



JACK MILLER CENTER  
2008-09 BIENNIAL REPORT

# Working Together to Strengthen Civic Education



*“Educate and inform the whole mass of the people ...*

The Jack Miller Center is a nonpartisan, nonprofit educational organization that provides a wide variety of resources to college professors, who want to strengthen the teaching of America’s founding principles and history. Founder and chairman Jack Miller, a prominent entrepreneur and philanthropist, began working in higher education in 2004 in response to concerns expressed by college professors about the need to strengthen the teaching of America’s heritage and core principles.



Chairman  
**Jack Miller**

President  
**Rear Admiral Michael Ratliff  
(USN Ret.)**

Jack Miller Center for Teaching  
America’s Founding Principles  
and History

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*They are the only sure reliance for the preservation of our liberty.”*

—THOMAS JEFFERSON

There is mounting evidence that college graduates, our future leaders, lack the knowledge and understanding of America’s heritage and core principles necessary to be informed and engaged citizens. As a result, professors and donors are working with the Jack Miller Center to strengthen this essential education.

The Jack Miller Center for Teaching America’s Founding Principles and History was incorporated in October 2007 as a 501(c)(3) private operating foundation with headquarters in Philadelphia.

### **The Jack Miller Center is a unique resource**

Unlike many foundations, the Miller Center does not simply provide grants to recipients. Rather, the Jack Miller Center provides, in addition to financial support, a comprehensive package of programs and support services specifically designed for individual professors, who are dedicated to helping college students receive the best possible education to prepare them to be good stewards of our nation’s freedoms and the free institutions that protect all Americans’ liberties.

*“History is terribly important in the overall scheme of things.”*

—SANDRA DAY O’CONNOR, interview with the Jack Miller Center (July 10, 2009)



**JACK MILLER CENTER**

*For Teaching America’s Founding Principles and History*

## **The Jack Miller Center’s Three Strategies**

### **1 Faculty Development Programs**

These include summer institutes, post-doctoral fellowships, networking conferences, and a toolkit of ongoing services to assist professors in the humanities and social sciences in advancing programs to strengthen education. These programs collectively function as a career development pipeline for young professors that is unique in the academic environment.

### **2 Partner Programs**

The Miller Center, responding to requests from faculty partners and collaborating with donors, provides support, including initial seed money, to help establish and grow academic centers of excellence focused on strengthening the teaching of America’s founding principles and history. Today, there are 34 Miller Center Partner Programs on college campuses across the United States.

### **3 Raising Awareness**

The Miller Center creates awareness-building initiatives to increase support among college faculty, administrators and trustees, donors and alumni, parents and students, and public officials for strengthening education in our nation’s founding principles and history.

## “A Republic, if you can keep it!”

That’s what Benjamin Franklin said to a woman when she asked, “Dr. Franklin, what have you given us?” as Franklin exited the Pennsylvania State House in Philadelphia at the conclusion of the Constitutional Convention in 1787.

Thomas Jefferson said, “If a nation expects to be ignorant and free ... it expects what never was and never will be.”



Jack Miller

Thoughtful Americans from the founders to Lincoln to the present day have always understood that our freedoms and free institutions are always one or two uneducated generations away from extinction.

The goal of the Jack Miller Center is to enrich higher education by supporting faculty who want to expand learning opportunities about our nation’s founding and history. We are doing this by working with promising young scholars to help them find teaching positions and get their research published, so they can work toward tenure. We also are providing a variety of unique academic programs focused on helping students deepen their knowledge and appreciation of this wonderful Republic, which Franklin, Jefferson and the other Founding Fathers gave us more than two centuries ago.

We began this work in 2004 and incorporated the Jack Miller Center for Teaching America’s Founding Principles and History as an independent nonprofit, nonpartisan foundation in October 2007. Today, there are 325 Miller Center faculty partners on 152 college campuses across the country.

We have accomplished much since our incorporation in October 2007:

- We conducted four two-week summer institutes for professors. These intensive programs are key to our goal of building a community of 1,000 professors, who will teach more than 6 million students over the coming decades;
- We have invested nearly \$5 million in our growing network of partner academic programs on 34 campuses. The opportunity to expand this support is tremendous, and our goal is to assist our partners in raising \$25 million, so that they can realize their potential to transform education in American history and founding principles;
- This includes our Post-Doctoral Fellowship Initiative, which we launched in 2008, to advance the careers of young scholars, who will teach hundreds of thousands of students;
- Our Chicago Initiative brings together administrators, faculty and donors in the Chicago area to share resources to enhance learning. We believe this initiative will serve as a model for regional hubs of academic excellence in cities across the nation.



Mike Ratliff

In this report, you will learn about our many accomplishments. We are proud of what our team has achieved, and we look forward to exciting times to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jack Miller".

Jack Miller  
Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike Ratliff".

Mike Ratliff  
President

## Jack Miller Center Academic Team



Under the direction of Vice President **Dr. Michael Andrews**, the Miller Center provides a wide variety of unique resources to college professors and administrators, who want to strengthen education in America's founding principles and history.

Dr. Andrews earned his doctorate in American intellectual history from Tulane University. He has served on the faculty of St. John's College, teaching at both the Santa Fe and Annapolis campuses.



**Dr. Pamela Edwards** is the Academic Initiatives director. She earned her doctorate at the University College London.

In addition to publishing scholarly essays, Dr. Edwards is the author of "The Statesman's Science: History, Nature and Law in the Political Thought of Samuel Taylor Coleridge." From 2002–07, Edwards was a member of Syracuse University's history department.



**Dr. Rafael Major** is the Director of Faculty Development and Online Education.

Prior to joining the Miller Center, Dr. Major taught at Michigan State University's James Madison College, Rhodes College in Memphis, Tenn., and Trinity College in Hartford, Conn. He earned his doctorate at the University of North Texas.

*"When men yield up the privilege of thinking, the last shadow of liberty quits the horizon."*

—THOMAS PAINE



Professor Jim Ceaser (left) and Professor Bill McClay are the leaders of the Jack Miller Center Academic Advisory Council.

## Academic Advisory Council

### James Ceaser, Chairman



#### *“A boot camp for intellectuals”*

Jack Miller’s ecumenical approach offers a positive force in adding something to universities. There is a spirit and attitude that the Jack Miller Center brings that is important to the country,” says James Ceaser, Ph.D., professor of politics at the University of Virginia.

Professor Ceaser is the founder and director of The Program on Constitutionalism and Democracy at the University of Virginia, which hosted Jack Miller Center Summer Institutes in 2008 and 2009. He also serves as chairman of the Miller Center’s Academic Advisory Council.

“The summer institutes are a wonderful academic experience,” Ceaser says. “Some two dozen young scholars spend two full weeks in an environment that allows them to focus

on learning from some of the best faculty in the country in American history, political science and philosophy. They really are unique. I like to call the summer institutes ‘a boot camp for intellectuals.’”

A growing network of Miller Fellows continues to share ideas and experiences and help one another as they confront challenges and move ahead in their respective careers.

Summer institutes benefit the teaching faculty as well. “American Political Tradition is a course which evolved from a syllabus I presented at a Jack Miller Center conference,” explains Ceaser. “It was worked on and discussed by fellow scholars at the conference and is now taught exclusively by Miller Fellows. It has been an enormous success.”

Ceaser and the academic council’s vice chairman, Professor Wilfred McClay, are longtime associates of the Jack Miller Center and have been instrumental in shaping its academic programs. Ceaser, who has penned several books on American politics, has held visiting professorships at the University of Florence, the University of Basel, Oxford University, the University of Bordeaux and the University of Rennes. He is a frequent contributor to the news media concerning American politics.

■ **Wilfred M. McClay**, professor of history at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and is the 2009-10 Distinguished Visiting Professor at Pepperdine University; vice chairman.

■ **Mark Bauerlein**, professor of English and founder of The Program in Democracy and Citizenship at Emory University.

■ **Bruce Cole**, chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, 2001-2009, president of the American Revolution Center.

■ **Patrick Deneen**, chair in political science and director of The Tocqueville Forum at Georgetown University.

■ **Allen Guelzo**, Henry R. Luce III Professor of the Civil War Era and the director of Civil War Era Studies Program at Gettysburg College.

■ **Robert Koons**, professor of philosophy and founder of The Program in Western Civilization and American Institutions at the University of Texas at Austin.

■ **Ralph Lerner**, Benjamin Franklin Professor Emeritus in the Committee on Social Thought at the University of Chicago.

■ **Harvey Mansfield**, professor of government at Harvard University and a 2004 recipient of the National Humanities Medal from President George W. Bush.

■ **Thomas Pangle**, Joe R. Long Chair in Democratic Studies and the director of the Jefferson Center for Core Texts and Ideas at the University of Texas at Austin.

■ **John Strassburger**, president of Ursinus College and a leader in the effort to strengthen classic liberal education.

■ **Gordon Wood**, Alva O. Way Professor Emeritus of history at Brown University and a Pulitzer Prize-winning author.

■ **Jean Yarbrough**, Gary M. Pender Professor of Social Sciences and chair of the Government Department at Bowdoin College.

■ **Michael Zuckert**, Nancy Reeves Dreux Professor of Political Science at the University of Notre Dame.

## Faculty Development—Summer Institutes

The Jack Miller Center is dedicated to cultivating and supporting an increasing number of young scholars who are devoted to teaching college students, tomorrow's leaders, about our national heritage. Our faculty development summer institutes, in partnership with leading colleges and universities, are our primary tools to achieve this goal.

These institutes give promising young professors and graduate students an

opportunity to come together for two intellectually stimulating weeks. Led by renowned faculty from across the United States, institute fellows participate in seminars on American history, government and political theory, and attend workshops that will assist them in developing courses, securing tenure, publishing and long-term professional advancement.

Working closely with the Miller Center's Academic Advisory Council and faculty

partners on campuses across the country, young scholars, who have demonstrated potential to become experts in their field and who are committed to teaching America's founding principles and history, are invited to attend. They are given the opportunity to discuss the enduring ideas, issues and questions from the American past and the traditions of Western civilization, as a means of enriching their knowledge of America's history and institutions.

### Gordon Wood

*"I am learning as much as the young scholars are learning. My thinking is affected by the exchanges that take place."*

Gordon S. Wood finds the work of the Jack Miller Center, "exhilarating and exciting."

"The Jack Miller Center does great work in getting young scholars involved in the era of the founding," says Professor Wood, one of the nation's preeminent historians and a frequent participant at the Miller Center Summer Institutes.

Wood, a Professor Emeritus of History at Brown University, earned his doctorate at Harvard University and taught at the College of William and Mary,

Harvard, the University of Michigan and Cambridge University before joining the faculty at Brown in 1969. He won a Pulitzer Prize for his book, "The Radicalism of the American Revolution," in 1993.

"The young people are so engaged and interested in this material; you just can't help but be thrilled to be involved," Wood says.

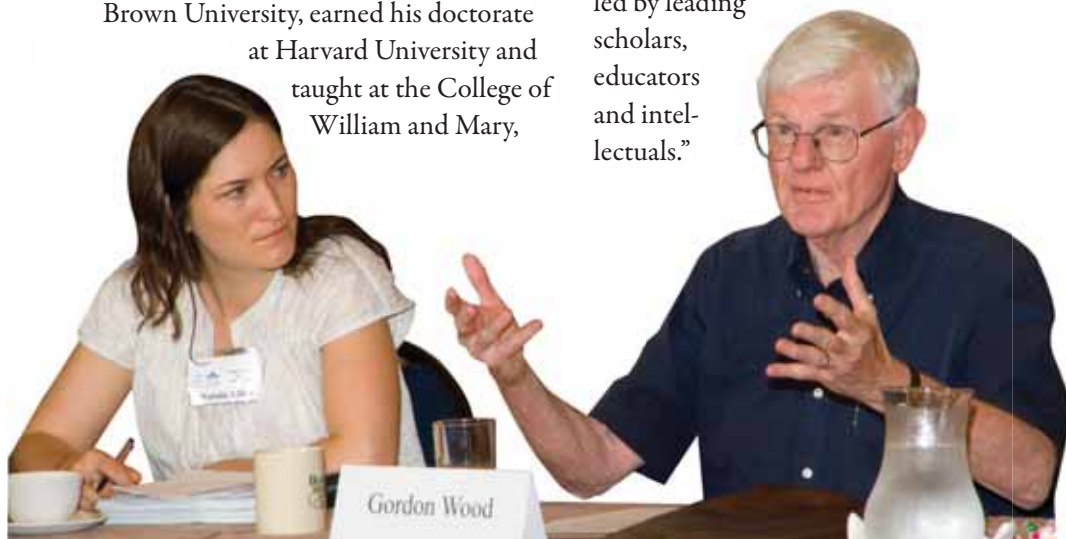
"The summer faculty development institutes are an integral part of our overall mission," says Dr. Michael Andrews, Miller Center vice president of academic programs. "Each institute brings together 20 to 30 junior faculty members and advanced graduate students for workshops led by leading scholars, educators and intellectuals."

A renowned scholar, Wood believes the summer institutes benefit everyone involved.

"I am learning as much as the young scholars are learning," Wood adds. "My thinking is affected by the exchanges that take place at the seminar."

"It's important because these men who drafted the Constitution created the institutions and ideals by which we are governed," Wood says. "They have created our identity. America is not a nation in the usual sense of the term. We have no ethnic or tribal identity. Our nation is based on a set of beliefs and aspirations — equality, liberty, constitutionalism — that came out of the Revolution. We go back to the Revolution and the founding to find out who we are."

"That's why we keep going back to the founders: to refresh and reaffirm our sense of identity. Our interest in the founding will continue as long as the United States exists."



## Faculty Development

### National Summit for Educators

The Jack Miller Center's Academic Advisory Council conducts a national summit for educators each year.

These three-day conferences bring together college professors to strategize on how to develop an academic center on their campus. Workshops are led by professors who have already established centers.

*“This support for outstanding young professors will touch the lives of millions of students over the coming decades. With matching support from other donors and in-kind support from host institutions, we anticipate the total program will support more than 60 Miller Post-Doctoral Fellows by 2012.”*

—MIKE RATLIFF, Jack Miller Center president

### Post-Doctoral Fellowship Initiative

With a \$1 million gift from a donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, the Jack Miller Center launched a post-doctoral fellowship initiative in April 2008. Fellowships are awarded to students, who recently earned doctoral degrees in the humanities or social sciences and are dedicated to strengthening the teaching of America's founding principles and history at the undergraduate college level.

Miller Center Fellows gain valuable teaching experience and the opportunity to work with some of the leading scholars in the country, a very desirable credential as they enter the academic job market. The Miller Post-Doctoral Initiative is a partnership between the Miller Center and the universities that host these fellows.

In February 2009, the initiative was significantly expanded with the announcement that the Manhattan Institute's Center for the American University and the Miller Center will work together to support an expansion of existing programs and the addition of new ones.



Mike Ratliff addressing participants at a Miller Center conference in Austin, Texas.

Post-Doctoral Fellowships have been awarded to scholars at the following colleges and universities:

- Harvard University
- Georgetown University
- Cornell University
- University of Virginia
- Yale University
- Villanova University
- University of Texas at Austin
- Brown University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Emory University
- Boston College
- Christopher Newport University
- University of Notre Dame
- Michigan State University
- Claremont Graduate School
- Duke University
- Louisiana State University
- Lake Forest College
- Rhodes College



## Partner Programs



Barry Strauss is a professor of history and classics at Cornell University.

*“I think the Jack Miller Center is one of the most innovative things to happen to higher education in a long time.”*

—PROFESSOR BARRY STRAUSS

Academic centers offer the greatest potential to develop students’ interest in learning about America’s founding principles, and to cultivate future generations of teachers who are equipped to teach them. In many university settings, an academic center on America’s founding principles can provide a focus for institutional recognition of studies related to the founding principles. Many centers offer courses and undergraduate degrees and build student demand for new programs.

*A center can serve as a focal point for diverse academic disciplines to engage in civil discussion and cross-fertilization of ideas. While the majority of scholars engaged in the study of the founding principles come from the humanities and social sciences, academic centers provide opportunities for scholars in business, law and economics to contribute to the central ideas that are the source of our nation’s strength.*

Because higher education providers are diverse, ranging from Ivy League schools to large public universities to small liberal arts colleges, academic center initiatives require tailored goals and strategies. Consequently, the Jack Miller Center works with partners to develop models appropriate to each type of institution. These models may be emulated by peer institutions and can significantly impact the number of faculty teaching and the number of students learning the founding principles of our nation.

*The Miller Center provides seed money and support for new centers, and assists in identifying funding sources for growth and capacity-building phases of existing centers. The Miller Center supports a range of efforts including lectures, conferences, workshops, graduate student and post-doctoral fellowships, visiting professorships, publishing and reading rooms.*

*“A well-instructed people alone can be permanently a free people.”* —JAMES MADISON

## Partner programs supported by the Jack Miller Center

- Florida Atlantic University, Jack Miller Forum for Civics Education
- Harvard University, Program in Constitutional Government
- University of Virginia, The Program on Constitutionalism and Democracy
- University of Texas at Austin, Jefferson Center for Core Texts and Ideas
- Emory University, American Citizenship and Democracy
- University of Notre Dame, Tocqueville Center
- Duke University, Gerst Program in American Values and Institutions
- Georgetown University, Tocqueville Forum
- Brown University, Political Theory Project
- Yale University, post-doctoral fellowship
- Boston College, The Program for the Study of the Western Heritage
- Michigan State University, James Madison College
- Louisiana State University, Classical Tradition in Learning & Leadership
- Cornell University, Program on Freedom and Free Societies
- Villanova University, Ryan Center for Study of Free Institutions
- Christopher Newport University, American Studies and Civic Leadership
- Claremont, Claremont Graduate School
- Lake Forest College, post-doctoral fellowship and faculty development program
- Rhodes College, Project for the Study of Liberal Democracy
- MIT, Benjamin Franklin Project
- Ursinus College, Common Intellectual Experience
- Ohio University, George Washington Forum
- Indiana University, Tocqueville Forum
- Roosevelt University, Montesquieu Forum for Study of Civic Life
- University of Chicago, Tocqueville Conference
- Dartmouth College, Daniel Webster Program
- University of Richmond, Adam Smith Program
- IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law, Kent Forum
- George Mason University, Civic Education Project
- Northwood University, The Forum for Citizenship and Enterprise
- Furman University, The Tocqueville Program
- Baylor University, visiting scholars and graduate fellowships
- DePaul University, Conference on Jewish Thought and America's Founding Principles
- Eastern University, Lincoln Program

### Jack Miller

#### *“Enrich programs on college campuses”*

**T**he concept of the partner programs we support is to enrich programs on college campuses to provide students with the opportunity to learn what's good about America. We want to help young people learn more about what makes America a great country. They should become knowledgeable about what the Constitution says about individual rights and individual liberties. I believe this effort is worthy of support by all Americans regardless of their political persuasion.”

Goldie and Jack Miller at the Jack Miller Center's Faculty Development Summer Institute, Santa Fe, N.M.



## John S. Lillard: Donor Partner



*“They are doing a great job inspiring young people.”*

John S. Lillard is the former chairman of the Wintrust Financial Corporation, a financial services holding company with headquarters in Lake Forest, Ill.

In his retirement, Lillard devotes much of his time to a variety of civic and educational causes, including the Jack Miller Center.

“The Miller Center is responding to educators at colleges and universities across the country, helping them find ways to teach the wisdom of the Founding Fathers,” Lillard says. “They are doing a great job inspiring young people to learn about the founding principles of our Republic.”

Lillard’s support of the Jack Miller Center comes at a crucial time in our nation’s history. Numerous studies in recent years have provided evidence that colleges and universities are doing very little to increase students’ knowledge about America’s founding principles and history.

Harvard President Emeritus Derek Bok in his book, “Our Underachieving Colleges,” notes “schools and universities have a special responsibility to take citizenship seriously because of the close connection between education and political engagement.”

“I think it’s very important today that our young people learn the ideas of our Founding Fathers,” continues Lillard, who is also a trustee of the Chicago Symphony and a trustee of the Children’s Home and Aid Society of Illinois. “Especially when we have witnessed a relentless growth in the size and reach of government in recent years.

“The ideas of our democracy are based on what the Greeks and the Romans had learned. [John] Locke, [David] Hume, Adam Smith, they were very thoughtful, intelligent people who shaped these beliefs, and for young people today to be able to go out and vote without knowing these formative ideas is a real handicap.”

### Jack Miller:

*“We will work transparently and collaboratively with our donors to ensure that their donations align with their interests and the mission of the Jack Miller Center.”*

*“When the past no longer illuminates the future, the spirit walks in darkness.”* —ALEXIS DE TOCQUEVILLE



## The Chicago Initiative



*“The synergy that the Jack Miller Center is developing with our existing programs is remarkable. The Miller Center is enriching our undergraduate teaching program, contributing to the development of new and original research on the American founding and constitutional order, and, along the way, aiding these young scholars in getting their careers off to a successful start.”*

—MICHAEL ZUCKERT,  
Chairman, Political Science Department,  
University of Notre Dame

### A model for the nation to strengthen education in America’s founding principles and history

**T**he Chicago area is home to a rich and diverse concentration of colleges and universities well suited to collaborative learning programs. The Jack Miller Center’s Chicago Initiative is a growing regional network that brings together faculty, students and donors to advance the education students need in order to be engaged and thoughtful citizens.

By working together, educators from the major campuses and donors in Chicago and the surrounding area provide students a deeper understanding of our nation’s founding principles, a prerequisite to becoming responsible citizens dedicated to preserving our free institutions. Such an approach leverages both academic talent and philanthropic investment, providing for a transformation of civic education in the region.

The Chicago Initiative will be a model for similar programs with regional hubs in other locations such as Boston, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. In doing so, the Jack Miller Center, working with partners on Chicago’s campuses, can provide a template for additional partnerships across the country.

#### Vision and Opportunity

While the initial focus of the Chicago Initiative is to develop and support scholars, who will teach America’s founding principles and history, the benefits of the regional alliance will impact education throughout the community by:

- Renewing a commitment to thoughtful citizenship among students on Chicago-area campuses;
- Access to nationally renowned scholars, programs and resources that might not otherwise be available to individual institutions;
- Enrichment programs for high school teachers;
- Public lecture series, seminars and book clubs devoted to the roots of American democracy that will be available to students, faculty and the Chicago community;
- Continuing education and life-long learning opportunities.



University of Notre Dame



University of Chicago

The Jack Miller Center, Jack Miller and partners have already invested nearly \$1 million in Chicago area programs that advance education in America's founding principles and history including:

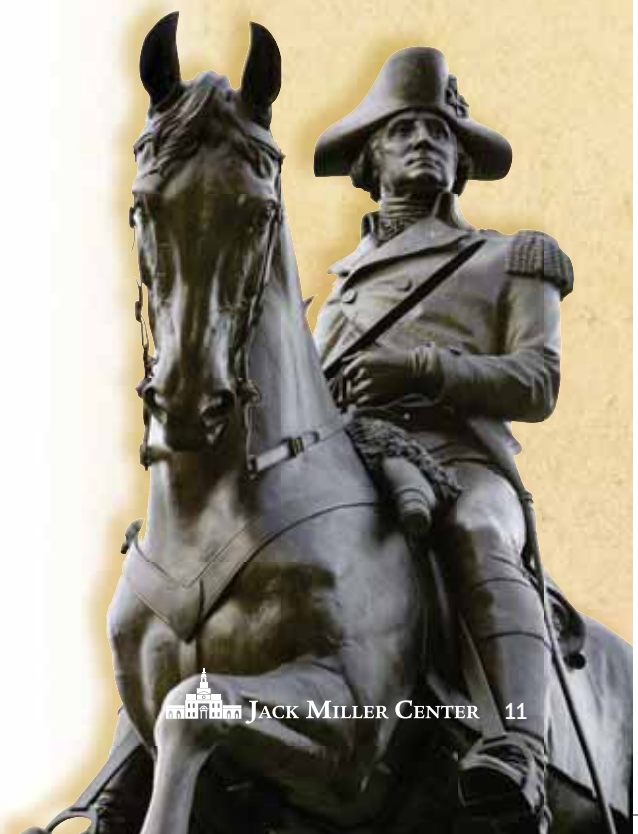
- **University of Chicago:** national conference on higher education at the Gleacher Center, plus a visiting professorship, lectures, joint conferences and various programs;
- **University of Notre Dame:** post-doctoral fellowships and graduate fellowships;
- **Roosevelt University:** visiting professorship, lecture series, joint conferences, Liberty Fund library and curriculum development;
- **Shimer College:** a Great Books based course for engineering students at IIT;
- **IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law:** course in American Constitutional Tradition for pre-law students, The Kent Forum;
- **University of Illinois:** Cline symposium at the Cline Center;
- **Lake Forest College:** post-doctoral fellowship;
- **DePaul University:** Conference on Jewish Thought and America's Founding Principles.

*“Now, more than ever, America’s young citizens, our future leaders, desperately need education in the principles of the founding. We should all be grateful for the Jack Miller Center’s Chicago Initiative.”*

—NATHAN TARCOV, Professor, Committee on Social Thought & Political Science Department, University of Chicago

*“The support of the Miller Center’s Chicago Initiative greatly enhances the intellectual environment for the faculty, students and community at Roosevelt University, enables a stronger focus on citizenship and civic life, and encourages enriching interactions between faculty and students at a variety of local universities.”*

—LYNN WEINER, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Roosevelt University



## An Interview with **JUSTICE SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR**

*“Every American needs to know what kind of government the Constitution established. You have to understand how and why it developed to know what the role of a citizen is.”*

Sandra Day O'Connor, retired Supreme Court Justice, is one of the nation's leading advocates for civic education.



Sandra Day O'Connor says “it’s not too late” to fix the education system that has all but eliminated the teaching of the founding principles and history of the United States.

“History is terribly important in the overall scheme of things,” says Justice O’Connor, in an interview with the Jack Miller Center from her home in Arizona.

Justice O’Connor, who currently serves as Chancellor of the College of William and Mary, became the first woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court when President Ronald Reagan appointed her to the position of Associate Justice in 1981.

Since retiring from the court in 2006, Justice O’Connor has dedicated much of her efforts to strengthen civic education.

“Every American needs to know what kind of government the Constitution established,” O’Connor explains.

“You have to understand how and why it developed to know what the role of a citizen is.”

To the court, Justice O’Connor brought the ideals and principles she had studied at Stanford University, where she graduated third in her class.

“In my freshman year at Stanford, we had a course on Western civilization,” Justice O’Connor recalls. “It embodied history and literature and the government of Western nations from the beginning. It was a fantastic course, and it was really incredible for all of us. It was all encompassing and interesting.

“Stanford eventually dropped the course. I don’t even know if there is anything similar to it today,” O’Connor says. “But it was a very powerful experience for me and my classmates.”

The principles and theories O’Connor debated and studied in her Western civilization class would become the cornerstone of a prestigious career that would eventually lead her to the Supreme Court.

And like Jack Miller, Justice O’Connor believes in strengthening the teaching of America’s history and the founding principles of the United States.

Some dismal facts offer credence to Justice O’Connor’s and Jack Miller’s argument that schools are failing students in teaching the founding principles and history of our nation.

“Half our states no longer require civics or American history for high school students,” Justice O’Connor says. “It’s amazing how schools can drop these courses. Recently, it was announced in my home state, right here in Arizona, that over 90 percent of the students could not have passed the exam required of people who become citizens of this country. We are in bad shape. People are not learning the fundamentals.

“Public schools first came about because people realized that young people need to learn to become good citizens to



The United States Supreme Court Building in Washington, D.C.

maintain our system of government and to maintain a country that's vibrant and functional. We still have time to turn this around. You have to persuade the citizens of every state they have to educate students in American history and government. And, I don't think that's a hard sell. I think most citizens understand that.

"An unintended consequence of No Child Left Behind was the de-emphasis of American civics and history. When our students were tested in science and math, they came in near the bottom. Congress and the President decided to funnel public money based on test scores in math and science. So, one of the unintended consequences was that schools then wanted to teach those subjects that would get money for the schools. Along with civics and American history, subjects like music and art were de-emphasized."

And because many subjects are inter-related, Justice O'Connor theorizes, even math and science education suffers.

"Music and math are closely related," Justice O'Connor says. "By dropping music, you are depriving students of a key element in their math education."

And by dropping American history and civics courses, we are depriving students of their essential preparation to become engaged citizens.

## Our Courts

*Our Courts*, an online, interactive program to engage youth in civics, is the vision of Justice O'Connor. **Ourcourts.org** offers a variety of resources for middle school students and their teachers, including lesson plans by topic, state and grade. The Web site also includes a message board for students to exchange ideas with Justice O'Connor and a section showcasing middle school student community projects.

Please visit, [www.ourcourts.org](http://www.ourcourts.org)

## Dick Uihlein: Donor Partner

*"I think the work the Jack Miller Center is doing is really important."*

**T**oday's college students will someday be in positions of leadership in our country. Without a solid grounding in America's founding principles and history and what makes it so unique, they will not be fully prepared to make proper judgments," says Dick Uihlein, the founder of Uline Shipping Supplies, a family owned and operated packaging supply company he and his wife started in 1980 in the basement of their home.



Dick Uihlein

Uihlein began supporting the Jack Miller Center after he learned from Jack Miller about the need to help colleges and universities do more to strengthen education in the American experience.

"Jack sent me information about the Miller Center, its mission, staff, and the resources it offers to educators. I think the work the Jack Miller Center is doing is really important.

"American history was a required course when I went to school," says Uihlein, a Stanford University graduate with a major in history. "Studying it is absolutely essential. I would probably have to put Thomas Jefferson and Samuel Adams on my most-admired list."

## Video Series on Higher Education



Dr. John Strassburger (left), Ursinus College president, and Michael Deshaies, vice president, Jack Miller Center, discuss the importance of studying America's founding principles and history.

**I**n a series of ongoing videotaped interviews, prominent scholars and educators share their thoughts on the need to enrich higher education with the Jack Miller Center's Michael Andrews and Michael Deshaies. Ursinus College President Dr. John Strassburger discusses the importance of a classic liberal arts education and the need for students to deepen their knowledge about the American experience with Mike Deshaies:

**Deshaies:** Why is a liberal education, in the classic sense, so important?

**Strassburger:** I think it's so important for several reasons. One, I think we're heirs to a great tradition that enables us to experience the fruits of liberty. It enables us to share common values that I think are central to allowing people to achieve the fullest opportunities for human dignity. And, I think it's absolutely critical, before we get into the busywork of a career, that we appreciate what we're inheriting. Otherwise, we won't be able to preserve it and pass it on to the next generation.

**Deshaies:** Describe your views regarding how important it is for

college students to deepen their knowledge of America's founding.

**Strassburger:** Well, as an American historian, I can hardly think of anything more important. I think it's absolutely crucial that students understand and appreciate both the strengths and the weaknesses of our system of government. The obligations democracy creates requires all of us to pay attention to problems we face as a nation—the opportunities it creates for ourselves to pursue our own happiness. If we don't understand how that system works, our pursuit of our own self-interest can become wanton and reckless. And, as we saw what happened on Wall Street, the ripple effects of that are absolutely destructive.

I would add, though, it needs to be accomplished in a context where we're deepening the knowledge of our own history alongside of increasing our understanding of other cultures and other societies. But really, we have to have that understanding of American culture in a comparative frame anyway to really shed light on who we are and what we are as a society.

To view the video series, visit [www.jackmillercenter.com](http://www.jackmillercenter.com).

### The Common Intellectual Experience

Dr. John Strassburger, a distinguished champion of liberal education, has led Ursinus College as president since 1996. During that time, he has built the Philadelphia-area institution into a national model of excellence, and 10 years ago he led the effort to establish The Common Intellectual Experience (CIE). This nationally acclaimed two-semester program immerses Ursinus students in the canons of the American and Western experience, and has been cited in *The New York Times* and a Harvard University curricular review as a model for undergraduate education.

President Strassburger has used his leadership roles in the Council of Independent Colleges and the American Council on Education as a platform for his efforts to strengthen undergraduate education across our nation. President Strassburger taught at the 2009 Miller Summer Institute at the University of Virginia, and the Jack Miller Center supported a program at Ursinus in September 2009, to celebrate the CIE's 10th anniversary.



## Professor Allen Guelzo: Gettysburg College

*“We need more from higher education because our democracy depends upon the enlightened and intelligent participation of all members.”*

**I**t is imperative to resuscitate the founding principles that Abraham Lincoln fought diligently to preserve.

“Lincoln kept us together as a single nation,” says Allen Guelzo, a leading Lincoln scholar. Guelzo is the Henry R. Luce III Professor of the Civil War Era at Gettysburg College, where he serves as director of the Civil War Era Studies Program.

Guelzo applauds the efforts of the Jack Miller Center. “We need more from higher education because our democracy depends upon the enlightened and intelligent participation of all members,” Guelzo says.

“If citizens have only a defective understanding of the American experiment or have been persuaded that the worth of the experiment is really illusory,” Guelzo explains, “then we will cease to have a democracy.

“We are closer today to losing the ideals of the nation and failing in the experiment of democracy than the founders thought we could ever be,” Guelzo says.

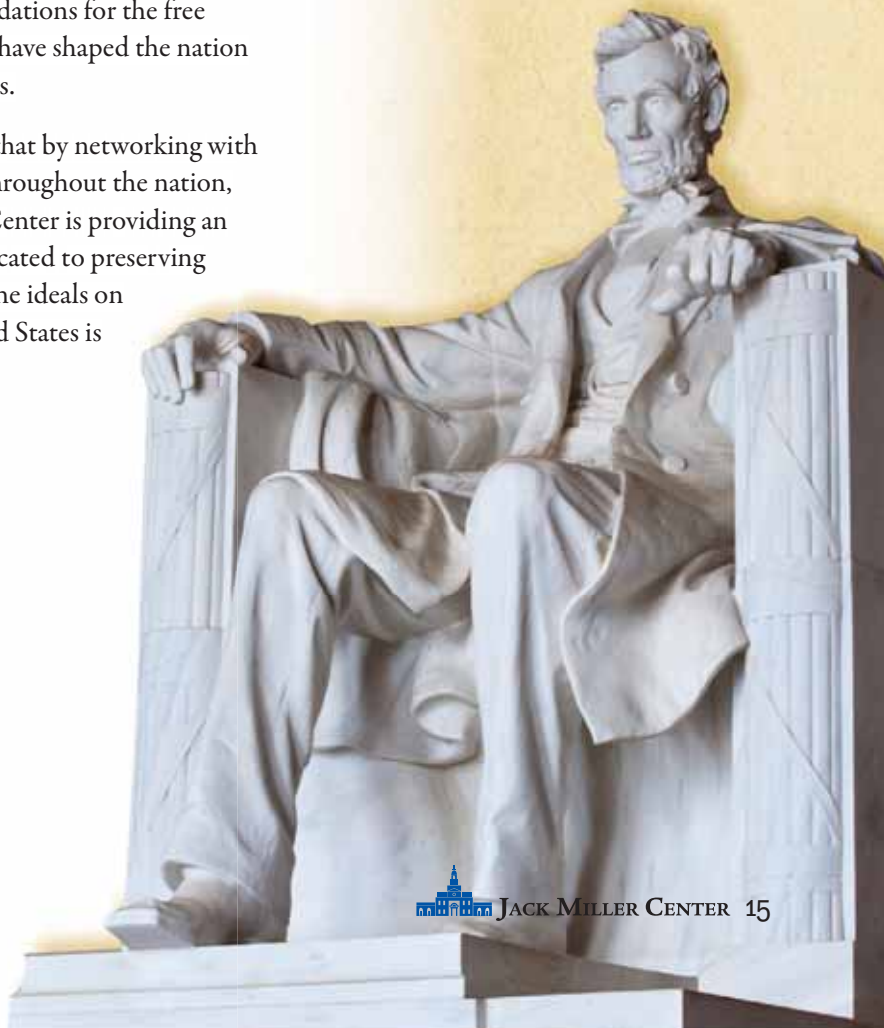
A recent survey indicates that only about one-third of Americans can name the three branches of government.



Dr. Michael Andrews (right), vice president, Jack Miller Center, interviews Professor Allen Guelzo, a Lincoln scholar and director of the Civil War Era Studies Program at Gettysburg College.

In America, every citizen has an obligation to preserve the founding principles that are the foundations for the free institutions that have shaped the nation for over 230 years.

Guelzo believes that by networking with 325 professors throughout the nation, the Jack Miller Center is providing an “anti-guild” dedicated to preserving the integrity of the ideals on which the United States is founded.



# Miller Fellows making a difference one campus

## Professor Elizabeth Busch: Christopher Newport University



Professor Elizabeth Busch is co-founder and director of the Center for American Studies at Christopher Newport University.

**P**rotecting liberty is the perpetual task of an engaged citizenry.

“Students need to think about the meaning of liberty so they can appreciate the sacrifices that have been made in the past and those that will be needed to protect that liberty in perpetuity,” affirms Professor Elizabeth Busch, who along

with her husband, Professor Nathan Busch, are the founders and directors of the Center for American Studies at Christopher Newport University in Newport News, Va.

“The study of America’s foundations inspires the healthy intellectual exchange of ideas that, as Tocqueville observed, is necessary for the protection of individual liberty,” says Professor Elizabeth Busch.

“The defense of America—what it is and what it should be—depends upon the ability of citizens to form a coherent vision and understanding of America. Such a vision can only be achieved after one has thought critically about America’s experiment in democracy, self-governance, and individual liberties.”

The Center for American Studies at Christopher Newport University is one of the 34 Partner Programs supported by the Jack Miller Center across the United States. Many of the programs were launched with help from the Jack Miller Center. The Miller Center provides seed money for the establishment of these academic centers. Once established,

JMC faculty partners take the initiative to raise additional funds to grow their program, with the Miller Center providing ongoing support for development of academic programs.

“These academic centers have institutionalized the study of America’s founding and have often become major players in the development of the core curricula, academic programs and in the hiring of university faculty. The Jack Miller Center’s annual center-building conferences provide invaluable insight into what it takes to get an academic center up and running and how to identify fundraising opportunities,” explains Professor Elizabeth Busch.

After garnering seed money from the Miller Center, Elizabeth and Nathan Busch applied for and received a \$500,000 “We the People” Challenge Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

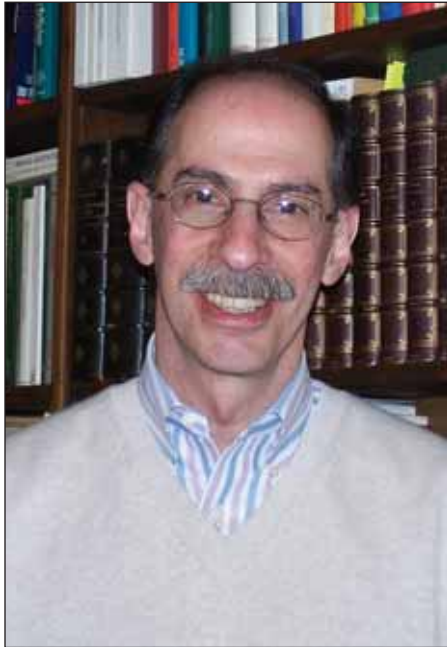
“The drafting of our successful proposal was inspired by the lessons learned during the Miller Center Summer Institute and the center-building conferences,” Elizabeth Busch says.



Jack Miller speaks with Miller Summer Institute participants.

# at a time for generations to come

## Professor Stuart Warner: Roosevelt University



“Students are American citizens and they need to have some conception of what it means to be an American citizen,” says Professor Stuart Warner, director of the Montesquieu Forum for the Study of Civic Life at Roosevelt University.

“Students need to understand their place in history and understand whether the country has reached those ideals,” Warner continues.

Roosevelt University’s Montesquieu Forum was launched in the fall of 2008 with support from the Jack Miller Center. Its mission is to advance education of the American experience by offering interdisciplinary programs — seminars, workshops, speaker series, conferences and public events — that deepen students’ study of ideas in the context of the Western tradition, in particular the periods of the founding of America and the Civil War.

*“Students need to understand their place in history.”*

“America’s founding principles weren’t born in vitro,” Warner adds, “but by ancient, medieval and modern philosophical ideas. Without an understanding of thinkers, like Montesquieu and Tocqueville, we can’t understand these ideals.

“The Montesquieu Forum is doing extremely well. We have had some fine speakers, superb crowds and even helped the University of Chicago have a meeting on Tocqueville to commemorate the 150th anniversary of his death.”



The Jack Miller Summer Institutes provide an opportunity for scholars to begin lasting relationships.

Stuart Warner, director of the Montesquieu Forum, and Svetozar Minkov, associate director and 2009 Miller Visiting Professor at MIT, discuss education at Roosevelt University.



*“Where history’s understanding is missing, cynicism will take its place.”*

—DAVID SOUTER  
Retired U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice



# Miller Fellows making a difference one campus

## Professor Alan Petigny: University of Florida



Professor Alan Petigny (left), associate professor of history, University of Florida, speaking to Mike Ratliff, president of the Jack Miller Center.

*“In order to make sense of our nation, one needs to understand its founding principles.”*

**I**n order to make sense of our nation, one needs to understand its founding principles,” says Professor Alan Petigny, associate professor of history, University of Florida.

“My time at the Jack Miller Center Summer Institute helped me appreciate how the debates of two centuries ago—questions that were at the center of the War of Independence and the Constitutional Convention—remain very relevant in our own time,” Petigny says.

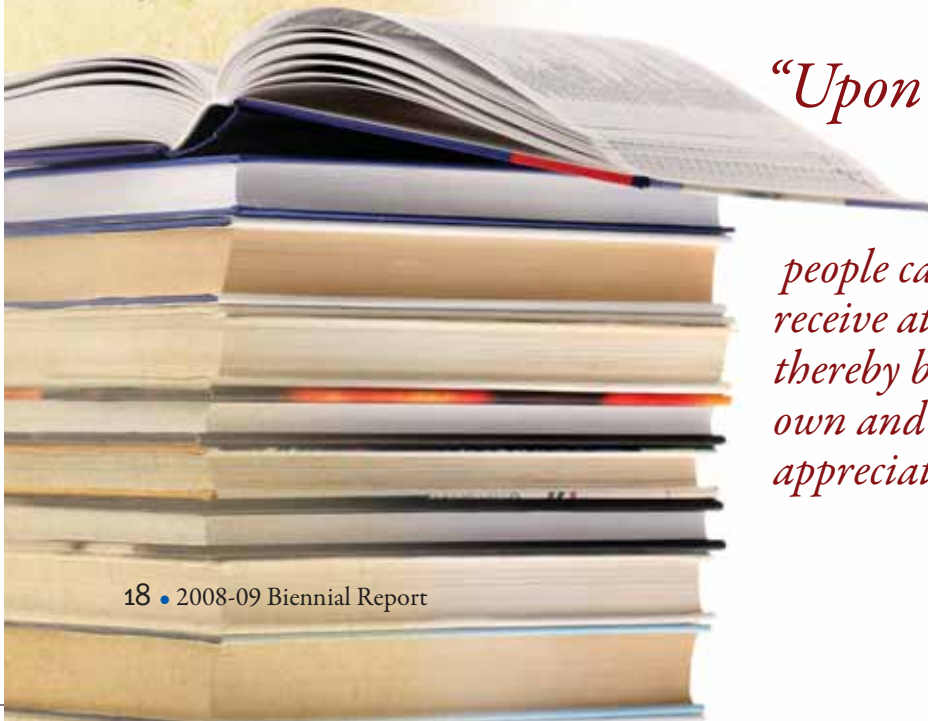
“So many of the qualities that differentiate Americans today—from high levels of charitable giving and religious observance to a widespread belief in the promise of upward mobility—are, in large part, attributable to the principles our Founding Fathers championed,” Petigny adds.

Petigny received his master’s and doctorate degrees in U.S. history from Brown University. His interests include the liberalization of values and norms in the 20th century in the United States.



*“An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.”*

—BENJAMIN FRANKLIN



*“Upon the subject of education ...*

*I can only say that I view it as the most important subject which we as a people can be engaged in. That every man may receive at least, a moderate education, and thereby be enabled to read the histories of his own and other countries, by which he may duly appreciate the value of our free institutions.”*

—ABRAHAM LINCOLN

# at a time for generations to come

## Professor Phillip Muñoz: University of Notre Dame



Professor Phillip Muñoz answers a question after sharing his paper at a Miller Center conference at Georgetown University.



*“The Jack Miller Center Summer Institutes are what you think life is going to be like as a professor.”*

Professor Phillip Muñoz appreciates the diversity of viewpoints he encounters at a Jack Miller Center conference.

“I went to the summer institute in Boulder, Colorado,” says Muñoz, a political science professor at the University of Notre Dame. “It was a great opportunity to debate the principles of the American founding. The Jack Miller Center Summer Institutes are what you think life is going to be like as a professor. You debate ideas with great faculty and experience a diversity of viewpoints.

The single greatest benefit has been the intellectual and professional friendship.

“There are people I can send my work to, and they criticize and challenge me. It’s like having a network of colleagues. I have exchanged papers. I am just about to publish a book. The comments I get from participants at the summer institutes are important to my work. We exchange syllabi, talk about new classes. It has expanded and improved my teaching.

“The study of the American founding and American political tradition used to be at the heart of a good liberal arts education and now it’s at the margins. It’s individuals like Jack Miller and his team that are helping to restore the study of the founding principles throughout our history.”

*“Liberty cannot be preserved without a general knowledge among the people.”*

—JOHN ADAMS

# Miller Fellows making a difference one campus

## Professor Benjamin Storey: Furman University Professor Scott Yenor: Boise State University



Professor Benjamin Storey (left) at a Jack Miller Center Fellows conference at Georgetown University where Professor Scott Yenor (right) presented his paper, "Rousseau: The Romantic Family and Its Limits."

Professor Benjamin Storey listens attentively as Georgetown University Dean Chester Gillis addresses a group of scholars.

"Listening to you here tonight gives us a sense of the kind of discourse that goes on here, and we are happy to be hosting a group of scholars like you," Gillis says at the annual Jack Miller Center Fellows Conference, "American Political Thought: Ideas and Institutions," co-sponsored by the Tocqueville Forum on the Roots of American Democracy at Georgetown University.

The Tocqueville Forum is one of many programs the Jack Miller Center supports on college campuses across the United States.

"I went to a Miller Center Summer Institute and met people that came to figure in my teaching," says Storey, assistant professor of political science at Furman University. "I came across works of scholars I didn't know about, and they were instrumental in my efforts to develop a successful course on American Political Thought.

"The Jack Miller Center also enables us to bring some of the most prominent scholars in the country to Furman and expose our students to a level of intellectual thought they would otherwise never encounter."

*"The Jack Miller Center conferences give us a chance to share our perspectives on the ideas and arguments on America's founding principles with other faculty members we would otherwise not get a chance to know. We take what we learn from the conferences and incorporate it into our teaching when we go back to our respective universities ... We have to make a connection between limited government and political freedom."*

—SCOTT YENOR, associate professor of political science, Boise State University

# at a time for generations to come

*“The programs and centers differ in emphasis, with some concentrating on American democratic and capitalist institutions and others on the Western canon, the great books ... They [Jack Miller Center] sponsor colloquia, seminars, courses, visiting lecturers and post-doctoral students.”*

—*The New York Times*, Sept. 22, 2008



Young scholars share ideas at the Miller Center Summer Institute in Santa Fe, N.M. From left, Susan Hamilton, Harvard University; Scott Yenor, Boise State University; George Thomas, Claremont McKenna College; Jeremy Bailey, University of Houston; and Steven Bilakovics, Yale University.

*“Jack Miller is on a mission—he wants Americans to understand America’s founding principles. And the Jack Miller Center for Teaching America’s Founding Principles and History is focused on that mission.”* —*Philanthropy World Magazine*, Volume 12, Issue 6

**Professor John Dinan:  
Wake Forest University**



**Professor Mark Bauerlein:  
Emory University**



**Professor Michael Zuckert:  
University of Notre Dame**



# Years of Progress

**Much has been accomplished**



**JACK MILLER CENTER**

*For Teaching America's Founding Principles and History*

## *2004-06*

Jack Miller meets with dozens of academics at a meeting he convenes in 2004 at the University of Chicago to discuss the lack of civic education at the undergraduate college level. A series of pilot projects are launched in 2005-06 to strengthen education in America's founding principles and history on campuses across the United States.

## *2007*

### **October 1, 2007**

Jack Miller Center for Teaching America's Founding Principles and History is incorporated in the state of Illinois as a nonprofit, nonpartisan 501(c)(3) private operating foundation.

### **November 7, 2007**

Jack Miller convenes a meeting of dozens of Chicago's business leaders and philanthropists to introduce the Jack Miller Center.

### **December 1, 2007**

Partner programs are launched to support academic initiatives on more than two-dozen college campuses.





## 2008

### January 15, 2008

Jack Miller Forum for Civic Education opens at Florida Atlantic University.

### February 22, 2008

An Academic Advisory Council comprised of leading scholars in American history, government and literature is established.

### April 12, 2008

New headquarters opens in Philadelphia.

### April 18, 2008

A \$1 million dollar donation launches a post-doctoral fellowship initiative.

### May 8, 2008

National summit for educators is held in Austin, Texas, in partnership with the University of Texas Program in Western Civilization and American Institutions.

### May 28, 2008

A \$75,000 donation is made to support the National Endowment for the Humanities Picturing America program for Chicago public schools.

### July 7-19, 2008

Miller Summer Institute, in partnership with the University of Virginia's Program on Constitutionalism and Democracy and the National Endowment for the Humanities, is held in Charlottesville, Va.

### August 4-16, 2008

Miller Summer Institute, in partnership with the University of Colorado at Boulder's Center for Western Civilization and the National Endowment for the Humanities, is held in Boulder, Colo.

### October 22, 2008

The Montesquieu Forum for the Study of Civic Life opens at Roosevelt University.

### November 3, 2008

Jack Miller Center and Liberty Fund launch Liberty Fund Book Placement for Miller Center Partner Programs.

### November 20-22, 2008

In partnership with the Political Theory Project at Brown University, the Jack Miller Center leads an academic center building conference in Providence, R.I.

## 2009

### January 24-27, 2009

Conference on "A Nation of Immigrants: American Democracy and Civic Education" is held at Florida Atlantic University.

### February 3, 2009

The post-doctoral fellowship initiative is extended through a partnership with the Manhattan Institute's Center for the American University.

### April 24-26, 2009

Conference on "American Political Thought: Ideas and Institutions" is held at Georgetown University's Tocqueville Forum.

### June 15-27, 2009

Miller Summer Institute in partnership with The Program on Constitutionalism and Democracy at the University of Virginia, is held in Charlottesville, Va.

### August 10-15, 2009

Miller Summer Institute, in partnership with St. John's College, is held in Santa Fe, N.M.

### September 20, 2009

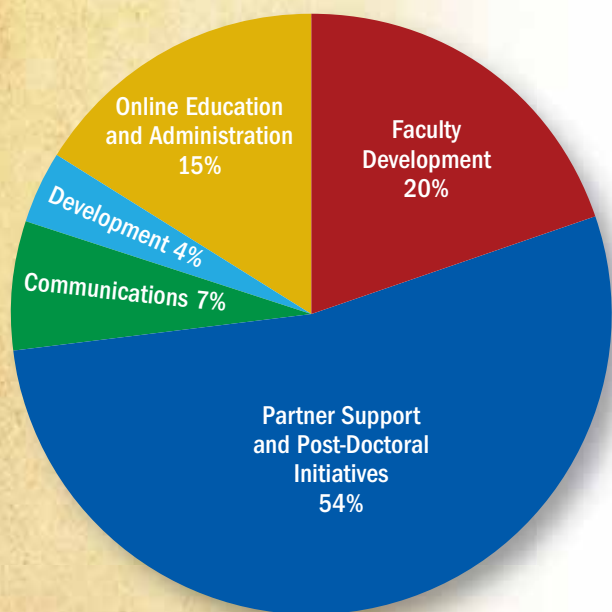
The Chicago Initiative is launched to strengthen civic education in the Chicago area.



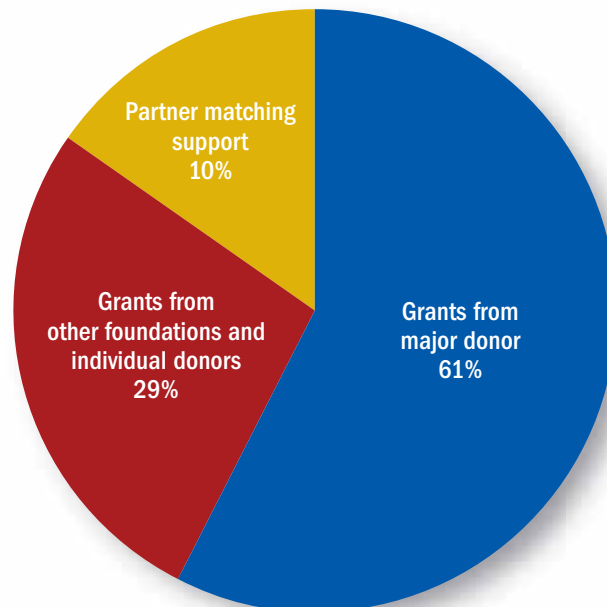
## Financial Information

Revenues and expenditures include sums for the period commencing with the incorporation of the Jack Miller Center for Teaching America's Founding Principles and History on Oct. 1, 2007. The Jack Miller Center is a nonpartisan, nonprofit IRS designated 501 (c)(3) private operating foundation incorporated in Illinois with headquarters in Philadelphia, Pa.

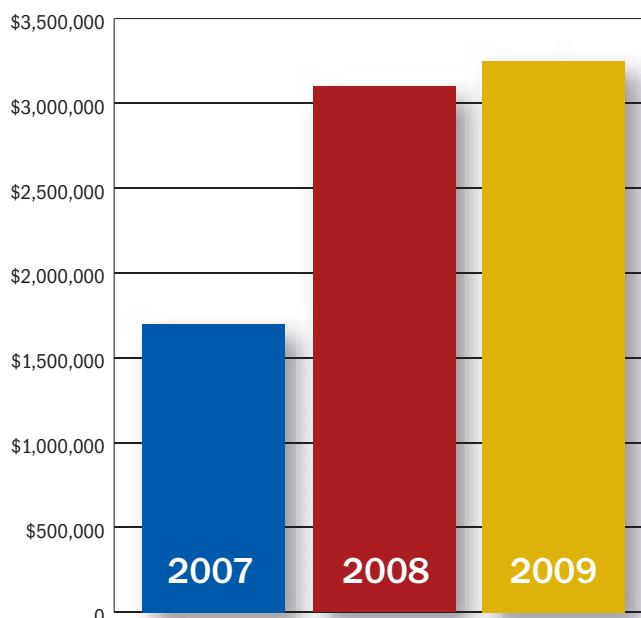
### 2009 Expenditures \$8,142,000\*



### Revenues \$8,142,000\*\*



### Revenue Growth



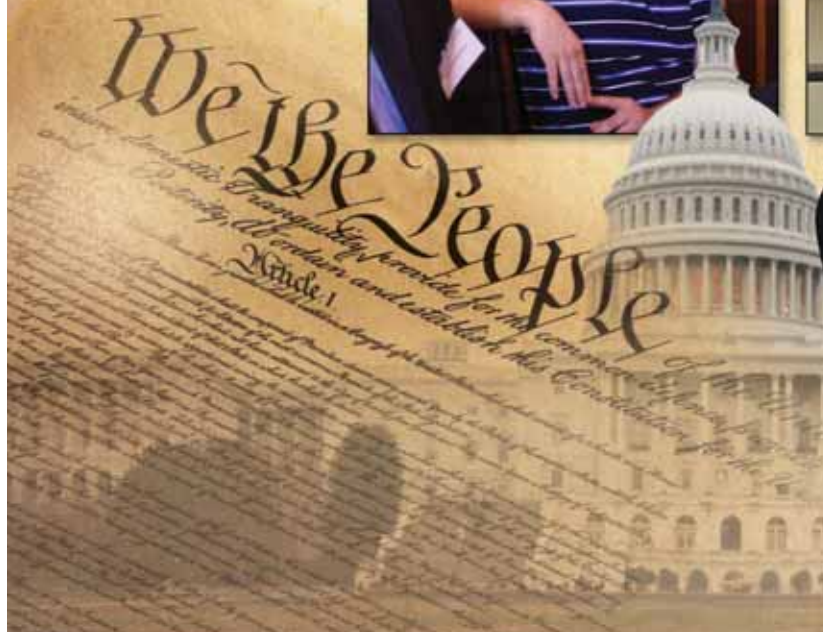
\*Includes \$608,000 in restricted support for educational programs in 2010-2011.

\*\*Revenue includes Jack Miller Center income, gifts to the Jack Miller Center fund, and matching support from partners for individual educational programs.



# JACK MILLER CENTER

*For Teaching America's Founding Principles and History*



*“We still have time to turn this around.  
You have to persuade the citizens of every state  
that they have to educate students  
in American history and government.”*

—Justice Sandra Day O’Connor



## **JACK MILLER CENTER**

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*For Teaching America’s Founding Principles and History*

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