



# ACADEMY REVIEW

December 2019

## 3-IN-3 CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

At the beginning of this year the Academy launched a campaign to raise \$3 million in three years in order to ensure a long-term financial base as we continue to expand our work and impact to strengthen American diplomacy.

**Our goal was to reach \$1 million by the end of the first year** from our members, thus demonstrating our own commitment before seeking support from outside donors. With more than **\$818,000** in pledges to-date, we are very close to that goal. We are grateful to every one of the **166 members**, who have responded generously to our call for help, including **Secretaries Albright, Kerry, Powell and Rice**.

However, **we are not quite there yet, and WE REALLY NEED YOUR HELP**. 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 of these efforts will greatly help us advance our mission of strengthening American Diplomacy, especially in these trying times for our diplomats. Since this is a three-year campaign, you can commit to a total amount now and then fulfill your pledge gradually over several years.

Please visit our website for more info on how to pledge or contribute:

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



## RALLYING TO SUPPORT DIPLOMATS

This fall, as US diplomats found themselves under fire for upholding their oath to the constitution and testifying in front of Congress in response to Ukraine inquiry subpoena, the Academy repeatedly took a stance to support them. In [one statement](#), AAD expressed support for Ambassador Marie Yovanovitch and called on the administration to refrain from political retaliation against career diplomats. In [a follow-up statement](#), the Academy explained the commitment that US diplomats have “to support and defend the Constitution of the United States” that they assume when they take the oath of office. The statement further points out that their decision to testify despite the pressures to the contrary are in line with that commitment and should be applauded. In [the most recent statement](#), the Academy called on America to be proud of its diplomats for their patriotism, courage and professionalism. Our statements have been picked up widely by national [newspapers](#) and [networks](#), as well as news outlets beyond the Beltway as far as [California](#), [New Hampshire](#), [Illinois](#) and [Minnesota](#).

We are pleased to report that despite divisive discourse at the top, the public took note of the professional, non-partisan and courageous actions by the diplomats who have been caught in the spotlight. Since mid-November, the Academy has been receiving dozens upon dozens of postcards and letters addressed to Ambassador Bill Taylor, who is a member of the Academy. As we forward these to Ambassador Taylor, we have been incredibly touched by the outpouring of gratitude and support from all over the country.

The Academy has also been sending its own Thank You letters. They are to newspapers outside the Beltway that have published opinion pieces and letters to the editor in support of US diplomats.

# FOUNDERS SOCIETY

The Academy would like to recognize those 25 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:



Several member of The Founders' Society met at DACOR Bacon House on October 31, 2019 to discuss their ideas for the Academy and the Capital Campaign.

*Thomas Boyatt*

*Bill Harrop*

*Kate Canavan*

*Robert Hunter*

*Charles Cobb*

*Janice Jacobs*

*Paula Dobriansky*

*Steven Mann*

*Shaun Donnelly*

*John Negroponte*

*Nancy Ely-Raphel*

*Ronald Neumann*

*Francis Ricciardone*

*Clyde Taylor*

*Alonzo Fulgham*

*Tom Nides*

*Rozanne Ridgway*

*Frank Taylor*

*Marc Grossman*

*Catherine Novelli*

*Charles Rivkin*

*David Welch*

*John Hamre*

*Thomas Pickering*

*Peter Romero*

*Frank Wisner*

## NEW PROJECT: SECURITY AND ARB

In 2020, the Academy will begin a new project that will focus on the problem of the language and structure of the Accountability Review Board (ARB) system. Concern about triggering an ARB currently contributes to keeping diplomats sequestered behind the embassy walls and unable to fully perform their jobs. The law is formulated in such a way that its first and overriding requirement is to find someone at fault if there is a security incident involving serious injury or loss of life. In other words, the first determination after identifying whether injury or loss of life is a security issue is whether “the security systems and security procedures at that mission were adequate and who was accountable.” COMs, DCMs and RSOs are acutely aware that any decision they make to allow travel outside the mission that results in death or serious injury will be judged immediately in terms of their accountability with the presumption that they must have erred in their judgment. This often leads to a decision to avoid the risk by denying the request to travel when it is for “normal diplomatic activities.” The military has a different system that provides for internal review before triggering a public process.

The project seeks to develop, in consultation with congressional members and staff, a broad awareness of the problem and the need for changes to the ARB language to balance accountability with understanding that some casualties may occur without fault having occurred. Additionally, the project will examine and as feasible make recommendations for other measures to balance security with national security objectives. The Una Chapman Cox Foundation has generously agreed to fund the project and Greg Starr, the former Assistant Secretary for Diplomatic Security, will direct the project.

## LOOKING AHEAD

### **SAVE THE DATE: JUNE 2, 2020**

This year's ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING will take place on TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2020 AT 12 NOON at the Cohen Group, located at 500 8th St NW #200, Washington, DC 20004. We hope to see many of you there!

### **UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

We will be continuing our speaking programs next year. At Hotchkiss, the Academy will be represented by Thomas Countryman in February and by Maureen Quinn in the fall. In March, Catherine Novelli, David Shear, Richard Boucher and Ronald Neumann will travel to Texas Tech for a program on China Challenge. In October, AAD will resume its program at the University of Nebraska, Omaha, and will continue its cooperation with the Thomas Jefferson Foundation.

# AAD ON THE HILL

In the last few months, the Academy continued to expand its engagement and influence on the Hill.

On September 13, AAD's **J.J. Sisco Memorial Forum** gathered over 100 Senate and House staff members and other attendees on the Hill for a discussion of "Why Diplomats Need to Accept More Risk? And Why Congress Should Let Them." In a two-part panel, co-organized with the non-profit organization *Foreign Policy For America*, Ambassadors Anne Patterson, Charles Ray, Richard Olson, and Ronald Neumann discussed first-hand examples of why it is critically important for US national security to empower diplomats to take a certain amount of risk when working to achieve their mission. On the House side, the panel was co-sponsored by the offices of Rep. Gil Cisneros (D-CA) and Rep. Michael Waltz (R-FL) and attracted over 60 House staff members and other attendees. On the Senate side, AAD's event was supported by the senior staff of the Appropriations Committee. Be sure to catch the recording of the panel discussion ([Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#)) on YouTube. The event was also featured extensively in the [Washington Diplomat](#).

The Academy's earlier efforts in connection with the House draft bill on Commercial Diplomacy have also paid off. After months of holdups, the "Championing American Business Through Diplomacy Act" was included into the "minibus" government funding bill that was approved by the House of Representative on December 17. The text of the bill, as it stands now, includes two new additions that seem to incorporate ideas proposed by the Academy to the staff of SFRC and HFAC during the drafting period. One is a high-level interagency coordinating committee, to be known as the "Economic Diplomacy Action Group," and the other is a diplomacy trade expansion advisory committee that would include the private sector.

In the most recent outreach effort, the Academy's Congressional Committee, led by Lorne Craner, began to engage with the newly-formed House Diplomacy Caucus, which for now includes Reps. Bera, Cicilline, Fitzpatrick and Wagner. At the moment, the Academy is assisting with recruitment of other members of Congress, particularly Republicans, and providing ideas for issues to focus on, but in the long run, we hope that the Caucus will become a useful partner for Academy's work on the Hill.



## OUTREACH PROGRAMS



### **Arthur Ross Discussions of American Diplomacy at Monticello**

On October 26, the Academy, the Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies and the University of Virginia Center for Politics co-hosted yet another successful Discussion of American Diplomacy at Monticello. This year's conference was on the topic of American Support for Democracy: A Path Full of Pitfalls. During the morning panel, Robert Beecroft, Lorne Craner, John Tefft and Ronald Neumann discussed concrete cases of Ukraine, Russia, Afghanistan, and Bosnia to illustrate both successes and failures of U.S. democracy promotion policy. In the afternoon, the distinguished author and journalist Anne Applebaum discussed the case of Russian shift away from democracy,

as well as the role of the media in supporting democracy promotion. Nearly 100 attendees, including community members, and local high school and university students, participated in the event. (*Continued on p. 4*).

# PODCASTS

On October 17, the *American Diplomat* podcast celebrated a new milestone – 100,000 lifetime downloads. The team marked this occasion with a party, which gathered together many different people involved in making this podcast – the co-hosts Pete Romero and Laura Bennett, AAD staff, Lino Gutierrez and Nicole Brzozowski of the Una Chapman Cox Foundation, guests from some of the previous episodes, Advisory Group members and Podcast Village staff. But the podcast has not stopped at this achievement. In fact, both *The American Diplomat* and *The General and the Ambassador* have continued to produce episodes and grow their reach and listener base this year. Together the two podcasts have released 153 episodes to-date.



*The General and the Ambassador* has produced 36 episodes and surpassed 25,000 downloads. For one of the most recent episodes, the host of the show Deborah McCarthy went to Finland, where she brought together General Jarmo Lindberg and Ambassador Bruce Oreck for a conversation about Finnish-US defense relations.

*The American Diplomat* has been working a variety of diverse content, including topics of diplomatic immunity, ISIS, corruption and the presidential yacht “Sequoia.” For a special Thanksgiving episode, the show’s co-hosts took calls from

Academy members, who recounted their stories of celebrating Thanksgiving in Service. Make sure to check it out and be on the lookout for a similar episode on Christmas celebrations abroad.

You can find all of the episodes of the [American Diplomat](#) and [The General and the Ambassador](#) on their websites, both of which have been recently redesigned.

## OUTREACH PROGRAMS (CONT.)

### ***Ambassadors Forum at the University of Michigan***

In November, the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan and the Academy co-hosted a discussion panel to enhance public understanding of critical foreign policy areas. John Limbert, Gerald Feierstein, and Ronald Neumann, moderated by Deborah McCarthy discussed US diplomatic efforts and security in the Persian Gulf.



### ***GWU Panel with No Lost Generation***

One of our fall semester interns, Eliora Goodman, showed exceptional initiative by connecting the Academy with GWU’s student-led refugee advocacy organization No Lost Generation. Together, the Academy and No Lost Generation co-sponsored an ambassador panel on current refugee issues featuring Wendy Chamberlin, Frank Loy, and John Maisto, moderated by Ronald Neumann. More than 60 students and community members attended the event.

# MEMBER CORNER

## Awards Luncheon

On November 12, the Academy welcomed over 120 guests to its 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Luncheons. This year, the Luncheon was co-hosted by the Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, Ambassador David Hale, and honored Ambassador John Negroponte, a “diplomat’s diplomat”, with the Walter and Leonore Annenberg Award for Excellence in Diplomacy. In his [acceptance remarks](#), Ambassador Negroponte recounted past diplomatic accomplishments, gave due to numerous colleagues, and challenged the current administration to do better on the issues of US-China relations, environment, and trade. At the end, he issued a call to action to trust our diplomats with the responsibility of dealing with the new diplomatic challenges that lie ahead. “If we do,” he added, “I am confident they will continue to make the valuable contributions to our country’s well-being that they have made since the founding of the Republic.”



The Arthur Ross Media Award for journalist was awarded to Matt Lee of the *Associated Press*, while Rana Foroohar of *Financial Times* received the Ross Award in the commentary category.

Ambassador Williams Burns received the Douglas Dillon Book Award for his memoir *The Back Channel: A Memoir of American Diplomacy and the Case for Its Renewal*. Although Ambassador Burns could not be present at the luncheon, he noted in his [written remarks](#), read by Ambassador Thomas Pickering, that he was accepting the award “in honor of our colleagues in the diplomatic arena, and in honor of all those serving the American people with dignity in these undignified times.”



## Member Lunches

This fall the Academy continued to hold its informal member luncheons, which give our members an opportunity to connect with each other and hear from colleagues on a subject of their expertise. In September, 28 members gathered to hear Deborah Jones speak about her time in Libya and issues still plaguing the country today. In November, 23 members came out to hear Michael Polt speak about US leadership in the Baltics and South Eastern Europe, as well as his experience serving the US as an immigrant and a naturalized citizen.

These lunches remain extremely popular, perhaps because the level of these off-the-record discussions among professionals is very different from normal, public programs. Look for the announcements of forthcoming programs. Also, if you have topics you would like to hear about at one of the future member lunches, please contact the Academy’s staff.

# SUPPORT FOR DS

The Academy continues to send two former chiefs of mission to FSI to speak to each diplomatic security class for agents preparing for their first field deployment. For many ARSOs this is their only chance to get a Front Office perspective.

We are grateful to these Academy members and volunteers, who gave their time to participate in the program:

Barbara Bodine  
Pat Butenis  
Gerald Feierstein

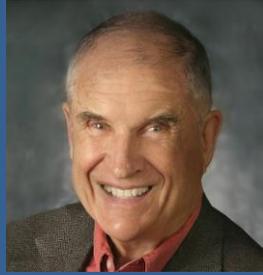
Gordon Gray  
Maura Harty  
Richard Hecklinger

Robert Houdek  
Edmund Hull  
Deborah Jones

Charles Ray  
Lange Schermerhorn  
Harry Thomas



L. Bruce Laingen



Theodore L. Eliot

## IN MEMORIAM

Since our July issue, the Academy has lost two great friends and colleagues - Theodore L. Eliot, Jr. on August 8, 2019, and L. Bruce Laingen on July 15, 2019.

We thank them for their friendship and service and honor their memory.

## NEW MEMBERS AT A GLANCE

- 27 new members
- 33% women, 15 % African Americans, 4% Asian
- U.S. Agencies: State, Agency for International Development, National Security Council, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army, Defense, and Peace Corp
- International Agencies: NATO, International Atomic Energy Agency, and the United Nations

## 2019 NEW MEMBERS

In 2019 the Academy welcomed 27 new members into its ranks. The Membership Committee, chaired by Janice Jacobs, received and reviewed numerous nominations, ultimately approving 31 to be put to a vote by the Academy’s membership. In their decision, the Committee particularly considered two priorities: identifying exceptionally qualified candidates and, within that requirement, increasing the overall diversity of the membership by professional background as well as gender and ethnicity.

Notwithstanding these points, the need for members to have had practical diplomatic experience continues to guide us. About 57% of the Academy’s membership voted in this election. Congratulations to Janice, Membership Committee members, and to the Academy’s newly-elected members for another great year!



## STAFF

This fall, the Academy welcomed interns Eliora Goodman, a sophomore from George Washington University, and Skyler Nunn, a junior from the University of Colorado, Boulder. They did a lot of great work for the Academy this semester and we will certainly miss them. Also, our former interns, Fatu Dukuly and Sarah Moon, returned briefly to AAD to assist with the Awards Luncheon in November.

In January, AAD will welcome two new interns – Noah Ahmed from Georgetown University and Cecily Fasanella from George Washington University.

## DONORS

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

- Arthur Ross Foundation*
- Black & Veatch Corporation*
- Johnston-Hanson Foundation*
- Luther I. Replogle Foundation*
- Nelson B. Delavan Foundation*
- Sisco Family Fund*
- TD International*
- The Dillon Fund*
- The Una Chapman Cox Foundation*
- US Diplomatic Studies Foundation*
- Walter and Leonore Annenberg Foundation*

## WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

The Academy continued to grow its online platforms to promote the importance of diplomacy. We now have 2,695 Facebook followers (49% increase since 2018), 2,616 followers on Twitter (30% increase), and 694 followers on LinkedIn (88% increase).

We continue to distribute member articles, promote member profiles, livestream public events, highlight diplomacy-related historic events, and showcase our podcast episodes across our online platforms. You can help us reach a wider audience – retweet, like, share, and comment on our posts. Also, if you have published new books, taught new courses, or recently updated your bio, please let us know so that we can update those sections on the Academy’s website. You can email your updates to [academy@academyofdiplomacy.org](mailto:academy@academyofdiplomacy.org).