



# USAID Alumni Association

## June 2020 Newsletter

### Note from the UAA Board

In the days of the pandemic isolation, we have had time to become creative. As a result of a review of UAA communications with a particular focus on the UAA website, the Executive Committee has agreed to a series of changes to make the website cleaner and more user-friendly for our members. Over the next few months, you will find some changes in headings, location, format, and content. We will be preserving content of recent years in a cloud account to assure access. We will keep you informed as these improvements are made.

### Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming UAA Events

**POSTPONED EVENTS.** Please watch for emails announcing any rescheduling details of the following events that have been postponed due to the novel coronavirus pandemic emergency. We are considering conducting the events virtually.

The **UAA Book Club** meeting to review Daniel Markovits's new book, *The Meritocracy Trap: How America's Foundational Myth Feeds Inequality, Dismantles the Middle Class, and Devours the Elite*.

The **Development Issues Committee** planned bimonthly meeting on the formation and goals of the recently established Development Finance Corporation (DFC) with guest discussion leaders Andrew Herscovitz, newly appointed DFC Chief Development Officer (formerly Director of USAID's Power Africa initiative) and Amanda Burke, DFC Deputy Vice President, External Affairs.

**SAVE THE DATES** for the following events:

**NEW! Tuesday, June 30, 2020, 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.**- Former USAID Administrator and current President and CEO of the One Campaign **Gayle Smith** will speak at a UAA/DACOR Development Dialogue. **As this must be done virtually, it will also be available live to our members outside the Washington area, up to the number limited by the technology.** Watch for the announcement with more details.

**Wednesday, August 12, 2020, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**- Connie Carrino and Jeff Sharat will host the annual alumni picnic in Vermont at Connie's home in Stowe, Vermont. For USAID alumni passing through Vermont this summer, you are invited to join the fun. If you can make it, please RSVP to Connie at [cacarrino@gmail.com](mailto:cacarrino@gmail.com).

**Saturday, September 12, 2020, 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.**- UAA Summer Picnic will be held at Fort Hunt Park, Alexandria, VA. More details to come.

**Friday, October 30, 2020, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**- UAA Annual General Meeting will be held at the Center for Global Development, Washington, DC. More details to come.

- **Home Page:** We feature a video message from John Barsa, the new USAID Acting Administrator, speaking to the broad USAID family.
- **Obituaries:** The [In Memoriam](#) page offers seven recent obituaries of USAID colleagues.
- **Articles:** Thirteen articles are featured, including items on USAID Administrator Mark Green's departure from USAID, a series of articles related to the impact of COVID-19 on many aspects of USAID operations, and a New York Times global map on tracking the pandemic.
- **[Job & Volunteer Opportunities](#):** Two continuing items are available: (1) Save the Children's job search for a new Director of Maternal, Newborn and Reproductive Health in Emergency in Save's their Department of Global Health, and (2) USAID's call for retired Foreign Service Officers to fill a number of positions in Washington.

## 2020 Annual Awards Program - Nominations due July 31

Only a short time remains for submission of nominations of a UAA member (or yourself) for the 2020 Alumni of the Year awards. Please send your nominations from now until July 31 to [awards@usaidalumni.org](mailto:awards@usaidalumni.org). The prestigious awards will be announced at the UAA Annual General Meeting on October 30. The Alumni of the Year award recognizes and celebrates new paths taken in retirement by USAID alumni to provide service to their communities and improve the lives of others at home and abroad. There are impressive contributions among our alumni community waiting to be recognized. Example categories of service that are appropriate, but not limited to, for consideration include:

- Service with nongovernmental organizations and other groups (profit or nonprofit) that work closely with communities with special needs, at home or abroad, or both (e.g., legal services or advocacy for disadvantaged groups, foster parenting, medical service in underserved areas, etc.).
- Service with groups that promote education (at any level) or the arts and sciences (e.g., museums, community theater, music appreciation, etc.).
- Support for civic programs of any kind (e.g., scout movement or projects promoted by groups such as the Lions, Rotary, or similar).
- Leadership excellence, including contributions to intellectual development and implementation (e.g., for sustained extraordinary achievement, dedication and passion in a leadership role).
- Service by alumni, including retirees and their spouses or partners, who are UAA members and actively support contributions in furtherance of social and economic development and humanitarian relief at home or abroad.

Don't wait until the last minute to share those stories. All nominees, including the 2020 winner(s), will be profiled in future editions of the monthly UAA newsletter. For full details about the award and how to make nominations, please [click here](#).

## About the UAA

Thank you for the many helpful and candid comments to the 2020 Membership Survey. As part of our review of the survey comments, we realized some members were not aware of the many benefits and activities available to USAID alumni who join the USAID Alumni Association. We plan to do better. Below is a fact sheet that responds to some of these misconceptions. We will include additional information in future newsletters to keep you better informed. Your feedback on the fact sheet would be appreciated.

### Ten Little-Known USAID Alumni Association Facts

1. Launched in 2009, UAA is a 501(c)3 non-profit managed by USAID alumni volunteers.
2. UAA welcomes retired or separated colleagues from USAID or its predecessor agencies who have at least 18 months of direct hire equivalent service in any combination of the following categories: civil servants, Foreign Service Officers, Foreign Service Nationals, and third-country nationals, AD and Schedule C appointees, inter-agency service agreements (PASA, RSSA), fellowship programs (e.g., AAAS Fellows, Population Fellows), and personal services contracts. Widows, widowers, and former spouses or partners of USAID alumni eligible for UAA membership are eligible for Associate membership.
3. Registration for the email list and the UAA Directory is available to all who meet the above criteria. The Directory, however, is not open to the public.
4. Recommended contribution levels for UAA membership are:
  - o \$75 if you reside within a 50-mile radius of DC;
  - o \$25 if you reside in the United States but beyond the DC area, reside overseas, are a former FSN, or an Associate member.
5. Members who donate at least \$100 in a calendar year are designated "Friends of the UAA" and are recognized on UAA's membership list. Members are also encouraged to donate to special activities like the USAID history project.
6. To increase membership, UAA reaches out to retiring USAID employees at FSI retirement seminars and has its membership information included in USAID retirement packets.
7. UAA is increasing its outreach and program efforts with DACOR and AFSA.
8. UAA actively engages with USAID leadership. Recently, UAA was contacted by USAID to provide access to UAA members regarding opportunities for long- and short-term contracts and/or as volunteers in efforts to recruit new FS officers.
9. UAA's efforts to launch local groups outside DC and overseas are on hold due to Covid-19.
10. Many UAA events, like our Annual Meeting and DACOR events, are recorded and available on our website: [www.usaidalumni.org](http://www.usaidalumni.org).

## Short Term Hiring Help Needed for USAID Foreign Service Hiring

USAID HQ may need some short-term professional assistance for technical review and selection panels for hiring of new USAID FSOs through September 2021. This would likely be short-term contracted support. Right now STAR appointments seem best suited. HQ would be interested to know of interest across all Backstops in providing short-term contracted support to Panels. Please direct your interest and your former Backstop(s) to UAA Board Member Jim Bever, at [bentonboy@gmail.com](mailto:bentonboy@gmail.com), who will communicate Alumni interest with HCTM (former HR) at HQ.

## Alumni Profile: William (Bill) Hammink



Bill Hammink retired from USAID in 2017 after more than 36 years serving in nine different countries with USAID. Bill married his grad school love, Marie-Eve, in 1980, joined USAID in 1981, and headed off together to Swaziland in 1982 to start a great career mainly overseas. Their two children were born in Swaziland and their older daughter picked up the local SiSwati language before they all headed off to Senegal and Wolof for their second tour. In this COVID-19

year, they celebrate 40 years of marriage, two children, two new grandchildren, and

friends and colleagues from around the world.

Bill's career in USAID included serving as Director of the Food for Peace Office, SDAA in the previous Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade (EGAT) bureau, Deputy Mission Director in West Bank/Gaza during the start of the second intifada, Mission Director in Ethiopia during several years of drought and disaster, in Sudan as South Sudan became independent, in India as USAID moved to a fully partnership relationship, in Afghanistan during the major security, political and economic transition starting in 2014, and lastly, Assistant to the Administrator for Afghanistan and Pakistan in Washington. After leaving USAID, Bill joined the implementing partner side and served as the ABA/ROLI Country Director for Tunisia and Libya based in Tunis for one year. Bill pointed out that "It is a very different world as an implementing partner compared to being the donor, with implementation reports, always looking for new funding and writing proposals, and having meaningful direct relationships with key beneficiaries."

While enjoying time with family at their house on the eastern shore (where Bill and Marie-Eve are currently isolating and self-distancing), in keeping with his strong commitment to international development, Bill also provides pro-bono support to different small development organizations such as Turquoise Mountain based in the UK with exciting programs in Afghanistan, Myanmar and Jordan. Bill recently joined the Board of Directors of Counterpart International and the Board of Trustees of the American University of Afghanistan. These very different organizations face many of the same challenges and uncertainties, especially with the impact of the pandemic on everyone's lives around the globe.

Bill and Marie-Eve enjoyed spending part of each year during retirement in France where Marie-Eve was born, but they are grounded in the United States during 2020, an unusual year of no travel to Europe. They look forward to 2021 that will be again a year of travel for them and, no doubt, for many USAID alumni. Bill and Marie-Eve welcome hearing from their friends and former colleagues at: [billhammink@yahoo.com](mailto:billhammink@yahoo.com).

## Newsletter Schedule

During the July-December period of this year, the UAA newsletter publication will generally be approximately every 45 days instead of each month. Thus, the next five newsletters are scheduled for **July 13** (covering June 1-July 13), **September 8** (July 14-Sept 8 post-holiday), **October 12** (Sept 9-Oct 12 focused on pre-AGM), **November 23** (Oct 13-Nov 23 focused on post-AGM), and **January 4, 2021** (Nov 24-Jan 4). If you have information you would like to share with your fellow alumni, your contributions are welcomed. Please send the information, with a picture and caption of the event, date, and people shown to [office@usaidalumni.org](mailto:office@usaidalumni.org).

**[Make Your 2020 UAA Membership Contribution here](#)**

