

LINDNER FAMILY CO



Engagement



"Addressing 21st century challenges requires a 21st century frame of reference. The Elliott School helps provide our next generation of leaders a high standard of informed discussion on international affairs. This essential preparation will be required to meet these challenges and lead in a world undergoing historic transformation."

— U.S. Senator Chuck Hagel

GW professor Frank Sesno (left) interviews U.S. Senator Chuck Hagel.

ENGAGEMENT

AT THE ELLIOTT SCHOOL, WE BELIEVE that an open exchange of information and ideas leads to more informed policy in the United States and around the world. As a nonpartisan institution, the school provides a unique forum in the heart of Washington, D.C., for scholars and policy practitioners from a variety of intellectual and international backgrounds to engage on some of the most important issues of our time. Our faculty members are regularly sought out by the media to help the public understand complex foreign policy issues, and our proximity to leading U.S. and international organizations puts our scholars in a powerful position to address policy problems as they unfold.

MAKING SENSE OF A COMPLEX WORLD

Reporters regularly consult our faculty to help explain developments in world affairs. David Shinn, former U.S. ambassador to Ethiopia, was interviewed about developments in the Horn of Africa more than 70 times during the past academic year, including more than 20 interviews with Voice of America as well as appearances on BBC Radio, Al Jazeera, Radio France International, and Bloomberg TV. Jerrold M. Post, whose book *The Mind of the Terrorist: The Psychology of Terrorism from the IRA to al-Qaeda* was published in 2007, spoke extensively to media outlets, intelligence organizations, and medical associations.

Other faculty members who were frequently consulted as experts include David Shambaugh on China, Deepa Ollapally on South Asia, Kirk Larsen on Korea, Susan Aaronson on trade, and Nathan Brown on the Middle East.

Our faculty members are reaching the public through new media. Marc Lynch writes a blog on Middle East politics and Arab media called *Abu Aardvark*, which has become a go-to site for journalists, policymakers, and the general public. The blog receives about 2,000 hits a day and has drawn the attention of *The Washington Post's* Thomas Ricks and *The New York Times's* Thomas Friedman. Henry Farrell and his colleagues receive approximately 11,000 unique visitors a

day at their blog, *Crooked Timber*, which the *Guardian* listed as one of the world's 50 most important blogs. Farrell published two scholarly articles on the role of blogs in politics in peer-reviewed journals.

Elliott School scholars are regularly called upon by U.S. and foreign government officials to provide expert analysis. In December 2007, faculty member Steven Livingston traveled to

the Kingdom of Lesotho to advise the government on a communications plan. He later trained Iraq's provisional government and journalists and military officials in Baghdad. David Shambaugh and Bruce Dickson briefed the National Intelligence Council on China, and Marc Lynch spoke to the NIC about the Middle East. Liesl Riddle and Jennifer Brinkerhoff served on a UN advisory panel on diaspora entrepreneurship and investment and have been commissioned to write chapters for the panel's forthcoming book. Faculty members Hugh Agnew, Bruce Dickson, Amb. Karl F. Inderfurth, Shira Robinson, and Sharon Wolchik lectured at the U.S. State Department's Foreign Service Institute, training diplomats soon to be posted overseas. Joanna Spear, director of the Security Policy Studies Program, continued at the helm of the prestigious National Security Studies Program, which trains senior-level Department of Defense military officers and civilian officials.

Eight Elliott School faculty members appeared before congressional committees in 2007-08. Leon Fuerth testified before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations on energy issues. Harry Harding testified before





Three of the illustrious guests the Elliott School hosted in 2007-08: (left to right) philanthropist and CNN founder Ted Turner, U.S. Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs R. Nicholas Burns, and jazz legend Dave Brubeck.

the same committee on U.S.-China relations. Amb. Shinn discussed the Horn of Africa before the Senate's Subcommittee on African Affairs, while Amitai Etzioni testified on terrorism before the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. Amb. Inderfurth provided expert testimony on Afghanistan to House and Senate Committees. Christopher A. Kojm testified before the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations on Iraq, while Judith Yaphe spoke about Iran before the Subcommittee on the Middle East-South Asia. Marvin Weinbaum testified before the House Armed Services Committee on counterterrorism, Pakistan, and Afghanistan.

Several Elliott School programs regularly bring together policymakers from the United States and around the world. The China Policy Program, sponsored by the Sigur Center and directed by David Shambaugh, sponsors "Track II" dialogues that host experts from academia, the policy community, and the think-tank world. During 2007-08, this program sponsored conferences in Washington, Beijing, and Berlin.

With generous support from the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission, Professor Henry R. Nau helps Congress run two legislative exchange programs: the U.S.-Japan Legislative Exchange Program and the U.S.-Japan-South Korea Trilateral Legislative Exchange Program. The programs, which are also sponsored by the Sigur Center, connect legislative leaders from the United States and two of the most important democratic countries in Asia to foster better understanding of international politics and policy.

A FORUM FOR DIALOGUE AND EXCHANGE

The Elliott School hosted more than 260 public events in 2007-08,



Former U.S. Ambassador to Yemen Barbara Bodine asks a question during the April 10 event titled "The Presidential Inbox: Foreign Policy in the Next Administration."

giving members of our community tremendous opportunities to interact with policymakers, journalists, scholars, analysts, activists, and other experts and leaders from around the world. More than 65 of our public events featured Elliott School faculty and students, showcasing their expertise before high-powered audiences. Question-and-answer sessions allowed our students, faculty, alumni, and other audience members the chance to engage with speakers directly.

We continued our tradition of hosting high-level speakers throughout 2007-08. U.S. Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs R. Nicholas Burns discussed U.S. global priorities in November 2007. Former U.S. senator and presidential candidate Bob Dole spoke on globalization and Taiwan the following month. Media mogul and billionaire philanthropist Ted Turner discussed the United Nations, the war in Iraq, and climate change with GW's Frank Sesno in April 2008. Sesno hosted a discussion with U.S. Senator Chuck Hagel about the U.S. role in the world. In an innovative event, four Elliott School professors discussed cultural diplomacy in honor of the 50th anniversary of Dave Brubeck's landmark 1958 tour of the



John E. McLaughlin, former deputy director of central intelligence, discusses "Lessons from the Search for Iraqi Weapons of Mass Destruction" at a Security Policy Forum event.



Carolina Barco
Ambassador of Colombia to the United States



Sheikha Haya Rashed Al Khalifa, president of the UN General Assembly, discusses "Women in the Arab World: Law and Practice" as part of the Distinguished Women in International Affairs series.

Middle East, Eurasia, South Asia, and central Europe. The musician, who was designated a "Living Legend" by the Library of Congress, attended the lecture and delighted attendees by playing at the reception that followed the panel discussion. The Latin American and Hemispheric Studies Program (LAHSP) added to this distinguished array with presentations by Bolivian Ambassador Mario Gustavo Guzmán and Venezuelan Ambassador Bernardo Álvarez Herrera. LAHSP also sponsored a talk with the president-elect of Paraguay, Fernando Lugo.

(Ret.) David Barno, former commander of the Combined Forces Command-Afghanistan; John E. McLaughlin, former deputy director of central intelligence; and Charles A. Duelfer, former chief U.S. weapons inspector in Iraq.

With support from Elliott School parents Jack and Pam Cumming, we continued our highly successful Distinguished Women in International Affairs series. In fall 2007, we hosted Sheikha Haya Rashed Al Khalifa, president of the United Nations General Assembly, for a discussion on "Women in the Arab World: Law and Practice." Betty Bigombe, a renowned Ugandan peace activist, discussed conflict mediation in the spring. A highlight of the series is the tradition that a current Elliott School student introduces the speakers. This year Anna Phillips, a student studying international development, introduced Al Khalifa; Karly Geers, who studies international affairs with concentrations in international development and African regional studies, introduced Bigombe.

In October 2007, the Elliott School launched the Security Policy Forum, which brought more than 15 senior policymakers and expert analysts to the school in its first year. Under the direction of James Lebovic, the forum hosted discussions on U.S. policy toward North Korea, the war on terrorism, Afghanistan, and several sessions on Iraq, on topics ranging from civilian casualties of war to lessons learned from the search for weapons of mass destruction. Speakers included Victor Cha, former U.S. deputy head of delegation to the Six Party Talks; James A. Kelly, former assistant U.S. secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs; U.S. Army Lt. Gen.

Many of our spring events focused on the upcoming U.S. presidential elections. The Elliott School celebrated the 10th anniversary of its Master of International Policy and Practice (MIPP) program with



Christopher A. Kojm, professor of the practice of international affairs, at an Elliott School event.



Mahmud Ali Durrani
Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the United States



Samuel Assefa
Ambassador of Ethiopia to the United States

The Ambassadors Forum, directed by Amb. Karl Inderfurth, continued its practice of bringing senior diplomats from around the world to the Elliott School. This year, audiences heard from the current ambassadors from Colombia, Ethiopia, Germany, India, Pakistan, Portugal, and Slovenia. The forum is supported in part by The Coca Cola Company.

a panel discussion, "Notes for the Next U.S. President: Understanding Global Challenges." This event featured MIPP alumni currently working on international issues. The Sigur Center for Asian Studies hosted Indian Ambassador to the U.S. Ronen Sen for a discussion on U.S.-Indian relations; his talk was

followed by a panel discussion with U.S. analysts from both sides of the aisle discussing how the next administration may approach U.S. policy toward India. The Latin American and Hemispheric Studies Program organized a similar panel that examined U.S. policy toward the region. In April, Elliott School faculty

members Martha Finnemore, Christopher A. Kojm, Henry R. Nau, and Deepa Ollapally joined Dean Michael E. Brown in a discussion on "The Presidential Inbox: Foreign Policy in the Next Administration." More than 150 students, alumni, diplomats, journalists, policymakers, and members of the public attended.

"Although women have made great progress in recent history, there is still a very exclusive group of women who are recognized as leaders, particularly in the realm of international affairs. Introducing Ms. Betty Bigombe, one such leader, was a rare honor that surpassed any I could have imagined as an undergraduate student of international affairs. The Distinguished Women in International Affairs series, of which Ms. Bigombe was a part, is truly a unique and unforgettable opportunity for all Elliott school students."

— **Karly Geers, B.A. '08**, shown here with Dean Michael E. Brown and Ugandan peace activist Betty Bigombe. The Distinguished Women in International Affairs series is supported by Elliott School parents Jack and Pam Cumming.

