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**THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY SECURES MAJOR FOUNDATION
SUPPORT FOR NEW INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS RESEARCH INITIATIVES**

New Programs Will Focus on Global Security

WASHINGTON – The George Washington University’s Elliott School of International Affairs has received nearly \$2 million in grant funding from Carnegie Corporation of New York and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation to lead three cutting-edge international affairs research programs: the Rising Powers Initiative, the Project on Middle East Political Science and the Program on New Approaches to Regional Security Eurasia (PONARS). These initiatives will enhance scholarship and public policy awareness and inform international policymaking on global security issues.

“These generous grants testify to the important role the Elliott School plays in illuminating the issues and informing the policies that powerfully affect our nation and the world,” said GW President Steven Knapp.

The Rising Powers Initiative will examine the internal foreign policy dynamics and identity issues of China, India, Russia, Iran, Japan, South Korea, and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)—actors whose behavior on the international stage will significantly influence U.S. global engagement and international politics in coming years. A series of regional seminars and roundtables, coursework, Washington briefings, Web site development and a published book volume will enhance scholarship and public policy awareness of domestic debates within these countries about their place in Asian and world affairs. This initiative, led by GW international affairs faculty members Deepa Ollapally, Henry R. Nau and Mike Mochizuki is housed in the Elliott School’s Sigur Center for Asian Studies, and is supported by a \$349,900 grant from the Carnegie Corporation and a \$300,000 grant from the MacArthur Foundation.

With a \$475,000 grant from the Carnegie Corporation, Marc Lynch, director of GW’s Institute for Middle East Studies, will lead an effort aimed at building political science expertise in the United States about the Middle East. The initiative will develop Middle East specialists, who are underrepresented currently in political science and international relations despite the significance of the region in global politics, economics, and national security. The initiative will create a network of scholars; provide outreach, training and opportunities for younger scholars to engage with peers, mentors, policymakers and journalists; integrate regional expertise into public and policy debates and prepare junior faculty for hiring and tenure at leading universities. This initiative will include the development of a high impact outlet for online publication.

In addition, The George Washington University will now lead the Program on New Approaches to Regional Security (PONARS) Eurasia. Founded in 1997 as a multinational network of scholars, PONARS Eurasia seeks to catalyze and sustain collaboration between U.S. and Eurasian scholars on issues that are vital to global security and that play out throughout Eurasia, such as nuclear proliferation, ethnic conflict, terrorism, energy security, economic reform, climate change, state-building, and

a host of others. PONARS Eurasia is supported by a \$751,500 grant from Carnegie Corporation.

"These three initiatives will substantially enhance international understanding of some of the most important regions and some of the most dynamic challenges in the world today. These programs are superb examples of how GW's Elliott School of International Affairs is bridging the academic and policy communities, bringing scholars and policy experts together, and making our world a better place," said Michael E. Brown, dean of GW's Elliott School of International Affairs.

The George Washington University's Elliott School of International Affairs is one of the world's leading schools of international affairs. Located in the heart of Washington, D.C., its mission is to educate the next generation of international leaders, conduct research that advances understanding of important global issues and engage the policy community in the United States and around the world.

Carnegie Corporation of New York is a philanthropic foundation created by Andrew Carnegie in 1911 to do "real and permanent good in this world." The foundation works to achieve a more secure, peaceful and prosperous world through programs to meet global security challenges through nonproliferation, reduction and eventual elimination of nuclear weapons; improving approaches to states at risk of instability or collapse; and enhancing U.S. global engagement.

The MacArthur Foundation supports creative people and effective institutions committed to building a more just, verdant, and peaceful world. In addition to selecting the MacArthur Fellows, the Foundation works to defend human rights, advance global conservation and security, make cities better places, and understand how technology is affecting children and society. More information is at www.macfound.org.

For more information on the Elliott School of International Affairs, please visit:
<http://www.gwu.edu/~elliott/>

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