“Every day, I see firsthand what the National Council is doing to improve relations between Americans and Arabs. Through the program and the events it sponsors and encourages I have become more inspired to help realize that mission. It isn’t just something I study anymore, it’s something I do, and it’s something I’d like to continue doing.”

— Glen Sandberg, Grand Valley State University (Michigan)
“The National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations is responsible for where I am today -- it was my National Council scholarship to study in the region that not only caused me to fall in love with the Arab world, but also introduced me to the Foreign Service, thanks to an event at the American Ambassador’s house on the 4th of July. As the Ambassador talked to us about his career, I thought to myself, "People get PAID to do that?!?"

After college and an internship with the National Council, I joined the Foreign Service at twenty-three determined to specialize in the Arab world, and that is precisely what I have done. I’ve now been in the Foreign Service for well over a decade, and I still wake up every morning thinking, "People get PAID to do this?!?"

Foreign Service Officer, U.S. Department of State

Dear Friends of the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations:

The words above were written only a few weeks ago, though they relate to a student’s experiences with the National Council – traveling in the Middle East as a student and working in the Washington office as an intern – more than two decades ago. These recollections of the importance of the National Council programs in shaping the transformation of a young person from an enthralled high school student traveler, to an engaged learner at university seriously encountering the history, culture, and language of the Arab world, into a perceptive, responsible, experienced foreign affairs professional are gratifying. But, these same words also constitute a challenge: is the metamorphosis of one young person described here a unique occurrence, or can the National Council offer similar challenging and transformative experiences to succeeding generations of students and emerging leaders?

I am pleased to share with you this record of the activities of our Summer 2008 interns. Participation in the National Council’s summer internship program is competitive and highly selective. Each intern worked full-time in an organization whose focus was United States foreign policy and whose concerns dealt frequently with the Arab-U.S. relations. In addition, the interns met in academic seminars two evenings a week and met on-site with foreign affairs professionals, who modeled a wide-variety of possible career directions, on a weekly basis. This document is a record of those activities.

The National Council describes its mission as educational outreach, and leadership development is a large part of that agenda. Here you will meet an exceptional group of young people whose college studies, international interests, and personal experience brought them to a point where they were willing to devote a summer to working and studying in Washington, D.C. in order to better understand the complexities and the nuances of U.S.-Arab relations. These pages tell the story of their experience, demonstrate evidence of their growth, and offer proof that such internship experiences can and do change lives.

You’ll find the reflections of this summer’s interns throughout this document. I will let those words attest to the power and the impact of this experience on their intellectual and professional lives.

[Signature]
President and CEO
National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations
Summer 2008 Interns – Seminar Schedule

“MYTH AND REALITY: DYNAMICS OF AMERICAN POLICYMAKING REGARDING ARABIA AND THE GULF”

WEEK 1 SCHEDULE

Tuesday, June 3rd – First Seminar Session – 6:00 p.m.

George Washington University
Elliot School of International Affairs

Speaker:

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

Welcome

“Learning About the U.S.-Arab Relationship: Categories of Analysis”

Wednesday, June 4th 1 p.m.  Briefing at the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia

“Saudi Arabia and the United States: Partners in Development”

Interns model Saudi Arabian traditional garb

* * *

Thursday, June 5th 12:30 p.m.

Representatives Tom Davis and Jim Moran  Ambassador Ford Fraker

Congressional Briefing on Sovereign Wealth Funds
Rayburn House Office Building
**Thursday, June 5th 6:00- 7:30 p.m.**

Speaker: **Dr. Peter Bechtold,**  
Ph.D. (double), MA Princeton University  
Chairman *emeritus*, Near East and North African Studies,  
Foreign Service Institute, U.S. Department of State  

“Understanding the Arab World and the Middle East: Myth and Reality”  
George Washington University  
Elliot School of International Affairs

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**WEEK 2 SCHEDULE**

**Tuesday, June 10th – Third Seminar Session – 6:00 7:30 p.m.**  
George Washington University, Elliot School of International Affairs

“Understanding the Arab World and the Middle East: Old Realities, New Myths”  
**Dr. Peter Bechtold**

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**Wednesday, June 11th  11:00 a.m.**

Speaker: **David Bosch,** Director, Washington Office, ARAMCO Services Company  

“Saudi Arabia and International Energy: A Personal Perspective”  
Briefing at ARAMCO Services Company
Thursday, June 12th 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Speaker: Dr. Peter Bechtold  
“U.S. Foreign Policy Toward the Middle East: From GW to GW”

George Washington University  
Elliot School of International Affairs

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WEEK 3 SCHEDULE

Monday, June 16th – 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m

Meeting With Members of Saudi Arabia’s Majlis Asura

Center: Dr. Bandar Al-Aiban, Saudi Delegation Head  
Dr. John Duke Anthony, President & CEO, National Council  
Background: Interns – Thomas Eager, Glen Sandberg, Raneen Hassuna

Wilkie Farr & Gallagher LLP  
Conference Room
“I’ve learned much more about the Middle East, from large, schematic geopolitical contexts to focused, in-depth area studies. My experiences, great and small, have helped me to gain a better understanding of both the material I’ve encountered - which ranges from energy alternatives in America to Israeli settlements in the West Bank – and my position within the world(s) in which these concerns are generated, processed, and energized. The sheer political power and real world experience of some of the people I’ve met this summer have forced me to look within myself and ask questions I didn’t think I wanted, or needed, to ask.

Ahson Azmat, Princeton University

“I knew from the first time I heard about the program that it was a rare opportunity to get a foot in the door with many organizations and agencies in Washington, D.C. The variety of speakers and events we have been able to attend has been extraordinary. I have no doubt that the reputation of the National Council and the contacts that they have with many Middle East-focused organizations paved the way for my placement in the Fulbright Foreign Student Program department at AMIDEAST. The opportunity to work in my chosen field of international education, with a focus in my personal area of interest – the Middle East – was very special.

Erin Berg, Grand Valley State University (Michigan)

"The Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf Countries: Prisms for Perspective"
“Representing ConocoPhillips: From the Arab World to Inside the Beltway”
M. Kay Larcom, Manager, Federal and International Affairs ConocoPhillips Company

“Arab Regional Organizations: Context, Background, Perspective”
Dr. John Duke Anthony, President and CEO, National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations
"The evening lectures, especially those given by Dr. John Duke Anthony and Dr. Peter Bechtold, have been especially enlightening. Unlike classes I have taken in the past about the region, Dr. Anthony and Dr. Bechtold enabled me to look at the Middle East through a series of different, nontraditional lenses. Their emphasis on examining Arab issues from a wide variety of perspectives will prove very useful to me as I return for my senior year and look ahead to future work at graduate school and/or in the Middle East."

— Thomas Eager, Tufts University
Week 4 Schedule – June 23-27, 2008

Tuesday, June 24 – 6:00-7:30 p.m.  Elliot School of International Affairs

“Afghanistan: Crossroads of Conflict, Intersection of Cultures”

Speaker:
Dr. Max Gross

Max L. Gross retired from the federal government in December 2005. Prior to his retirement, he was for eleven years Dean of the School of Intelligence Studies at the National Defense Intelligence College. Before that, he was Professor of Intelligence (Middle East) at the same institution. He also served as an Intelligence Research Specialist in the Middle East Branch of DIA’s Directorate of Research. Dr. Gross served as a military intelligence officer in the United States Air Force, with three consecutive overseas assignments in Turkey, West Germany and South Vietnam.

* * *

Wednesday, June 25 – 1:00-2:30 p.m.  National Gallery of Art

AFGHANISTAN

Hidden Treasures from the National Museum, Kabul

May 25–September 7, 2008

Dr. Russell Sale, National Gallery Educational Staff – Guided Tour

Some 228 extraordinary artifacts unearthed in modern Afghanistan—most on view for the first time in the United States—attest to the region’s importance as a vital and ancient crossroads of trade routes known as the Silk Road, which stretched from Asia to the Mediterranean. Many of the objects were long thought to have been stolen or destroyed during some 25 years of conflict until they were dramatically recovered from a vault under Afghanistan’s Presidential Palace in 2004.

* * *
Thursday, June 26 – 6:00-7:30 p.m. Middle East Institute Courtyard

Evening Book Launch and Signing

Speaker: Richard Clarke, Your Government Failed You: Breaking the Cycle of National Security Disasters

Richard Clarke, the former counterterrorism czar for both Bill Clinton and George W. Bush, is the one person who knows more about Usama bin Laden and al Qaeda than anyone else in this country. He has devoted two decades of his professional life to combating terrorism. Richard Clarke served seven presidents and worked inside the White House for George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton, and George W. Bush until he resigned in March 2003.

Clarke's first book, the number one bestseller Against All Enemies: Inside America's War on Terror, explained how the United States had stumbled into a struggle with violent Islamist extremists. Now, in Your Government Failed You, Clarke looks at why these unconscionable failures have continued and how America and the world can succeed against the terrorists. Yet Clarke also goes far beyond terrorism, to examine an inexcusable chain of recurring U.S. government disasters. Despite the lessons of Vietnam, there is Iraq. A trail of intelligence failures litters the Washington landscape.

“This book is my attempt to understand what happened after 9/11 and answer the larger question of why the U.S. government, despite all of its resources, performs so poorly at national security. The problems lie in how we as a nation have decided to conduct the process of national security, from problem identification and analysis, through policy development and implementation, to oversight and accountability. We have allowed the role of partisan politics to expand and that of professional public sector management to atrophy. As a result, we repeatedly misdiagnose the problems we face and prescribe the wrong cures.”

"From lectures by leading experts to one-of-a-kind museum visits and embassy tours, we were constantly provided experiences that are only possible in Washington, DC. I was very satisfied with my internship placement, and the robust programming scheduled by the National Council ensured that our learning opportunities were never limited to ‘nine to five.’"

— Brad Bosserman, Aquinas College (Michigan)
Week 5 Schedule – June 30-July 4, 2008

Tuesday, July 1 – 6:00-7:30 p.m. Elliot School of International Affairs

Speaker: Dr. John Duke Anthony

“Yemen: Domestic Dynamics, International Positions and Roles”

Please read the following background pieces on Yemen:
- www.yemenembassy.org [See especially the “Issues of Interest” section.]
- www.state.gov [See “Country Background Notes” on Yemen]

Wednesday, July 2 - 12:15 p.m. Lunch and briefing at Embassy of Qatar

Please read the following background pieces on Qatar:
- www.qatarembassy.net [See menu at left-hand side of home page.]
- www.state.gov [See “Country Background Notes” on Qatar.]

Map: on- and off-shore oil and natural gas fields as well as pipelines located in Qatar’s Exclusive Economic Zone [EEZ].
Thursday, July 3 – 1:00-2:30 p.m.  Museum Tour - Sackler and Freer Galleries  Smithsonian Museum

“Arts of the Islamic World” Tour

"Arts of the Islamic world" or "Islamic art" are relatively recent terms coined in reference to the different artistic traditions that have flourished since the advent of Islam in the seventh century over a vast geographic area extending from Morocco and Spain to the islands of Southeast Asia. As heirs to the rich visual cultures of the Byzantine empire of the eastern Mediterranean world (342–1453) and the Sasanian Empire of Iran (ca. 224–651), the arts emerged as a powerful, creative force in Islamic communities, capable of highlighting secular and religious objectives as well as human impulses.

Calligraphy, or beautiful writing, is the most revered form of artistic expression in the Islamic world, for it was through the act of writing that the Koran, the word of God revealed in a series of revelations to the Prophet Muhammad, was recorded and given visual form. Consequently, the Arabic script was continuously refined and imaginatively embellished to become the most recognizable and ubiquitous symbol of Islam.

Contrary to the assumption that the Koran prohibits figurative representation, it only warns against the creation and worship of idols to prevent idolatry. Fueled by more orthodox interpretations of Islam, however, religious disapproval of figural representation took hold shortly after the Prophet’s death in 632. In general, Korans, religious structures, and the furnishings for these spaces are devoid of figural imagery and adorned primarily with abstract motifs and calligraphy. In part, the religious prohibitions encouraged the development of a distinct abstract decorative language that became another principle feature of the arts of the Islamic world.

The National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations arranged so many events for us, giving us access to places in D.C. – such as foreign embassies and Congressional hearings – that might otherwise been unavailable to us. I believe that the National Council’s programming enriched my experience in D.C. in a way that wouldn’t have been possible had I simply found an internship independently.

Veronica Corsaro, New York University
**Week 6 Schedule – July 7-11, 2008**

*Monday, July 7 – 6:00-7:30 p.m.*

Elliot School of International Affairs

Speaker: **Dr. Peter Bechtold, “Understanding Islam”**

This session is **REQUIRED** of all interns in preparation for our visit to the Islamic Center on Wednesday, July 9th.

* * *

*Tuesday, July 8 - 5:00 Reception, 5:30-7:00 p.m. Keynote Speech and Roundtable Discussion*

Center for Strategic and International Studies,

**“A New Vision for America’s Future: Young Leaders Shaping an International Future”**

![Image](https://example.com/nextamerica.png)

Speaker: **General (ret.) Colin L. Powell, 65th United States Secretary of State**

Colin L. Powell was nominated by President Bush on December 16, 2000 as Secretary of State. After being unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate, he was sworn in as the 65th Secretary of State on January 20, 2001.

Prior to his appointment, Secretary Powell was the chairman of America’s Promise - The Alliance for Youth, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to mobilizing people from every sector of American life to build the character and competence of young people.
Secretary Powell was a professional soldier for 35 years, during which time he held myriad command and staff positions and rose to the rank of Four-Star General. His last assignment, from October 1, 1989 to September 30, 1993, was as the 12th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the highest military position in the Department of Defense. During this time, he oversaw 28 crises, including Operation Desert Storm in the victorious 1991 Persian Gulf War.

**NOTE:** We strongly encourage our interns to become directly involved in the “Next America” issue dialogue being undertaken by CSIS. The web link for this interactive dialogue on critical foreign policy issues facing the United States and any new presidential administration is included above.

* * *

**Wednesday, July 9 – 12:15**

Islamic Center of Washington, D.C.
2551 Massachusetts Avenue, NW

We will meet with religious leaders of the Islamic Center and will stay for the mid-day prayer scheduled for 1:14 p.m. on this date.

"I always viewed Arab civilization with an open mind, yet I did not know, nor could I fully appreciate, the nuances of an Islamic culture. This internship experience, especially the visit to the Islamic Center and mosque, has greatly impacted my view of Islam. I did not fully appreciate the ways in which faith traditions, cultures, politics, economics, and the need for security interact in people’s – and policymakers’ – lives. Deeper understanding of the differences and similarities between faith traditions is vital if relations are ever to be peaceful. I now view U.S.-Arab relations in a different light."

Nicoletta Barbera, St. Mary's College (Maryland)
Thursday, July 10 – 6:00-7:30 p.m. Elliot School of International Affairs

The American Academy of Diplomacy
Strengthening American Diplomacy

Speaker:
Ambassador Ronald Neumann - “Reflections on Diplomacy in Afghanistan”

Ambassador Neumann (“New-man”) is retired from the Foreign Service and is now President of the American Academy of Diplomacy. He previously served as Ambassador to Afghanistan, as did his father before him, Bahrain, and Algeria. Ambassador Neumann will make introductory remarks and then open the discussions to questions regarding his career in the Foreign Service, his experiences as an ambassador and on the staff of the CPA-Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq under Ambassadors Bremer and Negroponte, as well as the work of the American Academy.

Week 7 Schedule – July 14-18, 2008

Tuesday, July 15 – 6:00-7:30 p.m. Elliot School of International Affairs

Speaker: Dr. John Duke Anthony

“Saudi Arabia in Its Regional Setting: Convergences and Divergence”

Newly appointed CENTCOM Commander, General David Petraeus meets with HRH King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia – July 1, 2008
Wednesday, July 16 – 11:00-2:00 p.m. Cannon House Office Building

Capitol Hill briefing – Committee on Homeland Security

11:00 a.m. – Attend Sub-Committee Hearing
12:00 Noon (approximately) – Meet with senior committee staffers from both sides of the aisle
1:00 p.m. – Tour of the Capitol Building

“I entered the program with little certainty as to where the field of Middle East Studies might take me. After listening to Richard Clarke discuss the need for a stronger intelligence branch, hearing Ambassador Neumann’s insistence on a greater joint effort between the political, military, and intelligence communities, and an enlightening visit to Capitol Hill for a briefing with staff members from both sides of the aisle supporting the work of the Committee on Homeland Security, I am now certain that I would like to work for the federal government in some capacity.”

— Clifton Martin, College of William and Mary

“I loved this program because it educated me and at the same time it gave me an idea of how people in my field put their education to good use. I have now heard from dozens of professionals who share the same passion, but who have chosen very different paths. To me, that is fascinating and inspiring.”

Alice Cassin, Princeton University
Thursday, July 17 – 6:00-7:30 p.m.  Elliot School of International Affairs

“Saudi Arabia’s Domestic Dynamics: Elites, Interest Groups, and National Development Processes”
Dr. John Duke Anthony

Week 8 Schedule – July 21-25, 2008

Tuesday, July 22 – 6:00-7:30 p.m.  Elliot School of International Affairs

Speaker:
Dr. John Duke Anthony

“Arab Experiments in Regional Political Integration: The United Arab Emirates in Context and Perspective”
“The Sultanate of Oman: A Study in the Dynamics of Culture, History, and Matters of Faith and Spiritual Devotion”

Wednesday, July 23 - 2:30 p.m.  Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco

HOSTED BY: Ms. Aicha Afifi, Minister Counselor and Deputy Chief of Mission
“A History of Relations Between the United States and Morocco”

To learn more about Morocco and its foreign policy in advance of your visit see:
http://www.dcusa.themoroccanembassy.com/
Thursday, July 24 – 6:00-7:30p.m.  
Elliot School of International Affairs

Speaker: 
Dr. Peter Bechtold – “Sudan: Putting Darfur in Context”

Please read: 
International Criminal Court Prepares to Indict Sudanese Leader 
http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/07/10/AR2008071003109.html?wpisrc=newsletter

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Week 9 Schedule – July 28-August 1, 2008

Monday, July 28 - 12:30-2:30 p.m.

LEBANESE TAVERNA
Good Food Enjoyed in Good Company

An intern gathering for an end of program luncheon!!

“I know that I want to make sure that I am doing something that increases the public’s and the policymakers’ understanding of the region and the complexity of the issues. Regardless of where I end up working, I want to decrease the amount of misinformation about the Arab world that prevails in the United States today.”

Jesse Ward, University of Miami (Florida)
Tuesday, July 29 – 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Elliot School of International Affairs

Speaker:
Edward W. Gnehm, Jr.
Kuwait Professor of Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Affairs

Ambassador Gnehm was born on November 10, 1944 in Carrollton, Georgia. He attended The George Washington University, graduating with a B.A. in International Affairs in 1966 and a M.A. in 1968. From 1966-1967, he attended The American University in Cairo, Egypt, under a post-graduate Rotary International Fellowship. Subsequent to university, Ambassador Gnehm worked for the United States Navy.

Ambassador Gnehm joined the faculty of the Elliott School of International Affairs at The George Washington University in August 2004 as the J.B. and Maurice C. Shapiro Visiting Professor of International Affairs. He was appointed to his present position as Kuwait Professor of Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Affairs in August 2006. Prior to coming to the Elliott School, Ambassador Gnehm had a distinguished 36-year career in the United States Foreign Service. He was a member of the Senior Foreign Service and held the rank of Career Minister.

- 2001-2004, U.S. Ambassador to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
- 2000-2001, U.S. Ambassador to Australia
- 1997-2000, Director General of the Foreign Service and Director of Personnel for the Department of State
- 1989-1990, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of New East and South Asian Affairs
- 1987-1989, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for the Near East and South Asia

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Wednesday, July 30 – 12:00-1:30 p.m.
Elliot School of International Affairs

Speaker:
Mr. Jameel Aalim-Johnson,
Associate Vice-President of Government Relations NASDAQ Stock Market, Inc.
[Formerly Chief of Staff for Congressman Gregory W. Meeks [D-NY], House Foreign Affairs Committee]

"International Relations in the Private Sector"
Daniel Levy

Senior Fellow; Director, Middle East Policy Initiative – The New America Foundation
Senior Fellow; Director of Prospects for Peace Initiative – The Century Foundation

Daniel Levy is a Senior Fellow and Director of the Middle East Initiative at the New America Foundation and a Senior Fellow and Director of the Prospects for Peace Initiative at The Century Foundation. During the Barak Government, Levy worked in the Israeli Prime Minister's Office as special adviser and head of Jerusalem Affairs, following which he worked as senior policy adviser to then Israeli Minister of Justice, Yossi Beilin. In this capacity he was responsible for coordinating policy on various issues including peace negotiations, civil and human rights, and the Palestinian minority in Israel. Levy was a member of the official Israeli delegation to the Taba negotiations with the Palestinians in January 2001, and previously served on the Israeli negotiating team to the "Oslo B" Agreement from May to September 1995, under Prime Minister Rabin. He also served as the lead Israeli drafter of the Geneva Initiative, a joint Israeli-Palestinian effort that suggests a detailed model for a peace agreement to end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. From 2003 to 2004, he worked as an analyst for the International Crisis Group Middle East Program.

Daniel Levy received a Bachelors and Masters with Honors from King’s College, Cambridge; he was awarded prizes in Social and Political Science. He left the UK for Israel in 1991 when elected Chair of the World Union of Jewish Students in Jerusalem, a position he served from 1991 to 1994, after which he was Projects Director for the Economic Co-operation Foundation, a policy planning think-tank in Tel Aviv. He has published extensively in a broad range of publications including The International Herald Tribune, Ha'aretz, The Jerusalem Post, The Boston Globe, United Press International, The American Prospect, and The Washington Monthly.

Daniel Levy was a founder of the Israel-Palestinian Peace Coalition and is on the Advisory Board of the recently established J Street organization and of the global campaigning group, Avaaz. His blog is www.prospectsforpeace.com and he posts regularly at TPM Café, the Huffington Post, and the Guardian Unlimited.
**Week 10 Schedule – August 4-8, 2008**

**Tuesday, August 5 – 6:00-7:30 p.m.** Elliot School of International Affairs

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**APSIA**

Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs

www.apsia.org

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www.idealista.org

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“Life After Washington Internships, or Now What Do I Do? – Careers, Graduate School, Voluntary Service”

Panel Presentation:

- Dr. James Winship  
  Vice-President, Programs  
  National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations

- Ms. Jenna Beveridge  
  Academic Programs Coordinator  
  Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, Georgetown University

- Ms. Bonnie Wilson  
  Associate Dean for Student Affairs  
  Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University

- Mr. Jason Richards  
  MA Candidate and Graduate Admissions Counselor  
  Elliot School of International Affairs, George Washington University

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"The internship at the National Council has cemented my interest in international relations with the Middle East and introduced me to the unbelievable number of opportunities and career paths open to me within this field. I had no idea so many organizations and different jobs existed, but through going to different programs and working with the database at the Women’s Foreign Policy Group, I have been exposed to a remarkable range of opportunities."

— Andrea Gordon, Boston College

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“As part of the National Council’s internship program, I’ve gained knowledge of the Near East, North Africa, and the Gulf Arab states unprecedented in any textbook or study abroad experience. “

— Pamela El-Safy, College of St. Catherine (Minnesota)
Wednesday, August 6 - 10:00 a.m.  
Visit to the United States Department of State

The Middle East Partnership Initiative

"America will stand with the allies of freedom to support democratic movements in the Middle East and beyond ... Our aim is to build and preserve a community of free and independent nations, with governments that answer to their citizens, and reflect their own cultures. And because democracies respect their own people and their neighbors, the advance of freedom will lead to peace."

- President George W. Bush, State of the Union Speech, February 2, 2005

Meeting with:

Mr. Walter Douglas, Director of the Office of Press and Public Diplomacy for the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, U.S. Department of State

Ms. Shahira Tewfik, Public Affairs Special Assistant, Office of the Middle East Partnership Initiative

Ms. Trudie Thompson, Foreign Service Recruitment Officer.

Thursday, August 7 – 6:00-7:30 p.m.  
Elliot School of International Affairs

ATFP advocates the following six principles towards a fair and lasting solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict:

1. Two sovereign states—Israel and Palestine—living side by side in peace and security based on the borders of June 4, 1967 with mutually agreed upon territorial adjustments.

2. An end to the Israeli occupation and the evacuation of all Israeli settlements, save for equitable arrangements mutually agreed upon by the negotiating parties.

3. A just solution for the Palestinian refugee problem, in accordance with international legality and the relevant UN resolutions.

4. A shared Jerusalem open to all faiths, serving as the capital of two states, providing for the fulfillment of the political aspirations of both the Palestinian and Israeli peoples.

5. Full acceptance of Israel by all Arab states, and normalized diplomatic and economic relations throughout the region.

6. A "Marshall Plan" style package of aid and investment for Palestine and the new Middle East.
Ziad J. Asali, M.D., President

Ziad J. Asali, M.D., is the President and founder of the American Task Force on Palestine, a 501(c) 3 non-profit, non-partisan organization based in Washington, DC.

Dr. Asali has testified before the Senate on the issue of Palestinian education. He recently testified at a hearing before the full U.S. House Committee on International Relations on the topic of “The Way Forward in the Middle East Peace Process.” He served as a member of the United States official delegation to the funeral of Chairman Yasser Arafat and as a member of the United States official delegation to observe the Palestinian Presidential elections in January 2005. He also was a delegate with the National Democratic Institute (NDI) to monitor the Palestinian Legislative election in January 2006.

In August 2007 Dr. Asali traveled with Undersecretary of State Karen Hughes to Palestine as a member of the official delegation of the U.S. Department of State to monitor the launch of the Middle East Investment Initiative Program. On December 3rd, 2007 Dr. Asali was appointed one of four co-chairs of the U.S. Public-Private Partnership. This Partnership was launched by Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice to promote economic and educational opportunities for the Palestinian People with the goal of improving the Palestinian economy, building institutions and helping to educate Palestinian youth in good governance and good citizenship.

“As a Palestinian Arab, listening to American speakers addressing Middle East issues before an American audience was very new to me. I appreciated the chance I got to tell others about my experiences living in Palestine and Egypt.

“The National Council’s mission of educating Americans about the Middle East and the Arab world is clearly being fulfilled this summer. These internships represent a valuable opportunity for anyone interested in the Middle East; whether American or Arab, each gets to learn from and to teach the other.”

Yasmeen El Khoudary, American University of Cairo
The National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations expresses its appreciation to George Washington University and The Elliot School of International Affairs for making available facilities for our internship seminar meetings throughout the summer. We especially wish to thank Ambassador Edward Gnehm, Associate Dean David Allen Grier, and Mr. Jeffrey Bowen, Executive Assistant to Dean Grier.

“The camaraderie of the National Council staff and interns was a positive part of my experience. I was able to develop better interpersonal skills, improved writing skills, and a stronger sense of self. More than a year has passed since that experience, but I still think about how much I learned from my internship and keep in contact with the staff and interns who helped me grow during and after my time in Washington, D.C.”

— Robert Lyons, Augustana College (Illinois), 2007 Intern
# National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations

## 2008 Summer Internship Program

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<td>Megan Kale</td>
<td>Syracuse University</td>
<td>Education for Employment Foundation</td>
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<td>Jeffrey Katzin</td>
<td>Wesleyan University</td>
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<td>Sarah J. Mayo</td>
<td>North Dakota State University</td>
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<td>Washington Report on Middle East Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kara McKinley</td>
<td>Princeton University</td>
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<td>James Mosteller</td>
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<td>Glenn Sandberg</td>
<td>Grand Valley State University</td>
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<td>Michael Stephenson</td>
<td>Aquinas College (Michigan)</td>
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<td>Jesse Ward</td>
<td>University of Miami</td>
<td>World Affairs Councils of America</td>
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<td>Stephanie Whitlatch</td>
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The National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations extends its thanks to all the organizations listed here for providing internship opportunities and for their investment of staff time and energy in supervising the work and mentoring the career development of these students.
The 2008 Interns visit the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia.
Center: Dr. John Duke Anthony and Ambassador Ghafaar M. Allaghany, former Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations

“I had a plan. I knew where I was going. I had a plan. But I had to try one more thing: politics. Dr. Anthony allowed me to see the additional insight, complexity, and understanding that can feed analysis when you are ‘in the room.’ This is not to say that my fondness for academia has waned, but an interest in politics, and all its glorious mess, has grown up alongside; the internship program has instilled in me a certain awe at being part of the process. History, policy, and everything else that feeds academic analysis are, after all, created by those who are in the room.

And so I find myself newly intrigued by foreign policy and the Arabian Peninsula, areas that I had been neglecting, and with more potential career niches than I thought possible. I had a plan. It is with extraordinary gratitude that I thank the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations for destroying it.

Kara McKinley, Princeton University
National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations
Leadership Team

Dr. John Duke Anthony, Founder
President and Chief Executive Officer

Mr. Patrick Mancino
Vice-President and Director of Development

Dr. James Winship
Vice-President, Programs

Ms. Megan Geissler
Program Coordinator
Established in 1983, the National Council is a Washington, D.C.-based American non-profit, non-governmental organization. Its mission is educating Americans and others about America’s relationships and interests with the Arab and Islamic worlds. A fuller description of the Council’s numerous projects, programs, events, and activities can be accessed at:

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