



USAID Alumni Association

September 2016 UAA Newsletter

Mark your Calendars for Upcoming UAA Events

Friday, September 16, 2016 - noon - The UAA Economic Growth & Institutional Development book group will hold its next meeting. **Gary Merritt** will discuss Gregory Clark's book "A Farewell to Alms". The book is an interpretation of how economic growth and wealth distribution have interacted over recent centuries. The session will take place at the Circle Bistro Restaurant at Washington Cir N.W

Tuesday, September 20, 2016 - 12:15 - 1:30 pm - **Professor Sir Gordon Conway**, former President of the Rockefeller Foundation and currently Professor at Imperial College, London, will speak on "**Sustainable Intensification is the Answer to Global Food Insecurity**". Note: This event will be co-sponsored by UAA and the International Food Policy Research Institute and will be held at IFPRI, 2033 K St. NW, Washington, D.C.

Friday, October 21, 2016 - UAA Annual General Meeting

New on USAIDalumni.org

- **Obituaries:** A number of recent notices have been added to the [In Memoriam](#) page.
- In the [Forum](#), take a look at 1) how long the USG expects you to live and 2) an AFSA note on turbulence in the pricing of long-term care insurance.
- In [Articles](#), take a look at items on 1) USAID crowdsourcing of 21 innovative ideas on how to confront Zika, 2) some GOP national security experts (including some with USAID history) who appear more supportive of Clinton positions, 3) a GOP and Democratic platform-based assessment of the foreign policy role of development, 4) how USAID is taking steps to avoid greater aid worker "bunkerization," 5) the mortal dangers of being an aid-worker in 2015, 6) cautions re. over-reliance on drone and other technologies as miraculous solutions to development obstacles, 7) Israeli accusations that a World Vision employee has diverted AID resources to Hamas, 8) the glass ceiling limits of US diplomacy, 9) a view of what H. Clinton's aid agenda might look like, and 10) the 12-month home confinement of Louis Berger's ex-board chair for conspiring to defraud USAID.
- In [Web Links](#), 1) view the latest editions of Front Lines and the USAID Impact Newsletter, 2) an interactive world map of USAID stories and results and 3) a clickable InterAction map that shows where its members are engaged around the world.
- In [Jobs and Volunteer Opportunities](#), new job offerings have been posted.

- On the **Resources for UAA Mentors** page, there is newly completed **evaluation** of the first years of the now 3 ½ year old program.

Do you have news, an article or event you would like to share? Please send it to 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, Attn: Jobs/Volunteers.

Save the Date - UAA 2016 Annual General Meeting - Friday, October 21

The 2016 UAA Annual General Meeting will be held on **October 21, 2016** at the **Center for Global Development headquarters in Washington, DC.**

This year's meeting theme is:

"Learning from History"

The program will feature an introductory panel on **"Learning from History of US Foreign Assistance 1789-1950,"** moderated by **Susan Reichle, USAID,** with **John Sanbrailo, Director, PADF; Julia Irwin, USF/Tampa,** and **Curt Tarnoff, Congressional Research Service.**

In the second session panelists **Michael Pillsbury, Jim Fox and Larry Heilman** will discuss **"Lessons from USAID Country Experience,"** focusing on lessons from Taiwan, Korea, Costa Rica and Bolivia.

The final panel will focus on **"Lessons from the past for the next Administration,"** moderated by **John Norris,** with former administrators **Peter McPherson, Brian Atwood and Henrietta Holsman-Fore."**

To register for AGM, please click [here](#).

Please note that, starting this year, members will need to vote for Board Members electronically in advance. No voting will take place at the AGM. To be eligible to vote Alumni need to be contributing members for 2016. Please check the web site to assure you are current for 2016 by clicking [here](#). Voting and slate of candidates information will be sent out shortly. To defray catering costs there will be a fee of \$25 for non-contributing Alumni to attend the AGM

Center for Global Development is located at 2055 L St. NW, Washington, DC.

5th Annual UAA Summer Picnic



The UAA Annual Picnic was held on Saturday, August 6. We returned to our outstanding venue at Fort Hunt Park, near Mount Vernon. The fun was shared by some 70 Alumni, family members and friends who enjoyed the congenial gathering along with the clear weather, refreshing breeze and abundant potluck food. This is

the largest group ever to join us at this summer event. [View additional photos here](#) (Photo credit: Renuka Iyer and Peg Nicastro)

10th Annual USAID Alumni Gathering in Vermont

On August 17th, some 20-25 USAID alums gathered for a potluck picnic at the home of Steve Sinding and Monica Knorr in Manchester, Vermont. This annual event, dubbed the "Development Wallahs' picnic," drew alums from Virginia, North Carolina, Maine, New Hampshire, New York and, of course, Vermont. Mark your calendars - next summer the event will be hosted by Nils Daulaire at his farm in South Royalton, Vermont.



From top left:

1. Steve Sinding "manning" the barbecue
2. Joyce Holfeld, Laurie Conly, and Mellen Tanamaly catching up.
3. Margaret Neuse, Jim Norris and David Sprague deep in conversation
4. Mike Van Dusen, Fritz Gilbert and Nils Daulaire, with Anne Aarnes and Monica Knorr in the background

UAA Luncheon Book Club

The UAA's Economic Growth & Institutional Development joint subcommittee is pleased to announce that the next meeting of its book-group is scheduled for **Friday, September 16 at noon**. As in the past, the event will take place at the Circle Bistro Restaurant at Washington Cir N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037.

The restaurant is in the Washington Circle Hotel and is about a block and a half away from the Foggy Bottom Metro station (just cross the Washington Circle and walk along New Hampshire Avenue). There are three public parking garages within a block radius on L Street, as well as a few parking meters in front of the hotel on New Hampshire Avenue.

At this meeting Gary Merritt will discuss Gregory Clark's book "A Farewell to Alms". The book is an interpretation of how economic growth and wealth

distribution have interacted over recent centuries. Not surprisingly the book aroused attention and controversy. As usual, the presentation will be followed by Q&A's and an "open table" discussion.

As in the past, each person will pay directly for his/her consumption. We hope this event is of interest to you and that you can make the session.

If you plan to participate or want additional information please contact Juan Buttari at jbuttari@verizon.net.

UAA Development Issues Committee

On **Thursday, September 29**, the UAA Development Issues Committee will meet from 2-4 pm at the PADF offices in the OAS building at 19th and F. The featured speaker will be recently-retired USAID economist **Mike Crosswell**, with the topic **"Adventures in Transitioning: Notes on "Policy" in Six Administrations."** Mike's paper will be available prior to the meeting. Advance reservations are needed to enter the OAS Building. Please contact Jim Fox (jameswfox@cox.net) or Steve Giddings (sgiddings5@gmail.com) two days before the meeting to get on the participant list.

Alumni Profile

Ray Martin

Retirement is not in Ray Martin's DNA. At least not retirement by this definition from the American Heritage Dictionary, "to withdraw from business or public life so as to live at leisure on one's income, savings, or pension."



Ray with grandson Troy addressing the launch of a Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions at Eastern Mennonite University

After a 25-year USAID career in program work in Morocco and Washington, and then backstop 50 service in population and health in Ghana, Cameroon, Pakistan, and Zaire, he would not have found happiness and meaning at the retirement age of 52 in a life of playing golf, going fishing, and watching soap operas.

Instead, he transitioned immediately in 1992 to a Public Health Specialist position at the World Bank, based in Washington, working on health systems and AIDS projects in francophone African countries. Having the Bank cachet was flattering, but again, Ray eventually had a "been there, done that" feeling and got involved as a volunteer "promoting global health and

wholeness from a Christian perspective." He ended up becoming the executive director of Christian Connections for International Health for 14 years, building its membership and program to become a significant faith-based participant in the global health world.

With no illusions of immortality, however, he did step down from that position in 2014, but remains active in global health and international development. He is the historian of the International Health Section of the American Public Health Association, which he served as Chair years back, and is active in their climate change and health working group.

Ray's philosophy, both at USAID and since, has been that happiness and meaning come from a life of service, working toward the common good. This undoubtedly has roots in his Mennonite farm background in rural Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, but carries forward into his present, somewhat more complicated, mixture of faith and secular tendencies.

One manifestation of Ray's values, surviving the devastating loss of his wife Luann to cancer in 2015, is a desire to use their substantial savings and pensions not to live a life of leisure, but to continue to serve the common good, an investment in a better world for all. And to spend down these assets while he was still alive rather than as a bequest after his death. He made a large pledge to Mennonite Central Committee to set up a legacy fund in his wife's name to support Care Group approaches to improving maternal and child health and nutrition in Africa. A second large commitment is addressing his passion for getting serious about climate change, strengthened by finally becoming a grandfather, through funding a new Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions at Eastern Mennonite University, (www.insete.com/ClimateSolutions)

Contact Ray Martin, McLean, VA, martinrs@aol.com, 703-556-0123

Make Your 2016 UAA Membership Contribution

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