

World Affairs Council
of Connecticut

ANNUAL REPORT
2007-2008



THE WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF CONNECTICUT IS A NONPROFIT, NONPARTISAN
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATION
THAT PROMOTES PUBLIC AWARENESS AND DIALOGUE ON ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, AND SOCIAL ISSUES.

The 2007-2008 year was a landmark for the World Affairs Council of Connecticut. Thanks to our members, corporate sponsors and funders, WACCT had its largest operating budget in its 84-year history. As a result, we were able to deliver high caliber public and education programs toward fulfilling our mission — to advance awareness and dialogue on international political, economic and social issues.

In recognizing the successes of 2007-2008, we are grateful to the Board for its leadership and collaborative efforts. This resulted in increasing outreach to new audiences, expanding individual and professional networks, and raising the funds necessary to support high-level programming and day-to-day management.

Much of WACCT's fiscal success can be attributed to friends and sponsors who supported the Fifth Annual Luminary Award. Honoring ESPN International for its contribution to international sports diplomacy, the WACCT Board and staff worked together to develop a sold-out evening that highlighted ESPN's networks, which reach 194 countries and territories around the world. ESPN was a wonderful partner and its staff a great resource. They contributed both time and in-kind donations to make the evening an unequivocal success. Russell Wolff, Managing Director, ESPN International, was a gracious and fitting awardee, and Chris Berman, the keynote speaker, has been with ESPN since its inception in the 1970s.

I am also especially grateful to Larry Brown, Horton International, who completed two years of service as the WACCT President in June 2008. It has been a pleasure working with Larry and I thank him for his outstanding service to the organization. In addition we lost two outstanding Board members, Nancy Church and Daniel Neiditz — we will miss them both. Dan retired to spend more time with his grandchildren and Nancy has moved to Pennsylvania. Thanks to both for their loyal and continued support.

Looking ahead to 2008-2009, I am pleased to share with you that Laurie Aylsworth, Vice President, Northeast Utilities Transmission Group, will serve as WACCT's President for the next two years. Laurie brings considerable knowledge and experience to the WACCT board and Executive Committee and will be instrumental in our efforts to increase membership, program attendance, and overall support for WACCT.

Since this is an election year, WACCT looks forward to playing a leading role in fostering discussion and debate in the Greater Hartford community on a range of issues, including foreign policy, globalization, and national security. And, at the same time, we will continue our work with schools to ensure that Connecticut students are prepared to succeed in an increasingly competitive global economy.

I look forward to seeing you at our programs.

With Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Felicity Harley". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Felicity Harley
Executive Director

PROGRAM REPORT 2007-2008

WACCT prospered in 2007-2008 because of teamwork between its Board and staff. As a result of working together seamlessly we have been able to tap into key audiences, network with key individuals and raise the funds necessary to run the organization and continue the increasingly high level of programming.

We believe we finished the year with a break-even budget; the Luminary Award exceeded the goal of \$128,400 as well as last year's income of \$135,000, bringing in nearly \$160,000! This has once again been due to teamwork by the Board and staff.

Over the past year the World Affairs Council of Connecticut expanded its audience with consistent, high-level programming. We concluded the year with a very successful Luminary Award event attended by nearly 400 people. The highlights of the past year include a highly successful Executive Forum season, with programs featuring U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Zalmay Khalilzad, Japanese Consul General Yoichi Suzuki, former U.S. Commerce Secretary Barbara Hackman Franklin, and WACA Chairman Ambassador James Jones.

Our Foreign Policy Series continued to make strides, attracting audiences of between 75 and 100 people. The programs this year: the U.S. and Russia with Ambassador Jack Matlock; life in Iraq's Green Zone with *Washington Post* national editor Rajiv Chandrasekaran; energy security with resource wars expert Michael Klare; and a tremendously successful program on immigration with the mayors of New Haven and Danbury.

The Council held several luncheons that were no charge to members of the World Affairs Council, including one on Russia and one on U.A.E. We held a highly attended and lively Young Professionals *WorldQuest* international trivia game, our first such event. The Ed Guay luncheon presenting a Global Economic Outlook was its usual success. The Council also continued to partner with organizations within the community including The Connecticut Forum, the Connecticut Humanities Council, The Hartford Public Library and The Hartford Courant.

Radio audiences were in the thousands, as were viewers on fora.tv.com. Audiences on foratv.com ranged from 700 to 7,000 for each of the 22 programs posted to that webpage.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS 2007-2008

Design and develop internationally themed schools

The Hartford Public Schools invited WACCT to serve on the School Redesign Teams for the Academy for Latino Studies, Asian Studies Academy, and Global Affairs High School. The design of the new academies/schools supports the HPS mission of preparing students for successful participation in a global economy.

Contribute to internationally focused curriculum

World in Transition

WACCT headed a delegation of five representatives from schools and institutions to visit the editorial offices of *World in Transition*, located at the Southern Center for International Studies. The Council also attended the *World in Transition* Editorial Advisory Board meeting in April 2008. The Southern Center, based in Atlanta, is a member of the World Affairs Councils of America.

Connecticut Geographic Alliance Summer Institute

As part of its efforts to support and develop teachers capable of teaching about world regions, WACCT received funding and program support from the Connecticut Geographic Alliance to co-sponsor a multidisciplinary professional development program (politics, economics, history, demography, etc.) on teaching about Latin America.

Hartford students participate in international programs and events

In 2007-2008, the World Affairs Council provided opportunities for Hartford high school students to gain a greater awareness of world events and geopolitical affairs through participation in World Affairs Council public and Executive Forum programs.

Model United Nations

The Model United Nations offers over 550 students, representing over 30 Connecticut high schools, a two-day simulation program hosted by the University of Hartford (January 2008). This year's topics included: genocide; globalization; protection of civilians in armed conflict; and climate change.

Program Spotlight: Trip to the United Nations

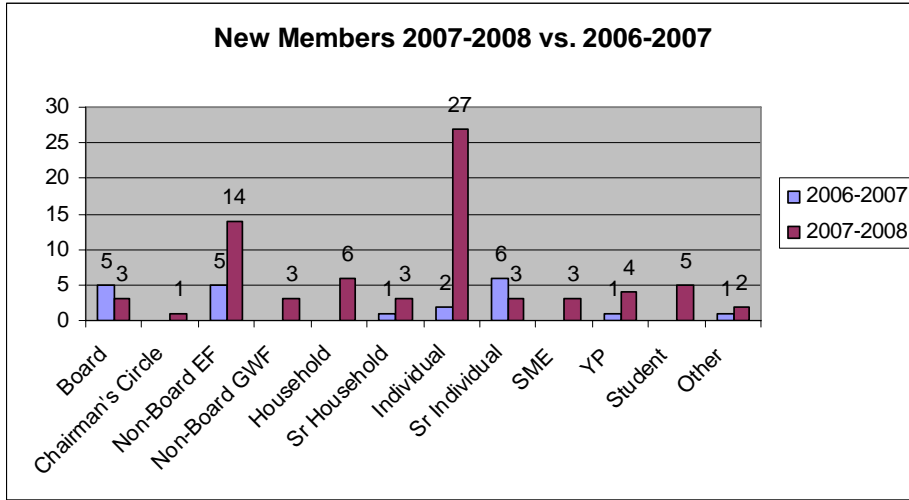
In November 2007, over 500 students and teachers traveled to the UN to meet diplomats from countries they were representing. Local highlights:

- Weaver High School students discussed the Darfur crisis with Sudanese diplomats
- Bulkeley High School and Hartford Public High School students met Saudi Arabia's first female UN diplomat and posed questions about human rights
- Capital Prep Magnet students questioned Brazilian UN mission officials on the impact of globalization.

MEMBERSHIP YEAREND 2007-2008

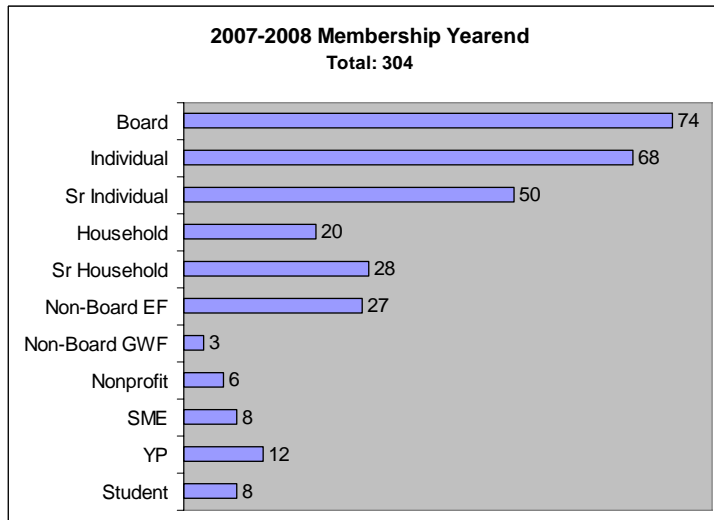
Despite a late database housecleaning removing 40-50 longtime “inactive” names, we gained eight memberships since midyear. Counting households and senior households as two each puts the total number of memberships at 352.

The number of new memberships this season is 74, compared with 21 last season (when for several months we had no membership director — not to imply cause-and-effect!). The chart below shows new memberships by category as of June 12, 2008.

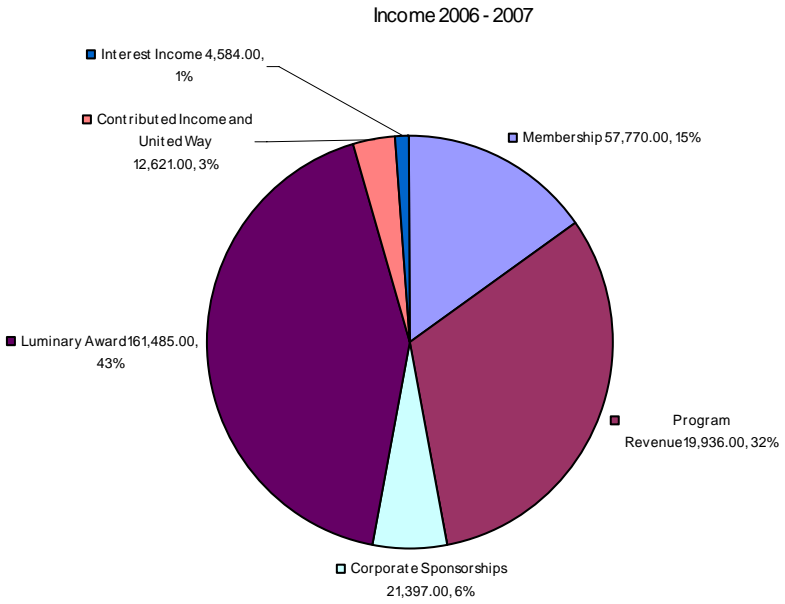
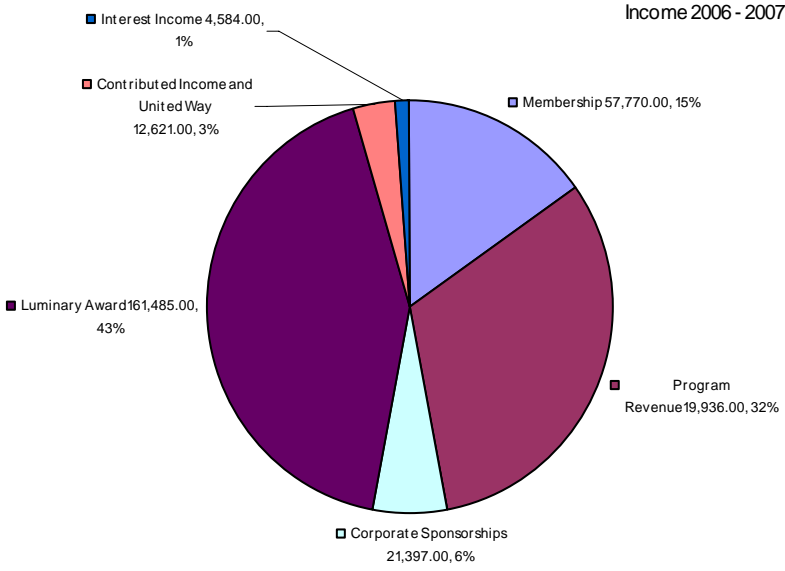


We are pleased this year to add our first non-Board Global Women’s Issues Forum memberships! We are also happy to have had 27 non-Board Executive Forum members this year, including several who joined after the program was underway; but we hope to do better on that score in the coming year by making the EF dues format more flexible.

Here’s how yearend membership broke down by category as of June 12:



Financial Statement



ARCHIVAL PROGRAM

In the eight decades of this Foreign Policy Association/World Affairs Council effort, its motto has been "Bringing the World to Connecticut."

Few clippings remain from the 1920s, but that changes dramatically for the 1930s. The Foreign Policy Association attracted outstanding speakers, including academics and journalists who discussed the major issues of the day — Asia, the rise of Hitler's Germany, the preparedness of Britain. They included Dr. Hans Kohn of Smith College. Walter Schwinn, an editorial writer for *The Hartford Courant*, saw a decline in the threat of war. On December 3, 1941, the *Courant* carried a story about Captain John H. Craige, who had recently addressed the Foreign Policy Association on the subject of why it was necessary to neutralize Japan before turning attention to advancing on Asia. Pearl Harbor occurred four days later. The issues changed in ensuing decades, but the Cold War and détente with the Soviet Union were discussed. The same kinds of lectures continue today — with lectures on Islam, the rights of women in Islam, global warming, energy requirements, and the rise of China and India. Examination of the Archives of the Foreign Policy Association/World Affairs Council shows that the organization has fulfilled the intention of its founding.

It has been necessary to divide some categories of clippings into separate scrapbooks, including Great Decisions, Japanese Teachers, a biography scrapbook (for items about members and Board members that don't relate directly to the World Affairs Council). Most old clippings are housed now in plastic that will preserve them more safely. Others require pasting in new albums that should preserve them longer. Acid-free paper has been used for several years.

CONTRIBUTIONS

\$50,000 and above

Hartford Foundation for Public Giving

\$25,000 and above

Travelers Foundation

\$10,000 and above

ESPN

Lincoln Financial Group Foundation

Bond Brothers, Inc.

Colt Defense LLC

Northeast Utilities

Quanta Services

The Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc.

Aetna Foundation

ING

Bank of America

Connecticut Humanities Council

Shipman & Goodwin

\$5,000 and above

Charles P. Reagan

Udike, Kelly & Spellacy, P.C.

Burns and McDonnell

Cronin & Company

Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection &

Insurance Company

KPMG, LLP

Lincoln Financial Group

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Visual Technologies

Reid & Riege, P.C.

Webster Bank

Hartford Courant Foundation

Blum Shapiro

J. Walton Bissell Foundation

\$2,500 and above

Areva T & D

Comcast

Konica Minolta Bizhub Image Center

McCarter & English, LLP

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United Technologies Corporation

UPS

Fisher Foundation

TD Banknorth

\$1,000 and above

Ed Guay

Power Engineers, Inc.

Sovereign Bank

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LLC

Worth Loomis

F. Scott Wilson

Ernst & Young

The Ensworth Charitable Foundation;

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NewAlliance Bank Foundation

\$500 and over

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Mr. & Mrs. Alex Corl

Edward Guay

Mr. & Mrs. F. Scott Wilson

\$100-\$499

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Dr. & Mrs. A.F. Allam

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\$10-\$99

Elizabeth Borden

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Amy & James Robinson

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Joe Shortall

Elizabeth Sidor

Susan Sorkenn

Ed & Marilyn Stockton

Janet Theophano

Anne & Mike Weinberg

Myron & Ruth Weiner

Malcolm Wetherbee

Grace Winnick Haber

Rose Worobel

Patricia Yosha

William & Astrid Zinchuk

The Salem Foundation

CONTRIBUTIONS CONTINUED

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Jason Gutcheon

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Clive Thomas
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Douglas Van Valkenburg

Global Women's Issues Forum

Charter Members

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