

# The Canon



Reports from the Battlefield of Ideas

Fall 2002

Intercollegiate  
Studies Institute

## Honors Fellows Gather at Oxford

Each academic year, the Intercollegiate Studies Institute identifies 50 of America's top undergraduates for its Honors Fellows Program. The purpose of the initiative is to nurture future American leaders. Each Fellow is mentored individually by a top ISI faculty member in his or her field. Over the course of the year, the Fellow and his mentor undertake a course of mutually-agreed-upon independent study. Fellows deepen their knowledge of specific topics important to freedom during intensive, faculty-led discussions at week-long educational retreats. To place these future leaders in career-track positions that will enable them to take advantage of this training, each Fellow attends a Career Development Seminar and the Heritage Foundation's annual Resource Bank meeting.

A select group of Honors Fellows and their faculty mentors



ISI Honors Fellows and their faculty mentors convene at Oriel College, Oxford University.

convened in Washington, D.C.

The conference began with two lectures by Britain's premier conservative public intellectual, Roger Scruton. Scruton, a prolific writer, most recently is the author of *The West and the Rest*, a book about the cultural underpinnings of radical Islamic terrorism. This volume was published by ISI Books, the

Institute's book imprint.

Lecturing from his work *England: An Elegy*, Scruton told students that we are, in part, products of how we represent ourselves, and that England's national character grew out of the

institutions that best represent it: the Anglican Church, common law, and parliamentary government. To the extent that England is losing these institutions, Scruton argued, it is also losing its national character. Scruton challenged the Honors Fellows in attendance to understand and preserve the traditions and institutions that make America unique and great.

Absorbed in the discussion, the students talked one-to-one and in groups to the distinguished faculty present until one, two, and even three in the morning in the Oriel College lounge.

"My favorite part of the confer-

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**"My favorite part of the conference was the informal discussions between students and professors over meals and in the College's lounges."**

- John Montague  
University of Virginia student

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gathered at Oriel College, Oxford University in August to attend a rigorous week-long intellectual retreat on "Progress and Revolution: Utopian Ideology, Terror and the Human Cost." Earlier in the summer, all of the Honors Fellows

Please see "**Honors**" on page 3

# Shaping the Future:

## *ISI Weaver Fellows Program Identifies Education Leaders*



### *Larry P. Arnn*

President  
*Hillsdale College*

Dr. Larry P. Arnn's illustrious career in academe and public policy represents the best hopes of ISI's Weaver Fellowship Program, which provides financial support for aspiring college professors to attend the graduate school of their choice. In 1975, Dr. Arnn was awarded a Weaver Fellowship to pursue graduate work at Claremont Graduate School, where he received an M.A. in Government in 1976, and a Ph.D. in Government in 1985. He studied in England from 1977 to 1980, first as a research student in International History at the London School of Economics and then in Modern History at Worcester College, Oxford University.

While in England, Dr. Arnn served as Director of Research for Martin Gilbert of Merton College, Oxford, official biographer of Winston Churchill. Dr. Arnn returned to the United States in 1980 to become an editor for Public Research, Syndicated. In 1985, he became president of the Claremont Institute dedicated to preserving the principles and traditions of America's founders, Dr. Arnn was appointed the 12th President of Hillsdale College in 2000.

Published widely in many national newspapers, magazines, and periodicals on issues of public policy and political theory, Dr. Arnn serves on the boards of the Henry Salvatori Center at Claremont McKenna College, Americans Against Discrimination and Preferences, the Center for Individual Rights, and the Claremont Institute. He recently was appointed to the Congressional Policy Advisory Board, which provides counsel to the House Republican Policy Committee. He is a member of the American Political Science Association, Pi Sigma Alpha, the Mont Pelerin Society, the International Churchill Society, and the Philanthropy Roundtable.

Dr. Arnn was also the Founding Chairman of the California Civil Rights Initiative, which was passed by California voters in 1996 as Proposition 209 and eliminated racial preferences in state hiring.

### *Education for Tomorrow's Teachers and Leaders*

The Intercollegiate Studies Institute is committed to reseeded America's colleges and universities with professors who appreciate the principles that make America great. The ISI fellowship program is at the apex of our efforts to identify and support America's future leaders. ISI fellowships are awarded each year on a competitive basis to graduate students of the highest caliber and the greatest academic achievement.

Established in 1964, ISI's oldest fellowship program is named in honor of Richard M. Weaver, a University of Chicago professor and author of *Ideas Have Consequences*. Weaver Fellowships are directed exclusively to those who commit themselves to a life of college teaching—thereby making the program a tremendous multiplier of the ISI mission over the long term. Other fellowships include the Henry Salvatori Fellowship, the Western Civilization Fellowship, and the Bache Renshaw Fellowship for Doctoral Study in Education. Though the focus and award amount varies for each program, ISI's fellowships all support students who show a strong commitment to liberal arts education, as well as our motto, "To educate for liberty."

For more than 35 years, ISI has awarded hundreds of fellowships to some of America's leading minds, including Dr. Edwin Feulner, President of the Heritage Foundation, and William Kristol, Editor and Publisher of *The Weekly Standard*.

## *The Canon*

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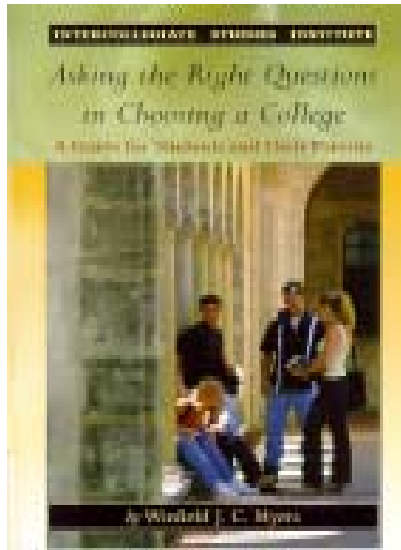
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## New Brochure Asks the Right Questions for Parents and Students Choosing a College

As part of the Intercollegiate Studies Institute's (ISI) efforts to arm students with the facts they need to succeed on today's college campuses, ISI has released a new guide titled *Asking the Right Questions in Choosing a College*.

The full-color, easy-to-use brochure is a complement to the Institute's best-selling college guide, *Choosing the Right College*, a comprehensive review of the top 110 American colleges and universities from the standpoint of liberal arts standards of excellence. Because the brochure contains the questions that parents and prospective college students should be asking college repre-



sentatives during on-campus visits or at college fairs, *Asking the Right Questions in Choosing a College* enables the hundreds of thousands who will not attend the top tier schools covered in ISI's college guide to be informed consumers in the college selection process.

To date, guidance counselors across the country have requested thousands of copies of ISI's new guide. In fact, one guidance counselor requested 700 copies of *Asking the Right Questions* in preparation for a college night to be held at her school. To request a copy of this important tool for students and parents call **800-526-7022**.

## Honors Fellows at Historic Globe Theatre

"Honors," *Continued from page 1* ence," John Montague of the University of Virginia remarked, "was the informal discussions between students and professors over meals and in the College's lounges."

Throughout the weeklong retreat, students heard lectures and participated in group discussions at Oriel College and at the historic Oxford Union and Ashmolean Museum. At the Ashmolean, Hillsdale history professor Dr. Brad Birzer delivered a stirring lecture on the devastating human cost of communism in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

Following Birzer, Dr. Peter Augustine Lawler, author of ISI Books' *Aliens in America: The Strange Truth about our Souls*, discussed Alexis de Tocqueville, liberty, and love. Following the lecture, students crowded around Professor Lawler with questions and comments. One student remarked that her "favorite part of the conference, by far, was the insight that professors provided, not only in their speeches, but also in talking with them on an individual basis."

Other faculty lecturers at the retreat included R.V. Young, Professor of English at North Carolina State University and author of ISI's *A Student's Guide to Literature*, E. Christian Kopff, Professor of Classics at the University of Colorado and author of

ISI Books' *The Devil Knows Latin*, Dan Mahoney, Chairman of the Political Science Department at Assumption College, and Mark Henrie, Senior Editor of *The Intercollegiate Review*, among others.

Students took a break from the lecture hall and Oxford's lofty spires to visit the historic Globe Theatre in London, where they saw a production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Prior to the performance, students heard two lectures,



ISI Honors Mentor Peter Lawler answers questions after his lecture.

which placed the play within the context of the conference's theme. Dr. David Whalen of Hillsdale College discussed love and utopia in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

A class of fifty ISI Honors Fellows will gather again next year at Oriel College on the fiftieth anniversary of Russell Kirk's *The Conservative Mind* to examine and discuss the roots of America's ordered liberty.

# ISI Promotes the L

The Intercollegiate Studies Institute recognizes that an integral part of its efforts “to educate for liberty” is inculcating in students a deep appreciation of the gallant struggles for freedom waged across the globe by history’s most extraordinary leaders. One such figure is Britain’s former Prime Minister Winston Churchill, and ISI recently held a series of events designed to teach young people about his legacy.

For the past three years, ISI has partnered closely with the Churchill Center in Washington, D.C. for the purpose of educating the rising generations about Churchill’s legacy as a leader, public intellectual, and gentleman. Recognizing ISI’s unique access to open-minded and intellectually rigorous students and the Churchill Center’s bevy of top

notch Churchill scholars and intellectuals, the partnership was a natural pairing of two groups interested in perpetuating the historical legacy of one of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century’s greatest leaders.

Last school year, ISI co-sponsored with the Churchill Center a conference on “Winston Churchill: A Leadership Model for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.” The event was held on the historic *Queen Mary*, widely considered to be the grandest ocean liner ever built and later converted by Churchill into a troop transport. The conference featured remarks from Sir Martin Gilbert, a Churchill biogra-

pher, as well as Admiral James Stockdale, who spoke on Churchill’s courage.

This past May, ISI hosted at its F.M. Kirby Campus a luncheon and lecture events with Celia Sandys, Winston Churchill’s granddaughter and author of *From Winston with Love and Kisses* and *Churchill: Wanted Dead or Alive*. During her talks, Mrs. Sandys offered intimate insights about her grandfather, including his early adventures as a student, cadet, soldier, war



Hon. Celia Sandys, Churchill’s Granddaughter

correspondent, and youthful politician. Drawing on material from her book *Churchill: Wanted Dead or Alive*, Mrs. Sandys delighted the audience with stories from Sir Winston’s early life.

In September, ISI and the Churchill Center sponsored fifty undergraduates and graduate students to attend the 19<sup>th</sup> annual International Churchill Conference at the Lansdowne Resort in Leesburg, VA. This year’s timely theme, “Churchill and the Intelligence World,” attracted a number of eminent Churchill scholars, including Sir Martin Gilbert, historians David Stafford and Warren Kimball, and the Honorable Celia Sandys.

Rear Admiral Mike Ratliff (Ret.),



Sir Winston Chu



(Above, left to right) ISI sponsored Brian Gunia, Washington University; John Montague, University of Virginia; John Schwenkler, Catholic University of America; and Robbie Knowles to attend the Churchill Society’s conference on “Churchill and Intelligence World” this past September.

# Legacy of Churchill

ISI's Vice President of Program and former Director of Naval Intelligence, introduced students to the challenges of directing, collecting, and acting upon intelligence information. Admiral Ratliff showed why Churchill was especially effective at meeting these challenges.

Students attending the conference in Leesburg represented over twenty schools, including Claremont McKenna College, Stanford University, Notre Dame, Washington University, and Penn State University.



(Above) Admiral Mike Ratliff (Ret.), ISI's Vice-President of Programs, and Hon. Celia Sandys.



Churchill at 10 Downing Street



(Left) ISI-sponsored students visit with attendees at the Churchill Society's "Churchill and the Intelligence World" conference held at Leesburg, VA in September 2002.



(Right) The Hon. Celia Sandys and Sen. Bill Roth at the Intercollegiate Studies Institute's F.M. Kirby Hall.

# ISI Launches Online Community

*with Successful Discussion of Just War Theory*

On Monday, September 16, ISI launched its "Online Community," an exciting new educational initiative aimed at bringing together the Institute's nationwide membership of over 55,000 students and professors. To inaugurate this event, ISI hosted an online discussion of the topic "Just War Theory and the Nature of Terrorism."

The moderator for the weeklong session was Dr. Alberto Coll, ISI



*Alberto Coll  
Dean,  
Naval War College*

Weaver Fellow and Dean of the Naval War College. Throughout the week, Dr. Coll responded to student's questions in the Message Board area of the Community and participated in a live chat session with students. More than 30 posts in six unique discussion threads resulted from the session. Among the topics explored were military strategy, political ramifications, and the moral basis for adherence to just war theory.

Dr. Coll was impressed with the quality of questions posed by students, remarking, "the questions keep getting better." He not only agreed to extend his live discussion by an additional hour, but also insisted on continuing the threaded discussion into the weekend. Afterward, he wrote:

"I was delighted to do this. This was my first time and I enjoyed myself tremendously. I will be glad to work with ISI in the future in

any way you think I can be useful."

During the first week of ISI's new Online Community hundreds of unique visitors came to the site. The high-powered discussion proved addicting, as the average user made 5.5 separate visits to the site that week. By week's end, more than 3,000 hits to the site had been recorded, with the Message Board area having the largest number of pageviews.

Future online discussions in-

clude Dr. James Muller of the University of Alaska and chairman of the Churchill Center's academic advisory board answering questions relating to "Churchill and the Intelligence World."

Future topics for ISI's Online Community discussions include J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*, Richard M. Weaver's *Ideas Have Consequences*, and an examination of modern literary criticism.

**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

One year from now

For a gala celebration of

ISI's 50th Anniversary

on

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2003**

in

**WASHINGTON, DC**

## President Bush Appoints Two ISI Books Authors to President's Council on Bioethics

ISI Books is pleased to announce the appointment of Robert P. George and Gilbert Meilaender by President George W. Bush to the President's Council on Bioethics. The Council is examining the medical and ethical ramifications of new biomedical developments such as embryonic stem-cell research, and recommending appropriate guidelines for policy in this area. Additionally, the Council will keep President Bush and the country apprised of new issues in the biosciences.

According to Press Secretary Ari Fleischer during a White House Press Briefing, January 16:

"The President has assembled a diverse group of individuals to address these matters, who will bring a variety of perspectives to these challenging issues. Council members have been chosen not only for their specialized knowledge, but also for their

thoughtfulness and their devotion to serious ethical inquiry." ISI Books recently published



Robert P.  
George

Gilbert  
Meilaender

Robert George's *The Clash of Orthodoxies: Law, Religion and Morality in Crisis* to much acclaim, and he is also a contributor to ISI Books' *Common Truths and Vital Remnants*. Dr. George is the McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence and Director of the James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions at

Princeton University. He is a former Presidential Appointee to the United States Commission on Civil Rights and has served as a Judicial Fellow at the Supreme Court of the United States, where he received the 1990 Justice Tom C. Clark Award. Dr. George's earlier books include *Making Men Moral: Civil Liberties and Public Morality* (Oxford University Press, 1993) and *In Defense of Natural Law* (Clarendon Press, 1999).

ISI author of *Things That Count*, Dr. Gilbert Meilaender is the Board of Directors Professor of Christian Ethics at Valparaiso University. The author of many books and numerous essays, Dr. Meilaender has taught at Oberlin College and is a Fellow of the Hastings Center in Garrison, New York. He is the associate editor of the *Journal of Religious Ethics* and is a member of the editorial board of *First Things*.

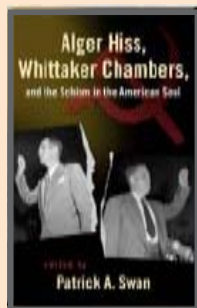
## ISI's Mission



The national program of the Intercollegiate Studies Institute is designed "to educate for liberty." The Intercollegiate Studies Institute was founded in 1953 to further in successive generations of American college youth an appreciation of the economic, political, and ethical values that sustain a free and humane society. With ISI's volunteer representatives at over 900 colleges, and with more than 55,000 student and faculty members on virtually every campus in the country, ISI directs tens of thousands of young people each year to a wide array of on-campus educational programs, distributes more than three million copies of ISI-affiliated publications, and awards fellowships to America's next generation of college professors.

## Selected ISI Books

### Fall 2002



#### **ALGER HISS, WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, AND THE SCHISM IN THE AMERICAN SOUL**

*Edited by Patrick A. Swan*

*Introduction by Wilfred M. McClay*

**\$29.95** cloth • 350 pages • 1-882926-85-4

In 1952, Random House published Whittaker Chambers's *Witness*. Not only did it immediately become a bestseller, it was recognized by many as one of the great spiritual autobiographies of the twentieth century. In *Alger Hiss, Whittaker Chambers, and the Schism in the American Soul*, editor Patrick Swan marks the 50th anniversary of *Witness*'s publication by anthologizing 23 of the best essays written on Chambers, Hiss, or both. Essays by literary luminaries such as Leslie Fiedler, Arthur Koestler, Lionel Trilling, Rebecca West, Murray Kempton, and William F. Buckley Jr. tell the story of these two fascinating (and ultimately mysterious) men and of what they and their conflict represented.



#### **J.R.R. TOLKIEN'S SANCTIFYING MYTH**

*by Bradley J. Birzer*

*Foreword by Joseph Pearce*

**\$24.95** cloth • 250 pages • 1--882926-84-6

Peter Jackson's film version of the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy, and the accompanying proliferation of *Rings*-related paraphernalia, has once again brought the work of J. R. R. Tolkien to a popular audience. There are, however, few full and accessible treatments of the religious vision permeating Tolkien's influential works. Bradley Birzer has remedied this with his fresh study, *J. R. R. Tolkien's Sanctifying Myth: Understanding Middle-earth*. In it, Birzer explains the religious symbolism and significance of Tolkien's Middle-earth stories.

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