From the WACA President & CEO

Dear colleagues,

The WACA Council Leadership Meeting is easily one of my favorite times of year. It gives us the chance to come together from around the country, outside of D.C., to celebrate our successes and develop creative approaches to shared challenges. I know that this year’s meeting in Kansas City will provide just such an opportunity. We’re grateful to the members and staff of the International Relations Council for their hospitality and preparation and to all of you for journeying to join us this week. Thank you for your commitment to this important work.

Sincerely,

Bill Clifford, WACA President and CEO

From the IRC President

Dear friends,

Thank you for joining us in the Heartland for the 2019 Council Leadership and Board Meetings. It is a pleasure to welcome Council executives and board members from around the country for a meaningful time of connection, reflection, and learning. During my time on the board of the International Relations Council (IRC), the WACA affiliate in Kansas City, I have seen the value of interfacing with other councils and know that the sessions and activities planned for the next few days will strengthen relationships and offer new perspectives on different aspects of our shared work.

Kansas City is a vibrant community with significant international influence and reach, and we trust you will enjoy your time here. Should you need anything during your stay, don’t hesitate to call on the IRC Executive Director Matthew Hughes and his team. Members of the IRC board of directors and generous IRC volunteers look forward to meeting you in the days ahead and deepening our ties with all of you in the coming months.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Bell, 2019 IRC Board President
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Thursday, June 13 • Opening Reception and Great Decisions Lecture

WACA National Board Members, Council Executives & Staff, Council Board Members

Afternoon

4 p.m.  A Arrivals
5:30  B Optional: VIP tour of National WWI Museum & Memorial – arrive earlier to walk around grounds
6:00  B WWI Museum: WACA + VIP hosted reception
6:30-8:00  B Great Decisions Forum: Refugees & Global Migration
8:15  C Optional: No-host dinner (separate checks, no program) – Jack Stack Barbecue
9:30  D Optional: Green Lady Lounge for classic Kansas City jazz

Overnight

A Ambassador Hotel (1111 Grand Blvd., Kansas City, MO 64106)

Friday, June 14 • WACA Council Leadership Meeting

WACA National Board Members, Council Executives & Staff, Council Board Members

8:30 a.m.  E Continental breakfast available in KC Chamber Board Room at Union Station
8:45  E Welcome to KC: Mayor Sly James & Narbeli Galindo, Director of International Affairs, EDCKC
9:00  E Icebreaker
9:25  E Opening Session: WACA Update and Q&A: Bill Clifford, WACA President & CEO
10:00  E Considerations for Membership Organizations: Matthew Hughes, International Relations Council
10:20  E Breakout Sessions: Membership Models Around WACA
11:15  E Break
11:30  E Project Update: The Whole Truth with David Eisenhower: Craig Snyder, President & CEO, WAC Philadelphia, and special guest Mary Eisenhower, President, People to People International
12:00 p.m.  F Walk across bridge to Lidia’s Kansas City
12:30  F Lunch with discussion
1:00  F Session: The Imperative of Planning for Resilience and Sustainability: Dr. David Renz, Midwest Center for Nonprofit Leadership
2:00  E Walk across bridge to Union Station
2:30  E Session: We’re Better Together: The Collaboration Continuum: Matthew Hughes
3:00  E Panel: Community Partners
3:45  E Closing: Bill Clifford
4:00  A Break
5:15  A Travel to reception; bus pickup at Ambassador Hotel – please be prompt
5:45  A Reception at the home of International Relations Council Vice President Holly Nielsen
6:45  E Evening speaker: Uzra Zeya, President & CEO, Alliance for Peacebuilding
8:15  A Bus pickup back to hotel
8:30  Optional: Evening entertainment – location TBA

Overnight

A Ambassador Hotel (1111 Grand Blvd., Kansas City, MO 64106)

Saturday, June 15 • WACA National Board Meeting and a Chance to Explore KC

WACA National Board Members

8:30 a.m.  G Continental breakfast available at the Diastole Scholars’ Center
8:45  G Welcome from Jim McKusick, President, Edgar Snow Memorial Foundation
9:00-12:00  G Board meeting

Others

9:30 a.m.  Optional: Kansas City tour – meet in lobby of Ambassador Hotel

Optional for All 1:30-3:00 p.m. VIP tour of Harry S. Truman Presidential Library & Museum
A  Ambassador Hotel – 1111 Grand Blvd., Kansas City, MO 64106
B  National World War I Museum and Memorial – 2 Memorial Dr., Kansas City, MO 64108
C  Jack Stack Barbecue/Freight House – 101 W 22nd St. #300, Kansas City, MO 64108
D  Green Lady Lounge – 1809 Grand Blvd., Kansas City, MO 64108
E  Kansas City Chamber Board Room in Union Station – 30 W. Pershing Rd., Kansas City, MO 64108
F  Lidia's Kansas City – 101 W 22nd St., Kansas City, MO 64108
G  Diastole Scholars' Center – 2501 Holmes St., Kansas City, MO 64108

Streetcar stops (free to ride) nearest Ambassador Hotel and Union Station
Getting to/from the Ambassador Hotel to/from Kansas City International Airport (MCI)
Uber/Lyft ($27 estimated fare) or a taxi ($50 estimated fare) are your best bets for getting between the hotel and the airport. Transportation will be provided for all scheduled events during your stay in Kansas City, but attendees will be responsible for their own transportation to/from the airport.

A→B Thursday • Getting to the World War I Museum from the Ambassador Hotel
Kansas City operates a free-to-ride streetcar on a 2.2-mile loop through downtown. To get to the World War I Museum from the Ambassador Hotel, walk to the streetcar stop on the west side of 12th Street.

Take the streetcar to its last stop at Union Station. Walk across Pershing Road and up the hill to the main entrance of the World War I Museum.

Alternately, you may take an Uber/Lyft or taxi.
**Thursday • Getting to Jack Stack and the Green Lady Lounge**

IRC volunteers will transport you from the World War I Museum to dinner and from dinner to the Green Lady Lounge. Both dinner and evening jazz are optional. If you prefer to return to the Ambassador Hotel, it is a quick trip on the northbound streetcar to the Metro Center stop at 12th and Main.

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**Thursday • Getting to the Ambassador Hotel from the Green Lady Lounge**

When you are ready to return to the Ambassador Hotel, walk to Main Street and take the streetcar north from the Crossroads stop at 19th and Main to the Metro Center stop at 12th and Main.
Friday • Getting to the KC Chamber Board Room in Union Station from the Hotel

To get to Union Station from the Ambassador Hotel, walk to the streetcar stop on the west side of 12th Street.

Take the streetcar to its last stop, enter Union Station through the main entrance, and find the KC Chamber Board Room in the southeast corner.
Friday • Getting to/from Lidia’s Kansas City to/from the KC Chamber Board Room
Using the map of Union Station above, walk through the Grand Hall and Grand Plaza and follow signs for Freight House Bridge Access. Cross the railroad tracks and find Lidia’s on the far end of the parking lot. Reverse the route to return to the board room.

Friday • Getting to the Ambassador Hotel from Union Station
You’re a pro by now – take the streetcar back to the Metro Center stop at 12th and Main.

Friday • Getting to/from Holly Nielsen’s house for the evening reception
A bus will leave the Ambassador Hotel promptly at 5:15 p.m. on Friday. The bus will leave Holly Nielsen’s house to return at 8:15 p.m., arriving at approximately 8:40.

Saturday • Getting to Diastole Scholars’ Center for the WACA National Board Meeting
Diastole Scholars’ Center is a 0.6-mile walk from the Union Station streetcar stop (see map below). Alternately, you may take an Uber/Lyft or taxi.

Saturday • Getting to the Truman Library for the afternoon tour
IRC volunteers will transport you from Diastole Scholars’ Center or the Kansas City tour to the Truman Library and back to the Ambassador Hotel afterwards.
Hon. Sly James, Mayor of Kansas City, Missouri
Mayor Sly James was sworn in as the 56th Mayor of Kansas City, Missouri, on March 22, 2011. Since taking office, he has focused his efforts towards making Kansas City best in four key areas: Education, Employment, Efficiency, and Enforcement. Born and raised in Kansas City on the city's eastside, he graduated from Bishop Hogan High School in Kansas City in 1969. After serving his country as a military police officer in the Marines from 1971-1975 in California, the Philippines, and Japan during the Vietnam War, Mayor James graduated cum laude from Rockhurst College with a B.A. in English. He then went on to earn his law degree, also cum laude, from the University of Minnesota in 1983. Prior to his election, Mayor James enjoyed a successful legal career which spanned almost three decades. Mayor James has been married to Licia Clifton-James since 1981 and is the proud father of four children. Mayor James was re-elected to a second term on June 23, 2015, with 87% of the vote.

Narbeli Galindo, Director of International Affairs, EDCKC
Narbeli Galindo is an accomplished international marketing, management, business development, and finance professional with over 30 years of international corporate, academia, and business experience. As of January 1, 2015, she became the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) Director of International Affairs. She is responsible for all global aspects of the Kansas City, Missouri, including providing resources and assisting KC global local companies and businesses regarding export & import opportunities. She also acquires and attracts initiatives for Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs) to increase capital investment and job creation in KC and managing and welcoming International Dignitaries to increase cultural and trade ties. As of today, she has accomplished welcoming and working with over 213 governmental officials from all over the globe, assisting over 235 local companies to exports and welcomed over 35 companies from 50 countries.

Bill Clifford, President & CEO, World Affairs Councils of America
Bill Clifford is President and CEO of the World Affairs Councils of America in Washington, DC, where he leads WACA's national office and represents its nonpartisan nonprofit network of more than 90 World Affairs Councils across the United States. In March 2017, he was appointed nonresident senior fellow at the Foreign Policy Institute of the Johns Hopkins University's Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). Before joining WACA in September 2013, Bill spearheaded the revitalization and growth of WorldBoston, a WACA member Council known for innovative programming, access to leaders, and a tradition of advancing public learning about critical international issues. Previously, Bill served as Asia bureau chief for the pioneering multimedia venture CBS MarketWatch, where he launched and directed news bureaus in Japan and Hong Kong. He got his start in broadcast news with Asia Business News TV and was senior correspondent in Tokyo for CNBC Asia after its merger with ABN. Bill began his work in journalism reporting on international economics, finance, and politics for several newspapers. Bill holds an M.A. from Johns Hopkins SAIS, a B.A. summa cum laude in international relations and French literature from Tufts University, and a C.E.P from Sciences Po in Paris.

Matthew Hughes, Executive Director, International Relations Council (Kansas City)
Matthew Hughes has been executive director of the International Relations Council since July 2016. Hughes' professional experience bridges the education and nonprofit sectors. A K-12 teacher for six years and fluent in Spanish, Hughes has worked with students ranging from age 4 through adult learners. He has developed curricula for schools and nonprofits, is a dynamic trainer and presenter, and has served on the board of several organizations, including the United Nations Association of Greater Kansas City and the Kansas City Sister Cities Association. Matthew relishes the chance to travel and has experience living internationally, including in South America and on the U.S.-Mexico border. Prior to the IRC, Hughes managed Global Education Programs for People to People International. Hughes holds a Master of Education degree from the University of Notre Dame and a Master of Arts degree in Global & International Studies from the University of Kansas. He has also completed a graduate certificate in Nonprofit Management & Innovation from the University of Missouri–Kansas City.
Craig Snyder, President & CEO, World Affairs Council of Philadelphia

After a career in government, and as the founder and CEO of a Washington, D.C.-based public affairs consultancy, Craig Snyder returned to his hometown to lead the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia. Craig was confirmed in December 2012 as the Council's President and CEO, overseeing the region's premier educational organization dedicated to fostering public understanding of national and international policy issues. Snyder began his career at the Council more than thirty years ago, but left to pursue politics—as a candidate for United States Congress, Chief of Staff to Senator Arlen Specter, a lobbyist and a political consultant. Craig's knowledge of legislative and foreign affairs, coupled with his passion for promoting civil discourse, provide the ideal set of qualifications for advancing the organization to the next level of success.

Mary Eisenhower, President & Chairman Emeritus, People to People International

Mary Jean Eisenhower was born in Washington, D.C. The granddaughter of President Dwight D. Eisenhower, she grew up near Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, before her father was appointed U.S. Ambassador to Belgium and relocated the family abroad. As Chairman Emeritus of People to People International (PTPI), Mary has traveled to more than 75 countries, visiting demining teams and Peace Camps while supporting student and cultural programs. She established the PTPI Friendship Fund as a way to give back to the facilities and friends PTPI visits globally. Mary also launched “Peace Camp 2003: An Evolution of Thought & Action” and “The Global Peace Initiative.” These efforts brought people from more than 30 nationalities together to Egypt, Jordan and Turkey to discuss issues and reach a better understanding of their individual cultures. Among her many notable honors, Mary has received the Knight of Peace Award from the International University in Italy, the Medal of Honor from the Slovak Republic, The Consular Corps Award of Excellence, The Harry S. Truman Award for Public Service, and the Friendship Ambassador from The People's Republic of China. She also received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Schiller International University, Park University, and William Jewell College.

Dr. David Renz, Director, Midwest Center for Nonprofit Leadership

David Renz is the Beth K. Smith/Missouri Chair in Nonprofit Leadership and Director of the Midwest Center for Nonprofit Leadership. David earned his Ph.D. in Organization Studies from the University of Minnesota. An award-winning educator and scholar, David teaches and conducts research on nonprofit and public service leadership, especially nonprofit governance and board effectiveness. David's current research focuses on governance and management in networks and socially-entrepreneurial organizations. Recently, David was recognized with the 2017 “Distinguished Achievement in Leadership and Nonprofit and Voluntary Action Research Award” from the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action. David writes frequently for both the academic and practice communities and, with his colleagues and coauthors, has produced more than 130 chapters, reports, and articles for journals such as Nonprofit Management and Leadership, The Nonprofit Quarterly, Strategic Governance, Public Administration Review, and Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly. He also is editor of the recent editions of The Jossey-Bass Handbook of Nonprofit Leadership and Management and he co-edited The Research Handbook on Entrepreneurs’ Engagement in Philanthropy.

Uzra Zeya, President & CEO, Alliance for Peacebuilding

As CEO and President of the Alliance for Peacebuilding, Uzra Zeya leads a network of over 100 organizations working in 153 countries to end conflict through peaceful means. Secretary of State John Kerry welcomed her January 2018 appointment by declaring, “After doing so much for so long to advance the cause of peace and human dignity on a global basis, Uzra is ideally suited to lead and help transform modern peacebuilding efforts in a new era.” Over the course of a distinguished, 27-year diplomatic career, Ms. Zeya championed a more just, peaceful and sustainable world across five continents. As Chargé d’Affaires and Deputy Chief of Mission at U.S. Embassy Paris from 2014 to 2017, she led the U.S. response to three major terror attacks and forged unprecedented cooperation with France in combating terrorism in Africa and the Middle East, countering Russian aggression and malign influence in Europe, and mobilizing global action to confront climate change. Uzra is a Senior Non-Resident Fellow at Georgetown University’s Institute for the Study of Diplomacy, where she taught graduate level coursework on diplomatic tradecraft and U.S.-European relations. Since leaving government, she also served as a Senior Advisor at Albright Stonebridge Group and a Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress. She speaks French, Arabic, and Spanish.
On-Site Contacts

April Diaz
International Relations Council
Thursday and Friday
816-562-9245

Matthew Hughes
International Relations Council
Thursday, Friday, Saturday
913-953-7400

Liz Brailsford
World Affairs Councils of America
Thursday, Friday, Saturday
202-818-9215

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