



The World Affairs Council of Central Illinois

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COMMUNIQUÉ

2022-2023

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September 13, 2022

“The War in Ukraine: Russian context, Western policies, International Implications”

Speaker: Robert Goeckel

Reception: 5:30 pm | **Dinner** 6:15 pm | **Program** 7:30 pm

Location: Illini Country Club

“The War in Ukraine: Russian context, Western policies, International Implications”

We are happy to present our special speaker Robert Goeckel who will be discussing a most timely topic dominating the newscycle at times. On September 13 at 7:30 pm please join us at the Illini Country Club. For more information please visit www.mywacci.org. The event is free. An International dinner and cocktails will be served beforehand at 5:30 pm and reservations are required. Cost for dinner is \$40 per person.

Robert Goeckel received his undergraduate degree in Political Science from the University of Michigan and his doctorate in Government from Harvard University. He has taught political science and international relations at SUNY Geneseo since 1982. His research specialty has been eastern Europe, Germany and the former USSR, in particular focusing on the role of churches and religion in these political systems. In addition to a

number of articles, he has published two books: *The Lutheran Church and the East German State* (1990, Cornell University Press), translated into German in 1998; *Soviet Religious Policy in Estonia and Latvia: Playing Harmony in the Singing Revolution* (2018, Indiana University Press). Goeckel was co-director of the SUNY Center for the Study of the US and Russia at Moscow State University, 2000-2001 and led study abroad groups to Russia from 2004 to 2012. He was named a SUNY Distinguished Professor in 2020.

During his presentation, Dr. Goeckel will attempt to answer some of most pressing questions regarding the current conflict in Ukraine such as; how did political developments in Russia and its foreign policy set the stage for the war? To what extent have Western policies played a role? What are the implications of the war for international politics?

Young Diplomat Program

The World Affairs Council of Central Illinois (W.A.C.C.I.) is partnering with Springfield High School (Ben Kramer), Springfield Southeast High School (Jerry Lopian) and Rochester High School (Melinda Bilyeu) to create opportunities for students to engage in a dialogue with world leaders. The first program will feature a Russian expert, Dr. Robert Goeckel from the University of Michigan. Future outstanding programs will include the Ambassador for The Department of Justice from the Hague (October), Ambassador to Nepal as well as the Nepal Ambassador to the US (November) and Dr. Amanda Poole will discuss the global refugee crisis in Ethiopia (December). The high schools that participated last year in the Young Diplomat Program encouraged the World Affairs Council of Central Illinois to continue this valuable program. The Young Diplomat Program is unique in that it will provide opportunities to engage cross generations in robust conversations throughout the school year.

World Affairs Council of Central Illinois September 13, 2022

Speaker: Robert Goeckel

"The War in Ukraine: Russian context, Western policies, International Implications"

Reception 5:30 pm | **Dinner** 6:15 pm | **Program** 7:30 pm

Location: Illini Country Club

Menu for 9.13.22

SALAD

Babushka- Tomato, Cucumber, Dill in Sour Cream Dressing
Tomato and Bryndza- Heirloom Tomatoes, Feta Cheese, Balsamic Glaze

ENTREE

Golubtsi- Beef Stuffed Cabbage Braised in Tomato Sauce
Pan Seared Pork Chops in Sour Cream Sauce

SIDES

Sweet and Sour Roasted Beets
Charred Cabbage and Garlic Whipped Potatoes

DESSERT

Strawberry Romanoff

Dinner Reservations

Reservations are required for dinner and must be prepaid and received on or before **September 5, 2022**. There is no guarantee of seating beyond that date. In the event of possible late reservations, contact Lynn McMenemy, 217-502-6956, lcm1300@aol.com, to determine whether seating is available. Seating is limited to maximum room occupancy allowed by the Springfield Building Code.

Please make your reservations early!!

See below for dinner costs.

Please detach and mail

September 13, 2022 Event Dinner Reservation Form: - Deadline - September 5

Name _____ Phone# _____

Per meal cost: ___Members \$40 ___Non-Members \$40

___Number of vegetarian meals requested ___Number of gluten-free meals requests

Total Enclosed \$ _____ No. Attending _____

Please mail this form with check payable to: WACCI, Box 2233, Springfield, IL 62705

Welcome Back WACCI

by Rochelle Arjmand, VP Publicity

We're back and in person! After nearly three years of Zoom events we are so pleased and excited to be able to reconnect with old friends and meet new. WACCI has quite an impressive roster of speakers this year. Here's what you have to look forward to!

In October, Ambassador Marc Perrin de Brichambaut, Judge at the International Criminal Court in The Hague, will be discussing International Criminal Justice Today, Challenges and Prospects. Then in November we are hosting Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Sridhar Khatri of Nepal and Ambassador (ret) Scott H. DeLisi, former U.S. Ambassador to Nepal who will be presenting Redefining Nepal: Two Ambassadors Perspectives. And we will be ending our fall term in December when we will be hosting Dr. Amanda Poole of Indiana University of Pennsylvania, where she will be discussing There is No Future Here: Refugee Education and Forced Migration in Northern Ethiopia.

While writing this it becomes even more clear why WACCI and the World Affairs Council of America are so important to help educate and broaden our knowledge. As they say, history is the great teacher. Today we have seen many changes and events occurring in the world and being able to have this forum is even more prescient than ever. Our young people who are the leaders of tomorrow have the special opportunity to learn about world affairs even more in depth by participating in the Young Diplomats program. High school students can attend these speaking events and meet these speakers and ask them questions. How often do they have such opportunities to engage with such distinguished scholars, ambassadors? Our VP of Membership and Financial Development, Barbara Lestikow shares more about the Young Diplomats program in this communique.

I have shared some time back how I became acquainted with WACCI and the impact being able to serve on the board has had on me personally. When we had no choice but to pivot our programming to Zoom during the pandemic, I also can say some positives came out of it as well. Other WACA chapters shared our event links with their members, and we saw a shift where other chapters were wanting to share in programming and collaborate with WACCI. These relationships continue today.

For too long WACCI has been referred to as the secret, hidden gem in our community. Well, I say, and believe with all my heart that more people need to know about us! As VP of publicity I am determined to make that happen. Thank you for your continued support of WACCI and all we have to offer. Let's make this a wonderful year!

Rochelle Arjmand, VP Publicity

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

WACCI Membership Form

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip: _____

Preferred Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Please indicate your membership level:

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

Send form, checks, and/or requests for information to WACCI, Box 2233, Springfield, IL 62705



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