



DAYTON COUNCIL ON WORLD AFFAIRS

2014

ANNUAL REPORT

JANUARY 26, 2015

## MISSION

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The Dayton Council on World Affairs (DCOWA) is a non-profit organization that has served the Dayton region for over 60 years.

Our mission is to “promote informed opinion and decision-making concerning international issues. We engage people on diverse world issues, points of view, and culture to link individuals and organizations with common interests.”

After many years at the University of Dayton, DCOWA is now at Wright State University. DCOWA is one of 95 councils in the United States which belong to the World Affairs Councils of America (WACA) headquartered in Washington, D.C. Each of these councils has the same interest in international affairs and often share speakers and programming.



## 2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### **Kevin R. Kelly – President**

Dean of the University of Dayton School of Education and Health Sciences. Prior to this appointment he served as interim dean of the College of Education (2007-09) and head of the Department of Educational Studies (2002-2007) at Purdue University.

### **Jason Pierce – Vice-President**

Interim Dean of the University of Dayton College of Arts and Associate professor in the Department of Political Science. Dr. Pierce teaches courses on judicial process, constitutional law, civil rights and liberties, comparative constitutionalism, and constitutional theory.

### **Phil Chick - Treasurer**

Assistant Vice President & Treasurer of the University of Dayton. Phil has over 25 years of corporate finance and consulting experience, including 15 years in various financial positions at The Iams Company and Procter & Gamble, and as Chief Financial Officer at Dolly, Inc. and RG Properties, Inc. He is a past board member of Goodwill Easter Seals of the Miami Valley and the University of Dayton National Alumni Association.

### **Steve Axtell- Secretary**

Attorney and Partner in Thompson Hine, LLC's Environmental practice group; defends governmental enforcement actions and private actions, environmental permitting, regulatory compliance counseling, environmental audits, and business sales and acquisitions.

### **Shahrzad Allen**

Shahrzad is an attorney, with the firm Pickrel, Schaeffer & Ebeling. She is active on other boards in the Dayton community, including the Dayton Hispanic Association.

Shahrzad Allen is an Of Counsel Immigration attorney with Pickrel Schaeffer & Ebeling and practices in the area of Immigration and Naturalization law. Shahrzad obtained her B.S. in Accounting and Finance from Wright State University. She also obtained her MBA from Wright State University and her J.D. from the University of Dayton School of Law.

### **Kim Bramlage**

Kim is the Marketing and Communications Coordinator for Goodwill Easter Seals Miami Valley. She is a 2014 Leadership Dayton graduate. Kim is an active member of Dayton Rotary and will serve on its board of directors beginning in July, 2015. She is also on the Community Council of the Non-Profit Leadership Alliance as well as a volunteer for the Victoria Theatre Association, St. Rita Catholic Church, Chaminade Julienne High School, Think TV and the Vectren Dayton Airshow.

**Hunt Brown**

Hunt is currently a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences and Director of Sustainability in the Office of the President at Wright State University. Hunt has taught environmental courses in China, Germany, Italy, Spain, and Brazil. He has received grant funding to explore environmental issues in Haiti and China.

**Jacob Dorn**

Professor of History Emeritus at Wright State University with publications on religion and social reform in modern America.

**Deborah Gavlik**

Deborah Gavlik currently serves as the Director of International Education at Sinclair Community College. She is responsible for providing leadership for international programs at the college including international admissions, study abroad, international partnerships and international programming.

**Alex Herczeg**

Alex is a Relationship Manager in the Business Banking Group of JPMorgan Chase Bank. Alex studied international business in Romania and he is a graduate of Wright State University.

**Michelle Jackson**

Founder and CEO of Tilak Learning Group - consultant, intercultural educator, speaker, and trainer. Michelle is a member of ASTD (American Society of Training and Development), the eLearning Guild, and SIETAR (The Society for Intercultural Education Training and Research).

**Dan Johnson**

Financial advisor at Merrill Lynch. In the community, Dan is involved with Generation Dayton – a young professional program through the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce and a member of the membership committee and SouthBrook Christian Church Men’s Group.

**Iris Juergens**

Iris is the Director of Development for the St. Leonard Franciscan Living Community Foundation where she is responsible for the overall operation of the St. Leonard Foundation. Iris serves on the Board of Directors for the Dayton Hispanic Chamber and the Dayton Chapter of The Executive Women’s Golf Association. Iris is a member of the Women in Business Networking where she was selected as one of the “25 Women to Watch” in 2011 and is a member of the 2013 class of Leadership Dayton.

**Pramod Kantha**

Associate Professor of Political Science at Wright State University; Pramod teaches courses on Democratic Transitions, Politics of Nationalism, Politics of South Asia, US-India-Afghanistan-Pakistan relations. His research and publications are focused on India, Nepal and Pakistan.

**Moshen Khani**

Mo is a professor of Geography at Sinclair Community College. He has a B.A. and M.A. in Geography from Western Michigan University, and has taught at Sinclair since 1997. Mo is a member of the International Studies Committee at Sinclair. He has traveled extensively to countries throughout Europe, Asia, and the Middle East.

**Thomas Martin**

Thomas Martin has served on the DCOWA board off and on for several decades, and has been Vice-President for Youth Programming. He is a Dayton native and holds a doctorate in American colonial history from Miami University. He has taught at Wright State University, Union Institute and Antioch College, and recently retired from Sinclair Community College after 26 years there, but continues to teach part-time. At Sinclair he was director of the Honors Program and of the Dayton Model United Nations Conference.

**Michele Miller**

Michele Miller was elected to the DCOWA Board of Directors in January 2014 after becoming involved in launching the DCOWA Young Professional's Initiative. Michele works in Financial Management at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, where she is on the executive board of Wright-Patterson Junior Force Council and part of the communications team for the American Society of Military Comptrollers. In January, Michele began her two-year term as the Membership Chair of Generation Dayton.

**Thomas Pearson**

Retired in 2001 after a 33-year career with NCR Corporation, Tom currently spends the majority of his time working with non-profit organizations, volunteering and international travel.

**Jennifer Reitz**

Jennifer is with the Blaine Block Institute for Voice Analysis & Rehabilitation. She spoke at the Young Professionals event in October, relating her story about her travels in Nigeria with the Rotary International Group Study Exchange Program.

**Carolyn Rice – Past President**

Carolyn is the Montgomery County Treasurer. She is also Chair of the Montgomery County Land Reutilization Corporation and a Board of Directors member of the Community Blood Center/Community Tissue Services and Rotary Club of Dayton. She is Former Director of Executive Education at Wright State University's Raj Sooin College of Business.

**Thomas St. Denis**

Founder & President, The Harbour Group, a leading provider of student and travel medical insurance plans, including coverage for domestic and international students in the USA, visiting scholars, Americans studying abroad, and multi-lateral exchange participants.

**Maxine Thomas**

Maxine Thomas is vice president, secretary, and general counsel for the Kettering Foundation. Maxine directs Kettering projects in higher education, community leadership, and the relationship between citizens and officeholders. She also serves on the group that oversees the operations of the foundation and has been a member of the Kettering Foundation task force on China since 1993.

**KEY PERSONNEL**

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**Bridget Federspiel- Youth Program Director**

Bridget teaches World History, AP US History, and AP European History at Stivers School for the Arts and she is a lecturer at Sinclair Community College. Her awards and honors include Fulbright-Hayes, Time Warner National Teacher Award, James Madison Fellowship, and OCSS High School Teacher of the Year Award.

**Michelle Streeter-Ferrari – International Visitor Leadership Program**

Michelle currently serves as the Director of the University Center for International Education (UCIE) at Wright State University. She serves as the Wright State Fulbright Campus Representative and Chairs the UCIE Advisory Committee on Internationalizing the Curriculum

**Joy Wanderi – International Visitor Leadership Program Advisor**

Joy has experience in international programming, fundraising and community relations. She holds both a Master's degree in Public Administration (PA) and a Masters in International and Comparative Politics from Wright State University. She has earned nonprofit certification from the American Humanics Institute.

## **DAYTON COUNCIL ON WORLD AFFAIRS**

Annual Meeting of the Members

January 27, 2014

Sinclair Community College, Dayton, Ohio

Pursuant to notice, the Annual Meeting of the Members of the Dayton Council on World Affairs, an Ohio non-profit corporation (the "Council"), was held at Sinclair Community College at 5:30 p.m. on January 27, 2014. Members constituting a quorum were present for the transaction of business.

Members attending the Annual Meeting were provided with the program for the Annual Meeting, including the agenda and the proposed minutes of the January 28, 2013 Annual Meeting.

The President of the Council, Ms. Rice, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and presided as Chair of the meeting. Mr. Axtell acted as Secretary of the meeting and kept the minutes thereof.

The first item of business was the approval of the minutes from the 2013 Annual Meeting of members and Board of Directors. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes were unanimously approved and adopted.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Mr. Chick then presented a brief report on the financial condition of the Council. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the finance report was approved and adopted.

The meeting then proceeded to the election of the Directors. On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Mr. Johnson presented the slate of Directors and Officers. Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, it was resolved by the members that the slate of Directors recommended by the Nominating Committee was approved.

Ms. Rice, the outgoing President, then delivered a brief report on the State of the Council. She summarized key activities of the Council over the past year and plans for 2014. Ms. Rice also recognized and thanked the outgoing Directors for their efforts on behalf of the Council.

No further business being presented, upon motion duly made, the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

/s/ Stephen J. Axtell

Stephen J. Axtell

Secretary

## DAYTON COUNCIL ON WORLD AFFAIRS TREASURER'S REPORT (AS OF 12/31/14)

*All amounts are unaudited*

### CASH AND INVESTMENTS

Huntington Bank	\$ 30,005
Morgan Stanley Smith Barney - Cash	\$ 8,530
Morgan Stanley Smith Barney – Investments	\$ 6,042
<b>Total Cash and Investments</b>	<b>\$ 44,577</b>

### ENDOWMENT FUNDS HELD BY DAYTON FOUNDATION (As of September 30, 2013)

George Houk Mead Education Fund	\$ 18,687
Pfeife Smith World Affairs Scholarship Endowment	\$ 75,688
Andrew Gillan Fund	\$ 66,497
<b>Total Funds Held by Dayton Foundation</b>	<b>\$ 160,872</b>

### RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Profit & Loss)

#### INCOME

Membership Dues	\$ 11,550
Grants from Dayton Foundation Endowments	\$ 3,050
Events and Adult Programs	\$ 5,365
Gifts and Grants	\$ 6,226
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 26,191</b>

Membership Dues increased from 2013 as a result of renewed efforts to increase membership and due timing of membership renewals. Gifts and Grants included a grant from WACA to support a teacher education program on Turkey, a \$3,000 Rotary Grant to support Youth Programs.

#### EXPENSES

Youth Programs	\$ 8,666
Scholarships	\$ 0
Adult and Other Programs	\$ 4,213
Administration (including JCOWA Administration)	\$ 7,461
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 20,340</b>

No scholarships were granted for the Pfeife Smith Scholarship Program in 2014. Youth Programs includes the costs of the training program for teachers planning to visit Turkey; this program was funded by a grant from WACA, noted above. All other expenses were in line with our budget and prior year spending.

### OPERATING SURPLUS

**\$ 5,851**

### *Interest Income and Unrealized Gain on Investments*

**\$ 485**

**DCOWA continues to operate at a nominal surplus while continuing to offer a variety of youth and adult programs consistent with its Mission.**



## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

### **Board of Directors**

DCOWA bylaws require us to have a Board of Directors consisting of “not less than 15 nor more than 24 persons”. As of December 31, 2014, there were 22 DCOWA Board Members.

**Class of 2017** – There are eight Directors in the Class of 2017, who are beginning a new three-year term this year. They include Phillip Chick, Michelle Jackson, Daniel Johnson, Pramod Kantha, Kevin Kelly, Jason Pierce, Thomas St. Denis (all second term), and Kim Bramlage (first term).

**2015 DCOWA Leadership** – The Nominating Committee worked with the current Board Membership to confirm the Council’s officers for 2015. The DCOWA Leadership Team for 2015 includes:

**President – Pramod Kantha**

**Vice President - Open**

**Treasurer – Michelle Miller**

**Secretary – Shahrzad Allen**

The Nominating Committee will be working to identify a candidate for Vice President as early as possible in the first quarter of 2015.

Thomas St. Denis II

Chair, Nominating Committee

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

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It has been another great year for the Dayton Council on World Affairs (DCOWA)! Sixty-seven years after our founding, DCOWA is still going strong. One of the foundations of our success this year has been the energetic, dedicated board who contributed their time, talent and expertise to our endeavors. Each committee's report will summarize their activities for the past year, but here are just a few of the activities I am especially proud to highlight:

- The youth programs offered through Junior Council on World Affairs (JCOWA) continue to sponsor regional events that bring students together to focus on the key international topics of our time. The Youth Committee initiated a Peace Essay Contest this year in cooperation with the Dayton Literary Peace Prize. We are pleased that JCOWA added new member schools this year. We know these JCOWA experiences could be just the "spark" these future leaders may need to encourage them toward careers in international fields or to become lifelong learners regarding global issues.
- One of the highlights of our year was a November visit from Aidan Cronin, the Irish Consul General. DCOWA coordinated meetings and visits with local industry, the Dayton Chamber of Commerce, and student and faculty groups at the University of Dayton and Wright State University. Mr. Cronin was impressed with the entrepreneurial activity and intellectual vigor of our community.
- The Adult Program Committee provided two international experts to give talks at weekly Dayton Rotary Meetings. Dr. Liam Anderson (Department of Political Science, Wright State University) gave a talk on Syria's use of chemical weapons in March and Dr. Bilocerkowycz (Department of Political Science, University of Dayton) gave a talk on Russia and the Ukraine crisis in October.
- Dan Johnson and Michele Miller lead the efforts of Young Professionals of DCOWA to focus on cultural awareness, international issues, and networking. Highlights of 2014 included a March Cuban cultural event at Scratch Catering. Attendees enjoyed traditional dishes and drinks, while learning about the Cuban culture, government, and everyday life. In November, Maha Kashani, President of the Dayton Arab American Forum, gave an engaging presentation on Modern Day Iran.
- Our partnership with Wright State University's University Center of International Education has proven to be of great benefit to both organizations. In 2014, IVLP hosted groups from Kazakhstan, Algeria, Lebanon, Belgium, Taiwan, and India.

In summary, 2014 was an outstanding year for DCOWA. We kicked it off last January with a highly attended Annual Meeting. I am grateful for all of the efforts and contributions of Board and community members in keeping DCOWA a vital presence in the Dayton community. It has been an honor to serve as your President.

## Youth Committee Report

The members of the Youth Committee are: Bridget Federspiel, Linda Harrison, Pramod Kantha, Kevin Kelly (chair), Mohsen Khani, and Donna King.

- The Junior Council on World Affairs program continued to grow in membership. In 2014, JCOWA welcomed Springboro and Green County Career Center to the Council. The current membership schools also include: Belmont, Chaminade-Julianne, David H. Ponitz Career Technology Center, Dayton Regional STEM, Dunbar Early College, Kettering Fairmont, Lebanon, Stivers School for the Arts, Thurgood Marshall, Vandalia-Butler, and Wilmington. The JCOWA student membership in 2013-14 school year was 245; the 2014-15 school year student membership is 302.
- JCOWA continued to host a variety of events: International Quiz Bowl, Geo-Bowl, Youth Forum and International Career Day. In addition, in 2014, the Dayton Council was awarded the Turkish Cultural Foundation grant through the World Affairs Council of America. This is the third time that DCOWA has received the grant. The generous grant allowed JCOWA to host a teacher workshop in the spring, send five local teachers to Turkey on a study tour, and host a community outreach program in the fall. The five local Dayton Public School teachers who traveled to Turkey are: Catrina Jackson (Valerie preK- 8), Cynthia Jones (Belle Haven preK -8), Patricia Nies (Kiser preK-8), Sally Roof (Kiser preK-8) and Lawrence Jurosic (Belmont High School). In December, DCOWA was awarded the 2015 Turkish Cultural Foundation grant.
- The winner of the 2014 International Quiz Bowl was Dayton Regional STEM School. Co-advisors Kevin Lydy and Arch Grieve accompanied their four students to Washington D.C. in April to compete in the WACA held Academic World Quest. DCOWA covered the cost of the hotel for the team. After the event Mr. Lydy wrote "Congratulations to Plano West Senior High School on their first place finish. JAWS COMET (Dayton Regional STEM) did not place, but enjoyed representing DCOWA at this year's competition."
- JCOWA continued with its connection to the Dayton Sister Cities organization. In April, Chaminade- Julienne hosted 18 German students from Augsburg. The students visited another JCOWA school (Stivers) during their stay in Dayton. In the summer, three JCOWA members (two from CJ and one from Dayton Regional STEM School) travelled to Japan as part of the Dayton Sister City Committee's relationship with Oiso, Japan. Tony Ricciuto and Kevin Lydy, both JCOWA advisors, work with Dayton Sister Cities in planning the trips.
- For the first time, DCOWA and Dayton Literary Peace Prize joined to create a High School Peace essay contest for JCOWA members. Tyler Lutz from Dayton Regional STEM School won and attended the Dayton Literary Peace Prize Awards Ceremony in November at the Benjamin and Marian Schuster Performing Arts Center.
- Unfortunately, there were no applicants for the Pfeife Smith Scholarship in 2014. The Board will investigate innovative methods to attract Dayton Public School seniors to apply for the award in 2015.
- Events for the remaining 2014-15 school year are:
  - Quiz Bowl, February 9, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., University of Dayton Kennedy Union Ballroom

- Turkish Cultural Foundation Teacher Workshop, February 21, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Ahiska Turkish American Community Center
- Geography Bowl, April 26, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., University of Dayton Kennedy Union Ballroom
- Quiz Bowl, April 26, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.
- Turkey Summer Study Travel, June/July 2015; Five local teachers; applications available at February Workshop
- If any member would like to help promote JCOWA in a particular school and/or district, please contact Bridget Federspiel at [bfedersp@dps.k12.oh.us](mailto:bfedersp@dps.k12.oh.us)

## Adult Program Committee Report

DCOWA's Adult Programming Committee organized four events during 2014.

- First, in early July the Adult Programming Committee organized a dinner/lecture at Pasha Grill billed as Dayton's Global Cultures, Global Cuisines that featured Dr. Adil Baguirov. Dr. Baguirov spoke about Turkish politics and the Dayton-area Ahiska Turkish community.
- In October, the Adult Programming Committee helped to organize a lecture by Prof. Jaro Bilocerkowycz (UD) to the Dayton Rotary Club on Russia and the Ukraine crisis. A second co-sponsored event is scheduled with Dayton Rotary in February 2015 featuring WSU's Prof. Jonathan Winkler, who will speak about the Snowden case.
- In mid-November, the Adult Programming Committee assisted in hosting a visit by Aidan Cronin, Consul General for the Consulate of Ireland.
- Finally, DCOWA facilitated the Great Decisions course at UD's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute in September and October. Approximately 70 participants gathered weekly to hear lectures delivered by WSU, UD, and Sinclair faculty and others on topics outlined in the Foreign Policy Association's 2014 Great Decisions publication.

## Membership & Marketing Committee

The members of the Youth Committee are: Kim Bramlage, Hunt Grown, Alex Herczeg, and Carolyn Rice (chair). Thanks are also due to Matt Burks and Angela Lilly Burks for their contributions to the Committee.

Membership remains the life blood of DCOWA as an organization. With an aging membership, we lose a few members each year, but our efforts to recruit new members have been somewhat successful, especially with Young Professionals that has resulted in new DCOWA memberships. I am pleased to report that DCOWA's membership remains stable at approximately 80 for another year.

- We continue to participate in Leadership Dayton's Board Match Expo each March and have always received a new board member through that match. Kim Bramlage who works at Goodwill Easter Seals of the Miami Valley was our 2014 match, and Kim has elected to begin a 3-year term on the DCOWA board commencing in January 2015.
- Our Young Professional initiative led by board members Dan Johnson and Michele Miller continued to focus on recruiting young professionals to become DCOWA members. The Young Professionals of DCOWA focus their events on cultural awareness, international issues, and networking. Highlights of 2014 included a March Cuban cultural event at Scratch Catering. Attendees enjoyed traditional dishes and drinks, while learning about the Cuban culture, government, and everyday life from two local young professionals who had the unique opportunity to visit the country. In November, Maha Kashani, President of the Dayton Arab American Forum, gave an engaging presentation on Modern Day Iran. Young Professionals enjoyed networking and Middle Eastern appetizers prior to the program.
- DCOWA understands the importance of marketing our organization and events if we are to hold successful events and fulfill our mission. The committee continues to focus its efforts on keeping the website fresh and informative to visitors. Paypal was added to the website to allow online membership payments.
- I was interviewed by Ron Rollins, Senior Editor of the Dayton Daily News, about DCOWA on his Sunday radio show in July. We continue to advertise our events on local social media such as "It's Great in Dayton", Dayton's Most Metro, and the Wright Patterson Skywrighter as well as cross promoting events with partners like the Dayton International Peace Museum to make as many people in the community as possible aware of our activities. We completely revamped our brochure and are ready to introduce this new promotional tool in 2015.