

Gerald L Baliles, Director

NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Problem of Jobs, by Guian McKee, Published by University of Chicago Press

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA., Nov. 17, 2008 – *The Problem of Jobs: Liberalism, Race, and Deindustrialization in Philadelphia*, by Guian McKee of the University of Virginia's Miller Center of Public Affairs, has been published by the University of Chicago Press. McKee will present *The Problem of Jobs* at a Colloquium, hosted by the Miller Center's Governing America in a Global Era program (GAGE), at the Miller Center on Friday, Nov. 21 at 12:30 p.m. More information is online at www.millercenter.org.

The Problem of Jobs reveals that fights against unemployment and economic inequality did not collapse after the New Deal, but instead began to flourish at the local rather than the national level. With a focus on Philadelphia, this volume illuminates the central role of these local political and policy struggles in shaping the fortunes of city and citizen alike. In the process, it tells the remarkable story of how Philadelphia's policymakers and community activists energetically worked to challenge deindustrialization through an innovative series of job retention initiatives, training programs, inner-city business development projects, and early affirmative action programs. Ultimately interpreting economic decline as an arena for intervention rather than a historical inevitability, *The Problem of Jobs* serves as a timely reminder of policy's potential to combat injustice.

"Guian McKee lays bare the specific types of pragmatic on-the-ground accomplishments that make employment the center of urban history," said Jefferson Cowie, Associate Professor of Labor History at Cornell University. "This is where the rubber meets the road not just in the history of urban politics, but its future as well."

U.Va. Associate Professor Guian McKee joined the Miller Center's Presidential Recordings Program in 2002. He is the editor of *The Presidential Recordings* - Lyndon B. Johnson: Toward the Great Society, Feb. 1, 1964 – May 31, 1964 (W.W.

Norton, 2007). McKee has published articles in the *Journal of Urban History*, *Journal of Policy History*, *Journal of Planning History*, and the *Boston Globe*.

The Problem of Jobs: Liberalism, Race, and Deindustrialization in Philadelphia By Guian McKee University of Chicago Press, 2008; \$39.00

GAGE Colloquium:

Guian McKee: The Problem of Jobs Friday, Nov. 21, 12:30 p.m. Miller Center of Public Affairs University of Virginia 2201 Old Ivy Road Charlottesville VA 22904 www.millercenter.org

Founded in 1975, the Miller Center of Public Affairs is a leading nonpartisan public policy institution that aims to fulfill Jefferson's public service mission by serving as a national meeting place for engaged citizens, scholars, students, media representatives, and government officials to research, reflect, and report on issues of national importance to the governance of the United States, with special attention to the central role and history of the presidency.

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