



## Message from the Director

On September 11, 2003, President Bush at the White House and Secretary of State Powell at the Department of State joined Americans in communities across the country by marking the second anniversary of the terrorist attacks with moments of silence and ceremonies to honor victims and their families. The Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (IGA) would like to thank the many State and local leaders who let us know about the memorial events planned for their communities.

This issue of *IGA Quarterly News* focuses on education and culture in international affairs that are of interest to State and local officials. We hope that you find these articles useful, and we look forward to working with you on these and other global issues that are important to you.

*Nilda R. Pedrosa, Director, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs*

The following publications are available upon request:

- IGA: Working with State and Local Governments
- Diplomatic List
- Key Officers of Foreign Service Posts
- U.S. Department of State: A Guide to Doing Business
- Country Background Notes
- Travel Warnings
- Tips for Travelers

## State Legislators Become Involved in People-to-People Diplomacy

Telling America's story of democracy and individual liberty to the world is an integral component of U.S. foreign policy. Each year, State legislators and other State and local elected officials across the United States take part in this vital process by participating in international professional, educational, or cultural exchanges. Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs Patricia S. Harrison discussed "People-to-People Diplomacy: An Investment in the Future" during a plenary session of the National Conference of State Legislatures' (NCSL) Annual Meeting in San Francisco.

The Department of State conducts about 35,000 international exchanges annually. Estimates show that the multiplier effect of these programs connects more than 7 million Americans with their foreign counterparts each year.

Since U.S. State legislators possess unique skills and experience as elected representatives at the State level in a federal system, NCSL has utilized the resources of its membership to promote democracy and open societies abroad. For more than 20 years, NCSL has won grants for professional exchanges focused on strengthening legislatures and other institutions of democracy in Latin America, Europe, Asia, and Africa. The diversi-



Assistant Secretary for Education and Cultural Affairs Patricia S. Harrison discusses the importance of public diplomacy before U.S. State legislators.

ty of nations that have benefited from these programs was reflected by the more than 100 provincial and national legislators from foreign countries who attended NCSL's annual meeting.



Fall 2003

Speaking to a capacity crowd during the closing plenary session, Assistant Secretary Harrison thanked the NCSL membership for its partnership in conducting international exchange programs and for dispelling misconceptions about what it means to be an American. Whether it is explaining that democracy is practiced every day through the open exchange of opinions, conveying a sense of America's incredible volunteer ethic, or

describing how the United States is a faith-based nation with many faiths, State legislators have made a critical contribution to America's voice abroad and to the new struggle of ideas in the global war on terrorism.

Communicating effectively with people around the world, especially in the Arab and Muslim world, is more important today than ever before. U.S. public diplomacy efforts in this region focus on alleviating what Queen

Rania of Jordan refers to as the "hope gap," – the gap that exists between young people with a future and those who have no hope for the future because they have not had an education that prepares them to access opportunity.

Assistant Secretary Harrison said, "America's most important foreign policy objectives in the Middle East require that we increase the number of people, friends, and allies, who will work with us in bridging the 'hope gap.'" ■

**C**onsider putting your expertise in State or local government to use by participating in an international exchange program or by agreeing to host a foreign delegation in your community. To find out more about how you can become involved in the Department of State's international exchange programs, please contact the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs at (202) 647-5358.

## U.S. Rejoins UNESCO

On September 29, 2003, the U.S. flag was raised in Paris at the headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), signifying that the United States was rejoining the organization as a full and active member. First Lady Laura Bush and U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige marked this occasion by leading the U.S. delegation to UNESCO's General Conference. In her address to the UNESCO General Conference, the First Lady called upon UNESCO's members to focus on four key areas: basic literacy and primary education, education in tolerance, post-conflict education, and emphasizing HIV/AIDS education.

The United States was a founding member of UNESCO in 1946 and one of the first members to ratify UNESCO's constitution. The U.S. withdrew in 1984 due to



financial mismanagement issues and politicized programs and policies. Over the last few years, however, UNESCO has made significant progress instituting reforms and returning to its founding principles.

Today, UNESCO's programming reflects and advances a wide range of U.S. interests, including press freedom and the "Education for All" program, which promotes basic education and literacy. UNESCO also works to protect sites of special cultural significance through its annually updated World Heritage List. Currently, 18 sites in the United States, such as Independence Hall, the Statue of Liberty, and many of our national parks, are part of this register. To see the full list, visit [www.unesco.org](http://www.unesco.org). Over the next year, the Department of State will establish a U.S. National Commission for UNESCO that will

connect elements of American civil society with UNESCO's important work. ■

## International Education Week

November 17-21 was International Education Week. The U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education created this joint initiative to promote programs that prepare Americans to compete in a global society and attract future leaders from abroad to study and learn about the United States. The week's activities provide opportunities to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide. International students contribute significantly to State and local economies: The 583,000 who studied in the United States at the post-secondary level in the academic year 2001-02, along with their dependents, spent nearly \$12 billion on tuition, fees and living expenses, making international education the fifth-largest U.S. service sector export. Find out more information about International Education Week and the events that took place throughout the country at: <http://exchanges.state.gov/iew/index.htm>. ■

Deputy Secretary Richard Armitage with Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs Patricia Harrison and Cultural Ambassador and rhythm and blues artist Mary Wilson, formerly of The Supremes. Deputy Secretary Armitage spoke at the Educational and Cultural Affairs Exchange Fair at the State Department.



## Outreach: The Department of State in Your Community

*This quarter, IGA sponsored 61 intergovernmental outreach events in 23 states.  
The following State and local officials participated:*

### JULY 2003

- Mayor **Neil Weaver**, Plainview, MN
- Mayor **Fred Armstrong**, Columbus, IN
- New York State Senator **Thomas Libous**, Binghamton, NY
- New York State Representative **Clifford Crouch**, Binghamton, NY
- New York State Representative **Robert Warner**, Binghamton, NY
- Mayor **Richard Bucci**, Binghamton, NY
- Mayor **David Hanneman**, Sun Prairie, WI
- Mayor **Karen Lewis**, Rochester, MI
- Deputy Chief of Protocol **Ginger Barnard**, Los Angeles County, CA
- City Council President **Howard White**, Eau Claire, WI
- Mayor **John O. Norquist**, Milwaukee, WI
- City Councilman **John Lavarine, Jr.**, Jefferson, LA
- Hawaii State Representative **Helen Hale**, Honolulu, HI
- Hawaii State Representative **Maile Shimabukuro**, Honolulu, HI
- Acting Mayor **Pam Pryor**, Ithaca, NY
- New York State Representative **Barbara Lifton**, Ithaca, NY



- Mayor **Mike Fahey**, Omaha, NE

### AUGUST 2003



- County Supervisor **Michael D. Antonovich**, Los Angeles County, CA

- Mayor **James McCreary**, Egg Harbor City, NJ
- Mayor **Harry Kim**, Hilo, HI
- Deputy Police Commissioner for Counterterrorism **Michael Sheehan**, New York, NY
- New York State Office of Public Safety Acting Director **Mark Cohen**, New York, NY

- Councilwoman **Marcia Johnson**, Denver, CO
- Acting City Attorney **Leslie Devaney**, San Diego, CA
- Mayor **Stephen Cassano**, Manchester, CT
- Connecticut State Representative **Jack Thompson**, Manchester, CT



- Mayor **Kay Barnes**, Kansas City, MO

- Mayor **Brian C. Wahler**, Piscataway, NJ
- Texas State Representative **Garnett Coleman**, Houston, TX
- Mayor **Will Wynn**, Austin, TX
- Ms. **Kim Wiezbicki**, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, East Longmeadow, MA
- Mr. **Brian Ashe**, Member of the Board of Selectmen, Longmeadow, MA
- Mayor **Keith Hightower**, Shreveport, LA
- Mayor **John T. Powers**, Spokane, WA
- Mayor **Philip Ludlow**, Alpena, MI
- City Councilman **Bill Evans**, Tacoma, WA

### SEPTEMBER 2003

- Iowa State Representative **Willard Jenkins**, Waterloo, IO
- Mayor **Victor Polce**, Old Tappan, NJ
- New Jersey State Representative **Charlotte Vandervalk**, Westwood, NJ

- New Jersey State Representative **John Rooney**, Emerson, NJ
- New Mexico Secretary of Economic Development **Rich Homans**, Santa Fe, NM
- New Mexico Deputy Secretary of Economic Development **Rachel King**, Santa Fe, NM
- Rhode Island International Trade Director **Maureen Mezei**, Providence, RI
- Mr. **Ken McKay**, Chief of Staff to Rhode Island Governor Don Carcieri, Providence, RI
- Mayor **David Cicilline**, Providence, RI
- Mayor **Tony Iseman**, Laguna Beach City, CA
- Members of the **Phoenix Sister Cities Commission**, Phoenix, AZ
- Mr. **Doug Foy**, Chief of Commonwealth Development, Boston, MA
- Ms. **Beth Myers**, Chief of Staff to Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney, Boston, MA
- Pennsylvania Deputy Secretary for International Business Development **Arlene Ashton**, Harrisburg, PA
- Mayor **Carmen Soldato**, Darien, IL
- Rhode Island Business Development Director **Rele Abiade**, Providence, RI
- Mr. **Gary W. Boden**, City Manager, Whitewater, WI
- Mayor **Rowle Simmons** and City Council members, Prescott, AZ ■

## Meetings and Conferences

IGA participated and hosted exhibits at these meetings and conferences:

- **Milwaukee, WI:** National Association of Counties Annual Meeting, July 11-15
- **San Francisco, CA:** National Conference of State Legislatures Annual Meeting, July 22-25
- **St. Louis, MO:** Sister Cities International Annual Meeting, July 22-26
- **Washington, DC:** American Legislative Exchange Council Annual Meeting, July 30-August 1
- **Washington, DC:** National Association of Towns and Townships Annual Meeting, September 3-5



St. Louis Mayor Francis G. Slay and IGA staff member Betty C. Mayes at Sister Cities International Conference

## U.S. Elected Officials Abroad

IGA coordinated U.S. Embassy assistance for 7 delegations of State and local officials traveling overseas.

### July

**St. Petersburg, Russia:** Daytona Beach Mayor **Bud Asher** met with St. Petersburg Vice Governor **Beglov Alexander Dmtrievich** during his visit to Russia.



Mayor Bud Asher

### August

**Brussels, Belgium:** Northern Virginia county and municipal officials received briefings on European integration at the U.S. Mission to the European Union.

**Africa:** U.S. Conference of Mayors President and Hempstead, NY Mayor **James A. Garner** led a 9-mayor delegation focused on the HIV/AIDS crisis in Africa. The mayors met with U.S. ambassadors in Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, and Uganda.

### September

**Milan, Italy:** Westchester County Executive **Andrew Spano** and White Plains, NY Mayor **Joseph Delfino** led a delegation of local officials to Italy to establish a partnership with the city of Milan. Consul General **Douglas McElhane**y and Commercial Officer **Joseph White** from the U.S. Consulate General in Milan briefed the delegation about U.S.-Italian economic and cultural ties.

**Lebanon:** U.S. Ambassador **Vincent Battle** and Embassy officials assisted Dearborn, MI Mayor **Michael A. Guido**, who led a delegation that visited Beirut and Dearborn's sister-city, Qana, to promote business and cultural ties.

**Mexico City, Mexico:** The presidents of the National League of Cities (New Haven, CT Mayor **John DeStefano, Jr.**), National Association of Counties (Boone County, MO Commissioner **Karen Miller**) and the U.S. Conference of Mayors (Hempstead, NY Mayor **James A. Garner**) were members of the official U.S. delegation led by Deputy Assistant to the President and Director of the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs **Ruben Barrales** to the Organization of American States-RIAD Conference on Democracy and Decentralization.



Mayor Beverly O'Neill

**Istanbul, Turkey:** Long Beach Mayor **Beverly O'Neill** received a country briefing on U.S.-Turkish political and economic relations from U.S. Consul General **David Arnett** during her attendance at the Metropolis Association board meeting. ■

## IGA on the Horizon

Be sure to check this section each quarter for updates...

### NOVEMBER 2003

Free Trade Area of the Americas Ministerial Meeting  
Miami, FL

### DECEMBER 2003

National Black Caucus of State Legislators  
Annual Legislative Conference • Houston, TX

American Legislative Exchange Council  
States and Nation Policy Summit • Phoenix, AZ

National Conference of State Legislatures  
Fall Forum • Washington, DC

National League of Cities  
Congress of Cities and Exposition • Nashville, TN

### JANUARY 2004

U.S. Conference of Mayors  
Winter Meeting • Washington, DC

## About the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

### How the IGA Office can help

#### Access:

- Coordinate meetings with Department experts in Washington or your community;
- Arrange special-issue briefings; and
- Create a forum in which your foreign policy views can be heard by senior Department officials.

#### Assistance:

- Provide information on foreign policy, international trade, education, exchanges, and protocol issues;
- Engage the support of U.S. Embassies and Missions for official delegations' travel abroad; and
- Direct State and local officials to the appropriate Department office for international, travel, or foreign policy concerns.

### Information Requests

Contact us by phone, e-mail, or regular mail at:

Office of Intergovernmental Affairs  
Bureau of Public Affairs  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street, NW  
Room 2206  
Washington, DC  
20520-2204

#### PHONE:

(202) 647-5358

#### FAX:

(202) 647-1579

#### E-MAIL:

[paiga@state.gov](mailto:paiga@state.gov)

### IGA Staff Members

Nilda R. Pedrosa,  
Director  
David Freudenwald,  
Liaison to "Big Seven"  
Associations  
Linda Green,  
Western Region  
Representative  
Bettye Mayes,  
Midwestern Region  
Representative  
Renee Saunders,  
Southern Region Representative  
Marianne Stanley,  
Northeastern Region  
Representative



**IGA is on the Web!**

Visit us at:  
[www.state.gov/r/pa/iga](http://www.state.gov/r/pa/iga)