



# Jefferson Scholars Foundation

## National Fellowship Program 2018 Fall Conference

The Jefferson Scholars Foundation hosted an exceptional fall conference at its facilities this October, giving the [2018-19 cohort of National Fellows](#) an opportunity to share their project summaries, exchange resources, attend skills-building workshops, and engage with alumni.

Jon Zimmerman, professor of the history of education at the University of Pennsylvania, returned for the tenth year with his workshop on composing an op-ed “that gets noticed,” and to obvious great effect—National Fellow, Pedro Regalado’s op-ed on [Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez](#) was published in *The Washington Post* less than a month later. Congratulations, Pedro!

Yoni Appelbaum, a senior editor at *The Atlantic*, returned for a second year to share his thoughts on career strategies and regaled the Fellows with stories of his own career choices. And though the Fellows are quite adept at public-facing presentations, all relished a deeper dive into the art of communicating through one-on-one sessions with Marcia Pentz, assistant professor and communications coordinator at U.Va.’s McIntire School of Commerce.

Chris Loss, associate professor of public policy and higher education at Vanderbilt University, and National Fellow alumnus (’05) was the conference’s keynote speaker, delivering a scholarly summary of the history of the dissertation. The National Fellows were joined by Jefferson Scholars Foundation staff and Jefferson Fellows. Fast-paced and rewarding, the National Fellowship Conference was a great success this fall.

We look forward to the spring conference which will take place at the Jefferson Scholars Foundation on May 15-16, 2019. National Fellows will present their final dissertation chapters in a public forum. We will welcome many “dream mentors”, including former National Fellow Margaret O’Mara (University of Washington), Lizabeth Cohen (Harvard University), Kristen Goss (Duke University), John McNeil (Georgetown University), Andrew Needham (New York University), Jim Sparrow (University of Chicago), and Barbara Welke (University of Minnesota).

We hope that if you are in the neighborhood, you will join us for this event.