



Bringing the World Closer

**EDUCATION**
**2011 Ambassador Marilyn McAfee Scholarship Awarded**


Chris Garson

The Council awarded its annual **\$1,200 Ambassador Marilyn McAfee Scholarship** to **Christopher J. Garson**, a senior majoring in International Business and Economics at Jacksonville University (JU).

Chris is a dual citizen of the U.S. and Greece, with advanced language proficiency in Korean. He intends to continue his internationally focused research in graduate school and pursue a career in federal service, focusing on national security.

A member of the JU Honors Student Association, Chris has excelled academically in his programs of study. At the same time, he has gained significant professional experience through his work as an independent information security consultant for both, domestic and international corporations. As President and Co-Founder of the non-profit, public charity Hatua International, Inc., he engages in micro-fundraising through social media and modern technology to help feed starving populations worldwide.

Chris intends to use the scholarship to help fund an internship with the U.S. Department of State. We congratulate him on his award and wish him the best of luck with his future endeavors!

Uli Decker

**JUNE EVENTS**

**June 7, noon**

Panel Discussion: The Future of Korea  
 River Club

\$50 (Council Members) / \$75 (Non-Members) / \$1,000 (Table Sponsor)

**June 14, 6:00 p.m.**

Annual Member Celebration: Featuring Dinner & Dialogue with Ambassador Nancy Soderberg and Admiral Jonathan Howe  
 The River Club

\$50 (Council Members) / \$60 (Non-Members)

**Chairman's Message**


Jonathan Howe

April was a banner month with a very enjoyable WorldQuest evening, two illuminating talks by Pulitzer Prize winning author **Jon Meacham**, a salute to members, and a culminating crisis management exercise at UNF.

In the exercise, forty-six students from nine high schools (that participate in the Great Decisions Program) dealt with a challenging and unfolding scenario in Libya. I know all of you join me in extending our special thanks to **Trina**, **Uli** and **Ellen** for organizing and conducting these very successful April events.

We will close this season in June with two enjoyable events at the River Club. At lunch on June 7 we will explore the future of Korea with a panel of three visiting experts. Our annual meeting on the evening of June 14 will include a discussion during dinner of current global challenges. I look forward to participating with you in these dialogues.

As we prepare for our new year of programs, which begins in September, I wanted to share with you the results of a survey of leaders of 90 World Affairs Councils to identify the top six National Security Issues facing the U.S. in the run-up to the 2012 Presidential election. You won't be surprised that four of the choices were: the Middle East, U.S. Economic Competiveness, China, and Afghanistan/Pakistan. Interestingly,

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**WORLDQUEST 2011**
**Shaken Up and Served With a Twist**


Memory Palace Mnemonics

Through a fabulous team effort, it looks like the World Affairs Council will net about **\$21,500** from WorldQuest 2011, benefitting the Council's education outreach through Great Decisions, Academic WorldQuest and the Marilyn McAfee Scholarship. With **21 teams** participating and **9 teams** competing in the inaugural Corporate Round, this turned out to be a spirited evening indeed!

The focus of the evening was truly on the students. Members of the winning Academic WorldQuest team from **Stanton** served as "life-lines" for each round of competition via a lively auction. Members of the **Nease NJROTC** assisted with the silent auction and served as "runners." Students from **The International Culinary School at The Art Institute of Jacksonville** created and served a world-class dinner with true international flair. **The University of North Florida President's Trio** provided jazzy musical accompaniment.

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## EDUCATION

## ICME Focus: A Crisis In Libya



Hilliard Students at ICME

In partnership with UNF, the Council hosted the 2011 International Crisis Management Exercise (ICME) on Saturday, April 16. ICME

is the culminating activity of the Council's after-school enrichment program, Great Decisions, and provides high school participants with an opportunity to apply the knowledge, critical-thinking and decision-making skills honed over the past year. Also, this hands-on experience demonstrates to students the complexity of international crisis management and the pressure that decision-makers are under in the face of rapidly changing circumstances, competing interests and growing dangers.

With **Admiral Jonathan Howe, USN (Ret.)** and **Ambassador Nancy Soderberg** acting as U.S. Presidents, forty-six students from nine local high schools gathered to assume the role of the National Security Council (NSC), working together to come up with recommendations regarding various aspects of a scripted crisis unfolding in Libya.

Participants researched their respective NSC roles and were briefed on the scenario prior to the exercise. During the course of the day, curveballs were thrown in as 'troublemakers' provided updates on regional developments and reactions from around the globe, forcing the NSC members to think quickly and creatively to adjust their strategy. Students compared notes during a post crisis lunch.

Many thanks to the 'presidents,' Jon and Nancy as well as the 'heads of the trouble-makers,' **Toni Chrobot**, **Elizabeth Porter** and **Daniel Gilham**, who dedicated their time and expertise and made this role-play exercise come alive!

Uli Decker

## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE, FROM PAGE 1

the other two were: 1) U.S. Education, Competing Globally, (a topic our program committee has been considering for several years); and 2) U.S. Energy Policy. It is not too late to give us your feedback (by email, Facebook or telephone) about speakers you'd like to hear discuss the challenges suggested by the survey or other topics you may find compelling. Program Chair **Dori Walton** is beginning to put together the schedule. Her committee includes: **Nancy Soderberg**, **Sandy Cook**, **Marty Jones** and **Marilyn McAfee**. **John Burr**, **Cecilia Bryant**, and **Wayne Galloway** also help **Marty** select Global Business Luncheon speakers. Please share your preferences for the coming Council year with **Dori** or one of the committee members. We hope to make it a year of lively dialogue!

**Admiral Jonathan T. Howe, USN (Ret.), Chairman, World Affairs Council of Jacksonville**

## YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

## Global Exchange... Connecting &amp; Enlightening



YPs Discuss Environmental Challenges

In partnership with the **International Visitor Corps of Jacksonville (IVCJax)** and as part of the Council's ongoing commitment to encouraging dialogue on globalization and transnational issues, the Young Professionals (YPs) hosted a Global Exchange on Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation on April 13 at **The River Club**. Joining the YPs for some lively roundtable discussions were five visiting delegates from Benin, Croatia, Grenada, Sri Lanka and Zambia. These delegates were in the U.S. to

learn about similarities and differences in ecological approaches and research as well as to discuss the politics of environmental protection.

At the end of the evening, there was overwhelming consensus that preserving our planet, its natural resources and biodiversity, can only be achieved by educating the youth and implementing concrete steps to build awareness, understanding and commitment to sustainable practices.

Many thanks to the moderators for facilitating this impactful dialogue, and to the generous event sponsors **Deutsche Bank** and **The Gate Governors Club**.

Uli Decker

## WORLDQUEST 2011, FROM PAGE 1

**Aloft Tapestry Park** provided a fun and eclectic venue and **WJCT's Melissa Ross**, as the event emcee, set the tone for the evening. What a treat to have the producer and host who has interviewed our guest speakers throughout the year on 89.9, guide us through the rounds of competition.

Thank you to all who took part in the evening, creating those questions, filling tables, sponsoring tables, donating items for the silent auction and bidding on items. To view photos snapped that evening, just click on the facebook symbol on our web page and it will take you to the pictures. Here are the results...

- **WorldQuest 2011 Champions:** *OctoMoms and Dads* (led by Paul Goodwin)
- **WorldQuest 2011 Second Place Winners:** *First Coast Cardiovascular Institute* (led by Yazan Khatib) & *The Optimists* (led by Jon Howe)...after many ferocious rounds of Sudden Death
- **WorldQuest 2011 Inaugural Corporate Round Winner:** *WJCT* (led by Michael Boylan)
- **WorldQuest 2011 Best Team Name:** *The Memory Palace Mnemonics* (led by Gail Sterman)

Trina Medarev

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