

FEBRUARY 2011

# DIALOGUE



**WORLD AFFAIRS**  
COUNCIL  
JACKSONVILLE

Bringing the World Closer

## GLOBAL ISSUES EVENINGS PRESENT

### “The United States and Russia: Two Years after the Reset”



**Ambassador Steven Pifer**  
*Director of the Brookings Arms  
Control Initiative and former  
U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine*

Tuesday, March 8, 2011  
7:00-8:00 p.m.  
University of North Florida,  
University Center

*A special Global Issues Evening presentation, celebrating  
the life of service of Rear Admiral Max Morris, USN*

Sponsored by: Water Street Capital, Coastal Construction  
Products, Inc. and William & Barbara Harrell  
Media Sponsors: Florida Times-Union and WJCT



Call (904) 280-8162 by March 4 to reserve your  
complimentary ticket and special Council seating

*Premier Members and Sponsors are also invited to a  
special pre-event reception hosted from  
6:00–6:45 p.m. at the UNF University Center  
RSVP to (904) 280-8162 by March 4*

## SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS AND SPONSORS

### “The Art of Seating: 200 Years of American Design”



Tuesday, March 15, 2011  
6:00-8:30 p.m.  
Museum of Contemporary Art Jacksonville  
(MOCA): A Cultural Resource of UNF  
333 North Laura Street  
Jacksonville, FL 32202

#### Evening Highlights

- cocktail reception
- remarks by Diane DeMell Jacobsen, Ph.D.
- tour of the exhibit featuring 44 treasured chairs from the Jacobsen Collection of American Art

Space is limited, and complimentary reservations will be  
accepted on a first-come, first-served basis at (904) 280-8162

## Chairman's Message



Jonathan Howe

I am really looking forward to our offerings this month. As the award-winning chief Washington correspondent for the *New York Times*, **David Sanger** covers a wide variety of national security issues. He is an expert on the emerging nuclear threats of this new era and has written a best seller about the new Administration, *The Inheritance: the World Obama Confronts and the Challenges to American Power*. He also will undoubtedly have some observations on the US approach to the crisis in the Middle East. It should make an interesting and thought-provoking evening at UNF. Please invite your friends and plan to go to dinner afterwards and discuss what you think Mr. Sanger got right and where you would disagree with his analysis.

We are honored to have business leader **Maurice Greenberg** with us the following week for a Global Business lunch. The former Chairman of AIG has focused in the last four years on doing business in China. As one friend told me recently, “there isn’t anyone better on the subject of working with China.” This presentation helps us celebrate the lives of two long-time supporters of the Council, **Governor Fred Schultz** and **Mr. John J. Mackowski**.

It will also be very enjoyable to attend the special reception for Ambassador’s Circle Members and Sponsors on February 22 at which our own **Dr. Carole Barnett**, back from an 18 month sabbatical at the United Arab Emirates University, will share her fascinating insights about teaching in that part of the world and give us a chance to exchange views about implications of the current crisis in Egypt.

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## SPECIAL EVENTS



### WorldQuest 2011...Shaken Up and Served With a Twist

Don't miss this spirited, fast-paced international trivia contest, played with teams of eight, benefitting the Council's educational outreach. This year's event will be held on Tuesday, April 5 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. at **Aloft Jacksonville Tapestry Park**.

The evening kicks-off with a corporate round titled, “*First Coast Connections to the Global Economy*” with emcee, **Melissa Ross**, host of WJCT's First Coast Connect, providing a unique opportunity for corporate team building. The traditional five round competition then ensues. Categories include...*The Rise of China as a Global Power; Cuisine & Culture; Quotable Quotes; Africa & the Middle East; and The Digital Wave*. Not feeling well versed in one of these categories? Not to worry! Members of the winning Academic WorldQuest team from Stanton serve as “life-lines” for each round via a spirited live auction. Prizes will even be awarded for the best team name!

**Corporate and Continental Sponsor Tables (eight participants) – \$1,000**  
**Tables of eight (not taking part in the corporate round) – \$500**  
**Individual tickets – \$65**

Call Trina at (904) 280-8162 to learn more and register.

**COUNCIL STAFF**

## New Team Member



**Ulrike "Uli" Decker**

On February 1, **Ulrike "Uli" Decker** joined the Council staff as Director of Education and Community Outreach. Uli has served as the Study Abroad Coordinator at the University of North Florida for the past three and a half years, acting as the point person for promotional events and developing the collateral material

to recruit students for international programs. Prior to that, she worked as a Project Assistant in International Programming at the non-profit organization Carl Duisberg Centren in Cologne, Germany.

Uli has a Master of Arts in *Euroculture* from Georg-August Universität, Göttingen (Germany)/Uppsala Universitet, Uppsala (Sweden) and a Bachelor of Arts in *Modern Languages and Cultural Mediation* from Syddansk Universitet, Sønderborg (Denmark)/University of Miami, Florida (USA). Although German is Uli's native language, she is fluent in English, can converse in Danish and has basic knowledge of Spanish, French and Swedish.

Our very special thanks to the outgoing Director of Education and Community Outreach, **Vanessa K. Harper** for her many contributions in furthering the Council's education and Young Professionals programs. We are most appreciative of her continued involvement with the Great Decisions scholarship program at **Ribault High School**, with support from **EverBank (David Strickland)** and **Take Stock in Children**.

**Barbara A. B. Gubbin**

### WINTER & SPRING CALENDAR

<b>Feb. 8, 7:00 p.m.</b> David Sanger UNF, University Center	<b>April 5, 6:00 p.m.</b> Fundraising Event WorldQuest Aloft Hotel
<b>Feb. 15, noon</b> Hank Greenberg The River Club	<b>April 8, 6:30 p.m.</b> JSO Nordic Fusion Times-Union Center
<b>Feb. 22, 6:00 p.m.</b> Sponsor & A.C. Member Event Carole Barnett, Ph.D. Hosted by Bill & Dori Walton	<b>April 12, noon</b> Jon Meacham The River Club
<b>March 8, 7:00 p.m.</b> Steven Pifer UNF, University Center	<b>April 12, 7:00 p.m.</b> Jon Meacham UNF, University Center
<b>March 15, 6:00 p.m.</b> Sponsor & Member Event Diane DeMell Jacobsen, Ph.D. Museum of Contemporary Art	<b>May 20, 6:30 p.m.</b> JSO British Fusion Times-Union Center

**CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE, FROM PAGE 1**

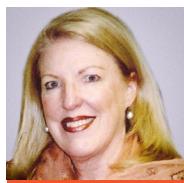
**Ambassador Vershbow**, who was scheduled to speak in March, has recently been informed that he will need to accompany Secretary Gates on a trip to Europe and won't be able to join us on March 8. Fortunately, Russian and arms control expert **Steven Pifer**, a former Ambassador to the Ukraine, who focuses on Russia and Europe and currently leads the Brookings Arms Control Initiative, will be able to join us on that evening. He'll be talking about what has worked and not worked in the still important US-Russian relationship during the two-year period of "reset" and the challenges going forward. Author, editor and TV host **Jon Meacham** will be our featured speaker in April.

As many of you know, we begin February with a new Director of Education and Community Outreach. We are very pleased that the talented **Ulrike 'Uli' Decker** has joined our staff team. We look forward to getting to know her better in the months ahead. I want to congratulate and thank **Vanessa K. Harper** for what she has achieved in strengthening our educational programs and the Young Professionals Group. As Vanessa advances her professional career, she will continue to be a strong contributor to the Council's work as a "volunteer."

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

**MEMBERSHIP "TIP OF THE MONTH"**

## A Benefit of Ambassador's Circle Membership



**Carole Barnett**

Did you know that Council Ambassador's Circle Members take part in many special engagements throughout the season? These "evenings of dialogue" encourage discourse on timely and engaging topics and feature visiting speakers, local educators and community leaders. Gatherings are intimate in size and hosted at private homes as well as at **The River Club** and **The Haskell Building**. The next of these discussions will be hosted at the Ortega home of **Bill and Dori Walton** on February 22, and will focus on "Sustainability and Cultural Diversity in the Middle East." **Dr. Carole C. Barnett**, Chair of the Humanities Department at Jacksonville University, has just returned from teaching in the UAE for eighteen months, and will reflect upon and discuss her experiences there. Earlier in the season, evenings of dialogue included conversations with Global Issues Evenings and Global Business Luncheons speakers including **Hunter Lovins** and **T.R. Reid**, as well as *Folio Weekly's* "Person of the Year," **Dr. Parvez Ahmed**.

The opportunity to listen to these informed speakers and then engage in thoughtful and spirited dialogue is a valuable member benefit indeed. Please consider joining the Council or upgrading your membership to the Ambassador's Circle level, and let the dialogue begin.

**Shereth Coble**

**YOUNG PROFESSIONALS**

## Enlightening and Inspiring

In an effort to increase the effectiveness of our Young Professionals (YP) Group, we have created a committee with responsibility for membership, special events, Global Exchanges, sponsorships and the YP Mentor Program. Each of these committee chairs will work to ensure we are supporting the Council's mission of educating the citizens of Northeast Florida on global issues. We are excited to take this next step in our YP development and encourage other interested YP members to call the office to become more involved.

**Daniel R. Gilham**