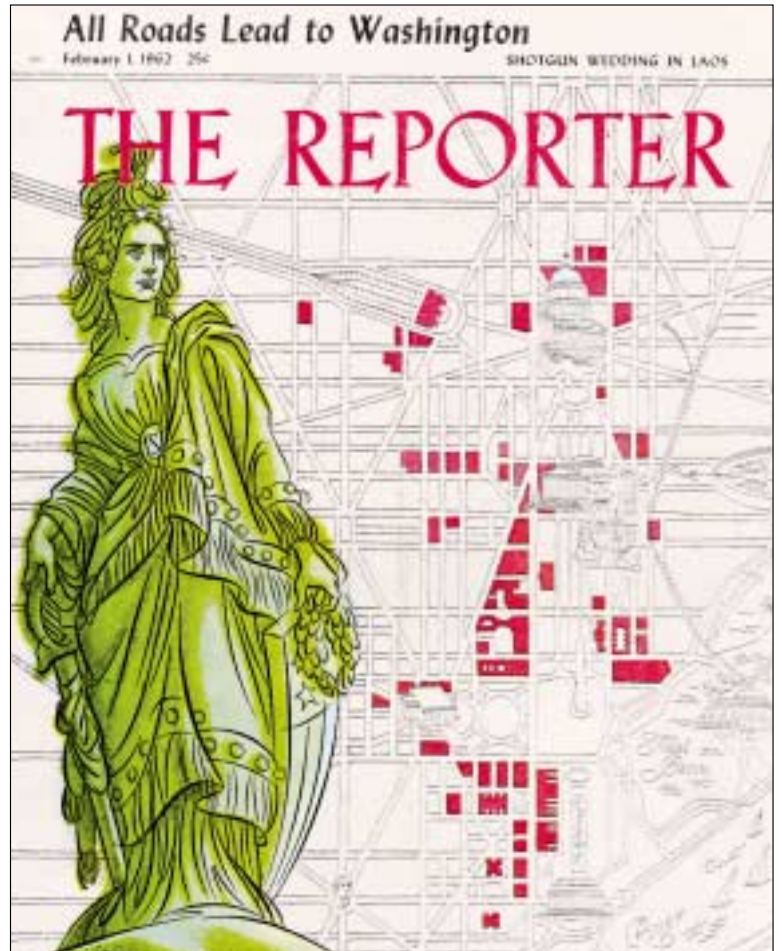


# *the* Roosevelt *review*



Cover of *The Reporter* magazine from February 1, 1962. From an RSC research project on "Magazines and Periodicals as Instruments of Twentieth-Century American Culture."


## Fulfilling the RSC Dream

"All Roads Lead to Washington"—the banner on the cover of *The Reporter* of February 1962—may ring even more true today than four decades ago. The Cold War is over and a new century has begun with a single superpower. This political reality has perhaps made the mission of the Roosevelt Study Center even more compelling.

Ambitious new agreements of cooperation with several universities have been signed or are in the process of being signed. These have led to exciting new research projects including the examination of the influence of several periodicals—*The Reporter*, *The Paris Review* and *Commentary*—on American culture. There has been steady growth in the number of students and scholars receiving RSC research grants, in the number of qualified applicants for the Theodore Roosevelt

American History Awards, and in the number of publications by RSC staff members.

The backbone of the research center, the RSC's holdings of U.S. primary source reference materials, continues to expand and this year four new microform collections, including *Papers of the Republican Party from 1911-1980* and *Papers of the Nixon White House*, have been acquired.

The NASA Conference on America's Utopia and Dystopia and the Conference on California have provided fresh new insights into the development of the American Dream. And the Four Freedoms Awards continue to be a wonderful celebration of the ideals of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt and distinguished citizens of the world today who have made outstanding contributions to humanity. 

Newsletter of  
the Roosevelt  
Study Center

2000





*The activities of the Roosevelt Study Center  
in the year 2000 have been made possible  
by financial and in-kind contributions.  
The RSC gratefully acknowledges the generosity  
of the following contributors:*

*Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences  
Province of Zeeland  
Zeeland Library  
Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute  
Theodore Roosevelt Association  
University of Leiden  
Catholic University of Nijmegen  
University of Utrecht  
The Historical Documentation Center for  
Dutch Protestantism at the Free University in Amsterdam  
The Joint Archives of Holland at Hope College in Holland, Michigan  
United States Embassy, The Hague  
Dow Benelux N.V.  
Mr. Curtis Roosevelt*

*The Roosevelt Stichting, a private foundation  
established to organize and raise funds for  
the biennial Four Freedoms Awards ceremony  
in Middelburg, gratefully acknowledges financial  
support in 2000 from the following contributors:*

*Nationale Postcode Loterij  
Province of Zeeland  
City of Middelburg  
ABN/AMRO Bank N.V.  
Aegon N.V.  
Automatic Holland B.V.  
Citibank/Schroder Salomon Smith Barney  
Loontjens Automaten B.V.  
Outokumpu Steel Processing B.V.  
Transal B.V.  
Verbrugge Terminals B.V.  
Zeeland Seaports  
Mr. and Mrs. Alexander C. Helfrich  
Mr. Alexander P. van Heeren*



*"History, taught for a directly and immediately useful purpose to pupils and teachers of pupils, is one of the necessary features of a sound education in democratic citizenship."*

*Theodore Roosevelt, Presidential Address, American Historical Association, Boston, Massachusetts, 1912*

# The Theodore Roosevelt American History Awards

Started in 1987, the annual Theodore Roosevelt American History Awards aim to promote the study of American history in the Netherlands in general and to encourage the use of the RSC's unique historical collections by Dutch university students in particular. The program is sponsored by the Theodore Roosevelt Association in Oyster Bay, New York, and each year recognizes the three best Masters theses on an American history topic written by Dutch graduate students. Theodore Roosevelt not only served as the twenty-sixth president of the United States. As a prolific writer of history books he was also elected in 1912 to be president of the American Historical Association. It is fitting that these American awards presented by the RSC should be named in his honor.

Since the inception of the award, including this year's entries, a total of 119 M.A. theses have been submitted by Dutch universities. This time the American Studies Departments of the universities of Leiden, Amsterdam, Utrecht, Nijmegen, and Groningen each nominated two M.A. theses as being the best of the past academic year. A jury of three historians—Berteke Waaldijk (University of Utrecht), Tity de Vries (University of Groningen), and Eduard van de Bilt (universities of Leiden and Amsterdam)—evaluated these ten submissions.


On March 24, 2000 the awards ceremony at the RSC began with oral presentations by the ten graduates about their theses and their most important conclusions. This was followed by the jury report presented by its chair, Berteke Waaldijk, in which all ten theses were reviewed. The jury was pleased with the diversity in topics, covering both more traditional political themes as well as gender and race issues. There were also theses about radio, television, music, magazines, and intellectual debates. In short, a broad spectrum of American history and culture.

First prize was won by Marietje Bohmer (Leiden) for her thesis "Music, Jokes, and Melodrama: Radio Programs and the Definition of American Culture, 1920-1939." Oscar Zoetman (Groningen) received the second prize for his thesis "Hannah Arendt's Ideas about Jewish Identity in the Eichmann



*Standing in front of Theodore Roosevelt's portrait in the RSC exhibition hall are the three prize winners of the TR American History Award 2000 (left to right): Oscar Zoetman (second prize), Marietje Bohmer (first), and Diana Burton-van den Bergh (third).*

Controversy, 1933-1963." The third prize was given to Diana G. Burton-van den Bergh (Leiden) for her thesis "Mercy Otis Warren: Liberty's Champion, Virtue's Guardian."

All nominees were presented with a diploma and a copy of *The Man in the Arena*, a collection of Theodore Roosevelt's speeches. In addition, the three prize winners received a Theodore Roosevelt inauguration medal, and the winners of the second and third prizes received cash prizes of NLG 500 and 250, respectively. First prize winner Marietje Bohmer won a trip to New York where in May she visited several "Roosevelt sites": Theodore Roosevelt's birthplace and the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, TR's house "Sagamore Hill" and other TR sites in the Oyster Bay, Long Island area, as well as the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library and Museum and Eleanor Roosevelt's house "Val-Kill" in Hyde Park, New York. 



*The TR Inauguration Medal was minted on the occasion of his second term as President which started on March 4, 1905. Obverse: portrait of TR. Reverse: Columbia, her right hand resting upon a column bearing a cinerary urn and devices symbolizing the authority of the United States. The U.S. Capitol in the background.*

# A Word About the Roosevelt Study Center

## **RSC Board of Trustees**

Nel J. Ginjaar-Maas  
*President*  
Huibert P. van Heel  
*Secretary*

Otto von der Gablentz  
Rein Jan Hoekstra  
G. Willemien van  
Montfrans-Hartman  
Jacobus N.M.  
Richelle  
Arno A. Vermeulen

Lawrence H. Budner  
Anna Eleanor  
Roosevelt  
*Ex Officio Members*

## **RSC Executive Committee**

Gert L.C.M. de Kok  
*President*  
Lucky Nederhoed-  
Zijlstra  
*Secretary*  
Cathrien Koster  
*Treasurer*

Thijs Haks  
Truus Huisman  
Lein N. Labruyère

Cornelis A. van  
Minnen  
*Executive Director*

**Roosevelt Stichting**  
Willem T. van Gelder  
*President*

William J. vanden  
Heuvel  
*Vice President*  
Peter T. van de  
Steenoven  
*Treasurer*  
Siert Knigge  
*Member*

Hans Bergmans  
Cornelis Boertien  
Joris Demmink  
Arthur W.H. Docters  
van Leeuwen  
Alexander P. van  
Heeren  
Alexander C. Helfrich  
H. Johannes  
Witteveen  
*Advisory Board*

Arend C. de Ru  
*Executive Director*

The Roosevelt Study Center is a research institute and conference center on twentieth-century American history and European-American relations. It is named after three famous Americans: President Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919), President Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1882-1945), and Eleanor Roosevelt (1884-1962), who trace their roots to the Dutch Province of Zeeland from where their common ancestor left for the New World in the mid-seventeenth century.

The Roosevelt Study Center is affiliated with the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences and is a founding member of the American Studies Network, a cooperation of the twenty foremost American Studies Centers in Europe. From 2000 through 2002, the RSC Director is serving as president of this pan-European organization.

In developing its activities and building its collections, the RSC is supported by the Provincial Government of Zeeland, the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute at Hyde Park, New York, the Theodore Roosevelt Association in Oyster Bay, New York, and an Advisory Board of prominent scholars.


The RSC offers European students and advanced scholars of American history:

- a research library with collections of

historical documents and books on U.S. modern history not available anywhere else in Europe;

- a grants-in-aid program for European researchers;
- an annual prize for the best Dutch M.A. theses on American history topics;
- a program of exhibitions, international conferences and seminars on American history, U.S.-European relations, and the contemporary meaning of FDR's Four Freedoms;
- conference rooms with audio-visual facilities;
- a publication series; and
- an annual newsletter.

The RSC library may be used year round for research, but by appointment only. Please contact the secretariat in advance of your visit. Office and library hours: 9.00 to 12.30 and 13.30 to 17.00. The RSC exhibition hall is open April through October, Monday through Friday, from 11.00 to 12.30 and 13.30 to 16.30.

For information on the RSC holdings and its activities, please visit our homepage on the Internet: [www.roosevelt.nl](http://www.roosevelt.nl) or contact the Roosevelt Study Center, Abdij 9, P.O. Box 6001, 4330 LA Middelburg, the Netherlands, tel. (31) (0)118-631590, fax (31) (0)118-631593, e-mail: [rsc@zeeland.nl](mailto:rsc@zeeland.nl). 

*Immediately following the presentation of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Awards on May 27, the first meeting of the newly established RSC Advisory Board was held. Current and future developments were discussed by (from left to right) Professor Anthony J. Badger (Cambridge University), RSC Director Cornelis A. van Minnen, Professor Detlef Junker (University of Heidelberg), and Professor Serge Ricard (University of Paris III, Sorbonne Nouvelle). The RSC Advisory Board is expected to meet once a year.*





In 2000 the RSC started new research projects with the universities of Nijmegen and Utrecht.

## Research Projects by RSC Staff Members




Left, cover illustration from *The Paris Review*.

Right, cover illustration from *The Reporter*.

In 1999 the RSC, in cooperation with the Catholic University of Nijmegen, started a long-term research project on “Magazines and Periodicals as Instruments of Twentieth-Century American Culture.” In that year, two Ph.D. candidates, Elke van Cassel and Usha Wilbers, were hired for a four-year period to study and write a thesis about the history of *The Reporter* and *The Paris Review*, respectively, assessing the influence of both periodicals on post-World War II American culture.

In 2000 Tom Kuipers, who wrote an M.A. thesis at the University of Nijmegen on “Race, the Multicultural Debates, and *The New Republic*, 1988-1992,” joined the RSC staff to work as a third Ph.D. candidate on a similar research topic: he will study the influential and controversial periodical *Commentary* and its editor Norman Podhoretz. His research will focus mainly on the years 1960-1981 when, under Podhoretz’s editorship, *Commentary* shifted from being a New Left magazine during the 1960s to becoming a platform for Neo-Conservative America in the following decade. This led to heavy criticism from numerous liberal politicians, writers and intellectuals. The aim of this study is to write a history of *Commentary* and its influence on

America’s political and cultural life. Both Norman Podhoretz and his successor Neal Kozodoy have agreed to support this research project and to make materials available.

In the autumn of 2000 the RSC signed an agreement of cooperation for another Ph.D. project with the University of Utrecht. Gonny Pasaribu, who graduated cum laude in American Studies from Utrecht University on her M.A. thesis “Rhythm, Rhyme, and Resistance: Hip-Hop Culture and Rap Music in Contemporary Black America,” will work for the next four years as an RSC staff member on a study of the 1960s and 1970s Black Arts Movement and its relationship with Black Power. She is expected to make extensive use of both the RSC holdings on African-American history as well as collections in various archives and libraries in the United States. 



Former editor of *Commentary*, Norman Podhoretz.

*"In the future days, which we seek to make secure, we look forward to a world founded upon four essential human freedoms. The first is freedom of speech and expression.... The second is freedom of every person to worship God in his own way.... The third is freedom from want.... The fourth is freedom from fear.... That is no vision of a distant millennium. It is a definite basis for a kind of world attainable in our own time and generation."*

*Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Message to Congress, January 6, 1941.*

# The Four Freedom Awards:



*The laureates and other dignitaries (from left to right): Anna Eleanor Roosevelt, President of the Roosevelt Institute in Hyde Park; (sitting) Dame Cicely Saunders; former President of Finland Martti Ahtisaari; Polish Foreign Minister Bronislaw Geremek; Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands; Monkombu S. Swaminathan, father of the Green Revolution; Ambassador William vanden Heuvel, Chair of the Roosevelt Institute's Board; Canadian Supreme Court Magistrate Louise Arbour; and Queen's Commissioner of Zeeland Willem T. van Gelder.*

The Four Freedoms Awards are bestowed by the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute on people who advanced the principles of freedom of speech, of religion, and of freedom from want and from fear. Since 1982 the awards are presented in the even-numbered years to international figures in Middelburg, capital city of the Province of Zeeland. In odd-numbered years the medals are awarded to American citizens in Hyde Park, New York, the former residence of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt.

On May 27, during a moving ceremony in Middelburg's Abbey church, attended by Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands and some eight hundred dignitaries from many countries, the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute presented the 2000 awards to five distinguished citizens of the world. In his welcoming remarks Queen's Commissioner of Zeeland Willem T. van Gelder emphasized the historical bonds between the Netherlands and the United States and those between the Dutch royal family and the Roosevelt family in particular. As this event was broadcast live by the Zeeland Regional Television, he briefly addressed his fellow-Zeeuwen in Dutch. Mr. van Gelder then reminded the audience that this was already the tenth awards ceremony in Middelburg and stated that in his opinion these biennial ceremonies should be continued as human rights are still being violated in every part of the world, including Europe.

"We therefore," he said, "need the example, again and again, of those who undaunted by setbacks, again and again keep fighting for a better world." Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., Honorary Co-chair of the Roosevelt Institute, in his response expressed his wish that the new century "be more successful than the century just passed in attaining the Four Freedoms, as FDR said, everywhere in the world."

The awards were bestowed by Anna Eleanor Roosevelt, granddaughter of Franklin and Eleanor, who since January 2000 has served as the Roosevelt Institute's President, and Ambassador William J. vanden Heuvel, who has served with distinction in that position since 1982. He has now become the Institute's Chair of the Board. In his address "Our Own Time and Generation," Ambassador vanden Heuvel made an appeal "to marshal the forces of decency and reaffirm our commitment to freedom. When national sovereignty is used as a shield for barbaric crimes, the international community must assert its larger right to intervene. Our nations have amassed wealth that has never been equaled. Our fathers spent their treasure and spilled their blood to prevent tyrants and thugs from destroying the possibilities of freedom and liberty. We do not serve their memory when we witness genocide and act as though we are helpless, when thousands are killed and millions made refugees by ruthless men whose only ideology is greed and plunder."

# Waging Peace

## The 2000 Winners

The 2000 Four Freedoms Medal was awarded to former President of Finland and widely acclaimed peace negotiator, Martti Ahtisaari, “his great services in protecting the rights of people in countries tormented by civil war and for his commitment to international cooperation.” Upon receiving the Four Freedoms Award from Hans van den Broek, former member of the European Commission and former Dutch Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., Mr. Ahtisaari said that “crisis prevention and peace management are a much more demanding and complicated task than waging a war,” as has been shown time and again in the Balkan conflicts of the past decade. He therefore took this opportunity “to call on the key international actors, including the United Nations and the European Union...to think in a more sustained way about how to implement the peace deals that are drawn up around the negotiating table. In waging peace, it is important to generate the necessary political will and make available the resources to help make that peace self-sustaining.”

The Netherlands' Minister of Foreign Affairs Jozias J. van Aartsen and New York City's Commissioner for Cultural Affairs Schuyler G. Chapin presented the Freedom of Speech Medal to Polish Foreign Minister Bronislaw Geremek in recognition of “his dedication to the fundamental human rights of free speech and political liberty in Poland.” In his acceptance speech Mr. Geremek observed that

the birth of the Polish Solidarity Movement, celebrating its twentieth anniversary this year, was based on FDR's Four Freedoms. Quoting the English poet Milton — “Give me the liberty to know, to utter, and to argue freely according to conscience, above all liberties,” Geremek told the audience that this maxim encouraged him “to take part in the historic events of our times.” He profoundly believed, he said, “it will encourage me also in Poland's drive to be a valued, sufficient and responsible full-fledged member of the European Union.”

For her pioneering work to alleviate the pain and suffering of the terminally ill, her stimulating force to investigate the physical and spiritual needs of dying patients, and in recognition of the international hospice movement she founded, British Dame Cicely Saunders was presented the Freedom of Worship Medal by Rita Kok, spouse of the Prime Minister of the Netherlands, and Zachary P. Morfogen, founder of Hospice and Palliative Care Organizations in the United States. Dame Saunders told the audience that she had learned from her patients “that disability and end of life needs do not mean that creativity and contribution are at an end....Freedom from the burden of pain and other symptoms, from fear and feelings of guilt, if not from increasing weakness, can in its turn free the resilient spirit of a patient and family to find a place for reconciliation and unexpected sources of a sense of meaning.”

Monkombu S. Swaminathan, father of the Green Revolution, was awarded the Freedom from Want Medal for his “extraordinary work as an agricultural scientist [having] saved the lives of countless men, women and children.” He received the medal from Hedy d'Ancona, Chair of NOVIB, and the Rev. F. Forrester Church, Minister of The Unitarian Church of All Souls in New York City. Dr. Swaminathan said he had been inspired by both Mahatma Gandhi and Franklin D. Roosevelt who in his 1937 Inaugural Address put forth the concept that “the test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have little.” The Indian agricultural scientist said he was “firmly convinced that hunger and deprivation can be eliminated sooner than most people consider feasible, provided there is synergy of technology, public policy and social action. This is the major lesson we can learn from the farm revolution that transformed India's agricultural destiny during the last part of the twentieth century.”

The Canadian Supreme Court Magistrate Louise Arbour “whose unprecedented work

*Professor Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., Honorary Co-chair of the Roosevelt Institute (center), with Anna Eleanor Roosevelt (left), granddaughter of FDR and Eleanor, and her daughter Elizabeth Johnston (right).*



*continued on page 12*



# New Acquisitions at the RSC Library

The microform collections at the RSC form an invaluable primary reference resource for scholars of American history. At present they cover many aspects of U.S. twentieth-century history during the presidencies of Theodore Roosevelt through Richard M. Nixon. Also at the RSC are the U.S. State Department records on U.S.-Dutch diplomatic relations from the 1780s through the 1960s. In 2000 grants from the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute and the Zeeland Library enabled the RSC to acquire the following new collections to add to its already unique holdings.

*Papers of the Republican Party, 1911-1980*  
Born in the fervid antislavery atmosphere of the party's 1856 national convention, the Republican National Committee (RNC) has been a forum for intraparty debate on every issue of national importance. The archives of the Republican Party—unpublished until now—provide comprehensive documentation on the political function and evolution of the RNC. This collection consists of two parts. Part I: Meetings of the Republican National Committee, 1911-1980, records a wide range of major national and international issues, from the League of Nations debate to U.S. action in Vietnam, from women's suffrage to the civil rights movement. The materials in this collection form a virtual documentary history of the Republican Party from William Howard Taft to Ronald Reagan. Part II: Reports and Memoranda of the Research Division of the Headquarters of the RNC, 1938-1980, is a complete reproduction of the

files of the Republican Party's Research Division at the National Archives and includes campaign and election analysis, study of population and voting trends, public policy research, analysis of opposing candidates and political organizations, and review of developments in election law and legislative activities.

*Records of the Council on Foreign Relations, 1921-1951*


No private organization has been as influential in the development of twentieth-century U.S. foreign policy as the Council on Foreign Relations. The Council's membership since its founding in 1921 has been drawn from those in business, government, and academia recognized as the nation's opinion leaders in international relations. As such, the research brought forth in these documents is studied at the highest levels of the State Department, the National Security Council, and the White House. This collection illuminates world affairs and the development of foreign policy from the First World War through the Korean War, examining a broad range of military, economic, political, and social developments.

*Papers of the Nixon White House*

As a valuable addition to Richard M. Nixon's Office Files, already at the RSC library, the library now has acquired the H.R. Haldeman Notes of White House Meetings, 1969-1973. As the President's chief of staff and as Nixon's most trusted aide Haldeman attended innumerable White House meetings and was privy to almost every political decision that Richard Nixon made. This collection of Haldeman's extensive and meticulous handwritten notes of these meetings provide the quintessential inside view of the administration.

*Congressional Record*

The *Congressional Record* is indispensable for the study of any political topic in U.S. history and the RSC library in previous years already had acquired the *Congressional Record* for the years 1899-1970. Now, since 2000, the holdings of the library include the *Congressional Record* for the years 1971 through 1980.

To facilitate research, printed finding aids accompany the microform collections. A complete list of the RSC archival materials and audio-visual collection on twentieth-century American history is available on the RSC website on the Internet: [www.roosevelt.nl](http://www.roosevelt.nl) or will be sent upon request. 



The White House (above) is the office and residence of the president. The Capitol (left) is the seat of the U.S. Congress. Together they form the political center of the United States. The RSC library offers historians of U.S. history the White House Papers of Presidents Theodore Roosevelt through Richard M. Nixon and the Congressional Record from 1899-1980.



*"Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choice are prepared to choose wisely. The real safeguard of democracy, therefore, is education."*

*Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Statement on the observance of Education Week, September 27, 1938.*

# The RSC Research Grants Program



*Scholars and staff at work in the library of the Roosevelt Study Center.*


Thanks to a generous contribution from the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute, the RSC is able to offer European students of American history a unique opportunity to do research in the attractive and pleasant ambiance of the RSC library. The library holdings include numerous U.S. historical documents not available anywhere else in Europe. In addition to a per diem of NLG 60, the RSC grant covers travel expenses and a lump sum of NLG 100 for photocopies. The research period at the RSC covered by a grant ranges from a minimum of one week to a maximum of four weeks. The maximum grant is NLG 2,000.

In the year 2000 the following persons received an RSC Research Grant for their projects:

- Arnoud van Steendam (University of Ghent, Belgium), "President Lyndon B. Johnson and the Opposition to the Vietnam War, 1964-1968" (M.A.);
- Nele Schurmans (University of Ghent, Belgium), "Red and White Indians: John Collier and the Indian Reorganization Act, 1934-1945" (M.A.);
- Mark Cohen (University of Keele, United Kingdom), "The Democratic Party and Palestine, 1944-1948" (independent research project);
- Philipp Janssen (University of Cologne, Germany), "The U.S.A. and the Decolonization of the Third World: Political, Economic and Cultural Reform Discourses during the 1960s" (Ph.D.);
- Katerina Padevetova (Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic), "Rhetorical

Styles of Franklin D. Roosevelt and Ronald Reagan: A Comparison" (Ph.D.);

- Zsuzsanna Balizs (University of Pecs, Hungary), "Theodore Roosevelt's European Trip of 1910" (M.A.);
- Włodzimierz Batog (University of Kielce, Poland), "Communicating the Vietnam War to the Public by the Johnson and Nixon Administrations, 1965-1974" (book);
- Roderick Bailey (University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom), "Anglo-American Intelligence Operations and Foreign Policy in the Balkans, 1941-1953" (Ph.D.);
- Raisa Religa (University of Białystok, Poland), "Eleanor Roosevelt's Foreign Travels in the 1950s as Ombudswoman for the World" (M.A.);
- Leen van Hoorde (University of Ghent, Belgium), "U.S. Congressman Fiorello La Guardia and Prohibition" (M.A.);
- David Van Baden (University of Ghent, Belgium), "U.S. and U.K. Policy and the Creation of the State of Israel" (M.A.);
- Laura Caton (University of Cambridge, United Kingdom), "Martin Luther King and the Poor People's Campaign of 1968" (B.A.).

European students seeking a masters or doctorate in American history as well as advanced scholars are invited to apply for the 2001 Research Grants. Application forms and relevant information on the RSC archival collections are available upon request or can be downloaded from the RSC website: [www.roosevelt.nl](http://www.roosevelt.nl). 


# NASA Conference on America as Utopia and Dystopia

*NASA conference organizers Hans Bak (left) and Jaap Verheul (right) with keynote speaker David Nye (center) at the welcoming reception in the RSC exhibition hall.*



From June 14-16, 2000 the Netherlands American Studies Association (NASA), as has become customary, held its annual meeting at the RSC. This time the conference theme was "Dreams of Paradise, Visions of Apocalypse: Utopia and Dystopia in American Culture." The three-day program featured thirty-two speakers: twenty-two from nine European

countries and ten from the United States. The conference covered a myriad of topics and was therefore divided into a number of subthemes such as: New Netherland/New England; the early Republic; icons, spectacles, and monuments; labor and technology; topographical and urban utopias; nineteenth-century and recent fiction; multicultural utopias; and contemporary dystopias and utopias.

Keynote speaker David Nye of the Center for American Studies at Odense University in Denmark, spoke about "Utopian Energies and Dystopian Power." The conference was organized by Nijmegen University's Hans Bak for whom this was the last conference in his capacity as NASA president, and Utrecht University's Jaap Verheul who has now assumed the NASA presidency. A selection of the papers presented at this conference is scheduled to be published in the series *European Contributions to American Studies* of the Amsterdam-based VU University Press. 

## Conference on California Dreams

*From left to right, conference speakers Jan Donkers, Lucas Ligtenberg and Robert P. Swierenga.*



No other state has typified the American Dream more so than California. Since California has a strong presence in American popular culture, it is all the more amazing that the relationship between the Golden State and the Netherlands has never been systematically examined, although there are several remarkable points of contact. Therefore, on October 5 and 6, in cooperation with the Historical Documentation Center for Dutch Protestantism at the Free University in Amsterdam, and as the third in a series on

Dutch-American relations organized by both Centers, the RSC hosted the conference "California Dreams: Historical and Contemporary Relations between the Netherlands and California."

The two-day conference was attended by fifty persons and featured papers on Dutch settlers in California and their agricultural activities, Dutch-Californian business relations, the religious interaction and the strength of ethnic ties, the representation of the Golden State in Dutch literature, and a comparison of the Dutch and Californian film industries. The well-known Dutch author Jan Donkers in his keynote address spoke colorfully about his own experiences in California, whereas the *NRC-Handelsblad*'s New York correspondent Lucas Ligtenberg and the noted Dutch immigration historian Robert P. Swierenga from Holland, Michigan, respectively, presented papers on the successes and failures in Dutch-Californian business relations. In this way, the conference offered a multifaceted panorama of the importance of America's Far West for Dutch-American relations. 



# Just Published

Cartoon from  
*Regulating Morality*


*Breaches and Bridges: Reformed Subcultures in the Netherlands, Germany, and the United States* (Amsterdam: VU University Press, 2000). The ten essays in this volume, edited by George Harinck and Hans Krabbendam, compare the influence of the reformed churches and theology in the Netherlands, Germany, and the United States during the nineteenth century. The various themes dealt with in this collection make it a significant contribution to American and Dutch historiography of the American Reformed Church in the nineteenth century.

*The Dutch-American Experience: Essays in Honor of Robert P. Swierenga* (Amsterdam: VU University Press, 2000). Historian Robert P. Swierenga devoted a large part of his career to exploring the experience of Dutch immigrants in the United States. This volume of eighteen essays, edited by Hans Krabbendam and Larry J. Wagenaar, was presented at a symposium at Hope College in Holland, Michigan in honor of Robert Swierenga on the occasion of his 65th birthday. It represents the latest research on the Dutch in America, focusing on the four central themes in Swierenga's work: the relationship between worldview and immigration, the trek itself, the religious setting, and the role of the individual. The chronology and variety of subjects make this volume a representative survey of the Dutch immigrant experience in the past two centuries.

*Federalism, Citizenship, and Collective Identities in U.S. History* (Amsterdam: VU University Press, 2000). Based upon the Fourth Middelburg Conference of European Historians of the U.S. held at the RSC in April 1999, this volume was edited by Cornelis A. van Minnen and Sylvia L. Hilton. It aims to highlight a number of key aspects of the American experience in forging political, social, and cultural identities from the late eighteenth century to the present time. The fifteen essays in this collection examine several ways in which American quests for identities have been pursued: in the long process of construction of a new nation, in the hard-fought battle between conflicting interpretations of federal republicanism, in the cultural and legal definitions of American citizenship, and in the intersections of identity politics with recreational and economic activities.



*Regulating Morality: A Comparison of the Role of the State in Mastering the Mores in the Netherlands and the United States* (Antwerpen/Apeldoorn: Maklu, 2000). A joint effort of the RSC and the Law Department of Leiden University, this volume, edited by Hans Krabbendam and Hans-Martien ten Napel, is based on a conference held at the RSC in 1999. It offers twelve essays comparing the experiences of state efforts to control moral behavior in the Netherlands and the United States, covering such themes as prostitution and abortion policies, jurisprudence and legislation with respect to euthanasia, and various aspects of family law (divorce, adoption, same-sex marriage).

*The Franklin Delano Roosevelt Four Freedoms Awards 2000* (Middelburg: Roosevelt Study Center Publications, 2000). This nineteenth volume in the RSC Publications series, edited by Cornelis A. van Minnen, contains the speeches delivered by Willem T. van Gelder, Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., William J. vanden Heuvel, Anna Eleanor Roosevelt, and Four Freedoms Awards laureates Martti Ahtisaari, Bronislaw Geremek, Dame Cicely Saunders, Monkombu S. Swaminathan, and Louise Arbour on the occasion of the May 27, 2000 awards ceremony in Middelburg (see this issue of *The Roosevelt Review*, pages 6 and 7). 

## Information

*The Roosevelt Review* is the annual newsletter of the Roosevelt Study Center.

ISSN 1386-9094

For free copies of this newsletter and information on the Center's activities, please contact the Roosevelt Study Center, Abdij 9, P.O. Box 6001, 4330 LA Middelburg, the Netherlands, tel. (31) (0)118-631590, fax (31) (0)118-631593, [rsc@zeeland.nl](mailto:rsc@zeeland.nl) or visit our website: [www.roosevelt.nl](http://www.roosevelt.nl)

*The Roosevelt Review* has been sponsored by a grant from Dow Benelux N.V.



**Editor:**  
Cornelis A. van Minnen

**Photos:**  
*The Paris Review*  
Photodisc, Inc.  
*The Reporter*  
Anda van Riet  
The White House  
Wilma Wijers

**Cartoon:**  
[www.wxs.nl/~bartoons](http://www.wxs.nl/~bartoons)

# A Look Ahead

*Upcoming events at the RSC in 2001*



*The Roosevelt Study Center is located in the medieval Abbey of Middelburg in the Province of Zeeland in the Netherlands.*

## **Theodore Roosevelt American History Awards, April 9**

Selected by a distinguished jury, the RSC presents an annual prize for the three best M.A. theses on an American history topic written by Dutch university students in the preceding academic year. Replicas of Theodore Roosevelt's 1905 Inaugural Medal and prize money will be awarded to the winners, as well as a trip to "Roosevelt sites" in the U.S. for the first prize winner.

## **European Historians Conference on Mobility within the U.S., April 18-20**

For the fifth time in a row the RSC will host the European Historians of the U.S. Conference. This time the theme is "Nation on the Move: Mobility in U.S. History." The conference aims to explore economic, political, religious and other motives of individual or collective mobility, modes of transportation, and developments in routes and transport technology and their impact on American society and culture from colonial times to the present.

## **NASA Conference on Religion in the U.S., June 6-8**

"Religion in America" is the theme of the 2001 Netherlands American Studies Association conference which aims for an interdisciplinary and comparative approach to religion in the United States and Europe. Some of the subthemes to be presented in this conference are: the uniqueness of American religion, intersections of religion, race, and ethnicity in literature, film, and music, the impact of religion on politics and gender issues, and American religious groups outside of the United States.

## **Photo Exhibit on Religious America, June 6-July 27**

Scheduled to be opened at the NASA conference, the RSC in the months June and July will feature the photo exhibit "Picturing Faith: Religious America in Government Photography, 1935-1943." A unique series of photographs by noted photographers such as Walker Evans, Dorothea Lange, and Gordon Parks shows the place of religion in American society during the New Deal era and the early years of World War II.

## **Conference on the Cultural Impact of the Cold War in Europe, October 18-19**

In cooperation with the Netherlands Institute for War Documentation, the RSC has scheduled a two-day conference on the cultural impact of the Cold War in Western Europe during the years 1945-1960, emphasizing its effects on labor relations, public opinion and popular culture.

## **Four Freedoms Awards *continued***

in the field of international law has given the world the hope that the crimes of war will be recognized, remembered, punished and prevented through institutions capable of both judging the truth and enforcing the consequences," received the Freedom from Fear Medal from Carl G. Niehaus, former Ambassador of the Republic of South Africa to the Netherlands, and Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr. The former Chief Prosecutor at the International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda in The Hague, in her acceptance speech said, "Today, some fifty years after the advent of the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, fifty years also after the Nuremberg and Tokyo trials, this

new era of human rights is marked by the dramatic passage from declaring rights to enforcing rights." In her opinion, "If we can eradicate fear, through the institutions of democracy and justice, creating a safe environment tolerant of dissent and difference, I believe we will succeed in liberating both the oppressed and their oppressors."

To conclude the ceremony, on behalf of the Roosevelt family, Elizabeth Johnston, daughter of Anna and great-granddaughter of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, recited a poem written especially for the occasion. The speeches delivered at the tenth Four Freedoms Awards ceremony in Middelburg have just been published as volume 19 in the Roosevelt Study Center Publications series and copies can be ordered from the RSC. 