

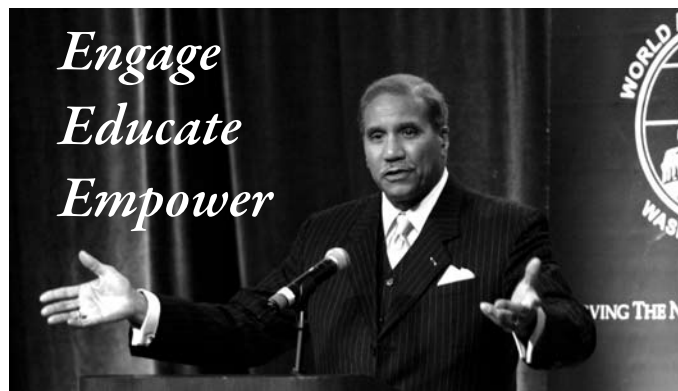
- Highlights from Recent Events
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Global Education Dinner 2007

The World Affairs Council of Washington, DC proudly hosted its 18th Annual Global Education Dinner on Thursday, March 22 at the Willard Intercontinental Hotel. It was a night of recognition, celebration, and tribute to our supporters for their dedication in educating the American public about the important international issues and challenges faced by the world community.

Ms. Julie Caccamise, a local high school teacher at Woodrow Wilson Senior High School, received the Teacher of the Year Award. The Council honored **Mrs. Alma J. Powell**, Chair of America's Promise, with the Global Citizenship Award for her passionate commitment to educating our youth. In her remarks, Mrs. Powell applauded the World Affairs Council, "as it helps to educate young people about the rest of the world." She presented a challenge to those gathered, "to stop and think about how you can help us keep America's promise to the promise of America: our children."

In addition, the Council had the privilege of presenting the **Honorable Carl Levin**, Chairman of the Senate Armed Services



Clockwise from Top: Hon. Togo D. West Jr. addresses the audience, Senator Carl Levin and Mrs. Alma Powell, and Hon. Franklin D. Kramer shares his remarks as Chairman of the World Affairs Council



Senator Carl Levin greets Ms. Caccamise and her students



Former Council Chairman Patrick Gross presents the Global Citizenship Award to Mrs. Alma Powell

Committee, with the Global Service Award. In his keynote speech, Senator Levin described the challenges that our nation and government face today in dealing with international issues. He reflected on a time when he asked a Vietnam War veteran what the United States could do to help our current soldiers, and the veteran responded, "win back the respect of the people around the world for America." Senator Levin stressed that "by understanding the great credibility that can come from our actions, whether we work through international organizations and alliances, and by returning to our highest ideals, we can regain that luster, we can, as that veteran in the VA hospital in Michigan urged, 'win back the respect of the people around the world for America,' and that is something that we must do for our security as a nation." With over 300 honored guests including ambassadors, corporate executives, and members of the Council's Board of Directors, the 18th Annual Global Education Dinner 2007 was truly a night to remember.

Upcoming Events

FOREIGN POLICY SERIES: Disengagement from Iraq

Tuesday, June 19 6:30 – 8:00 PM
Location: CSIS – Conference Center
1800 K St., NW, Washington, DC 20006

Come join the dialogue with Morton H. Halperin, Director of US Advocacy at the Open Society Institute, Major General William L. Nash, USA, Ret, Director for the Center for Preventive Action, Council on Foreign Relations and former Ambassador Edward L. Peck as they discuss whether the disengagement from Iraq will lead to winning the fight against Global Terrorism.



EMBASSY SERIES: Embassy of Indonesia

Thursday, June 14 6:30 – 8:30 PM
Location: Embassy of Indonesia
2020 Massachusetts Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20036

Ambassador Sudjadnan Parnohadiningrat has graciously invited World Affairs Council members for an evening at the Embassy of Indonesia. Ambassador Parnohadiningrat will speak on Indonesia's foreign policy goals and relationship with the United States and the Asia-Pacific region, followed by a short question-and-answer session. Guests are then invited to enjoy a reception and a performance of traditional Indonesian dance. Come and enjoy an evening of Indonesian culture and hospitality.

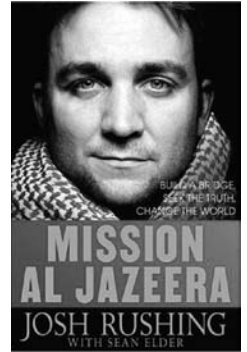


Find more information on these and other events at:
www.worldaffairsdc.org

AUTHOR SERIES: Josh Rushing – Mission Al Jazeera

Thursday, June 28 6:30 - 8:00 PM
Location: NAHB-Conference Center
1201 15th St, NW, Washington, DC 20005

Blending his riveting personal story with innovative ideas about how to win the War on Terror, former Marine-turned-Al Jazeera reporter Josh Rushing addresses cross-cultural communications head on. If we are to win the War on Terror, Rushing explains, we must actively engage with the media at home and abroad in order to positively influence the way we are perceived and understood. By refusing to appear on Al Jazeera and other networks, Rushing argues that Western leaders allow the perpetuation of a skewed, negative view of the War on Terror and Western policy generally. By taking readers inside Al Jazeera, Rushing offers a unique behind-the-scenes look at the controversial news channel and shows how the West can harness this media to its advantage, relay a positive message to the Arabic-speaking public, and hear what they have to say in return.



Josh Rushing works for Al Jazeera English as a military and current affairs correspondent. While providing news packages and insight on military issues, Rushing also shoots thought-provoking stand-alone specials and long-form documentaries. A former U.S. Marine captain with 15 years of service, he was a spokesman at Central Command in Doha, Qatar during operation Iraqi Freedom and today remains engaged with the military, frequently speaking at West Point and elsewhere. He has appeared on *The Today Show*, *Anderson Cooper 360*, and *The O'Reilly Factor*.

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World Affairs Council of Washington, DC

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Highlights of Recent Events

Ambassador Series, Foreign Policy Series, and Distinguished Speakers

Ambassador Series Event on Syria *

How has Syria contributed to the present crises in the Middle East? Does the world public have an accurate perception of Syria? In order to better understand US-Syria relations, the World Affairs Council of Washington, DC hosted a presentation by **H.E. Imad Moustapha**, Syria's Ambassador to the United States. The audience at the National Press Club on Monday, January 22, gained a new perspective on the current troubled phase in US-Syria relations. Ambassador Moustapha emphasized the importance of maintaining good relations with the US, and that "it is not in [Syria's] national interest to be regarded as a hostile nation." In fact, Syria has persistently expressed its willingness to cooperate with the US to enhance the level of political engagement. It has pursued a "role of brokering for peace, not launching one war after another." Syria hopes for improvements in the political situation in the Middle East, as its primary efforts are focused on stabilizing the current environment in Iraq and regenerating the Arab-Israeli peace process. "Iraq is our neighbor," said the Ambassador, "and the Iraqis are our brothers and sisters."



Ambassador Series Event on Afghanistan

Afghanistan today struggles with growing frustration and distrust on the part of its citizens, who face an unreliable government, inadequate security forces, escalating insurgent violence, and questionable economic habits. How can we support Afghanistan in its efforts towards stability and improvement? On Monday, February 5, the World Affairs Council continued its Ambassador Series with a presentation by the US Ambassador to Afghanistan, **Ronald E. Neumann**. Drawing on extensive knowledge and experience in the Middle East and elsewhere, Ambassador Neumann proposed that the country be reconstructed as a quasi-democracy that will address issues such as social justice, women's empowerment, and other needs of ordinary Afghans. He argues that Afghanistan must be provided with sufficient resources, comprehensive aid, sound institutions, and political will to regain public support in order to build a more secure, legitimate, and peaceful nation that is beneficial to its people, the region, and the world.



* *Transcript available at www.worldaffairsdc.org under "Recent Events"*

The Annual Washington Post Panel

The National Press Club on Thursday, March 1 was packed with over 200 guests who welcomed five expert journalists from The Washington Post. These foreign news editors and correspondents discussed issues that ranged from global climate change and polar bears in Canada to Europe and trans-atlantic relations, from the implications of the Sunni-Shiite conflict and the internal violence in Lebanon to recent developments in both Afghanistan and Iraq. The panelists engaged in open dialogue with the audience about the tough issues faced by our nation and the international community. The event truly furthered the Council's mission to educate and engage the public on international issues.



Counterclockwise from top right: Moderator Leonard Downie, Jr., Editors Douglas Struck, Anthony Shadid, Pam Constable, and Keith Richburg

Author Series Event on China *

On April 12, Dr. Susan Shirk, the former Deputy Assistant Secretary of State in the Bureau of East Asia and Pacific Affairs during the Clinton administration, shared her knowledge and expertise on China's worldviews. As the author of the recently published book, *China Fragile Superpower*, Shirk presented the fragility of China's leaders that affects their domestic and foreign policy choices. Despite the political insecurity of China's leaders, there is evidence of a growing nationalism that allows the Communist Party to remain in power. The audience gained a better understanding of this reality that is deeply rooted in China's historical legacy of its culture, society, and political institutions.



Summer Institute on International Affairs

With a 26-year record of providing international programming for educators and students, the World Affairs Council of Washington, DC sponsors education programs with local and national schools in its continued endeavors to expand the understanding and awareness of global issues.

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For fourteen years, the Summer Institute has served as an accurate and up-to-date resource on international affairs for high school and middle school teachers from across the country. This year the Institute will bring together about sixty educators in Washington DC for the week-long session to discuss the emergence of the Middle East as a key economic and political player in the world today and the implications of the recent changes for the Middle East, the U.S. and the global community. Sessions offer teachers the opportunity to interact with foreign policy experts and other educators, while expanding their horizons and developing new skills to bring world issues into the classroom.



Meet Our Spring Semester Interns

Garrett Shields

Garrett graduated in 2005 with a BA in History, receiving a minor in Spanish after studying abroad in Spain and Mexico. He will begin his graduate studies for a Master's in International Relations this fall with Johns Hopkins SAIS. He will complete his first year of the program in Italy with the SAIS Bologna Center.

Yuko Hirayama

Yuko is a junior studying political science and international relations at Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA. While studying at American University's Washington Semester Program, she pursued an internship at the World Affairs Council of Washington, DC. This May, she will continue her affiliation with the Council at the World Affairs Council of Orange County in Southern California.