

Attention: Education/Multicultural/Foreign editors

For Immediate Release

The Hellenic Heritage Foundation and York University establish a Graduate Fellowship in Modern Greek History

TORONTO, November 27, 2006 –The Hellenic Heritage Foundation (HHF) has entered into an agreement with York University to establish *The Hellenic Heritage Foundation Graduate Fellowship in Modern Greek History* within the Faculty of Arts at York University through a donation of \$50,000. The \$50,000 gift will be matched by York University and the Ontario government, which, through the OTSS fund, will match dollar for dollar the combined funds to create a permanent endowment fund of \$200,000. In addition, the University will fund each year a teaching or research assistant position from its own funds.

“Our goal at York University is to become the premiere academic centre for the study of Modern Greek History in North America,” said Dr. Thomas W. Gallant, Professor of History and holder of the Hellenic Heritage Foundation Chair in Modern Greek history, “and this award will help the Department of History to recruit and train the next generation of Greek historians”. The Fellowship will be awarded annually to a student in the Graduate Programme in History, specializing in Modern Greek History beginning in the fall term of 2007. “We are thrilled by the leverage our donation was able to generate in furtherance of Hellenic Studies at York University”, said John Sotos, President, HHF.

York University and the Hellenic Heritage Foundation have an established relationship that is committed to bringing Modern Greek Studies to the forefront. In 2004, *The Hellenic Heritage Foundation Chair in Modern Greek History* at York was endowed with a \$2 million fund. The Hellenic Heritage Foundation contributed 1.5 million, which when combined with a further \$500,000 contribution from York, established the only endowed chair in Hellenic studies in Ontario.

The Hellenic Heritage Foundation is a charitable, non-profit organization established in Toronto in 1996, to raise funds dedicated to the preservation, promotion, advancement and integration of Hellenic education, culture and heritage in Canadian society. From the beginning, the Hellenic Heritage Foundation has focused its fundraising efforts on supporting organizations that encourage and provide higher education in Hellenic Studies; that assist senior citizens of Hellenic descent; that support Hellenic youth to explore their roots and to provide facilities and services focused on preserving and developing Hellenic heritage and culture.

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