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Ronald Reagan Institute Welcomes 2021-2022 Ronald Reagan and George P. Shultz Postdoctoral Visiting Fellows

WASHINGTON, DC -- The Ronald Reagan Institute, the Washington, D.C. office of the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation & Institute (RRPFI), today announced that two young scholars will spend the next year converting their Reagan-related dissertation into a book manuscript at the Institute's Washington headquarters.

The purpose of the Ronald Reagan Institute's Visiting Fellows Program is to promote scholarship that advances the political, economic and national security ideas and values of President Ronald Reagan. Visiting fellows were selected based on the relevance of their research to these principles. While describing the program, RRPFI Executive Director John Heubusch said, "the first year of the fellowship successfully engaged the academic community to produce substantial scholarly contributions to President Reagan's legacy. Yet another strong class of fellows represents a continuation of President Reagan's vision that the Library be a place where scholars interpret the past and policymakers debate the future."

George P. Shultz Fellow — Dr. Frances Burke

The Institute is especially excited to announce the inaugural George P. Shultz fellowship, in celebration of the 60th U.S. Secretary of State who passed away this year at the age of 100. Shultz Fellows will focus on President Reagan's foreign and economic policy, particularly those areas central to the secretary's legacy, such as support for freedom abroad, human rights and democracy promotion. The Shultz Fellowship is possible because of the generosity of philanthropist Tad Taube, a longtime friend of Secretary Shultz.

Frances Tilney Burke, an Army spouse and mother of four, will use the George P. Shultz Fellowship to research President Reagan's "freedom agenda" in Latin America. Ms. Burke will receive her PhD from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University where she is completing a dissertation titled, "Why We Went: A History of the Decision to Invade Iraq in 2003." Ms. Burke received a Master of Philosophy in Latin American Studies from Oxford University and completed her undergraduate degree in History and Literature at Harvard University. Ms. Burke served in a number of roles in the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the Defense Intelligence Agency during the George W. Bush administration and subsequent Obama administration, and also served as an intelligence officer with the United States Navy Reserve. She hopes her work "will provide a more nuanced record of Reagan's foreign policy in Latin America than the 'at all costs' anticommunist agenda commonly described by historians."

Burke continued, "As a historian of U.S. foreign relations and international security, I'm especially honored to accept a fellowship named for a man who stands at the center of my research project and bridged the gap between public service and academia."

Ronald Reagan Fellow — Dr. Chris Campbell

Dr. Campbell's scholarship focuses on the role of ideology in foreign policy and the intersection of religion, human rights, nationalism and foreign affairs. He earned his PhD and Master of Science in Russian, Central and East European Studies from the University of Glasgow and holds a bachelor's degree in History and Politics from the University of Strathclyde. His dissertation, "Are We Doing Enough?": US Foreign Policy and the Soviet Nationalities 1977-1984, will serve as the basis for a book manuscript that will trace U.S. policy towards the Soviet nationalities and republics from the late 1970s to the collapse of the USSR. Dr. Campbell's project, he explained, "will explore a currently understudied aspect of President Reagan's legacy, his deeply-held belief in national self-determination and religious freedom for Soviet minorities."

The fellowship year begins this September and will last until August 2022.

To learn about the Institute's other scholarly initiatives, visit www.ReaganInstitute.org.

About the Reagan Foundation and Institute:

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute is the sole nonprofit organization created by President Reagan charged with continuing his legacy and sharing his principles - individual liberty, economic opportunity, global democracy and national pride. The Foundation is a non-partisan organization which sustains the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum in Simi Valley, CA, the Reagan Center for Public Affairs, the Presidential Learning Center, The Air Force One Pavilion, the award-winning Discovery Center and the Reagan Institute, which carries out the Foundation's mission in Washington, DC, The Reagan Library houses over 55 million pages of Gubernatorial, Presidential and personal papers and over 60,000 gifts and artifacts chronicling the lives of Ronald and Nancy Reagan. It also serves as the final resting place of America's 40th President and his First Lady.

www.reaganfoundation.org
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