
NATIONAL PROGRAM

The National Program provides opportunities for members outside New York and Washington to discuss pressing international issues and to contribute to the Council's work by leveraging technology and organizing on-the-ground sessions. This year the Council held more than ninety National Program sessions across the country, including manuscript-review seminars, a roundtable series, the national book club series, and public events that featured Council fellows' books and Council publications.

Intimate foreign-policy dinner seminars, at which Council senior fellows discuss their research and writing, are the centerpiece of the National Program. At these sessions national members review draft manuscript chapters, articles, or Task Force or special reports prior to the event and provide the authors or project directors with valuable feedback and

insights that help shape the final publication. As part of this seminar series, Senior Fellow **Max Boot** met with Council members in Los Angeles and San Francisco to review chapters from his forthcoming book on the technological revolutions that changed the face of battle and the course of history; Senior Fellow **Rachel Bronson** held sessions in Atlanta, Dallas, and Houston on chapters of her book, *Thicker Than Oil*; and Senior Fellow **Walter Russell Mead** led a final review session of his book, *Is God on Our Side?*, in Los Angeles. Project Director **William L. Nash** met with members in Chicago and Atlanta to solicit feedback on the draft Task Force report on post-conflict capabilities; those discussions were chaired by Task Force members **Henry S. Bienen** and **Peter D. Bell**, respectively. Project Director **Steven A. Cook** led sessions in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Atlanta, Boston, and Chicago on U.S. policy toward reform in the Arab world; Task Force members **Mel Levine** and **Leila Fawaz** chaired in Los Angeles and Boston, respectively. Members in Seattle, Los Angeles, and San Francisco met with Task Force Project Director **Princeton N. Lyman** on developing a strategic policy toward Africa. **Daniel W. Drezner** discussed with Chicago members his



Dale Rogers Marshall, Richard N. Haass, and Peter Haas at the San Francisco Roundtable.

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draft of the Critical Policy Choices on Trade; Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago President **Michael H. Moskow** chaired. **Charles D. Ferguson II** met with Miami members about his Council Special Report on nonproliferation.

The National Program Roundtable Series focused on “Transition 2005”—a Council-wide theme. National members explored the international challenges facing the Bush administration in sessions led by Ambassador **John H. Kelly** in Atlanta, Northwestern University President **Henry S. Bienen** in Chicago, columnist **Lee Cullum** in Dallas, and **Michael Nacht**, dean of the University of California at Berkeley’s Goldman School of Public Policy, in San Francisco. Council President **Richard N. Haass** met with members in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Chicago, Dallas, and London as part of the series. The Atlanta and Chicago roundtables explored whether democracy promotion should be a central element of U.S. foreign policy with, respectively, **Edward J. Hardin**, partner at Rogers and Hardin, LLP, and **Kennette M. Benedict**, director of the International Peace and Security Program at the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. The San Francisco Roundtable featured Council President Emeritus **Leslie H. Gelb** and **Stephen J. Stedman**, research director of the UN High-Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change. On the

day of the third U.S. presidential debate, the National Program organized with Arizona State University a half-day symposium that featured Council fellows and Senator **Jon Kyl** (R-AZ) on the foreign policy priorities for the next administration.

The National Program also worked with local foreign policy organizations and colleges and universities—including the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations; the Dallas Committee on Foreign Relations; the Pacific Council on International Policy; Town Hall Seattle; the World Affairs Council of Northern California; Georgia Tech’s Sam Nunn School of International Affairs; Northwestern University; Southern Methodist University’s John Tower Center for Political Science; the University of California, San Diego; and the University of Miami—to highlight newly published books by Council fellows, including **Elizabeth C. Economy’s** *The River Runs Black*, **Stephen E. Flynn’s** *America the Vulnerable*, **David L. Phillips’s** *Losing Iraq*, and **David G. Victor’s** Council Policy Initiative, *Climate Change: Debating America’s Policy Options*.

As part of the Council’s National Book Club Series, which is designed to stimulate debate and build a greater sense of community among its membership, the National Program organized sessions on Niall Ferguson’s *Colossus* and on Fareed Zakaria’s *The Future of Freedom*. These members led and hosted the

National Program Conference Calls

The National Program Conference Call Series, launched in 2001 and chaired by Council Vice President **Irina A. Faskianos**, is the Council’s most successful use of technology to connect with members beyond New York and Washington. These interactive calls feature Council fellows and experts addressing current foreign policy issues and crises.

This year members talked with former Deputy Assistant Secretary of State **Susan L. Shirk** on the future of China, the Hoover Institution’s **Michael A. McFaul** on the elections in

Ukraine, former Ambassador **Dennis B. Ross** on the implications of the Palestinian elections, global economist **David D. Hale** on the economic and political effects of the December 2004 tsunami, the U.S. Institute of Peace’s **Phebe A. Marr** on the future of Iraq, and former U.S. Ambassador to Syria **Edward P. Djerejian** on U.S.-Syrian relations.

These and other conference calls have helped create a virtual community among national members, keeping them abreast of the latest issues and ideas in international affairs.



Leslie H. Gelb and Peter W. Chiarelli at the 2005 National Conference.

discussions in the following cities: **William J. Long** and **Judith B. Milestone** in Atlanta; **Joseph S. Nye Jr.** and **Stephen M. Walt** in Boston; **Henry H. Peritt Jr.** in Chicago; **James Frank Hollifield** and **Patricia M. Patterson** in Dallas; **Mary Elise Sarotte**, **Gregory R. Bedrosian**, and **Joshua A. Berger** in London; **Albert Carnesale** and **Robert J. Abernethy** in Los Angeles; **Mark B. Rosenberg** and **Adrienne Arsht** in Miami; **Roy A. Herberger** and **Richard Mallery** in Phoenix; **Miles Kahler** and **Peter A. Gourevitch** in San Diego; **Jane M. Wales** in San Francisco; and **Ted Van Dyk**, **Sylvia M. Mathews**, and **Helene D. Gayle** in Seattle.

The National Program uses the latest technology

to regularly connect with members from coast to coast and around the world through teleconferences, webcasts, and videoconferences. This year national members had access to international and domestic policymakers including then Iraqi Interim Prime Minister **Ayad Allawi**, former Israeli Prime Minister **Ehud Barak**, U.S. Secretary of Defense **Donald Rumsfeld**, and Indian Prime Minister **Manmohan Singh**. The National Program also began posting audio files of New York and Washington meetings on the website so that members and the general public can listen to on-the-record meetings on their computers or download the files to their MP3 players.

Made possible in part by a generous grant from Mimi and Peter Haas, the National Program engages national members and other community leaders either face-to-face or virtually in serious and sustained conversations on pressing issues of the day.

PACIFIC COUNCIL ON INTERNATIONAL POLICY

The Council's western partner, the Pacific Council on International Policy (PCIP), continues to offer meetings on the West Coast. Council members are offered membership in PCIP and invited to participate in its events.



Winston Lord, J. Stapleton Roy, Council Vice President Irina A. Faskianos, and Council Board Director Joseph S. Nye Jr. at the 2005 National Conference.

National Conference

The National Conference is the premier event of the National Program, bringing together members from across the country and around the world to the Council's New York headquarters for two days of discussions with fellow members and other leading thinkers and practitioners. The theme of the Council's Tenth National Conference was "Iraq and Beyond: What Should the United States Be Doing?" More than 300 members reflected on America's foreign policy priorities with featured guests, including

- Senior representatives of the Bush administration and members of Congress, such as U.S. Deputy Secretary of State **Robert B. Zoellick** and Senator **Joseph R. Biden Jr.** (D-DE);
- The Council's chairman and vice chairmen—former Secretary of Commerce **Peter G. Peterson**, former U.S. Trade Representative **Carla A. Hills**, and former Treasury Secretary **Robert E. Rubin**;
- Leading scholars, including Yale University's **John Lewis Gaddis**, the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace's **Robert W. Kagan**, and Princeton University's **Anne-Marie Slaughter**;
- Former high-level government officials, such as former Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs **Winston Lord**; former U.S. Pacific Commander-in-



Joseph R. Biden Jr., John C. Bierley, Lucy Wilson Benson, and Diana Lady Dougan.



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Chief **Charles R. Larson**; former Assistant Secretary of Defense **Joseph S. Nye Jr.**; former U.S. Ambassador to Indonesia, China, and Singapore **J. Stapleton Roy**; and former Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Strategic Planning and Southwest Asia **Ashley J. Tellis**; and

- Military leaders and foreign policy experts, such as Commanding General **Peter W. Chiarelli** of the 1st Cavalry Division of the U.S. Army and Council President Emeritus **Leslie H. Gelb**.

Members met in smaller regional and topical discussion groups led by Council fellows and the project directors of several Council-sponsored Independent Task Forces. In addition, they had the opportunity to interact with a number of experts in the following Town Halls:

- Anti-Americanism with **Craig Charney**, **Julia E. Sweig**, and **James M. Lindsay**;
- Energy Security with **Edward L. Morse**, **David G. Victor**, and **Sarah J. Miller**;
- Global Health with **Laurie Garrett**, **Helene D. Gayle**, and **Donna E. Shalala**;
- Intelligence with **John E. McLaughlin** and **Richard K. Betts**;
- Religion and Foreign Policy with **Reza Aslan**, **Noah R. Feldman**, and **Walter Russell Mead**.