



Bringing the World Closer

## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Greetings Council Members and Sponsors,

As we turn the final corner on your World Affairs Council's most successful year ever, I wanted to remind you of the extraordinary lineup we have to close out our season. On April 4, our final Global Issues Evening will feature **Peggy Noonan**, the insightful commentator for The Wall Street Journal and best-selling author. Then on April 13, **Oscar Munoz**, CEO of United Airlines and former CEO of CSX, will be back in Jacksonville to speak at our Global Business Luncheon. We know both of these will be total sellouts. Please also plan on attending our Annual Member Celebration at WJCT on May 16, where we will recognize our members and discuss next year's exciting speaker lineup. The year ends up at EverBank Field for a special NFL luncheon on June 6, so we have lots of education and enjoyment on tap this spring.



DAVID M. STRICKLAND

Join us, won't you?

**DAVID M. STRICKLAND**  
Chairman of the Board

## GREAT DECISIONS - THE PULSE

At the March Student Interaction with **General Philip M. Breedlove, USAF (Ret)**, we asked Great Decisions high school students for their opinion on U.S. foreign policy options and defense spending. Here are the results:

**Which of the following potential actions by the U.S. towards Russia do you favor?**



Survey size: 40 Students

## ANNUAL MEMBER CELEBRATION

**"U.S.-Russia Relations: A Unique Moment or Cold War 2.0?"**



**GENERAL F.L. HAGENBECK, USA (RET.)**  
57th Superintendent, U.S. Military Academy

**TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2017**  
**6:00 - 8:30 P.M.**  
**WJCT Studios**

Council members and sponsors enjoy a celebration of the 2016-2017 season and a "sneak peak" at 2017-2018

## GLOBAL BUSINESS LUNCHEON

**"The NFL: Across the Pond and Beyond"**



**MARK WALLER**  
Executive Vice President of International, NFL

**TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 2017**  
**NOON - 1:30 P.M.**  
**The US Assure Club East at Everbank Field**

**Sponsored by:**  
Water Street Capital, Mayo Clinic, Foley & Lardner LLP, Regency Centers, US Assure

**Media Sponsors**  
*Jacksonville Business Journal & WJCT*

Cost: \$50 (Council Members)  
\$75 (Non-Members)  
\$1,000 (Sponsored Table of 8)

**Complimentary Reservations and Seating** available for Sponsors and Ambassador's Circle Members must be secured 24 hours prior to event for up-front seating

RSVP for Council events via our calendar at [www.worldaffairscounciljax.org](http://www.worldaffairscounciljax.org) or call (904) 280-8162.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**APR. 13, 12:00 P.M.**  
Oscar Munoz  
Jacksonville University

**JUNE 6, 12:00 P.M.**  
Mark Waller  
EverBank Field

**MAY 16, 6:00 P.M.**  
Annual Member  
Celebration  
WJCT Studios

## MAGELLAN SOCIETY QUARTERLY SALOON

### "Wildlife Conservation Here and Abroad"



Jacksonville Zoo's Land of  
the Tiger Exhibit

**THURSDAY, APR. 20, 2017**  
**6:30 - 8:00 P.M.**

**Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens**  
Land of the Tiger Exhibit

#### Speakers

**DR. TERRY MAPLE**

Director of Wildlife Wellness,  
Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens

**DR. QUINCY GIBSON**

Assistant Professor of Marine Mammal  
Behavioral Ecology and Social  
Development, University of North Florida

**BRANDY CARVALHO**

Development & Sustainability Manager,  
White Oak Conservation Foundation

**DAN DEMBIEC (MODERATOR)**

Supervisor of Mammals,  
Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens

Complimentary tickets available for Council  
Magellan Society members.  
Non-member tickets available for \$15.

Secure your reservations at [www.worldaffairsCounciljax.org](http://www.worldaffairsCounciljax.org)  
or (904) 280-8162.

## EDUCATION

### Operation: "Close the Sandbox" – Students Discuss Growing Tensions in the South China Sea



Great Decisions Students Pondering U.S. Foreign  
Policy Options at the annual International Crisis  
Management Exercise

The 2017 International Crisis Management Exercise (ICME) was held on March 4 and brought together 52 students from 11 local high schools. Participants were tasked to play the part of the National Security Council (NSC) and to address rising tensions in the South China Sea.

In three concurrent sessions, **Admiral Jonathan Howe, USN (Ret.)**, **Ambassador Marilyn McAfee (Ret.)** and **Ambassador Nancy Soderberg** each served as 'U.S. President' and oversaw policy recommendations from various NSC members responding to China's continuous island building in contested waters. Recommendations ranged from a U.S. driven blockade around Chinese islands to "Close the Sandbox" to multilateral strategy and coalition building with Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia and even non-claimant states like Indonesia and Singapore.

Just as each group began to make breakthroughs regarding China's maritime disputes, college students from Flagler College and the University of North Florida, known as 'troublemakers,' surprised the NSCs with breaking news from the Baltic States: factory strikes in Russian-majority towns in Latvia had grown violent and intelligence services had discovered a command center of a Russian special operations unit within their borders.

After final strategies and recommendations were made, all three groups gathered for a special lunch debrief and presented their findings. Students were then given the chance to ask the 'Presidents' about taking steps towards a career in the government, Foreign Service or military.

ICME, which serves as the culminating experience of the Council's yearlong Great Decisions program, encourages deeper and more thoughtful exchange about democratic processes and decisions, foreign policy procedures and current issues faced by the U.S. government. It also allows students to develop their ability to think quickly and adapt to the complexity of economic, diplomatic and military relationships on an international level.

Many thanks to the 'Presidents' Marilyn, Nancy and Jon as well as the 'Heads of the Troublemakers,' Flagler's **Dr. Brenda Kauffman** and UNF's **Dr. David Schwam-Baird** and **Dr. Joshua Gellers**, who dedicated their time and expertise and made this role-play exercise come alive!

**ABBIE BERNET & ULI DECKER**