MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Exciting Times

By Jack Miller

It’s exciting when, after working hard at it, you see your vision becoming a reality. And that’s what is happening at the Jack Miller Center.

We now have 550 scholars in our faculty community on 180 college campuses who share our mission to reinvigorate education in America’s Founding Principles and history. We have supported the establishment and/or growth of 52 academic centers at elite institutions, flagship state universities and leading liberal arts schools across America. I am grateful to faculty, donors and the JMC staff for all that has been accomplished.

These are exciting times, for sure, for all of us who value the critical role higher education should play in preparing students to be good citizens. The potential to do much more is real and we are moving ahead to make it a reality.

Four years ago, we started the Chicago Initiative, a plan to pick a single community and focus on making it a dynamic center for teaching America’s Founding Principles. Our goal was to get programs at ten Chicago area universities, which we have now achieved. Colleges participating in our program include the Illinois Institute of Technology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Northwestern University, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

John Templeton Foundation Awards JMC $2.8 Million Grant

The JMC has been awarded a $2.8 million grant from the John Templeton Foundation in support of a three-year national project entitled “Creativity, Innovation and Free Institutions: Science, Law and Enterprise in the Making of the American Commercial Republic.”

The award will be used to support and develop interdisciplinary projects at six institutions that lead the nation in professional education in science, engineering, business and law, with the intent to re-ground pre-professional education in the liberal arts. Participating institutions are the University of California at Los Angeles, Illinois Institute of Technology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Northwestern University, University of Wisconsin-Madison and a final university which will be named shortly.

The focus of these programs will be to investigate the relationship among political institutions, scientific and technological advancement, new understandings of property and the moral and intellectual significance of those transformations for innovation and wealth creation.

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PROGRAM BACKGROUND

The Framers of the American Constitution were preoccupied with the opportunities offered to a rising middle class by new forms of property and, with that, new kinds of political power. Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton and Benjamin Rush all understood the profound significance of owning their ideas, their intellectual property. They made the key connections between experiment, invention, contract and wealth. These connections are not distant and remote legacies of the Founding generation; they are persistent challenges, directly linking these central concerns of the Founders to the policy and practice of the 21st century.
As Jack Miller notes on the previous page, we are in the midst of exiting times as we realize the fruits of five-plus years of efforts in the Chicago area. None of this would have been possible without the support of Chicago-area philanthropists whose investment is helping professors realize their goals of strengthening education in American Founding Principles and history.

I have been impressed by Chicago’s amazing civic culture, something that is truly unique to this great city. And the donors who have supported JMC’s Chicago Initiative have been nothing less than inspiring:

National foundations, including the John Templeton Foundation (JTF) and the Oxley Foundation, have now joined the local philanthropic community in supporting some of the most promising of these efforts. Grants from these foundations have allowed us to establish an exciting new program at Northwestern University. Additionally, the JTF support is helping us build on existing foundations at the Illinois Institute of Technology – foundations laid through the help of donors such as Craig Duchossois and the Brinson Foundation.

New positions at Carthage and Lake Forest Colleges will provide students access to courses in American political thought, government and history – thanks to strategic investments by Dick Uihlein.

A partner investment by the Northern Trust Bank Foundation allowed 66 high school teachers to participate in the Teachers Academy, conducted jointly with Roosevelt University.

And thanks to the support of John Lillard, we have new opportunities at the Newberry Library that will provide a focal point of connectivity for Chicago-area professors and campus programs. What a wonderful opportunity we now have working with David Spadafora, the President of the Newberry Library!

What now is possible is even more exciting than what has been achieved to date. As we reach “take off,” we have the opportunity to see even greater achievements, including greater collaboration among Chicago-area professors and campuses to achieve a network effect greater than any one professor or campus could possibly produce.

Chicago-area Philanthropists Help Professors Strengthen American Founding Education
Conducted jointly by JMC and the Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation, the conference, “America’s Greatness: The Cultural Foundations of Freedom and Prosperity,” brought together scholars and guests to discuss both the sources of and the global challenges to America’s greatness.

Professor Robert P. George, Princeton, opened the conference with remarks on “Immigration and American Exceptionalism.” George is the founding director of Princeton’s prestigious James Madison Program.

*National Review* Senior Editor Richard Brookhiser delivered the closing remarks, “Alexander Hamilton and America’s Greatness.”

Panel topics included “Constitutional Fidelity and National Greatness,” “‘The Fatal Conceit’ Revisited” and “Si Vis Pacem, Para Bellum” (If You Wish for Peace, Prepare for War), and a roundtable discussion considered “Challenges to the Future of America’s Greatness, Domestic and Foreign.” This year’s presenters included Professors James Ceaser, University of Virginia; Luigi Zingales, University of Chicago, and Roy Godson, Georgetown University.

The Bradley Fellowship program is a key program of the Bradley Foundation’s commitment to sustaining the great thinking of American and Western traditions. The program enables young scholars to engage in focused study with scholars dedicated to upholding the great intellectual standards of these traditions.

“We continue to be extremely pleased to partner with the Bradley Foundation to bring scholars together to discuss the critical issues of the day,” said JMC President Mike Ratliff. “We look forward to continuing to work together to advance thoughtful and meaningful dialogue on the foundations of our society.”
Investing in Faculty: Senior Fellows Summer Institute

For the past nine years, JMC summer institutes and other programs have brought together promising young scholars in serious and thoughtful discussion on issues arising from American constitutional history and Western tradition.

Summer institutes serve as the entry point for young scholars into JMC’s Community of Professors, which now stands at 550 professors. To capitalize on the investment JMC has already made in these scholars’ careers, this summer JMC will hold its first Senior Fellows Summer Institute in August in Philadelphia.

Senior Fellows Summer Institutes will be central to strengthening JMC’s national Community of Professors and will allow select Miller professors to return for “refresher” programs that will deepen and expand their relationship with the Miller Center and their commitment to teaching America’s Founding Principles and history.

The three-day colloquia, which will focus on the future of American political thought, will include professional development workshops, opportunities for networking and panel discussions designed to spur thoughtful discourse among the scholars.

“Miller fellows are responding very favorably to the senior fellows summer institute as they continue to seek community and collaboration with scholars who have dedicated themselves to the study and teaching of the central ideas and principles of the American political tradition,” said Mike Andrews, JMC executive vice president. “The goal of the JMC is to help scholars at every stage of their professional development, and the senior fellows summer institute is designed to help mid-career scholars in the JMC network continue their impressive rise through the academic ranks.”

Evaluating Program Effectiveness

The JMC has engaged the Huron Consulting Group, a leading market research firm that assesses program performance in higher education, to evaluate the effectiveness of key JMC programs.

“We believe strongly in transparency and accountability and want better to understand the impacts of our programs,” said JMC president Mike Ratliff. “We are now at a point in our program development and growth at which we want to look at the metrics of our efforts. Huron provides the expertise that can help propel us forward with objective insights into our efforts to transform student access to education in American government, history and political economy.”

Templeton Grant

Continued from page 1

ship through the lens of the American Founding in the larger international context of the Atlantic Enlightenment—thus integrating the wider scope of 18th century British, French and Scottish political thought as deep sources of American constitutionalism.

While each of the partner projects will develop organically in keeping with its faculty and its particular institutional environment, all of the projects will provide students—whether in science, engineering, law or business—a coherent introduction to the role of free institutions, as supported by our Founding Principles, in shaping human creativity and innovation and the role of that change in wealth creation.

The Project Leader is Dr. Pamela Edwards, JMC Director of Academic Initiatives. Reflecting on the long-term impact and significance of the project, Dr. Edwards remarked, “The scientists, engineers and patent holders of the next twenty years will, in many cases, also become the CEOs and corporate leadership of the new millennium. It is imperative that they, along with the ‘learned professions,’ have a humanely grounded education.”
Q: Tell us about the Benjamin Franklin Project at Illinois Institute of Technology.

A: In its first fifteen months of life, the BFP has carved out a unique space for studying the American Founding at a university better known for architecture and design, and in a department better known for urban and comparative politics. As the postdoc, I have developed undergraduate courses on American political institutions, along with an upper-level seminar on American political thought.

The mission of the BFP, however, reaches well beyond our campus to the greater Chicago community. We have now hosted five public events that have attracted hundreds of people from all over the city. To highlight two of these: just days before the November election, we staged an Oxford-style debate on presidential power between William Howell of the University of Chicago and Alberto Coll of De Paul University, moderated by Chicago Public Radio’s Alison Cuddy. And in February, we paired University of Virginia historian Peter Onuf with Marshall Brown, an architect at IIT, for a lecture on Democracy and the Built Environment. Events in our coming season will feature collaborations with other JMC centers in the Chicago area.

In planning these events, we look for ways to bring our university—professors and students alike—into conversation with scholars around the country studying the American Founding. We have much to learn, but also many unique things to contribute to this field.

Q: How has the JMC fellowship impacted your career?

A: This first year of the fellowship has enabled completion of a book manuscript on American political theology. Despite the fact that the topic is so unusual for our department, my colleagues at IIT have been enormously supportive of the project. In April, the BFP sponsored a roundtable that brought together scholars from several universities, including IIT, to discuss the manuscript and offer input, even as it awaits the peer-review process.

This level of help on a first book project is so rare and yet so valuable for young scholars. This postdoc, in other words, has not just given me time and space to get the project finished; it has offered substantive assistance that has made the project better.

Q: What are your plans for next year?

A: I have another year left on the fellowship, with a second BFP postdoctoral fellow starting this fall, so I am looking forward to designing new events for our series, developing new seminars for our students and starting a new book project, this one on the equal protection clause in the U.S. Constitution (Fourteenth Amendment), its origins and its variable application in American jurisprudence.

Q: Why should students study the American Founding?

A: The American Founding is still a topic of great mystery, and therefore a frontier of discovery. Its stated ideals—for instance, the “unalienable rights” of “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness”—are loaded with intricate lexical histories that still require disentangling. The competing visions for the new republic—not just the Jeffersonians versus the Hamiltonians, but many others that stand outside this spectrum—need a more careful scrutiny. Even some of the towering figures, like James Madison, have maintained a degree of inscrutability into the 21st century. After all these years, the American Founding still holds a lot of buried treasure.
Although shifts in the balance of federal and state power and long-term trends favoring centralization are often attributed to broad forces such as citizen mobility and economic interdependence, the centennial of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Amendments offers a welcome opportunity to reflect on ways that the U.S. federal system has also been shaped by conscious choices and particularly through constitutional amendments. No amendment has had more far-reaching consequences for American federalism than the Fourteenth Amendment, whose due process and equal protection clauses have served as a vehicle for the Supreme Court to exercise broad supervision over state legislation. But the Sixteenth Amendment’s authorization of an individual income tax and the Seventeenth Amendment’s provision for direct senate elections have also made notable contributions to the expansion of federal power.

The Sixteenth Amendment, ratified on February 3, 1913, had as its central purpose the overturning of a Supreme Court decision in Pollock v. Farmers’ Loan & Trust Co. (1895) invalidating an 1894 income tax act. The Court held by a five-four vote that the 1894 act imposed a direct tax in violation of the constitutional requirement that such taxes be apportioned by state population. In response, the amendment authorized Congress to “collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several states.” One effect was to bring about a change in the composition of the federal budget, in that income tax receipts soon became the largest single source of federal revenue and currently make up about half of federal revenue collected each year. Even more important, the amendment had several effects on the balance of power among federal, state, and local governments.

In the first place, income tax receipts provided a powerful revenue stream enabling the federal government to undertake activities that had in prior years been addressed wholly or primarily at the state and local level. Prior to the amendment, state and local government revenue exceeded federal government revenue. Within several decades, the federal government was taking in more money than state and local governments combined.

The income tax not only fueled the growth of federal programs; it gave federal officials additional means of offering grants-in-aid to state governments. In the first decade of its operation, federal grant-in-aid spending increased ten-fold and sup-
ported new federal programs in areas such as road construction, vocational education, and maternal health. In later decades, federal grant-in-aid spending and programs increased dramatically and eventually became a vehicle for achieving various federal objectives that could not be authorized through other constitutionally enumerated powers and for imposing conditions that were occasionally opposed by state officials but often tolerated as a necessary cost of retaining federal funding. To the extent that the federal government currently undertakes tasks going well beyond Madison’s expectation in Federalist 45 that “The powers delegated by the proposed Constitution to the federal government are few and defined,” these activities are in many cases authorized by the taxing and spending power and fueled to a great extent by income tax revenue.

**Seventeenth Amendment**

The Seventeenth Amendment was ratified on April 8, 1913, and brought a formal end to state legislative appointment of U.S. Senators. Rather than signaling a decisive break from prevailing practice, this amendment is best understood as capping a long-term transformation away from Madison’s expectation in Federalist 45 that the Senate “will be elected absolutely and exclusively by the State Legislatures” and would, along with other branches of the federal government, “owe its existence more or less to the favor of the State governments.”

In the late-eighteenth and early-nineteenth centuries, state legislatures frequently instructed senators and held them accountable for errant votes by censuring them and occasionally forcing their resignation. But by the mid-nineteenth century, as William Riker demonstrated, state legislatures found it increasingly difficult to hold senators accountable for their votes by forcing their resignation. Moreover, by the late nineteenth century, aspirants for senate seats were frequently appealing directly to voters, not only in exceptional cases such as the 1858 Lincoln-Douglas campaign but on a routine basis. In the early twentieth century, several states went so far as to require the legislature to appoint the senate candidate who secured the most votes in a direct election. In fact, at the time that the Seventeenth Amendment was ratified, a majority of states were selecting their senators via popular election or some other system whereby the legislature was essentially ratifying the choice of the people.

Even though state legislative selection had generally ceased playing a meaningful role in ensuring that senators were responsive to state legislatures, the Seventeenth Amendment was still notable in bringing a formal end to a feature of the constitutional system intended to secure representation of state interests in the federal system. No longer would “appointment of senators by the State legislatures” give “to the State governments such an agency in the formation of the federal government as must secure the authority of the former, and may form a convenient link between the two systems,” as Madison explained in Federalist 62.

The post-Civil War Amendments and various New Deal-era congressional acts and Supreme Court decisions are deservedly credited with bringing about foundational changes in the federal system. But the hundredth anniversary of the income-tax and senate-election amendments offers an opportunity to reflect on ways that the Progressive Era also made enduring contributions to the expansion of federal authority.

“...at the time that the Seventeenth Amendment was ratified, a majority of states were selecting their senators via popular election or some other system whereby the legislature was essentially ratifying the choice of the people.”
A five-year grant from the Uihlein Family Foundation now makes it possible for JMC to provide donors with an in-depth analysis of higher education institutions and their potential for a partner program on America’s Founding Principles and history.

Emily Koons has been appointed the Uihlein Fellow for JMC and is responsible for developing strategic, focused reports that analyze an institution’s culture, capacity, curriculum and faculty to determine if an opportunity exists to pursue a partnership on a campus where JMC does not have a presence.

JMC uses an organic approach to partnership development, and these reports help assess whether administration and faculty interest is at a level that would support a successful partnership.

“Our intent is to provide donors the information they need to make thoughtful, philanthropic investments in higher education,” said JMC President Mike Ratliff. “If we can match a donor’s interest with the interest of an institution, we have created great value for both.”

Koons has been with JMC since 2009 and was manager of development and communications prior to her appointment as the Uihlein Fellow. She is a native of Austin, Texas and graduated from Davidson College with a major in history and minor in economics. She studied abroad at Cambridge in London and Charles University in Prague.

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Emily Koons

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Gettysburg: The Last Invasion

By Allen C. Guelzo

Review Source: Amazon.com

July 2013 marks the sesquicentennial of the Battle of Gettysburg. The greatest and most violent clash the North American continent had ever seen, it was the high-water mark of the Confederacy—a battle in which Robert E. Lee’s hopes of a successful invasion of the North were finally dashed. It also remains one of the most complex and difficult to understand of the entire war, both in terms of its scope, strategic considerations, and ultimate importance.

To coincide with the battle’s 150th anniversary, Civil War historian Allen C. Guelzo has written a remarkably intimate and freshly drawn account of this pivotal engagement. Guelzo begins his narrative with the lead-up to the battle, describing early conflicts over slavery, the makeup of the Union and Confederate rank and file (and their motivations for fighting), the rise of Robert E. Lee, the leaderships of the Armies of Northern Virginia and the Potomac, and Lee’s proposal to draw Union forces into “a pitched battle” on ground and time of his own choosing.

Moving to the battle itself, Guelzo offers a lay-of-the-land view that gives us a clear picture of the positions of both armies, the tactics of their leaders, and the movements that brought them together. At the same time, he eschews the top-down approach of much military history writing, focusing on the ground-level experiences of the soldiers in order to better explain Gettysburg’s outcomes and consequences.

Although Gettysburg has been written about at length and thoroughly dissected in terms of strategic importance, never before has a book focused so deeply on the individual soldier to explore the experience of the three days of intense fighting, or placed the battle so firmly in the context of nineteenth-century military practice. What emerges is a previously untold story that gives the cornerstone battle of the Civil War extraordinarily vivid new life.

Editor’s note: Professor Guelzo is a member of JMC’s Academic Council.
Chairman’s Message

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Institute of Technology, University of Chicago, Loyola, Notre Dame, Lake Forest, Roosevelt, Carthage, DePaul, Chicago-Kent School of Law, and Northwestern. Thanks to generous donors here in Chicago, nearly $2 million has been invested in programs on these campuses.

In late April, we had a meeting with professors from five of the area colleges and members of the JMC academic team, hosted by David Spadafora, president of the Newberry Library. The purpose of the meeting at the Newberry, one of the leading independent research libraries in the country, was to see how we could use the synergy of the colleges to create a powerful community for the teaching of America’s Founding Principles and history benefitting the entire Chicago community. David volunteered the Newberry Library as an active partner in the endeavor.

For almost three hours, the ideas flew back and forth about how the colleges can collaborate on educating students and the public on Founding Principles. Ideas discussed included….

Each college should build its own web site dedicated to education in Founding Principles and history and link all the others to it….

Invite faculty and students from all the colleges as well as high-school teachers to events on a particular campus….

The colleges could work together when arranging for a top-flight speaker to come to Chicago so he or she could address students at more than one campus. Also, try to arrange a reception for the speaker to meet with potential donors….

On Constitution Day, September 17th, the colleges could coordinate the timing of their events so that students would have the opportunity to attend more than one event….

Also, we could conduct events at leading public institutions, in addition to the Newberry Library, such as the Museum of Science and Industry, the Art Institute, etc. We would engage the media to publicize these events, which would be open to the public.....

Engage community colleges in as many programs as possible. Whenever possible, use our new award-winning video on liberty, the first in a semester-long series of programs. Perhaps we could host a summer institute for community college professors who teach courses in American political thought and history...and more.

We plan on implementing these ideas to take our Chicago Initiative to the next level. Our goal is to make Chicago, my hometown, the leader that other cities can follow. Later this year, with the help of new donor partners in Boston, we hope to lay the foundation for our Boston Initiative. This is really exciting because Boston is home to a number of world-class universities, several of which already have programs on campus supported by the JMC.

Yes, exciting times…a dream coming true…giving thousands of students new opportunities to learn the principles that have made America a wonderful country.
The Thomas Jefferson Center aims to realize Jefferson’s vision of educating citizens and leaders to understand the meaning of liberty and to exercise it wisely. Through the Jefferson Center’s courses, students engage in a direct, respectful, but probing and critical study of major creative and theoretical works that have shaped human thought and history. They enter into the debates about human nature, ethics, and the meaning of life that have unfolded over centuries. And they learn skills of critical reasoning, close reading and clear, cogent writing.

Co-directed by Professors Tom and Lorraine Pangle, the Jefferson Center allows students to join a community of scholars drawn from many departments and many schools of thought, united by a passion for fundamental questions, a spirit of friendly debate and a willingness to engage in critical self-scrutiny.

The Jefferson Center offers for students in all colleges the Certificate in Core Texts and Ideas, which provides an integrated path through UT’s core curriculum based on a study of the great books.

Students interested in a less structured alternative to the Certificate Program in Core Texts and Ideas may also take the Center’s six-course concentration in Western Civilization or the four-course minor in Core Texts and Ideas. Additionally, students interested in constructing an interdisciplinary major in the great books are encouraged to consider the Humanities Major, an interdisciplinary program for honor students in the College of Liberal Arts.

In addition to these academic programs, the Jefferson Center sponsors an ongoing lecture series, an executive seminar series for local professional and community leaders, a student book club, teaching assistantships for graduate students, discussion sections for large lecture courses, the Jefferson Scholars program for honor students, scholarships for summer study in Rome, faculty book discussions and the Jefferson Society of Postdoctoral Fellows, a teaching fellowship program for young scholars committed to the interdisciplinary teaching of the great books.
This year, JMC will conduct its third Constitution Day Initiative (CDI) in partnership with professors across the country. Launched in 2011 with a lead gift from the Andrea Waitt Carlton Family Foundation, the CDI helps colleges and universities fulfill the Congressional requirement that higher education institutions receiving federal funds hold an educational program on the Constitution on September 17, the day the Constitution was signed in 1787.

The CDI is directed by Rhodes College Professor Daniel Cullen. Professor Cullen serves as JMC’s Senior Fellow in Constitutional Studies.

“Constitution Day is sinking roots throughout our network of partner programs, and we hope 2013 will advance the cause of teaching America’s Founding Principles by modeling for the national higher education community the diverse ways in which a substantive program on the Constitution can invigorate the campus,” Professor Cullen said.

“Another goal for 2013 is to raise awareness of the extraordinary range of scholarship and teaching expertise represented by our faculty associates and summer institute fellows, many of whom have designed or participated in Constitution Day lectures and symposia across the country. Like everyone, we are upgrading our online educational presence, but when it comes to generating serious discussion about the political philosophy and history of the American Founding, our greatest resource is our growing cadre of professors.”

To learn more about the CDI, see our Web site, www.jackmillercenter.org, or contact Professor Cullen at dcullen@gojmc.org to request a copy of our Constitution Day Initiative brochure.

Preparations Underway for Constitution Day Initiative

JMC’s new video, “Liberty,” the first in a series of videos on the uniqueness of the Declaration of Independence and Constitution, has been awarded the highest honor in the Educational Internet/Online Video category by the Telly Awards. The Liberty video also won a Bronze award in the Political Commentary Internet/Online Video category.

Additionally, “Liberty” was recognized by the Communicator Awards with a Gold Award of Excellence, the highest achievement award, in the Online Video-Politics category and with an Award of Distinction in the Online Video-Education category. To view the video, go to www.jackmillercenter.org/educational-resources/.

“Liberty” Video Earns Industry Awards

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Former Miller Fellow Accepts “Dream Job Opportunity”

Dr. Barton Myers, the inaugural JMC postdoctoral fellow in military history at Cornell University from 2009-2010, has accepted a tenure-track Civil War professorship at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia. For the past three years, Myers has held a tenure-track position at Texas Tech.

“I do hope that everyone at JMC knows how grateful I’ve been for all the support I have received from the center over the last few years,” Myers stated.

Myers specializes in U.S. military history with an emphasis on the Civil War, and he spent four summers wearing the green and gray of the National Park Service as an historian at Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park. He earned his B.A. from the College of Wooster and his Ph.D. from the University of Georgia.
If you are interested in making a donation to the JMC’s planned giving program, please contact Mike Deshaies, vice president of donor programs, at mdeshaijgojmc.org or 484.436.2067.

### New in 2013: JMC Podcasts

The JMC now provides easy access to free lectures by leading scholars on America’s Founding Principles and history. Available on iTunes, the JMC podcasts feature distinguished professors in the JMC community, including Barry Strauss, Cornell University; Lorraine Pangle, University of Texas at Austin and Wilfred McClay, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

Subscribe to the Jack Miller Center podcast channel through iTunes, or visit http://jackmillercenterpodcast.libsyn.com/webpage to view and download available podcasts.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- **JMC SUMMER INSTITUTE**, Charlottesville, VA, July 9-19
- **JMC SENIOR FELLOWS SUMMER INSTITUTE**, Philadelphia, PA, August 8-10
- **AMERICAN POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION CONVENTION**, Chicago, IL, August 29
- **CONSTITUTION DAY**, September 17
- **OHIO UNIVERSITY CONFERENCE**, “Equality & Public Policy,” Athens, OH, November 14

### MISSION AND PURPOSE

The Jack Miller Center partners with professors, administrators and donors who share its belief that educating students in America’s history and the great principles that animate our institutions and shape our citizens is a cause worthy of our best efforts and can bring us all together as a nation.