
Naples Council on World Affairs' News & Views

Fall 2015 Editor: Frank Kolhatkar



“Think Globally... Act Locally”

OUR MISSION:

To educate, inspire and engage our community in international affairs and critical global issues.

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President's Message



Donna L. Suddeth
President

“Think globally, act globally” is what came to mind while being treated to a tour and “briefing” of the international programs at my alma mater, the University of Washington (UW) in Seattle. Recognizing that many of you may consider having gone to a school on the West Coast as an experience in “foreign” living, I do refer to actually leaving our borders.

Being a member of the Naples Council on World Affairs (NCWA) indicates that you understand the

importance of being well informed about foreign affairs.

And, by extension, contributing to the NCWA so that selected students can attend international programs, both within and outside our borders, indicates an appreciation of the importance of our youth developing a thirst for knowledge of our world.

The UW has two programs, one that focuses on sending students overseas and one that focuses on integrating foreign students into campus life. Before discussing the NCWA programs, I want to comment on the domestic aspect of the UW’s international program. One of the students to whom we spoke is here from Kuwait. In chatting with him, he mentioned that it is not at all unusual for students to not know where Kuwait is. In thinking about the Gulf War, I was having a difficult time grasping the fact that students would not know where Kuwait is; that is, until I realized the Gulf War took place 25 years ago, before almost all of these students were even born. This lack of knowledge highlights just how important what we do is.

Through the Outreach Committee, our “domestic” international program is our Academic World Quests.

They are designed as competitions with the objective being having students (middle school and high school) learn about their world, touching on various topics, i.e., geography, world capitals, current events, world leaders, etc., The winners of the high school competition go to Washington, DC, to participate in the national competition. I like to think that I am “smarter” than the middle-school students (most of the time, anyway), but, I’ll “take the fifth” when it comes to the high school students! You are all also invited to attend these competitions and test your knowledge.

The other aspect of our international programs through the Outreach Committee is providing students with international experiences, through programs held within the US at Georgetown in Washington, DC, and Vermont and then actually sending students overseas. This past summer students went to Botswana, Chile, China, Costa Rica, India, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Tanzania and Thailand. They generally leave their homes with some trepidation not knowing what awaits them, particularly as to home-stays in some of the more remote regions of the world. They come back with an expanded view of the world; and, while we would hope that each one were interested in following a career path in some aspect of international relations (which some do), we can reasonably assume that they will be better informed citizens and will make a difference in the world in which they live. We are grateful for each and every contribution that makes these programs possible. However, we would be remiss if we did not acknowledge the generous contribution of Iqbal and Shelby Mamdani who provided funds to send students to Morocco and Tanzania. We are doing our best to both “think globally and act globally.”

Thank you all.

Donna L. Suddeth, President

Program Committee Report



Mimi C. Gregory
Vice President for Programs

Dear Members, the Naples Council Program Committee is pleased to present our lecture schedule for the 2015-2016 season. Entitled: the “Transformation of our Strategic Foreign Policy Alliances, Continued!” You will see that we have addressed, once again, the “hot topics” facing the world and the changing landscape of our strategic partnerships worldwide. We look forward to seeing

all of you on November 2nd. when Joseph Cirincione opens our season with the Policy and Politics of the Iran Nuclear Agreement.

November 2nd: Joseph Cirincione: “The Policy and Politics of the Iran Nuclear Agreement” The goal of the recently enacted nuclear agreement with Iran is to stop that country from ever getting a nuclear weapon. Can it do that? Joe Cirincione is one of the leading nuclear policy experts in the country. He will share his analysis on why this deal became the most contentious foreign policy issue since the decision to invade Iraq 10 years ago. Mr. Cirincione is President of the Ploughshares Fund.

Program Committee Report *Continued...*

November 16th: Ömer Taspinar: “The Turkish Predicament: From Strategic Ally to Strategic Challenge” Not too long ago, Turkey was hailed as a strategic ally and a model country for the Middle East, exemplifying the compatibility of Islam, democracy, secularism and western orientation. Today, this model is no more. Turkey’s strategic alliance with the United States and its democratic journey has been derailed by a series of challenges ranging from the autocratic tendencies of President Erdogan, to the Kurdish problem at home and regional instability in Syria and Iraq.

December 7th: Mike Mochizuki: “Shadows of World War II: Japan’s Relations with Its Asian Neighbors” A comparison of Japan’s interactions with China, South Korea, and the Southeast Asian countries illuminates the obstacles and opportunities for historical reconciliation in the region and the role that the United States might play. Professor Mochizuki holds the Japan-U.S. Relations Chair at the Elliott School of International Affairs at George Washington University. He is speaking to us on the anniversary of Pearl Harbor.

January 11th: Philippe Le Corre: “Is France Still a Leader?” One year after the Charlie Hebdo bloody attack, the Republic of France is facing a complex mix of issues. From terrorism to migration, not to forget a long-lasting economic slowdown, it is sometimes said that the country is heading towards the unknown. Still, following the somewhat unexpected conclusion of the Greek crisis last June, France has been back at the joint-helm of the Eurozone (with, of course, Germany), and is certainly considered a credible partner by the United States when it comes to security, counter-terrorism and diplomacy. Philippe Le Corre is a visiting fellow in the Center of the United States and Europe at Brookings.

January 25th: Alireza Nader: “Iran After the Deal” Mr. Nader’s talk will focus on Iranian internal dynamics, Iranian foreign policy, and U.S.-Iran relations. As an International Policy Analyst at the Rand Corporation, his research has focused on Iran’s politics, Saudi-Iranian relations since the fall of Saddam, and the rise of the Pasdaran: “Assessing the Domestic Roles of Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps.” Mr. Nader is a frequent guest on the BBC and Al Jazeera and the major networks, and as a Farsi speaker is often on the Voice of America. He received his M.A. in International Affairs at George Washington University.

February 8th: Khalid Koser: “Solving Europe’s Refugee Crisis” Mr. Koser is Chair, World Economic Forum Global Agenda Council on Migration, of the Brookings/London School of Economics Internal Displacement Project. He is also the Executive Director, Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund, and Chair, World Bank KNOMAD Thematic Working Group on Migra-

tion, Security and Development. He is the Editor of the “Journal on Refugee Studies” and his challenge today is that of the European Continent’s greatest migration since World War II.

February 22nd: Heather Conley: “Mr. Putin’s Land Grabs and More” As this is being written, Russia is moving into Syria: with tents for the refugees? Or is each tent protecting a tank from the weather? Or, could it be, [as suspected] the establishment of a new military base along with her “port on the Mediterranean”. Lest we forget, the Arctic land grab is in high gear and Russia’s presence is not to be missed. To fill in the blanks for these issues and the West’s relationship with this new aggressive Russia, we have invited Heather A. Conley, senior vice president for Europe, Eurasia, and the Arctic and director of the Europe Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies to do just that!

March 7th: Graeme Wood: “What Does ISIS Really Want” What is the Islamic State? Where did it come from and what are its intentions? Why is it that we misunderstand the nature of the Islamic State? Following a distinctive variety of Islam, few Western leaders seem to know the answer to the evangelical call of absolute power ISIS wields. Graeme C.A. Wood is a Canadian Journalist and contributing Editor to “The Atlantic”. He lectures in Political Science at Yale.

March 21st: Daniel Markey: “Does Pakistan Still Matter To The United States”? What does our relationship with Pakistan look like after the Bin Laden raid? What should we expect from Pakistan as US Forces depart Afghanistan, and the significance that Pakistan is likely to have to Washington in years, even decades to come. Dr. Markey’s long experience includes adjunct Senior Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations for India, Pakistan and South Asia. He is now senior research professor at Johns Hopkins University’s School of Advanced International Studies.

April 4th: Senator George J. Mitchell: “Can We Achieve Lasting Peace Through Negotiations”? The Naples Council is delighted to welcome Senator Mitchell to our podium. An American lawyer, businessman and politician, Mitchell served as a United States Senator from Maine from 1980 to 1995 and as Senate Majority Leader from 1989 to 1995. Since retiring from the Senate, Mitchell has taken up a variety of positions in politics and business. He has taken a leading role in negotiations for peace in Northern Ireland and the Middle East, being specifically appointed United States Special Envoy for Northern Ireland (1995–2001) by President Clinton and as United States Special Envoy for Middle East Peace (2009–2011) by President Obama.

Great Decisions Program

The Foreign Policy Association (FPA) has announced the eight topics for the 2016 Great Decisions Program. They are:

- Middle East
- The Rise of ISIS
- The Future of Kurdistan
- Migration
- The Koreas
- The United Nations
- Climate Change
- Cuba and the U.S.



Bob McGinn
Chair

The FPA briefing book will be available and distributed in January. Meanwhile the FPA posted a short paragraph on each topic which you can access at <http://www.fpa.org/news/index.cfm>?

Registration for the 2016 Program ends October 30, 2015.

You may register online at our website www.ncwa-fl.org or by calling (239) 649-3942.

The program begins the week of January 18, 2016 and ends the week of March 7, 2016. Do consider joining a wonderful discussion program of important issues.

Our Discussions stimulate intellectual curiosity of our participants...

Membership Report

We have recently finished renewals for the 2015-2016 season. Again we were fortunate to have enough Associate Members to replace those Full Members who didn't renew. Generally Associate Members remain on the waiting list less than a year. In this case all Associate Members who joined on May 1, 2015 or earlier were invited for membership. With this in mind Associate Members who aren't invited are carried forth to the next year without having to pay an additional Associate Member fee.



Bob Erbstein

It's probably worth restating that Associate Members who don't accept the invitation for membership are automatically removed from Associate Membership for next year. The only exception is if Membership was declined because the desired lecture session was unavailable. For those Associate Members who had been Great Decision members, if membership wasn't accepted they are no longer eligible to participate in the Great Decisions program.

Next year we will be starting Membership renewal in mid-February with the goals of completing the process before most members leave town and most importantly to insure membership status is settled before Great Decision renewals begin. Much time and money is spent working with Members who have signed up for Great Decisions but haven't renewed their membership. Since membership is a prerequisite for Great Decisions participation, we had put the proverbial cart before the horse, by handling registration the way we've been doing. Your cooperation in handling this change will be much appreciated.

Having Associate members available to replace existing members is a tribute to the quality of our organization and the willingness of members to share our activities with friends. This is much appreciated, especially with lectures now available on the website and the opportunity for Associate members to view them and participate in all other activities.

Website Report

Increasingly the website is being viewed as part of a broader communications vehicle between members and their organization. Recording of lectures is part of this along with email blasts notifying members and Associate Members when they are posted for viewing. Reminders for scheduled and CSA (Committee for Special Activities) lectures and events have typically been supported by email blasts. Further effort will be made to use these to highlight the occurrence of outreach activities and increase membership participation with programs involving the youth in our community.

To insure you receive emails, please confirm that your email address in your profile is up to date. We are always looking for new features to improve the use of the website to members. If you have any suggestions please send to them to erbsteinb@embarqmail.com.

SW Florida Model United Nations Program

This section of the newsletter will tell you about one program of the many that our Council supports—the Southwest FL Model United Nations. A few of our accomplishments:

Since the last newsletter a high school graduate Joel Davis, who participated in the Model UN was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. And to our credit, he stated that he chose his goal of serving an international humanitarian need (establishing worldwide educational/support groups for young women who have been sexually abused) as a result of his experience in our Model UN program.

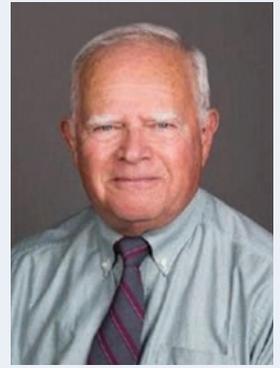
Robert King, a retired Partner of Price Waterhouse Coopers, a member of the NCWA and a longtime volunteer with the Model UN has notified us that he will fund an annual scholarship to one of the winning delegates at future Model UN sessions.

For the first time we are working more closely with the FGCU/Model UN Club to plan the 2016 session. They bring valuable past experience and knowledge of other Model UN programs to our planning sessions. They are enthused and most capable.

We are very pleased that the Seacrest and Barron Collier High Schools will join the Model UN competition.

On behalf of all of our volunteers who make this program so successful, I write “thank you.”

Earl H. Anderson, Chairman
Model UN Committee



Earl Anderson
Chair



Model UN Students



Outreach Committee



Jan R. Guben
Chair

The 2014-2015 year was a great success for the Outreach Committee and we look forward to building on that success with an even greater 2015-2016 year. Last year we were able to send 12 students who had completed their junior year of high school on Experiment in International Living (“EIL”) travel and learning programs. These students traveled to Botswana, Chile, China, Costa Rica, India, Mexico, Mongolia and Morocco. Please see the photos below of two of our

scholarship recipients, Elizabeth Ullrich and Savannah Irvin during their travels in Botswana and China, respectively. In addition, 5 students attended the Governor’s Institute Program in Vermont and 8 students participated in the Georgetown University Summer Program in Washington DC, enrolled in International Relations and National Security courses. All of the scholarship recipients were selected from among a much larger group of amazingly qualified students through an application and interview process staffed exclusively by members of the Outreach Committee. Those attending the Monday lectures will have the opportunity to hear from several of the recipients who, in brief reports, will describe their travel and learning experiences.

This year NCWA has added the Student Diplomacy Corps (“SDC”) as another partner to EIL in providing travel programs for students and renaming the program Summer Cultural Ambassadors. Students will now have more choices of countries and programs than in the past. Details on

countries and programs available can be seen on the websites of each of the organizations mentioned above. Scholarships are available for qualifying 11th graders and the application and more information will be posted on the NCWA website in late October. The interview process will begin in late January or early February to determine the 2016 recipients.

In addition to the travel-study programs of NCWA, the Outreach Committee also sponsors the Middle School Academic World Quest (“MSAWQ”) and High School Academic World Quest (“HSAWQ”). In cooperation with the Collier County school system, these two contests pit teams of Collier County middle and high school students representing their respective schools in competition against one another in an academic challenge related to Social Studies. The MSAWQ will be held on Saturday February 6, 2016 and the HSAWQ will be held on Saturday March 5, 2016, both at The Community School of Naples.

Finally, we will be looking to expand an Alumni group created and developed last year by Dan Bumstead with the assistance of Sarah Davenport and Nathan Brown. The group held its first meeting in June and, subject to schedules, will be looking to schedule additional meetings during the 2015-2016 year when the alumni of the NCWA scholarship programs are available. We have a very busy schedule and a very excited and hard-working committee that oversees each of the programs described above. Needless to say we are always looking for new and additional members to our committee who share our interests and commitments. If you are interested please contact me at janguben@gmail.com.

...We reach out and support the next generation



Elizabeth Ullrich in Botswana



Savannah Irvin in China

Would you like to join us for lunch with the speakers?

We are gearing up for another stimulating season of speakers. If you would enjoy attending a round-table discussion with a few of them, joining the **President's Club** provides that opportunity.

The President's Club requires a contribution of \$250.00 or more, and, your name(s) will be included in the President's Club listing in the directory. If you have not contributed or would like to increase your contribution to reach the President's Club level, there is still time to do so. Just go to the NCWA web site or call 239-649-3942.

We would enjoy including you in this interesting and stimulating group. It would also give you the opportunity to interact with the Board members.

These contributions help defray the costs of the wonderful programs and opportunities for local students.

Judy Rubinstein, Chair
Hospitality Committee



Judy Rubinstein
Chair

Village Assistance Program (VAP)

Provides modest financial assistance to projects in economically distressed areas in foreign countries where NCWA members are directly involved

Nothing the NCWA does has a more direct and dramatic effect than the grants it makes to deserving programs.

Last year a grant to a village in Africa made fresh and clean water available to a school in place of the filthy, rancid water available before the grant. Before the grant only one meal a day was available. The Chairman at the Village Council was so impressed he made available a plot of land for a community garden making fresh fruit and vegetables available because of the fresh water supply. Prior to this only one meal a day of a coarse grain biscuit was possible. It can't be debated the fresh water made possible a great advancement of the education effort during the five months of its existence. The children's health and daily comfort has resulted.

All programs must be proposed by a Council Member. Full details of the procedure and requirements are available at our website www.ncwa-fl.org under VAP Application.

We would love to hear from you.

Stan Chauvin, Chair VAP



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Lectures on the Radio

Our lecture series is aired on Sunday nights at 8:00 p.m. following the Monday lectures, thanks to our partnership with WGCU.FM and Public Media. Listen on:

- WGCU (90.1 FM) Naples
- WMKO (91.7 FM) Marco Island



Mexico – Veracruz Thatched Bldg.
Which women use as their workplace.



Bicycles for Tanzanian orphans to attend school

NCWA is proud to support the Village Assistance program (VAP)
Thank you, Stan Chauvin, Chair