

ACFR FEATURED SPEAKERS, 2017-2018 Program Year

Evelyn Mary Aswad - Herman G. Kaiser Chair in International Law and Director of the Center for International Business & Human Rights at the University of Oklahoma's College of Law, "An Evolving Frontier in Foreign Affairs: The Intersection of International Business & Human Rights" (Tulsa 01/25/18)

Alyssa Ayres - Senior Fellow for India, Pakistan, and South Asia at the Council on Foreign Relations, "Our Time Has Come: How India is Making Its Place in the World" (Birmingham 04/17/18)

General William J. Begert - USAF (Ret.), former Commander, Pacific Air Forces, and Air Component Commander for the U.S. Pacific Command, "Reality of North Korea" (Santa Barbara 02/08/18)

Dan Benaim - Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress, and former Middle East policy advisor and foreign policy speechwriter at the White House, the State Department, and the U.S. Senate, "The Trump Administration and the Middle East" (Boise 10/03/17, Tulsa 12/05/17, and Salt Lake 03/21/18)

Amb. John Beyrle - former U.S. Ambassador to Bulgaria and to Russia, "Russia: Preparing for the Post-Putin Era" (Tampa Bay 04/03/18)

Dr. Nathan Blank - Political Science Instructor at Casper College, "The Philippines: A Close Ally Wrestling with Internal Challenges and External Concerns" (Casper 02/10/18)

Dr. Paul J. Bolt - Professor of Political Science, United States Air Force Academy; co-presenter (with Dr. Sharyl Cross) for a Kennan Conversation on "China, Russia, and Global Geopolitics" (Des Moines 12/05/17)

Dr. David Buckley - Assistant Professor and Paul Weber Endowed Chair, Department of Political Science at the University of Louisville, "Religion and U.S. Foreign Policy in the Trump Transition" (Louisville 02/16/18)

Dr. Guy Burnett - Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Government and Foreign Affairs at Hampden-Sydney College, "The Russian Revolution 100 Years On: What Happened? And the Consequences for Modern Russia" (Casper 11/02/17)

José R. Cárdenas - Director of Vision Americas and former USAID Acting Assistant Administrator for Latin America & the Caribbean and former National Security Council official, "Venezuela in Crisis: What Comes Next?" (St. Louis 10/18/17)

Joseph Cassidy - Global Fellow in the Wilson Center's Global Sustainability and Resilience Program, and former Director for Policy, Regional, and Functional Organizations in the State Department's International Organizations Bureau, "How to Fix Our Ailing State Department" (Tulsa 11/02/17)

Amb. Carey Cavanaugh - Professor of diplomacy and conflict resolution at the University of Kentucky's Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce, and former U.S. Ambassador/Special Negotiator for Eurasian Conflicts, "The Strained State of U.S.-Russian Relations" (Boise 09/11/17)

Brian Chang - Founder of Pacific Investment Partners, local speaker for the National Committee on U.S. - China Relations (NCUSCR) "China Town Hall", interactive webcast conversation with former National Security Advisor and U.S. Ambassador to the UN, Susan E. Rice (Nevada 10/24/17)

Dean Cheng - Senior Research Fellow with the Asian Studies Center, Davis Institute for National Security and Foreign Policy at the Heritage Foundation, "Northeast Asian Security: The Three Nots" (Salt Lake 05/22/18)

Amb. Ryan Crocker - Visiting Lecturer and Diplomat-in-Residence at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, and former U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan, Syria, Kuwait, and Lebanon, "Middle East Meltdown: Causes and Consequences" (Santa Barbara 01/22/18)

Dr. Patrick M. Cronin - Senior Advisor and Senior Director of the Asia-Pacific Security Program at the Center for a New American Security, "North Korea and Current Tensions" (Louisville 11/08/17 and Wichita 12/12/17)

Dr. Sharyl Cross - Distinguished Professor and Director of the Kozmetsky Center, St. Edward's University and Global Policy Scholar at the Woodrow Wilson Center's Kennan Institute; co-presenter (with Dr. Paul J. Bolt) for a Kennan Conversation on "China, Russia, and Global Geopolitics" (Des Moines 12/05/17)

Abraham M. Denmark - Director of the Asia Program at the Woodrow Wilson Center and former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for East Asia; panelist for ACFR's 23rd Annual Conference: *American Security in the Asia Pacific* (Washington, DC, 04/20/18)

Amb. Shaun Donnelly - Vice President for Investment and Financial Services at the U.S. Council for International Business (USCIB) and former U.S. Ambassador to Sri Lanka, "NAFTA and US Trade Policy in the Trump Era" (Louisville 10/23/17)

Dr. M. H. Elovitz - Director of the Centre For Strategic Geopolitics, "Saudi Arabia's Spring: Reform, Modernization, and the Quest for Regional Hegemony" (Birmingham 02/27/18)

Senator Joni Ernst (R-IA), Senate Armed Services Committee, Keynote Address to ACFR's 23rd Annual Conference: *American Security in the Asia Pacific* (Washington, DC, 04/20/18)

Steven Feldstein - Associate Professor at Boise State University, nonresident fellow at the Carnegie Endowment's Democracy and Rule of Law Program, and former Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor at the State Department, "Confronting Terrorism in Africa: Do Trends Match Strategy?" (St. Louis 03/28/18 and Wichita 03/14/18)

Erich Frankland - Chair of the Political Science Department and Director of the International Studies Program at Casper College and Director of the Casper Committee on Foreign Relations, "Trump and the World: One Year In and What's Next" (Casper 01/18/18), and "Balancing U.S. Interests in the Arabian/Persian Gulf" (05/03/18)

Dr. E. Gene Frankland - Professor of Political Science and Director of the European Studies Program at Ball State University, "The 2017 Bundestag Election and Its Impact on German and European Politics: A Preliminary Assessment" (Casper 03/08/18)

Philip C. French - Chairperson of the State Department's working group for International Cooperative Administrative Support Services (ICASS) , "Perspectives on Venezuela" (Des Moines 11/15/17)

Michael Fuchs - Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress and former Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific affairs, "America's Future in Asia" (Des Moines 05/30/18)

Dr. Eytan Gilboa - Chair and Academic Director, Israel Public Diplomacy Forum, "The Future of Syria: An Israeli Perspective" (Tampa Bay 10/25/17)

Juan Gonzalez - Associate Vice President at the Cohen Group, and former Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Latin America and the Caribbean, "Can Anyone Save Venezuela?" (Louisville 01/16/18)

Michael Green - Senior Vice President for Asia and Japan Chair at CSIS and Chair in modern and contemporary Japanese politics and foreign policy at the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University; panelist for ACFR's 23rd Annual Conference: *American Security in the Asia Pacific* (Washington, DC, 04/20/18)

Jeff Greenfield - former senior political correspondent for CBS News and senior analyst for

CNN, "What If?: Turning Points in American Politics" (Santa Barbara 10/02/17)

Amb. Husain Haqqani - former Pakistani Ambassador to the U.S. and Senior Fellow at the Hudson Institute, "U.S. Interests in Afghanistan and Pakistan" (Tulsa 04/24/18)

Burton Hersh - author, journalist, and commentator, "On the Assassination of JFK -- in the Time of Trump" (Salt Lake 02/21/18)

Lynn Hicks - Engagement/Opinion Editor at *The Des Moines Register*, co-panelist (with Kyle Munson and David Skidmore), "Iowans in China" (Des Moines 01/17/18)

Amb. Christopher R. Hill - Dean of the Josef Korbel School of International Studies at The University of Denver and former U.S. Ambassador to Iraq, South Korea, Macedonia, and Poland, "Overview of Current Strategic Issues Around the Globe" (Tampa Bay 12/07/17)

Amb. Vicki Huddleston - former Director of Cuban policy at the Department of State and Chief of the U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Havana, *Our Woman in Havana: A Diplomat's Chronicle of America's Long Struggle with Castro's Cuba* (Dallas 03/27/18, St. Louis 04/24/18, Birmingham 05/17/18, and Wichita 05/30/18)

Amb. William H. Itoh - Senior Advisor for Asia and Australia & New Zealand Practices at McLarty Associates, and former U.S. Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand, "Living Dangerously?: Asia in 2017" (St. Louis 09/06/17)

Dr. Kilic Kanat - Research Director at the SETA Foundation and Political Science Professor at Penn State University-Erie, "Turkey's Relationship with the U.S. and NATO" (Birmingham 11/16/17)

Dr. James Ketterer - Dean of International Studies and Director of the Globalization and International Affairs Program at Bard College, "Jazz Diplomacy: Representing the Opportunities and Challenges of American Democracy" (Santa Barbara 11/13/17), and Jim Ketterer, "Jazz Diplomacy: Representing a Complex America" (St. Louis 02/27/18)

Dr. John Knox - Professor of Geography with the Atmospheric Studies Program at the University of Georgia; co-presenter (with Pam Knox) on "Thin Ice: The Effect of Climate Change on Foreign Policy and National Security" (Tampa Bay 09/26/17)

Pam Knox - Agricultural Climatologist for the Crop and Soil Sciences Department in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at the University of Georgia; co-presenter (with Dr. John Knox) on "Thin Ice: The Effect of Climate Change on Foreign Policy and National Security" (Tampa Bay 09/26/17)

Harry Krejsa - Bacevich Fellow in the Asia-Pacific Security Program at the Center for a New American Security (CNAS), “Perspectives on North Korea” (Casper 09/21/17)

Dr. Charles A. Kupchan - Senior Fellow and Director of European Studies at the Council on Foreign Relations, and Professor of International Affairs at Georgetown University, “America First: Does the Atlantic Partnership Have A Future?” (Tulsa 05/24/18)

Jean Lee - Global Fellow at the Wilson Center's North Korea International Documentation Project, “Never-Ending Korean War: Inching Closer to Conflict with North Korea” (Boise 01/30/18)

Sung-Yoon Lee - Tufts University, Kim Koo-Korea Foundation Professor in Korean Studies and Assistant Professor at The Fletcher School, “How to Contain Kim Jong Un” (Birmingham 10/09/17)

Dan Loftin - former CIA official and Wichita Committee member, “Three Key Partners in U.S. Foreign Affairs: Military, Diplomacy, and Intelligence: How they Work Together” (Wichita 10/17)

Adam Lysenko - Senior Analyst at Rhodium Group, “The Post-Engagement US-China Relationship” (Salt Lake 04/11/18)

Dr. Zhao Ma - Associate Professor in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures at Washington University in St. Louis, “Romance of the Three Kingdoms: North Korea's Nuclear Ambition and US-China Relations” (St. Louis 11/29/17)

Dr. Tanvi Madan - Director of The India Project at the Brookings Institution, “India’s Foreign Policy” (Des Moines 03/13/18)

Rt. Hon. Henry McLeish - former First Minister of Scotland, “Turbulence and Troubled Times in Western Democracies:: What Next for Europe, Britain, and the U.S.?” (Tulsa 03/13/18)

Amb. Sarah E. Mendelson - Distinguished Service Professor of Public Policy, Head of Heinz College in DC, Carnegie Mellon University, “Learning while Serving at USAID and the U.S. Mission to the UN: Reflections of a Policy Entrepreneur” (Boise 04/03/18)

E. Wayne Merry - Senior Fellow for Europe and Eurasia at the American Foreign Policy Council and former Political Affairs Officer, U.S. Embassy in Moscow, Kennan Conversation on “Russia: Friend or Foe?” (Boise 05/09/18)

Kyle Munson - Iowa Columnist for *The Des Moines Register*, co-panelist (with David Skidmore and Lynn Hicks), “Iowans in China” (Des Moines 01/17/18)

Jung H. Pak - Senior Fellow and SK-Korea Foundation Chair in Korea Studies, Center for East Asia Policy Studies at the Brookings Institution; panelist for ACFR's 23rd Annual Conference: *American Security in the Asia Pacific* (Washington, DC, 04/20/18)

Daniel R. Pearson - Principal at Pearson International Trade Services and former senior fellow in Trade Policy Studies at the Cato Institute, "Trade Policy in the Trump Administration" (Des Moines 10/19/17)

J. Peter Pham - Vice President of the Atlantic Council and director of the Council's Africa Center, "Terrorism in Africa" (Birmingham, 12/04/17)

Beatrice Rangel - Director of the Interamerican Institute for Democracy and President & CEO of the AMLA Consulting Group, "Development, Growth, and Chaos in Venezuela" (Casper 12/07/17)

Moises Rendon - Associate Director and Associate Fellow of the CSIS Americas Program, "Venezuela, the New Totalitarian Regime" (Salt Lake 10/30/17)

Stephen P. Rodriguez - Founder of One Defense, "The Future of War" (Birmingham 03/29/18)

Nadège Rolland - Senior Fellow for Political and Security Affairs at the National Bureau of Asian Research, and author of *China's Eurasian Century? Political and Strategic Implications of the Belt and Road Initiative*; panelist for ACFR's 23rd Annual Conference: *American Security in the Asia Pacific* (Washington, DC, 04/20/18)

Grant Rumley - Research Fellow at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies, "Who Replaces Mahmoud Abbas? : The Future of Palestinian Politics"(Tampa Bay 11/08/17, Des Moines 02/14/18, and Wichita 02/15/18)

Amb. Omar Samad - CEO of Silkroad Consulting LLC and former Senior Advisor for Policy and Strategy to the Chief Executive of Afghanistan in Kabul, and former Afghan Ambassador to France and Canada, "The U.S. Mission in Afghanistan: An Afghan Insider's Perspective" (Tulsa 09/12/17) and "Afghanistan: Background and Prospects for America's Longest War" (Salt Lake 10/11/17, Casper 10/12/17, Wichita 11/21/17, Boise 12/05/17), Dallas 04/01/18, and St. Louis 05/23/18)

Mary Schwantes - NGO Wings of Hope, "Where There are Wings, There is Hope" (St. Louis 01/24/18)

Gen. Norton A Schwartz (ret.) - former Chief of Staff of the Air Force and Member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, "The World Situation and Cyber Warfare" (Tampa Bay 05/02/18)

Dr. David Shambaugh - Professor of Political Science and International Affairs and Director of the China Policy Program at George Washington University, "Assessing China's Future" (Tulsa 02/22/18)

Dr. Eric Shibuya - Professor of Strategic Studies at the Command and Staff College, Marine Corps University, "Asia-Pacific Security Concerns" (Casper 04/05/18)

Amb. David H. Shinn - adjunct professor of international affairs at George Washington University, and former U.S. ambassador to Ethiopia and Burkina Faso, "China in Africa" (Boise 01/10/18)

Sanjay Singh - Birmingham tech entrepreneur, investor and philanthropist, "How Foreign Policy Affects Birmingham" (Birmingham 01/11/18)

David Skidmore - Director of the Principal Center for Global Citizenship and the R.W. and Mary Nelson Institute for Diplomacy and International Affairs at Drake University; co-panelist (with Kyle Munson and Lynn Hicks), "Iowans in China" (Des Moines 01/17/18)

Barbara Slavin - Director of the Atlantic Council's Future of Iran Initiative, "Back to the 'Axis of Evil' on Iran and Diminished Options in the Middle East" (Louisville 12/06/17)

Amanda Sloat - Robert Bosch senior fellow in the Center on the United States and Europe at Brookings, nonresident fellow in the Ash Center at Harvard's Kennedy School, and former Deputy Assistant Secretary for Southern Europe and Eastern Mediterranean Affairs at the State Department, "Transatlantic Relations in a Time of Populism" (St. Louis 12/12/17) and "How to Not Lose Turkey" (Boise 03/05/18)

Scott Snyder - Senior Fellow for Korea Studies and Director, Program on U.S.-Korea Policy, Council on Foreign Relations; panelist for ACFR's 23rd Annual Conference: *American Security in the Asia Pacific* (Washington, DC, 04/20/18); and "The Korea Summit: Where Do We Go from Here?" (Tulsa 06/18/18)

Paulo Sotero - Director of the Brazil Institute at the Woodrow Wilson Center, "How Will Brazil Emerge from the Longest and Deepest Crisis in Its History?" (Tulsa 10/19/17)

Dr. Paul B. Stares - Gen. John W. Vessey Senior Fellow for Conflict Prevention & Director, Center for Preventive Action at the Council on Foreign Relations, "America's Next War and How to Prevent It" Tampa Bay 01/30/18)

Dr. Constanze Stelzenmüller - Robert Bosch Senior Fellow at the Center on the U.S. and Europe at the Brookings Institution, "Perspectives on Brexit and the EU" (Des Moines 04/10/18)

Rachel Stohl - Senior Associate with the Managing Across Boundaries Initiative and Director of the Conventional Defense Program at the Stimson Center, “Drones and Conventional Weapons and the Trump Administration” (Santa Barbara 07/25/17)

Dr. Scott Straus - Vilas Distinguished Achievement Professor of Political Science, University of Wisconsin, and Winner of the 2018 Grawemeyer Award for Ideas Improving World, “Making and Unmaking Nations: War, Leadership, and Genocide in Modern Africa” (Louisville 04/11/18)

Ashley Tellis - Senior Associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace; panelist for ACFR’s 23rd Annual Conference: *American Security in the Asia Pacific* (Washington, DC, 04/20/18)

Christopher Twomey - Associate Professor at the Naval Postgraduate School, local speaker for the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations, “China Town Hall”, interactive webcast conversation with former National Security Advisor and U.S. Ambassador to the UN, Susan E. Rice, “Managing the China Challenge in the Asia Pacific” (Santa Barbara 10/24/17)

Admiral Patrick Walsh - former commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet and Senior Fellow at the John Goodwin Tower Center for Political Studies at SMU; Keynote Address to ACFR’s 23rd Annual Conference: *American Security in the Asia Pacific* (Washington, DC, 04/20/18)

Amb. Earl Anthony (Tony) Wayne - nonresident Senior Fellow with the Atlantic Council’s Global Business and Economics Program, and former U.S. ambassador to Mexico, deputy U.S. ambassador to Afghanistan, and U.S. Ambassador to Argentina, “Why NAFTA & US-Mexico Relations Are Important To You” (Santa Barbara 06/28/18)

William Wechsler - Senior Fellow on National Security and Counterterrorism at the Middle East Institute, and former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Combating Terrorism, "Terrorists, Criminals and Drug Cartels: Combating Threats from Non-State Actors" (Salt Lake 11/29/17)

Christian Whiton - Senior Vice President at Banner Public Affairs, former State Department deputy special envoy for North Korean human rights, and author of *Smart Power: Between Diplomacy and War*; panel moderator for ACFR’s 23rd Annual Conference: *American Security in the Asia Pacific* (Washington, DC, 04/20/18)

Andrew Whittaker - British Consul General to San Francisco, “Brexit” (Boise 11/08/17)

Amb. Frank Wisner - International Affairs Advisor for Squire, Patton & Boggs, and former U.S. Ambassador to Zambia, Egypt, the Philippines, and India, “The United States and Iran: Challenges Ahead” (Tampa Bay 03/06/18)

Commander Richard J. Witt - Director of Operations and Plans, Naval Special Warfare Group ONE, “How Special Operations Forces Defeated ISIS in Iraq and Syria” (Santa Barbara 04/09/18)

Dr. David B. Woolner - Senior Fellow and Resident Historian of the Roosevelt Institute, Professor of History at Marist College, and Senior Fellow of the Center for Civic Engagement at Bard College, “Comparative Foreign Policy Leadership of FDR and Trump” (Louisville 03/07/18)

Hon. Dirk Wouters - Ambassador of Belgium to the United States, “America and the European Union In The Trump Era” (Louisville 05/30/18)

Thomas Wright - Director of the Center on the United States and Europe and a senior fellow in the Project on International Order and Strategy at the Brookings Institution, *All Measures Short of War: The Contest for the Twenty-First Century and the Future of American Power* (Des Moines 09/19/17 and Wichita 09/20/17)

Amb. Kenneth Yalowitz - Global Fellow at the Wilson Center and former U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Belarus and Georgia, “Perspectives on Russia” (Louisville 09/29/17)

Paul Zajac - Visiting Fellow at the American Enterprise Institute (AEI) and former Deputy Director of the Center for Analysis, Planning, and Strategy at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Paris, "Macron's road map for France & Europe" (Salt Lake 01/17/18)

Rex and Keiko Ziak - Founders of the Obon Society, “Obon Society: Writing the Final Chapter of WW II” (Santa Barbara, 05/14/18)

Dr. Charles E. (Chuck) Ziegler - Professor & University Scholar at the University of Louisville, Director of the Grawemeyer Award for Ideas Improving World Order, and Executive Director of the Louisville Committee on Foreign Relations; panel moderator for ACFR’s 23rd Annual Conference: *American Security in the Asia Pacific* (Washington, DC, 04/20/18)

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