



# World Affairs Council of the Quad Cities

## World Community Institute World Affairs Council 2009-10 Visiting Fellow Lecture Series

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Dr. Klaus Hoehn

### 50 Years of John Deere in Germany: Global Business, Local Impact Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Dr. Klaus Hoehn, a German native and Vice President of Advanced Technology and Engineering at Deere & Company, will offer a local and global look at John Deere and its impact both here and in Germany. This session will feature highlights from the 50 year relationship between John Deere and its German counterparts, and will touch on the cultural issues that relate to this global business.

Hoehn is responsible for directing advanced technology development and engineering services that support worldwide agricultural, construction, and commercial and consumer equipment design and manufacturing.

### Germany: The 20 Year Anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall

Tuesday, October 20, 2009  
John Stark, American Association of  
Teachers of German

The Berlin Wall fell on November 9, 1989. Twenty years later, join us as John Stark, who has been named Outstanding German Educator by the American Association of Teachers of German, recounts the fall and where Germany has gone from there.



Photo courtesy of [www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org) 1989

More events on page 2.

## World Community Institute/World Affairs Council 2009-10 Visiting Fellow Lecture Series

### **The Role of Religions in Peace-Making**

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

#### **Panel discussion:**

- Lisa Killinger  
Muslim, World Affairs Council Quad-Cities
- Linda Golden  
Jewish, community leader
- Ron Quay, Christian  
Churches United of the Quad Cities

### **Russia: Its Culture and People**

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Anastassia Zvoryguina, Russian native

### **Rising Global Powers: The New Reality**

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

A panel of experts from The Stanley Foundation:  
Michael Kraig, Vlad Sambaiew, and David Shorr

### **The True Colombia**

Tuesday, March 23, 2010

Elsa Botero-Bolet, Colombian native

### **Afghanistan: Are We at Last on the Right Path?**

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

Dr. Thomas Goultierre, Dean of International  
Studies, University of Nebraska at Omaha

### **Canada and the United States: World's Largest Trade, Energy and Security Partnership**

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Georges Rioux, Consul General of Canada

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Free programs are at 7 p.m. on the 2nd floor  
of the Bettendorf Library.

The programs are sponsored by the World Com-  
munity Institute and the World Affairs Council  
of the Quad-Cities. The series is supported by a  
grant from Riverboat Development Authority  
and individual contributions.

For more information, call 563-355-4390 or  
309-792-3131. Visit our website at [www.wac-  
quadcities.org](http://www.wac-quadcities.org).

## Upcoming Community Events

### **VIVA Quad Cities Fiesta**

Music, food, entertainment, celebration of the  
Hispanic culture, and scholarship fund raising.

Friday, September 11 from 5-11 p.m.

Saturday, September 12 from 3-11 p.m.

Bass Street Landing,  
17th Street and River Drive, Moline, Illinois  
(next to Stoney Creek Inn)

General admission \$5, children under 12 free

### **Unity Festival 2009**

A Multicultural Celebration of All That's  
Good in the QC

September 26 and 27th

LeClaire Park in Davenport, Iowa

[www.qcunited.org](http://www.qcunited.org)

### **Mexican Independence Parade**

Sunday, September 13, 2009,

11:00-1:00 p.m.

15th Avenue, East Moline, Illinois

Please contact: Juanita Zertuche  
(309) 373-0313

[azertuche54@gmail.com](mailto:azertuche54@gmail.com)

## Iran: More Than Meets the Eye

By Niloofar Basti

Iran is one of the world's oldest continuous major civilizations covering thousands of years from Mannaeans civilization (10,000- 7,000 B.C.), Jiroft civilization (5000 B.C), Median, Achamenid, Partian, Sassanid dynasties to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

With an area almost equal to that of the United Kingdom, France, Spain, and Germany combined, Iran is located in southwest Asia, sharing borders with Azerbaijan, Armenia, Turkmenistan, Pakistan, Turkey, Iraq, and the waters of Caspian Sea, Persian Gulf, and Gulf of Oman.

Iran's name is derived from the proto Iranian term Aryana, Middle Persian Eran, meaning "Land of free men". Iranians speak Farsi, which is a branch of Indo-European languages.

Iran has made great contributions to the world since thousands of years ago. It's been the homeland of several religions such as Mithraism, Zoroastrianism, and Manichaeism, all of which had considerable influence on Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. According to Herodotus and Cicero, while Greeks and Romans had images and statues of their gods, Iranians were against worshipping idols and didn't attribute human qualities to God.

Iranians' contribution to classical and generally European art and literature is undeniable, so that many scholars including professor Arthur U. Pope called its role fundamental and definite, and poets and philosophers like Goethe and Emerson, were deeply inspired with Iranian poets such as Rumi, Hafez, and Sa'di, whose poem on the oneness of mankind is gracing the entrance to the Hall of Nations in the United Nation building in New York.

The discovery of trigonometry, alcohol for sanitization, weight, money, writing the first chapter of human rights (Cyrus' cylinder), creating the first empire of the world, postal system, ziggurats, astronomy, and many more are among the contributions of Iranian civilization to the world.

Iranians' passion for science has continued to the present era and the country is investing heavily in it. Even the supreme leader has issued a fatwa calling on researchers to secure Iran's position as the "leader of science" in Middle East. Iran's output of scientific publications has increased the most over the last two decades.

Iranians have been quite open in their judgments about scientific developments such as genetic engineering, biomedical sciences, artificial insemination, in vitro fertilization (IVF), and transplants.

Iranians are in close touch with their heritage, and the country's long, rich history has an important role in understanding the current society. Iran is a home for young and old people, a cultural haven, a mixture of tradition and modernity—traditions such as Norouz which was nominated as one of the UNESCO's masterpieces of oral and intangible heritage of humanity. Women's higher education is a real breakthrough which has changed the job market. In the applied physics department of Azad University 70% of the graduates are women. More than 1/3 of students of medical schools are women.

Female activists, politicians, congresswomen, journalists, editors, writers, poets, professors, are the vibrant voices of this society, a voice which causes profound social change.

Iranian society has become globalized. According to a recent blog census there are more than 700,000 weblogs written by Iranians, compared with 50 in Iraq. All these facts and many more indicate that there is more to Iran than West sees, and Iran is much more than its politics.



## Note from the President

Dear World Affairs Council Members and Friends,



*Dr. Lisa Zaynab Killinger*

We are about to launch our 2009-2010 year, and it is truly the most exciting list of monthly programs we have produced in years! In this issue you will find our calendar for the Visiting Fellow Lecture Series, some news about events of world affairs interest in our local community, and some summaries of last year's spring programs.

You will notice the new "look" and feel of the 2009-2010 World Affairs/World Community Institute Newsletter. We wish to thank Amy Bakke and Jennifer Smyser from the Stanley Foundation, who have graciously agreed to produce our next three newsletters. We are excited to work with them, and are sure that you will enjoy the fruits of their labors as the World Affairs news makes its way to you!

I would like to point out some highlights of our upcoming year. In September and October we are teaming up with the Bettendorf Library, as part of their annual Global Gathering events. Our first two programs will be related to this year's theme: Germany. We have a wonderful speaker from John Deere, who will speak about how this local business has a global reach, particularly in Germany. We will then celebrate together the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, and later, explore the role of religions in peace-making.

The Stanley Foundation, who always provides wonderful programs and speakers, will supply a panel who will offer an interactive and lively session on Rising Global Powers. We will travel (at least through education) to Columbia and Russia and then will invite a nationally known expert, Professor Thomas Gouttierre, to guide us through the rugged and rocky hills of Afghanistan.

Last, but not least, we will hear from the Canadian Consul General Georges Rioux about trade and energy and the symbiosis that exists between the US and our northern neighbor.

For members only, we have two additional events of interest. We have been promised a visit from the new Executive Director of the World Affairs Councils of America.

Watch the mail for news on his visit. We also have an amazing opportunity in November to have brunch with a member of the United Nations Foundation. Keep your eyes peeled for further details, but I think it's safe to say that this is going to be an exciting year in the World Affairs Council of the Quad Cities and World Community Institute.

We look forward to seeing you at our monthly programs! Also please do consider formally supporting our organization. In this issue you will find our 2009-2010 Support Form for your convenience. We would like to continue to offer great programs here in the Quad Cities, and that is made possible by your continued (or new found) support!

Sincerely,  
Dr. Lisa Zaynab Killinger  
President, World Affairs Council  
of the Quad Cities

## Board Members

Lisa Killinger, President  
LZKDC1@msn.com  
563-326-1144 (evening)  
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Michael Laufenberg, Treasurer (interim)  
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Vicky Fitzgerald  
Juanita Zertuche

## Inside South Africa Today

By Bob and Doris Libey

Ed Denblaauwen, an Episcopal minister, addressed the World Affairs Council/World Community Institute this past spring. His program included an outstanding PowerPoint presentation that brought to life the culture, art, and history of South Africa. His personal experiences as pastor to roughly a dozen parishes in South Africa made for a moving and delightful WAC gathering. Rev. Denblaauwen also shared a video clip relating to South Africa's political situation and elections, and he played an audio clip of South African music as well. There was truly something for everyone in this session.

Rev. Denblaauwen's presentation, along with house guests from Freetown, Sierra Leone, has heightened our awareness of how conflicts can be avoided or lessened by wanting to do the right thing—and learning how.



Photos by Sean Harder/The Stanley Foundation



We have been following more closely what is happening in South, Central, and West Africa after meeting Abdulai Jalloh at a Rotary Zone Meeting in 2007 in Davenport. AJ is an International Peace and Conflict Resolution Graduate of the short course offered by Rotary as part of its worldwide Masters Degree program in Peace Initiatives. He is now employed by the United Nations in Darfur and is available to speak to groups when his duties permit.

As with other programs Rev. Denblaauwen's knowledgeable experience should lead to our more resourceful action. His comments about the trouble resulting from refugees spilling over the border into South Africa to live on the land they don't know how to farm is only one example that reminded me of the mistakes this country made with Indians and Mexicans when we were the immigrants. It seems we could avoid much of the injustice immigrants and diplomats suffer today.

For instance for citizenship there's the requirement to pass a language test that our own high school graduates fail—and no wonder! Just take reed, read, and Reid—pronounced the same but spelled differently with different meanings. But read is spelled the same as read which sounds like red to me. There are at least hundreds more - some of us call it "Phun 'n' Fonix". Thanks to Rev. Denblaauwen and his prayerful approach that applies universally to any problem.

## Life and Traditions of Morocco

By Dr. Victoria Fitzgerald

The final presentation for the World Community Institute and World Affairs Council 2008-2009 Visiting Fellow Lecture season was held on April 28, 2009. Kamal Bouzegou, an international student in business at Black Hawk College in Moline, Illinois, shared information about the life and traditions of his home country—Morocco.



A large and enthusiastic audience listened to Kamal's description of his country's history, geography, climate, business, and trade information. He also gave insightful comments on other elements of the culture dealing with family life, education, and societal expectations. Pictures of Morocco and its people were highlighted in Kamal's presentation and added to the discussion.



Kamal—dressed in clothing of his country—also graciously prepared a beautiful “banquet” of foods and beverages typical of his country (e.g., bastilla—a chicken dish, mint tea, and other delicious items).

The group really enjoyed Kamal's generosity of spirit, time, and effort to bring a little bit of Morocco to those attending the workshop at the Bettendorf Public Library that evening.

## Stanley Foundation Announces Release of New Event-in-a-Box Toolkit

The Stanley Foundation offers Now Showing toolkits to groups that are looking for a way to hold an easy-to-plan, successful event in their community. The Now Showing toolkits are designed to encourage discussion about the most urgent global issues today. The toolkits are available FREE to interested groups.

The DVD featured in the new Now Showing event-in-a-box toolkit helps viewers explore the rise of three countries—Brazil, China, and India—in a new global reality. Our aim is to encourage discussion of several of the countries challenging the global order, some of the major issues that cut across national boundaries, and how all of this will impact American lives.

With event planner and moderator guide chock full of helpful tips and resources, the toolkit has

everything needed to put together a successful event.

Discussion guides are provided to facilitate group discussion on the issues raised in the video. Also, the toolkit includes materials that provide further background on the discussion topics.

The Now Showing toolkit is part of Rising Powers: The New Global Reality, a Stanley Foundation project designed to raise awareness, motivate new thinking, and ultimately improve US foreign policy regarding this global transformation. More information about the project is available at [www.risingpowers.org](http://www.risingpowers.org).

For more information about Now Showing or to order a toolkit, go to [www.stanleyfoundation.org/nowshowing](http://www.stanleyfoundation.org/nowshowing) or call (563)264-1500.



## Year 2009-2010 Support Form

The World Affairs Council of the Quad Cities

Please use the form below to pledge your support for your local World Affairs Council.

Your Name or Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ (Evening) \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Please check one:

- I am a new supporter OR I am renewing my support
- Please send me a brochure about local World Affairs programs

### Suggested Support Levels (Please check one)

- Individual Supporter \$15.00
- Student Club/Organization \$10.00
- Individual Student \$5.00
- Gold Sponsor \$200.00 (Customary institutional support)
- Platinum Sponsor \$500.00 (Top billing on all materials)

Please return this form with check or money order made payable to:  
“World Affairs Council of the Quad Cities”

Mailing Address: WACQC, 4310 5th Street, East Moline, IL, 61244

Questions about Support? Contact: Zobeida Laufenberg: (309) 792-3131  
Please visit our World Affairs Council webpage: [www.wacquadcities.com](http://www.wacquadcities.com)

## Great Decisions 2009: Inspiring Learning About the World

Join The Stanley Foundation and Muscatine Community College for these Great Decisions programs

### The U.S. and Rising Powers

September 15

Reception: 6:00-6:30 p.m.

Program: 6:30-8:00 p.m.

### Human Rights in a New Era: Wars for Peace?

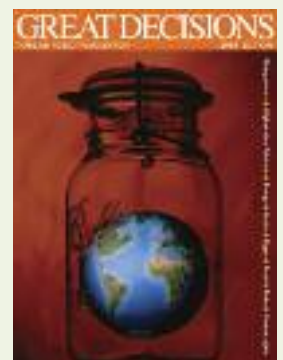
October 20, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

### The Arctic Age

November 17, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

All events will be held at Muscatine Community College's Student Center.

To fully participate in the discussion, participants are asked to read a short background piece on the topic before the event. All of the background pieces are included in the *Great Decisions* book.



For more information please visit [www.stanleyfoundation.org/greatdecisions](http://www.stanleyfoundation.org/greatdecisions) or call 563-264-1500.



World Affairs  
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