



World Affairs
Council OF
NEW HAMPSHIRE

The Global Citizen

FALL 2023



Adetutu of Nigeria (left) and Melissa of the Child Advocacy Center after a powerful discussion on protecting children who are victims of a crime.

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From the Director's Desk

As the calendar turns to fall and the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire's schedule begins to fill up with community conversations, I have to stop myself to remember the amazing opportunities that I have experienced as a part of my work here at WACNH. As a longtime member recently told me:

"You take big things and you bring them down to New Hampshire and you let us have access to experts so we can understand ourselves and the world better."

Just this year our programs have challenged my perspectives on what it means to rethink African agency, to understand how to combat atrocities, and gain insights into how coups are reshaping the international order. I appreciate the opportunities that WACNH provides our global communities and thank you all for your ongoing engagement. We have an amazing set of programs scheduled for this fall and we hope to see you there!

Tim Horgan
Executive Director

"What a great event last evening! The Ambassador was excellent and it was fun to gather together again in person. Please thank the whole staff for a job well done!"

-Diane Schaefer, WACNH Member

Bringing the International Business Community Together

New Hampshire disproportionately benefits from international trade, with 20% of all jobs in the state supported by global business. In addition, New Hampshire has the third highest rate of foreign direct investment (international companies doing work in the state), with 9% of all jobs being supported by international firms. While many people may not recognize New Hampshire's role in the global economy, it is estimated that the NH economy sees \$6.4 billion in economic benefit from global trade.

Recognizing this, the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire has committed to building global connections that will further benefit this ever expanding sector of the economy. On November 28th, WACNH will host its 9th annual Global Business Summit, this year with a unique twist.

By inviting the international consulates from Boston and New York, the business, foreign policy, and national security communities will come together to create connections, expand opportunities, and build global understanding from a variety of perspectives. The various consulates will set up tables and attendees can travel the world in just a couple of hours. This unique opportunity to engage with the diplomatic corps will highlight the convening power of the Council and its network.

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Register for the Global Business Summit at
tinyurl.com/GBS-2023

70 Years of Engagement and Impact

For centuries, governments around the world held the reigns of international diplomacy tightly, deciding who their allies were, when and why to go to war, and how the global economy functioned. However, in the wake of World War I, the citizens of democracies began to demand a much larger say in how their countries engaged in the world. The call for global engagement and understanding continued to grow in the aftermath of WWII and from this the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire was formed.

Among the founding members and leaders were Judge Peter Woodbury, Robert P. Bass Jr., John H. Morison Sr., Susan McLane, John T. Holden, Jere Chase, Robert H. Reno and Dr. David T. Stahl, representing a diverse array of backgrounds and perspectives from across the state. Originally housed at the University of New Hampshire, a lot has changed since those early days. However, the need remains for all people to understand what is going on in the world and for the public to make their opinions heard at the highest levels of the foreign policy and national security structures.

As former Secretary of State and Secretary of War, Elihu Root, once put it, "The control of foreign relations by modern democracies creates a new and pressing demand for popular education in international affairs... The demand for open diplomacy and contemporaneous public information... rests upon the substantial basis of democratic instinct for unhampered self-government."

The desire and necessity for global understanding continues as a cornerstone of a free and independent democracy, as much now as in 1922 when Secretary Root first wrote these words. No democracy can consider itself self-governed if the population remains unaware of its government's dealings. This is true for both foreign and domestic policies, needing equal attention in the ever more globalized world today.

For the past 70 years, the mission of the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire has rested on the idea of creating space for informative, accurate, challenging, and insightful global conversations. The exponential growth of the organization in the past 15 years proves the growing desire for a trusted gathering place for international engagement and community conversations.

By attending speaker events, audiences have helped shape experts' outlook on foreign affairs through the questions and conversations that occur at these live events. Through meetings with international visitors, hosts have the opportunity to shape the world by sharing best practices and challenging misconceptions about the United States. High school students have begun their global careers by engaging in various education programs across the organization's simulations, challenges, and engagements with people from around the world.

A huge thank you to everyone who has worked so hard to make the world a better place through their support of and engagement with the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire. No matter how hard people may try to hide from the world, the world will always come knocking. Through WACNH you can ensure you are ready to answer the call.

“
**EXCELLENT PROGRAM AND DINNER LAST NIGHT.
 THOSE THAT DIDN'T COME MISSED A GREAT
 PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION**

**DICK SWETT
 WACNH BOARD MEMBER**

Upcoming Events

October 11 @6 pm

T. William & Patricia Ayers GTP Series:
 "Immigration Policy and the Stories Behind It"
 Refugees

Hospitality Center - SNHU - wacnh.org

October 24 @5:30 pm

Crossroads Film Series
 "The Great Green Wall"

Portsmouth Public Library

November 9 @ 6:00 pm

T. William & Patricia Ayers GTP Series:
 "Immigration Policy and the Stories Behind It"
 Asylees

Hospitality Center - SNHU - wacnh.org

November 16 @5:30 pm

Crossroads Film Series
 "Thank you for the Rain"

Portsmouth Public Library

November 28 @5:30 pm

Global Business Summit:
 Consul Reception and Networking

Dining Center - SNHU

A look back at 1956





WACNH's Immediate Past President, Peter Bowman (left), presents WACNH International Visitor Program Director, Anise Jasman-Sayers, with the 2023 President's Award for Service. Anise was honored for her dedication to continuing to bring high quality exchange programs to the state.

Global Business

Kicking off at 5:30 pm on November 28th, the Global Business Summit is the premier international business event of the year. Business leaders from across the state have indicated a need to build global connections in new markets that will allow them to sell products, recruit new partners, and engage remote employees. As the global economy continues to shift and change in the wake of the pandemic, now is a vital time to make the right connections with global markets, building in redundancies that will make businesses more resilient in the face of international challenges.

New Hampshire based international trade organizations will also table at this event, providing small and medium businesses the opportunity to access resources to help them begin to or expand their international presence. In addition, the opportunity to network with peers in the state will help create new partnerships and spur further economic growth.

For those interested in learning more about the world and the challenges facing it today, this is a great opportunity to talk with diplomats about the different issues their countries are facing and how they are working to tackle them. From trade, to climate change, the war in Ukraine, and balancing between China and the U.S., there are several amazing conversation to have. Join this global community and register today at wacnh.org.

"Another interesting talk and discussion. We appreciate learning more about the world through WACNH"

- Gary and Barbara Schneider

WACNH Leads Advocacy Effort to Support Public Diplomacy Efforts

As Washington continues to dance around the issues of funding the government, military and ambassadorial appointments, and continued support for Ukraine in its fight against Russia, the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire has led an effort to promote public diplomacy efforts with the NH Congressional delegation. Bringing together a bi-partisan group, meetings were arranged with Senator Shaheen, Senator Hassan, and Congressman Pappas to raise the important issues of funding public diplomacy efforts and supporting the United State's institutions of global engagement.

All three elected officials voiced strong support for the funding of programs like the International Visitor Leadership Program and Voice of America. They lamented the blocking of confirmations for career ambassadors, a process that typically moves smoothly through the Senate. In addition, they all recognized the danger of ongoing efforts of countries who work to sow disinformation to disrupt our democracy and how the United States is losing the global information war.

Through these efforts, WACNH remains a strong voice for this global community to ensure the U.S. Government represents the views and opinions of the people in the state. Please join WACNH in this continued effort to raise the important issues of global engagement with national leaders.



WACNH Board Members, Staff, and Members meet with Congressman Pappas (top) and Senator Shaheen (bottom) to highlight the importance of Public Dipomacy.



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Thank you for your continued support of the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire. It is through your support that we continue to build our global community.

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Foreign Policy on the Ballot

Earlier this summer the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire kicked off its “Foreign Policy on the Ballot” series of Presidential campaign events. Through the first two discussions, audience members had the opportunity to hear from Republicans and Democrats about their vision for the United States’ role in the world. These important conversations have allowed audiences to better understand the choices they have in the upcoming Primary elections and has introduced over 2,700 people to these candidates in a new light, as foreign policy and national security do not receive a lot of attention on the campaign trail.

The World Affairs Council of New Hampshire continues to reach out to all Presidential campaigns to try and secure opportunities for each candidate to share what their administration would do in its approach to the world. These events do not constitute an endorsement of any kind, but are important in providing a robust understanding of everyone running for President. Stay tuned for future “Foreign Policy on the Ballot” events and watch the recordings of past discussions at wacnh.org/EventsLibrary.



Corey Stapleton (R), left, and Marianne Williamson (D), right, share their insights on the proper place for the United States in the world at their “Foreign Policy on the Ballot” events.



International Visitor Leadership Program
 U.S. Department of State



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