



ACADEMY REVIEW

July 2021



MEMBERS IN AND OUT OF GOVERNMENT

While Academy's membership rules require that members are retired to join, every year a few members get asked to go back to active duty. This constant demand for our members is a testimony to the incredible quality and the expertise of Academy's members.

We are delighted to welcome back the following five Academy members, who have recently **re**-retired from active duty: James Jeffrey, Kenneth Juster, Tibor Nagy, Stuart Symington and Roberta Jacobson.

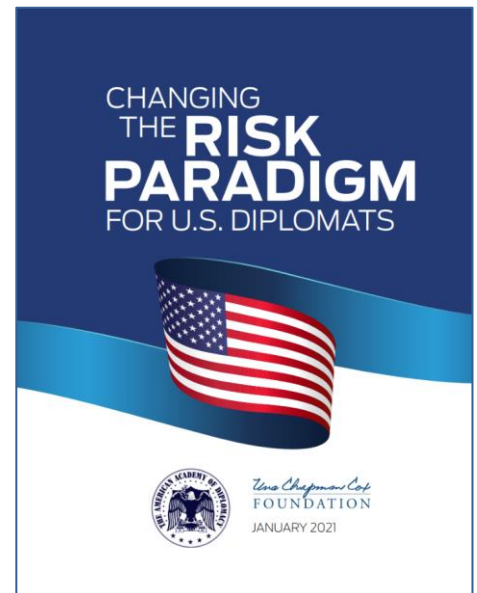
We would like to wish all the best to the sixteen Academy members, who have been asked to serve by the current administration (in either in full-time or short-term capacities). These members include Gina Abercrombie-Winstanley, Lloyd Austin, Antony Blinken, William Burns, Thomas Countryman, Jeffrey DeLaurentis, Jeffrey Feltman, Bonnie Jenkins, Pat Kennedy, John Kerry, Nancy McElDowney, Victoria Nuland, Susan Rice, Wendy Sherman, Pamela Spratlen, and Linda Thomas-Greenfield.

One Academy member – Ross Wilson – went back into service under the previous Administration and has so far remained in his position as Chargé d'Affaires to Afghanistan.



UPDATE ON CHANGING THE RISK PARADIGM FOR U.S. DIPLOMATS

At the beginning of the year, the Academy completed and published its report on [Changing the Risk Paradigm for U.S. Diplomats](#). The report, produced in partnership with the Una Chapman Cox Foundation, details the problem of heightened risk aversion at U.S. diplomatic missions overseas (particularly the high-threat ones) and its implication for diplomats' ability to execute U.S. national security policy objectives. It proposes three concrete steps to address the issue: amending the Accountability Review Board (ARB) legislature, adding tradecraft training for Foreign Service and Diplomatic Security officers, and transforming State Department culture vis-à-vis risk. To launch the report, the Academy partnered with the Brookings Institution in a [virtual event on February 29](#). The event featured Academy members Alonzo Fulgham, Anne Patterson, and Greg Starr and was moderated by General John Allen and Ron Neumann. The panel reviewed the report's findings and recommendations, particularly that of new legislation governing the ARB and assessed how to shape a more resilient and flexible Foreign Service. *(Continued on p. 2)*



NEW PROJECT ON MULTILATERAL DIPLOMACY

The Academy's newest project on Multilateral Diplomacy kicked off on March 9 with the first Advisory Group meeting. The project, implemented in partnership with the Una Chapman Cox Foundation, seeks to produce a report that makes the case for the need to strengthen the State Department's policy commitment to and operational capacity for conducting multilateral diplomacy in order to successfully achieve priority U.S. foreign policy objectives in the coming decades. Since the initial meeting, Jo Ellen Powell has been conducting interviews with current and former USG officials, gathering information on best practices by other diplomatic services, and gathering case studies to be examined in the report. If you are interested in being a part of the Advisory Group or sharing a case study illustrating some aspect of U.S. multilateral diplomacy, please contact Jo Ellen Powell.

UPDATE ON CHANGING THE RISK PARADIGM FOR U.S. DIPLOMATS

(Continued from p. 1)

In parallel, the Academy continued its outreach about the issue on the Hill, in the State Department, and to the general public. On the Hill, the Academy has maintained regular contact with the offices of Senator Murphy (D-CT) and Senator Risch (R-TX), both of whom recently introduced separate draft bills to amend the ARB. While both drafts draw heavily on the recommendations and the legislative language proposed in the Academy's report, they also have some differences, and the Academy has continued to push for bipartisan consensus. Representative Sara Jacobs (D-CA) on the House Foreign Affairs Committee is currently working on another version of this legislation, which would potentially combine some of the aspects of both Senate drafts and create a framework for a bipartisan effort. In the meantime, the Academy has reached out to the offices of 13 other Senators and 8 Members of the House of Representatives in order to increase awareness, encourage bipartisan action, and solicit advice about the strategies for effectively pursuing the implementation of the ARB reform recommendation.

The Academy also made a concerted effort to discuss its report with the leadership at the State Department and will continue to do so in the near future as more top leadership positions become confirmed by the Senate. Additionally, several mid-level FSOs reached out to the Academy to talk about the report. To-date, everyone at State with whom we discussed the report expressed strong support.

Finally, following the report's publication, the Academy initiated a concerted public awareness campaign to promote the report. In addition to the launch event at Brookings, which attracted more than 500 attendees, Ron Neumann and Greg Starr published [an article about the report in the Foreign Service Journal](#) and an [op-ed on the issue in The Hill](#). Greg Starr also spoke about the report on [Government Matters](#) and [will present on it at DACOR Bacon House on July 7](#).



Alonzo Fulgham, Greg Starr, Anne Patterson, Ron Neumann and John Allen discuss AAD's report at the launch event in partnership with Brookings.

RENEWED COMMERCIAL DIPLOMACY EFFORTS

Since the publication of Part II of the *Support for American Jobs* report, AAD has been looking for opportunities to implement its proposed recommendations. Under the last Administration there were not very many such opportunities, although AAD did successfully include some of its proposals into the *Championing American Business Through Diplomacy Act*, which passed as part of the Omnibus spending bill at the end of 2019. There is a hope that the new Administration will be more receptive to promoting the interests of US companies abroad. Consequently, the Academy has reinvigorated its commercial diplomacy efforts. The newly formed Commercial Diplomacy Working Group, co-chaired by Shaun Donnelly and Craig Allen, is looking to push for an "all of government" focus on the issue, which would encourage collaboration between State, Commerce, USTR, NSC and other agencies. Several members of the Working Group are also revisiting FSI's efforts to enhance commercial diplomacy training for FSOs.

CONGRESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT

In addition to amending the ARB process, the Academy's Congressional Committee, spearheaded by Mike Van Dusen and Graeme Bannerman, continued to engage on the Hill and provide input on various issues that related to U.S. diplomacy. Some recent examples include issues connected to diversity and inclusion, professional diplomatic training, ambassadorial qualifications, commercial diplomacy, consular funding, paying State Department interns, and others.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

ONE CHALLENGE MET, BUT MORE LIE AHEAD

Earlier this year, the Academy finally **completed the fundraising challenge**, which was announced by a small group of generous members at the 2020 Annual Meeting. According to it, all new contributions since June of 2020 were matched dollar for dollar up to \$150,000. With the help of this challenge and the generosity of many Academy members, **the 3-in-3 Capital Campaign now stands at over \$1.27 million**. We thank all of you as we celebrate this fundraising achievement.

However, we also acknowledge that we are in the last year of the Capital Campaign and are **still more than 50 percent short of our goal of \$3 million**. To achieve this goal members of the Development Committee have been volunteering their time and talents to conduct outreach to private companies. However, this is a slow and challenging task as the issue of diplomacy is rarely included in the funding portfolios of corporate donors. If you have any connections with private companies or other types of corporate donors, please contact our Development Committee Chair Harry Thomas.

And of course, please consider making a contribution, especially if you have not had a chance to yet. The gift you give will help us advance the mission of strengthening American Diplomacy as we prepare for the challenges of 2021 and beyond. Whether it is a cash gift, a required retirement contribution, a donation of stock, or a plan for a future gift in your will – all these efforts will greatly help us meet our goal. Please visit our website to pledge or contribute:

<https://www.academyofdiplomacy.org/donate/3-in-3-capital-campaign/>

FOUNDERS SOCIETY

The Academy would like to recognize those 39 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

Robert Blake

Barbara Bodine

Thomas Boyatt

Kate Canavan

Charles Cobb

Paula Dobriansky

Shaun Donnelly

Nancy Ely-Raphel

Alonzo Fulgham

Edward Gnehm

Marc Grossman

John Hamre

Bill Harrop

Stuart Holliday

Robert Hunter

Janice Jacobs

Richard Jones

Craig Kelly

Steven Mann

Larry Napper

John Negroponte

Ronald Neumann

Tom Nides

Catherine Novelli

Thomas Pickering

Francis Ricciardone

Rozanne Ridgway

Charles Rivkin

Peter Romero

Carol Sisco

George Shultz

Clyde Taylor

Frank

David Welch

Frank Wisner

John Wolf

Robert Zoellick

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

Council of American Ambassadors

DACOR Bacon House

Johnston-Hanson Foundation

Luther I. Replogle Foundation

National Museum of American Diplomacy

Nelson B. Delavan Foundation

Partnership for Public Service

Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies at Monticello

Sisco Family Fund

Texas A&M University

Texas Tech University

The Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training

The Dillon Fund

The Foreign Service Institute

The Hotchkiss School

The Una Chapman Cox Foundation

University of Michigan

University of Nebraska at Lincoln and Omaha

U.S. Diplomatic Studies Foundation

Walter and Leonore Annenberg Foundation

OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Texas Tech University Ambassadors Forum

On March 2, the Academy and the Texas Tech University hosted virtually the 6th annual Ambassadors Forum. The panel discussion titled “Foreign Perception of the US in the Post-COVID World: What is reality? What is myth? And does it matter?” featured Ambassadors Jimmy Kolker, Harry Thomas, and Larry Greenwood.

In addition to the main public event, the panelists also held a separate discussion with the University faculty, and also spoke to the local media. The recordings from the event can be found on the [Texas Tech website](#).



INTERN OUTREACH SERIES

The Academy’s interns as part of their time at AAD frequently choose to organize diplomacy-focused events at their universities. Such outreach events give our interns a chance to develop a lot of new professional and leadership skills, while giving the Academy an opportunity to expand its diplomacy outreach efforts to new communities and audiences.

PANEL AT AMERICAN UNIVERSITY WITH AAD MEMBERS AND THE DC METRO DIPLOMAT IN RESIDENCE

As part of his internship with the Academy during the Fall 2020 term, Colby Harriman, a master’s candidate at American University, organized an event with the Academy and the DC Metro Diplomat in Residence, Yolanda Kerney. Moderated by Ronald Neumann, the panel explored life in the Foreign Service and featured Ambassadors Aurelia Brazeal and Charles Ries.

DISCUSSION AT AMERICAN UNIVERSITY ON STATE AND DEFENSE

On April 28, Academy Intern Josh Loiselle welcomed students at American University for a discussion on the “Relationship Between the Departments of State and Defense”. The panel featured Ambassadors Deborah McCarthy, James Jeffrey, and Kate Canavan, and was moderated by Ambassador Ronald Neumann.

PANEL ON DEVELOPMENT AT TULANE UNIVERSITY

Exploring career paths in the field of international development, Academy Intern Kyla Denwood hosted a joint event with Tulane University where she welcomed Anne Aarnes, Ambassador Frank Almaguer, and Ambassador Dawn Liberi. The discussion was moderated by the Academy’s Vice Chairman Alonzo Fulgham.

LOOKING AHEAD

We are excited to report that we will be resuming in-person outreach programs in the Fall!

JOSEPH J. SISCO MEMORIAL FORUM

On **September 9**, the Academy’s Joseph J. Sisco Memorial Forum will return to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The event titled “Preserving Life: Climate Change, Water and Diplomacy” will feature the Brian Atwood, Ken Brill and Dr. Aaron Salzberg. Barbara Stephenson will serve as the moderator, and Catherine Novelli will give the keynote address.

NEBRASKA AMBASSADORS’ FORUM AT OMAHA AND LINCOLN

On **October 24-26**, Tibor Nagy, Wanda Nesbitt, Stuart Symington and Ronald Neumann will travel to the University of Nebraska at Omaha and Lincoln for an expanded Nebraska Ambassadors Forum, which will focus on the politics, economics and the environmental issues on the African continent.

ARTHUR ROSS DISCUSSIONS AT MONTICELLO

This year’s discussion at Monticello will take place on **October 30** and will welcome Glyn Davies, David Pearce and Robin Wright to examine, “News, Propaganda, and Diplomacy.” PBS NewsHour foreign affairs and defense correspondent Nick Schiffrin will deliver the keynote address.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN AMBASSADORS FORUM

This year’s Ambassadors Forum at University of Michigan will take place on **December 8-9**. Moderated by Ronald Neumann, the panel composed of Craig Allen, David Shear and Sylvia Stanfield will explore *China, Strategic Challenges Old and New*.

PODCASTS

Since acquiring new funding, *The American Diplomat* and *The General and the Ambassador* podcasts have continued to explore new topics while actively growing their listener base, collectively reaching more than 400,000 downloads and releasing 211 episodes to-date.

American Diplomat Podcast

The *American Diplomat* podcast, now funded by Texas A&M University, and the American Foreign Service Association, with additional funding from the Replogle Foundation, the Delavan Foundation, and the Sisco Family Fund, has explored the stories of the evacuation of Americans from Wuhan, China at the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, combating anti-Blackness in the Foreign Service, online onboarding as a new Foreign Service Officer and tracking dirty money. Having produced 25 episodes since the start of the year, American Diplomat has reached a total of nearly 394,000 downloads, an increase of more than 100,000 downloads since the end of last year.

The General and the Ambassador Podcast

The General and the Ambassador has now produced 60 episodes in total and has just surpassed 72,000 unique downloads. In January, *The G&A* podcast began a 6-month pilot program in collaboration with the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, which aims to integrate the podcast into the classroom curriculum to complement their Peace, War and Defense major. As part of the pilot, students from the Transatlantic Security course first listened to an episode titled “Tough Times in Moscow,” and then got a chance to engage with one of the episode guests, John Tefft, for a real-time discussion on the future of US-Russia relations. The initial pilot received great reviews from faculty and students, and the Academy’s partnership with UNC-Chapel Hill just got a 6-month extension.



John Tefft, Deborah McCarthy, Barbara Stephenson and the faculty of UNC-Chapel Hill virtually discuss the Future of US-Russia Relations.

In addition to the direct classroom engagement effort, *The G&A* podcast continued to produce new episodes this year, welcoming new distinguished guests this year, such as General George Casey and Ambassador John Negroponte on Iraq and the U.S. Diplomatic-Military partnership and Ambassador to Ken Braithwaite and Commander Jamie Foggo on U.S. power and presence in the Arctic.

The podcasts have continued to prove themselves invaluable resources in advocating for and informing the general public on the importance of American diplomacy. You can find all of the episodes of the [*American Diplomat*](#) and [*The General and the Ambassador*](#) on their websites or on your favorite podcast app.

STAFF UPDATE

Despite operating virtually due to COVID-19 pandemic, the Academy continued to implement its internship program. For the Spring 2021 term, the Academy welcomed Kyla Denwood, a senior at Tulane University and Joshua Loiselle, a junior at American University. Rising junior Connor McCarty from Georgetown University and rising junior Grace Lundell from Villanova University have joined the Academy as interns for the Summer 2021 term.



Kyla Denwood



Joshua Loiselle



Connor McCarty



Grace Lundell

MEMBERS' CORNER

Annual Membership Meeting

This year's Annual Membership Meeting was held virtually once again. Despite the increasing Zoom fatigue, more than 120 AAD members logged in to hear the keynote address by Ambassador Ken Merten, Senior Official in the Bureau of Global Talent Management in the Office of the Director General. Following his remarks, the members of the Executive Committee briefed attendees on the Academy's successes, ongoing projects, and future plans.



Members' Virtual Speaker Series

Since the start of the new year, the Academy has continued hosting its Virtual Speaker Series and has recently introduced a hybrid version by welcoming some members to the Academy's offices for a luncheon before the discussions. In continuing to explore a variety of diverse topics, the Academy's Series has featured several members this year including Gordon Gray on current events in North Africa, Robert Cekuta on Azerbaijan, Vicki Huddleston on U.S.-Cuba relations, Thomas Countryman on the future of nuclear nonproliferation and the JCPOA, and Deborah McCarthy on the Baltics and Russian relations.

As Washington D.C. slowly reopens and more individuals receive the COVID-19 vaccine, the Academy plans to integrate a virtual component into our discussion series so that all Academy members can attend our luncheon events in the future. As we continue to explore DACOR's virtual technology capabilities, the Academy will continue hosting small, catered lunches in the Academy's conference room with remarks following.

Prepare to Nominate New Member

Summer is the season for nominating new Academy members. The call for nominations will be issued in the second week of July. In the meantime, we invite you to start thinking about qualified candidates. The most up-to-date membership criteria can be found at: <https://www.academyofdiplomacy.org/members/criteria-for-selecting-new-members/>

IN MEMORIAM

Since our December issue, the Academy has lost four great friends and colleagues: George P. Shultz (February 7, 2021), Walter F. Mondale (April 19, 2021), William Swing (June 12, 2021) and Donald H. Rumsfeld (June 29, 2021). We thank them for their friendship and service, and honor their memory.



THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF DIPLOMACY

1200 18th Street, NW, Suite 902 • Washington, DC 20036 Tel 202/331-3721 • Fax 202/833-4555

www.academyofdiplomacy.org