



World Affairs Councils of America

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Newsletter

October 2007

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## National Conference February 7-8, 2008

### Early Registration Deadline is November 15

Register for the 2008 WACA National Conference **US or US and Them: U.S. Foreign Policy and the Next Presidency**. The conference will include plenary and breakout sessions on the future of foreign policy as well as Ambassador Roundtables and Embassy Receptions.

The future holds many diplomatic and military challenges for a new US President. In a panel discussion on the *Future of Diplomacy* with L. Craig Johnstone, UN Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees and Amb. Ron Neumann, President of the American Academy of Diplomacy and the most recent former US Ambassador to Afghanistan will address how the new president can use diplomacy to achieve their foreign policy goals. Gen. Barry McCaffrey (Ret.) and Gen. John Keane (Ret.) will look at US military engagements in the next presidency in a discussion on *Iraq & Beyond: The Way Ahead for the Commander-in-Chief*. More speakers are being confirmed, check the [Conference Agenda](#) to see who else is coming.

In addition, there will be a pre-conference workshop for council staff and board members that are attending the main conference on February 6. We encourage early registration for this free workshop as it is structured around the needs of those attending.

To receive discounted [conference fees](#), register before November 15, 2007.

Conference Registration will close on January 15, 2008.

For more information, see the WACA brochure that has been distributed to local councils. Stay up to date on conference developments, go to the WACA website at <http://www.worldaffairscouncils.org/natconference>

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## World Affairs Council of Maine

In September, WACA President Barbara Propes and Board Member Amb. Marilyn McAfee had the opportunity to visit the WAC of Maine. This year marks the council's 30th anniversary. The Maine council's programs include an International Breakfast Series, Model UN, and economic programs culminating in a yearly event with the Governor of Maine. The Council also participates in WACA flagship programs WorldQuest and Travel the World.

This year WAC Maine is collaborating with Southern Maine's Abromson Center to present the Camden Conference on *Religion as a Force in World Affairs*. The conference will feature experts from academia, government, media, and the international community to discuss religion's role in conflicts, self identity, and peace making.

For more information, visit [www.wacmaine.org](http://www.wacmaine.org) or [www.camdenconference.org](http://www.camdenconference.org).

If your council has any event it would like to announce to all councils, please e-mail [melissa@worldaffairsCouncils.org](mailto:melissa@worldaffairsCouncils.org).

## World Affairs Council of New Orleans

WACA President Barbara Propes recently visited our New Orleans council. Like most World Affairs Councils, New Orleans focuses on World Affairs Briefings as their main programmatic offering. Other regular events include *Dining Internationally*, an opportunity for members to sample New Orleans's ethnic food while discussing world affairs in a more informal setting. An event successful in attracting young professionals is *PubNite* a monthly informal gathering of members to get to know each other and have fun.

Congratulations to Executive Director Dottie Nelson and her board of directors for continuing to build WAC/N.O.

## Academic WorldQuest 2008

The 2008 Academic WorldQuest will take place the weekend of April 4 - 6. Over 35 [councils](#) have pledged their teams for this year's Academic WorldQuest. If your council is not listed on this team, but should be, please e-mail Melissa Lawrence at [melissa@worldaffairsCouncils.org](mailto:melissa@worldaffairsCouncils.org).

Michael Maibach, WACA Board Member and President & CEO of the European American Business Council will reprise his role as moderator for the competition.

New this year, 12 council are working together to write questions for their local competitions.

We thank The Maibach Foundation, the American Society for International Law, and The People Speak for their sponsorship of the 2008 competition.

## Travel the World

### *Danube River and Hapsburg Empire May 23 - June 2, 2008*

Join WAC of Jacksonville member and political science professor, Pamela A. Zeiser, Ph.D., as she leads the Danube River and Hapsburg Empire trip: May 23-June 2.

Board the M.S. Amadeus Royal in Budapest and sail to Vienna, Melk and Passau. Drive to Prague and then via the elegant Majestic Imperator Train to Kraków. Pre-trip option Budapest and post-trip option Warsaw are available. Rates from \$3,495 plus airfare. Reserve by November 16 for this early booking rate!

Call the travel department of the Philadelphia Council to make a reservation or to learn more at 1-800-942 5004 x 217 or x 209 or visit [http://www.wacphila.org/travel/travel\\_upcoming.html](http://www.wacphila.org/travel/travel_upcoming.html). Several other spring and summer trips have early booking discounts!