

# The World Affairs Council of Central Illinois

September 2021 | Issue No. 195

## COMMUNIQUÉ

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### Welcome by Rochelle Arjmand, VP Publicity

Welcome to the 2021-2022 season! We are happy to see you here and glad to officially welcome our new members. The past year has been a challenging year for everyone, and we weathered through with our Zoom presentations. We look forward to our in person events and dinners, but for now will be on Zoom. Please check our website <https://mywacci.org/> for zoom information.

We were contacted by Elizabeth Shackelford of U.S. Foreign Policy at the Chicago Council on Global Affairs in possibilities of collaborating in future programming and events. We are going to be doing programs with other World Affairs Councils of America chapters, and will be doing an event with the Peoria IL chapter this season.

WACCI continues to grow and we are excited about the many announcements coming as we head into our new year. WACCI has expanded their outreach to our leaders of tomorrow. Introducing the Young Diplomats Program and spearheaded by VP of Membership Barbara Lesticow, Springfield area high schools will have opportunity for students to attend our programs. This is just one of the opportunities that will be part of our reaching out to young people. In our upcoming newsletters we will be featuring a new column/interview with experts discussing current events in world news. Please stay tuned for more news....Welcome aboard!

### Wednesday, September 29, 2021 at 7 pm via Zoom

#### Speaker: Professor W. Andy Knight

#### "The Need for the Responsibility to Protect (R2P): Addressing Atrocity Crimes in Myanmar"

W. Andy Knight, Professor of International Relations in the Political Science Department at the University of Alberta, will be the featured speaker for the World Affairs Council of Central Illinois (WACCI) on September 29th at 7:00pm. The meeting will be convened via zoom. Information zoom can be found at [mywacci.org](https://mywacci.org/).

Professor Knight's presentation, The Need for the Responsibility to Protect (R2P): Addressing Atrocity Crimes in Myanmar, will address the



*continued on page 2*

## Coming Events

### OCTOBER

**Wednesday, October 13,  
7 PM (via Zoom)**

“Women in Mexico: Feminism, Entrepreneurship, and digital platforms in times of COVID”  
Colima (ECCE Event)

**Karla K. Kral**, Ph.D. in  
Sociocultural Anthropology  
(University of Kansas, 2004)

**Claudia M. Prado-Meza**, Ph.D.  
Iowa State University (2013)

### NOVEMBER

**Tuesday, November 16th at  
7pm (zoom)**

“International Education in the  
Land of Lincoln”

- Springfield International Commission and the U.S. State Department International Visitors Leadership Program
- Sister Cities Association of Springfield
- WACCI

## “The Need for the Responsibility to Protect (R2P): Addressing Atrocity Crimes in Myanmar” *continued*

broad relevance and global impact of R2P. In 2005 the United Nations World Summit unanimously adopted R2P; clearly articulating the moral imperative to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. R2P continues to be a beacon calling all people to protect and respect the dignity of the human person across the globe. Attendees can learn more through the link below:

<https://www.globalr2p.org/resources/un-security-council-resolutions-and-presidential-statements-referencing-r2p/>

Professor Knight is former Director of the Institute of International Relations (IIR), The University of the West Indies (UWI), Trinidad & Tobago and co-founder and former head of the Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean (DAOC). He is co-editor in Chief of both African Security journal and International Journal – two globally prestigious peer reviewed publications, and he established, during his secondment in the Caribbean, the Caribbean Journal of International Relations and Diplomacy. Professor Knight was co-editor of another highly regarded and award-winning journal – Global Governance from 2000 to 2005.

A Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada (FRSC), Professor Knight was named by Venture Magazine among Alberta’s top 50 most influential

people and, by the Black Business and Professional Association of Canada, the Harry Jerome Trailblazer. He served as Advisory Board Member of the World Economic Forum’s Global Agenda Council on the Welfare of Children and was Director of the Peace and Post Conflict Studies Certificate Programme in the Office of Interdisciplinary Studies (OIS) at the University of Alberta. In March 2007, Dr. Knight was appointed by the Canadian Foreign Minister to the Board of Governors of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and served in that position until 2011.

Knight has written several books on the United Nations, Global Politics, and the Responsibility to Protect. One of his most recently published books is the award winning, *Female Suicide Bombings: A Critical Gendered Approach*, with Tanya Narozhna (University of Toronto Press). His ongoing research and publications address issues of global health governance, global health security, Children and war, and the vulnerabilities and resiliency of small island developing states (SIDS). Professor Knight was awarded the University of Alberta’s highest honour – the University of Alberta Distinguished Professor. It is an award that recognizes exceptional faculty members who are globally recognized leaders and whose exemplary teaching, scholarly work and citizenship have made them leaders in their disciplines.

# Importance and The Many Benefits of WACCI

by Rochelle Arjmand, VP Publicity WACCI September 2021

A few years back, I shared how my interest in world affairs and current events began many years ago while I was in high school. In fact I'd share a story of how I was the one classmate who carried TIME and Newsweek around with her at school wanting to learn about the events in the Middle East especially. That part of the world also interested me as well after having had the opportunity to visit Iran in 1977 before the revolution. I was fortunate to travel to my father's home country and see its history and culture.

Having been members for many years, my parents had first introduced me to WACCI. and one of the first events I attended was the program featuring Aaron David Miller, the renowned American Middle East analyst/negotiator/author. It left quite an impression and I attended more programs with them after.

In 2015 I was asked to be on the board, and what a journey it's been. It has been during our dinners that I have met and chatted with folks asking them what brings them to our events and what interests them. This also led me to believe that there is an interest as well as a need for organizations like WACCI in our community. Having attended these events in the past, a fire was lit within where I had felt drawn to learning even more, and to play a part in bringing this organization to even newer heights.

A few years ago, while working closely with then VP of Membership Maurine Magliocco and former president David Anderson, we were successful in creating a partnership with NPR Illinois and the WUIS engagement team. It has been a mutually beneficial relationship and Randy Eccles has been an enthusiastic advocate of WACCI's mission.

I cannot stress enough the importance of WACCI in offering such a platform for us to engage in, to learn and better understand the various global communities. We are all connected. I still believe in the necessity in learning about the world around us, in having that dialog about international affairs. Our speaker series is in tune with timely news. WACCI has brought and continues to bring a diverse range of topics and speakers. WACCI indeed has a lot to offer, and I don't believe it should be 'Springfield's best kept secret.'

----- Please detach and mail -----

## WACCI Membership Form

WACCI membership is open to individuals and household members. The recommended time for the payment of annual membership renewals is September, the beginning of the program year (September through May). **New members joining in the spring (April through June) will have their membership extended to the June following the current one.**

WACCI membership is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number (s): \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

WACCI members will be mailed the newsletter, *Communiqué*. If you also desire the email version of the newsletter, please check here:

\_\_\_\_ Please email the WACCI *Communiqué* to me.

Please indicate your membership level:

\_\_\_\_ Benefactors - \$500 \_\_\_\_ Sustainers - \$250 \_\_\_\_ Supporters - \$100 \_\_\_\_ Friends - \$50 \_\_\_\_ Students - \$10

At all membership levels, your name will be listed periodically in the *Communiqué*.

\_\_\_\_ I would like to become a board member in the future

\_\_\_\_ I would like to serve on a committee

**Be sure to include your email address. Mail the form to WACCI, Box 2233, Springfield, IL, 62705, with a check payable to WACCI.**



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