

**AIMS is a partner in the Grano Speaker Series.**

**The inaugural 2004-05 season featured:**

*The*  
**American Empire**

**Since 9/11**, the United States has abandoned its implied foreign policy of minimal international engagement. Instead, it has undertaken one of the most ambitious and risky ventures in international affairs: the quest to bring democracy to Afghanistan and Iraq. The US may see itself as a reluctant empire, but President Bush has embarked on a policy that may force it to become the very thing it denies and fears – an imperial power.

This series will explore the potential and limits of American power in the 21st century through the ideas of four outstanding thinkers.

*Click on the links below for excerpts of their remarks:*

[September 23 2004 - William Kristol](#)

[November 18 2004 - Michael Ignatieff](#)

[January 20 2005 - Samuel Huntington](#)

[March 10 2005 - John Lukacs](#)

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### **WILLIAM KRISTOL**

William Kristol, one of America's leading political analysts and media commentators, is editor of the influential Washington-based political magazine, *The Weekly Standard*. Before starting *The Weekly Standard*, he led the Project for the Republican Future, where he helped shape the strategy that produced the 1994 Republican congressional victory. Before coming to Washington in 1985, Mr. Kristol taught politics at the University of Pennsylvania and Harvard's Kennedy School of Government and more recently co-authored the New York Times bestseller *The War Over Iraq: Saddam's Tyranny and America's Mission*.



### **MICHAEL IGNATIEFF**

Michael Ignatieff is an internationally known writer and broadcaster. His award-winning television series *Blood and Belonging: Journeys into the New Nationalism*, examined the issue of nationalism in the late 20th century. He has written a number of books including *The Warrior's Honour: Ethnic War and the Modern Conscience* and *Virtual War: Kosovo and Beyond*. His most recent book, *Lesser Evil: Political Ethics in an "Age of Terror"*, examines the tensions between the values of liberal democracies and waging war against terrorism. Mr. Ignatieff is currently Carr Professor and Director of the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy at Harvard University.



### **SAMUEL HUNTINGTON**

Samuel Huntington is one of the most influential political scientists of his generation. He is the Albert J. Weatherhead III University Professor at Harvard University, where he is also Director of the John M. Olin Institute for Strategic Studies and Chairman of the Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies at the Center for International Affairs. Dr. Huntington is the author of over a dozen books including *The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order*, which Zbigniew Brzezinski described as a "tour de force that will revolutionize our understanding of international affairs."



### **JOHN LUKACS**

Described by Jacques Barzun as "...one of the outstanding historians of the generation and, indeed, of our time" he has been praised by critics as a historian who has the literary talents of a novelist, John Lukacs is the author of more than 20 books, including *Outgrowing Democracy: A historical Interpretation of the U.S in the 20th Century*, *The Hitler of History*, and the bestselling *Five Days in London: May 1940*. Professor Lukacs served from 1947-94 as professor of history at Chestnut Hill College, and also served as a visiting professor at many universities, including Columbia, Princeton, Johns Hopkins University, and at the University of Budapest in his native Hungary.