

# INTO THE NEXT DECADE:

Advancing Education  
in American Political  
Thought and History

ANNUAL REPORT  
2014-15 ACADEMIC YEAR

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





**JACOB HANGER**  
2013 Graduate; Nonprofit Director of Operations  
Duke Program in American Values and Institutions  
Duke University

*“The political theory courses I took at Duke gave me a framework to understand Western societies and appreciate just how revolutionary the American system is. It was a challenging semester, but I grew immensely. The most striking aspect was just how little my friends knew about the intellectual foundation of our country.”*

## Our Mission

The way we understand our freedoms and institutions is shaped by what is taught in our colleges and universities. But too few students have the opportunity to learn the principles that sustain those freedoms and institutions.

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 goal is for students to gain the knowledge necessary for informed civic engagement, to help ensure a future that preserves the freedoms envisioned by our nation’s founders.

## Our Strategy

**BUILD A COMMUNITY OF PROFESSORS** committed to providing and fostering this education on campuses. These professors will be the primary engines for change, expanding student access to courses and other opportunities to learn. Programs including Miller Summer Institutes, regional seminars, postdoctoral and research library fellowships, as well as 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 promote and sustain this teaching on individual campuses. As our partner programs grow, 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 Constitution Day Initiative to focus attention on this education and its advocates; the journal, *American Political Thought*, that provides a platform for the scholarship of professors who teach American political thought and history; and our annual National Summit that provides the unique opportunity for directors of our partner programs and professors from around the country to learn from one another and work together.

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

## Our Structure

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) charity, in 2007. We received IRS advance ruling as a public charity in 2010. We are located in the Philadelphia suburb, Bala Cynwyd, PA.



**JACK MILLER CENTER**

*For Teaching America’s Founding Principles and History*

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## The Education of Jack Miller

A decade ago, Jack Miller was a successful businessman with a vision for a philanthropic legacy that would offer our grandchildren opportunities such as he enjoyed as a young adult.

Concerned that today's generations were entering the workforce with minimal—if any—exposure to America's founding principles and history, he committed himself to helping professors who wanted to find ways to do something about it.

In this Annual Report, we reflect on the remarkable progress made by the center that bears Jack's name, including a national community of professors, centers of excellence on campuses across the country, and a growing number of donors who partner with us.

For me, another measure of our center's progress has been Jack's personal growth as he has read, questioned and debated with our scholars in order to understand as deeply as possible the great ideas in the Declaration of Independence, as well as the institutional framework established in our Constitution, to give these ideas concrete form.

The ideas advanced by Jefferson, Madison, Hamilton, Lincoln and others have inspired hundreds of millions of people

around the world, and I see every day how they can have a profound impact on students—when professors provide the opportunity to study them.

*"Jack knows these ideas can change lives, because they have changed his life."*

Jack's personal quest has been driven by his very personal questions. How do the ideas in the

Torah fit into the American understanding of freedom and government? How did Greek, Roman and Enlightenment thinkers shape the ideas that now shape our national life? Can our liberties and the institutions protecting them be sustained if each generation reinterprets the principles underlying the Constitution?

He was not content to listen. Jack came prepared to every seminar and lecture and pressed his own questions. He tested his own explanations with an energy and excitement that affected those half his age and younger.

Jack knows these ideas can change lives, because they have changed his life.





## FOREWORD, continued

He believes this education is so vital that he has committed not only millions of dollars in funding, but also thousands of hours of his own time. He has participated in more than 120 hours of seminars plus dozens of lectures as a participant in 19 Summer Institutes. He comes prepared. If de Tocqueville's *Democracy in America* is on the program, he arrives having read not just the excerpts selected by the seminar leader, but both volumes.

He observes. He listens. He asks questions. He learns. And he acts. Jack Miller is an amazing example of the transformative impact of the serious study of the Founders and the ideas that shaped their thinking.

Jack's imprint is reflected in every facet of our program. He is a true Chicagoan, and it was his idea to launch the Chicago Initiative, a regional network that brings faculty, students and donors together to advance the education students need to become informed and involved citizens. Today, we are expanding this concept to other areas around the country. When he realized scholars needed a venue for publication of their works and themes dealing with American political thought and theory, the journal *American Political Thought* was born.

Several years ago, the National Conference on Citizenship recognized Jack as the Citizen of the Year at the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia. The award recognized his contributions in championing civic education in the United States. David Eisner, then-president of the National Constitution Center, said that Jack's efforts were "changing the world," through the commitment to "illuminating constitutional ideas."

Jack Miller's legacy *is* the lives changed by the education to which he has devoted so much of his wealth, time and energy. As I look at where we are ten years into our project, Jack's personal growth is an inspiring part of that legacy.



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

*"Jack Miller is a wonderful man. We've had spirited conversations. And in a way, the spirit of conversation is the spirit of the Enlightenment. I'm very impressed with what you are doing, and we need to continue the business of understanding where we came from and helping others to understand it, too."*

PROFESSOR PETER ONUF  
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

# A DECADE O



2004  
↓  
2006

Jack Miller meets at the University of Chicago with 50 professors from campuses across the country to discuss the lack of civic education at the undergraduate college level.

A series of pilot projects launched to strengthen education in America's founding principles and history on campuses around the country, including our first Miller Summer Institute held at Princeton University in 2005.

2007

Jack Miller Center for Teaching America's Founding Principles and History incorporated as a nonprofit, nonpartisan 501(c)(3) charity with a community of 125 professors and eight campus partner programs.

2008

JMC establishes an academic advisory council comprised of leading scholars in political science and history.

Postdoctoral fellowship program launched to offer more courses on American history and political thought to college students and to help promising new scholars gain valuable experience to be competitive in the academic job market.

JMC and Liberty Fund facilitate book placements for JMC partner programs on campuses to provide collections of books on American history and political thought for use by students.

2009

Chicago Initiative launched to foster collaboration between area faculty and colleges to strengthen civic education in the Chicago region.

2010

JMC supports the American political thought related group at the American Political Science Association (APSA), establishing panels at APSA conferences to enrich teaching and research for scholars in this discipline. First panel is held.

JMC partners with Roosevelt University to host first summer High School Teachers Academy on the history and principles of the American Founding.

# F PROGRESS



## 2011

JMC launches the Constitution Day Initiative, helping colleges provide substantive programming on Constitution Day, Sept. 17, to engage students campuswide in discussion on historical and contemporary topics related to the Constitution.

## 2012

Jack Miller wins the Joseph H. Kanter Citizen of the Year Award at the annual meeting of the National Conference on Citizenship for his contributions in championing civic participation in the United States.

University of Chicago Press and University of Notre Dame, in partnership with JMC, launch *American Political Thought*, an academic journal providing a much-needed venue for scholarly work devoted to the subject.

JMC conducts first Jeffersonian Seminar in Chicago as part of a series to foster faculty collaboration in various areas of the country to advance education in American history and political thought on campuses.

JMC partners with the Historical Society for a two-year collaborative research project on the roles of science, religion and politics in shaping the American Founding.

## 2013

JMC launches the Commercial Republic Initiative, a three-year national project at leading universities to enrich the study of the institutions and ideas that have shaped America's scientific, legal and economic order.

JMC hosts 10<sup>th</sup> annual Miller National Summit on Higher Education, bringing together professors from campuses around the country to focus on practical steps to advance education in American political thought and history.

## 2014

Opportunity Fund is established to help expand carefully selected campus programs with the most potential for success.

JMC and Huntington Library in San Marino, CA hold major international conference and fellowship program on science, religion and the Founding.

Newly designed online resource center offers educational videos, syllabi, essays and other materials for use by faculty, students and the public.

JMC's community of professors grows to more than 750 scholars on hundreds of campuses around the country.

# MOVING CONFIDENTLY INTO THE NEXT DECADE

## Our mission drives everything we do.

We work every day to ensure that college students graduate with the knowledge necessary to be informed and engaged citizens prepared to make meaningful contributions to their communities, states and our nation.

We have accomplished much since we began our efforts in higher education, thanks to the support of nearly 200 donor partners. What started as a meeting with Jack Miller and 50 professors in Chicago in 2004 has grown into a nationwide effort to reinvigorate education in America's founding principles and history on campuses from flagship state universities and liberal arts colleges to Ivy League universities.

As we begin our second decade in 2015, it is clear that ten years of hard work, impressive growth in our community of professors and partner programs, the support of visionary donors, and a laser focus on our mission have produced results. Our model is working.

- This year alone, **100,000 students will be educated by our community of professors** on the history and ideas that have shaped our great nation.
- Since incorporating as a public charity in 2007, our community of professors has **grown from 125 to more than 750 professors** on hundreds of campuses across the country.
- We have provided support for **58 centers of excellence** on college campuses.
- Over the past year, we established new partnerships with programs at the University of Pennsylvania and University of Oklahoma.
- We have supported **147 postdoctoral fellowships** awarded to our nation's most promising young scholars—who share JMC's mission to reinvigorate education in our nation's founding principles and history.
- Our Summer Institutes have expanded to include advanced graduate students to help support their teaching and career advancement.

**A GRANT FROM THE JOHN TEMPLETON FOUNDATION** (West Conshohocken, Pennsylvania) made possible JMC's Commercial Republic Initiative, a three-year national project at eight universities from MIT to UCLA. This project fosters partnerships between universities and across disciplines to offer students outside 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.



*“Our partnerships with faculty, college and university administrations, and donors, have made these accomplishments possible. But we can and need to do much more.”*

**THANKS TO A LEAD GIFT FROM DICK UHLEIN**, CEO of Uline (Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin), JMC’s Opportunity Fund supports select programs and initiatives on campuses with the most potential to advance education on our nation’s founding to students campuswide.

**WITH A GENEROUS GIFT FROM THE KINDER FOUNDATION**, a family foundation established by Rich and Nancy Kinder (Houston, Texas), we helped launch the *Kinder Forum on Constitutional Studies* at the University of Missouri in fall 2014. Already offering 16 new or revised courses, multiple campus events, student fellowships and more, the program is making a major impact on Mizzou’s campus.

**WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE ANDREA WAITT CARLTON FAMILY FOUNDATION** (Nashville, Tennessee) and other donor partners, JMC’s Constitution Day Initiative is the only national project of its kind to help colleges conduct meaningful educational programs on Constitution Day, September 17, to engage students across campuses in constitutional discussions.

**FOUR OF AMERICA’S FOREMOST INDEPENDENT RESEARCH LIBRARIES**, the Huntington in San Marino (California), the Newberry in Chicago, the John D. Rockefeller in Colonial Williamsburg, and the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia, have partnered with JMC to advance scholarship in fields of study that contribute to a deeper understanding of our nation’s founding principles and history.

Our partnerships with faculty, college and university administrations, and donors, have made these accomplishments possible. But we can and need to do much more. We have established a reputation on college campuses that has enabled us to build on our successes, to make education in America’s founding principles and history a fixture on campuses across our great nation.

As Thomas Jefferson once said, “History by apprising them of the past will enable them to judge of the future,” we aim for students to graduate 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.

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



# COMMUNITY OF PROFESSORS

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## It all starts with one professor.

One professor will teach thousands of students over the course of his or her career. And one professor will often define the college experience of a student—making a lasting impact. Indeed, professors are the engines for change in higher education.

A key element of our strategy is to build and support a growing national community of professors who dedicate their careers to teaching students the history of our great nation and the ideas that contributed to its formation.

This year alone, our community of professors will teach 100,000 students. Over the course of their careers, this national community will lay the groundwork for millions of students to learn about America's founding principles and history.

Promising young scholars gain entry into our community of professors through two of our core programs—the JMC Summer Institute and the JMC Postdoctoral Fellowship Program.

Through these programs, we support the career development of these committed new professors, from helping them navigate the highly competitive academic job market to fostering their study and teaching of American political thought and history.

We continue to support this scholarly community by offering regional seminars, a growing online resource center, and competitive fellowships through four of America's foremost independent research libraries, providing access to original documents from the revolutionary and founding era to deepen their studies as they climb the academic ranks.

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**JONATHAN PIDLUZNY**  
Assistant Professor of Government  
School of Public Affairs  
Morehead State University

*“... the JMC Summer Institute had a tremendous impact on my professional development for which I am profoundly grateful. My teaching—both in terms of approach and content—improved significantly thanks to the institute.”*



## POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

One of the most effective programs for building our community of professors, JMC's postdoctoral fellowships help prepare new scholars for teaching America's founding principles and history on college campuses.

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 awarded 24 new fellowships to promising new scholars.

Working with established professors at top universities, JMC postdoctoral fellows teach classes in American political thought and history and are given time for research and publishing—essential to their success in an increasingly competitive academic job market.

“The value of these postdoctoral fellowships cannot be overstated,” said Dr. Michael Andrews, JMC vice president and executive officer. “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.”

Fellows offer new courses for students while gaining valuable teaching experience, and are mentored by leading scholars in their fields. Mentors provide guidance on preparing works for publication and the rigorous interview process.

Eighty percent of JMC postdoctoral fellows (political theorists) secured a position in the Academy the year following the completion of their fellowship. This is nearly double the success rate as measured by the American Political Science Association for political theorists. JMC has awarded 147 postdoctoral fellowships since 2008.



### CAROLYN PURNELL

JMC Postdoctoral Fellow  
Benjamin Franklin Project  
Illinois Institute of Technology

*“Thanks to my fellowship, I have had valuable time to develop my research, and I feel continually fortunate that the JMC has provided me with such a supportive intellectual community. Additionally, through my teaching, I have had the opportunity to connect with students over the importance of the American Founding, and it has been such a joy to show them just how deeply history affects their lives.”*



## SUMMER INSTITUTES

JMC held its 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Summer Institutes in 2014, bringing together promising young scholars from around the country dedicated to teaching students the history and principles that founded our great nation.

Comprised of educational and professional workshops, lectures and group discussions, these ten-day intensive seminars serve as the primary entry point for new scholars into JMC's community of professors. Nearly 400 scholars have participated to date.

One of JMC's core programs, Summer Institutes are instrumental to building a nationwide community of professors committed to expanding education in American political thought and history.

In partnership with UCLA, the 18<sup>th</sup> Miller Summer Institute in Pasadena held June 2014 was uniquely designed to be an integral part of JMC's national Commercial Republic Initiative (see page 23), reinforcing the project's goal of enriching pre-professional education—students in business, science, law and engineering—with the sources and ideas that have shaped America's legal, scientific and economic order.

Designed for the first time primarily for advanced graduate students, JMC's 19<sup>th</sup> Summer Institute was held in Philadelphia, July 2014 in partnership with the University of Missouri and University of Pennsylvania.

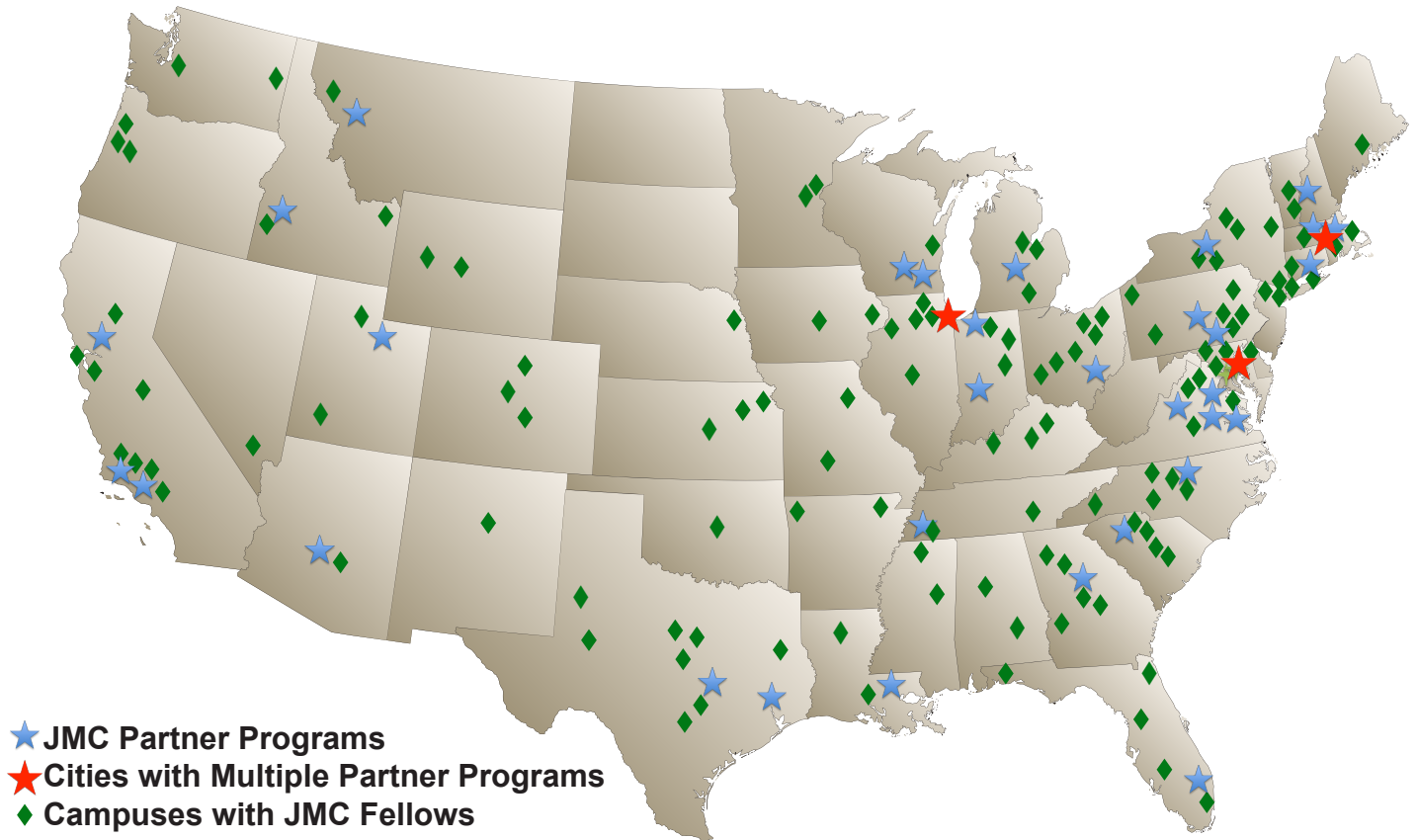
This institute enabled these young scholars studying American political thought and history to learn from leading scholars in the field, helped prepare them for college-level teaching, and will allow them to enter the academic job market already integrated into an extensive community of professors.





**JOHN ZUMBRUNNEN**  
 Professor of Political Science  
 Director, American Democracy Forum  
 University of Wisconsin-Madison

*“There’s a serious interest and hunger among students for the kind of education we’re offering. For some students, this might be one of their only chances during their college career to be exposed to the big ideas that have informed the American political experience.”*



## SELECT 2014 JMC PARTNER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

Thanks to a generous gift from the Kinder Foundation, the *Kinder Forum on Constitutional Democracy* at the University of Missouri launched in fall 2014. The Forum has already made possible the development or revision of 16 new courses, introduced two new student fellowship programs, and hosted multiple academic events for students and Mizzou faculty.

The Freedom and Citizenship Program offered through Columbia University’s *Center for American Studies* introduces promising college-bound New York area high school seniors from disadvantaged backgrounds to the meanings and possibilities of citizenship in a free society. The 2014 addition of JMC’s John Strassburger Fellow in American Studies allowed the program to double the number of participating students.

The *Thomas Jefferson Center for the Study of Core Texts and Ideas* at the University of Texas at Austin introduced their new Jefferson Scholars Program, a rigorous Great Books program offered to freshmen and sophomores in every college and major of the university—400 incoming freshman applied for 80 spaces in the program’s first class.

The *Benjamin Franklin Project* at the Illinois Institute of Technology hosted a major interdisciplinary conference on 18<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century innovation and the ideas of the Founding, co-sponsored by partner programs at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The event featured scholars from a wide variety of fields including history, sociology, law, political science and economics.

# PARTNER PROGRAMS

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## Lasting change on campus.

JMC's partner programs promote and enrich education in America's founding principles and history and sustain this vital education long term on college campuses. Centers offer students expanded access to American history and political thought through new and revised courses, student fellowships, reading groups, lectures, debates and conferences devoted to the subject. JMC has provided support for 58 campus programs across the country.

In 2014, we established new partnerships with University of Pennsylvania's *Penn Program on Democracy, Citizenship and Constitutionalism* and University of Oklahoma's *Institute for the American Constitutional Heritage*, and helped launch the *Kinder Forum on Constitutional Democracy* at the University of Missouri.

In order to strengthen our network of partner programs, we host the Annual Miller National Summit on Higher Education (see page 24) to bring together professors and directors of our partner programs to focus on practical steps to grow these centers and to engage more students.

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2014 inaugural class of Kinder Scholars, University of Missouri



# 2014 JMC PARTNERS PROGRAMS

INSTITUTION	PROGRAM	DIRECTOR
American University	Political Theory Colloquium	Alan Levine
Amherst College	Colloquium on the American Founding	Hadley Arkes
Arizona State University	ASU Center for Political Thought and Leadership	Don Critchlow
Boise State University	American Founding Initiative	Scott Yenor
Boston College	The John Marshall Project	Robert Faulkner; Susan Shell
Brown University	Political Theory Project	John Tomasi
Carthage College	Western Heritage Program	John Isham
Christopher Newport University	CNU Center for American Studies	Elizabeth Busch; Nathan Busch
Claremont McKenna College	The Henry Salvatori Center for the Study of Individual Freedom in the Modern World	Mark Blitz
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 College of Law	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
Florida Atlantic University	Jack Miller Forum for Civics Education	Jeffrey S. Morton; Kevin M. Wagner
Furman University	The Tocqueville Program	Aristide Tessitore; Benjamin Storey
George Mason University	Civic Education Project	A. 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	Departments of Political Science, History	Stephen Schutt
Louisiana State University	Program in the Classical Tradition in Learning & Leadership	James Stoner
Loyola University Chicago	The David Hume Forum	John Danford
Mercer University	The McDonald Center for America's Founding Principles	Will R. Jordan; Charlotte Thomas
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	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



INSTITUTION	PROGRAM	DIRECTOR
University of California, Davis	Davis Political Theory Forum	John Scott
University of California, Los Angeles	Center for 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 Tocqueville Forum on American Ideas and Institutions	Jeremy Bailey
University of Missouri	Kinder Forum on Constitutional Democracy	Justin Dyer; Jeffrey Pasley
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 Oklahoma	Institute for the American Constitutional Heritage	Kyle Harper
University of Pennsylvania	Penn Program on Democracy, Citizenship and Constitutionalism	Rogers Smith
University of Richmond	Adam Smith Project	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 Zumbrennen
Ursinus College	Common Intellectual Experience	Paul Stern
Utah State University	The Project on Liberty and American Constitutionalism	Anthony A. Peacock; 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 PARTNERS</b>		
American Philosophical Society	Research Fellowship	Dr. Martin Levitt, Librarian
Huntington Library	Research Fellowship	Dr. Steve Hindle, W.M. Keck Foundation Director of Research
Newberry Library	Research Fellowship	Dr. David Spadafora, President and Librarian
John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Library, Colonial Williamsburg	Research Fellowship	Dr. James Horn, Vice President of Re- search and Historical Interpretation



**ANURAG CHANDRAN**

Junior, Political Science and Economics  
Kinder Forum on Constitutional Democracy  
University of Missouri

*“Being a part of the Kinder Forum has been a revelation. Having the opportunity to study the core concepts of the United States and learn from professors who have actually worked all their lives in these fields is just incredible. It’s so essential realizing what the framework or what the bedrock of anything is before you can make an assessment or judgment of it. It has changed my life and the way I approach any situation.”*

# Q & A

*Jack Miller began his efforts to reinvigorate education in America's founding principles and history in 2004. As JMC begins its second decade, Jack shared his thoughts with Mike Deshaies, JMC vice president, on what has been accomplished and why he is so passionate about this education.*

**MD: The classic liberal arts have come under fire in recent years because people say they really don't prepare students for the workforce. As a successful businessman, you have actually immersed yourself in the study of American political thought. What would you say to those who try to dismiss the liberal arts?**

**JM:** Well, students should graduate with skills that prepare them for the workforce. But eliminating the liberal arts is a terrible mistake. People have to understand the world in which we live and the ideas that drive that world. Even if they're studying business, engineering, science, whatever it is, they need to have the opportunity to learn what this country is all about, what makes them free and keeps them free.

**MD: Will you please describe your personal growth as a result of your efforts to learn more about our nation's founding principles and history?**

**JM:** I'd have to start off with the idea that I grew up in a different era. I was in high school during the Second World War. Patriotism was in the air. You could breathe it. So I think I had that sense as a natural part of growing up. But what the study has done is to help me understand what was behind the beliefs and passions I have had for many years. It has helped



me understand the idea behind the pursuit of happiness, meaning the ability to improve your station in life.

I began to understand the things that are really at the core of my belief, the core of my being. It's not that I'm such a great scholar. Quite frankly, I don't think I'm going to live long enough to read them all, but I'm reading as many as I can. It has opened up a whole new world for me.

**MD: Diversity of gender and race are major issues on college campuses. What are your views on diversity of thought, with regard to what is taught about America and its institutions?**

I think that diversity of thought is critical. I think we should hear all sides of an argument. Let the battle of ideas take place on campus. Unfortunately, from what I see, there isn't that type of diversity on many campuses. There is a need for civil discourse on campus, one that respects the rights of all to express their opinions.

**MD: JMC has experienced remarkable growth over the past 10 years. In your view, what has been the key to the Miller Center's growth so far?**

# WITH JACK MILLER

First and foremost is the talent and dedication of the organization we put together. Thanks to Mike Ratliff's leadership, we have demonstrated the energy, the drive and the focus to succeed. We are non-partisan, non-political. Our focus is on education. We are helping faculty who want to do more to teach our nation's founding principles and history.

Another driving force is that I think people in this country are concerned with what's happening on college campuses. They're concerned with the idea that most of our colleges do not require students to take a single foundational course in American history or government. They're concerned that our young people are not encouraged to learn about what has made America great. I also think that the students themselves are tired of the lack of diversity of opinion. I think people are ready for a change. And they see the Miller Center as a valuable resource to make that change happen.

**MD: In addition to your support of the Miller Center, you are engaged in many other philanthropies. Will you share with us your thoughts on why it is so important for JMC to honor the intent of donor's gifts?**

I had a very disappointing experience where I gave a large sum of money to a university for medical research. Within a year or two, the recipient of my gift began researching something other than what I had wanted done. So, according to our contract, I requested that the university return the money that had not yet been spent. Unfortunately, most of my gift had already been spent. That was an important lesson to me.

The Miller Center has been overwhelmingly good about sticking with donor intent. This has been an absolute critical element in our success. When we talk to donors, we talk about stewarding their money. If their goals don't fit with our mission, we say politely that they should give their money

elsewhere. So, sticking to donor intent is an absolute base rock principle with us.

**MD: You have taken part in all of our Summer Institutes in the past 10 years and met almost all of the four hundred or so bright young scholars who have participated. These professors will teach thousands of students over the course of their careers. Will you please share with us your experience?**

I enjoy going to these conferences because I have gotten to know the best in the field, professors such as Gordon Wood, one of the best historians in the country, and Jim Ceaser, who has developed a tremendous program at the University of Virginia. I'm happy to see that our post-docs and young future professors are learning from the best.

It's very gratifying when the young folks come up to me and tell me how wonderful our program is, how valuable it will be for them to be part of the Miller Center's nationwide network of scholars. They just feel reinvigorated knowing that for the rest of their career, they can stay connected through our network and with the many resources the Miller Center provides.

And it makes me very happy to see these energetic young people progress in their careers and go out into the workplace, become tenured professors and start programs on their campuses with the Miller Center's help. I've seen some of them take hold and actually change the whole atmosphere of their campus by what they're doing. It's been a tremendous experience, and I've learned a lot.

**THIS INTERVIEW WAS EDITED FOR LENGTH. TO SEE THE FULL INTERVIEW, PLEASE VISIT [WWW.JACKMILLERCENTER.ORG](http://WWW.JACKMILLERCENTER.ORG).**



# NATIONAL PROGRAMS

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## JMC is in a unique position.

In addition to support for individual colleges and universities, JMC supports and conducts national programs that no individual professor or campus would be able to do independently.

National programs advance and support the work of JMC fellows, offering channels for publication, opportunities for curriculum and program enhancement, and avenues for collaboration and networking.

Our national efforts include the Annual Miller National Summit on Higher Education, the Constitution Day Initiative, the Commercial Republic Initiative, JMC's Online Resource Center for faculty and students, the academic journal *American Political Thought*, as well as affiliation with the American Political Science Association and regional programs that support our work at a national level.

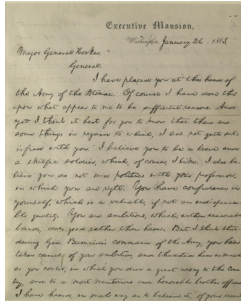
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**JOSEPH HARTGE**  
Senior, Economics  
George Washington Forum  
Ohio University

*“Having the opportunity to engage with prominent scholars in the field and ask questions on constitutional history, and to engage with other students on very provocative and relevant questions for our generation, will help me going forward as somebody who can think critically about important issues in society.”*

## LIBRARY FELLOWSHIPS



JMC library fellowships provide select scholars the opportunity to explore rare and expansive collections of documents and manuscripts from the Founding era and beyond.

We have established partnerships with four of America's foremost independent research libraries: the Newberry Library in Chicago, the Huntington Library in San Marino (CA), the John D. Rockefeller Library in Colonial Williamsburg, and in 2014, the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia.

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

## ONLINE RESOURCE CENTER

[www.jackmillercenter.org](http://www.jackmillercenter.org)

To support the work of our national community of professors, the JMC website includes an extensive online resource center that offers model syllabi, essays, videos and helpful links related to American political and constitutional thought.

In 2014, we completed a video on "Equality," featuring four of the nation's leading scholars in American political thought. The second video in a series on the Declaration of Independence, it is designed for use by faculty members, students and the public.

In addition to the online resource center, our website regularly features relevant news in higher education, academic job postings, upcoming events, book reviews and more, and can be found on the home page and in the News and Events section. To see the video or to learn more, please visit [www.jackmillercenter.org](http://www.jackmillercenter.org).

## AMERICAN POLITICAL THOUGHT JOURNAL



The academic journal *American Political Thought: A Journal of Ideas, Institutions, and Culture*, launched in 2012, provides a much-needed venue for original research centered on themes of American political thought and history.

The journal was conceived and is supported by JMC, and is published by the University of Chicago Press in association with the University of Notre Dame.

The only multidisciplinary, peer-reviewed journal dedicated exclusively to American political thought, the publication is highly regarded among scholars.

As a result of increased demand and the high number of quality manuscripts submitted, *American Political Thought* transitioned from a semi-annual publication to a quarterly published journal in 2014.



**SKYLAR GOLDMAN**

Junior, Chemical Engineering and Comparative Media Studies  
Benjamin Franklin Project  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

*“... this course pushed me to consider my own ethical framework and values more thoroughly, something that is important for any student, but especially for engineering students who don't get this opportunity through their other coursework.”*

## COMMERCIAL REPUBLIC INITIATIVE

Launched in 2013, the Commercial Republic Initiative is a national, interdisciplinary project that seeks to enrich the education of pre-professional students—students in business, science, law and engineering—with the sources and ideas that have shaped the American constitutional order.

Thanks to a generous grant from the John Templeton Foundation, the initiative supports projects at eight institutions: Yale University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Northwestern University, Illinois Institute of Technology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, University of California-Los Angeles and, new in 2014, Roosevelt University and University of California-Davis.

The Commercial Republic Initiative fosters the study of the central ideas of capitalism, commerce, law, science and enterprise from the views of the American Founders and the thinkers who influenced them.

In addition to conferences and lectures conducted by the participating institutions in 2014, postdoctoral fellows designed and taught new undergraduate courses on topics ranging from the origins of American capitalism to the foundations of principled entrepreneurship.

The project also supports collaboration between directors of programs to offer events across campus lines for students, faculty and the public. For example, the *Benjamin Franklin Project* at the Illinois Institute of Technology hosted a conference on 18<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century innovation and the ideas of the Founding, co-sponsored by programs at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and MIT.

“One of the key outcomes of the Commercial Republic Initiative will be the creation of a national working group of scholars who will be able to re-ground pre-professional education in the humanities,” said Dr. Pamela Edwards, JMC director of academic programs.

“Students graduating in science, engineering, business and law will form the corporate leadership of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. A deeper understanding of the moral foundations of markets and law tied to a richer conception of innovation and invention will make students not only more creative entrepreneurs and professionals, it will make them more thoughtful and ethically-reflective citizens.”

# Yale



NORTHWESTERN  
UNIVERSITY



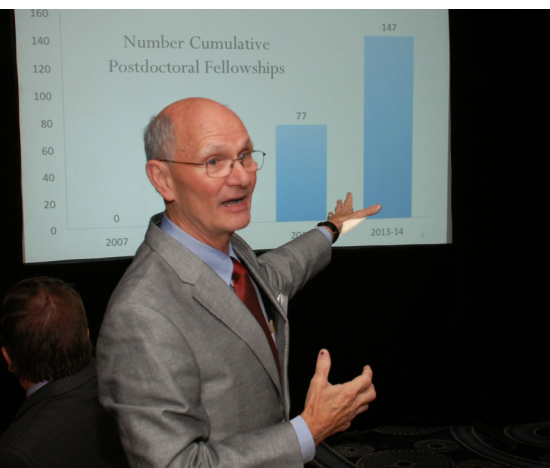
WISCONSIN  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



UC DAVIS  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA



# ANNUAL MILLER NATIONAL SUMMIT



Professors from across the country gathered in Chicago in October 2014 at our 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Miller National Summit on Higher Education to focus on practical steps to strengthen education on America’s founding principles and history.

The Annual Summit provides an invaluable opportunity for JMC’s partner program leaders and professors from campuses around the United States to network, share ideas, collaborate and address the challenges of starting and developing campus programs.

The 2014 summit commenced with the presentation of the “Chairman’s Award for Academic Excellence” to Professor Tom Pangle, co-director of the *Thomas Jefferson Center* at UT Austin. His former student, Professor Christopher Kelly (Boston College), presented Professor Pangle with the award and gave an overview of Professor Pangle’s achievements both as a scholar and teacher.

Panels focused on best practices for advancing the study of constitutionalism, increasing student interest and engagement on campuses, collaborating with research libraries and cultural institutions, and making materials available digitally for students and scholars.

During a panel on “New Directions in Civic Education,” Professor Casey N. Blake discussed his experience directing *The Freedom and Citizenship Program* at Columbia University. The program gives promising, college-bound high school seniors from disadvantaged backgrounds the opportunity to take a college level seminar at Columbia on the meanings and possibilities of citizenship in a free society.

“For me personally, the program has helped clarify what I believe American Studies can be at its best—education about citizenship, education for citizenship, and education for citizens both inside and outside the university,” said Professor Blake.



# CONSTITUTION DAY INITIATIVE

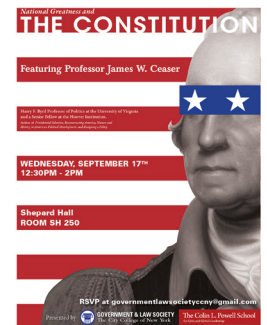
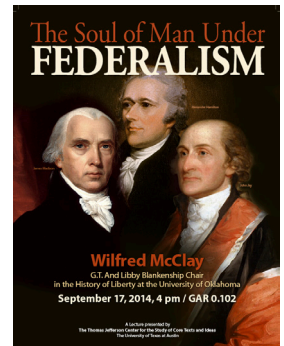
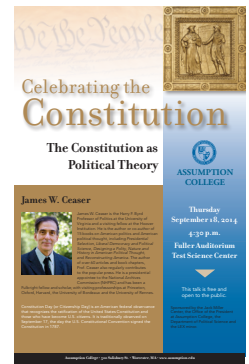
In 2004, Congress passed legislation requiring that all colleges receiving federal funds hold an educational program each year on Constitution Day, September 17. These events are excellent opportunities to engage an entire student body in discussion on the Constitution. Because many schools lack the resources to mount a substantive event, JMC offers the only national program to help higher education meet the federal mandate.

Through generous support from the Andrea Waitt Carlton Family Foundation and other donor partners, the Constitution Day Initiative has funded nearly 150 events over the past four years, each supplemented by matching funds from host institutions.

In 2014, 40 of our campus partners conducted programs on topics ranging from the classical roots of the Constitution to contemporary constitutional issues that featured an impressive line-up of scholars and public intellectuals, including:

*Wall Street Journal* columnist **William Galston**, Brookings Institution  
Pulitzer Prize-winning author **Gordon Wood**, Brown University  
Former U.S. Deputy Assistant Attorney General **John Yoo**, University of California-Berkeley  
**Robert George**, Princeton University  
Pulitzer Prize-winning author **Jack Rakove**, Stanford University  
**James W. Ceaser**, University of Virginia  
**Wilfred McClay**, University of Oklahoma  
*New York Times* best-selling author, **Amity Shlaes**  
**Benjamin Wittes**, Brookings Institution  
**Jonathan Turley**, George Washington University

To raise awareness about Constitution Day, JMC helped scholars place essays in leading regional newspapers around the country, including the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, *Detroit Free Press*, *Miami Herald* and *Houston Chronicle*. In addition, media outlets published a JMC press release on Constitution Day that included the full list of JMC-supported campus events conducted nationwide.



# REGIONAL COLLABORATION: CHICAGO,



## CHICAGO INITIATIVE

In 2009, JMC launched the Chicago Initiative, 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.

Today, the Chicago Initiative includes ten universities and colleges in the region and more than 100 professors in political science, history and law, all of whom are dedicated to teaching American political thought and history to students.

Jack Miller, a lifelong resident of Chicago, called on our organization to develop the Chicago Initiative to ensure the city's future generations will uphold the same civic pride for which it has always been known.

In 2014, Chicago area colleges and universities offered five Constitution Day events, multiple conferences and lectures, including two at the Newberry Library for area faculty and the public, and new courses taught by faculty and JMC postdoctoral fellows.

## 2014 CHICAGO INITIATIVE HIGHLIGHTS:

### **Debate "On the President's War Powers: What Can the President Do in Wartime?"**

between Former Deputy Assistant Attorney General John Yoo (UC-Berkeley) and DePaul Law Professor Alberto Coll at DePaul University

### **Seminar on American Political Thought**

featuring Eric Nelson (Harvard University) and Danielle Allen (Princeton University) at the prestigious Newberry Library

**Undergraduate course "The Constitution, Then and Now"** taught by JMC postdoctoral fellow Susan Stearns sponsored five lectures by prominent legal scholars including George-

town Law Professor Neal Katyal, former Acting Solicitor General, at Northwestern University

### **Lecture by New York Times best-selling author Amity Shlaes**

titled "Every Man's Constitution? The Truth about the New Deal as Told Through its Most Important Case" at the IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law

Carthage College Constitution Day lecture with Jason Jiniden (St. Vincent College) titled **"Claiming Lincoln: Progressivism, Equality, and the Battle for Lincoln's Legacy in Presidential Rhetoric"** at the Kenosha Civil War Museum



S. ADAM SEAGRAVE  
Assistant Professor of Political Science  
Northern Illinois University

*"The Miller program has influenced my teaching in innumerable ways—through sharing of syllabi, informal discussions regarding teaching experiences or readings, greater understanding of the American Founding itself ..."*

# WASHINGTON D.C., BOSTON, NEW YORK

## JEFFERSONIAN SEMINAR SERIES

A two-day colloquium to enrich the study and teaching of the ideas and institutions that shaped the American Founding, the goal of JMC's Jeffersonian Seminar Series is to develop academic communities in specific regions across the country.

These seminars are one of our most effective tools to solidify our partnerships with faculty, facilitate shared research and help develop new programs on college campuses. Through Jeffersonian Seminars, we work to replicate the success of our Chicago Initiative and build new regional consortia.

In 2014, we conducted three Jeffersonian Seminars, bringing together professors from colleges in each region to participate in academic seminars and workshops and providing an opportunity to talk about needs and opportunities on their campuses.



Our **Washington D.C.** Jeffersonian featured Dr. Roy Godson of the National Strategy Information Center and brought together leading scholars to explore the connection between the challenges faced by the founding generation with regard to international security and the rule of law and 21<sup>st</sup> century questions of stability and crises in emergent democracies.



In partnership with the *Benjamin Franklin Project* at MIT, our seminar in **Boston** fostered new relationships among leading faculty from a variety of disciplines as they considered the impact of the scientific revolution on enlightenment understandings of progress and advancement.



Discussions at the Jeffersonian Seminar in **New York City** joined by representatives from the New York Historical Society and the New York Public Library led to the development of summer undergraduate research internships for City College students at the New York Public Library.

*“Through an intimate and intellectually stimulating set of conversations, our Jeffersonian Seminars help to strengthen and develop our national network at the regional level. They foster the development of interdisciplinary and inter-institutional collaboration, and provide the occasion to plan larger projects involving our growing community of regional partners.”*

DR. PAMELA EDWARDS  
JMC DIRECTOR OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

# DONOR PARTNERSHIPS

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We are committed to ensuring your gifts meet your goals.

How best to incorporate philanthropy into an investment plan is, for many, one of the more challenging financial decisions people confront. Your philanthropic plan is an emotional investment as well as a financial one. We understand that. For those who wish to focus their philanthropy on higher education—specifically, education in America’s founding principles—we have in place the infrastructure to help ensure your investment accomplishes your philanthropic goals.

Through JMC, you can capitalize on our ten-year investment in a scalable, efficient business model that provides measurable impact of your gifts. And because most JMC operational costs are supported by the Jack Miller Family Foundation, your donations go almost entirely to the people and programs at the institutions you choose.

**WE WORK CLOSELY WITH FACULTY TO ENSURE YOUR GIFTS ARE USED TO ACHIEVE YOUR GOALS.** The JMC academic team, our academic council of scholars and an independent higher education market research firm combine to help ensure accountability and measure the impact of your projects.

**WE HELP ENSURE YOUR FUNDS ARE USED EFFICIENTLY, IN SUPPORT OF THE PROJECTS IN WHICH YOU ARE INVESTING.** Our relationships with colleges and universities and our growing network of partners can help us reduce overhead charges, secure matching funds, and leverage donations by encouraging additional investments.

**OUR ONGOING PROJECT EVALUATIONS HELP PROTECT YOUR INVESTMENT.** We work with you, faculty and administrators to establish clear goals and objectives. Our regular reports will help assure you your funds are being used as intended.

We welcome the opportunity to partner with you to support the success of your philanthropic plan. Together, we can help new generations of college students become informed, involved Americans prepared to accept the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

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*JMC donor partner Dick Uihlein is the co-founder and CEO of Uline Shipping Supplies, a leading distributor of shipping, industrial and packing materials to businesses throughout North America.*

## JOIN US IN THE EFFORT A MESSAGE FROM A JMC DONOR PARTNER

I have known Jack Miller for more than 30 years; he and I share the “entrepreneur” gene that has enabled us to succeed in business. We also share a sense of gratitude to a nation that has given us so much and a determination that our grandchildren enjoy the same opportunities.

A decade ago, there were many who questioned whether Jack’s ideas could have much of an impact in higher education. Concerned that college students were no longer graduating with a strong foundation in our nation’s founding principles, he established a nonprofit foundation to launch a series of programs that would help colleges increase student access to an education that encourages them to become more informed and engaged citizens.

It has been my privilege to invest in JMC partner programs at a number of colleges and universities and to see that my support is having an impact: JMC’s research capabilities enable me to focus my decisions; their evaluation process and growing network of partners help ensure my investments are accomplishing our shared goals and objectives.

With a proven business model in place, the next decade offers the opportunity for significant program growth. With support and guidance of JMC’s donor services, I am excited to be part of that growth and encourage others to do the same.

For our grandchildren, their children, and for the future of our country, I ask you to join in this worthy cause.

**DICK UIHLEIN**

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*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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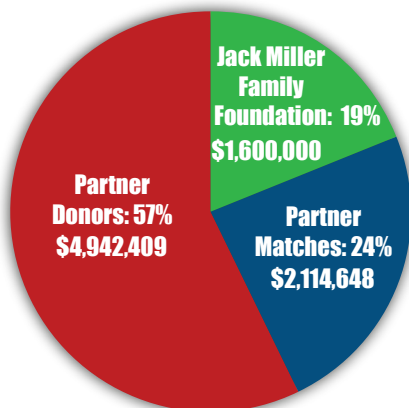
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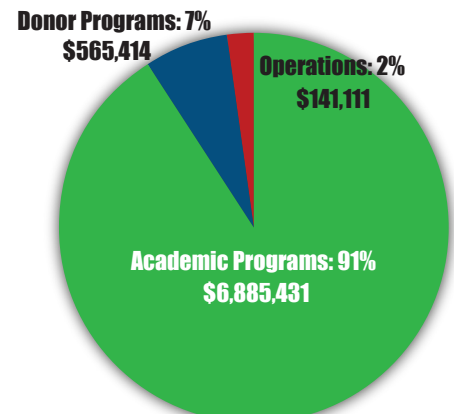
## 2014 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Since 2007, we have invested or committed to invest more than \$55 million in campus programs
- 91 percent of total budget went to academic programs in 2014
- 17 percent increase in academic program expenditures over 2013



**2014**  
**REVENUE:**  
**\$8,657,057**

**EXPENDITURES:**  
**\$7,591,955**





*For Teaching America's Founding Principles and History*

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BALA CYNWYD, PA 19004

WWW.JACKMILLERCENTER.ORG 484.436.2060



**JAMES PATTERSON**

Thomas W. Smith Postdoctoral Research Associate  
James Madison Program in American Ideals and  
Institutions  
Princeton University

*"JMC has given me tremendous help in providing me with this network, as well as the training for improving my courses, applying for grants, and consulting with book publishers. I want to thank all of you for this, and I hope to find a place at a college where I can keep alive the study of the American Founding, its ideas, and their vital role in keeping America safe, free and prosperous."*