

Identification and Selection of Miller Center Practitioner and Faculty Fellows

(May 7, 2019)

Purpose

The mission of the Miller Center is to contribute to the solution of major national challenges through comprehensive and intensive research with an emphasis on bringing that research to policy makers and the broader public. The vision of the Center is to inspire America's leaders with nonpartisan insights, especially on the presidency, that advance democratic institutions and the public good. Solutions to major problems, and inspiring America's leaders, require a variety of perspectives. Faculty and Practitioner Fellows who are appointed to the Miller Center on a temporary basis allow the Center to address a wide range of both continuing and immediate policy and academic questions.

The Miller Center is a supportive community, grounded in diverse perspectives. We value scholarly excellence, engaging discourse, and respectful conduct. Miller Center Fellows are expected to be guided by, and uphold, these values.

Definitions

The Miller Center has two categories of fellows:

- Faculty Fellows: academic faculty with primary appointment in a UVA school, or in another university, and a courtesy appointment at the Miller Center.
- Practitioner Fellows: individuals with experience and expertise drawn from outside of the academy.

This document is focused on the process for the identification and selection of Fellows. Unless explicitly indicated, the words "Fellow" or "Fellows" in what follows refers to both Faculty and Practitioner Fellows.

Summary of the Process: Nominations are sent to the Fellows Appointment and Review Committee which makes a recommendation to the Director of the Miller Center. The same process applies to renewals and reappointments of fellows following the completion of a term.

Fellows Appointment and Review Committee (FARC)

At the beginning of each academic year, the Miller Center Director will appoint a Fellows Appointment and Review Committee (FARC) comprised of four individuals, at least two of whom will hold primary appointments at the Center, with representation from both Miller Center faculty and staff, and one of whom will be a practitioner fellow. Members on the committee are appointed by the Director and will serve two-year terms. In the initial year of the committee, two individuals will serve one-year terms and two individuals will serve two-year terms.

Nomination Process

The selection process for Fellows begins at the discretion of the Director of the Miller Center, who retains ultimate discretion about the recommendation of Fellow appointments. The Director identifies programmatic needs, confirms budgetary support, appoints a committee for an eventual review of nominees, and announces the start of the recruitment process to relevant stakeholders of the Miller Center and the University community.

Nominations for prospective Fellows may originate from members of the Miller Center community, the public, or through self-nominations. Nominations should include a statement of how and where the prospective Fellow will contribute to the Center's research and/or programming mission(s).

Appointment Process

After an initial review by the committee, the Director—or her/his designee—asks selected candidate(s) to provide:

- a) Curriculum vitae, resume or bio.
- b) A statement indicating how the scholar/expert fits the research and public engagement mission of the Miller Center and the scholar's or expert's intentions for professional activities over the one to three years.

The FARC will vet all nominees and will submit recommendations in writing—both positive and negative—to the Miller Center Director. This committee will make recommendations regarding which groups should be consulted in the vetting process for the candidate.

The Director will seek feedback—optimally in person—on the nominee from groups including, but not limited to, the full Miller Center faculty including Fellows, the Dean and Chair from the nominee's School and Department (if appropriate), the Miller Center Governing Council, and Miller Center staff. Decisions regarding the appointment and reappointment of Fellows is at the discretion of the Director.

Review Process

Fellows are reviewed annually by the FARC. Fellows will provide the committee with a list of accomplishments and activities as outlined in their letter of appointment. Fellows will also provide the FARC with a proposed set of activities and engagements for the subsequent contracted period. The FARC will solicit feedback from Miller Center Faculty and Staff regarding the re-appointment using on-line means. The FARC will consult with the Director with to ensure that the Fellow's proposed plan is supportive the Center's strategic focus. The FARC will make a recommendation to the Director who will make the final decision.