The Rockefeller Center
for Public Policy and the Social Sciences
at Dartmouth College

Annual Report

2007–08
The 2007–08 academic year was a time for remembering the past as well as looking ahead and planning for the future. Three significant events in 2008—the presidential election, the 100th anniversary of Nelson Rockefeller’s birth, and the 25th anniversary of the Rockefeller Center—provided many opportunities to expand and enhance the Center’s programs for students, faculty, and the community. These efforts will continue into the current academic year and beyond.

The Rockefeller Center celebrated Nelson Rockefeller’s 100th birthday by commemorating both his political centrism and his thoughtful approach to critical and timeless policy issues. In June 2008, the Center convened an academic conference, “Going to Extremes: The Fate of the Center in American Politics,” at which scholars from across the country presented their research on the impact of political polarization on democratic governance and political representation. The proceedings of the conference will be published as a book next year.

Throughout calendar year 2008, the Center sponsored a Centennial lecture series in which distinguished scholars and practitioners identified and discussed the key policy challenges today in the areas in which Rockefeller made his mark: health care, poverty, federalism, education, the environment, Latin America, and the United Nations. In April, the Center formally celebrated the Centennial by sponsoring public lectures on Nelson Rockefeller’s legacy by former New Jersey governor Christine Todd Whitman and historian Richard Norton Smith and by hosting a celebratory dinner at which President James Wright, Dean of the Faculty Carol Folt, and others spoke about Nelson Rockefeller and the essential role that his namesake center plays in the intellectual life of the Dartmouth community.

Over the course of the year, the Center continued to increase the quality of its curricular and cocurricular programs and the number of students who participated in all areas. The Policy Research Shop completed its first year of funding by the Ford Foundation with over 30 students working in teams to complete 15 new reports. The gateway course to the public policy minor, “Introduction to Public Policy,” attracted 82 students last winter, of whom 70 were first-year students, up from a total of 60 students in its initial offering the prior year. To match this growth, the innovative First-Year Fellows program, which enables first-year students who excel in the introductory course the opportunity to intern with Dartmouth alumni mentors in the public and nonprofit sectors in Washington, D.C., over the summer, was expanded from 13 to 19 students this year.

We view these curricular and cocurricular programs as critical ways to help fulfill Dartmouth’s mission to educate the most promising students and prepare them for a lifetime of learning and responsible leadership. Students’ desire to develop their leadership abilities is evident all around the Center. The success of the nationally televised Democratic presidential candidates debate last September was due in no small part to the hard work of many Dartmouth students. Looking to follow up on their summers in Washington last year, a group of returning First-Year Fellows organized programming around the theme of “Class Divide” for their classmates and the community in their sophomore summers this year. And the Center’s signature Rockefeller Leadership Fellows program continues to attract more than twice as many qualified applicants as it can accept. It is one of our priorities for the coming year to devise ways for more students to take advantage of this unique leadership curriculum. We look forward to continuing the momentum of the Center’s Centennial and further expanding the breadth and depth of our programs.

Ronald B. Schram ’64, Chair, Board of Visitors  Andrew A. Samwick, Director
The Power of Possibility

The Power of Possibility

Public Policy Minor

Undergraduates who minor in public policy often describe it as the “perfect way” to better understand how policy affects all aspects of society—from urban development, international relations, and technological change to health care, education, and the law. The public policy minor is open to Dartmouth undergraduates from all majors who seek a coherent program of study in the broadly defined field of public policy. This program prepares students for careers in a variety of policy-related fields, including jobs in policy analysis, research, and not-for-profit organizations, and as consultants for business and government entities. Intentionally flexible and broad in scope, the program draws faculty from across the social sciences and interdisciplinary programs. Prominent policy makers and scholars who visit the campus offer an even closer look at policy making not only through lectures and seminars but also during informal dinner discussions with students that provide a chance to examine issues one-to-one.

First-Year Fellows

The First-Year Fellowship program provides students with opportunities to engage meaningfully in public policy early in their Dartmouth careers. Students who have successfully completed the introductory public-policy and research-method courses are paired with Dartmouth alumni and other agency officials in internships in Washington, D.C., and participate in the first-year Civic Skills Training. This experience provides training in public speaking, networking, writing press releases, op-eds, and policy briefs and project management. Panels with Dartmouth alumni are arranged to provide students with exposure to career paths following Dartmouth, as well as advice on how to get the most out of their time on campus.

First-Year Fellows

Lauren Rosenson ’11
Mentor: John Mott ’81
Karen Dozier ’11
Mentor: Chris Mantan ’96
Elizabeth Ericson ’11
Mentor: John Tapping ’64
Michael Fields ’11
Mentor: Nigel Lemmington
Brian Freeman ’11
Mentor: Chris Mantan ’96
Sarah Frostenson ’11
Mentor: William Eichbaum ’83
Charles Grant ’11
Mentor: Lisa Vet ’93
Graham Haas-Day ’11
Mentor: William Eichbaum ’83
Tomil Jagiela ’11
Mentor: John Tapping ’64
Benjamin Kahn ’11
Mentor: Nigel Lemmington
Kristin Liu ’11
Mentor: Kristen Gliberand ’88
Alexandra Mahler-Haug ’11
Mentor: Laurana Wilsman ’89
Hope Mallon ’11
Mentor: Debbie Esfocs Tu ’74
Danielle O’Riordan ’11
Mentor: Bobby Charles ’83
Sebastian Ramirez-Brunner ’11
Mentor: Danii Dowling ’99
Megan Sam ’11
Mentor: Kristen Lingley ’97
Zaibhy Stooodenberg ’11
Mentor: Bobby Charles ’83
Nathan Swine ’11
Mentor: Harly French ’86
Carolina Ward ’11
Mentor: Jonathan Wright ’86

Senior Honors Thesis Grant Recipients

Haley Balin, Geography
Advisor: Jennifer L. Finn
Claire Dunning History
Advisor: Annieslee Orlock
Elizabeth Mauton History
Advisor: Annieslee Orlock
Alexandra Salmon Anthropology
Advisor: Kirk Michael Endicott
Tyler Fribie, Government
Advisor: Richard J. Winters

Dartmouth-Oxford Exchange

Nathan Buell ’10
Tim Dette ’10
Vlad Dobru ’10
Brian Donne ’10
Jenifer Gaudette ’10
Chris Lim ’09
Kathryn Lindquist ’10
Michael Malone ’10
Joannas Pucci ’10
Benjamin Settin ’10
Leeley Sichina ’10
Jacqueline Tresina ’10

Student Organizations and Leaders

AGORA
Jacobb Baron ’10
Michael Carnw ’10
Rebecca Goldberg ’10
Edward Kenney ’10

Daniel Webster Legal Society
Kathleen Opina ’10
Neal Settin ’09
Vanessa Szalapski ’10

Dartmouth Law Journal
Brian Recht ’10, Editor in Chief, Spring 2008
Michael Sloan-Rossiter ’08, Editor in Chief, Fall 2007-Winter 2008, Spring 2008

First-Year Forum
Adam Halpern-Leistner ’10
Cary Lou ’08
Louisa Pollard ’10

PoliTALK
Evan Meyerson ’08
Scott Perley ’09
Owen Ziler ’08

Rocky No Husbands
Ben Arad ’10
Nicole Yanger Hapern ’11
Louisa Pollard ’10
Jenny May Ratner ’08

Women in Leadership
Mia Buchman ’08
Ying Cheng ’09
Nicholas Davis ’10
Leno Galia-Maxim ’09

“The First-Year Fellowship program gave me access to a summer I could not have created on my own. The training, institutional support, and camaraderie of the other Fellows turned what could have been a run-of-the-mill internship into a holistic policy experience. Now back on campus, identifying as a Rocky First-Year Fellow gives me confidence that I spent my off-term wisely.”

—Michael Fields ’11

“Nowhere else can undergraduates get an opportunity to directly influence the formation of policy, especially in the real world. Due to the practical nature of the programs and the diversity of policy issues discussed, the public policy minor is a fantastic complement to your major no matter what your interests may be.”

—Brian McMillan ’08

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Internships

Internships are life-changing experiences for Dartmouth students, enabling them to see possibilities in their future as well as the world. Whether assigned to investigate the U.S. migrant education policy, contribute to the work of a U.S. senator, monitor advocacy policy issues for a human rights group, or assist with other projects for government and non-profit agencies, students find themselves on the front lines of efforts to make, break, and influence public policy. Rockefeller Public Affairs and Public Policy Internship grants financially enable students who have secured leave-term internships to accept these mostly unpaid positions.

―Chris Marston ’96
Acting Assistant Secretary for Management,
U.S. Department of Education;
First-Year Fellows Program Mentor

Madhavi Menon ’09

"It’s real exposure to an important policy question that’s relevant to policy makers, and that’s pretty exciting for a student to have. In a classroom, you spend a lot of time reading about what smart people have said about things but not nearly as much time doing new things. In internships, they’re getting experience doing those things.”

Sean T. Allen ’09

Spring 2008
Jennifer Gandara ’10
World Justice Project
Xiaoping Gao ’09
American United for Separation of Church and State
Adam Helpern-Levinson ’10
Office of Senator Joe Biden (D-DE)
Caroline Hartkis ’09
George Mason University Law Center
Deja Kemp ’10
Cato Ferguson & Stroup
Leonard Lewis ’10
Office of Senator Sharron Brown (D-OH)
Toni MacLoud ’10
Denver Museum of Nature & Science
Benjamin Nunnery ’10
North Carolina Republican Party
William Rock ’10
The Innocence Project
Jenna Smith ’09
Office of Congresswoman Kristen Gillibrand (D-NY)
Mary Stepick ’10
Coalition for Human Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles
Blair Sullivan ’10
Office of Congresswoman Denny Rehberg (R-MT)
Daniel Thiele ’10
Iowa Farmers Union
Best Vallacher ’10
Office of Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL)
Douglas Zisbock ’10
Office of Senator John E. Sununu (R-NH)

Summer 2008
Bryan M. Alston ’11
Office of San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom
Jennifer M. Bandy ’09
U.S. Department of Agriculture, International Service and State
Lindsey N. Beckett ’11
Pan American Health Organization
Shruthi Rereddy ’09
Center for Strategic and International Studies
Yashodhara R. L. Rana ’09
National Gay and Lesbian Task Force
Laura C. Sayler ’09
Legal Aid Society
Alejandro D. DiBranco ’09
Political Research Associates
Alley Edlebi ’09
Brooklyn District Attorney’s Office
Tanner W. Mathison ’11
University of Virginia
Jeanette Wang ’09
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Alicia F. Weider ’09
Center for American Progress
Elizabeth Nelson ’09
Environmental Defense Fund
Regina Xiaoqing Guo ’09
Denver Museum of Nature & Science

Fall 2007
Lauren Harr ’09
Office of the Attorney General, Guam
Lillian Michael ’09
U.S. Department of State, Foreign Service Institute
Dylan J. Nelson ’09
U.S. House of Representatives, Subcommittee on Health
Elizabeth Nelson ’09
Prima Microfinance, Inc.
Christine Paquin ’09
Office of Senator John Kerry (D-MA)
Elisabeth Teague ’09
U.S. Department of State, Foreign Service Institute
Sean T. Milich ’09
Tanner W. Mathison ’11

Student Internships
broadband access before a committee of the New Hampshire legislature. Corey Chu ’08 and Benjamin Beckerman ’10 before and during their testimony about broadband Internet access, several geographic and demographic factors suggest that the Granite State’s more populated and urban state throughout the country. In particular, New Hampshire’s more rural areas remain underserved, as roughly 30 percent of New Hampshire citizens do not have access to broadband Internet service.

“I think it’s really critical for students to understand the policy-making process and to get engaged in it. There’s nothing like learning about the process and then actually participating while policy is being made to help students understand that their voices can be heard.”

—Laurie Harding, State Representative from Lebanon, N.H., District Grafton 11

Policy Research Shop Papers

“Affordable Housing in Hanover, New Hampshire,” by Roopa Chari ’09 and Ian Tapu ’08

“Cellulosic Ethanol,” by Michael Coburn ’10, Ruth Hupart ’08, Evan Meyerson ’08, Lucy Polland ’10, and Tara Wohlgemuth ’09

“Establishing an Office of Personal Financial Education,” by Peter Chau ’08, Steven Cheng ’09, Samuel Fisher ’08, and Jessica Per ’08

“Hanover’s Rural Study Group,” by Ruth Hupart ’08 and Joshua Hurd ’08

“Healthy New Hampshire 2010,” by Alex Becker ’10, Benjamin Beckerman ’10, Allyson Bennett ’10, Rembert Brown ’09, Roopa Chari ’09, Steven Cheng ’10, Corey Chu ’08, Michael Coburn ’10, Patrick Dooley ’08, Melissa Fan ’08, Dewey Hoffman ’08, Joshua Hurd ’08, Sarah Johnston ’09, Zachary Mason ’10, Evan Meyerson ’08, Jessica Pet ’08, Lucy Polland ’10, Shaun Stewart ’10, Ian Tapu ’08, Lauren Wang ’08, Tara Wohlgemuth ’09, Janice Wong ’09, and Annie Yang ’09

“Lead Poisoning in New Hampshire,” by Allyson Bennett ’10 and Lucy Polland ’10

“Managing Municipal Waste in New Hampshire,” by Allyson Bennett ’10, Danielle Cousins ’09, and Andrew Zabel ’09

“Mental Health in New Hampshire: Correctional Facilities,” by Elise Braunschweig ’08, Rembert Brown ’09, Roopa Chari ’09, Ian Tapu ’08, and Jessica Pet ’08

“New Hampshire Broadband Access,” by Benjamin Beckerman ’10, Corey Chu ’08, and Dewey Hoffman ’08

“New Hampshire Transportation Funding Plan,” by Alex Becker ’10, Patrick Dooley ’08, and Shaun Stewart ’10

“Norwich and Pandemic Influenza Planning,” by Kahle Dufresne ’09 and Lucy Polland ’10

“Poverty Reduction Strategies for New Orleans, Louisiana,” by Carlson Cunningham ’09 and Emily Jones ’08

“Riparian Zone Protection in Vermont,” by Allyson Bennett ’10, Joshua Hurd ’08, and Lucy Polland ’10

“Small Town Traffic Congestion,” by Michael Coburn ’10 and Zachary Mason ’10

“Sustainability in Hanover,” by Rembert Brown ’09 and Marissa Knodl ’09

Support for the Policy Research Shop is provided by the Ford Foundation.

Rockefeller Leadership Fellows

Even individuals who are natural leaders benefit from training and encouragement. The Rockefeller Leadership Fellows (RLF) program provides both, preparing the way for tomorrow’s leaders. The seniors selected each spring begin their journey of self-discovery as seniors the following year. As they take part in the workshops, dinner discussions, and team-building exercises, they gain a better understanding of the qualities and responsibilities expected of leaders and how to adapt their own leadership styles to different situations. Many choose to implement these lessons by helping to facilitate events on campus or mentoring younger students. Throughout the RLF program, Fellows learn from the insight and experience of distinguished guests as well as from each other. When they graduate, they are better equipped to assume the leadership roles that await them.

“RLF was a defining experience of my senior year. It provided an opportunity to get to know and share ideas with some truly amazing people. I have learned to conceptualize leadership in entirely new ways. Learning about leadership from people who have been there, in various walks of life, is a uniquely valuable opportunity, and I feel privileged to have been a part of it.”

—Michael T. Heslin ’08
Presidential Debate

New Hampshire has a proud tradition as the state with the first-in-the-nation presidential primary election. Dartmouth College has long been part of that tradition of political activism, regularly hosting candidate visits and several national debates. The Rockefeller Center plays a key role in this process by hosting Democratic and Republican hopefuls on campus as well as organizing nationally televised debates or town meetings.

This year, Dartmouth College took center stage on September 26, 2007, when it hosted and co-sponsored a debate for candidates seeking the Democratic presidential nomination. The ninety-minute event was broadcast and streamed online by MSNBC and New England Cable News (NECN), with the late Tim Russert, NBC’s Washington bureau chief and host of Meet the Press, serving as moderator.

While millions watched the event on their televisions and computers, what they did not see was the action behind the scenes ensuring the debate and related activities went off seamlessly. Michael Belinsky ’08 was among the 200 student volunteers implementing those activities, including a “watch party” in Leede Arena attended by some 2,000 people.

Belinsky was the logistical wizard in charge of communicating the event’s game plan and information to parking, public relations, safety and security, dining, and other key offices on campus. He calls the experience “one of the most formative” of his time on campus.

“I cannot think of a better way for Dartmouth to showcase itself to the world than by hosting a political event of such a magnitude as a presidential debate. The debate required a serious investment of Dartmouth resources, and I think it paid off in spades.”

—Michael Belinsky ’08

Civic Skills Training

For many undergraduates, summer internships are their introduction to the inner sanctum of political and nonprofit organizations. The five-day Civic Skills Training (CST) program in the nation’s capital prepares them to maximize and enjoy this experience before undertaking their new responsibilities as interns. CST seminars and panels teach them practical internship basics, such as communication skills, concise writing, and project management, and help them understand the variety of civic institutions with which they will interact—from the offices that set and implement policy to the media that convey this information to the public. Dartmouth alumni from the government and nonprofit sectors participate in the program as panelists, speakers, and mentors. Through their acquaintance, students begin to develop the network and networking skills that will prove invaluable throughout their lives.

“We show these students how to get the most out of their internship experience...It’s a public-policy boot camp, but it’s exactly what Dartmouth should be doing because it pairs academic preparation with practical preparation, and that’s really what these students need if they’re going to succeed in a public policy career.”

—Joshua Marcus ’04
President, Young Professionals in Foreign Policy;
Former Research Associate, Council on Foreign Relations

“Civic Skills Training”
Martin Bernstein ’09
Jennifer Gaudette ’10
Julio Gonzalez ’11
Stephanie Har’11
Will Hanson ’09
Lauren Harte ’09
Ezra A. Josephson ’10
Deja Kemp ’10
Caitlin L. Lahti ’11
Meghan Lawrence ’09
Bryan Lee ’07
Leonard Lewis ’10
Tanner H. Mahon ’11
Lillian Mahr ’09
Courtney Merrill ’09
Armes J. Moon ’09
Elizabeth Nelson ’09
Jordan H. Oserman ’11
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Faculty Grants Awarded 2007–08

The following eighteen Dartmouth faculty members were awarded grants to study a wide range of topics in their respective fields.

David J. Bucci
Psychological and Brain Sciences
“Physical Exercise: Effects on Brain Function and Behavior”

John L. Campbell
Sociology
“Knowledge Regimes in Comparative Political Economy”

Donna J. Coch
Education
“The Brain and Across Generations”

Sienna Radha Craig
Anthropology
“Himalayan Healers in Transition: Social and Medical Change among Tibetan Medicine Practitioners in Nepal”

Joseph E. Callon
History

Martin K. Dimitrov
Government

Pascaleine Dupas
Economics
“Consumption Smoothing, Microfinance, and Business Development: Theory and Evidence from Informal Retail Businesses in Western Kenya”

Karen Fisher-Vanden
Environmental Studies
“Climate Commitments and Shareholders Value: When Does It Pay to Be Green?”

Tanasii Padilla
History

Walter Preston Sinnott-Armstrong
Philosophy
Conference on Law and Evidence

Peter Utic Tse
Psychological and Brain Sciences
“The Effects of Video Game Play on Stereotype Activation and Applications”

Benjamin A. Valentino
Government
“Somebody Else’s Son (or Daughter): Social Group Cues, Military Casualties, and Support for War”

Thalia Wheatley
Psychological and Brain Sciences
“The Ugly Valley: The Neural Correlates of Perceived Distortions of Human Form”

David A. Irwin
Economics
McNichol Scholar and Grant
“Origins of the GATT”

Francis J. Magilligan
Geography
“Climate Change, El Niño, and Hydrologic Development in the Atacama Desert in Southern Peru”

Sharlene L. Mollot
Geography
“The Role of the Secret Police in Suppressing Government Security Archives”

Martin K. Dimitrov
History

Jennifer L. Fluri
Informal Retail Businesses in Western Kenya”

Karen Fisher-Vanden
Kabul, Afghanistan”

Ma rtin K . Di mitrov
Manuf acturing and the Reformulation of British Historical
“Gender and Development Policy: The Spatial Impacts of the International Community on Gender Relations and Economic Reform in Kabul, Afghanistan”

“I have been greatly inspired by my Dartmouth colleagues. These individuals have shown me the power of reflecting on the past and the potential for the future.”

—Nancy L. Johnson
Professor of Business Development, Economics

Faculty Opportunities

Good research depends on funding and feedback, and Dartmouth faculty find both at the Rockefeller Center. The Center’s competitive grant program provides seed money for research on public policy issues and all topics in the social sciences. When these monies are used to hire student assistants, students benefit both financially and academically, as their learning is enhanced outside the classroom. The Center also underwrites and hosts a range of academic conferences, workshops and seminars. These events present a forum for faculty from Dartmouth, as well as others from schools and organizations, to analyze research and discuss critical concerns from a cross-disciplinary perspective. Researchers say the feedback from colleagues outside their fields contributes valuable insight to their work.

“The faculty workshops are a way to bring together people from across the college so we’re able to come at important issues, like racial disparities and health care, from a variety of perspectives, and that helps all of us understand these issues better.”

—Denise Anthony
Associate Professor and Chair, Sociology, Adjunct, Community and Family Medicine, Governor, Health Policy Workshop

Faculty Workshops

Rockefeller Center-sponsored workshops encourage faculty members with a common interest in a particular policy issue to come together on a regular basis. These sessions bring a variety of disciplinary perspectives to bear on a particular problem and foster a broader understanding of the theoretical and methodological issues involved in understanding it.

Environment and Development Faculty Workshop

Gender & (Im)Migration Faculty Workshop

Health Policy Faculty Workshop

International Relations/Foreign Policy Working Group

The Social Psychology Research Interest Group
Public Programs 2007-08

The Rockefeller Center is an asset not only to Dartmouth but also to the community beyond the college campus. The Center recognizes its responsibility to members of this community and in the spirit of goodwill and public service that represents its nameake, invites them to attend many of the events it sponsors or co-sponsors every year. The topics are as diverse as the audience and the speakers but all serve to reinforce the Center’s mission to “promote understanding of policy issues in the community beyond Dartmouth.” Distinguished speakers typically visit a class, have lunch with students, deliver a public lecture, and meet with interested faculty members.

Stephen G. Brooks
Associate Professor of Government, Dartmouth College
“American Place in the World?”
Co-sponsored with the League of Women Voters of the Upper Valley

Former Congresswoman Beverly B. Byron (D-MD) and Former Congressman Mickey Edwards (R-OK)
“Election One of Their Own: A Senator in the White House”
Congress to Campus Series
Co-sponsored with the Dartmouth Legal Studies faculty and the Dartmouth Lawyers Association

Gary Hirshberg
Chairman, President, and CEO, Stonyfield Farm, Inc.
“Inventing the Future”
Co-sponsored with the Allwein Initiative for Corporate Citizenship, Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth

“Immigration in Contemporary American Society and Its Legal Implications”
Law Day 2008
Co-sponsored with the Dartmouth Lawyers Association, the Dartmouth Legal Studies faculty, and the Dartmouth College Office of Alumni Relations

Randall L. Kennedy
Michael R. Klein Professor of Law, Harvard Law School
“The Thaddeus Stevens as a Great White Man”
The Roger S. Aaron ’64 Lecture
A Nelson A. Rockefeller Centennial Series Lecture

Nancy MacLean
Professor of History and Chair, History, Northwestern University
“Freedom Is Not Enough: The Struggle to Open American Workplaces to All”
A Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Event

N. Scott Momaday
Literary Legend
“Looking to the Future”
A Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Event

Richard D. Parsons
Chairman of the Board and Former CEO, Time Warner
“Entrepreneurship in the Digital Age”
The Portman Lecture in the Spirit of Entrepreneurship
A Nelson A. Rockefeller Centennial Series Lecture

A Panel on Poverty and Welfare
• Peter F. Burns, Research Associate, Rockefeller Center
• Sandra K. Danziger, Professor, School of Social Work

Richard No rton Smith
Scholar-in-Residence, George Mason University
“The Surprising Nelson Rockefeller”
A Nelson A. Rockefeller Centennial Series Lecture

Jeffrey M. Stonecash
Maxwell Professor of Political Science, Maxwell School of Syracuse University
“Does Class Matter in American Elections?”
In support of the Dartmouth Centers Forum 2008 theme “Class Divide”
A Class Divide Lecture
Co-sponsored with the League of Women Voters of the Upper Valley

Christine Todd Whitman
President, Whitman Strategy Group
“Nelson Rockefeller: Still Influencing People, Power, and Politics”
The Class of 1950 Fellow Lecture
A Nelson A. Rockefeller Centennial Series Lecture

Simon Wilson
Former Middle East Bureau Chief for BBC News, Harvard Nieman Fellow 2008
“Reflections on Reporting the Middle East”
The Bernard D. Nossiter ’47 Lecture

Justin Wolfers
Assistant Professor of Business and Public Policy, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania
“Racial Discrimination among NBA Referees”
Co-sponsored with the Applied Statistics Working Group at Dartmouth

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Democratic Presidential Candidates Debate
In partnership with the Dartmouth Office of Public Affairs, Conferences and Special Events, NBC, NECN, New Hampshire Public Radio, the Democratic National Committee, and the New Hampshire Democratic Party

“Going to Extremes: The Fate of the Political Center in American Politics”
A Conference Convened by Ronald G. Shako
Senior Fellow, Associate Director for Curricular and Research Programs, Rockefeller Center, Dartmouth College
A Nelson A. Rockefeller Centennial Series Event

Mark McClellan
Director, Engleberg Center for Health Care Reform, Senior Fellow, Economic Studies, Leonard D. Schaeffer Director’s Chair in Health Policy Studies, The Brookings Institution
“Universal Health Care”
The Brooks Family Lecture
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Rockefeller Centennial

Nelson Rockefeller ’33, former governor of New York and vice president of the United States, would have turned 100 this year. Although he died in 1979, the public-service ideals he inspired continue to flourish through the Nelson A. Rockefeller Center at Dartmouth. In his honor and to celebrate its 25th anniversary, the Center initiated a year-long series of lectures on the policy legacy of Nelson Rockefeller. It also sponsored a three-day academic conference to examine the effects of party polarization on U.S. politics. These events brought to campus major policy makers and thought leaders from the public and private sectors and comprised a fitting tribute to the legacy Nelson Rockefeller left behind.

“The Rockefeller Center has two advisory groups who meet at least twice each year:

The Board of Visitors

The Board of Visitors meets regularly with the Rockefeller Center director and senior staff to provide input on the Center’s programs.

Board of Visitors 2007–08: Gesta Aranđ ’89, Leah Daughtry ’94, David Dawley ’63, Nathaniel Fick ’99, Susan Firestone ’85, Jennifer Freni ’93, Alison Fragale ’97, Yosi Herrara ’92, John Hindesalter ’71, William Kirby ’72, Brett Mathews ’84, Stephanie McHenry ’84, Dan Reicher ’79, Peter Robinson ’79 (trustee representative), Peter Rockefeller ’79, Tu ’92, Fred Schauer ’67, Tu ’68, Ron Schram ’64 (chair), John Springer ’53, Kenny W. Swan ’94, Kristen von Summerfield ’84, and Curt Welling ’71, Tu ’77.

The Faculty Council

The Faculty Council discusses the desirability and feasibility of major programs and new initiatives. They also review proposals for the annual research grant program.

Faculty Council 2007–08: Michael Mastanduno, Government; Associate Dean for the Social Sciences (chair); Stephen Brooks, Government; Karen Fisher-Vanden, Environmental Studies; Dean Lacy, Government; Annamaria Lusardi, Economics; Frank Magilligan, Geography and Earth Sciences; Celia Naylor, History; Annelise Orloff, History; Bruce Sacerdote, Economics; and Jonathan Skinner, Economics.

“The 2008 Public Service Award was presented to Rob Portman ’78, who has been described as one of the most experienced and respected public servants of his generation. He served on the White House staff of the first Bush administration, as the U.S. Congressman from southwest Ohio for twelve years, and in two cabinet-level positions in the current Bush administration. Through it all, he has maintained a reputation as a leader who focuses on results. Above, Ronald B. Schram ’64 (right), chair of the board of visitors, honors Portman (left) with the award.

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For the past twenty-five years, the challenge of this Center has been to educate, train, and inspire the next generation of public policy leaders.


**Mission Statement**

Since its founding in 1983, the Rockefeller Center has been a catalyst for teaching, research, and deliberation about public policy. Dedicated to providing an interdisciplinary perspective on policy-related topics, the Center fosters a commitment to the ideals of public service and informed public debate exemplified by Nelson A. Rockefeller, former governor of New York State and vice president of the United States.

The Center endeavors to:

• develop undergraduates’ potential for leadership;
• support high-quality research on policy-related topics;
• encourage experiential learning in the policy realm;
• foster campus dialogue about policy issues;
• stimulate cross-disciplinary approaches to policy problems;
• promote understanding of policy issues in the community beyond Dartmouth.

The Center pursues these objectives through a variety of programs, including administration of a minor in public policy; financial support for student internships and research; grants for faculty research and conferences; interdisciplinary faculty seminars; and lectures and group discussions with distinguished visiting scholars and policy makers.
“It is essential that we enable young people to see themselves as participants in one of the most exciting eras in history and to have a sense of purpose in relation to it.”

Nelson A. Rockefeller