

Great Decisions Program 2019

World Affairs Council of Central Illinois (WACCI)

Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. The program involves reading the Great Decisions [Briefing Book](#), watching the [DVD](#) and meeting in a [Discussion Group](#) to discuss the most critical global issues facing America today. The program is developed by the nonpartisan *Foreign Policy Association* located in New York, which was founded in 1918 and its branches were the forerunners of the independent World Affairs Councils of the 1950s. It serves as a catalyst for developing awareness, understanding, and informed opinion on U.S. foreign policy and global issues. Through its balanced, nonpartisan programs and publications, the FPA encourages citizens to participate in the foreign policy process. In 1954, the Great Decisions program was launched in Oregon and has since spread all over the country and beyond. It has now become the largest nonpartisan public education program on international affairs in the world.

Following past tradition, the *World Affairs Council of Central Illinois* (WACCI) will hold the **2019 Great Decisions Program** during the months of March and April. This year's **topics** are as follows: **Refugees and Global Migration, The Middle East: Regional Disorder, Nuclear negotiations: Back to the Future?, The Rise of Populism in Europe, Decoding U.S.-China Trade, Cyber Conflicts and Geopolitics, The United States and Mexico: Partnership Tested, and State of the State Department and Diplomacy.** The program **discussion leaders** include Dr. Stephen Schwark, Emeritus Professor of Political Science, UIS; Dr. Adriana Crocker, Professor of Political Science, UIS; Dr. Frank Kopecky, Emeritus Professor of Legal Studies, UIS; Dr. Baker Siddiquee, Emeritus Professor of Economics, UIS; and Dr. Roy Wehrle, Emeritus Professor of Economics and Environmental Studies.

Here are the particulars about the program:

Location: Cook Lounge, Lincoln's Church (First Presbyterian Church), 321 South Seventh Street, Springfield, IL 62701 (Parking is available in the church parking lots; in addition, there are several on-street, metered parking spaces surrounding the library. **Six-Week Program Dates & Time:** Thursdays during **March 21 - April 25, 2019**. The specific dates are: March 21, 28, April 4, 11, 18, and 25. Time: 7:00 - 9:00 PM. **Learning Requirements:** Reading of *2019 Great Decisions Briefing Book*, listening to DVD presentation and lecture, and participation in classroom discussion led by distinguished scholars. **Program Registration:** Program is free and open to the public; however, to guarantee a seat (limited to 30) for the six-week program and receive a copy of the *Great Decisions 2019 Briefing Book* (priced at \$32.00 plus shipping, if purchased directly from FPA), registration is required by paying a discounted price of \$25 per person for the book. The registration form (on reverse) and payment information may be obtained from the WACCI website: <http://mywacci.org/great-decisions/>. A formal certificate from WACCI will be awarded to individuals upon successful completion of the program. **Open to All:** Interested individuals who are unable to attend the full six-week program may attend (walk-in) any of the weekly programs free of cost. **Program Organizer Contact:** For further information, interested individuals are requested to contact WACCI board member and program organizer Prof. Baker Siddiquee by email at bsidd1@uis.edu or by phone message at 227-793-0040.

REGISTRATION FORM

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1. Name: _____
2. Address: _____
3. Phone: _____
4. Profession: _____
5. Please indicate if Interested in future WACCI programs: _____

Payment of Registration Fee: \$25.00 (to guarantee a seat (limited to 30) for the six-week program and receive a copy of the *Great Decisions 2019 Briefing Book*, priced at \$32.00 plus shipping, if purchased directly from FPA), payable **by check ONLY** to *World Affairs Council of Central Illinois*. Please mail the completed form along with your payments to the address below:

WACCI, PO BOX 2233, Springfield, IL 62705

Delivery of Great Decisions 2019 edition book: To make arrangement for delivery of the book, please contact Dr. Baker Siddiquee by email at bsidd1@uis.edu or by phone at 217-793-0040.

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Topics and Discussion Leaders: This year's topics are as follows: **Refugees and Global Migration, The Middle East: Regional Disorder, Nuclear negotiations: Back to the Future?, The Rise of Populism in Europe, Decoding U.S.-China Trade, Cyber Conflicts and Geopolitics, The United States and Mexico: Partnership Tested, and State of the State Department and Diplomacy.** The program **discussion leaders** include Dr. Stephen Schwark, Emeritus Professor of Political Science, UIS; Dr. Adriana Crocker, Professor of Political Science, UIS; Dr. Frank Kopecky, Emeritus Professor of Legal Studies, UIS, Dr. Baker Siddiquee, Emeritus Professor of Economics, UIS; and Dr. Roy Wehrle, Emeritus Professor of Economics and Environmental Studies, UIS.