

The Canon



Reports from the Battlefield of Ideas

Spring 2003

Intercollegiate
Studies Institute

ISI Challenges New England's Best and Brightest



Professor Daniel Mahoney leads a discussion with students on Tocqueville's *Democracy in America* at an ISI seminar in Providence, RI.



tures," raved a student from Tufts University. Over 150 Boston-area students and faculty filled Hindle Auditorium to hear *National Review Online's* Jonah Goldberg debate Ralph Nadar protégé Lori Wallach. Following the debate, Mr. Goldberg eagerly greeted students who drove as many as three hours to meet their favorite NRO personality.

In addition to lectures and debates, advanced ISI students participated in a number of elite weekend programs with prominent ISI faculty. In historic Newport, RI, professors Edward Erikson and Daniel J. Mahoney challenged a group of twelve ISI graduate students to a deeper reflection of Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn's provocative critique of the human condition (see page 7 for more on Solzhenitsyn). Following the program, one graduate student from Harvard wrote that he was grateful "to ISI for providing a forum for conservative students to meet and discuss the nature and problems associated

This spring, ISI's campus outreach program brought lectures, colloquia, and a debate to New England's brightest minds and best schools. Students and faculty from Williams College, Harvard University, Tufts University, Boston University, and dozens of other New England schools participated in an array of ISI programs designed to foster liberty and the principles of constitutional order on college campuses.

"I have been at Williams for four years and have never witnessed a more lucid, reasoned, and definitive defense of such a broad range of conservative issues by a speaker or a professor," wrote a Williams College student in response to a lecture on his campus by Princeton professor and ISI author Dr. Robert George.

"I hope this is only the start of what ISI can bring to campus," the student concluded.

Similar appreciation was expressed at ISI's annual Wheaton College debate in Norton, MA. "I have never witnessed a purer example of what true academic freedom is supposed to look like...I can't wait to attend more ISI lec-

see "ISI's Programs" on Page 5

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS • 1953-2003

Please mark your calendar for this landmark event in American Conservatism.

The Trustees and Founding Families of the Intercollegiate Studies Institute hope that you will join us for a gala celebration of

ISI's 50th ANNIVERSARY

Thursday, October 23, 2003
Grand Hyatt, Washington, DC



ISI Graduate Fellows Named for 2002-03 Academic Year

Since 1964, ISI has worked to correct the imbalance of the academy by providing graduate fellowships to deserving students who are committed to a lifetime of teaching the principles that sustain a free and humane society. Every year, ISI awards some of the nation's most talented up-and-

coming scholars its Richard M. Weaver, Henry Salvatori, and Western Civilization Fellowships. This year, we are happy to announce the addition of the Bache Renshaw Fellowship.

ISI's graduate fellowships have helped fund over 450 conservative scholars and opinion leaders, in-

cluding such notables as William Kristol, editor and publisher of *The Weekly Standard*, John Lehman, former Secretary of the Navy, and John Lott, University of Chicago professor and renowned Second Amendment defender.

It is with great delight that we present this year's fellows.

Richard M. Weaver Fellowship In addition to full tuition payment at the school of their choice, Weaver Fellows receive \$5,000 stipends.

Ms. Susan Blackburn, Patristics, *Oxford University*
Ms. Celia Clay, Literature, *University of Dallas*
Mr. Travis Curtright, Literature, *University of Dallas*
Mr. Philip Harold, Politics, *Catholic University of America*
Mr. Steven Matthews, History, *University of Florida*
Mr. Donald Prudlo, Religious Studies, *University of Virginia*
Mr. Thomas Stanford, Literature, *Catholic University of America*
Mr. Joseph Stuart, History, *St. Andrews University, Scotland*

Henry Salvatori Fellowship The Salvatori Fellowship is awarded to students whose work relates to the American Founding. Two fellows are chosen annually for the \$10,000 award.

Mr. Jason Edwards, Education, *University of Kentucky*
Mr. Glenn Moots, Political Theory, *Louisiana State University*

Western Civilization Fellowship Recipients of the Western Civilization Fellowship receive \$20,000 for their graduate work in Western culture and civilization. Up to three students are chosen annually for this honor.

Mr. Daniel Lee, Political Theory, *New College, Oxford University*
Mr. Matthew Lu, Philosophy, *Cornell University*

Bache Renshaw Fellowship The Renshaw Fellowship provides full tuition and a stipend of \$12,000 for doctoral study in education at the University of Virginia's Curry School of Education. One or two students receive this honor annually.

Mr. Terry Stoops, Education, *University of Virginia*



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ISI Books' *Climbing Parnassus* Lauded "Outstanding Academic Title of 2002"

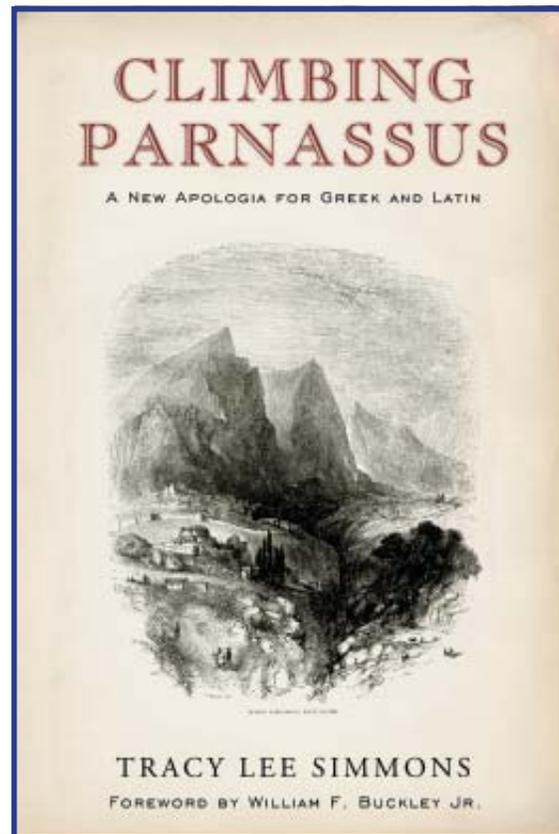
by Library Trade Journal *CHOICE*

CHOICE: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries, the important trade journal of the American Library Association, recently named *Climbing Parnassus: A New Apologia for Greek and Latin*, authored by Tracy Lee Simmons and published by ISI Books, Outstanding Academic Title for 2002.

According to *CHOICE*, Simmons "elucidates the values inherent in a classical education, i.e., the Greek and Latin languages and literatures, and these ideals shape this intelligent, passionate, and articulate book."

This prestigious award is given to only a handful of academic titles each year. "I'm stunned that the book has received such kind and enthusiastic approval from quarters that I expected would be least receptive to it, especially within academia," says Simmons. "[T]he book shows that we are capable of higher and better things and that our children deserve those better things."

In his book, Simmons describes the personal and intellectual fulfillment derived from studying the Greek and Latin classics in their own languages and illustrates how some of the West's most prominent writers, e.g., Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Thomas Arnold, Theodore Roosevelt, Evelyn Waugh,



and C.S. Lewis, benefited from the influence of the classics. Through tracing the historical course of Greek and Latin education, Simmons demonstrates how classical languages have played a crucial role in the development of authentic Humanism, the foundation of the West's cultural order and America's understanding of itself as a union of citizens.

Simmons is currently the Director of Hillsdale College's Dow Program in American Journalism. He has written widely on

literary and cultural matters for *National Review*, *The Weekly Standard*, *Washington Post*, *Crisis*, and *The Sewanee Review* and holds a master's degree in classics from Oxford.

According to Jeffrey O. Nelson, publisher of ISI Books, "This award solidifies Tracy's position as a national standard-bearer for classical humanism. It is a well-deserved tribute. ISI Books is proud to have published *Climbing Parnassus*."

To order a copy of *Climbing Parnassus*, please contact ISI Books at 800-621-2736 (U.S. and Canada) or 773-568-1550 (all others), or visit our web site at www.isibooks.org.

Curran Lecture Series Exposure

The Intercollegiate Studies Institute hosted four powerful lecture events at its F. M. Kirby Campus headquarters this past fall and winter as part of its Curran Lecture Series. The annual lectures series, which began in 1997, is sponsored by the Wilmington-based Curran Foundation and was initiated by the Foundation's president, Willard "Bill" A. Speakman, who wanted to show his support for ISI after the Institute relocated from Bryn Mawr, PA, to its new campus in Wilmington, DE. The lectures are designed to introduce the Institute's neighbors and local college students to leading scholars and civic leaders from across the country. Invited guests, students from neighboring universities, friends from the community, and West Point cadets have constituted the audiences at the lectures in this series.

The four most recent lectures included talks given by Victor Davis Hanson on the War on Terror, Gary Gregg on the Leadership of George Washington, Allen Guelzo on Lincoln and the Emancipation Proclamation, and Alan Kors on the brutality of twentieth century communist regimes.



Dr. Victor Davis Hanson addresses the West Point Cadets at ISI's F. M. Kirby Campus.

Dr. Hanson, currently teaching at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis while on sabbatical from California State University, Fresno, addressed nearly fifty West Point cadets and ISI staff on the War on Terror, concentrating mainly on the nature of war, the lessons of military history, and the current state of preparedness of the U.S. military. Marshalling his vast store of classical learning in an insightful analysis of U.S. and Allied action in the Near East, Hanson struck a nerve with the West Point cadets. One cadet said afterwards, "Hanson's lecture provided timely and thoughtful reflections on issues that concern all Americans."

Addressing an audience of



Prof. Allen Guelzo enraptures his audience as he explains the role of the Emancipation Proclamation in its historical context.

students from Villanova University, the University of Pennsylvania, Swarthmore College, and the University of Delaware, Dr. Guelzo spoke about Lincoln and the Emancipation Proclamation from a historical point of view. In one Villanova student's opinion, "The lecture was really worth going to.... The speaker had a more historic and less political view of Lincoln, presenting a different paradigm to evaluate the Emancipation Proclamation and Lincoln's actions. Also, the ISI people were just wonderful to talk to after the

"The ISI people were just wonderful to talk to after the lecture. Some of us stayed for over an hour at the reception."

—Student, Villanova University

lecture. Some of us stayed for over an hour at the reception."

On the eve of the 203rd anniversary of the death of George Washington last December, Dr. Gregg, who currently teaches at the University of Louisville, delivered a lecture celebrating the life of America's "indispensable man." Stressing the quality of leadership exhibited by Washington in helping form the American republic, Dr. Gregg explained how our first President personified the public virtues—moderation, disinterestedness, piety, courage, and the notion of civic duty—that sustain our constitutional arrangements as well as our civic and social institutions. He exhorted the audience to recognize and affirm these virtues so that America can hope to maintain the

es Students to Western Ideals



Prof. Gary Gregg delivers his lecture about Washingtonian leadership on the 203rd anniversary of our first President's death.



(Right) Dr. Alan Kors passionately decries the atrocities of 20th Century communism. (Top) Two West Point cadets continue the dialog with Dr. Kors after the lecture. (Top Right) The cadets sit at attention during Dr. Kors' lecture.



delicate tension that justice requires of order and freedom.

Dr. Kors, who teaches European intellectual history at the University of Pennsylvania, addressed a spellbound audience of West Point cadets regarding the human toll exacted by Communist regimes. To illuminate the oppressive and often overlooked legacy of socialism, Dr. Kors detailed the millions of human lives lost at the hands of this "armed doctrine." He enumerated the tens of millions who died in the former USSR, Eastern Europe, China, North Korea, and Cambodia and explained how economists Friedrich Hayek and Ludwig von Mises, sensing the flaws of socialism, predicted these atrocities decades before they occurred. Dr. Kors' profound impact on the cadets was apparent from the standing ovation they gave him and their thoughtful questions following the lecture.

ISI's Programs on Campus Offer Students a Different Perspective

continued from Page 1

with human freedom."

Undergraduates also had an opportunity to explore the roots of ordered liberty at a weekend program in Providence, RI, entitled "Liberty and Democracy in America." At the seminar, twenty students from elite schools were guided through Alexis de Tocqueville's *Democracy in America* by political theorist and ISI author Peter Augustine Lawler. In addition to intense study, the weekend also gave students a wonderful opportunity to meet other young conservative minds. "As a conservative, I always feel isolated on my campus," lamented one student, "so ISI events are like a homecoming for me."

Building a network of conservative young scholars, providing them with networking opportunities, and placing conservative

speakers on college campuses are just some of the goals of ISI's New England regional program. Students who attend ISI's weekend programs return to their campuses and act as multipliers: they introduce other students and faculty to ISI's books and publications, sponsor ISI speakers on their campuses, and act as advocates on behalf of the principles of ordered liberty.

In addition to the New England regional programs, each year ISI sponsors hundreds of educational events, such as lectures, debates, and conferences. By focusing these programs on particular geographical areas, ISI is building strong regional networks of conservative students and scholars dedicated "to educating for liberty."

Surge in ISI Membership Gives a Greater Voice to Conservatives on Campus



ISI has seen a rapid boost in the growth of its membership on American campuses during the Fall 2002 and Spring 2003 semesters. In less than a year, another 6,000 people have signed up to become ISI members, bringing the present membership total to 60,020. The impact of these new members is already evidenced by the increase in the quantity of new ISI student groups, the recent swell in the number of participants at ISI conferences, and the record figure of applicants for the ISI Honors Program. ISI membership is crucial for college campuses, because ISI provides a voice for the economic, political, and spiritual ideals that sustain a free and humane society.

"The surge in membership is creating very positive effects because each person who knows about ISI has the potential to act as a building block and invite others to join," according to Matt Chalfant, the Chief of Staff for ISI's programs department. Chalfant also points out that increased membership means that more ISI materials are circulating on campuses than ever before.

The success of the campaign

to attract new student members can be attributed to a deliberate and well-organized recruitment effort that included personal outreach, special promotions, e-outreach via the Internet, direct mail, and print and on-line advertisements in major publications such as *World Magazine*, *National Review*, the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, *WSJ.com* (*Wall Street Jour-*

Gonzaga University senior Tom Harmon has encouraged 200 to 300 of his classmates to join ISI over the last four years.

nal), *CNSNews.com* (Cybercast News Service), and *nationalreview.com* (*National Review Online*).

"Recruitment of 6,000 new members in the last year has laid the foundation to target other campuses that are currently not being served by ISI programs," said Chad Kifer, Director of Campus Education. "This year we have sent out many more thousands of copies of

CAMPUS and *Intercollegiate Review* than we did last year."

In a few instances, ISI member undergraduates have recruited hundreds of their fellow students largely out of their own efforts, as in the case of Gonzaga University's Tom Harmon. Harmon, now a senior, has successfully encouraged 200 to 300 of his classmates to join ISI over the last four years. Harmon even formed an ISI club at Gonzaga that brings lecturers to campus and organizes weekend retreats where members discuss books published by ISI's own imprint. If it were not for ISI and the efforts of Harmon, many Gonzaga students would not be exposed to the cultural ideas that are instrumental in supporting American freedoms.

Compared with this time last year, there has been a 21% increase in the number of e-mail addresses to which ISI's online newsletter, E-Update, goes out. The Internet is proving to be a viable medium to connect conservative students through ISI's Online Community, supporting those who may not yet have concentrations of ISI members on their campuses.





Students at Colloquium Moved by Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn's Account of Suffering

Twelve select graduate students gathered March 6-9, 2003, at the Hotel Viking in Newport, Rhode Island, for an ISI-organized Liberty Fund Graduate Colloquium, "Solzhenitsyn: Ideology, Totalitarianism, and the Human Spirit." The colloquium featured discussions of key parts of Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn's *Gulag Archipelago* in order to reflect on his insights regarding the nature of suffering in a totalitarian state.

"The students reported that they were 'seriously disturbed' by the accounts of torture methods applied to women and children" in the former Soviet Union, said Julia Austin, ISI's conference coordinator. "It's good that the students were moved to such a response, given that Solzhenitsyn deals with an uncomfortable subject matter to which our mainstream culture does not readily expose us."

Political science professor Dr. Daniel Mahoney of Assumption College and English professor Dr. Edward Ericson, Jr. of Calvin College led the six, ninety-minute discussions. The group discussions were centered around themes such as "One Word of Truth: Confronting the Communist 'Lie,'" "Ideology and Terror," "The Soul of Man under Totalitarianism," and "The One True Progress."

The colloquium also explored how the human soul changes when people are forced to live a life of lies in order to avoid arrest and torture—a very timely subject given America's recent exposure to Saddam Hussein's regime in Iraq.

"This was one of the best academic experiences of my long life,"

said Dr. Ericson, pleased with the perceptiveness of the attendees' thoughts and comments. "It's the quality of students who made it so."

"The discussion moderators were efficient and fair in allowing everyone to speak," noted one student.

Anita Kondoyanidi, a literature student at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, raved about the quality of the conference and

the discussions. "This was the best Liberty Fund/ISI conference I have ever attended. It was very well organized," she said.

Travis Smith, a graduate student at Harvard University, echoed Ericson's sentiments.

"I had a terrific time, learned a lot, and met some good people whom I'm glad to know."

Each year, ISI runs six of these elite graduate programs.

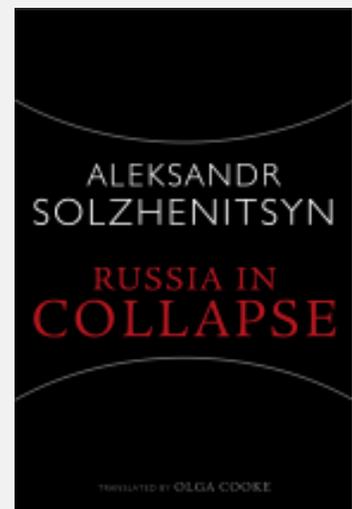
COMING IN FALL 2003 FROM ISI BOOKS!

RUSSIA IN COLLAPSE

by Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn • Translated by Olga Cooke

\$25, cloth • 1-932236-00-7 • 300 pages • Fall 2003

Russia in Collapse, first published in Russia in 1998, is the first book of nonfiction by Solzhenitsyn to appear in English since 1995. It contains his latest and most considered thought on the state of Russian politics, history, society, and culture. But it also includes his reflections on more general topics like law, democracy, patriotism, local self-government, and authority. To those with ears to hear, *Russia in Collapse* confirms that Solzhenitsyn is no pessimist, and certainly no theocrat, but rather a hopeful realist in full engagement with his times.



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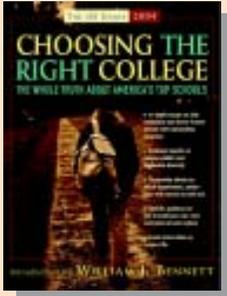
Watch for these Upcoming Releases from ISI Books

SCENES FROM AN AFTERLIFE: THE LEGACY OF GEORGE ORWELL

by John Rodden

\$25, cloth • 350 pages • 1-932236-01-5 • August 2003

One of the world's leading Orwell scholars sorts through the uses to which Orwell has been put in the last few decades and suggests where, when, and why Orwell's friends and followers have sinned in conscripting him for this or that cause. The author ends by arguing that despite Orwell's own explicit contention that he was a socialist, he was in truth more a thinker who fits best in the non-Marxist, radical Tory tradition of Morris, Cobbett, and Dickens than among the progressivist intellectuals of his time.



CHOOSING THE RIGHT COLLEGE 2004: THE WHOLE TRUTH ABOUT AMERICA'S TOP SCHOOLS

Edited by Jeremy Beer

\$27, paperback • 800 pages • 1-882926-98-6 • July 2003

Since the first edition appeared in 1999, the ISI college guide, *Choosing the Right College: The Whole Truth about America's Top Schools*, has served as an essential reference resource for prospective students and their parents. Unlike other college guides, which too often read like paraphrases of university public-relations brochures, *Choosing the Right College* is an independently researched and written volume that covers the things that matter most, such as core curricula, campus crime, student living arrangements, the quality of teaching and student advising, freshman orientation, good professors to seek out, and courses and departments to avoid. This, the 2004 edition, has been thoroughly revised, rewritten and expanded to include 120 of the nation's top private and public colleges and universities.



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