

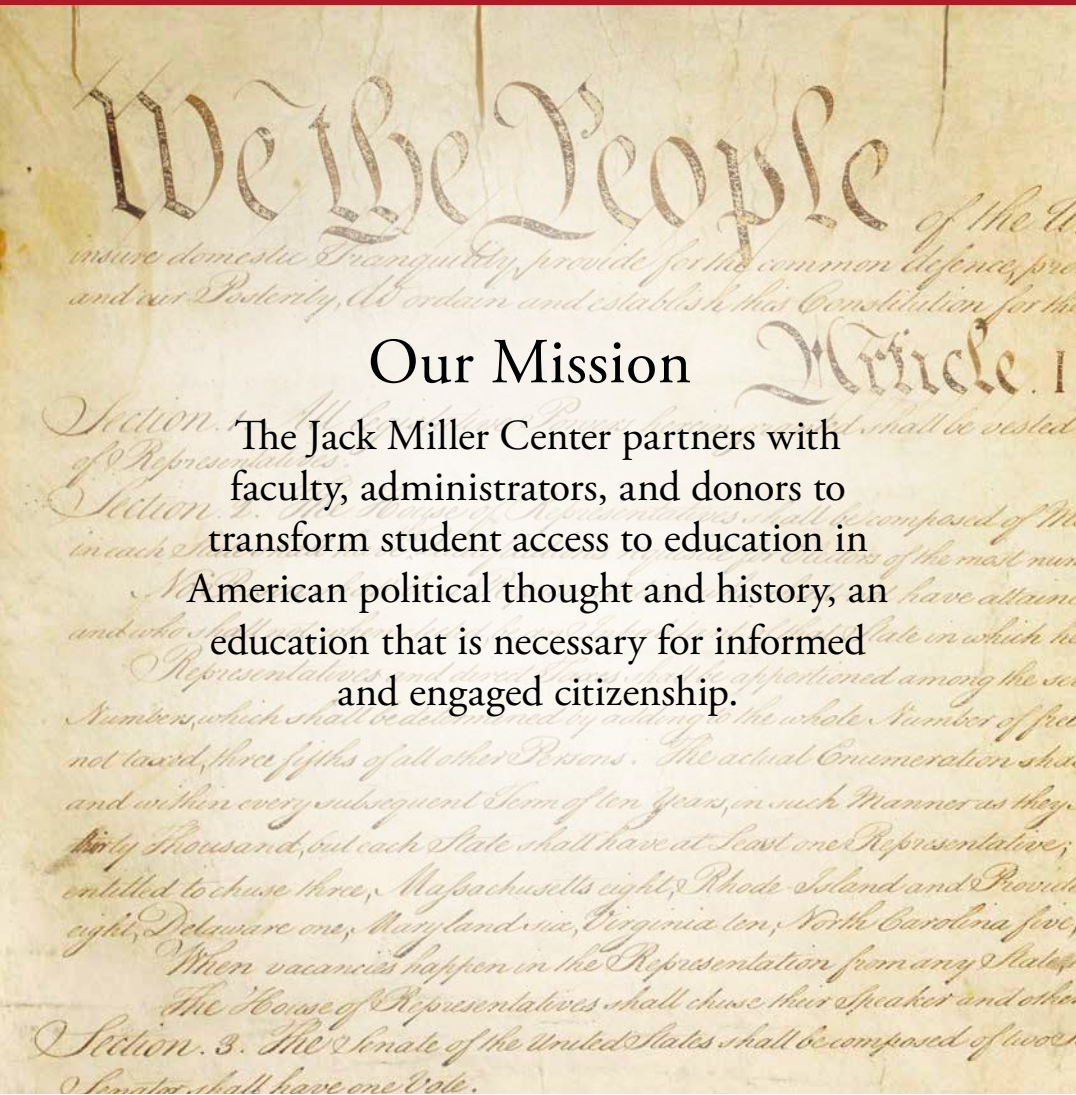
# BOLD BEGINNINGS BRIGHT FUTURE

JACK MILLER CENTER 2013 ANNUAL REPORT



 **JACK MILLER CENTER**  
*For Teaching America's Founding Principles and History*

Interview with University of Oklahoma President David Boren, page 18



*"Educate and inform the whole mass of the people. They are the only sure reliance for the preservation of our liberty."*

THOMAS JEFFERSON

Jefferson's words embody our mission to revitalize education in American political thought and history. It is in this spirit that we aim to provide students with the knowledge necessary for informed civic engagement, to ensure for all of us a future that upholds the freedoms envisioned by our nation's founders.

## Our Mission

The Jack Miller Center partners with faculty, administrators, and donors to transform student access to education in American political thought and history, an education that is necessary for informed and engaged citizenship.

## Why We Exist

Too few professors teach—and too few students learn—about the principles that sustain our free institutions and the history of our nation's struggle to realize the promise of the *Declaration of Independence* and maintain our constitutional safeguards. Yet America's future depends on coming generations receiving precisely this education in order to restore a strong sense of national identity—an identity founded on a commitment to the values of liberty, dignity, and equity.

## Our Strategy

**BUILD A COMMUNITY OF PROFESSORS** committed to providing this education. These professors will be the primary engines for change, expanding student access to courses and other opportunities to learn. Miller Summer Institutes, our postdoctoral fellowships, regional seminars—such as our Jeffersonian Seminars—as well as programs including reunions and panels at national professional conferences allow us to expand and deepen our relationships with these professors.

**DEVELOP A NETWORK OF PARTNER PROGRAMS** that will sustain this teaching on individual campuses. As the number of partner programs grows we can leverage their impact through the “network effect” as professors find opportunities to work together to advance this vital education and scholarship.

**CONDUCT NATIONAL PROGRAMS** that no individual professor or campus would be able to do independently. These include the JMC's Constitution Day Initiative; the journal, *American Political Thought*; and annual summits that provide opportunities for the directors of Miller campus partner programs and others to learn from one another and to work together.

**SUPPORT A COMMUNITY OF DONORS** with research and services that allow them to invest in this higher education intelligently with an expectation of both doing good and achieving their individual goals.

## We Began in 2004

We began our efforts in 2004 and incorporated as The Jack Miller Center for Teaching America's Founding Principles and History, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) foundation, in 2007. We received IRS advance ruling as a public charity in 2010. We are located in the Philadelphia suburb, Bala Cynwyd, PA.

### On the Cover:



Steven Smith, co-director of the Yale Center for the Study of Representative Institutions; Pamela Edwards, JMC director of academic programs; and Thomas Smith, JMC board member and managing partner of Prescott Investments. See Q&A with Mr. Smith regarding his philanthropy on page 16.

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*“The happy Union of these States is a wonder; their Constitution a miracle; their example the hope of Liberty throughout the world.”*

JAMES MADISON

## BOLD BEGINNINGS, BRIGHT FUTURE

Inspired by America’s bold beginning, we set out in 2004 to bring the teaching of the founding principles and history back to college campuses. Since then, faculty, administrators, and donors across the nation have joined in the effort. Together with our partners, we see a bright future.

As you will read in this report, 2013 was a successful year at the Jack Miller Center. The real beneficiaries are the thousands of college students who now have access to courses, lectures, seminars, and more, focused on our nation’s founding principles and history.

Consider the numbers:

- We grew our nationwide community of professors to over 700 on 253 campuses.
- We added major new programs on campuses such as the University of Missouri and Northwestern, and now have 53 campus partner programs.
- We added 20 postdoctoral fellowships in 2013, bringing the total to 111 since the program began in 2008.
- We provided support to 35 universities through our Constitution Day Initiative, the only national project of its kind, bringing the number to more than 100 programs since its launch in 2011.
- Since 2007 we have invested or committed to invest more than \$50 million in campus programs.

Our nearly 250 donor partners made these accomplishments possible. They have provided millions of dollars in support of JMC faculty partners and programs across the country. We are grateful for their support, and we look forward to continuing these partnerships for many years to come.

## But more than numbers tell the story:

A GRANT FROM THE JOHN TEMPLETON FOUNDATION made possible the JMC’s Commercial Republic Initiative, a three-year national project at six leading universities from MIT to UCLA. This project has fostered partnerships across disciplines and offers students outside of the humanities the opportunity to consider the role of the American Founding in shaping an innovative society that has produced such prosperity for its people.

THANKS TO A LEAD GIFT FROM DICK UIHLEIN, we established the JMC Opportunity Fund. This fund will support programs and initiatives on campuses that we believe have the most potential to transform student access to this vital education.

THE HARVEY L. MILLER FAMILY FOUNDATION awarded us a challenge grant of \$500,000, and with the help of 21 donors, we raised \$1.1 million to expand our already successful postdoctoral fellowship program.

WITH A GENEROUS GIFT FROM THE KINDER FOUNDATION, we partnered with the University of Missouri to establish the Forum on Constitutional Studies. The Forum is a collaborative project between the history and political science departments to advance the teaching and scholarship on the American constitutional and democratic traditions.

THREE OF AMERICA’S FOREMOST INDEPENDENT RESEARCH LIBRARIES, the Huntington in San Marino (CA), the Newberry in Chicago, and the Rockefeller in Colonial Williamsburg are partnering with JMC to advance the research of mid-career professors. Their work will contribute to a deeper understanding of America’s founding principles and history.

Thanks to a unique partnership strategy with faculty, administrators, and donors, we now stand on a strong foundation of success. We are well positioned to play a profound, lasting role in broadening student access to this vital education. Now is the time to build on our successes, to transform the state of higher civic education.

The Founders offered the world the bold vision of a republic based on life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, and we aim to uphold that vision. That vision is what inspires us to work hard every day.

Respectfully,

Mike Ratliff, Rear Admiral U.S. Navy (ret.)  
President

Thanks to a unique partnership strategy with faculty, administrators, and donors, we now stand on a strong foundation of success.



## How JMC Supports Academic Centers

- Seed funding for new campus programs
- Support for growth of existing centers
- Networking through the Annual Miller Summit on Higher Education
- Support for postdoctoral fellowships
- A faculty information network and online resource center
- Consulting services in fundraising, communications, and program design and implementation



Christopher Newport University program, “The Limits of Power”, with Elizabeth Busch (at podium); David Cole, Georgetown University; the Honorable Dr. Jeff Bergner; and Eric Posner, University of Chicago

## JMC Supports 53 Partner Programs Nationwide

Through our partnership strategy involving faculty, administrators, and donors, JMC supports 53 academic centers of excellence that provide students expanded access to education in political thought and American history.

These centers offer lectures, conferences, debates, and workshops featuring some of the nation’s leading scholars in the humanities. Many provide a home for JMC postdoctoral fellows, who teach new courses that expose students to the origins of our national heritage.

A promising new development, the emergence of multi-campus, interdisciplinary efforts, leverages donor support for broader impact. For example, in 2014 the Commercial Republic Initiative will provide connections between the sciences and humanities on six major campuses (see page 11).



Northwestern University Professor Erin Delaney poses a question to Harvard Professor Lawrence Lessig at Northwestern’s Constitution Day lecture, “On What the Framers Would Mean by ‘Corruption.’”

# Select Partner Programs

## UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

**Center for the Liberal Arts and Free Institutions**, Daniel Hays Lowenstein, Director

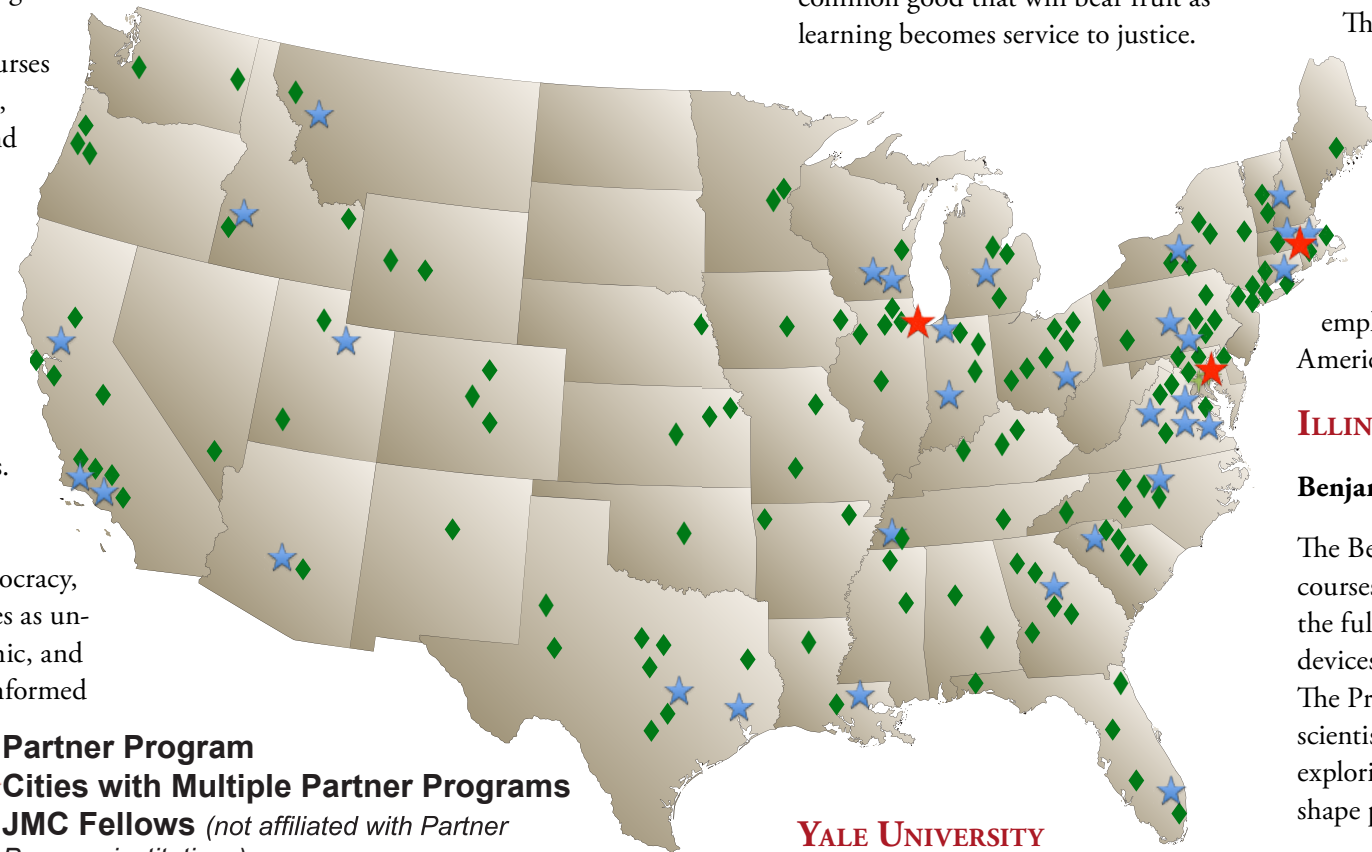
In 2009, CLAFI was founded on the principle that an educated citizen in a democracy should have a sound understanding of the history of free institutions and their underlying principles. CLAFI's purpose is to study the great works and achievements of Western and other civilizations, with particular emphasis on the foundations of free institutions. Through undergraduate course offerings and public events, CLAFI serves UCLA students and faculty as well as the general public. Past courses include Lincoln in His Own Words, American Political Thought, European Political Thought, Introduction to Samuel Johnson, and Justice and Public Responsibility in Literature.

## UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN, MADISON

**American Democracy Forum**, John Zumbrennen, Director

The American Democracy Forum promotes the study of the principles of the American Founding and the continued place of those principles in the practice of democracy in the United States. The Forum rests on an understanding of American democracy as involving an ongoing conversation about the principles central to the American Founding: popular sovereignty, representative democracy, equality, liberty, and limited government. It views those principles as unfolding in and tested by the dynamic context of political, economic, and social life in America. The Forum aims to foster a conversation informed both by a rich understanding of the theoretical resources of American political thought and by the best analyses of the contemporary functioning of the American political system.

- ★ Partner Program
- ★ Cities with Multiple Partner Programs
- ◆ JMC Fellows (not affiliated with Partner Program institutions)



## UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

**Constitutionalism, Law and Politics; Constitutional Studies minor**. Michael Zuckert, Director

For constitutional governments to secure the common good, thoughtful and educated citizens must possess certain virtues; they must understand and be able to implement, defend, and, if need be, reform constitutional institutions. Constitutional Studies seeks to nurture such citizens, thereby contributing to the university's mission to pursue truth and to nurture a concern for the common good that will bear fruit as learning becomes service to justice.

## MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

**Benjamin Franklin Project**, Bernhardt Trout, Director

The Benjamin Franklin Project for the advancement of arts and sciences seeks to bridge the gap between the social sciences and the natural sciences by creating courses on the social, political, and ethical significance of science and engineering. The Project includes a lecture series, a working group, and a series of courses focused on fundamental questions that endure today asked by the Founding Fathers. The Project encourages students to investigate fundamental issues behind science and technology, with an emphasis on the Founding Fathers' vision of science and technology for America.

## ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

**Benjamin Franklin Project**, Christena Nippert-Eng, Director

The Benjamin Franklin Project, through a series of events and special courses taught at the IIT campus, allows students and scholars to explore the full range of the Founders' work—from their most practical domestic devices to the extraordinary idea and architecture of the New Republic. The Project focuses especially on the Enlightenment and the Framers as scientists, inventors, and designers in both the social and natural realms, exploring how all these elements continue to spark imaginations and shape priorities in today's interconnected world.

## YALE UNIVERSITY

**Yale Center for the Study of Representative Institutions**, Keith Wrightson and Steven Smith, Co-Directors

The Yale Center for the Study of Representative Institutions is an interdisciplinary program, established for the purpose of developing the study of the theory and practice of representative government in the Anglo-American tradition. Students increasingly lack the opportunity to study at a high level the deep roots of their own political culture, and indeed the most powerful intellectual and institutional influences on the development of representative and democratic government worldwide. The aim of this program is to feed student interest in these influences by re-examining the intersection of ideas, institutions, and political practice in the emergence of modern constitutional democracy, and thereby to further a political education that is both broadly conceived and, at the same time, rigorous and critical.

## UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

**The Thomas Jefferson Center for the Study of Core Texts and Ideas**, Thomas and Lorraine Pangle, Co-Directors

The aim of the Thomas Jefferson Center is to realize Jefferson's vision of educating citizens and leaders to understand the meaning of liberty and to exercise it wisely. The Center shares Jefferson's conviction that one of the best ways to attain a liberal education—an education suited for a free individual in a free society—is through a serious study of the Great Books. To that end, the Thomas Jefferson Center offers an interdisciplinary major in the Great Books, as well as postdoctoral fellowships, a lecture series, a book club, and other symposia for the university and the broader community.



Commercial Republic Initiative partners present their plans at the 2013 Miller Summit on Higher Education. Top left: Bernhardt Trout, MIT; Steven Smith, Yale; Christena Nippert-Eng, IIT; Steven Bilakovics, UCLA; Laura Beth Nielsen, Northwestern; and John Zumbrennen, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

*“There are far over 100,000 engineering students in the country and almost no opportunity for them to be exposed to a fundamental understanding about the American foundation.”*

PROFESSOR BERNHARDT TROUT  
MIT



## Six Leading Universities Collaborate in Commercial Republic Initiative

Thanks to a generous grant from the John Templeton Foundation, JMC launched the Commercial Republic Initiative in 2013, a three-year national project aimed at broadening undergraduate education to include a vital understanding of the origins of our national heritage.

The initiative supports interdisciplinary projects at six leading universities: Yale University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Illinois Institute of Technology, Northwestern University, and University of California-Los Angeles.

The Commercial Republic Initiative reaches students who would not otherwise have access to courses on the intellectual roots of the American Founding.

It re-grounds pre-professional education in the liberal arts and reaches students in business, science, law, and engineering—students who would not otherwise have access to courses on the intellectual roots of the American Founding. Students study the relationship between political institutions and scientific and technological advancement.

Through this initiative, undergraduates study the connection between science, enterprise, and the law at the time of the Founding. They explore political institutions, science, and technology with a view to the moral and intellectual significance for innovation and wealth creation.

These programs are outstanding examples of collaboration. They have opened lines of communication between departments that have until now largely been isolated from one another. Faculty work together toward the same end; they share ideas and resources; they trade best practices. And students gain key insights into the origins of the American commercial republic.

The Commercial Republic Initiative is creating a clearer understanding of the critical role the humanities play in shaping our national politics. And students, our future leaders and innovators, now have access to the studies that are the basis for informed civic engagement.

# 2013

## JMC Partner Programs

JMC supports programs at elite institutions, flagship state universities, and leading liberal arts colleges nationwide.

INSTITUTION	PROGRAM	DIRECTOR
American University	Political Theory Colloquium	Alan Levine
Amherst College	Colloquium on the American Founding	Hadley Arkes
Arizona State University	Program in Political Thought and Leadership	Don Critchlow
Boise State University	American Founding Initiative	Scott Yenor
Boston College	Political Science Department	Robert Faulkner; Susan Shell
Brown University	Political Theory Project	John Tomasi
Carthage College	Western Heritage Program	Christopher Lynch; Michael McShane
Christopher Newport University	Center for American Studies and Civic Leadership	Elizabeth Busch; Nathan Busch
Claremont McKenna College	The Henry Salvatori Center for the Study of Individual Freedom in the Modern World	Mark Blitz; George Thomas
College of the Holy Cross	The Charles Carroll Program	Donald Brand; Daniel Klinghard
Columbia University	Center for American Studies	Andrew Delbanco
Cornell University	Program on Freedom and Free Societies	Barry Strauss
Dartmouth College	The Daniel Webster Project in Ancient & Modern Studies	James B. Murphy
DePaul University	Center for the Constitution and American Foreign Policy	Alberto Coll
Duke University	Duke Program in American Values and Institutions	Michael Gillespie
Emory University	The Program in Democracy and Citizenship	Harvey Klehr; Mark Bauerlein
Florida Atlantic University	Jack Miller Forum for Civics Education	Jeffrey Morton
Furman University	The Tocqueville Program	Aristide Tessitore
George Mason University	Civic Education Project	Lee Fritschler
Gettysburg College	Civil War Era Studies Program	Allen Guelzo
Harvard University	The Program on Constitutional Government	Harvey Mansfield
Illinois Institute of Technology	Benjamin Franklin Project	Christena Nippert-Eng
Illinois Institute of Technology - Kent College of Law	Kent Forum	Harold J. Krent
Indiana University	The Tocqueville Program	Aurelian Craiutu
Lake Forest College	Department of Political Science	Stephen Schutt
Louisiana State University	Program in the Classical Tradition in Learning & Leadership	James Stoner
Loyola University Chicago	The David Hume Forum	John Danford

INSTITUTION	PROGRAM	DIRECTOR
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Benjamin Franklin Project	Bernhardt Trout
Michigan State University	James Madison College - Department of Political Science	Benjamin Kleinerman
Northwestern University	Center for Legal Studies	Laura Beth Nielsen
Northwood University	The Forum for Citizenship and Enterprise	Glenn Moots
Ohio University	George Washington Forum on American Ideas, Politics, and Institutions	Robert Ingram
Rhodes College	Project for the Study of Liberal Democracy	Daniel Cullen
Roosevelt University	Montesquieu Forum for the Study of Civic Life	Stuart Warner
University of California, Davis	Davis Political Theory Forum	John Scott
University of California, Los Angeles	Center for the Liberal Arts and Free Institutions	Daniel Lowenstein
University of Chicago	The John U. Nef Committee on Social Thought	Nathan Tarcov; Ralph Lerner
University of Houston	The Phronesis Program in Politics and Ethics	Susan Collins
University of Missouri	Forum on Constitutional Democracy	Jeffrey Pasley; Justin Dyer
University of Montana	The Project on American Democracy and Citizenship	Robert Saldin
University of Notre Dame	Graduate Program in Constitutional Studies	Michael Zuckert
University of Richmond	Jepson School of Leadership Studies	Sandra Peart
University of Richmond	Adam Smith Program	Sandra Peart
University of Texas at Austin	The Thomas Jefferson Center for the Study of Core Texts and Ideas	Thomas Pangle; Lorraine Pangle
University of Virginia	The Program on Constitutionalism and Democracy	James Ceaser
University of Wisconsin, Madison	American Democracy Forum	John Coleman
Ursinus College	Common Intellectual Experience	Jonathan Marks
Utah State University	The Project on Liberty and American Constitutionalism	Peter McNamara
Villanova University	Matthew J. Ryan Center for the Study of Free Institutions	Colleen Sheehan
Yale University	Yale Center for the Study of Representative Institutions	Steven Smith; Keith Wrightson
<b>LIBRARY</b>		
Huntington Library	Research Fellowship	Steve Hindle, W.M. Keck Foundation Director of Research
Newberry Library	Research Fellowship	David Spadafora, President and Librarian
John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Library, Colonial Williamsburg	Research Fellowship	James Horn, Vice President of Research and Historical Interpretation

*“Thank you so much for all your support! It is so important that rigorous, fair-minded courses about America’s past hold their place in Brown’s history curriculum. You at the JMC are enabling us to make that happen. History will thank you.”*

PROFESSOR JOHN TOMASI  
BROWN UNIVERSITY



## JMC Community of Professors Grows as New Scholars Participate in JMC's Annual Summer Institutes

### JMC DONOR

*“Two generations of citizens with little understanding of the principles that guided our Founders is enough! We have to put a renewed emphasis on reading and discussing the writings of Locke, Burke, Jefferson, Madison and others. Why did they believe in limited government, private property, separation of powers, and the other important criteria that serve as the underpinning of our great nation?”*

JOHN LILLARD  
FORMER CHAIRMAN, WINTRUST FINANCIAL CORPORATION  
JMC BOARD MEMBER

Twenty promising young scholars in the fields of political theory and history engaged in a rigorous ten-day session that included presentations and panel discussions by leading scholars, dialogue centered on shared readings, and professional development workshops on topics including research and publishing.

Summer Institutes are the entry point into the JMC faculty community. These annual events give young scholars the opportunity to enrich their knowledge by reflecting upon and discussing the ideas, issues, and questions from the American past and Western tradition.

Summer Institutes are instrumental to building a nationwide community of professors committed to expanding student access to courses in America's founding principles. JMC began in 2007 with 25 faculty partners and today has developed a network of over 700 professors on more than 250 campuses.

In August 2013 we launched the JMC Returning Fellows Institute, a three-day program to refresh and deepen the passion of previous Summer Institute fellows for America's constitutional history and to enliven teaching about the nation's past and present. We select and invest in the most promising young scholars, those who have the entrepreneurial spirit to build new programs on their own campuses devoted to the study of the American Founding.

We support JMC fellows each step of the way—from postdoctoral appointments to tenure-track positions and mid-career scholarship. Standing alongside scholars as they move through the academic ranks, we ensure that the study of our national principles and history is restored to its rightful place in higher education.



2013 Summer Institute participants, Charlottesville, Virginia



# Q&A

## Thomas Smith

### On innovation, creativity, and personal freedom



**JMC:** Why are you so passionate about America's founding principles?

**TS:** The United States represents about 4.5% of the world's population but produces over 20% of the world's products. That is what innovation and creativity can produce. The world has enjoyed incredible prosperity over the last 250 years not due to government programs but due to increasing personal freedom. That is what our Constitution is all about. And that is why the work of the JMC is so important—reinvigorating education in America's constitutional tradition.

**JMC:** What or who influenced your thinking?

**TS:** Friedrich Hayek has had extraordinary influence on my thinking. He helped me turn the mystery of the market allocating resources into the magic of the market. Hayek helped me understand that when it comes to solving social problems, information cannot be centralized. We have to rid ourselves of the idea that we can gather all of the relevant information, all of the perceived experts, to solve social problems or improve the social order. It simply cannot be done. That is why over the long term, the market while imperfect, is superior in allocating resources.

**JMC:** What are the areas of focus for your philanthropy?

**TS:** The progress mankind has enjoyed in the last 250 years has been spectacular. I read one study that said mankind improved our standard of living some 40 times in the last 250 years. Compare this progress to

*"JMC can research the various departments within colleges and universities to determine the potential of a program to meet the donor's intent."*



that of the previous 2,200 years. While this extraordinary progress can be attributed to specialization of labor, trade, the rule of law, etc., underlying all of the above is innovation and creativity. Friedrich Hayek clearly understood that. My foundation is primarily focused on promoting Hayek's philosophy. I started the Hayek Book Award at the Manhattan Institute.

**JMC:** Why is it important for college students to study America's founding principles?

**TS:** Our Founders recognized the importance of personal freedom but were not starry eyed, which is why we have three separate branches of government, why they gave only specific powers to the federal government. Does it complicate things? Yes. But our Founders recognized the frailty of mankind. They recognized that power can corrupt.

It is important that we not take our freedom, this extraordinary country, for granted. To understand and respect our founding principles, our Constitution requires exposure to the history of the United States and a basic understanding of economics. It is important to understand how precious personal freedom is. How easily it is weakened, even destroyed, often in the name of what is claimed to be fairness or compassion.

**JMC:** Why do you support the JMC?

**TS:** The JMC is highly effective in promoting the understanding and respect for our founding principles, for our Constitution. That alone justifies its existence. In addition, the JMC is unique in its ability to partner with donors who share its mission.

JMC can research the various departments within colleges and universities to determine the potential of a program to meet the donor's intent. Also, and very importantly, the JMC partners with the faculty and administration to ensure that program goals are met. As this unique ability to partner with like-minded donors becomes more understood, it will dramatically enhance the JMC's effectiveness in promoting the understanding and respect for the founding principles, for our Constitution.

*Thomas W. Smith is the managing partner of Prescott Investors, a private investment firm he founded in 1973. Mr. Smith received his undergraduate degree from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio and his masters degree in economics from the University of California at Berkeley. He is a member of the JMC Board of Directors.*

# Q&A

## David Boren: “Civic education is at the heart of our mission.”

*David L. Boren, former Oklahoma governor and U.S. senator, became the 13th president of the University of Oklahoma in November 1994. He is the first person in state history to have served all three positions.*

*In 2009, Boren established the Institute for the American Constitutional Heritage (IACH), a center dedicated to the interdisciplinary study of American constitutionalism. Directed by Professor Kyle Harper, the Institute seeks to use higher education to promote civic education, on campus and beyond. The center holds an annual Teach-In, a one-day conference that is the largest such event in our nation. It is a model of how to make serious education accessible to students and the broader community.*



DAVID BOREN

**JMC:** President Boren, the Institute for the American Constitutional Heritage represents a major investment by the university and has established the University of Oklahoma as a leader in education that advances the serious study and teaching of our constitutional order. What led you to make such a major investment in this education?

**DB:** Civic education is at the heart of our mission. It is one of the central purposes of higher education. It is at the core of what makes America unique. The Founders believed that a self-governing people have to be an educated people. They have to understand the constitutional system of government in order to preserve it. Our Constitution is what has made us great as a nation, and if we don't understand it, and know its history, we cannot hope to remain great. The investment we've made in the institute and its programs is a sign of how much we value the mission of civic education at OU.



Professor Kyle Harper and a distinguished panel of scholars, including historian David McCullough, (seated at left) at the 2013 University of Oklahoma Teach-In.

**JMC:** Do you expect the institute to grow and add programs? What are your hopes for its future?

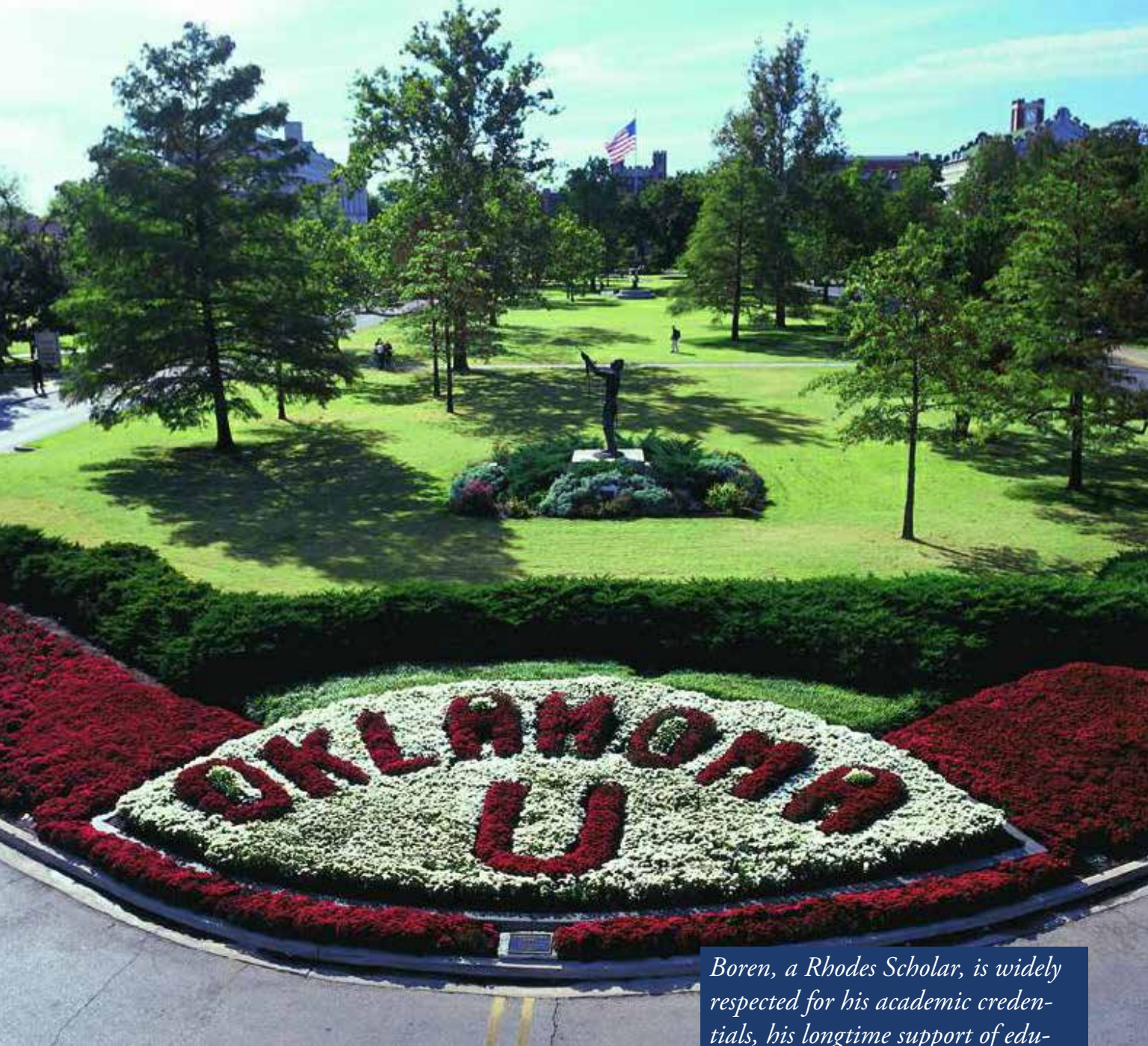
**DB:** I'm so proud of the institute and what it has accomplished so far. It has changed the culture on our campus and helped make citizenship training part of the ethos at OU.

As much as it's accomplished so far, I'm even more excited about the future. Many of its faculty are early-career scholars whose work will only continue to grow in importance. Every year the program manages to reach more students and more members of the general public through its outreach efforts—from our Web site, *freedom.ou.edu*, to summer institutes for Oklahoma teachers.

We are hoping to continue to build on the foundation we've laid to make an even bigger difference for our students and for the public. We want to see OU become a national example and to prove that you can have vibrant citizenship training focused on the Constitution right in the middle of a major university.

**JMC:** In your book *A Letter to America*, you write, “More and more, American citizens do not participate in our political system, in part because they do not know how it works and do not know anything about the ideas that shape it.” This is a trend that is deeply troubling and the reason that the Jack Miller Center exists. Is there evidence at the University of Oklahoma that your programs are engaging more students and leading to more learning?

**DB:** About three years ago, we developed a curriculum in constitutional studies that combines history, law, and political thought. Students can concentrate or minor in constitutional studies, making OU the only major university so far where students can focus their undergraduate studies on the U.S. Constitution. We've developed over 30 undergraduate courses on constitutional themes—an unequalled list of undergraduate offerings. We have about 50 students concentrating and 50 more minoring in our curriculum. These classes reach over 500 students every



*Boren, a Rhodes Scholar, is widely respected for his academic credentials, his longtime support of education, and for his distinguished political career as a reformer of the American political system. Under Boren's leadership, the University of Oklahoma has emerged as a "pace-setter university in American public higher education," with 20 major new programs initiated since his inauguration in 1994.*

*"Think of all the discoveries and advances that were made by ordinary people who had access to extraordinary education."*

DAVID BOREN

semester. And you simply can't measure the broader cultural impact the Institute for the American Constitutional Heritage has had on the university.

Every year IACH events reach thousands of people in the community, through events such as our Teach-In. Our Web site and its programs have reached hundreds of thousands of people. And our new summer institute for teachers will allow OU to have an impact on students before they even arrive on our campus.

**JMC:** You teach an introductory course in political science, "American Federal Government," which provides you first hand experience with what interests students. How have you seen students engage with the material you teach? What topics excite them?

**DB:** I am optimistic about our future because of the values and idealism of this generation of students. I am always amazed and heartened at the desire of this generation of students to make a difference in the world. So many of them are strongly drawn to service. What is disheartening is that so few of them want to be involved in government. They are cynical about politics. That's not healthy for a republic. Our best and brightest must once again want to engage themselves in political leadership from the grassroots to Washington.

**JMC:** The University of Oklahoma has enrolled the most National Merit Scholars of any public university. How have you made OU such a magnet for the nation's brightest students?

**DB:** We are very proud of our record in recruiting the best of the best nationwide. Our National Merit Scholars help make OU a national university. They serve as catalysts for all of our students to set high standards and to work up to their best potential abilities. It also means that the stu-

dents who come through OU go on to become leaders in every field—medicine, law, business, social enterprise, and so on. They raise the bar for all of our students on campus. And by involving them in our rich culture of civic education, we are preparing the next generation of leadership to understand and appreciate the constitutional foundations of America.

**JMC:** Last August you and former Secretary of Defense Robert Gates wrote an op-ed piece in *The Wall Street Journal* about public education and economic growth. In that article you warned we are risking our young people's future, and our nation's economic prospects, by cutting support for higher education. What has been the response to that article?

**DB:** Our editorial was something we felt compelled to write in the face of the slow erosion of truly "public" higher education. Bob and I believe that the collapse of public support for higher education is a national crisis. Because it is happening slowly but steadily, we don't pause to recognize what a genuine disaster it is. It threatens to undermine our national security. It undermines our unique social compact based on equality of opportunity. The greatness of America is that everyone is free and everyone has a chance. Think of all the discoveries and advances that were made by ordinary people who had access to extraordinary education. If high quality public education—including higher education—becomes unavailable to large parts of the American population, then we are turning our backs on what has made this country what it is.

**JMC:** Thank you for your time and for all you do for American higher education, President Boren. We are encouraged by your efforts at the University of Oklahoma and proud to partner with the IACH.



*Faces of the Future in Higher Education:*

## JMC Postdoctoral Fellows



## JMC to Add 24 Postdoctoral Fellowships

In 2008 JMC set out to build a core of committed professors who share our goal to ensure that students graduate educated in our nation's founding principles and history. The JMC Postdoctoral Fellowship program is among the most effective strategies for preparing the next generation of professors to achieve this objective.

Working with established professors at top universities, JMC postdoctoral fellows teach classes on the great ideas of the Founding and prepare scholarly works essential to their success in an increasingly competitive academic job market.

Fellows gain valuable teaching experience and are mentored by leading scholars in their fields. The mentors' advice prepares them for the rigors of the interview and publication processes. Fellows leave their appointments ready to begin a career teaching in the classroom.

Thanks to a generous challenge grant from The Harvey L. Miller Family Foundation, and to the 21 donor partners who contributed funding to meet the challenge, JMC raised \$1.1 million towards providing these important fellowships. "The value of these postdoctoral fellowships cannot be overstated," said JMC executive vice president, Dr. Michael Andrews. "Over the course of their careers, these young scholars will introduce tens-of-thousands of students to the American political tradition and the principles of a free society."

Thanks to a generous challenge grant from The Harvey L. Miller Family Foundation, and to the 21 donor partners who contributed to meet the challenge, JMC raised \$1.1 million for these important fellowships.

*"Postdoctoral fellowships are now expected as stepping stones to full-time teaching positions in the social sciences and humanities. The JMC was ahead of the curve in perceiving this development."*

PROFESSOR ROBERT P. GEORGE  
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY



*Postdoctoral Fellow Profile:*  
**Steven Bilakovics**



**JMC:** How have your postdoctoral fellowships at Yale University and UCLA, as well as your connection to the JMC’s community of professors, impacted your career?

**SB:** My postdoctoral fellowships have been invaluable. During my time at Yale, I developed and taught a number of courses and participated in various programs and conferences in the Department of Political Science and across the University.

I also completed my first book, *Democracy without Politics* (Harvard University Press, 2012), which is about the forms of political cynicism inherent in the values and ideals of our democratic way of life. My time at UCLA has allowed me to advance my current research on the American Dream toward the completion of my next book project.

My connection to the JMC’s network of scholars has facilitated every step of my work and career, with members offering everything from advice and feedback on my manuscript to recommendations for my placements at Yale and UCLA.

**JMC:** Why is it valuable for students to study our nation’s founding principles and history?

**SB:** The study of America’s Founding and history is essential for any number of reasons, but above all so that we may think wisely—rather than simplistically or superficially—about our contemporary problems and purposes.

When today most everything is represented as a crisis or revolution of unparalleled scale, Americans need the perspective afforded us by reflecting upon what has come before. Today, we often seem fatalistically resigned to our incapacity to cope with the issues we face; we need to understand what has proven possible, as well as what is beyond our reach, in the past.

*“My connection to the JMC’s network of scholars has facilitated every step of my work and career, with members offering everything from advice and feedback on my manuscript to recommendations for my placements at Yale and UCLA.”*

*Steven Bilakovics held a JMC postdoctoral fellowship at Yale University from 2009-2012, and is currently the postdoctoral fellow of the “Commercial Republic Project” for the Center for the Study of Liberal Arts and Free Institutions at UCLA. Bilakovics’ current teaching responsibilities include The Rise of Liberal Democracy in European Thought, The Rise of Capitalism in European Thought, and American Political Thought.*



*Postdoctoral Fellow Profile:*  
**Nora Hanagan**



**JMC:** What courses have you taught at Duke?

**NH:** I have taught “American Values, Institutions and Culture,” and “Environmentalism and American Values.” Next year, I will be teaching “American Perspectives on Citizenship” in the new American Experience Focus Program. The Focus Program gives first-year students an opportunity to participate in an interdisciplinary intellectual community. In addition to taking courses, the students will have weekly dinners with professors, take several field trips, and live in the same dorm.

**JMC:** Why do you believe it is valuable for undergraduates to study American political thought?

**NH:** Studying American political thought helps students understand and critically evaluate the institutions and ideas that continue to shape the lives of U.S. citizens. In my classes, I place particular emphasis on ongoing debates about the meaning and purpose of democracy.

Additionally, many American political thinkers were also political practitioners and activists (including Jane Addams, Frederick Douglass, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, James Madison, and Henry David Thoreau). Studying American political thought gives students an opportunity to think about the challenges—both practical and ethical—that confront political actors who seek to create a society that truly reflects ideals like equality, freedom, and democracy.

**JMC:** In what ways did your postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Wisconsin prepare you for your current position?

**NH:** The fellowship gave me an opportunity to pursue research interests that continue to inform my teaching. I also received useful feedback on my teaching and research from more experienced scholars who were exceedingly generous with their time.

*“Studying American political thought gives students an opportunity to think about the challenges...that confront political actors who seek to create a society that truly reflects ideals like equality, freedom, and democracy.”*

*Nora Hanagan was a JMC postdoctoral fellow at the University of Wisconsin-Madison from 2011-2012. She is now a visiting assistant professor at Duke University and managing director of the Duke Program in American Values and Institutions. While at UW-Madison, Hanagan taught several courses including History of American Political Thought and The Ethics of Civic Engagement.*



## National Initiatives Broaden Access to Scholarly Work

*In addition to the support we provide for individual colleges and universities, JMC advances and supports programs that further the study and understanding of the Founding among a wider student and scholarly audience through our National Initiatives.*

## Constitution Day Initiative

Thanks to a lead gift from the Andrea Waitt Carlton Family Foundation, JMC introduced our Constitution Day Initiative (CDI) in 2011. Since then, we have supported over 100 programs on campuses across the nation involving leading historians, political scientists, and legal scholars (including three U.S. Supreme Court Justices) engaging thousands of students in discussions on constitutional issues from 1787 to the present.

By congressional mandate, colleges receiving federal funds are required to hold an educational program each year on Constitution Day, September 17th. These events are excellent opportunities to engage an entire student body in discussion on the Constitution, but many schools lack the resources to mount a substantive program. This is where JMC helps.

Through a competitive application process colleges are awarded funds to enrich these programs. As a result, thousands of students have the opportunity to examine critical and timely constitutional questions with real experts and policy-makers.

To raise awareness about Constitution Day, we help JMC scholars place essays in leading regional newspapers. In 2013, eleven of these essays were published in major media-markets including Miami, Philadelphia, Phoenix, and Nashville. Thirty other media outlets, including the *Huffington Post* and *Real Clear Politics*, publicized the event and sparked interest not only from students, but the public.

2013 Constitution Day Lecture

**“The Constitution and National Greatness”**

James W. Ceaser  
*Byrd Professor of Politics, University of Virginia*

One of America's most influential political theorists and a respected expert on the American presidency, Professor Ceaser is the Harry F. Byrd, Jr., Professor of Politics at the University of Virginia, where he also directs Program on Constitutionalism and Democracy. He is author of many books, including *Presidential Selection, Nature and History in American Political Development*, *Liberal Democracy and Political Science*, and *Reconstructing America: The Symbol of America in Modern Thought*.

Thursday, Sept. 19, 2013 • 4:30 p.m.  
Franklin Environmental Center, The Orchard-Hillcrest 103

Sponsored by Dept. of Political Science, the Jack Miller Center, BIA Civic Engagement, and the Pre-Law Club, and the

## Library Fellowships

We established partnerships with three of America's foremost independent research libraries: the Newberry Library in Chicago, the Huntington Library in San Marino (CA), and most recently, the John D. Rockefeller Library in Colonial Williamsburg.

In collaboration with these libraries, JMC will provide fellowships for scholars on projects that advance JMC's central mission to revitalize the study of American political thought and history.

JMC library fellowships provide scholars the rare opportunity to explore unparalleled collections of documents and manuscripts from the Founding era. Such opportunities enable scholars to further their careers while benefiting us all with a deeper understanding of America's founding principles and history.

As JMC President Mike Ratliff said, “JMC library fellowships enrich the understanding of our history and the ideas that shape our national life.”

## American Political Thought Journal

In 2012, The University of Chicago Press and JMC launched the journal, *American Political Thought: A Journal of Ideas, Institutions and Culture*, the only peer-reviewed academic journal exclusively devoted to its subject.

As a result of increased interest and the number of quality manuscripts submitted, the journal will transition from a twice-yearly to a quarterly publication in 2014.

As a result of increased interest and the number of quality manuscripts submitted, the journal will transition from a twice-yearly to a quarterly publication in 2014.

This multidisciplinary journal provides a much-needed venue for scholars interested in works and themes around American political thought. Professor Michael Zuckert, director of the American Constitutional Studies Program at the University of Notre Dame, serves as its editor. “Our goal is to create the essential and defining journal for this burgeoning field,” said Zuckert at the journal's inception.

We are pleased to say that the journal is already meeting this goal.



Susan Collins, University of Houston; Nasser Behnegar, Boston College; and James Ceaser, University of Virginia

## Annual Miller Summit

Scholars, program leaders, and JMC partners from around the country gathered in Philadelphia in October for the 10th Annual Miller Summit on Higher Education. For the past decade, the Summit has brought together faculty to share ideas on how to build and develop academic centers of excellence on their respective campuses.

The 2013 program sparked enthusiastic discussions on collaborating with independent research libraries for scholarly study, securing public and private foundation support, and fostering partnerships across university disciplines to reach a larger student population. Distinguished professors, representatives from leading private and public foundations, and directors from some of the nation's most renowned research libraries gathered for the event.

In addition, our partners at UCLA, Yale, Illinois Institute of Technology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Northwestern and MIT engaged in a panel discussion on our national, three-year JMC/John Templeton Foundation partnership entitled, "Science, Enterprise, and Law in the Making of the American Commercial Republic." The discussion of this innovative project demonstrated to attendees the payoff of collaboration across disciplines. The project allows many more students in disciplines outside the humanities to study themes related to the American Founding.

## Online Resource Center

Our newly designed Web site includes an ever-expanding online resource center that benefits students and scholars alike. Most recently, we conducted interviews for the resource center with some of the nation's leading scholars on the meaning of equality in the *Declaration of Independence* and today. These and other videos are designed to spark interest in and discussion on the Founding among students and provide material for use by professors in the classroom.



# The Chicago Initiative

## Chicago Area 2014 Highlights

- Seminar on American political thought at the prestigious Newberry Library.
- A conference on institutions and innovation in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, co-sponsored by IIT, University of Wisconsin-Madison, and MIT.
- A DePaul University debate between Stephen Moore of *The Wall Street Journal* and Alberto Coll of DePaul Law School.
- An IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law lecture by *New York Times* best-selling author Amity Shlaes.

Launched in 2008, the Chicago Initiative is a regional networking effort that brings together faculty, students, and donors in the Chicago area to cooperatively advance the education students need to be informed and engaged citizens.

Jack Miller, a life-long resident of Chicago, called on JMC to develop this program to ensure future generations of Chicago citizens uphold the same robust civic pride for which the city is known.

Chicago colleges and universities held a wide range of events in 2013 that included lectures and discussions led by influential scholars and public figures, three Constitution Day events, the Jeffersonian Seminar held this past September, and courses in American political thought and history taught by JMC postdoctoral fellows on area campuses. Many of these events were open to the public.

Additionally, two of our Chicago partner schools, Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) and Northwestern University, began offering dynamic new courses on the American Founding era to students outside the humanities as part of our Commercial Republic Initiative.

JMC's Chicago Initiative so far includes ten area universities and colleges and 75 professors in political science, history, and law. We continue to work to build partnerships in the Chicago area so that more students have the opportunity to study the great ideas of American history and the Western tradition.



**JMC's Board of Directors** includes philanthropists, scholars, and business leaders united in their commitment to JMC's vision and mission.

JMC's Academic Council includes many of the nation's leading scholars in the fields of political thought and history. Members work closely with JMC's staff of former college professors on our many academic programs, including summer institutes, the postdoctoral fellowship program, and the annual summit on higher education. Council members play a key role in expanding the JMC community of professors by identifying promising young scholars committed to revitalizing this essential education.



Front, from left: Board members Thomas Smith, Mike Ratliff, Goldie Miller, Jack Miller, Douglas Regan, Bruce Cole; Back, from left: Wilfred McClay, James Ceaser, Michael Weiser, and John Lillard

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JMC Leadership Team: Michael Andrews, Mike Ratliff, Pamela Edwards, Mike Deshaies, Jack Guipre

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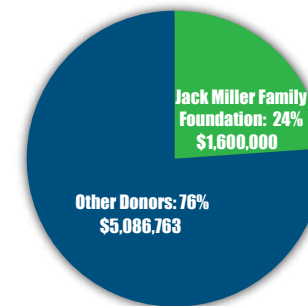
# JMC Surpasses \$50 Million Mark in Donations, Matches, and Pledges

## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Since 2007 we have invested or committed to invest more than \$50 million in campus programs
- \$22.4 million in pledges for 2014-2023
- \$6.6 million invested in our mission, a 14 percent increase over 2012
- 90% of expenditures went to JMC academic programs in 2013

JMC donors understand that, as Benjamin Franklin said, “An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.”

**2013 Revenue: \$6,686,763**

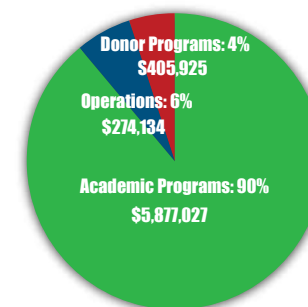


In 2013 JMC surpassed the \$50 million mark in donations, matches, and pledges since our incorporation in September 2007.

Donors have signaled confidence in JMC’s mission, strategy, and performance. In 2013 we invested \$6.6 million in pursuit of our mission, a 14 percent increase over 2012. And, we are well positioned with an additional \$22.4 million for programs for the coming years.

“We have reached a financial milestone that provides momentum to develop increased support for programs that can have lasting impact,” said JMC President Mike Ratliff. “As we continue to share our story and achievements with those interested in revitalizing education in America’s founding principles and history, we are encouraged that more donors are stepping forward to support this essential education.”

**2013 Expenses: \$6,557,086**



A key factor in our success is our ability to keep operating costs a low percentage of income. In 2013 we directed 90 percent of our expenditures directly to JMC academic programs. Our general operating expenses are funded by the Jack Miller Family Foundation.

In 2013 our total revenues were \$6,686,763 with total expenses of \$6,557,086.



*"[JMC] has been remarkably successful. Jack himself wanted to change campuses, and many people were discouraging, saying the academy is very hard to move. I've been astonished."*

JMC FELLOW, INTERVIEW COMMENT, HURON CONSULTING GROUP PHASE III EVALUATION OF JMC PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS

## *Join Us in Our Efforts!*

We have come a long way since our bold beginning in 2004. When we incorporated as a tax-exempt nonprofit foundation in 2007, we had 27 faculty partners and eight partner programs on college campuses. And now, with the tremendous progress we have made since then, our future looks very bright. Our community of professors now numbers over 700 on over 250 campuses, and we are supporting major programs on 53 leading campuses across the nation.

We have nearly 250 donor partners contributing millions of dollars to support our efforts on campuses. Key to this growth in our donor base is our unique capability to facilitate a relationship between the donor and the college to ensure that the donor's intent will be met. To that end, JMC provides a range of services to donors, including:

- Research to determine the potential for a successful program on campus;

- Ongoing program monitoring to help the colleges develop a successful program;

- Confidential reporting that assesses outcomes so donors can make informed decisions and be confident their support is producing the expected outcomes.

Simply put, we provide a service to donors that nobody else can match. Many individuals and foundations have actually reached out to us as our reputation grows as the "go-to" organization for substantive change on campuses.

I am encouraged by our success, but I know that there is much more work to be done. In order to achieve a brighter future, we need your support. It is time to stop simply wishing that students knew more about our nation's founding principles and history; now is the time to do something about it. Whatever your ability, whatever your passion, this is a project worthy of your support.

*Jack Miller*

Jack Miller

**Support from donors** is vital to our success. We pride ourselves on the work we do to ensure that funds are invested carefully and directed to the programs and initiatives to which they are intended. We partner with university administrators to secure their support. We evaluate programs to confirm that they are meeting goals. We also work with The Huron Consulting Group Inc. to statistically measure program effectiveness. We keep regular and consistent communications with donors on the progress made possible by their investments. Donor interests and values are always a priority.

### **JMC DONOR**

*"I love what the JMC is doing. When I met with JMC, it spoke to me on all levels that this was something we wanted to support. It's about bringing back the teaching of the history of our country, and your focus on the college level makes me very happy."*

ANDREA WAITT CARLTON  
ANDREA WAITT CARLTON FAMILY FOUNDATION

*“A primary object should be the education of our youth in the science of government. In a republic, what species of knowledge can be equally important? And what duty more pressing... than ... communicating it to those who are to be the future guardians of the liberties of the country?”*

GEORGE WASHINGTON



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