

TERM MEMBER PROGRAM

The Stephen M. Kellen Term Member Program engages promising young leaders in a sustained conversation on international affairs and U.S. foreign policy. Each year a new class of term members—individuals between the ages of 30 and 36—is elected to five-year membership. The Term Member Program allows younger members to interact with foreign policy experts as well as participate in a wide variety of events designed especially for them. Committees of term members in New York and Washington, DC, serve as advisory bodies to the Council leadership and provide opportunities for term members to help create programs of particular interest to their fellow young members.

The year began with over sixty term members convening in both New York and Washington, DC, for brainstorming sessions to determine what issues the program should tackle during its events throughout the year. In November, the Tenth Annual Term Member Conference, “Perspectives: Iraq and Beyond,” drew over 200 term members from across the country and around the world to New York for

two days. Sessions at the conference ranged in scope from Iraq’s present and future, to the rise of China, the role of the military in humanitarian assistance, finance and trade, the impact of high oil prices, and nonproliferation issues.

The program was also highlighted in a Bloomberg media article titled “Wall Street’s New Prize: Park Avenue Club House with World View.” Council President **Richard N. Haass** was quoted as saying, “It’s hard to imagine there are a lot more people out there who are more accomplished at their age,” and Council Chairman **Peter G. Peterson** explained the rationale behind Council President Emeritus **Leslie H. Gelb**’s reemphasis of the program in the early nineties: “One of our prime responsibilities was to develop a new generation of foreign policy citizens.”

With over fifty events this past year, the term members enjoyed a full range of activities, including four off-site trips. Seven roundtables dominated the schedule, touching on topics such as intelligence reform, immigration policy, economic development and the private sector, and humanitarian assistance. Term members met with authors **Bernard-Henri Lévy** and



Steven V. Brock, Walid G. Chamoun, and Kristin D. Rechberger with Council International Affairs Fellow Samantha Power at the 2006 Term Member Conference.

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Permanent Representatives to the United Nations during the Tenth Annual Term Member Conference (left to right): John Dauth of Australia, Javad Zarif of Iran, Council Board member Thomas R. Pickering (presiding), Nabeela Al-Mulla of Kuwait, Fayssal Mekdad of Syria, and Maged Abdelaziz of Egypt.

Special Events and Trips

During spring 2006, term members made four journeys together: to Capitol Hill to examine the role of congressional leadership and its impact on foreign policy; to the International Monetary Fund in Washington, DC, to learn about the IMF's changing roles in the fluctuating international economic climate; to the CIA to receive updates on crucial topics such as non-proliferation and countries such as China and Iran; and finally, to Norfolk, VA, to acquaint themselves with the roles, missions, and responsibilities of the U.S. Fleet Forces Command.

Term members also joined a working group in conjunction with the Princeton Project on National Security (PPNS) to give feedback on the PPNS's draft report, *National Security in the 21st Century: A Next Generation Perspective*. Council Board member Anne-Marie Slaughter led an afternoon of sessions to solicit opinions on the report from term members of diverse expertise. The sessions were moderated by PPNS chairs (and Council members) Laurie Garrett and Suzanne F. Nossel.

Peter Bergen after general meetings at the Council's New York office, attended a reception hosted by Les and Judy Gelb, and had the opportunity to meet with Council Board members Martin S. Feldstein and Anne-Marie Slaughter during seminars in Boston and New York, respectively.

The Council continues to rely on term members to shape their program, including the next Term Member Conference, slated for November 2006, and an international trip to Turkey planned for late spring 2007.



Council Vice President for Membership and Fellowship Affairs Elise Carlson Lewis with Anna-Maria Kellen and Andrew S. Gundlach at the Tenth Annual Term Member Conference. The Term Member Program is supported by a generous grant from the Anna-Maria and Stephen M. Kellen Foundation.