

2023 AWARDS LUNCHEON: CELEBRATING DEMOCRACY & DEVELOPMENT

On November 9, the Academy welcomed over 150 guests to its 34th Annual Awards Luncheon held at the Benjamin Franklin Diplomatic Reception Room at the State Department. The Luncheon was officially hosted by the Acting Deputy Secretary, Victoria Nuland, although more pressing global crises pulled her away at the last minute. Instead, Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources Richard Verma welcomed the Academy's guests to the program. The focal point of the presentation was the recognition of Ambassador Marie Yovanovitch for her diplomatic skills, moral courage, and her devotion to duty and the Constitution with the Academy's prestigious Annenberg Award for Excellence in Diplomacy.

The other key highlight of the event was the introduction of a new award, the Henrietta Fore Award for Excellence in Development, endowed by and named after Academy member Ms. Henrietta Fore. The first Fore Award was granted to Dr. M. Peter McPherson for his extensive career in the field of development. The Committee responsible for selecting the Fore award also presented a special certificate of recognition to the Locally Employed Staff of Afghanistan for their vital contribution to the development efforts.

Michele Kelemen, a Diplomatic Correspondent of NPR and Thomas Friedman of the New York Times received the 2023 Arthur Ross Media Award for their distinguished reporting and analysis on foreign affairs. Steve Kemper received the Douglas Dillon Book Award for his book, "Our Man in Tokyo: An American Ambassador and the Countdown to Pearl Harbor," which explores Ambassador Joseph A. Grew's ceaseless efforts to prevent war during his nine-year mission in Japan (1932-1941).

BLUEPRINTS IMPLEMENTATION: ROUGH GOING SO FAR

This fall, the Academy continued to push for the implementation of recommendations laid out in the Blueprints for a More Modern U.S. Diplomatic Service, although the process has been very slow and difficult. On the Hill, the Academy's project team met with 22 offices (12 on the Senate side and 10 on the House side) about strengthening and expanding mid-level education and training as well as establishing the Diplomatic Reserve Corps.

Most offices seem to be generally receptive to AAD proposals, although many Republicans appear to be wary of proposing any actions that require spending increases or being the sole Republican sponsors of bipartisan legislation. The offices that are the most dedicated to the diplomatic causes include Senators Ben Cardin (D-MD), Bill Hagerty (R-TN), and Tim Kaine (D-VA), and Representatives Sara Jacobs (D-CA) and Michael McCaul (R-TX). Yet, even they have not been able to step up as champions of any of the Blueprints' proposals.

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The challenging political environment on the Hill also impacted the general legislative processes. Despite the extensive outreach by Ron Neumann, Mike Van Dusen, and Graeme Bannerman in both chambers, the Senate draft of the State Authorization bill was released in June following a closed-door conference consultation of the majority and minority staffs rather than a public markup process and did not include any of the language on diplomatic education and training advocated for by the Academy. On the House side, due to vast partisan disagreements, drafting a State Authorization was difficult but was finally accomplished as part of the FY24 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). The NDAA also includes substantial provisions on multilateral diplomacy, which drew significantly from the Academy's report on the same subject (see p. 3 below).

The attention of the State Department has also been diverted away from issues highlighted in the Blueprints due to multiple international crises and heightened congressional demands. However, in early December, the Academy's project team did get a unique opportunity to speak over dinner with Deputy Secretary for Management and Resources, Ambassador Richard Verma, to discuss how the Blueprints proposals for training and the Diplomatic Reserve Corps can help advance Secretary Blinken's State Department Modernization agenda.

At this point, the Academy is still hopeful that small portions of the Blueprints recommendations might still be included in the appropriators' congressional report. Aside from that, the project team is already focusing on the next year and gearing up to build further upon the groundwork that has been laid this year.

BUILDING SUPPORT FOR THE BLUEPRINTS ACROSS THE US

To further build support for the recommendations of the Blueprints report, the Academy's project team successfully completed 11 speaking programs at World Affairs Councils across the country. These programs allowed the Academy to leverage the expertise of its members and increase the public awareness of the steps needed to modernize the US diplomatic service. The programs included speaking engagements, meetings with local business leaders and government officials, visits to high schools and college campuses, and interviews with the local media. So far, the results of these efforts include 28 in-person speaking engagements, which reached hundreds of attendees. Two more programs will take place in 2024.

The most intensive programs featured Ambassador Charlie Ray's visit to the Peoria Area World Affairs Council and Ronald Neumann's visit to Utah Global Diplomacy in Salt Lake City. Ambassador Ray's visit included a dinner with Board members of the World Affairs Council of Central Illinois, a luncheon hosted by Board members of the Peoria Area World Affairs Council with the Mayor of the City of Peoria, Rita Ali, an episode of "At Issue" for the local PBS affiliate, WTVP, an interview with Tim Shelley at WCBU Peoria Public Radio, and several college campus visits, including to Lincoln Land Community College, Bradley University, and Illinois State University.

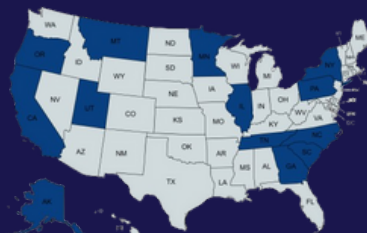
Ambassador Neumann's visit to Salt Lake City included a breakfast in partnership with World Trade Center Utah that welcomed local policymakers, key global business leaders, and other community leaders, an interview with Inside Sources KSL Radio host Boyd Matheson, a campus visit to Westminster University, and a speaking engagement at the council's Tribute Dinner intended to thank Global Utah's volunteers and donors.

Special thanks to speakers Marc Grossman, Ronald Neumann, Michael Polt, Jo Ellen Powell, Charlie Ray, Marcie Ries, Dan Smith, and World Affairs Council partners for their work on these essential programs.



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ANOTHER CONGRESSIONAL SUCCESS

Despite the problems with the Blueprints report implementation, the Academy scored one major legislative success this fall. The 2023 State Authorization Act within the FY24 NDAA, contains two sections that address multilateral diplomacy and several recommendations in the Academy's 2022 report, *Bringing America's Multilateral Diplomacy Into the 21st Century*, funded by the Una Chapman Cox Foundation.

Sections 6701 and 6702 authorize the Department to fund internships in international organizations and to provide specialized training to officers assigned to US missions to international organizations, or to personnel engaged in multilateral negotiations teams. Furthermore, Section 6201 directs the Department to better integrate multilateral diplomacy into the promotion precepts. The language in all three sections is very similar to Policy Recommendation 1, Practice Recommendations 1 and 2B, and Preparation Recommendations 1, 2A, and 2B made in the Academy's report. Kudos to the report's author, Ambassador Jo Ellen Powell!

This is the third time in five years that the Academy's efforts have led to specific legislation, the other two being changes to the final legislation of the Championing American Business Through Diplomacy Act (CABDA) and the reform of the Accountability Review Board (ARB) legislation last year. This continues to mark the stature of the Academy with the Congress as a non-partisan influence on the conduct of American diplomacy.



RSO AMBASSADORIAL PANEL

The Academy continues to work with the Diplomatic Security part of FSI to facilitate ambassadorial panels as part of the Basic RSO course for agents preparing for their first overseas deployment. Through 6 programs, Academy members spoke to each class, offering the new ARSOs a unique chance to get a front-office perspective before they deploy. The Academy is grateful to those Academy members who gave their time to participate in the 2023 program: Doug Silliman, George Krol, Bob Cekuta, Gordon Gray, Charlie Ray, Gerald Feierstein, and Don Yamamoto.

OUTREACH PROGRAMS

University of Michigan Ambassadors Forum

On September 25, 2023, the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan and the American Academy of Diplomacy co-hosted an in-person discussion panel titled "Opportunities and Challenges in Latin America and the Caribbean," which featured panelists Ambassador John Feeley, Ambassador P. Michael McKinley, Ambassador Liliana Ayalde, and moderator Ambassador Ronald Neumann.



Texas International Leadership School Visit



On September 15, the Academy welcomed high school students from the International Leadership of Texas schools. In a series of discussions held at the George Washington University Elliott School of International Affairs, the students heard from Academy members Ambassador Peter Romero, Ambassador Susan Ziadeh, Ambassador Sylvia Stanfield, and Ambassador William Taylor. Each presentation was followed by a question-and-answer session, during which the students discussed current foreign policy issues and received advice on pursuing careers in diplomacy. They were a brilliant group of students with thoughtful and engaging questions, and it was a pleasure to welcome them to the world of diplomacy.

Hotchkiss Ambassador Speaker Series

The Academy's annual speaker program at Hotchkiss School in Lakeville, CT is still going strong. This year, Academy member Luis Arreaga travelled to Hotchkiss to speak about his path to American citizenship, his career in the Foreign Service, and America's diplomatic relations in Latin America. AAD's program at Hotchkiss was initiated in 2018 by the school's alum and an Academy member Bob Beecroft and has previously featured such Academy members as Molly Williamson, Maureen Quinn, Tom Countryman, and Ron Neumann.



Nebraska Ambassadors Forum

This year's Nebraska Ambassadors Forum focused on "Diplomacy and Development." During the two-part program on October 23-24, Mr. Alonzo Fulgham, Ambassador J. Peter Pham, Ambassador Dawn M. Liberi, and Ambassador Ronald Neumann visited the University of Nebraska campuses at Omaha and Lincoln. Together, they discussed from several perspectives problems surrounding diplomacy and sustainable development, such as famine, refugee flows, and criminal gangs, and responded to questions from students, faculty, and community members.

New Programs: W&M, Vanderbilt, U of Idaho

This year, the Academy established a new partnership with the College of William & Mary. The Academy will help W&M identify Academy members to speak for various national security classes and conferences. W&M then arranges all speakers' logistics to bring them to campus. Academy members Ryan Crocker, James Cunningham, James Foggo, Beth Jones, and Ronald Neumann have spoken at W&M so far, and the program will continue next year. In 2024, the Academy will also begin two new programs - at Vanderbilt University and the University of Idaho. Academy member Lino Gutierrez will be the first speaker to travel to Nashville, TN, in March 2024 to spend a day in various on-campus engagements. While Academy president Ron Neumann will travel to Idaho in April, 2024 for a similar program there.



Arthur Ross Discussions at Monticello

On November 17, the Academy, the University of Virginia Center for Politics, and the Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies co-hosted yet another successful Arthur Ross Discussion of American Diplomacy at Monticello. This year's conference covered the topic of "Democracy in the Americas – The Monroe Doctrine and the Past and Present of US Policy in Latin America." To begin the event, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth Professor Timothy Walker delivered a lecture on the historical foundation of the Monroe Doctrine, with a particular emphasis on Brazil. Following Professor Walker's presentation, Academy members Ambassadors Lino Gutierrez, Donna Hrinak, and Luis Arreaga joined a panel discussion, moderated by Ambassador Ron Neumann, on the present policy challenges and opportunities in Latin America. In the afternoon keynote address, Academy Chairman, Ambassador Thomas A. Shannon, highlighted the past and present of American foreign policy in Latin America. Overall, the event touched on many policy areas related to the region and the legacy of the Monroe Doctrine in its 200th year of existence.



PROGRAMS (CONT.)

Podcasts

Despite the sunsetting of the General and the Ambassador podcast, its student engagement component continues, and the Academy carries on its efforts to reach schools outside of the Beltway and the Coasts, as well as HBCUs.

This year, Ambassador Liliana Ayalde and Ambassador William Roebuck traveled to the University of Minnesota and the University of North Carolina, respectively, for visits with students, faculty, and community members. Ambassador Ayalde's expertise on Latin American and Caribbean affairs was previously highlighted as a guest on an episode of G&A, paired with Admiral Kurt Tidd, where they discussed topics in the region. In an episode with General Jasper Jeffers, Ambassador Roebuck shared his insights into Syria, Turkey, and prospects for 'the unwinnable war.'

Since the Academy's summer newsletter, the American Diplomat podcast has released sixteen new episodes. That brings the total number of episodes hosts Ambassador Pete Romero and Laura Bennet have recorded to 335 since launching in 2017! Recent guests include AAD members Ambassadors Mark L Schneider, John Feeley, Charles Ray, and AAD's very own president Ronald Neumann. Topics discussed include the recent election in Guatemala, Palestine and Israel, and SFRC Chair Bob Menendez's foreign agent charge.



Social Media

Since the summer, the Academy has continued to use multiple social media platforms to celebrate diversity through Heritage Months and even introduced a few new campaigns, including the History of AAD, Spooky Diplomacy, and Holiday Diplomacy. From Mondays with Members to Hispanic Heritage Month, the Academy continues to share the stories of AAD members, the foundations of diplomacy, and to celebrate the beauty of diversity. Please stay tuned in the New Year for all things diplomacy on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram, and Tik Tok!

INTERN OUTREACH SERIES

Every semester, AAD welcomes interns to its team. In addition to assisting the Academy with its day-to-day work, our interns also get to design and implement their individual projects. Below is the list of outstanding and diverse projects completed by our interns.

NAVIGATING THE PAST AND SHAPING THE FUTURE: US-CAMBODIA DIPLOMACY IN THE SHADOW OF THE KHMER ROUGE.

Summer '23 intern, Josh Ford, a junior at Georgetown University, created an in-depth video through a series of interviews with Academy members titled, "Navigating the Past and Shaping the Future: US-Cambodia Diplomacy in the Shadow of the Khmer Rouge." The project featured three former US ambassadors to Cambodia, Ambassador Kenneth Quinn, Ambassador Joseph Mussomeli, and Ambassador Charles Ray, whose stories and insights illustrate the evolution of US-Cambodia relations and the transformative power of diplomacy to nurture understanding, cooperation, and progress.

SPORTS DIPLOMACY: LESSONS AND REFLECTIONS FROM AMERICAN AMBASSADORS

Fall '23 intern Morgan Kogan, a junior at George Washington University, wrote an article exploring the role of sports in American diplomacy titled "Sports Diplomacy: Lessons and Reflections from American Ambassadors." Morgan's piece, written with fellow aspiring diplomats in mind, features several Academy members, including Ambassadors Thomas Schieffer, Bernadette Allen, Liliana Ayalde, Charles Ries, and Barbara Bodine.

Above and Beyond

The success of the Academy's public outreach programs relies greatly on showcasing the vast depth of expertise represented by our members. Over the years, many AAD members have stepped up and continue to step up to participate in various panels, programs, intern projects, and podcasts. However, every year, a small group of members consistently go above and beyond to represent the Academy in three or more different outreach programs, including at least two public speaking engagements. We wanted to take this opportunity to recognize their contribution to the Academy's work.

The member who participated the most was Charles Ray, who was involved in six different AAD programs. Liliana Ayalde and Tibor Nagy participated in four separate programs, and Luis Arreaga, Mike McKinley, and Pamela Spratlen were involved in three AAD programs. Many other AAD members have contributed to our programs throughout the year, and we are grateful to all of them.

Also, we would like to highlight the dedication of AAD Chairman Tom Shannon, who, in addition to providing Board leadership, has spoken at numerous Academy programs and events, including the most recent program at Monticello. Similarly, our Vice Chairman Alonzo Fulgham spoke in Nebraska, responded to numerous intern project requests, and has recently agreed to serve as the Chair of the Development Award Committee, which has been created this year in order to select recipients of the newly established Henrietta Fore Award for Excellence in Development.

Finally, the Academy would like to recognize the work of all Board and Committee members and Chairs, as their work and dedication are vital to the Academy's success.

#GivingTuesday Campaign

The Academy's 2023 #GivingTuesday campaign has been the most successful yet since we started this tradition in 2021. This year, AAD is particularly grateful to Dr. Carol Sisco, who offered to match the first \$5,000 in member contributions given during this campaign. As a result of this match and the generosity of our members, the Academy has been able to meet and exceed that match, finishing up our #GivingTuesday campaign at \$11,755.00.

Academy Member Speaker Series

The Academy ends 2023 having hosted four Academy Member Speaker Series hybrid events featuring six of its members. In October, members joined speakers Secretary Rose Gottemoeller and Mr. Thomas Countryman for a lunch and discussion at the DACOR Bacon House on Russian nuclear behavior, the New START treaty, and nuclear nonproliferation. The Academy thanks its speakers and all who joined in person and via Zoom!



The Academy would like to recognize the 47 members, who went above and beyond in helping us achieve the goal of long-term sustainability by contributing or pledging \$10,000 or more to the Capital Campaign:

Madeleine Albright
John Allen
Hushang Ansary
Robert Blake
Barbara Bodine
Thomas Boyatt
Kate Canavan
Timothy Carney
Charles Cobb
Paula Dobriansky
Shaun Donnelly
Nancy Ely-Raphel
Henrietta Fore
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Tom Nides
Catherine Novelli
Anne Patterson
Thomas Pickering
Francis Ricciardone
Rozanne Ridgway
Charles Rivkin
Peter Romero
George Shultz
Carol Sisco
Ronald Spiers (in memory)
Clyde Taylor
Francis X. Taylor
David Welch
Frank Wisner
John Wolf
Robert Zoellick

2023 New Members

In 2023, the Academy welcomed 21 new members into its ranks. The Membership Committee, chaired by Janice Jacobs, received numerous nominations, ultimately approving 23 to be put to a vote by the Academy membership.

About 65 percent of the Academy's current members voted in the election, which is lower than in the past few years. This year, the election included some procedural changes to avoid the challenges encountered in 2022. Several weeks prior to the election, all Academy members received an opportunity to review and comment on the approved list of nominated candidates before the election. The new process went very smoothly and will become a permanent part of the Academy's new member elections going forward.

Congratulations to the Membership Committee on another successful election year, and welcome to the new members!

IN MEMORIAM

Since the July issue, the Academy has lost one great friend and colleague, Ambassador Langhorne A. Motley (1938-2023). His great service and memory will continue to be honored.



STAFF UPDATE

The Academy's intern program continues to welcome exceptional students from universities nationwide to gain valuable professional experience while working with the team.

During the Fall 2023 term, the Academy team was joined by in-person interns

Morgan Kogan, a junior at George Washington University, and Jovana Vinčić, a senior at Barrett Honors College at Arizona State University. Mariana Melzer, a sophomore at Brown University, joined the Academy virtually from Rhode Island.

Two of our intern alumni, Bob Greenbaum and Josh Ford, returned to the Academy briefly to assist with the 2023 Awards Luncheon. In the Spring of 2024, the Academy team will be joined by Kobe Young, a senior at Texas Tech University.



NEW MEMBERS AT A GLANCE

- 30% women, 14% African American
- U.S. Agencies: State, Agency for International Development, National Security Council, Defense, and Peace Corp
- Int'l Agencies: NATO & the United Nations
- Professorships: American University, George Washington University, George Mason University, University of Texas, and Princeton University

DONORS & PROGRAM PARTNERS

The Academy would like to extend a sincere thank you to our donors, supporters and program partners. Without you, we would not be able to host the programs we do today.

- American Foreign Service Association*
- Arthur Ross Foundation*
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- DACOR Bacon House*
- Foreign Service Institute*
- Henrietta Fore*
- Hotchkiss School*
- Johnston-Hanson Foundation*
- Kent School*
- Leadership, Diplomacy and National Security Lab at Arizona State University*
- Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies at Monticello*
- Sisco Family Fund*
- Thomas Jefferson Foundation*
- Texas Tech University*
- The Dillon Fund*
- Una Chapman Cox Foundation*
- University of Michigan*
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- Walter and Leonore Annenberg Foundation*



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