

2016



WORLD AFFAIRS CONFERENCE

REGISTRATION PACKAGE

PRESENTED BY:



A black and white photograph showing a large audience of students seated in rows, looking towards the right side of the frame. They appear to be at a formal event, possibly a conference or a lecture.

ABOUT WAC

THE WORLD
AFFAIRS
CONFERENCE IS
NORTH AMERICA'S
OLDEST STUDENT-
RUN CURRENT
AFFAIRS OF ITS
KIND.

BECOME A PART OF THIS HISTORY.



LETTER FROM WAC EXECUTIVE

Welcome Delegates,

Welcome to the 33rd annual World Affairs Conference at Upper Canada College! Over the course of the day we aim to expose you to new perspectives on issues of global importance. We encourage you to pose questions, engage with your fellow delegates and maintain an open mind.

This year's conference theme, fixing the 21st century, touches on numerous problems and their possible solutions. We are pleased to welcome several influential speakers this year for six exciting plenary sessions: Nuclear Proliferation, China, Drones, The Environment, The Refugee Crisis, and Gender inequality. Speakers have come from across the country, and even across the continent, to share their knowledge and expertise.

We hope you enjoy WAC 2016, and look forward to seeing you next year.

Kind Regards,

Logan Ye
Upper Canada College

Blaise O'Malley
Branksome Hall

Emmanuel Wong
Upper Canada College

Naz Gocek
Branksome Hall

WHY WAC?



OUR EXEMPLARY SPEAKERS

Our speakers travel from across North America - and this year, from Europe - to attend WAC. They are experts in their fields and experienced presenters. At no other high school conference will you find such a congregation of talent.

OUR HISTORY

The World Affairs Conference is an institution among student-run conferences. Since its founding in 1983, WAC has hosted speakers of a top caliber, such as Ralph Nader, Marc Gameau, Michael Ignatieff, Jeffrey Sachs, David Frum and Bob Rae, as well as numerous others.



THE CURRENT ISSUES

Our topics this year reflect some of the most current subjects of debate in global forums. They are broad in their scope and enormous in their importance.

THE INSPIRATION

The opportunity to be exposed to ideas that do not exist solely within national boundaries is an incredibly valuable one. This is what WAC provides.



COMMUNICATION WITH OTHERS

WAC routinely attracts up to a thousand like-minded students. Delegates will have the opportunity to meet people from across Canada that share their interest in global affairs.



SUSANNAH GOUINLOCK

GENDER

Susannah Gouinlock is a Senior Associate at Catalyst Canada. Catalyst is the leading nonprofit organization accelerating progress for women through workplace inclusion. With operations in the US, Canada, Europe, India, Australia, and Japan, and more than 800 member organizations, Catalyst is the trusted resource for research, information, and advice about women at work. Susannah manages the relationships with numerous Catalyst member companies, supporting their diversity and inclusion efforts by acting as their main contact for research, resources and support. Susannah is also responsible for driving Millennial engagement in Canada to ensure Catalyst reaches a younger demographic.



RATNA OMIDVAR

REFUGEES

Ratna Omidvar is the founding Executive Director of the Global Diversity Exchange (GDX) at the Ted Rogers School of Management, Ryerson University. GDX is a think and do tank on diversity, migration and inclusion that connects local experience and ideas with global networks. It is dedicated to building a community of international leaders who see prosperity in migration. Under her leadership the GDX is developing a program of academic and applied research, and identifying evidence-based leading practices and taking them to scale. Ms. Omidvar is Chair Emerita of the Toronto Region Immigrant Employment Council, Chair of Lifeline Syria, Co-Chair of DiverseCity: the Greater Toronto Leadership Project, and a Director of the Canadian Club of Toronto, The Environics Institute, and Samara.



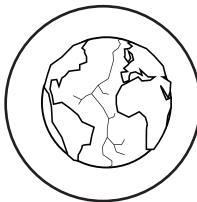
JAMES ACTON

NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

James M. Acton is a British scientist with a PhD in theoretical physics from Cambridge University. He is a physicist by training and is an expert in nuclear arms. He currently works as the co-director of the Nuclear Policy Program at the Carnegie Endowment for National Peace, a policy think-tank for foreign affairs. His ongoing research focuses on the nuclear fuel cycle in Japan. Acton's publications span the field of nuclear policy. He is the author of two books, *Deterrence During Disarmament: Deep Nuclear Reductions and International Security* and *Abolishing Nuclear Weapons*. His analysis on proliferation threats, including Iran and North Korea, has been widely disseminated by major journals, newspapers, and websites.

THEME: FIXING THE 21st CENTURY

PLENARIES



OPENING PANEL

SYNOPSIS:

The Internet has radically revolutionized the entire world. Everything from how we shop to how we vote has been affected by the Internet. As a result, the Internet continues to proliferate in every facet. This exponential growth will have huge ramifications on both governments and individuals. Governments have both had an increased security due to the internet, with an increasingly pervasive method of gathering information on one's citizens, increasing security. Oppressive regimes have abused the internet in order to exert control, while advocates for terrorism have begun utilizing the internet as a powerful tool to propagate their cause.

However, citizens have used the Internet as tool to unite and learn. The Arab Spring saw a wave of protests and revolution based off of Internet usage---specifically social media. Meanwhile citizens in democracies have discovered their right to privacy has been stripped, as their governments use their tools for finding terrorists against their own citizens.

As the Internet affects many different aspects of everyday life, each panelist will have a specific viewpoint and frame of reference on the Internet, and will help outline the benefits of, and issues with, the Internet's proliferation. Moreover, they will explain and debate their solutions to those problems.

SPEAKERS

Dr. Ron Deibert, Mr. Graeme Bunton



NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

SYNOPSIS:

The nuclear proliferation plenary will focus on solutions to achieve wholesale international participation in the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty seeks to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and weapons technology, to promote cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and to further the goal of achieving nuclear disarmament and general and complete disarmament. The plenary will discuss the barriers to international cooperation and the steps already taken by individual governments to promote unanimous participation.

Speakers

Mr. Paul Meyer
Mr. James Acton



DRONES

SYNOPSIS:

Missile strikes launched from drones, also known as unmanned air vehicles (UAV), have become the center of much controversy over the past few years. Pakistan alone has faced 2,500 - 4,000 casualties and roughly 1,500 injuries at the hand of American drone strikes. The plenary will feature two speakers discussing the ethical dilemmas surrounding the use of armed drones and how drones should be used in the future.

SPEAKER

Mr. Steven P Lee



ENVIRONMENT

SYNOPSIS:

This year's plenary on the environment is entitled Environmental Corporate Responsibility. The plenary will explore the ways that companies can remain profitable while mitigating their effects on the environment and benefiting the lives of people that they interact with in poorer nations. Corporate responsibility regarding the environment may have positive outcomes for both the company and the world as a whole.

SPEAKER

Bill Shireman



REFUGEES

SYNOPSIS:

After years of growing conflict in Syria, and years of civilian refugees being forced out of their homes and into neighbouring nations, countries around the world have decided to take in refugees. However, the response has been scattered. Some nations have agreed to take in many refugees immediately, some nations none at all. Under Trudeau's government, Canada has agreed to take in 25,000 refugees by the end of the March 2016. Is that enough? Should we take more? Have we agreed to take in too many? How will we integrate them into our society and economy? These are the questions this year's Refugee plenary will discuss.

SPEAKER

Ratna Omidvar



GENDER INCOME DISPARITIES

SYNOPSIS:

The vision of this plenary is to identify the current causes and circumstances of gender income disparities and how to eliminate them. This solution based plenary will first outline the problem, and then a solution will be proposed by the speakers. After the speakers are done, there will be an opportunity to ask questions to the speakers. Time permitting, the plenary will break into discussion groups and discuss the problem at hand and if their response to the plenaries,

SPEAKER

Susannah Gouinlock



CHINA

SYNOPSIS:

This year's economics plenary's main focus is on China. Our plenary digs deep into the core of China's economy. Specifically, how it can act as a possible policy role model for other countries, what its future entails and lastly, how China's rise contributes to overall geopolitical and economic changes affecting Canada. Our plenary will inform you on this complex issue but also outline why you, as Canadian citizens should care.

SPEAKER

To be Confirmed

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FEB 1, 2015

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7:00PM - 9:00PM

● KEYNOTE & RECEPTION

Laidlaw Hall

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FEB 2, 2015

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8:00AM - 9:00AM

● REGISTRATION

Main Foyer

9:00AM - 10:15AM

● MORNING PANEL

Laidlaw Hall

10:15AM - 10:30AM

○ BREAK

Student Center

10:30AM - 11:30AM

● PLENARY SESSION 1

Refer to Name Tag

11:35AM - 12:35PM

● PLENARY SESSION 2

Refer to Name Tag

12:35PM - 1:20PM

○ LUNCH

Lett Gym

1:20PM - 2:20PM

● PLENARY SESSION 3

Refer to Name Tag

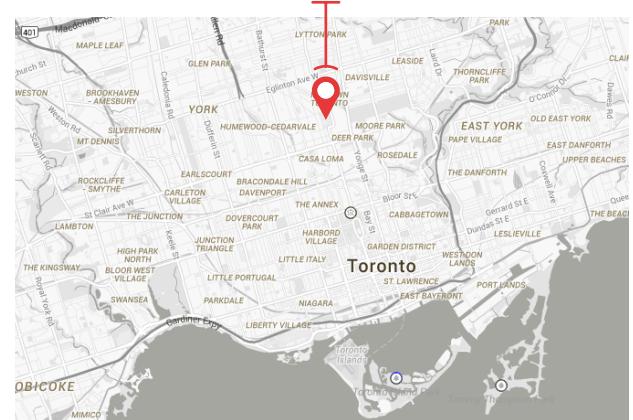
2:25PM - 3:25PM

● CLOSING PANEL

Laidlaw Hall

UPPER CANADA COLLEGE

200 LONSDALE ROAD
M4V 1W6, TORONTO ON
(416) 488-1125



ACCOMODATIONS

For your convenience, we have compiled a list of hotels close to the conference venue, UCC, where you may book your accommodations. These include:

Holiday Inn Toronto Bloor Yorkville
280 Bloor Street West, Toronto, ON M5S 1V8
(416) 968-0010
3.5 km from UCC

Howard Johnson Hotel Toronto Yorkville
89 Avenue Road, Toronto, ON M5R 2G3
(416) 964-1220
2.5 km from UCC

Intercontinental Toronto Yorkville
220 Bloor Street West, Toronto, ON M5S 1T8
(416) 960-5200
3.1 km from UCC

Marriot Toronto Bloor Yorkville
90 Bloor Street East, Toronto, ON M4W 1A7
(416) 961-8000
3.5 km from UCC

Park Hyatt Toronto
4 Avenue Road, Toronto, ON M5R 2E8
(416) 925-1234
2.8 km from UCC



Dear Faculty Adviser,

An entirely student-organized and student-run event, the World Affairs Conference brings together young people from across North America and provides them with a unique opportunity to listen and talk to experts linked to a particular current affairs topic. Equally important, it allows delegates to exchange views with those who may have backgrounds quite different from their own.

As you can imagine, the challenges of defining a topic, booking appropriate speakers, and organizing, feeding, entertaining, and accommodating approximately eight hundred delegates are enormous. Each year, those who attend compliment the professional approach of the student organizers and their commitment to ensuring the best possible experience for their guests. The organizing committee tries to anticipate the needs of our delegates: if there are oversights, please bring them to our attention. We are always open to constructive suggestions.

Students and faculty who attend the conference contribute significantly to its success through their enthusiasm, cooperation, and—at times—their patience and understanding. There are certain things that we do request of teachers who bring students to WAC:

- Please register as quickly as possible, providing full information and payment. We realize the timing of the conference presents a challenge for semestered schools and we apologize for the inconvenience.
- The faculty advisers for WAC are delighted to assist you and your students in any way possible. Our primary focus is to support the students running the conference—as a result, we are unable to supervise delegates closely. This is the responsibility of the faculty advisers who accompany them.
- Please review with your students the expectations you (and we) have of them. Those staying in the hotel should display courtesy for other guests. During the actual conference, it is important for students to follow instructions, to be punctual, minimize the use of electronics, and to remember that talking and unnecessary movement are very distracting for speakers and other delegates. In addition, please ensure that your students follow a business-casual dress code.

Should you have any questions about the conference, or, as the conference draws nearer, any concerns about the registration process or other logistics, please do not hesitate to contact one of us by phone or email. Thank you for your consideration,

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HOW TO REGISTER

1

Collect interested students using optional wall signup sheet enclosed in package.

2

Fill out school information on the enclosed registration form.

3

Provide the names and email addresses for each student delegate on the registration form.

4

Select each students plenary requests.

5

Enclose 50\$ CAD (USD taken at par) per registered delegate in cash or that your cheque is intended for the World Affairs Conference).

6

Mail both your completed registration form and payment to **UCC**.

The World Affairs Conference
Upper Canada College
200 Lonsdale Road
Toronto, Ontario
Canada M4V 1W6

7

We will send a confirmation email to the faculty advisor as soon as we receive your registration form and cheque in the mail.

*

Please Note: Registration forms received without payment will be discarded.

CONTACT US



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Conference Chair: logan.Ye@ucc.on.ca
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Faculty Correspondent: (416) - 488 - 1125 ext. 3330



www.world.ac



2016 World Affairs Conference

February 1st and 2nd 2016 at Upper Canada College

www.world.ac

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and Derek Lam

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