Message from the Chairman:

Dear Members and Friends,

It is an honor for me to serve as Chairman of the World Affairs Council of Orange County, Orange County’s premiere forum for international affairs. I am particularly pleased to serve this year with the outstanding members serving on both our Executive Board and Board of Trustees. We benefit so much from the generosity of their time and considerable expertise.

Our Council is also part of the World Affairs Councils of America, a non-profit and non-partisan national organization based in Washington DC. Our continued mission is to educate and inform our members and community citizens on important and critical world issues through our speaker programs and Q & A Sessions. We strive to make events an enjoyable opportunity to meet and socialize with OC’s community and business leaders and like-minded citizens.

The fall season saw three successful events that focused on topics ranging from the future of Egypt and Syria with return speaker Dr. James Zogby, a panel of experts in the fields of ancient Near East studies and Human Rights discussing the Cyrus Cylinder and a book signing and special presentation from Juan Zarate, former Deputy Assistant to the President and senior national security analyst for CBS News.

It was a special pleasure for the Council to host Juan Zarate as he grew up in Orange County and graduated from Mater Dei High School before then going on to Harvard University and Harvard Law School. We were honored to have members of Mr. Zarate’s family in attendance, Dr. Alfredo Zarate and his brother, Alfredo Zarate, Jr.

I am excited to announce our upcoming Annual Holiday Dinner Celebration with His Excellency Gary Doer, Ambassador of Canada to the United States. Holiday musical performances will be by internationally-acclaimed tenor Cesar Sanchez, pianist Mark Salters, Professor of Music at Cal State Fullerton and Director of the Opera Studies Department, and the Servite High School choir.

We invite you, your family, friends and guests to join us on Thursday, December 19th at the Fairmont Newport Beach Hotel. The event is a long-standing tradition in Orange County and we look forward to celebrating the holiday season again together. Consider inviting business colleagues and associates who also may have an interest in world affairs. We would enjoy welcoming them to our international community. I truly look forward to an exciting and rewarding year ahead with the Council.

Leslie M. McNamara
Chairman

To Register:
Please call 949-253-5751
Or
Go to our website at: www.worldaffairscouncil.org
**Academic WorldQuest 2014**

We are pleased to announce our 6th Annual Academic WorldQuest Competition which will be held among Orange County High Schools on Saturday, February 8, 2014 at Chapman University.

Academic WorldQuest is a global knowledge competition in which teams of four high school students are asked rounds of 10 questions, each covering such topics as current affairs, world leaders, geography, recent history, countries, regions, the world economy, culture, religion, and more. The team with the highest point total at the end of all ten rounds is the winner. There will be prizes for top teams and certificates presented to all high school students who participate.

The winning team will travel to Washington DC to compete at the National World Affairs Councils of America in April. Recruit your team of trivia all-stars and join us for an evening of fun, food, and friendly competition!

If you would like to be a student or team sponsor for this event, please call 949-253-5751.

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To become a member, call 949-253-5751 or go to www.worldaffairscouncil.org

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Member Happenings

On October 1, 2013, Juan Basombrio, a partner with Dorsey & Whitney LLP law firm in their Costa Mesa office, was quoted in the Wall Street Journal, in connection with defeating attempts of purported creditors to derail the first ever international sovereign bond issuance by the Republic of Honduras. Juan represented the Republic of Honduras in federal court in New York, and obtained a ruling from the court that the Republic of Honduras was not liable on an old $200 million judgment, which the creditors had sought to enforce against the $500 million sovereign bond offering.

Dr. James Coyle, former WACOC chair, attended the Baku Third Annual Humanitarian Forum. He was accompanied by 13 Nobel laureates, former presidents of 10 countries, academicians from Oxford and Cambridge, numerous Parliamentarians and leaders of NGOs. “It was a meeting of the world,” said Dr. Coyle.

Barbara and Dick Gladden spent a few days in New York, then cruised Crystal Symphony to Baltimore, Charleston, Savannah, Jacksonville, Grand Turk, Curaçao and Aruba; flying home from Miami. What great history!

Former WAC Intern, Katrina Lapira is in Withington Manchester for an internship. She is currently working for a member of Parliament who is part of the Liberal Democrat Party. She is going to embark on some traveling adventures soon. “I love it in the UK!” Pictures from the UK.

In a ceremony on October 26, 2013, the Adventurers Club of Los Angeles, whose members include former astronauts, deep sea explorers, scientists and several members who have climbed the World’s highest peaks, conferred the "Adventurer of the Year 2013 Award" to Kevin Lee for completing scuba diving in all Seven Continents and other high adventures during the past year. Apa Sherpa, shown with his wife and Kevin, was recipient of the ACLA "Lifetime Achievement Award" and holds the world record for standing atop the summit of Mt. Everest, 21 times.
Member Happenings

In June, Dr. Pat Morgan took a trip to Bologna and Trento for an academic conference and to make two presentations; then he traveled to South Korea as rapporteur for a major conference; ending the trip around the world in Seattle. In September: he had a presentation and academic conference at Kings College London; in mid-October: he had an academic conference and presentation in Toronto.

Tully and Janette Seymour recently returned from a trip to the French and Italian Riviera’s with stops in Portifino, Cinque Terre, Pisa and Genoa. Then they toured Tuscany, stopping at Chianti for wine tasting and ending the trip in Florence.

Serge and Mona Tomassian attended Herb Nootbar’s 105th birthday celebration on November 3, 2013 at the Big Canyon Country Club. “Herb looked as fit and sharp as ever. It was a very nice event put together by Pepperdine University in honor of Herb’s and Elinor’s contributions to the school”.

National Board member Serge Tomassian, Chairman Leslie McNamara and Robert McNamara were guests of the Consul General of Japan to the U.S. at a reception which took place at the residence of the Consul General in Los Angeles. The occasion was in celebration of the birthday of the Emperor of Japan.

Below: Past Chairman, Timor Rafiq; Outgoing National President, Lori Murray; and Past Chairman Serge Tomassian at the Canadian Embassy in Washington DC during the National World Affairs Councils conference in November 2013.

The research component of UCI’s international studies now has a new name: The Institute for International, Global and Regional Studies. IIGaRS acts as an information hub, incubator and accelerator for research and events on campus that transcend national borders.

(con’t) The program is wrapping up the fall quarter and its fall International Studies Public Forum series, which welcomed several notable speakers, including Elizabeth Lira from Universidad Alberto Hurtado in Chile, Brian Loveman from San Diego State University, Carl Wilkens from The World Outside My Shoes, Nancy Burke from UC San Francisco, and Michael Bosia from St. Michael’s College. The series also supported the Center for Global Peace and Conflict Studies in presenting Mahmood Mamdani of Columbia University and the Makerere Institute of Social Research in Kampala, Uganda, who gave the 2013 CGPACS Margolis Lecture titled “After Nuremberg: The Historical Significance of the South African Transition.”

Members of the World Affairs Council of Orange County and others in the OC community are welcome to join UCI International Studies for a variety of events throughout the school year.

Executive Board members Tommy Papa and Nora Valenzuela at the One World Symposium Reception and guests.

Nancy Kerr, Kathryn Marino, Sir Bruno Serato, Chadia Betinnis, Nancy Gale and Chairman-Elect Tommy Papa

Nora Valenzuela (right) at the Italian Opera Festival at Soka University
Past Events . . .

Jeff Lodder and new member Kathy Marino at the Cultural Wine and Dinner Pairing Event

Drs. Michael and Margaret Moodian at the Cultural Wine and Dinner Pairing Event

Dr. Armine Meghrouni and Sylvie Tertzakian at the Cultural Wine and Dinner Pairing Event

Speaker Dr. Federico Pacchioni and Michael Withrow

Errol and Candace Mathieu and Rick and Nancy Muth at the Trustees Luncheon

Fred Ameri and Dr. Harry Sahota at the Trustees Luncheon

Trustees Janette Seymour, Janis Agopian and Christine Johnson

Co-Chair of Programs Taymor Kamrany, Irvine Mayor Steven Choi and Jeff Lodder

Members Richard Gladden and Michael Clinton at Dr. James Zogby event

Board Members Sean and Jade Cao, Roya Cole, Annie Chu with Speaker Dr. James Zogby

Board Member David Sheraton and Guest at Dr. James Zogby Event
Welcome New Members

Frank Barbaro
Andy and Lisa Favor
Dr. Mildred Garcia
Dan Jacobson
Sukhee Kang
Naghmeh Khaleghi
Kathy Marino
Carl Mariz
Fred Minagar
Allen and Kathleen Mindlin
Media Najafi
Sean Panahi
Dr. Barry Ryan
West Coast University
Ahmad Salari
David and Marvina Shilling
Anna-Lisa Stonehill
Helene Winogura

We give our members a chance to experience the world first-hand.
A diverse collection of writings draws the reader into the realm of overcoming sexual abuse, finding a heartfelt path to forgiveness, and coming to understand the power of love that resides in our inner core, waiting to be released. Other writings explore ways of pushing past the gloominess we all experience in life that keep so many of us from seeing the brightness that awaits us just ahead; the author further explores the subjects of pride, doubt, embracing faith, living with a compassionate heart, and finding our place in life.

Building on insights gleaned from living in countries around the world, the author explores the state of indifference that is often found among people who fail to embrace the broader human condition; rather, the author suggests we too often see the self-focused, what's-in-it-for-me mentality that seems to have become a plague across the world. The author also explores an exception to the norm in nation building. He looks at the Republic of Korea and how it developed into such an economic world power—when only fifty years ago it ranked among the lowest in per capita income. He explores the secrets to their success and answers the question if those secrets can be adapted to the underdeveloped countries of the world.

Thank you to our Corporate Members

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