



# THE DIPLOMAT

PEORIA AREA WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL, INC.

Winter 2002 - 2003

## PAWAC

8151 Blackbridge Rd.  
Edwards, IL 61528

[www.pawac.org](http://www.pawac.org)

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**Angela Weck**  
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**Judy Triggs**  
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## Letter from the President

Greetings!

The other day I read in the Christian Science Monitor that President Bush will soon announce the creation of a permanent global communications office. According to Tucker Eshew, deputy assistant to the President, "We learned that when you don't communicate, you are still communicating - a lack of interest, a lack of caring."

Here, in Central Illinois, PAWAC has been communicating for the past 34 years

by hosting a quality 2-day conference focusing on issues relating to particular countries or regions around the world. Each Spring, our programs have earned high marks from the attendees who, through communicating with experts and leaders from around the globe, have learned about countries such as China, India/Pakistan, Russia, Cuba, and South Africa.

During the '90's when America's economy was

on a fast track and the collapse of communism created a strong sense of security in the country, interest in world affairs languished and so did PAWAC. There were years when we thought that our organization's days were numbered as membership dwindled and attendance at our conferences faltered although we maintained a consistently high level of quality in the conferences. We were saddened, as we

*(Continued on page 2)*

## D'Souza Kicks Off '02 Programs



Mr. D'Souza elaborates a point during his speech on November 12.

Last year, PAWAC began a new tradition with a Fall event to "kick-off" its new programming year. The event on "China: Dealing with the Dragon" was a huge success, drawing nearly 100 people to the Contemporary Arts Center on Water Street in Peoria.

On November 12, over 140 Peoria-area residents congregated again at the Contemporary Arts Center to listen to the musings of renowned author Dinesh D'Souza as he spoke on "Islam vs. the West: A Clash of Civilizations?"

In his speech, D'Souza drew mostly from the chapter of the same name in his New York Times best-selling book What's So Great About America? while describing the challenges facing these two civilizations.

Although controversial at times, D'Souza provided a fascinating look at the issue and entertained a lively question and answer session following his forty-five minute presentation.

Mr. D'Souza also signed copies of his books, which PAWAC sold at the event.

## Letter from the President (from page one)



Judy Triggs  
PAWAC President

believed in the importance of our mission of providing a forum whereby those in the area could come to better understand world affairs.

Two years before 9/11, thanks largely to a generous gift from Caterpillar, Inc., we were able to hire one of our own, Angela Weck, as our enthusiastic and talented executive director. With Angela's hard work and that of

many of our members, our membership has swelled and our programming has blossomed to four dinner programs and a high school scholastic bowl this fall. And, of course, we will still host our annual spring conference. We have partnered with several area service organizations so that we may better serve Central Illinois. We are beginning to garner the name recognition that will make ob-

taining quality programming a much easier task.

As President, I thank our PAWAC members and our many friends who have attended our programs over the months and years. Your hard work and generous support have paid off - we have not only survived, we have arrived!

Judy Triggs  
President, PAWAC

## PAWAC Changes

The Peoria Area World Affairs Council (PAWAC) is changing! PAWAC is still a non-profit, non-partisan organization open to all individuals.

As we have since 1972, PAWAC continues working to promote a better understanding of world affairs in Central Illinois.

PAWAC still meets the first Thursday of each month for a business meeting. Each monthly meeting is followed by dinner and open discussion at a local Peoria restaurant.

Our two-day annual conference, held in the Spring, will be celebrating its 33<sup>rd</sup> year and is the longest standing event of

its type in Central Illinois.

While remaining true to our past, the present and future of our organization is exciting:

- We have hired our first employee - Angela Weck as Executive Director;
- Programming has expanded to include at least four dinner programs, a kickoff event, and a scholastic bowl;
- Membership has grown to over 130; and
- Most importantly, our ability to reach into the community has grown exponentially.

In order to continue to operate effectively, PAWAC has recently reorganized its committee structure and is looking for volunteers to help the organization continue to

provide quality programs as well as improve our other contributions to the Central Illinois community.

No contribution of time is too small!

Please contact any of the committee chairs for more information or to get involved!

Our committees and chairs are:

### Membership:

Mary Jo Garesche  
[Garesche\\_Mary\\_Jo@cat.com](mailto:Garesche_Mary_Jo@cat.com)

### Programming:

Judy Triggs  
[dentrig@mtco.com](mailto:dentrig@mtco.com)

### Finance & Development:

Dennis Triggs  
[dentrig@mtco.com](mailto:dentrig@mtco.com)

### Marketing:

Dave Williams  
[dww@bradley.edu](mailto:dww@bradley.edu)

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*"A fanatic is one who can't change his mind and won't change the subject."*

- Winston Churchill

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*"Isn't it interesting that the same people who laugh at science fiction listen to weather forecasts and economists?"*

- Kelvin Throop

## A Hostage Crisis in Latin America

While it was hard to top Mr. Dinesh D'Souza's performance at our kick-off event in November, our December event proved just as captivating.

On December 5, a panel discussed the topic of "A Hostage Crisis in Latin America." Our featured speaker, Scott Heimdal, is a Peoria native who was the first American to be kidnapped in Ecuador and held hostage. Mr. Heimdal was captured by the Colombian rebel group PLA, which is now a part of the paramilitary group called FARC (Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia).

After Mr. Heimdal described his capture and

subsequent forced march through the Colombian jungle, Mr. Eric Johnson, Senior Supervisory Agent at the Peoria office of the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) discussed the response of the U.S. government to U.S. citizens kidnapped overseas. Mr. Johnson, while working in the Houston office was involved in a similar case where a U.S. citizen held hostage in Venezuela was released. Mr. Johnson did reiterate that the official U.S. policy is not to negotiate with terrorist or paramilitary groups. The FBI cannot and does not get involved with the negotiations. The FBI is

only involved in the criminal aspect of the incident.

Doug Thompson, a representative from the Peoria chapter of Amnesty International also discussed the NGO approach to human rights violations.

Statistically, about ninety percent of hostages are released after payment of some ransom. Five percent are released with no ransom paid. Five percent are either killed during captivity or disappear.

Mr. Heimdal's ransom began at \$1.6 million. He was eventually released after 61 days in captivity for a \$60,000 ransom.



Scott Heimdal describes his experiences during his captivity in Colombia.

## Limestone Wins 1st Annual World Affairs Scholastic Bowl

On Saturday, November 16, at Bradley University, Limestone High School won the First Annual International Scholastic Bowl and brought home \$1000 in scholarship funds.

Eighteen high schools from Abingdon to Bloomington competed in a series of five matches to determine the four teams advancing to the Finals that afternoon. Limestone (Bartonville) began its run with an undefeated morning session and then defeated Dunlap in the Semi-Finals before meeting Illini Bluff High School (Glasford) in the Finals.

The International Scholastic Bowl included questions on current events, politics, economics, geography, literature, fine arts, and pop culture and awarded a total of \$2000 in scholarships.

The Scholastic Bowl was planned and operated by PAWAC members and volunteers including Chairs John Rathbun and Patricia Luthe. The tournament was sponsored by PAWAC and the Peoria *Journal Star's* Newspaper in Education program. Additional support was provided by the News-

paper in Education program at the Bloomington *Pantagraph*.

Teams from the following high schools competed in the tournament: Limestone (1<sup>st</sup>), Illini Bluffs (2<sup>nd</sup>), Central Catholic (Bloomington) (3<sup>rd</sup>), Dunlap (4<sup>th</sup>), Abingdon; Eureka; IVC (Chillicothe); Lowpoint-Washburn; Manual (Peoria); Pekin Community H.S.; Peoria Heights; Peoria High School; Peoria Notre Dame; Princeville; Richwoods (Peoria); Roanoke-Benson; Washington Community H.S.; and Woodruff (Peoria).

### All-Tournament Team

**Tom Burke, Central Catholic**  
**Adam Heinen, Limestone**  
**Adam Janzen, Illini Bluffs**  
**Michael Cockerill, Pekin**  
**Justin King, Dunlap**

*"Our students enjoyed the event a great deal. . . . It was an excellent competition."*

*-Russ Leman,*

*Scholastic Bowl Advisor*  
*Roanoke-Benson H.S.*

## Spring Conference is February 21-22

Get ready for the Spring Conference! This year's topic will be "America's Intelligence Community: Coping with New Threats" and will take place on February 21-22, 2003 at the Holiday Inn City Centre in Peoria. All speakers and topics are confirmed.

Congressman Ray LaHood (R) will begin the conference with the keynote address on Friday night entitled "America's Intelligence Community: Protecting People and

Preserving Liberty."

Saturday morning's panel on "The Multi-faceted Challenge of Intelligence" has three top-notch panelists. The panel includes Colonel James Marchio on "Military Intelligence," Ms. Jodi Enda on "Intelligence and the Media," and Mr. Chris Hoofnagle on "Information Privacy vs. Security." Our own Dr. Charles Bukowski will lead the discussion.

We conclude with our Saturday afternoon keynote speaker, Dr.

Melvin Goodman. Dr. Goodman joins us from the Center for International Policy and as Chair of the International Relations Department at the National War College. His presentation will be entitled "Retooling U.S. Intelligence: From Cold War Legacy to International Terrorism."

If you would like to volunteer to assist with the conference, please contact Angela Weck. For more information, visit our website ([www.pawac.org](http://www.pawac.org)).

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### *Did You Know?*

*Ian Fleming's James Bond debuted in the novel "Casino Royale" in 1952.*

*Fleming based his character on Dr. John Dee, the very first British secret agent. Dee, who lived from 1527 to 1608, was an advisor to Queen Elizabeth. He was a brilliant mathematician, magician, philosopher, alchemist and astrologer. England was at war with Spain, and fearing spies, Dee designed the 007 code for his correspondence with the Queen. The 2 zeros indicated "for your eyes only," and the 7 was a cabalistic number. Pierce Brosnan recently received his fourth license to thrill in the 21st James Bond movie Die Another Day.*

*(Source: [www.didyouknow.cd](http://www.didyouknow.cd))*

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## Second Annual Advisory Board Meeting

The Peoria Area World Affairs Council plans to hold its annual meeting of the Advisory Board in March at Weaver Ridge Golf Club in Peoria. The purpose of this luncheon meeting is to update the Advisory Board members of the activities of the past

year, the goals of the current year, and to solicit advice on how to improve PAWAC's operations and outreach into the Central Illinois community.

Executive Director Angela Weck and President Judy Triggs will update the board

on our current and past activities while Dave Williams and Dennis Triggs will give presentations on the efforts of the Marketing and Finance & Development Committees.

The full Advisory Board is listed on page six of this newsletter.

## PAWAC Member Comings & Goings

In future newsletters, we'd like to have a section on news about our members. Please contact Dave Williams at [dww@bradley.edu](mailto:dww@bradley.edu) or (309) 677-3075 to let him know your news!

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## Free Trade? President Bush's International Agenda

By Dave Williams, International Trade Specialist, International Trade Center, Bradley University

Upon his inauguration in January 2001, President Bush made free trade a priority of his administration. The statement "free trade is not just an economic opportunity but a moral imperative," helped create free trade as the centerpiece of Bush's foreign policy. His first priority was getting Congress to grant him Trade Promotion Authority or TPA.

Trade Promotion Authority, which used to be called Fast Track Negotiating Authority, lapsed in 1994. Since then, Congress has refused to reinstate Fast Track even though each President since Gerald Ford enjoyed Fast Track Negotiating Authority.

Without TPA, a President can still negotiate a free trade agreement (FTA), but Congress can add amendments to the agreement before approving it. With TPA, the Congress can only vote "yes" or "no" but cannot amend.

Without TPA, the United States was forced to sit on the sideline while our trading partners signed agreement after agreement, and eventually they were party to over 130 FTAs. The United States had

only Israel and NAFTA. Since signing the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) in 1994, the U.S. had signed only the Jordan FTA. Mexico has signed agreements with the European Union and several Central and South American countries while also beginning discussions with Japan.

President Bush stated repeatedly that his major trade goal was to use TPA to expand NAFTA into a Free Trade Agreement of the Americas (FTAA), which would create a free trade zone from Canada to Tierra del Fuego.

So what happened? Initially, the President was distracted by the controversy over his decisions not to sign the Kyoto Agreement on global warming and to abrogate the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty with Russia. I'll leave the discussions on those issues for another day.

As the controversy dissipated and the President prepared his free trade agenda, the world was rocked by the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

In the months after the terrorist attacks, the President still tried to

push his free trade agenda and signed the Jordan FTA into law on September 28, 2001. The battle for TPA took much longer, but he finally persuaded Congress to grant him TPA in August 2002.

Since August, however, there has been a flurry of free trade activity, first by negotiating FTAs with Singapore and Chile. Talks with Morocco have been restarted, and the President has met with the new Brazilian President Luis Inacio Lula da Silva to discuss Silva's reservations about the FTAA.

The administration is also working on FTAs with the Central American Common Market, the Southern African Customs Union, and Australia.

Whether you believe in free trade or not, it is amazing how much President Bush has accomplished in this area given the War on Terrorism, Iraq, and now North Korea. The free trade activity of the last couple years is unprecedented in our country's history, and clearly free trade remains a priority in the President's international agenda.

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### U.S. Free Trade Agreements

#### Signed:

- Israel (1985)
- Canada (1989)
- NAFTA (1994)
- Jordan (2001)

#### Negotiated:

- Singapore (2002)
- Chile (2002)

#### Proposed:

- Morocco
  - Central America: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua
  - Southern Africa: South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, and Swaziland
  - Australia
  - FTAA (2005 projected)
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**Community  
Advisory Board**

Mr. Bashir Ali  
Dr. John Erwin  
Ms. Anne Fox  
Mr. Henry Holling  
Mr. Larry Ivory  
Mr. Ted Kress  
Dr. Stan Liberty  
Mr. John Morris  
Ms. Roberta Parks  
Ms. Ricca Slone  
Dr. John Throop  
Mr. H. Wayne Wilson  
Ms. Jan Wright Vergon

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Shirlee Harper  
Richard Sanders  
Hunt Wagstaff  
Dennis Triggs  
David Thompson  
Madeleine Jaehne  
Jean Sanger  
Patricia Luthe  
Paul Kaiser

[www.pawac.org](http://www.pawac.org)

## Calendar

### February 21-22, 2003

33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Central Illinois World Affairs Conference  
"America's Intelligence Community: Coping With New Threats"  
Holiday Inn City Centre, 500 Hamilton Blvd, Peoria

### March 6, 2003

Business Meeting, 5pm, Place TBA

### March 13, 2003

Advisory Board Meeting, Weaver Ridge Golf Club, Peoria

### March 27 or April 3, 2003

Dinner Program, 6pm, Israel and Palestine, Place/Speakers TBA

### April 24, 2003 (note: change in date from usual 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday)

Business Meeting, 5pm, Place TBA  
Dinner Program, 6pm, Barrack's Cater Inn, 1224 W. Pioneer Parkway, Peoria  
**Dr. Jerry W. Leach**, President, World Affairs Councils of America

### *About Our Organization...*

The Peoria Area World Affairs Council (PAWAC) is a non-profit, non-partisan organization open to all individuals. Since 1972, PAWAC has promoted a better understanding of world affairs among the people of Central Illinois by sponsoring public programs and fostering a cooperative educational approach to world problems.

PAWAC is affiliated with the World Affairs Councils of

America and the Foreign Policy Association.

PAWAC meets the first Thursday of each month for a business meeting followed by dinner and an open discussion.

The Caterpillar Foundation serves as our primary benefactor. Sponsoring institutions include Bradley University, Eureka College, Illinois Central

College, Illinois State University, Illinois Wesleyan University, Lincoln College, Monmouth College, and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Also we give special thanks to our corporate sponsors as well as Friends and Supporters of PAWAC.

Annual dues are \$25 and entitle the member to program discounts.

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**CITY, STATE 00000**

