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Association of Centers for the Study of Congress

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Association of Centers for the Study of Congress Launches Inaugural "Congress Week" Sept. 13–17, 2010, to Promote the Study of Congress

The Association of Centers for the Study of Congress (ACSC) will sponsor the first annual **"Congress Week"** with the theme **"Main Street to Capitol Hill." Congress Week (September 13–17, 2010)** is a national initiative which will coincide with the commemoration of **Constitution Day (September 17)**, and it is intended to promote the study of Congress and highlight its significant constitutional roles.

"Main Street to Capitol Hill" will include celebrations and events including lectures and exhibitions tailored to the unique holdings of each of the ACSC's more than 30 member centers. Many ACSC partners house the papers of key U.S. Senators and Representatives, as well as their oral histories and related memorabilia. Among the potential themes and areas of focus to be explored:

- **The processes involved in transforming a local idea or concern into a federal law**
- **The impact of grass-roots citizen participation on Congress and legislation**
- **Historic campaigns and elections**
- **Analyses of landmark legislation**
- **Biographical profiles of individual Members of Congress, stressing Representatives' and Senators' relationship to their particular districts or states**
- **Congress's constitutional responsibility as a representative body**

"The central goal of Congress Week is to foster the study of the U.S. House and Senate, and to promote a wider appreciation for the vital role the legislative branch plays in our representative democracy," said Sheryl B. Vogt, president of the ACSC and director of the Richard B. Russell Library for Political Research and Studies at the University of Georgia. **"Appropriately, the inaugural theme, 'Main Street to the Capitol,' recognizes that this story begins with the diverse constituencies, political priorities, and local interests which fundamentally shape the legislative processes at the national level."**

The ACSC was founded in 2003 as an independent alliance of institutions and organizations that support a wide range of programs designed to inform and educate students, scholars, policy-makers, and members of the general public on the history of Congress, legislative process, and current issues facing Congress. The ACSC encourages the preservation of material that documents the work of Congress, including the papers of representatives and senators, and supports programs that make those materials available for educational and research use. The ACSC welcomes the participation of institutions and individuals committed to our goal of promoting a better understanding of Congress.

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