

# STRATEGIC VISIONS MAGAZINE

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## News & Updates

### **Hitchcock Brings Hertog Seminar in Grand Strategy to CENFAD**

Dr. William I. Hitchcock, professor of history at Temple University and, until recently, CENFAD's acting director, launched an initiative that has culminated in making the center the beneficiary of one of America's leading philanthropists. Roger Hertog, the retired vice chairman of Alliance Bernstein and the winner of the National Endowment for the Humanities medal for philanthropy, has spent the last eleven years bestowing more than \$100 million of his own money on what he considers worthy causes. Following negotiations with Hitchcock and Dr. Richard H. Immerman, CENFAD's director, Hertog has chosen Temple University as a site for replicating Yale University's "Grand Strategy" course – a yearlong seminar on military strategy taught by Charles Hill, John Lewis Gaddis, and Paul Kennedy.

Dr. Immerman spelled out the details of CENFAD's arrangement with Hertog in a announcement to Temple's History Department in mid-April 2009: "CENFAD is pleased to report that thanks primarily to the efforts of Will Hitchcock, the Hertog Foundation has made a significant gift to establish the Hertog Seminar in Grand Strategy at Temple University. We are among a group of five universities receiving support for similar projects. The seminar will be housed in CENFAD, and the initial gift will allow us to run the program for three years.

"The Hertog Seminar is composed of three parts. First, Will and I will co-teach a seminar that explores the foundations and practice of grand strategy, which we define as "a way of thinking about power." That course will be open to undergraduates and graduate students, and funding will be available for research projects associated with the course. This latter dimension is especially advantageous to graduate students.

"Second, working in conjunction with the Foreign Policy Research Institute in Philadelphia, CENFAD will form a Consortium on Grand Strategy, made up of academic scholars and practitioners who are located in the mid-Atlantic area. This group will meet six times each academic year to discuss scholarship and recent findings.

"Third, using FPRI's journal *Orbis*, the seminar will publish selected work of those scholars and students who participate in the Seminar and Consortium.

"This should evolve into an outstanding program, with great potential to advance the mission of both CENFAD and Temple University at large. We expect eventually to develop a program of public lectures attendant to the Seminars. We will of course issue

updates on developments. In the meantime, because ‘grand strategy’ is a central concern of CENFAD’s associates, supporters, and friends, and because many of you bring to the subject both expertise and insight, we invite any and all ideas related to the Hertog Seminar. Simply email them to either Will ([whitch@temple.edu](mailto:whitch@temple.edu)) or me ([rimmerm@temple.edu](mailto:rimmerm@temple.edu)).”

According to an interview Hertog gave to *Wall Street Journal* in May 2008, he does not believe in making unrestricted gifts to academe. He believes in setting benchmarks for the programs he supports to ensure that they achieve the goals that he envisions for them. There can be no doubt that CENFAD, its associates, and students will expend every effort to meet this challenge and ensure that the Hertog Seminar in Grand Strategy remains at Temple. In the meantime, the next three years should be the liveliest yet in the center’s history.