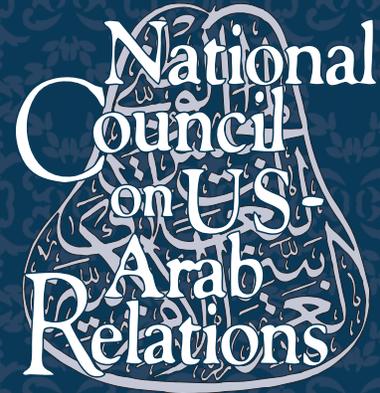


Council Chronicle



Vol. 9, No. 1

The National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations is pleased to provide the 28th 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, expanding the nature and extent of the Council's efforts in pursuit of its vision and mission. 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

In this issue, *Council Chronicle* readers will find reports on the Council's **19th Annual Cultural Immersion Program** in the Sultanate of Oman for officers selected by the Commander of the U.S.



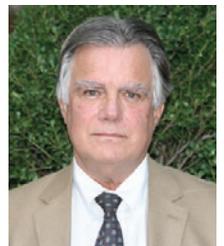
GCC Secretary General Dr. Abdul Latif Bin Rashid Al Zayani addresses a meeting organized by the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations and its U.S.-GCC Corporate Cooperation Committee on September 18, 2015, in Washington, DC. Photo: National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations.

Central Command, as well as **eight public educational programs on Capitol Hill and around Washington, DC**, where an assemblage of domestic and internationally renowned specialists analyzed, discussed, and debated issues of importance to the relationship between the United States and Arab countries. These briefings examined the ongoing crisis in Yemen, challenges faced by the Gulf Cooperation Council, the implications of the Iranian nuclear agreement, leadership changes in Saudi Arabia as well as the kingdom's evolving defense strategy, and the continuing Omani renaissance.

In every instance, the Council's goal has been to forge ever-increasing communities of well-educated, -trained, and -developed Americans with firsthand empirical exposures to and

experiences in countries and issues of immense strategic, economic, energy, political, commercial, defense cooperation, and other importance to the United States.

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



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 NINE 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 33,000 alumni. The number of participants in the Council's nineteen annual **Models** – through 2015, held in sixteen 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 enabled the Council to administer three additional Models in 2014-2015. As evidence of the extraordinary value that comes through participation in the Models, all but one Council employee is a graduate of this program. Each has exhibited the sterling leadership qualities necessary for helping to strengthen and expand the youth component of the Arab-U.S. relationship; for exercising discipline, organization, and the ability to speak clearly and forcefully in addition to editing quickly and effectively; for mastering how to manage time in composing and fulfilling

results-oriented agendas; for demonstrating how to build coalitions in support of one's views and new ideas as well as existing schools of thought; and for acquiring the attributes of tolerance and respect for the opinions of others that may differ from one's own.



Arabia, the Gulf,
& the GCC Blog

Second, the National Council is the world's only organization to have administered for 24 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 four years the Conference has drawn record numbers of more than 1,200 registrants. Through coverage for five of the past seven years by C-SPAN, additional millions have been able to benefit from the proceedings as well as through the Council's website at ncusar.org.



U.S.-GCC
CORPORATE
COOPERATION
COMMITTEE

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



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.

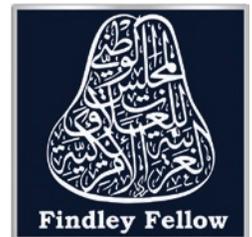
and opportunities. Second, the award-winning fellows are judged as having exemplified throughout the seminar the critical thinking and communications skills as well as the moral, leadership, educational, and, especially, extraordinary traits of courage, conviction, and commitment associated with the 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.

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.”

Among the more exciting features of the National Council’s University Student Summer Internship Program, in which 25 interns participate annually, are the *Findley Fellowships*, which were first instituted in 2014. The Fellowships are granted at the end of the program to the most outstanding interns. The awardees are selected for having met two multifaceted criteria. First, that they excel in the program’s academic component – organization, productivity, research, analysis, assessment, composition, writing and editing within tightly prescribed deadlines, and role-playing as Arab diplomats in a simulated introduction to Arab challenges

A *fourth* National Council program is designed to contribute positively to national public and private sector conversations about American policies, positions, attitudes, and actions toward 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,

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.



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 eight years, the Council has achieved this, in part, through the *Council Chronicle*, which appears four times a year, through an *Annual Review*, and through its ongoing close relationship with the publications of the Saudi-U.S. Relations Information Service (SUSRIS), which was founded at the Council. 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, Dr. Imad Harb, and other specialists. Visit the blog at: ncusar.org/blog. In 2016, the National Council will be introducing a new publication, an online article series entitled *National Council Analyses and Assessments*, which will regularly feature an article on an aspect of U.S.-Arab relations or the Arab world. The series will deliver unique analyses and views on contemporary affairs and policies, and will also seek to provide a forum for pieces on broader issues such as women's rights, climate change, and economic reform.

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 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.

A **ninth** National Council activity is its President and CEO's serving as chair of the *North American Bridge Network*. Established in April 2015 by HRH Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal and comprised of six American non-profit educational and



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

social activism organizations, the network endeavors to fulfill the programmatic activities supported by Alwaleed Philanthropies. The goal of these activities is to strengthen the leadership of young professionals, encourage intercultural dialogue, combat ignorance, conduct objective empirical research, and establish a deeper understanding of the perspective of others around the world on important sociopolitical issues.

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 these are exchanges and the development of Arab-U.S. relations skills among current and emerging American and Arab leaders.

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 multifaceted and innumerable benefits that the United States and the American people have

The National Council 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.

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



The National Council’s Model Arab League Student Leadership Development Program helps prepare students to be knowledgeable, well-trained, and effective citizens as well as civic and public affairs leaders.

for national, state, and local grassroots educational organizations, media, and public policy research institutes in addition to select community civic, business, and professional associations.

National Council's Malone Fellowship in Arab and Islamic Studies Program Annual Cultural Immersion Visit to Oman

In February, a delegation of U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) officers, National Council Malone Fellows in Arab and Islamic Studies, and other American foreign affairs specialists participated in the Council's 19th Annual Cultural Immersion Program in Oman. The delegation was led by National Council Founding President & CEO Dr. John Duke Anthony, Council Board Member John Pratt, and staff member Josh Hilbrand.

Since its inception in 1996, this particular National Council program has been and remains one of a kind. Many of the Council's programs in other Arab countries examine policymaking issues and topics related to economic and social development. The Council's programs in Oman for the past 19 years, however, have been and remain different. They are designed to provide hard-to-come-by information and empirical insight into not just these kinds of issues but



Malone Fellows explored the vibrant market in Sinaw, in the eastern region of Oman, where they walked among and communed with men and women in their traditional dress, perused the locally produced handicrafts in gold and silver, and observed the brisk sales in fish, goats, and household wares.

also, and especially, into Oman’s cultural and anthropological themes.

The program unfolds primarily in *half a dozen different regions outside the Sultanate’s capital of Muscat*. It does so in order to allow delegation members to experience the dynamics of what is not only one of the Arab world’s most demographically, geographically, economically, and socially diverse countries. It does so also because of Oman’s position adjacent to the Hormuz Strait, arguably the most strategically vital waterway on earth, through which one fifth of the world’s globally traded oil transits daily. The program provides context, background, and perspective related to a broad range of dynamics that influence Oman’s national development processes as well as its domestic priorities, international relations, and foreign policy objectives.

Before their departure for Oman, the Fellows participated in a two-day orientation program. Featured were (1) Dr. John Duke Anthony; (2) Ambassador Richard Schmierer, former U.S. Ambassador to the Sultanate of Oman and member of the Board of Directors of the Middle East Policy Council and the Public Diplomacy Council; (3) Dr. Herman Franssen, President of International Energy Associates, Senior Associate at the Center for Strategic and International Studies Energy and National Security Program, and former Senior Advisor to the Ministry of Petroleum and Minerals, Sultanate of Oman; (4) Col. Louis Dupuis, Gulf Cooperation Division Chief, and Richard W. Jackson, Staff Member in the Arabian Peninsula and Iraq Division in the Strategic Plans and Policy Directorate (J-5) on the Joint Staff; (5) Dr. Imad Harb, Distinguished International Affairs Fellow at the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations; (6) Professor



The National Council’s Malone Fellow delegation explored half a dozen regions in the Sultanate’s interior outside the capital of Muscat. In doing so, the delegation experienced firsthand the dynamics of one of the Arab world’s most demographically, geographically, economically, and socially diverse countries.

Linda Pappas Funsch, Professor at Hood College and Frederick Community College and National Council Malone Fellow to Oman and Morocco; and (7) Professor David Des Roches, Associate Professor and Senior Military Fellow, Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies, National Defense University, U.S. Department of Defense.

Upon arrival in Oman, the delegation members participated in meetings and briefings by officials at the U.S. Embassy and Omani government ministries. They visited Bait Al Zubair, one of Oman's world class cultural and historical museums in Muttrah, the commercial center of the capital territory. In addition, the Fellows spent time along the country's coasts, crisscrossing its numerous mountains and wadis, as well as camping under a moonlit and star-

strewn sky in a desert outpost situated in Oman's vast Sharqiyah (Eastern) Sands, where they were hosted by members of the Al-Harthy, the region's most prominent tribe.

Further into the interior, the Fellows visited remote villages, hilltop hamlets, and little known fruit and vegetable gardens tucked beneath groves of trees clinging to hillsides. In so doing, the participants were able to observe the country's fisher folk, boat builders, weavers, potters, the faithful at prayer, women at work and at leisure, and school children at study and at play.

The Fellows also visited Salalah, the second largest city in Oman, capital of Dhofar Province, birthplace of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Said,



Fifteenth-century Fort Mirani in Muscat.



Malone Fellows explored the dunes of the Sharqiyyah Sands, an eastern extension of the Rub' Al-Khali (The Empty Quarter), the world's largest desert.

and site of the tomb of the Biblical prophet Job. In addition, in Jabrin and Nizwa, the Fellows made their way on foot through the architectural mazes and defense mechanisms of two of the country's centuries-old forts.

Through mountains, deserts, wadis, and sea, the experience unfolded along the shores and inland reaches of the Indian Ocean, the Gulf of Oman, the Arabian Sea, and other storied places. All this transpired with Dr. Anthony and alongside an extraordinary Omani guide, Badar al-Yazeedi, who personified Oman's long history of residence and interaction within Arabia, the Gulf, and the Indian Ocean as well as Central and East Africa.

Applications for individuals participating in the National Council's February-March 2016 Program have been accepted and the participants have been selected.



A sixteenth-century Portuguese cannon looks out from the Nizwa Fort. Nizwa is an historical center of scholarly learning and traditional education that has long been closely linked to Ibadi Muslim communities in Algeria, Libya, East Africa, and elsewhere.

National Council Public Affairs Briefings

Yemen in Chaos: Analysis, Prognosis, and Prospects

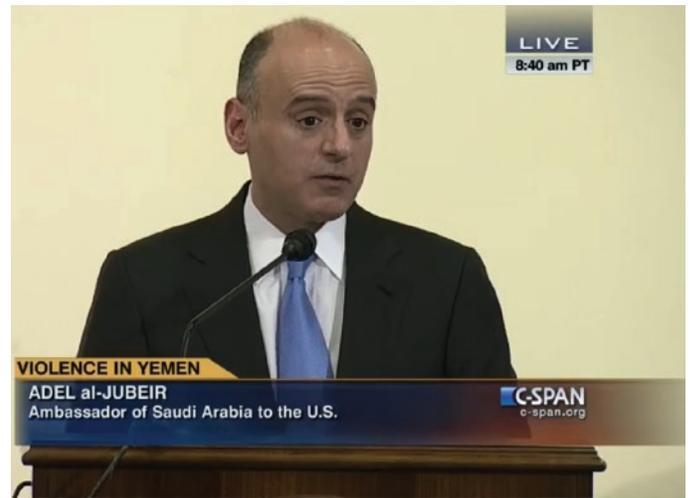
April 2, 2015

Context Provider and Moderator:

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

Participating Specialists:

- **H.E. Adel A. Al-Jubeir**, Ambassador of Saudi Arabia to the United States
- **Mr. Jeremy M. Sharp**, Specialist in Middle East Affairs, Congressional Research Service; Author, CRS Report “Yemen: Background and U.S. Relations”
- **Mr. Abbas Almosawa**, Yemeni Journalist and Analyst; former Media and Information Advisor, Embassy of the Republic of Yemen in Abu Dhabi and Beirut
- **Professor David Des Roches**, Senior Military Fellow, Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies, National Defense University; Malone Fellow in Arab and Islamic Studies (Syria), National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations



- **Ms. Sama'a Al-Hamdani**, Analyst and Writer, *Yemeniaty*; former Assistant Political Officer, Embassy of the Republic of Yemen in Washington, DC



Assessing the Iran Nuclear Deal: Issues and Implications

April 8, 2015

Context Provider and Moderator:

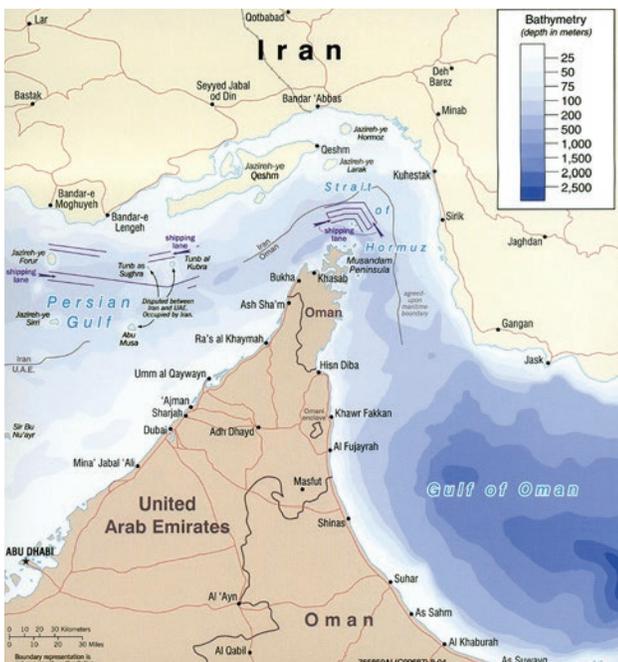
- **Mr. John Pratt**, Member, Board of Directors, and Distinguished International Affairs Fellow, National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations

Participating Specialists:

- **Dr. John Duke Anthony**, Founding President & CEO, National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations
- **H.E. Ambassador Seyed Hossein Mousavian**, Associate Research Scholar, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University and former Spokesman for Iran in nuclear negotiations with the European Union
- **Dr. Thomas Mattair**, Executive Director, Middle East Policy Council
- **Dr. Kenneth Katzman**, Specialist in Middle East Affairs in the Foreign Affairs, Defense, and Trade Division, Congressional Research Service
- **Dr. Imad Harb**, Distinguished International Affairs Fellow, National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations
- **Dr. Paul Sullivan**, Senior International Affairs Fellow, National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations



Dr. John Duke Anthony



After a Nuclear Agreement: Whither Arab-Iranian and U.S.-GCC Relations?

May 12, 2015

Context Provider and Moderator:

- **Mr. John Pratt**, Member, Board of Directors, and Distinguished International Affairs Fellow, National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations

Participating Specialists:

- **Dr. John Duke Anthony**, Founding President and CEO, National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations
- **Dr. Christian Koch**, Director, Gulf Research Center Foundation (Geneva, Switzerland)
- **Dr. Sara Vakhshouri**, President, SVB Energy International
- **Dr. Thomas Mattair**, Executive Director, Middle East Policy Council
- **Dr. Alidad Mafinezam**, President, West Asia Council
- **Dr. Imad Harb**, Distinguished International Affairs Fellow, National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations



Dr. Christian Koch



Dr. Thomas Mattair



Dr. John Duke Anthony

Leadership Changes in Saudi Arabia: What Implications for the Kingdom, the Region, and the U.S.?

May 22, 2015

Context Provider and Moderator:

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

Featured Specialist:

- **Dr. Nawaf Obaid**, Visiting Fellow, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard University; Lecturer, London Academy of Diplomacy, Stirling University; Senior Fellow, King Faisal Center for Research and Islamic Studies



Dr. Nawaf Obaid

Yemen in Crisis: What Next?

June 29, 2015

Context Provider and Moderator:

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

Participating Specialists:

- **Dr. Noel Brehony**, Chair, Menas Associates; Former Chair, British Yemeni Society; Author, *Yemen Divided: The Story of a Failed State in South Arabia*
- **Ms. Sama'a Al-Hamdani**, Analyst and Writer, *Yemeniaty*; former Assistant Political Officer, Embassy of the Republic of Yemen in Washington, DC
- **Mr. Peter Salisbury**, Journalist and Analyst, *Financial Times*, *The Economist*, *Vice News*, and other publications; former Consultant, Chatham House Yemen Forum



A Conversation with Gulf Cooperation Council Secretary General H.E. Dr. Abdul Latif Al Zayani

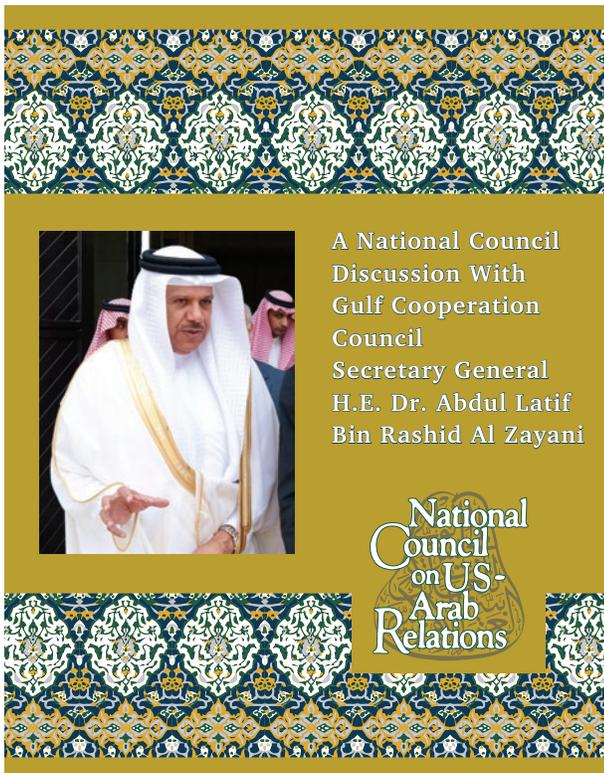
September 18, 2015

Context Provider and Moderator:

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

Featured Specialist:

- **H.E. Dr. Abdul Latif Al Zayani**, Secretary General, Gulf Cooperation Council



The National Council published a summary of GCC Secretary General Al Zayani's analyses and assessments from this special briefing, which is [available on the Council's website](#).

Analyzing and Assessing Saudi Arabian Defense Strategy

October 6, 2015

Context Provider and Moderator:

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

Featured Specialist:

- **HRH Navy Captain (Ret.) Prince Sultan Bin Khalid Al-Faisal Al Sa'ud**, President, Al Joshan Security Services; Former Commander, Royal Saudi Naval Forces (RSNF) Counter-Insurgency Special Operations Task Force; Designer and Inaugural Commandant, RSNF Special Forces Training Center



HRH Navy Captain (Ret.)
Prince Sultan Bin Khalid Al-Faisal Al Sa'ud

Oman Reborn: Balancing Tradition and Modernization Book Discussion

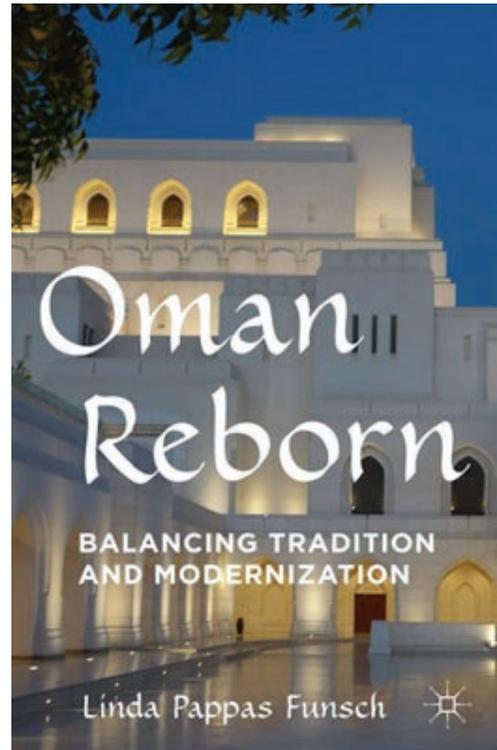
December 8, 2015

Context Provider and Moderator:

- **Ms. Randa Fahmy**, Treasurer and Board Member, National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations

Featured Specialist:

- **Ms. Linda Pappas Funsch**, Author, *Oman Reborn: Balancing Tradition and Modernization*; Malone Fellow to Oman and Morocco, National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations



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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
Washington, DC 20036

Suggested Bequest Language:

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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ncusar.org

National Council Leadership, Management, & Staff

National Council Founding President & Chief Executive Officer

Dr. John Duke Anthony; see next page;

National Council Leadership, Management, and Staff

Founding President and Chief Executive Officer -- Dr. John Duke Anthony; see next page;

Director of Research & Publications -- Ms. Mimi Kirk; also: former Research Director, Middle East Institute (Washington, DC); Editor, Middle East Institute (National University of Singapore); and Editor, Center for Contemporary Arab Studies (Georgetown University);

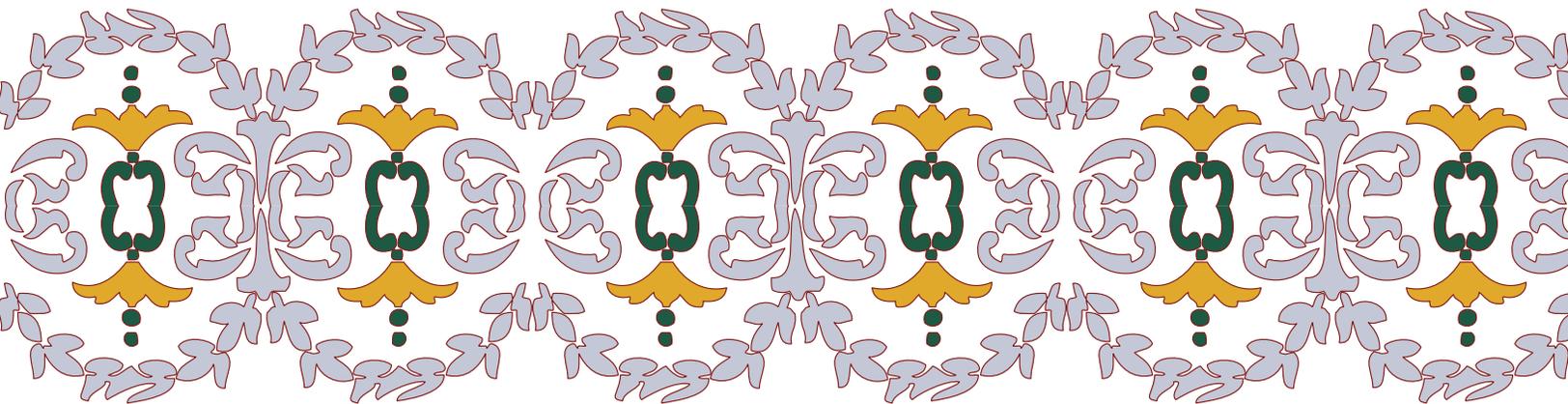
Student Programs Associate -- Ms. Melanie Waddell; also: Alumna, Model Arab League Program; and

Executive Vice President and Director of Development -- Mr. Patrick A. Mancino; also: former Assistant to the President and Director of Development, American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee; and former Legislative Assistant, House of Representatives, United States Congress;

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

Director of Student Programs -- Ms. Kaylee Boalt; also: Alumna, Model Arab League Program;

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



National Council Board of Directors

Chairman -- Mr. David Bosch; also: former Director, Washington Office, Aramco Services Company; former Vice Chairman, American Business Council of the Gulf Countries; former President, American Business Council in the Eastern Province, Saudi Arabia; and former Board Member of the Middle East Institute, the World Affairs Council of Washington, DC, the Textile Museum of Washington, and Georgetown University's Center for Contemporary Arab Studies;

Founding President and Chief Executive Officer -- Dr. John Duke Anthony; also: Knighted by Moroccan King Muhammad VI with the Order of Ouissam 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;

Treasurer -- Ms. Randa Fahmy; also: President, Fahmy Hudome International; General Counsel for the American Egyptian Strategic Alliance; former Associate Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy; and former Congressional staff member responsible for dealing with policy pertaining to foreign affairs and international energy issues;

Vice Treasurer -- Ms. Elizabeth Wossen; also: Principal, Energy Links Group, LLC; Senior Advisor, Global Business Forum; and former Coordinator, Congressional and Government Relations, Kuwait Petroleum Corporation, USA;

Dr. Mario A. Pascale; also: former member, Board of Trustees, World Learning, Inc.; founding Director, National Council California Committee on U.S.-Arab Relations; Delegation Leader for National Council professorial and student delegates to Bahrain, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, and Yemen; and recipient of the National Council's first *Distinguished Achievement Award* and the Council's *Distinguished Public Service Award*;

Ms. Paige Peterson; also: Senior Vice President, Huntsman Cancer Foundation;

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;

Mr. H. Delano Roosevelt; also: Director of New Business Development, Reza Investment Group; and Chairman, Middle East Council of 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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