



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

May 9, 2022

RONALD REAGAN PRESIDENTIAL FOUNDATION AND INSTITUTE **ANNOUNCES 2022 POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS**

Washington, D.C. — Today the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute announced that Dr. Nathan Gibson and Dr. William Chou have been named the Reagan Institute’s 2022 Postdoctoral Fellows. The Institute’s Postdoctoral Fellowship cultivates the next generation of scholars studying the life, political career, principles, legacy, and era of President Ronald Reagan. The Program funds two one-year fellowships for postdoctoral scholars who intend to revise their dissertation on Ronald Reagan into a book-length manuscript. The Reagan Institute is pleased to announce that Dr. William Chou will be designated the George P. Shultz Fellow, which is made possible through a generous donation from Tad and Dianne Taube.

The Reagan Institute has hosted four fellows to date, resulting in three books under contract due for publication in fall 2022 and spring/summer 2023 with Cornell University Press, University of Massachusetts Press, and Palgrave Macmillan.

“We are thrilled to host Dr. Gibson and Dr. Chou as this year’s Reagan Institute Fellows,” said Roger Zakheim, Director of the Reagan Institute. “We look forward to watching their research and dissertations become manuscripts which will help to promote President Reagan’s legacy now and in the future.”

Dr. Nathan Gibson is currently serving as a postgraduate research associate and lecturer at Princeton University, where he defended his Ph.D. in Politics in 2021 and earned his M.A. in Politics in 2017. He also holds a bachelor’s degree in Public Policy Studies from Vanderbilt University. His research examines how presidents manage policymaking in the executive branch. In particular, he focuses on the strategies of *centralization*, or the movement of policy functions to the White House, and *politicization*, the use of political appointees to influence policymaking throughout the executive branch. While a postdoctoral fellow at the Reagan Institute, Dr. Gibson plans to develop his dissertation, *Presidential Use of Centralization and Politicization*, into a book manuscript that combines archival, survey, quantitative, and formal theoretical approaches to more deeply understand presidential management of the executive branch.

“President Reagan’s use of centralization and politicization in pursuit of a responsive yet competent executive branch had a deep impact on how both presidents and scholars view these strategies,” said Dr. Gibson. “This fellowship and the archival resources from the Reagan Administration will provide an inside look regarding how presidents think about and seek to influence the policy-making process.”

Dr. William Chou is currently the American in the World Consortium Postdoctoral Fellow at the Clements Center for National Security at UT-Austin and will serve as the George P. Shultz Fellow at the Ronald Reagan Institute this fall. His research examines the evolution of the postwar US-Japanese alliance from the

perspective of Japanese consumer exports and how they reconfigured bilateral security, economic, and cultural relations. In particular, he focuses on how security and economic concerns shaped how American governmental and business actors framed Japanese economic success in the 1970s and 1980s as a choice between protectionism and transpacific learning.

Prior to the Reagan Institute and the Clements Center, William was a foreign research scholar at the University of Tokyo and received support from the Fulbright-Hays Foundation, the Nippon Foundation, and the Smithsonian Institution. He previously worked at the Army's Center for Military History and the Institute for Defense Analyses on defense planning and Iraq War issues. He holds a Ph.D. in History from The Ohio State University and a B.A. in History from Yale, where he studied under George P. Shultz's trusted advisor, Charles Hill.

About the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute is the nonprofit organization created by President Reagan himself and specifically charged by him 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 and the award-winning Discovery Center, as well as the Reagan Institute in Washington, D.C. 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

###

Media Contact: Melissa Giller — mgiller@reaganfoundation.org or 805-522-2977