



ACADEMY REVIEW

December 2021

MULTILATERAL DIPLOMACY PROJECT NEARS THE FINISH LINE



The Academy's project on Multilateral Diplomacy, directed by Jo Ellen Powell and implemented in partnership with the Una Chapman Cox Foundation, is nearing completion. *Bringing America's Multilateral Diplomacy into the 21st Century*, offers recommendations for enhancing America's multilateral

diplomacy in the areas of policy, practice, and preparation. The report argues that the U.S. "must expand its ability to collaborate with other states through multilateral organizations, as well as with non-national entities, to achieve sustainable and meaningful results." To do so, "the State Department must bring multilateral diplomacy into the mainstream of policymaking, diplomatic practice, and diplomatic training."

In September, the Academy shared its initial draft with the State Department. The eventual feedback was generally very favorable. This additional step meant that the report was read with much more attention than would have been the case had the Academy simply briefed various officials on the final product. In the end, the Academy received extensive written comments from FSI and from the office of Global Talent Management. The Academy also had a long discussion with the acting Assistant Secretary for International Organizations Affairs (IO).

The Academy plans to publish the final report in late January or February, 2022. The Academy will hold a rollout event and share the publication with the relevant congressional committees.

ARB REFORM ENCOUNTERS CONGRESSIONAL CHALLENGES

In the past few months, the Academy saw a lot of dramatic ups and downs with regard to its effort to amend the existing Accountability Review Board process – one of the key recommendations in its report *Changing Risk Paradigm for U.S. Diplomats*. While the Academy couldn't succeed this year, we are well positioned to continue next year.

On the Senate side, after initially supporting two separate versions of a similar bill, Senators Risch (R-TX) and Murphy (D-CT) were able to find common ground and proposed a compromise bill in the form of an amendment S.A. 4456 to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for fiscal year 2022. On the House side, ...

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FOUNDERS SOCIETY

The Academy's Founders Society, a group of members who contributed or pledged \$10,000 or more to the Capital Campaign, has grown and now includes 41 members. We would like to recognize and thank all of them for their generosity:

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

Anne Patterson

Thomas Pickering

Francis Ricciardone

Rozanne Ridgway

Charles Rivkin

Peter Romero

Carol Sisco

George Shultz

Ronald Spiers (In Memory)

Clyde Taylor

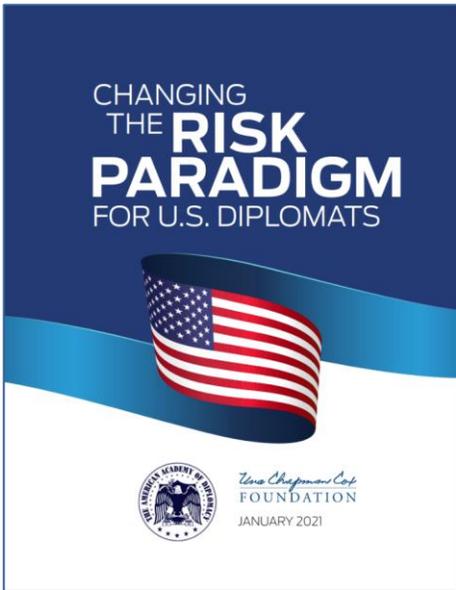
Francis X. Taylor

David Welch

Frank Wisner

John Wolf

Robert Zoellick



ARB REFORM ENCOUNTERS CONGRESSIONAL CHALLENGES

(Continued from p. 1)

On the House side, following countless requests for clarification and alternative language, Representative Sara Jacobs (D-CA) finally introduced her version of the new ARB legislation, H.R.6034, with bipartisan support from Adam Kinzinger (R-IL).

Of course, both developments happened right before Thanksgiving and amidst the flurry of other pressing year-end congressional matters. The Academy promptly issued a statement endorsing both bills and, with the help of its Congressional Committee Co-Chairs Mike Van Dusen and Graeme Bannerman as well as several members of the project's advisory group, sought to push for inclusion of the Senate amendment into the NDAA. This was thwarted by many factors including lack of State Department help which was essential to get

support from Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Menendez, whose support was a prerequisite for moving the legislation forward. The 2022 Omnibus Bill was also not a vehicle due to too many other congressional priorities.

As the bill is not likely to move forward as a stand-alone legislation, the Academy is planning to pick up its effort after the New Year. The next session will still be within the same Congress and the two draft bills will still be alive. We will also dialogue with the leadership at the State Department to further solidify their support for the ARB reform. The report was published in partnership with the Una Chapman Cox Foundation.

RSO AMBASSADORIAL PANEL

The Academy continues to work with Diplomatic Security part of FSI to facilitate ambassadorial panels as part of the Basic RSO course for agents preparing for their first field deployment. Two Academy members speak at each of the six panels throughout the year, offering the new ARSOs a unique chance to get a Front Office perspective before they deploy.

We are grateful to these Academy members, who gave their time to participate in the program: Peter Bodde, Robert Cekuta, Gordon Gray, Maura Harty, John Herbst, Robert Jackson, George Kroll, Charles Ray, Carol Rodley, Harry Thomas, Doug Silliman.

FSOT CAREER TRACK VIRTUAL SERIES

This fall, the Academy paired with the Department's Diplomats in Residence to organize a 5-part virtual series on Foreign Service career tracks. Each session featured an Academy member and a DIR of the same Career Track to help prepare prospective Foreign Service Officer Test applicants. Ambassador Tom Dougherty spoke with Diplomat in Residence South Florida, Mignon Houston about the Public Diplomacy Career Track. Ambassador Kathleen Doherty was paired with Diplomat in Residence Central South Nathan Bland on the Economic Career Track. Ambassador Thomas Miller discussed the Political Career Track with Diplomat in Residence Southern California Jason Vorderstrasse. Ambassador Peter Bodde and Diplomat in Residence South Allen DuBose spoke about the Management Career Track. Ambassador Michele Bond explored the Consular Career Track with Diplomat in Residence Midwest Ron Packowitz. All five programs were moderated by DIR Yolonda Kerney and introduced by Ambassador Ron Neumann.

The five-part series attracted almost 2,000 registrants from more than ten different countries. Following the panel, one participant observed that, "I struggled to select a cone and thus did not take the FSOT for almost two years. However, after these sessions I was able to make an informed decision and feel ready to move forward. I cannot thank you and the State Department enough for this opportunity. It was extraordinarily helpful."

The programs were recorded and will be housed on the Academy website permanently to serve as a resource to all future FSOT applicants deciding which career track is right for them.

OUTREACH PROGRAMS

2021 Joseph J. Sisco Memorial Forum

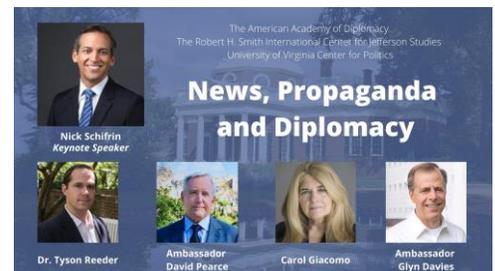
In 2021, the Academy's Sisco Forum returned to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. This year the Forum, held in a hybrid format, focused on the topic of "Preserving Life: Climate Change, Water and Diplomacy" and featured Ambassadors Barbara Stephenson, Ron Neumann, Ken Brill and Catherine Novelli, former USAID Administrator Brian Atwood and Dr. Aaron Salzberg. On September 9 the nearly 50 students and faculty came out in person to the Nelson Mandela Auditorium in the FedEx Global Education Center. Ambassador Catherine Novelli started off the Forum with a rousing keynote, which encouraged the audience to join the global battle against climate change.

Then, the distinguished panelists led an insightful discussion of the importance of international cooperation as well as the role of the State Department and U.S. diplomats in addressing issues such as climate change and water scarcity around the world. Ambassador Ken Brill stayed at UNC Chapel Hill for an extra day to meet with students for a discussion that ranged from international energy and climate policy to paths to becoming a diplomat.



Arthur Ross Discussions at Monticello

On October 30, the Academy together with the Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies and the University of Virginia Center for Politics hosted yet another successful discussion of American diplomacy, albeit virtually. This year's conference titled "News, Propaganda, and Diplomacy" brought together a diverse group of experts in journalism and diplomacy. The panel discussion featured Academy's Media Ross Award recipient Carol Giacomo and Ambassadors Glyn Davies and David Pearce. It explored the role of diplomacy in a new age of technology, where diplomats and journalists frequently face state-sponsored disinformation efforts, expanded propaganda campaigns, and outright information warfare. PBS NewsHour correspondent Nick Schifrin delivered the keynote address, and Tyson Reeder, Associate Editor at the Papers of James Madison at the University of Virginia, joined as this year's Thomas Jefferson Foundation speaker. Academy members, community members, and high school and university students from near and far to Monticello, participated in the event.



Nebraska Ambassadors Forum

The Academy's Nebraska Ambassadors Forum returned to an in-person format this year with a two-part program at the University of Nebraska at Omaha and Lincoln on October 25-26. Ambassadors Wanda Nesbitt, Stuart Symington and Tibor Nagy and the Director of UNO's Center for Afghanistan Studies, Sher Jan Ahmadzai as a moderator, examined "Africa's Role in the Contemporary World." The ambassadors spoke about Africa's population boom, infrastructure projects being led by China along Africa's northern borders, global warming's impact on migration, colonialism's harmful legacy on the continent, the importance of humanitarian aid to quelling extremist violence, and the innovative young people who will shape the future of their nations. The event welcomed approximately 85 people to the Scott Conference Center, including community members, domestic and international students, and UNO faculty and staff.

OUTREACH PROGRAMS (CONT.)

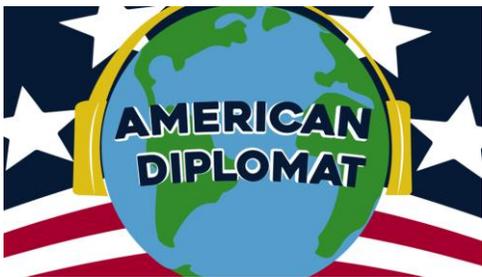
University of Michigan Ambassadors Forum

The Academy and the University of Michigan's Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy hosted the third annual Ambassadors Forum in early December. Ambassador Gerald Feierstein moderated an in-person panel discussion on "China, Strategic Challenges Old and New," featuring Ambassadors Sylvia Stanfield, Craig Allen, and David Shear. This year's discussion was centered around China and the challenges facing the U.S.-China relationship. These challenges include managing disputes in areas such as the Taiwan Strait and the South China Sea; addressing developments in Hong Kong and Xinjiang; and navigating tensions over economic issues related to cybersecurity, intellectual property, and transparency in trade. In addition to the public panel event, the speakers led a community conversation with a middle school Model UN chapter and met with several groups of Ford School students and faculty.



PODCASTS

The *American Diplomat* and *The General and the Ambassador* podcasts have continued to grow their listener base in the past few months, collectively reaching more than 576,000 downloads and releasing 296 episodes to date. With listeners in more than 160 countries, both podcasts have featured several guests tackling a variety of diverse issues and topics.



Since the summer, the *American Diplomat* podcast, 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 produced 23 new episodes and has reached a total of more than 488,000 downloads. The podcast has explored a variety of diverse topics including, the stories of the evacuation from Afghanistan, a firsthand account of 9/11, LGBTQ pride in the Foreign Service, women's empowerment in Iran, and touching tributes to the late Colin Powell.

The General and the Ambassador has now produced 64 episodes in total and has almost reached 88,000 downloads. The most recent episodes featured a number of distinguished civil pairings, including Admiral Scott Swift and Ambassador Ted Osius on the US legacy and partnership with Vietnam, Ambassador Robin Sanders and General Kip Ward on US national security interests in West Africa and most recently, General Jasper Jeffers and Ambassador William Roebuck on the front lines in Syria.



As part of the Academy's partnership with the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, *The General and the Ambassador* continued its direct student engagement component. Ambassador Stephen Mull, who joined General Ben Hodges in episode 14 on "US Army in Eastern Europe: Making 30,000 Look Like 300,000," visited the UNC campus in October. He met with students, gave a lecture, and spoke on [Poland's political journey from communism to democracy](#).

Make sure to check out the latest and future podcast episodes, which can be found on [American Diplomat](#) and [The General and the Ambassador](#) websites.

MEMBERS' CORNER

32nd Annual Awards Luncheon

On November 9th, the Academy welcomed over 120 guests to its 32nd Annual Awards Luncheon. As the State Department continued to be closed to large events due to Covid-19 restrictions, the Academy's first large in-person event in two years was held in the DACOR Bacon House courtyard. The focus of the main award was also unusual this year. The Walter and Leonore Annenberg Award for Excellence in Diplomacy honored all U.S. government personnel engaged in the evacuations from Viet Nam in 1975 and from Afghanistan in 2020. Ambassador Frank Wisner read the citation recognizing those involved in the evacuation from Viet Nam, and Mr. Lionel Rosenblatt and Ambassadors Parker Borg and Craig Johnstone accepted the honor on behalf of the larger group. The award for those engaged in the evacuation from Afghanistan was presented by Ambassador Neumann, and Ambassador Ross Wilson accepted the honor on behalf of the group. In his remarks Ambassador Wilson noted that, "Many of us in this room, perhaps most of us, went into public service because we wanted to make a difference in the world. I am proud of what we did."



The Arthur Ross Media Award for reporting was awarded to Kathy Gannon of *the Associated Press*, who attended the awards virtually. She serves as the news director for Pakistan and Afghanistan for the AP. After being severely injured in 2014 by seven bullets, she returned to Afghanistan and Pakistan to continue reporting on the region. Ishaan Tharoor of the *Washington Post* received the Ross Award in the commentator category. He is currently a foreign affairs columnist in the Newsroom of *The Washington Post* where he anchors Today's WorldView, the Post's daily column and newsletter on global politics.



Rose Gottemoeller received the Douglas Dillon Book Award for her book *Negotiating the New START Treaty*. As the first woman ever to lead a major nuclear arms negotiation, she said she "wanted to tell the story of the magnificent negotiating team that pulled off a major coup for American diplomacy and nuclear arms control policy." Her book is an invaluable and readable insider's account of the negotiations between the US and Russian delegations in Geneva in 2009 and 2010, the crucial discussions between President Barack Obama and President Dmitry Medvedev as well as the tough negotiations Gottemoeller and her team went through to gain Senate support.



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

The Academy's major fundraising effort – the 3-in-3 Capital Campaign – initially set out to raise three million in three years. This three-year period is ending on January 30, 2022. At this point, with the help of our generous and dedicated members, we have been able to raise just over \$1,300,167, which is an impressive and an unprecedented amount in the history of the Academy fundraising. We are grateful to every one of the members who stepped up to pledge or contribute and to the Academy's Development Committee for spearheading the effort.

However, we are still far from our original goal of three million. As we enter the 2021 holiday giving season and the end of the year, please consider making a contribution to the Academy. The gift you give will help us advance the mission of strengthening American Diplomacy as we prepare for the challenges of 2022. 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 meet our goal and get closer to the total amount of the Challenge Grant. Please visit our website to pledge or contribute now: <https://www.academyofdiplomacy.org/donate/3-in-3-capital-campaign/>.

MEMBERS' CORNER (CONT.)

New Member Election

In 2021 the Academy welcomed 18 new members into its ranks. The Membership Committee, chaired by Janice Jacobs, received and reviewed numerous nominations, ultimately approving 20 to be put to a vote by the Academy's membership. The main mandate of the committee was to identify exceptionally qualified candidates with wide-ranging diplomatic experiences and diverse backgrounds.

We thank all Academy members who participated in the nomination process, and also those 216 members who voted in the election (64.5% turnout). Welcome to all new members!

STAFF UPDATE

This September, our long-term Program Associate Destiny Clements left the Academy for a new career opportunity at the George Mason University's National Security Institute. Following a very rigorous and competitive search, we welcomed a new Program and Finance Assistant Katie Azelby. Katie first joined the Academy as an intern, but very quickly demonstrated her excellent capability as a proactive and detail-oriented team player, and we just had to promote her. Katie came out to DC right after graduating from University of Washington in Seattle, where she studied political science. Prior to the Academy, Katie interned at the Vital Voices Global Partnership and volunteered for a congressional campaign in Washington State.

The Academy is also gradually returning to an in-person internship program. During the Fall 2021 term, we had an in-person intern Abigail Francis, a sophomore attending George Washington University. For the Winter/Spring 2022 term, the Academy will welcome Maria Benincasa from James Madison University for an in-person internship, while Donovan Satchell from Texas Tech University will work with us virtually.



Left to Right: Abigail Francis, Katie Azelby, Ambassador Ron Neumann, Maria Reissaus.



Donovan Satchell



Maria Benincasa

NEW MEMBERS

Ambassador Cynthia H. Akuetteh
Ambassador Luis Arreaga
Ambassador Parker Borg
Ambassador Todd Chapman
Admiral James Foggo
Ambassador Greta Holtz
Ambassador David T. Johnson
Ambassador Paul Jones
General H.R. McMaster
Ambassador William V. Roebuck
Ambassador Mark Schneider
Ambassador Gerald Scott
Ambassador Daniel Smith
Ambassador Krishna Raj Urs
Ambassador Marcelle Wahba
Ambassador Kevin Whitaker
Ambassador Pamela White
Ambassador Donald Yamamoto

IN MEMORIAM

Since our July issue, the Academy has lost four great friends and colleagues: William Vanden Heuvel (June 15, 2021), Ronald Spiers (June 24, 2021), Johnny Young (July 25, 2021), Colin Powell (October 8, 2021). We thank them for their friendship and service and honor their memory.

