

# WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF GREATER HOUSTON ANNUAL REPORT 2017



# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear friends,

As I reflect on my first year with the World Affairs Council of Greater Houston, I consider myself privileged to have joined such a prestigious organization, one that seeks to promote global understanding and its impact on our lives.

At the World Affairs Council, we are proud to embrace our unified community. In 2017 we increased our membership and created new partnerships with several local and diverse organizations. We hosted speakers such as Richard Haass, president of the Council on Foreign Relations, and Agnia Grigas, energy and political risk expert. We also established our Student World Affairs Council (SWAC) program and provided educational opportunities to students in 89 schools throughout Houston.

Personally, I am thankful to the members of the World Affairs Council. Your welcome has been gracious and warm, and I thank you, as together we strive to understand and explain our ever-changing world through local lectures and conversations. I am also thankful for the generous support of our sponsors and the leadership of the members of our board, whose participation and insight help guide the Council to continue to promote global understanding throughout Greater Houston.

With our outstanding team of professionals and our enthusiasm to bring the best international programming and events to Houston, we anticipate a successful year ahead.

Sincerely,



Maryanne Maldonado  
Executive Director

The mission of the World Affairs Council of Greater Houston is to ***promote understanding of the world,*** its people, politics, economies and cultures, and to enable the Greater Houston community to better understand its role and ***participate more effectively in a global world.***

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# ABOUT US

The World Affairs Council of Greater Houston is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization funded by individual and corporate members.

The Council has provided programming to Houstonians since 1969 and is one of the largest public forums in Houston.

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## VALUES

### Excellence

The Council strives to exhibit a personal and professional knowledge of global issues and an active involvement in international initiatives and concerns.

### Understanding

The Council promotes understanding through the exchange of diverse ideas and perspectives in an open and respectful environment.

### Community

The Council serves as a connection bridging the gap between our local and global neighbors.

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## PILLARS OF SERVICE



Education



Programs



Travel

# EDUCATION

The World Affairs Council's International Education Department connects students to global leaders and provides them the opportunity to become culturally sensitive, globally competent citizens. In addition, we offer teachers personal and professional development opportunities, including workshops and international travel.



In 2017, the Council's Education Department worked with **89 schools** including public, private, charter, magnet and colleges:

- 12** independent school districts
- 9** higher education institutions
- 22** secondary education institutions
- 1** home school group



## EDUCATION OUTREACH - 2017

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**2,200**

Students

**89**

Schools

**14**

SWAC  
Chapters

**270**

Educators

**20**

Student  
Programs

**450**

SWAC  
Participants

# STUDENT PROGRAMS

## ▶ Student World Leader Program

Focus on preparing future professionals for international careers by prioritizing interactive cultural experiences, global knowledge, professional networking opportunities and academic excellence.

**Interactive Cultural Experiences:** Cross-Cultural Collaborations, Foreign Film Night

**Global Knowledge:** SWAC Insider Series, WorldQuest and Academic WorldQuest, Local to Global Political Camp, Global Competency Assessment

**Professional Networking Opportunities:** International Career Week for high schoolers and undergraduates

**Academic Excellence:** 24 Under 24 Recognition Program, Student World Leaders Scholarship, Student World Leaders Certificate

## ▶ SWAC

The Student World Affairs Councils (SWAC) chapters provide opportunities for high school and college students to become more engaged at a local and global level by participating in SWAC-specific events, volunteering with local organizations and preparing for future career goals.

## ▶ Council Internships

Student members are eligible for internships at the Council's Spring, Summer and Fall sessions. Undergraduate applicants commit to 12 to 20 hours per week in the Council's main office in central Houston. High school applicants commit at least 6 hours a week.

## ▶ 24 Under 24

This initiative honors 24 exceptional high school and undergraduate students under the age of 24 who are active in their SWACs and have been nominated and chosen to receive the Council's award for their proven leadership skills as well as their interest in international and domestic policy. 24 Under 24 brings a spotlight to young people in the Greater Houston area who consistently give back to their communities and exemplify what it means to be a global leader.



*The Student World Affairs Councils (SWAC) Launch was attended by seventy-five students and teachers from local private, public, charter and universities. This event was sponsored and hosted by Schlumberger, who sponsored chapters for Houston Community College and Sam Rayburn High School.*



*Clements High School students pose with the 2017 Academic WorldQuest trophy. After winning the Houston competition, Clements sent four students and one teacher to the national competition in D.C.*

# EDUCATOR PROGRAMS



Following our annual Jones Award Luncheon on May 25, 2017, a private Q&A session with Jeff Immelt, the CEO of GE and our 2017 Jones Award Luncheon keynote speaker and honoree, was held for fifty students and educators from Memorial High School, Sam Rayburn High School, Episcopal High School, Lutheran South Academy, Northside High School and Waltrip High School. The students were able to ask questions about Mr. Immelt's expertise, career trajectory, and life story.



Educators learn from a local guide as they explore Colombia. Curriculum and activities based off their experiences on the trip are developed and shared by participating teachers.

## ▶ Travel Opportunities

WAC's Education Department organizes one trip each year in cooperation with a corporate partner to send educators on study tours. Scholarships are available based on availability and applicant qualifications. Previous destinations include Colombia, Vietnam & Cambodia, Ethiopia, Turkey and Cuba.

## ▶ Global Perspectives Educator Workshops

These in-depth workshops include expert speakers on a wide variety of international issues and regions. Six hours of professional development are provided for attending and discounted registration costs are available for WAC educator members. Past workshops have focused on regions like Cuba, East Asia, the European Union, the Sahara, and topics like Art & Politics, Refugees and World Religions.

## ▶ Speakers to Schools

This program offers opportunities for educators to bring local business leaders, academic experts, diplomats and non-profit professionals to speak on high school and college campuses. Educators can choose from a wide variety of different topics and disciplines, and we have Global Ambassadors who can speak to your classes on specific countries.



The logo created for Student World Affairs Councils in 2017.

## EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS

- Amegy Bank
- Asia Society Texas
- Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, Houston Branch
- Italian Cultural & Community Center
- Mayer Brown
- Rice University's School of Social Sciences
- Schlumberger
- Texas Environmental Justice Advocacy Service
- University of Houston
- University of St. Thomas

# PROGRAMS

*"The World Affairs Council of Greater Houston goes beyond the headlines and soundbites to provide a deeper understanding of the world and the events and people shaping its future. Through a wide variety of both American and foreign politicians, analysts, military figures, intelligence officials, journalists, academics and business leaders, the Council gives its members a unique and comprehensive insight into the world today and the days to come."*

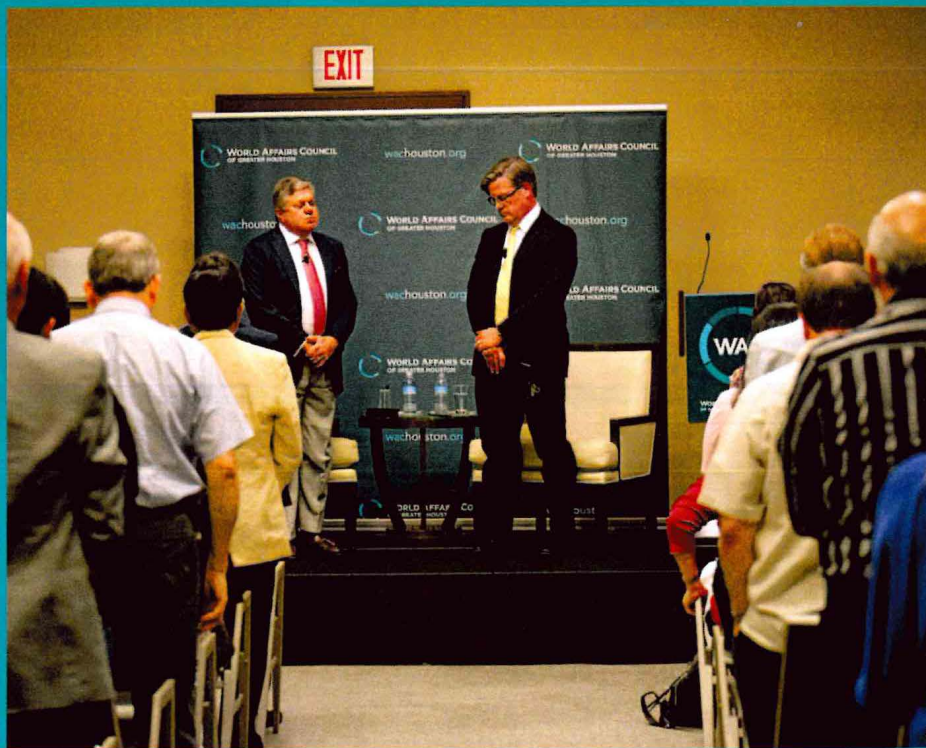
*- Ronan O'Malley,  
Director of Programs*

*Top: Dr. Jonathan Clark, a six-time space shuttle crew surgeon and assistant professor of Neurology and Space Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine, speaks on Space Tourism and its commercial potential in the New Space Era at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, Houston Branch.*

*Middle: Leopoldo López Gil, Venezuelan Political Activist and Father of Leopoldo López Mendoza, and Ronan O'Malley share a moment of silence for victims of political violence in Venezuela.*

*Bottom: Agnia Grigas, Ph.D., Energy and Political Risk Expert, speaks to the Young Professionals group on Russian expansionism.*

*Opposite: In partnership with the Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA and The East-West Center, the Council's members learned about The U.S.-Japan Partnership on Energy, Business as well as the Challenges of China & North Korea from a panel of experts.*



# 2017 PROGRAM SUMMARY

## General Programs

The World Affairs Council provided access to world renowned speakers with a wealth of expertise and experience.

**47**

Events

**8239**

Registrants

## Young Professionals

The Council's YP events cover current global topics, bringing the next generation's perspective to discussions of international affairs.

**11**

Events

**870**

Registrants

## The Woodlands

The Council hosts a monthly lecture program during the general program season that provides impactful and thought-provoking programming for North Houston.

**7**

Events

**525**

Registrants



# WORLDQUEST

## INTERNATIONAL TRIVIA NIGHT

WorldQuest is an exciting game of international trivia that tests one's knowledge of international issues. Questions are timely and relevant, covering topics such as international politics, current events, economics, geography, and culture.

- First Place** - Guilt Trip Around The World, Mayer Brown, LLP.
- Second Place** (3-way tie) - Covfefe, Schlumberger; Team TEACH, Houston Educators; The Quizzards of Oz, individuals
- Third Place** - Pecten Power, Shell
- Best Dressed** - HCC Students - United Nations
- Best Team Name** - The Quizzards of Oz



**WORLDQUEST**  
INTERNATIONAL TRIVIA NIGHT  
NOVEMBER 9TH



## FEATURED SPEAKERS

### Elliott Abrams

Former Deputy National Security Advisor  
*American Foreign Policy after the Arab Spring*

### Mustafa Akyol

The New York Times, Author and Journalist  
*Erdogan's Consolidation of Power & Its Impact on Turkey*

### Agnia Grigas

Energy and Political Risk Expert, Atlantic Council  
*Geopolitics and Natural Gas*

### Richard Haass

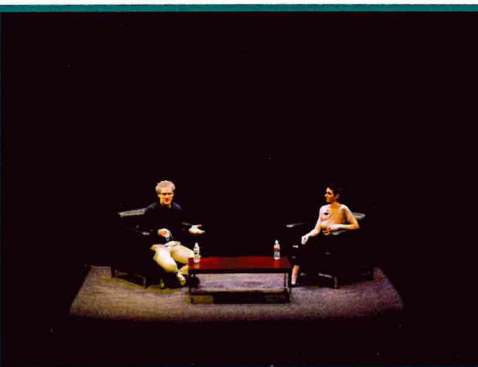
Council on Foreign Relations, President  
*A World in Disarray*

### Leopoldo López Gil

Political Activist & Father of Leopoldo López Mendoza  
*Venezuela in Crisis*

### Theo Padnos

Journalist, held hostage by Al-Qaeda for two years  
*Theo Who Lived*





Since 1998, the World Affairs Council of Greater Houston honors a business or public leader who, in the spirit of Jesse and Mary Gibbs Jones, contributes to the international spirit of the region.

In 2017, the Council recognized Jeff Immelt, Chairman and CEO of GE, as the International Citizen of the Year. Immelt was interviewed by Alan Crain, former Senior Vice President of Baker Hughes and longstanding WAC Board Member.

## JONES AWARD 2017

**41**  
Companies

**453**  
Guests

### SPONSORS

#### Underwriting Sponsor

Chevron

#### Platinum Sponsors

Baker Hughes  
Deloitte  
GE

#### Gold Sponsors

BP  
Bracewell  
ConocoPhillips  
Dover Corporation  
Ernst & Young  
Jones Day  
Noble Energy, Inc.  
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
Schlumberger

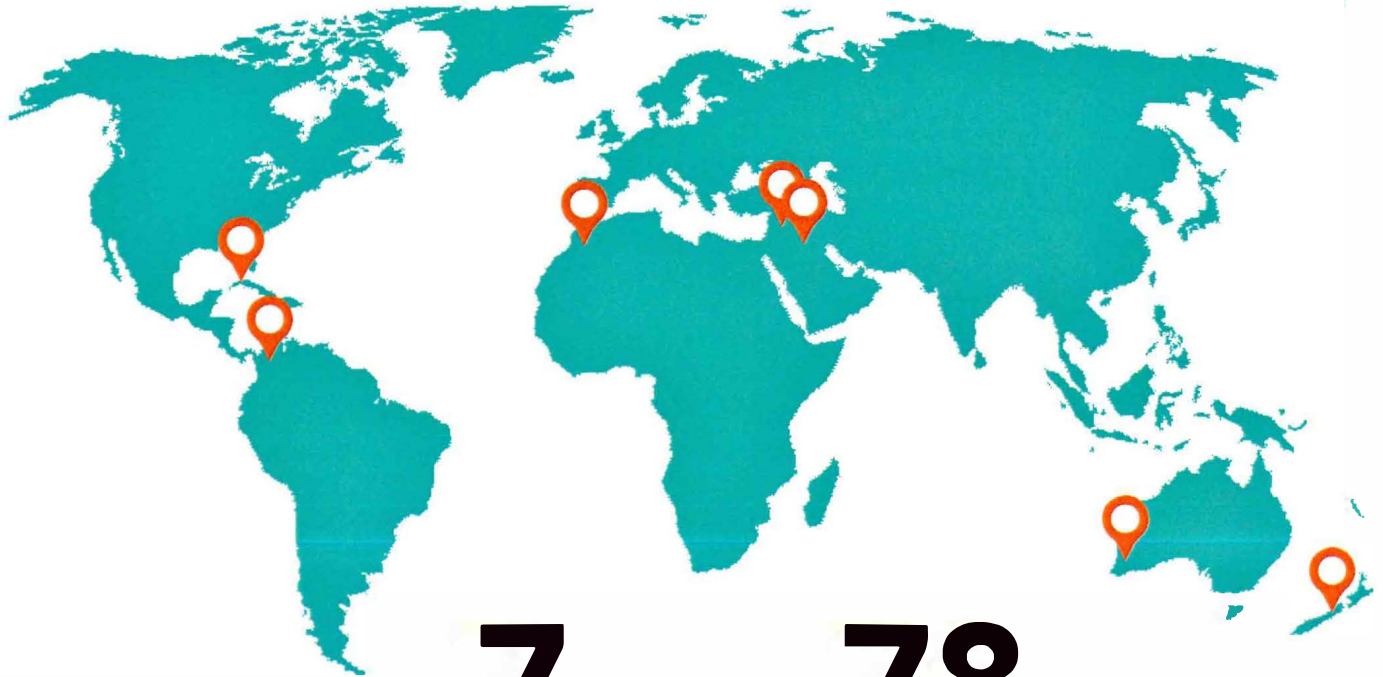
#### Silver Sponsors

Akin Gump Strauss  
Anadarko Petroleum Company  
DNV GL  
DX Service Co., Inc.  
EnerVest Management Partners  
ExxonMobil  
Halliburton  
Hogan Lovells  
Ismaili Center  
KPMG  
Marathon Oil Corporation  
McMurrey Investment Advisors, LLC  
Noble Drilling  
Norton Rose Fulbright  
NGV Group - Peter Nassab  
Reed Smith LLP  
RSM US LLP  
Southwestern Energy  
Vinson & Elkins  
Wells Fargo  
Western Gas Partners, LP

#### Additional Support

Alan Crain  
Andrew Van Chau  
Arne Johnson  
Danny Brown  
Dina Al-Sowayel  
Foster Global  
Greater Houston Community Foundation  
Hart Energy  
HEB  
Judge Lynn Hughes  
Ken Tubman  
Mayer Brown  
McGriff, Seibels & Williams  
Michaela Greenan  
Moran Exploration LP  
Rae Fairfield  
Sid McClendon  
Summit Financial Printing

# TRAVEL



7

Countries

78

Travelers

## EXPLORE THE WORLD WITH WAC

- The World Affairs Council travel department was founded on the tradition of intellectual exploration. The Council's travel program offers international travel that is not only memorable and educational, but highly affordable as well.

- The World Affairs Council brings together small groups of 10-20 travelers on an unforgettable journey to unique destinations. Working with Houston's diplomatic community allows us to arrange in-country briefings and extraordinary people-to-people exchanges. Pre and post-trip briefings supplement memorable experiences with relevant information and give our travelers time to connect with one another. Most trips also include an embassy visit or visits to other vital centers of cultural-political life.

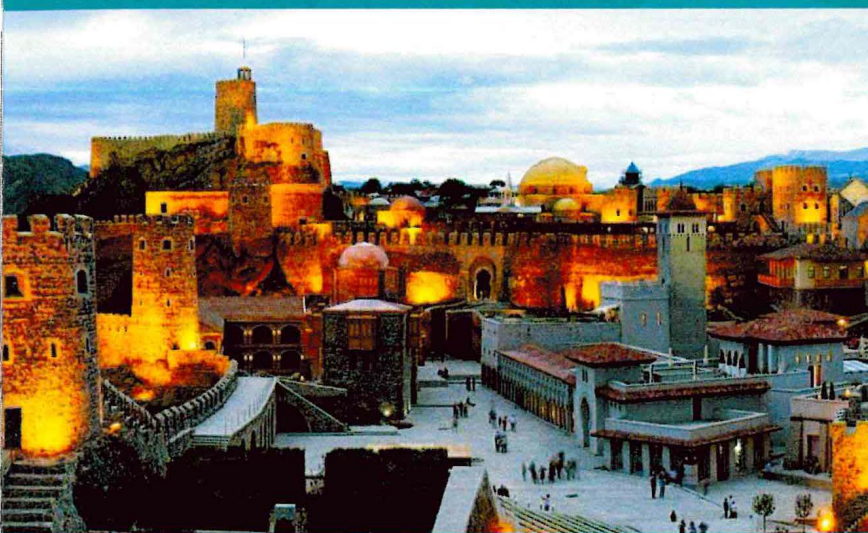
- In 2017, the World Affairs Council hosted a total of 78 individuals who traveled to seven countries.

ARMENIA • AUSTRALIA • COLOMBIA • CUBA  
GEORGIA • MOROCCO • NEW ZEALAND



*"Our trip to New Zealand/Australia far exceeded our expectations. The small group was treated to much more than the usual tourist fare. While in Wellington, our group met with the U.S. ambassador, who shared the current political and economic climate with us. In Australia, we went to the U.S. Consulate in Melbourne where we learned many things about US-Australian relations. Every aspect of the trip was exceptional, from accommodations, food and local tours. We have traveled with the Council on many occasions and will continue to learn about the world through their fine travel program."*

*- Susan Hollier, WAC Traveler*

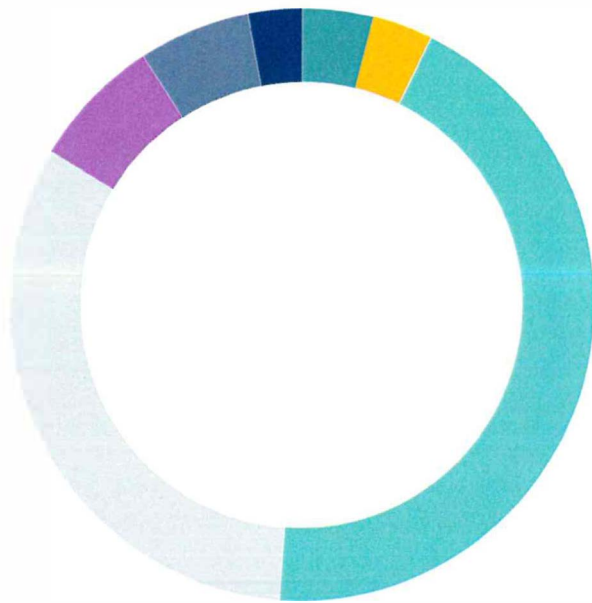


## Consulate and Embassy Visits

- US Embassy in Havana, Cuba
- US Embassy in Tbilisi, Georgia
- Deputy Foreign Minister, Tbilisi, Georgia
- US Consulate in Melbourne, Australia
- US Embassy representative in Wellington, New Zealand
- Mr. Ian Kelly, US Ambassador to Georgia
- The New Zealand – American Association

# MEMBERSHIP

## 2017 AT A GLANCE



- **736 Individual**
- **544 Family**
- **65 Student**
- **56 Teacher**
- **69 Supporting & Donor**
- **103 Council Cabinet**
- **50 Corporations**





# COUNCIL CABINET

Cabinet members enjoy private dinners or receptions, priority seating, and host receptions.

## 2017 HIGHLIGHTS

**103**

Cabinet  
Memberships

**25**

Receptions



*"The World Affairs Council provides us with interesting and thought provoking in-depth presentations concerning world events from knowledgeable experts instead of politicized 30 second sound bites. We enjoy the enriching and memorable foreign travel experiences with WAC to such places as Cuba, Iran, Saudi Arabia, India, Tibet, the Balkans and many more. The talks and travel are made even better as we meet and form friendships with interesting and involved people."*

*- Mike Osborne and  
Ginger Snider*



# FINANCIALS

## STATEMENT OF REVENUE

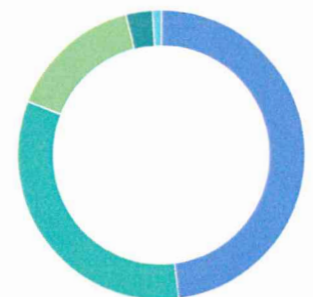
Unrestricted Revenue	FYE 2017 (Unaudited)	FYE 2016 (Audited)
● General Membership	\$203,858	\$289,602
● Contributions (Corporate & Grants)	\$187,980	\$296,500
● Fundraising Events	\$350,015	\$268,784
● Programs	\$452,506	\$782,809
● Bank interest	\$12,837	\$13,689
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$1,207,196</b>	<b>\$1,651,384</b>



2017

## STATEMENT OF EXPENSES

	FYE 2017 (Unaudited)	FYE 2016 (Audited)
● Compensation and Benefits	\$657,636	\$827,477
● Programs Cost	\$444,393	\$713,745
● Administration	\$199,670	\$249,301
● Development	\$46,040	\$72,461
● Marketing	\$9,566	\$30,545
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>\$1,357,305</b>	<b>\$1,893,529</b>



2017

# 2017 CORPORATE SPONSORS

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Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP	KPMG, LLP
Anadarko	Lone Star College System
Awty International School	Madison Charitable Foundation
Baker Hughes	Marathon Oil
Baylor College of Medicine	Mayer Brown, LLP
BB&T Branch Banking and Trust Company	McGriff, Seibels & Williams of Texas, Inc.
BP America	Moran Resources Company, LP
Bracewell, LLP	Nalco Company
CB&I	Noble Energy, Inc
Chevron	Norton Rose Fulbright, LLP
ConocoPhillips	Paetow High School
Crest Investments	Post Oak Bank
DNV GL	PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Dover Corporation	RSM US, LLP
DX Service Company, INC	Sam Houston State University
EnerVest, Ltd.	Schlumberger
Ernst & Young, LLP	Texas A&M University Galveston
Exxon Mobil	Texas Children's Hospital
Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, Houston Branch	Texas Medical Center
Frost Bank	Transocean
Halliburton	University of Houston, Bauer College
Haynes and Boone, LLP	University of Houston, Downtown
Houston Community College System	University of St. Thomas
Hogan Lovells US, LLP	Western Gas Partners, LP
Jones Day, LLP	Zenith International Holdings, LTD

## PARTNERSHIPS

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Aga Khan Council for Southwestern U.S.	Rice University and Cinema
Amegy Bank of Texas	Royal Sonesta Hotel
American Jewish Committee	Russian Cultural Center
Asia Society Texas	Saludos Connection
Baylor College of Medicine	Sam Houston State University
Center for a New American Security	Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA
Council on Foreign Relations	St. Regis Hotel
Houston Community College	START Houston
Hudson Institute	The East-West Center
Istanbul Grill	U.S. Federal Reserve Bank
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston	United Airlines
MidinMod	United Way of Greater Houston
Mixed Emotions Fine Art Gallery	University of Houston
Morgan Stanley	University of St. Thomas
Ogun Art+Wine	

# THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Somasundaram  
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Michaela Greenan, *Pricewaterhousecoopers LLP*

Paula Harris, *Schlumberger*

Lynn N. Hughes, *Judge, US District Court*

David B. Jones, *Bush Presidential Library  
Foundation*

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Arthur Kaplun, *EY LLP*

Stephen Kramer, *Faber-Kramer Pharmaceuticals*

Layne Kruse, *Norton Rose Fulbright*

Christine LaFollette, *Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld*

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Paula Ann Miller, *P.A. Miller Consulting, Inc.*

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Sallie Morian, *DX Service Co Inc.*

Ewell (Pat) Murphy Jr., *In Memoriam*

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Julian Soles, *Transocean*

Soma Somasundaram, *Dover Energy*

Telisa Toliver, *Chevron*

Kenneth Tubman, *ConocoPhillips*

Jesse Tutor

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Andrew VanChau, *Quo Vadis Strategies*

Eugene Vaughan, *Vaughan Investments*

# STAFF



**Maryanne Maldonado**  
*Executive Director*



**Sandija Bayot**  
*Director of Development*



**Ronan O'Malley**  
*Director of Programs*



**Amanda Rico**  
*Director of Education*



**Navdeep Boparai**  
*Finance Manager*



**Magda Davis**  
*Programs & Partnerships  
Manager*



**Jahan Jafarpour**  
*Membership Services Manager*



**Shawn Miller**  
*Marketing Manager*



**Christopher Ashby**  
*Ambassador in Residence  
Former U.S. Ambassador to Uruguay*

# 2017 INTERNS

## SPRING

- Tina Angelides, University of Houston
  - Education
- Denise Gomez, University of Houston
  - Education
- David Anthony Martinez, University of Houston
  - Programs
- Marina Khalid, University of Texas
  - Travel

## SUMMER

- Aine Carolan, Haverford College
  - Education
- Annie Crea, Notre Dame University
  - Programs and Education
- Meili Criezas, Southwestern University
  - Programs
- Danielle Prouty, Baylor University
  - Travel
- Leticia Macedo, Houston Baptist University
  - Finance
- Kevin Johnson, St. Andrews University
  - Membership

## FALL

- Ahmad Sayyar, University of Houston
  - Marketing
- Mac Garvin, University of Houston
  - Travel
- Sam Gonzales, University of Houston
  - Education
- Elizabeth Kyei, University of Houston
  - Education
- Zahabiya Yahya, University of Houston
  - Education
- Ashley Ruiz, Texas A&M University
  - Membership



Summer interns discussing a group project at the World Affairs Council of Greater Houston office.



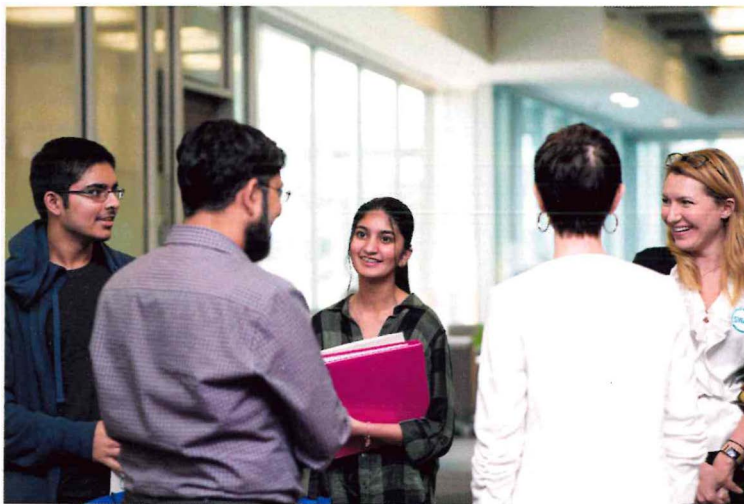
Interns are provided with the opportunity to attend events and meet our distinguished speakers and interact with our members. Mac Garvin, two-time travel intern, is pictured here with our membership manager, Jahan Jafarpour.

"Working with education has provided me with an excellent understanding of the need for global education in Houston-area schools. From organizing a teachers' workbook to writing grants I am so glad that I have been able to help the World Affairs Council teach students about their role in the global sphere!"

- Anne Crea,  
Summer 2017  
Programs and Education Intern

## SPECIAL THANKS

Julian Cardenas Garcia  
David Chaney  
Alan Crain  
Paula Harris  
Shelley Lamb  
Alan Livingston  
Iryna Marchenko  
Marc Mori  
Ambassador Chase Untermeyer  
Andrew Van Chau  
Fadi Yacob  
Zachary Zwald





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