

BEST WISHES TO ALL

Season's greetings to all of our members of the World Affairs Council of Albuquerque and to our reciprocal members at Global Santa Fe and Global Ties Albuquerque. The past several months have seen the continuation of our strong dinner lecture series and additional progress as WACABQ moves forward in several initiatives to expand the breadth of our programs and awareness of the Council in Albuquerque and beyond.

OUR RECENT MEETINGS

The 2d Quarter of the Council's 74th program year again delivered three outstanding presentations. At our October dinner meeting, Dr. Evan Ellis of the US Army War College outlined geopolitical issues in Latin America and, in November, Professor Gary Grossman from Arizona State University provided vastly insightful observations on Turkey's current internal politics and foreign policy under President Erdogan. Ambassador William Taylor from the US Institute of Peace wrapped up the quarter with a captivating analysis of the current state of play in Ukraine.



Recent WACABQ speakers: Dr. Evan Ellis, Dr. Gary Grossman and Amb. William Taylor

WHAT'S ON TAP

Our next quarter begins with a question, “The Year of Living Dangerously? Asia in 2024 !!!” on 18 January with Ambassador Will Itoh. Program Committee members, led by Chair Bob McGuire and assisted by Jemima Lewis, are eager for members to suggest areas of interest for follow-on sessions. Among topics currently being considered are: an overview of the global implications of America’s new Space Force, aspects of shifting global population patterns, and geopolitical issues in Africa.



Ambassador William H. Itoh

OUR HIGH SCHOOL PARTICIPANTS

During the quarter, WACABQ continued to build on its several student and young adult programs. Driven by Board Member Robanne Harrison, delegations from five local high schools participated in our monthly dinner/discussion sessions: Manzano, La Cueva, St Pius X, East Mountain and Albuquerque Academy, and several Board members played active roles in the New Mexico High School Model UN event at the State Capitol in Santa Fe. We continued to

reinforce awareness of the Global Educator of the Year award process that we initiated in August, coordinating with our sister World Affairs Council in Dallas on participation of our award winner in the four-day training session in July.



Area high school students attending the 7 December discussion on Ukraine

WACABQ'S UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

At the university level, WACABQ nominated a University of New Mexico student, Ella Hatfield, for a scholarship from the World Affairs Council of America national office to attend the

organization's four-day national conference. Ella won one of the 25 awards nationwide and was selected from those 25 scholarship winners to give the student speech at the full conference.



Ella Hatfield describes her impressions from the WACA National Conference

THE YOUNG PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM

The Council program continues to provide young professionals from the Shapers public service organization with two annual memberships and coverage of all dinner meetings for the program year. Jean and Bob Gough are sponsoring Celeste Nunez, a member of Albuquerque's In-

ternational Trade Organization, for a full-year scholarship while Susan and Bob McGuire underwrite a rotating scholarship among Shapers members, this month awarded to Shaper Miguel Sabol.



Jean and Bob Gough with Young Professional scholarship winner Celeste Nunez

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS IN ALBUQUERQUE AND SANTA FE

The Council continues to explore opportunities to broaden Council interaction among Albuquerque's internationally oriented non-profit organizations. We are looking at ways to expand further the formal reciprocal membership agreement with Global Ties Albuquerque (GTA) announced earlier this year and formalizing the informal reciprocal relationship with Global Santa Fe. Keep in mind your reciprocal membership in these two partner organizations as we forward to you announcements of their opportunities for which WACABQ members are eligible.

NEW SOCIAL MEDIA SITES UP AND RUNNING

In September, WACABQ launched two long overdue social media sites. Led by Board Member Aaron Velasquez and executed by Esther Hewitt, Facebook and Instagram sites are up and running as we work to broaden awareness of the Council and our opportunities in the local area and beyond. I encourage all our members to check out these sites, use them as a supplement to the email announcements you receive and refer them to acquaintances who may be interested in World Affairs Council events and what else we have to offer. The link to our Facebook site, “World Affairs Council of ABQ” is: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61551637121498&mibextid=LQQJ4d>. The link to our Instagram site is: https://instagram.com/worldaffairsabq?igshid=OGQ5ZDc2ODk2ZA%3D%3D&utm_source=qr.

TELL US – AND OTHERS WHO MIGHT HAVE INTEREST – WHAT YOU THINK

As the World Affairs Council of Albuquerque goes forward, we seek input from all of our members on their desires and suggestions to enhance our mission to broaden international awareness in the community. We encourage everyone to spread the word about Council membership among others who might enjoy – and benefit – from what it has to offer members and guests. The board also asks for your help as WACABQ rebuilds its list of sponsors supporting various Council programs – commercial enterprises, financial institutions, professional organizations, fraternal societies and others that have interests in global affairs education.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Wishing all of WACABQ the best for a happy and rewarding holiday season and new year. We appreciate your continuing membership and look forward to you joining us for all of our upcoming events.

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