



# USAID Alumni Association

## June 2017 UAA Newsletter

### Mark your Calendars for Upcoming UAA Events

**CANCELLED - Wednesday, June 21, 12 noon - 2 pm UAA/DACOR Development Dialogue and DACOR's Newberry Cultural Series** is cancelled as the speaker, **Ms. Marina Djabbarzade**, will be out of the country that day.

**Saturday, July 22, 2017** - from 12:00-3:00. Join us at the Sixth Annual UAA Summer Picnic which will be held again this year at Fort Hunt in Alexandria, Virginia. See details below and RSVP today!

**Wednesday, August 9, 2017** - Will you be in **Vermont** this August? **Join other USAID alumni for a picnic** hosted by Nils Daulaire on Wednesday at his home, Upper Lea Farm, in South Royalton, Vermont. For more information, contact Nils at [nils.daulaire@gmail.com](mailto:nils.daulaire@gmail.com)

### New on USAIDalumni.org

- **Obituaries:** The [In Memoriam](#) page has several new entries.
- In [Jobs and Volunteer Opportunities](#), several new opportunities have been posted.
- In [Articles](#), read items on: 1) a CSIS Congressional Task Force on aid reform, 2) a Brian Atwood speech on the achievements of the OECD DAC, 3) an outstanding Colin Powell op-ed on the costs of having a safer, better world, 4) cuts to foreign aid under the budget proposed for State, 5) Tillerson's supportive comments on the proposed State/AID budget, 6) a USAID "fact sheet" on the FY'18 budget proposal, 7) MFAN's guiding principles for foreign assistance, 8) USAID considerations for an organizational merger of food and disaster assistance, 9) the positive reception given to A/AID nominee Mark Green, 10) further "life protection" provisions added to the Mexico City policy, 11) the positive bipartisan reception given to the Green nomination, 12) an Economist piece on the greater role of for-profit businesses in aid provision, 13) George Ingram's thoughts re. the wisdom of maintaining the separation between USAID and State, 14) views on the future of foreign aid, 15) the meaning of Trump's aid cuts to the rest of the world, 16) what the US gets for its investment in foreign aid, 17) Trump plans for an AID-State merger and deep program cuts, 18) a four part analysis by alumna Diane Ohlbaum covering: an assessment of the cuts in the proposed Trump budget, the political implications of dismantling USAID, proposed Trump aid/diplomacy cuts that drive decisions before any analysis has occurred, and the budget-driven shift away from soft power to more military action in foreign affairs, 19) the end of foreign aid as we know it, and 20) challenges, and U.S. responses to key issues in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- In the [Forum](#), we have a number of new additions. These include: 1) notes from a Development Issues Committee Session with Daniel Runde, Director of the

CSIS Program on U.S. Leadership in Development, 2) a profile of Bill Steiger, recently appointed USAID Chief of Staff, 3) a new Development Assistance History input from alum Joe Ryan, 4) links to writings of A/AID-designate Mark Green, 5) a new Congressional consultation requirement before any aid reorganization effort can begin, 6) a note on the Foreign Affairs Retirees on New England, 7) a statement from Sen. Leahy on the nomination of Mark Green, and 8) the White House notice on the Green nomination.

- In [Web Links](#), Check out The World Poverty Clock, which provides real-time poverty estimates until 2030 for almost every country in the world.
- The [UAA Development Dialogue at DACOR](#) series recently hosted two events:
  - **Professor James Foster** from the George Washington University's Elliott School provided a clear and persuasive description of how traditional income-related measures of poverty should be complemented by use of multi-dimensional methods. [Hear the audio](#) of his talk and the Q&A's and [see the PowerPoint of his presentation](#).
  - **Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala**, former finance minister of Nigeria, and **Princeton Lyman**, a leading American diplomat and USAID alumnus, discussed the **current state of African development and obstacles** to growth in African economies (including armed conflicts throughout the region).

Do you have news, an article or event you would like to share? Please send it to [office@usaidalumni.org](mailto:office@usaidalumni.org) or, better still, post it on the [Forum](#).

Looking for someone with a USAID alumni background and skills to hire or as a volunteer? If you would like to post a job or volunteer opportunity, please email us at [office@usaidalumni.org](mailto:office@usaidalumni.org), Attn: Jobs/Volunteers.

## UAA Support for a Strong, Independent USAID

As a 501(c)3, the USAID Alumni Association is prohibited from political lobbying but can provide information to members related to USAID funding and structure. Thus, in response to recent questions and concerns from UAA members on USAID's status in the upcoming budget process, the UAA Board has recently emailed information directly to members on how to find information online.

## UAA Spring Reception



Nearly 100 USAID alumni, spouses, and current USAID employees attended the UAA's Annual Spring Reception. For a second time, Alex and Pat Shakow hosted the event in the gracious home and wonderful gardens of their residence. It was a great success - and the rains held off, ensuring a lovely time for all.

## 6th Annual UAA Summer Picnic

**SAVE THE DATE! JOIN THE FUN!  
6th Annual UAA Summer Picnic**

**Fort Hunt Park, Alexandria, VA  
Saturday, July 22, 2017  
Noon - 3:00 pm**

In order for us to have adequate water and soft drinks available, **please let us know** that you are coming and with how many adults and children. Respond to [office@usaidalumni.org](mailto:office@usaidalumni.org)

**Details:**

The UAA will have its annual picnic on Saturday July 22 at Fort Hunt picnic area. Our get together is scheduled from noon till 3:00pm. We hope everyone will come and bring other Alumni, children, guitars, games, etc. The parking lot is a very short stroll to the sheltered picnic area so we will proceed rain or shine.

Based on the enthusiastic response the last two years, we decided to repeat our successful pot luck so that people can bring dishes to share. We will provide non-alcoholic beverages and water, table covers, paper goods, cups and plastic ware. Please bring your own wine and beer - and some to share. The area has a liquor license, but for wine and beer only.

**Please bring one dish sufficient for 6 to 8 people.** If you have a special dish that would be great. Otherwise, bring a dish according to the following categories:

- People with last names between A and D are asked to bring a main dish.
- People with last names between E and M are asked to bring a salad or side dish.
- People with last names between N and R are asked to bring a dessert.
- People with last names between S and Z are asked to bring an appetizer.

**Directions:** Fort Hunt is South of Alexandria and just north of Mount Vernon. From Interstate 395, take exit 10B for the southbound George Washington Memorial Parkway. Merge onto the parkway and continue for about 12 miles. Turn right onto Fort Hunt Road and continue to the Park. For further details, [click here](#).

**The UAA picnic will again be held in site B-001.**

## Finding Unregistered Alumni

To make the UAA Alumni Directory and website even more valuable to all, we need to encourage more of our unregistered alumni to register. That includes recent retirees and the scores of eligible PSCs and hundreds of former FSNs!!

As of May 30, the UAA had 985 registered alumni in its Directory and that number continues to grow every month. Our goal is to have no less than 1,000 registered alumni by the time we meet at the Annual General Meeting on November 3.

Please be an advocate for the UAA with the Alumni community members, encouraging them to register, to become members and to participate in UAA events and as volunteers. This Association belongs to all of us and will be strongest if we all contribute to its activities and participate. This starts with ensuring that eligible alumni register, contribute and are active in in the work of the Association.

## Book group - THANK YOU FOR BEING LATE

The UAA Economic Growth & Institutional Development book group is into its second year. On May 12, 16 Alumni participated in the UAA book group discussion focused on Tom Friedman's new book, Thank You for Being Late: An Optimist's Guide to Thriving in the Age of Accelerations.

Friedman argues in the book that technology may be accelerating faster than the capacity of societies to adapt to it, let alone to the challenges from globalized markets and climate change. He paints a picture of how the internet, "the supernova," which allows people in the most backward countries to access the world's knowledge, and therefore compete with people in rich countries in ways never before possible. His chapter on climate change and population growth, particularly in Africa, paints a frightening picture of mass migration.

The discussion was lively and informed, as numerous participants had read the book in addition to the summary provided to promote the discussion. Overall, many found Friedman's optimism a bit inconsistent with the content of the book. Many agreed that, despite some flaws, this was a book worthy of reading.

## Alumni Profiles - Bob Dubinsky



After more than 50 years of involvement in U.S. and international housing and urban development concerns, Bob Dubinsky remains active in these issues. He is the Board Chairman of IHC Global, an advocacy and information dissemination policy-focused NGO coalition of 35 organizations in Washington, D.C. that supports raising the profile of sustainable cities and improved housing in the developing world. IHC Global was established 10 years ago by former USAID employees Peter Kimm and Jack Howley and is supported by Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI), the National Association of Realtors (NAR), foundations, and members of the housing coalition. IHC works with a variety of partners, publishes a weekly newsletter, organizes events and seminars and is involved in policy dialogues with a variety of domestic and international organizations. Its web site is: [www.IHCglobal.org](http://www.IHCglobal.org)

Early in his career Bob worked at HUD in the Johnson Administration and for various consultants that support U.S. urban development activities. He was the RAND Field Manager that tested the concept of housing allowances and vouchers that led to the development of HUD's Section 8 Program. For 10 years he served as a USAID PSC and was fortunate enough to manage housing and urban development projects in Barbados and Jamaica. The Jamaica case was an innovative public-private project to revitalize downtown Kingston. In the early 1990s he also helped design USAID's Office of Housing Initiatives in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. Subsequently, for the International City County Management Association (ICMA) he managed housing, decentralization and municipal management projects in Romania, Bulgaria, Poland and Hungary.

Bob is married with four step children and lives in Washington, D.C. Between trips to visit grandchildren in Annapolis and Steamboat Springs, Colorado, Bob is an active member of the UAA and InterAction and makes it a point to be in touch with the cadre of people in Washington who believe urbanization and how the world responds to it is one of the most significant development issues of our time. Retirement is not his goal. His personal email is [Robertdubinsky@aol.com](mailto:Robertdubinsky@aol.com)

# **Make Your 2017 UAA Membership Contribution**

**USAID Alumni Association**

USAID Alumni Association, 1801 F Street, Washington, DC 20006

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