



ARTHUR BROOKS SELECTED TO BE PRESIDENT OF AEI

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: *Washington, D.C., July 14, 2008*

Arthur C. Brooks—who is Louis A. Bantle Professor of Business and Government Policy at Syracuse University and a visiting scholar at the American Enterprise Institute—has been chosen by the AEI Board of Trustees to be the Institute’s next president. He will succeed Christopher DeMuth on January 1, 2009. Mr. DeMuth, who has been AEI’s president since 1986, announced last October his decision to step down from the position; he will remain at AEI as a senior fellow.

In announcing the selection, Bruce Kovner, chairman of the AEI Board of Trustees and of the Board’s succession search committee, said, “AEI’s trustees are delighted and very gratified that Arthur Brooks has accepted our appointment. The search for a successor to Chris DeMuth has been thorough, intense, and wide-ranging. We received excellent advice and recommendations from leading academics, business executives, and government officials, and gave serious consideration to many worthy and impressive individuals. The trustees were both unanimous and highly enthusiastic in deciding that Arthur Brooks—by dint of his intellect, accomplishments, character, and devotion to AEI’s work and purposes—is the best possible person to lead AEI in the critical years ahead.”

James Q. Wilson, chairman of the AEI Council of Academic Advisers and also a member of the succession search committee, had this to say: “I have known and worked with Arthur Brooks since the late 1990s when he was a doctoral candidate at the Pardee RAND Graduate School. He is one of America’s outstanding young policy scholars, combining empirical sophistication and philosophical depth to a rare degree. He is also a man of character, conviction, and practical judgment whose research interests span the full range of AEI’s programs. We are immensely fortunate that a man of his talents would devote himself to directing AEI’s research, publications, and institutional development.”

AEI president Christopher DeMuth added, “As a visiting scholar, Arthur Brooks has come to know AEI’s programs and people well. He has become one of the most respected scholars in our halls, and has already brought fresh thinking and inspiration to our endeavors. AEI’s scholars and staff, along with our trustees, are elated that he has agreed to assume the presidency of the Institute. From the beginning, our succession ambitions have depended on finding a new leader of exceptional abilities. These ambitions have been richly rewarded in the person of Arthur Brooks—everyone associated with AEI can look forward to a period of renewal and growth in the range, excellence, and influence of our work.”

In accepting the appointment, Professor Brooks said, “I am thrilled and honored to be asked to serve as the president of AEI. For the last two decades under Chris DeMuth’s visionary and selfless leadership, the Institute has had an extraordinary impact on public policy, from reforming a broken welfare system and improving our public education to dramatically strengthening our national defense. With research ranging between prophetic ideas and technical policy details, AEI has always acted as a steward of American ideals of private liberty, individual opportunity, and free enterprise. Time and again, AEI’s mix of great people and strong values has produced the right ideas at the right time for America and the world. To serve as the Institute’s president in the coming era is a truly wonderful and humbling opportunity, and I am fully committed to building on the Institute’s amazing record of success.”

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Arthur C. Brooks was born in 1964 in Spokane, Washington, and raised in Seattle. He spent twelve years as a professional musician, playing the French horn in more than 1,000 concerts with a variety of ensembles and orchestras and recording seven albums. Beginning in his late twenties, he pursued studies in economics and policy analysis, attaining a PhD from the RAND Graduate School in 1998. He has been on the Syracuse faculty since 2001, teaching courses in policy analysis, microeconomics, public and nonprofit management, and social entrepreneurship at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs and the Whitman School of Management. At Syracuse he has received both the Daniel Patrick Moynihan Award for outstanding teaching and the Birkhead-Burkhead Teaching Excellence Award. He was appointed to the Bantle Professorship in 2007 and was also appointed an AEI visiting scholar that year.

Professor Brooks's research and writing have investigated the connections between culture, politics, and economic life in America. In the past ten years, he has published five dozen academic articles, scores of magazine and newspaper essays, and seven books on subjects ranging from the economics of the arts to philanthropy to military operations research. His most recent books are *Gross National Happiness: Why Happiness Matters for America—and How We Can Get More of It* (Basic Books, 2008), *Social Entrepreneurship: A Modern Guide to Social Value Creation* (Prentice-Hall, 2008), and *Who Really Cares: The Surprising Truth about Compassionate Conservatism* (Basic Books, 2006). He is a member of the editorial boards of seven scholarly journals, a contributing editor for *Reader's Digest*, and a member of several professional advisory boards including that of the John Templeton Foundation.

Professor Brooks's curriculum vitae and a selection of his articles may be found at his AEI homepage, www.aei.org/brooks.

During the remainder of 2008, Professor Brooks will complete a new book, *The Virtue of Vice: Why Bad Things Are Good for Us* (Basic Books, forthcoming 2009); teach his courses in Fundamentals of Policy Analysis and in Nonprofit Management at Syracuse; and work with AEI scholars and managers to prepare to assume his new responsibilities on January 1.

The American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research is a private, nonpartisan, not-for-profit institution dedicated to research and education on issues of government, politics, economics, and social welfare. Founded in 1943, AEI is home to some of America's most accomplished public policy experts—from economics, law, political science, defense and foreign policy studies, ethics, theology, medicine, and other fields.

AEI's purposes are to defend the principles and improve the institutions of American freedom and democratic capitalism—limited government, private enterprise, individual liberty and responsibility, vigilant and effective defense and foreign policies, political accountability, and open debate. Its work is addressed to government officials and legislators, teachers and students, business executives, professionals, journalists, and all citizens interested in a serious understanding of government policy, the economy, and important social and political developments.

Further information about AEI's purposes, policies, and management is available at www.aei.org/about. Its website, www.aei.org, and subsidiary websites, including www.american.com and www.reg-markets.org, post AEI's publications, videos and transcripts of its conferences, biographies of its scholars and fellows, and schedules of upcoming events.

Arthur C. Brooks will be AEI's eleventh president. The names and terms of his predecessors are listed below.

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| Lewis Brown | 1943–1945 |
| John O'Leary | 1945–1946 |
| Sinclair Weeks | 1946–1950 |
| Lewis Brown | 1950–1951 |
| Albert J. Hettinger, Jr. | 1951–1953 |
| Allen D. Marshall | 1954–1962 |
| William J. Baroody, Sr. | 1962–1978 |
| William J. Baroody, Jr. | 1978–1986 |
| Paul W. McCracken | 1986 |
| Christopher DeMuth | 1986–2008 |

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