



The Center for the Study of the American Constitution Fellows Program

The Rationale for the CSAC Fellowship

One of the objectives of The Center for the Study of the American Constitution (CSAC) is to extend the reach of our expertise and resources to a broad range of communities beyond the university. To that end we want to identify teachers throughout the state who have a proven record of commitment to teaching as a career. Our efforts with this program are to honor teachers and enhance their content knowledge and pedagogical skills in the Founding Period. [Go here for an overview of and application to the CSAC Fellows Program.](#)

Selection of CSAC Fellows

Each year the CSAC will accept applications and select six teachers from the State of Wisconsin to serve as CSAC Fellows who commit to attending two conferences in both the fall and spring. These conferences focus on the Creation and Ratification of the US Constitution.

Fall Sessions Topic–The Creation of the American Constitution

[Schedule and Agenda \(pdf\)](#)

Conference Materials

[Various Perspectives on the Creation of the Constitution \(pdf\)](#)

[Secrecy and the Constitutional Convention \(pdf\)](#)

Primary Source Materials

[Virginia Act Authorizing the Election of Delegates, 23 November 1786 \(pdf\)](#)

[Resolution of Congress, 21 February 1787 \(pdf\)](#)

[South Carolina Act Authorizing the Election of Delegates, 8 March 1787 \(pdf\)](#)

[Maryland Act Electing and Empowering Delegates, 26 May 1787 \(pdf\)](#)
[Boston *American Herald*, 6 August 1787 \(pdf\)](#)
[Pennsylvania Gazette, 22 August 1787 \(pdf\)](#)
[An Old Whig VII, Philadelphia *Independent Gazetteer*, 28 November 1787 \(pdf\)](#)
[Centinel IV, Philadelphia *Independent Gazetteer*, 30 November 1787 \(pdf\)](#)
[A Connecticut Farmer, *Connecticut Courant*, 28 January 1788 \(pdf\)](#)
[On the New Constitution, *State Gazette of South Carolina*, 28 January 1788 \(pdf\)](#)
[Rusticus, *New York Journal*, 23 May 1788 \(pdf\)](#)

Conference Book

Jack N. Rakove- *Original Meanings: Politics and Ideas in the Making of the Constitution*

Reference Books

Woody Holton- *Unruly Americans and the Origins of the Constitution*
John P. Kaminski- *The Founders on the Founders: Word Portraits from the Revolutionary Era*
John P. Kaminski- *Secrecy and the Constitutional Convention*
John P. Kaminski/Timothy D. Moore- *Assembly of Demigods: Word Portraits of the Delegates to the Constitutional Convention by Their Contemporaries*

Scholarly Articles

[Corruption and Virtue at the Constitutional Convention \(pdf\)](#)
[Taking Liberties: The Iroquois Influence Thesis and the Problem of Evidence \(pdf\)](#)
[The Iroquois League, the Articles of Confederation, and the Constitution \(pdf\)](#)
[Constitutional Founding: The Convention Model and Its Alternatives \(pdf\)](#)

Spring Sessions Topic–The Ratification of the American Constitution

[Schedule and Agenda \(pdf\)](#)

Conference Materials

[Conceptualizing the Differences between the Federalists and Antifederalists \(pdf\)](#)
[John Kaminski's Seven Stages of Ratification \(pdf\)](#)
[State Conventions Vote and Population Information \(pdf\)](#)

Primary Source Materials

[James Wilson's Speech in the State House Yard, Philadelphia, 6 October 1787 \(pdf\)](#)
[Brutus I, *York Journal*, 18 October 1787 \(pdf\)](#)
[Cato III, *New York Journal*, 25 October 1787 \(pdf\)](#)
[Publius, *The Federalist* 1, *New York Independent Journal*, 27 October 1787 \(pdf\)](#)
[Publius: *The Federalist* 2, *New York Independent Journal*, 31 October 1787 \(pdf\)](#)
[Cato IV, *New York Journal*, 8 November 1787 \(pdf\)](#)
[John Smilie's Speech in the Pennsylvania Convention, 28 November 1787 \(pdf\)](#)
[Publius: *The Federalist* 69, *New York Packet*, 14 March 1788 \(pdf\)](#)
[Brutus XV, *New York Journal*, 20 March 1788 \(pdf\)](#)
[Publius: *The Federalist* 78, *New York*, 28 May 1788\(pdf\)](#)

Conference Book

John P. Kaminski and Richard Leffler- *Federalists and Antifederalist: The Debate Over the Ratification of the Constitution*

Reference Books

Lance Banning- *Jefferson and Madison: Three Conversations from the Founding*
John P. Kaminski/Jonathan M. Reid- *Adams and Jefferson: Contrasting Aspirations and Anxieties from the Founding*

Pauline Maier- *Ratification: The People Debate the Constitution, 1787-1788*

Scholarly Articles

[Alexander Hamilton, Melancton Smith, and the Ratification in New York \(pdf\)](#)

[The Forgotten Publius: John Jay and the Aesthetics of Ratification \(pdf\)](#)

[Recovering the Political Constitution: The Madisonian Vision \(pdf\)](#)

["A Tub to the Whale": The Founding Fathers and the Federal Bill of Rights \(pdf\)](#)