

Council Chronicle

31 years of promoting understanding



Vol. 8, No. 4

The National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations is pleased to provide the 27th edition of the Council Chronicle, the Council's periodic newsletter. The Chronicle seeks to keep the Council's alumni, donors, and other supporters informed and updated. One among other efforts to do so on an ongoing basis is achieved by presenting highlights and special reports on the Council's programs, events, and activities. For new readers interested in learning more about the Council's vision and mission, and for ongoing supporters keen to keep abreast of the Council's accomplishments, together with the ways and means it utilizes to pursue both objectives, please visit the Council's website at ncusar.org.

Message from the President: *Reserve October 14-15, 2015*

This issue of the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations' *Council Chronicle* is devoted exclusively to a unique and special event: the Council's 23rd Annual Arab-U.S. Relations Policymakers Conference. Attending this most recent yearly forum



The National Council's 2014 Arab-U.S. Policymakers Conference was covered by more than six dozen print, broadcast, and satellite television media.

were over 1,200 registrants. Among them were co-sponsors from sixty-eight American and Arab corporations, foundations, and associations as well as seven Arab embassies and the Washington, DC Office of the League of Arab States.

In keeping with the proceedings of previous years' Conferences, this year's gathering featured eight plenary sessions and five featured keynote speakers. The sessions and presenting specialists covered many of the major challenges and opportunities confronting American and Arab leaders tasked with strengthening and expanding the innumerable mutual benefits between their two peoples. Additionally, at the Conference the Council bestowed a *Distinguished Global Leadership Award* on His Excellency

Abdullah Bin Hamad Al Attiyah and a *Global Humanitarian and Business Achievement Award* on Dr. Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor.

To reserve space for the National Council's 24th Annual Arab-U.S. Policymakers Conference, which will again be held at the Ronald Reagan Building & International Trade Center in Washington, DC, be sure to mark your calendar for **October 14-15, 2015**.

Dr. John Duke Anthony
Founding President and CEO
National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations



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About the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations

Founded in 1983, the National Council is an American educational, non-profit, and non-governmental organization. The Council is dedicated to improving American knowledge and understanding of the Arab world through **EIGHT** different annual programs, events, and activities.

First, the National Council is committed to educating, training, and developing the leadership skills of the current and emerging generation of Americans tasked with improving the overall U.S.-Arab relationship. From one Council leadership development effort alone, the Model Arab League Program, there are more than 38,000 alumni. The number of participants in the Council's sixteen annual Models – through 2013, held in thirteen cities throughout the United States and in Egypt, Lebanon, and Saudi Arabia – averages 2,000. Illustrative of the increasing national and international recognition of the leadership skills that this one Council program provides its participants, we are pleased to report the following: contributions from supporters have enabled the Council to administer **three additional Models in 2014-2015**. As evidence of the extraordinary value that comes through participation in the Models, *every single Council employee is a graduate of this program*. Each one has exhibited the sterling leadership qualities necessary for helping to strengthen and expand the youth component of the Arab-U.S. relationship.

Second, the National Council is unique in another way: it is the world's only organization to have administered for 23 years and counting an annual Arab-U.S. Policymakers' Conference. The Conference brings together many of the foremost American and Arab specialists. The scope and focus of their contributions encompass the multiple dynamics of the overall relationship between the United States and Arab governments, economies, and societies. *For each of the past three years the Conference has drawn record numbers of more than 1,250 registrants*. Through coverage for four of the past six years by C-SPAN, the award-winning international satellite television network, additional millions have been able to benefit from the proceedings through that medium as well as the Council's website at ncusar.org.

A **third** National Council highlight is its intensive student work-study internship program. *In the past year alone the Council trained more than thirty interns over the course of the academic year and the summer*. In cooperation with The George Washington University Elliott School of International Affairs, the ten-week University Student Summer Internship Program, administered for the seventh consecutive year in association with *eighteen* sister organizations in the nation's capital, provided a professional work experience and a series of site visits to and meetings with and briefings by representatives of Arab embassies, Congress, the Supreme Court, the Department of State, and other institutions in the nation's capital, together with the world's only known twenty-part seminar on "Arabia, The Gulf, The GCC, and The U.S.-Arab Relationship."



National Council on
U.S.-Arab Relations



Arabia, the Gulf, &
the GCC Blog



U.S.-GCC Corporate
Cooperation
Committee



An exciting new feature of the National Council's 2014 University Student Summer Internship Program, in which 25 interns participated, was *the institution of the first-ever Findley Fellowships*. The Fellowships were granted at the end of the program to four of the most outstanding interns. The awardees were selected for having met two multifaceted criteria. First, they excelled in the program's academic component – organization, productivity, research, analysis, assessment, composition, writing and editing within tightly prescribed deadlines, and role-playing as make-believe Arab diplomats in a simulated real-life introduction to Arab challenges and opportunities. Second, in their character, integrity, dedication, and overall professionalism, the award-winning fellows were judged as having exemplified throughout the seminar the critical thinking and communications skills as well as the moral, leadership, educational, and, especially, extraordinary traits of courage, conviction, and commitment associated with the life and works of Congressman Paul Findley, who served for 22 years in the U.S. Congress. Upon his retirement, Congressman Findley became a founding member of the Council's International Advisory Committee, and, since 2014, the Committee's Co-Chairman, together with HRH Prince Abdulaziz Bin Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Sa'ud, former Chairman of the Arab Open University Forum.

A **fourth** National Council program is designed to contribute positively to the national public and private sector conversations about American policies, positions, attitudes, and actions towards the Arab world and its peoples. To this end, the Council administers year-round a series of seminars on Capitol Hill and in other venues. In each instance, one or more internationally renowned specialists is tasked with analyzing, assessing, and recommending more effective American approaches to dealing with some of the most important challenges confronting American and Arab policymakers. The seminars held in Congressional Hearing Rooms are typically filled to capacity. In attendance are Members of Congress, Congressional staff, media representatives, research and publications specialists in prominent public policy research institutes, members of the international diplomatic corps, and other foreign affairs practitioners.

A **fifth** National Council activity is a specialized publications program. For the *past seven* years, the Council has achieved this, in part, through an electronic newsletter – the *Council Chronicle*, of which this issue is an example – that appears four times a year, through an *Annual Review*, and through its ongoing close relationship with the publications of the *Saudi-U.S. Relations*



H.E. Mohammed Jaham Al Kuwari, Ambassador of Qatar to the United States, addresses an April 2014 National Council Congressional Briefing Event in the Rayburn House Office Building.

Information Service (SUSRIS) and the Saudi-U.S Trade Group. Still another feature of the Council's publications outreach and continuing efforts to provide perspective on matters pertaining to the overall Arab-U.S. relationship, and to Arabia and the Gulf in particular, is the Council's blog: Arabia, the Gulf, and the GCC, which features cutting-edge analyses by Council President & CEO Dr. John Duke Anthony, Drs. Imad Harb and Nawaf Obaid, and other specialists. Visit the blog at: ncusar.org/blog.

A **sixth** National Council activity is organizing and providing scholarly escorts for delegations of American leaders on study visits to one or more Arab countries – in the past year, to Oman, Saudi Arabia, and Qatar.

A **seventh** National Council activity is a public service in the form of facilitating the participation of American students and faculty in Arabic language and area study learning experiences in Lebanon, Morocco, and Oman.

The **eighth** National Council activity is its ongoing participation in year-round heads of organizations meetings. These forums, which began under the Council's auspices in 1991 in the aftermath of the reversal of Iraq's aggression against Kuwait, periodically gather the CEOs and other key representatives of like-minded sister organizations that are committed to



Former U.S. Congressman Paul Findley, a founding Member of the National Council's Advisory Board and since 2014 its Co-Chairman, pictured here with Dr. John Duke Anthony in 1985, served in the U.S. House of Representatives for 22 years, representing the 20th District of Illinois. In 2013, the Council presented Congressman Findley its first-ever Distinguished Public Service and Lifetime Achievement Award.

In 2014 the National Council instituted the Findley Fellowship Award to recognize outstanding participants in the Council's University Student Summer Internship Program. Students honored as Findley Fellows are presented this lapel pin to display their achievement.



strengthening and expanding the overall Arab-U.S. relationship. The objective of the meetings, beyond deepening the bonds of trust, confidence, and a willingness to join forces in pursuit of common goals, is to provide evidence to the respective organizations' "shareholders" that their financial, in-kind, and other investments in and contributions to what the organizations seek to accomplish have not been and are not in vain.

Running through all of the National Council's programmatic works, activities, and other public services is the Council's vision for the U.S.-Arab relationship. The Council's **vision** is anchored in the legitimate needs, concerns, interests, and key foreign policy objectives of the American and Arab peoples. Resting on a solid and enduring foundation of strategic, economic, political, commercial, and defense cooperation, the vision encompasses the belief that the relationship is strengthened continuously by a range of richly rewarding projects, programs, events, and activities, chief amongst which are exchanges and the Arab-U.S. relations skills development of present and emerging American and Arab leaders.

The pages that follow highlight the nature and number of many of the extraordinary leaders who have joined forces with the Council in support of its vision. Each recognizes the Council as the only American organization that annually organizes and administers an event expressly designed to improve the U.S.-Arab relationship: namely, the annual Arab-U.S. Policymakers Conference.



The National Council's **mission** is educational. It is committed to building, maintaining, and wherever possible strengthening and expanding the human, institutional, and programmatic bridges between and among the American and Arab public and private sectors. The Council seeks, in particular, to enhance American awareness and appreciation of the multi-faceted and innumerable benefits that the United States and the American people have long obtained, and continue to derive, from the overall U.S.-Arab relationship. But one among many hallmarks of the Council's mission is its emphasis on the publication and dissemination of documented facts.

In pursuit of its mission, the National Council serves as a U.S.-Arab relations programmatic, human resources, and leadership development clearinghouse. In so doing, it provides cutting edge information, insight, and learning opportunities for national, state, and local grassroots educational organizations, media, and public policy research institutes in addition to select community civic, business, and professional associations.

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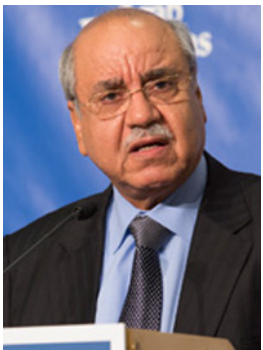


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SAVE THE DATE:

24th Annual Arab-U.S. Policymakers Conference October 14-15, 2015



In the National Council's efforts to strengthen and expand the positive dynamics of the overall U.S.-Arab relationship and to promote the legitimate interests of Americans and Arabs alike, its board, management, and staff are keenly aware of the national need for courageous leaders of conviction and commitment.

The National Council strives to help restore what was once an extraordinarily vibrant and positive reservoir of Arab goodwill and respect for America throughout the Arab world. It endeavors to do so in light of the pervasive region-wide negative reaction among the region's Arabs and Muslims.

One hardly need note that there is no anti-Finland-ism, anti-Japan-ism, or anti-China-ism in the Arab world. In contrast, from one end of the region to the other, anti-Americanism is prevalent and laced with dire implications for the United States, the Arab world, and elsewhere.

The reason is rooted in a single factor: U.S. policies towards Arabs and Muslims that tens of millions among the Arab world's citizens, and millions more among the world's more than 1.6 billion Muslims, have come to view as unfair and unjust.



1300 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Washington, DC

23rd Annual Arab-U.S. Policymakers Conference

"Framing and Charting the Region's Issues, Interests, Challenges, and Opportunities: Implications for Arab and U.S. Policies"

The National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations' 23rd Annual Arab-U.S. Policymakers Conference, chaired by its Founding President and CEO Dr. John Duke Anthony, was held October 28-29, 2014, at the Ronald Regan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, DC. For the fourth consecutive year the conference registered more than 1,200 attendees. The theme of the 2014 conference was **"Framing and Charting the Region's Issues, Interests, Challenges, and Opportunities: Implications for Arab and U.S. Policies,"** and it featured more than fifty speakers who analyzed, discussed, and debated issues of over-arching importance to the American and Arab people's needs, concerns, interests, and key foreign policy objectives.

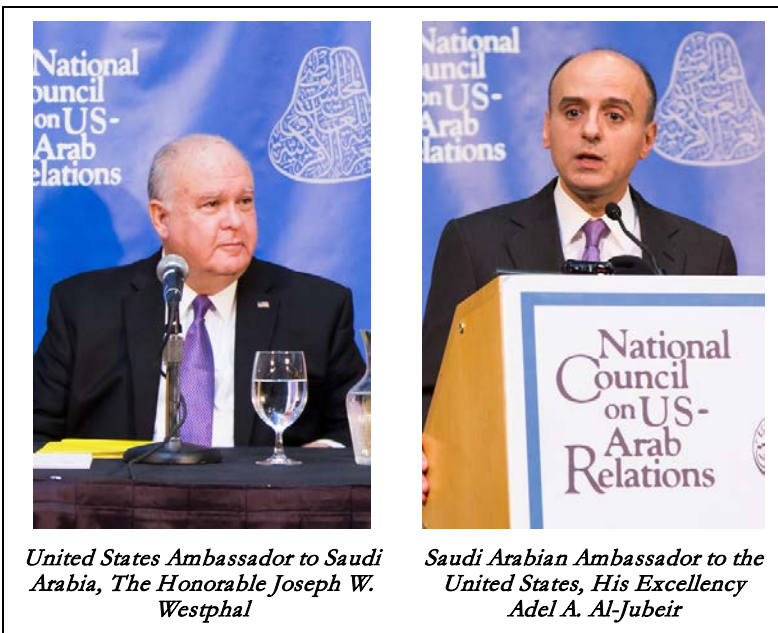
Speakers included current and former ambassadors from the United States and various Arab countries, key U.S. government officials, and scholars and representatives of non-governmental organizations and public policy research institutes. Over two days conference sessions explored various dynamics of the United States relationship with the Arab world, including energy and defense cooperation, business relations, and geo-political implications of developments in Syria, Iraq, Iran, the Arabian Gulf, Egypt and North Africa, and Palestine.

His Royal Highness Prince Turki Al Faisal delivered a keynote address on the first day of the conference that surveyed the challenges facing the Arab world, reflected on critical missed strategic opportunities, and affirmed Saudi Arabia's commitment to fighting terrorism. The second day of the conference featured keynote addresses from Saudi Arabia's Ambassador to the United States, **His Excellency Adel A. Al-Jubeir**, and the United States Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, **Joseph W.**

Westphal, who both examined the strength, length, and depth of Saudi Arabian-United States relationship.

The National Council also bestowed awards on two prominent leaders: a *"Distinguished Global Leadership Award"* was presented to **His Excellency Abdullah Bin Hamad Al Attiyah** in recognition of his long and illustrious service to the State of Qatar as well as his contributions to humanity, and a *"Global Humanitarian and Business Achievement Award"* was presented to **Dr. Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor** (accepted on his behalf by former Congressman Paul Findley) for his leadership in education, philanthropy, and building bridges between East and West.

The keynote speakers were supplemented by sessions on issues such as U.S.-Arab energy cooperation; the Gulf Cooperation Council; defense cooperation; trade, investment, commerce, and joint business relations;



United States Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, The Honorable Joseph W. Westphal

Saudi Arabian Ambassador to the United States, His Excellency Adel A. Al-Jubeir

and regional geo-political dynamics.

Throughout the Conference, the American Educational Trust, publisher of the award-winning *Washington Report on Middle East Affairs*, sold books and Palestinian crafts.

The 23rd Annual Arab-U.S. Policymakers Conference was a resounding success, providing the American and Arab public -- whether in attendance, following the proceedings online, or reading about the conference through media coverage -- with a wide-ranging look at Arab-U.S. relations. In keeping with their inception in 1991, the Conference comprised speakers with challenging and controversial views. Throughout the two-days of shared ideas, intense discussions and debate, and extensive networking among attendees and participants, the Conference not only furthered the Council's educational mission of enhancing American awareness, knowledge, and understanding of the Arab and Islamic worlds. It also provided much food for thought in the form of practical suggestions and recommendations for ways to improve the overall Arab-U.S. relationship.

The Conference's entire transcripts, together with its video- and audio-recorded proceedings, are available via the Council's website at ncusar.org.

Read, Watch, or Listen to the 2014 Policymakers Conference Proceedings



Transcripts, MP3 audio, and links to video recordings are available on the National Council's website, ncusar.org, at:

<http://ncusar.org/auspc/2014>



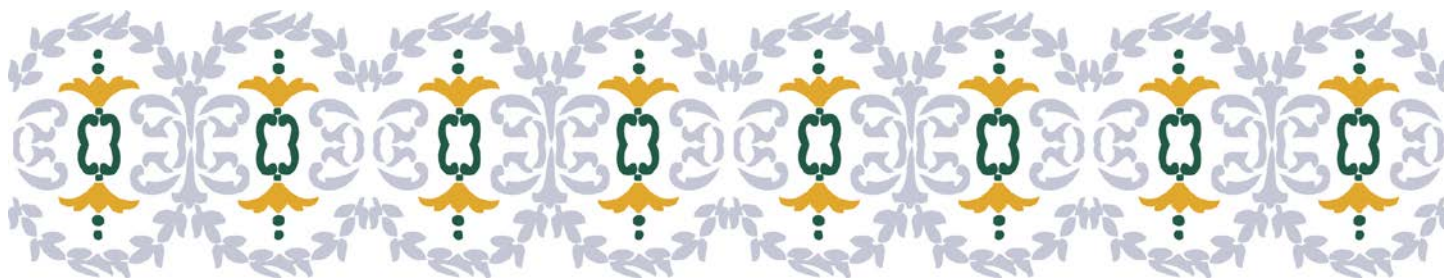
MP3 audio podcasts of the conference are available through iTunes:

<http://bit.ly/itunes-ncusar>



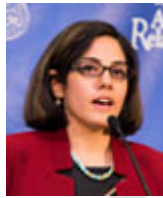
Video of Conference sessions is available on YouTube, along with video from previous years' Arab-U.S. Policymakers Conferences and other Council programs:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/NCUSAR>





HRH Prince Turki
Al Faisal Al Sa'ud



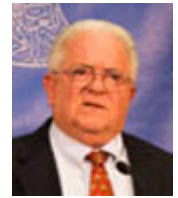
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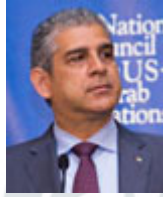
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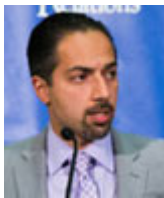
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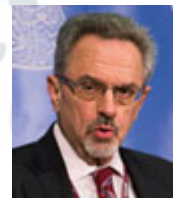
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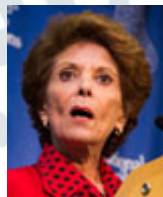
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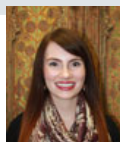
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Ms. Laura Tucker

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What will your legacy be?

Accomplishing the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations' educational, training, and leadership development mission cannot be achieved by accident or coincidence. It can be realized only through a steady stream of resources from individuals and families that have benefited from the Council's educational programs, projects, events, and activities, and benefactors who believe in what the Council seeks to accomplish.

Investment in the National Council at any level and at any point in one's life will make a difference for generations to come.

Contributing to the National Council is a powerful and meaningful way for one to strengthen the Council's philanthropic legacy. Inclusion of the Council in one's will is a guaranteed means of bequeathing resources to ensure a lasting impact on the Arab-U.S. relationship for far into the future.

For more information about your personal legacy promoting the Arab-U.S. relationship, please contact:

Mr. Pat Mancino, Executive Vice President
Telephone: 202-293-6466
Email: pat@ncusar.org

National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations
1730 M St NW, Suite 503
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I bequeath _____ percent of my residuary estate (or \$ _____) to the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations, a not-for-profit organization, with its office at 1730 M St NW, Suite 503, Washington, DC 20036, for its ongoing educational programs (or name a specific National Council program, e.g., the Model Arab League, Malone Fellowship, Summer Internship Program, or Findley Fellowship). Tax ID # 52-1296502.



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National Council Founding President & Chief Executive Officer

Dr. John Duke Anthony; see below.

National Council Leadership, Management, and Staff

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Director of Student Programs -- Mr. Josh Hilbrand; also: Alumnus, Model Arab League Program and Washington, DC Summer Internship Program;

Director of Communications -- Mr. Mark Morozink; also: Alumnus and former Coordinator, Model Arab League Program;

Deputy Director of Communications -- Ms. Laura Tucker; also: Alumna, Model Arab League Program and Washington, DC Internship Program;

Program Associate -- Ms. Kaylee Boalt; also: Alumna, Model Arab League Program; and

Public Relations Specialist -- Mr. Nabil Sharaf; also: Alumnus, Washington, DC Internship Program.

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Founding President and Chief Executive Officer -- Dr. John Duke Anthony; also: Knighted by Moroccan King Muhammad VI with the Order of *Quissam Alouite*, Morocco's highest award for excellence; Member, U.S. Department of State Advisory Committee on International Economic Policy and its Subcommittees on Sanctions as well as Trade and Investment; Adjunct Associate Professor, U.S. Department of Defense Institute for Security Assistance Management (1974 - present); Dean's Visiting Chair in International Studies and Political Science, teaching "Politics of the Arabian Peninsula" at the Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, Virginia (2012); former Adjunct Professor, teaching "Politics of Arabia and The Gulf," Georgetown University Edmund G. Walsh's Graduate School (2006-2011); former Advanced Arabian Studies Seminar Chairman, and Near East and North Africa Program Chairman, U.S. Department of State; former Saudi Arabia Studies Program Chairman, U.S. Department of Treasury; and former Adjunct Professor, teaching "Strategic Issues of Middle East Petroleum," Joint Defense Intelligence College, U.S. Department of Defense;

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Mr. John Pratt; also: former long-time executive, Saudi Aramco; former Vice President, American Business Association of the Eastern Province; and former Chairman, Middle East Council of the American Chambers of Commerce; and

Mr. Oliver Zandona; also: former Vice President, Public and Government Affairs, ExxonMobil Iraq and Manager, Middle East and North Africa, International Government Relations, ExxonMobil.

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The National Council's internationally recognized reputation and achievements regarding its financial transparency, fiscal accountability, integrity and overall professionalism – in its relations with institutional and individual donors, its audit agencies, and charitable contributions rating associations – is second to none.

