the Miller Center of Public Affairs at the University of Virginia (2201 Old Ivy Road, Charlottesville, VA 22904). The panel is free and open to the public. This event will be **webcast live** and archived online at [www.millercenter.org](http://www.millercenter.org).

*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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