ICJS Expands International Activities

Monticello’s International Center for Jefferson Studies is continuing to reach around the globe in its efforts to foster Jefferson scholarship and related studies.

In July, ICJS representatives will lead a panel discussion, “Thomas Jefferson’s Plantation: Slavery and Monticello,” at the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture’s seventh annual conference in Glasgow, Scotland.

The ICJS also will participate in two events in Paris. “Between Two Revolutions: Thomas Jefferson in Paris” is the theme of this year’s Jefferson Studies Abroad short course, held in conjunction with the University of Virginia’s Continuing Education and Professional Studies Center. The program will be conducted in October and, as in previous years, registration is open to the general public. Paris also will be the site of “Jefferson and Bonaparte,” a symposium organized by the French Friends of the Smithsonian with ICJS involvement.

The Center’s international endeavors are not limited solely to historical issues. “There is a great deal of interest in the relevance of Jefferson’s thinking to contemporary developments, for example, in former communist states presently engaged in drawing up new democratic constitutions,” noted James Horn, Saunders Director of the ICJS.

Fittingly, in June the ICJS conducted a symposium, “Thomas Jefferson, Democracy, and the New Poland,” in Warsaw, in collaboration with UVa’s

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Miller Center of Public Affairs and the Polish Academy of Sciences.

But not all of the Center’s international activities are conducted overseas: The ICJS fellowship program continues to attract scholars from around the world to Kenwood. To date, the roster of international fellows has included scholars from Britain, Canada, China, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, and Russia.

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