The National Fellowship Program recently wrapped up another outstanding year culminating in the spring National Fellowship Conference held at the Jefferson Scholars Foundation in Charlottesville, Virginia. Seven National Fellows and their attending Dream Mentors filled the two-day conference in May with distinguished presentations and commentary. Topics included:

- Politics and social identity of the National Rifle Association
- The historical relationship between environmental politics, Cold War political culture, scientific uncertainty, and the social and ecological impacts of the nuclear arms race
- Case studies on rural communities as unique social and legal spaces
- A Post-World War II history of diverse Latina/o economic activity in New York City
- Examination of the U.S. energy crisis of 1970s from the perspective of the coal mining workplace.
- History of technology in the industrial age as a framework for analyzing the construction and regulation of work boundaries in the information age
- Business management expertise in the Cold War U.S. Military

Dream Mentors—Lizabeth Cohen, Kristen Goss, John McNeill, Andrew Needham, Margaret O’Mara (NF ’02), James Sparrow and Barbra Welke—were among the guests who provided commentary to the Fellows’ presentations. The group gathered for a lively dinner with host Bashir Khelafa and his wife, Kathy, at Bashir’s Taverna on Wednesday evening. The conference concluded on Thursday afternoon with director, Brian Balogh, declaring it to be “the best yet” (as he does each year!)

The National Fellowship Program is thriving in its third year under the auspices of the Jefferson Scholars Foundation. In addition to three stellar cohorts of Fellows, we have assembled an Alumni Advisory Committee to review the more than 80+ applications that are submitted each year. The process of reading, reviewing, and ultimately selecting the new cohort of National Fellows is an exacting task, and we would like to thank those who have served in that capacity:

- Saladin Ambar (2019)
- Brent Cebul (2019)
- Christy Chapin (2019)
- Christopher Jones (2019)
- Kimberly Phillips-Fein (2019)
- Vanessa Walker (2019)
- Emily Charnock (2017-18)
- Christopher Loss (2017-18)
- Stephen Macekura (2017-18)
- Margaret O’Mara (2017-18)
- Suleiman Osman (2017-18)
- Jon Shields (2017-18)

Our newest cohort of National Fellows will meet for the first time at our fall conference scheduled for September 25-27, 2019 at the Jefferson Scholars Foundation. You will find a list of the 2019-20 National Fellows, their Dream Mentors, and their dissertation titles here.