

UAA 2015 Annual General Meeting Speakers and Panelists

Morning Plenary Panel on “Bridging the Congressional-Executive Chasm”:

- **George Ingram** is senior fellow in the Brookings Institution Global Economy and Development Program. He formerly served on the professional staff of the House Committee on Foreign affairs and as deputy assistant administrator at USAID.
- **Matt McHugh** served in the US House of Representatives from January 3, 1975 until January 3, 1993 representing districts in upstate New York. Along with other committee responsibilities, he was a member of the House Appropriations Committee for 16 years, including key leadership roles on the Foreign Operations Sub-Committee. After retiring from the House, he was vice president of Cornell University and for many years Counselor to the President of the World Bank.
- **Jim Kolbe** currently serves as a senior transatlantic fellow for German Marshall Fund. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1985 to 2007, where he for six years was on the House Budget Committee and for 20 years on the Appropriations Committee. He served previously for six years in the Arizona State Senate and for more than ten years in the US Navy.
- **Howard Berman** is currently a senior advisor at Covington & Burling. He served in the US House of Representatives from 1983 to 2012, where he was the Ranking Member on the Committee on Foreign Affairs and also served on the Committee on the Judiciary. He was a member of the California Assembly from 1973 to 1982.

Morning Panel on “New Legislation With a Poverty Focus”:

- **Alex Shakow** is currently co-chair of the USAID Alumni Association. He held numerous high level positions at the World Bank from 1981 to 2002 and worked for USAID from 1968 to 1981, serving in various capacities, including as Assistant Administrator for Policy and Program Coordination (PPC). He was a Peace Corps staff member from 1963 to 1968.
- **Jack Sullivan** was for many years Congressional aide to Chairman Clem Zablocki (Wisconsin) and Deputy Staff Director of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. He was USAID Assistant Administrator for Asia from 1977 to 1981. He has since been an executive with two Washington area-based international consulting firms and has worked in some 65 countries in Asia, the Pacific, Eurasia, Latin America and Africa.
- **Chris Holmes** is DAA in USAID’s Bureau for Economic Growth, Education and Environment (E3), and the Agency’s first Global Water Coordinator. He rejoined USAID in 2010 after serving as the Director of TDA, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Refugee Programs, Acting Director of OFDA, and USAID DAA for Private Enterprise and Executive Director of the President’s Task Force on International Private Enterprise. Holmes also served in numerous high-level positions at the EPA, as a USAID Senior Foreign Service Officer, and in the US Army.

- **Terry Peel** currently serves as Partner and Executive Vice President for Edington, Peel and Associates, Inc., a public affairs firm, where he specializes in consultation on international affairs, development and global health issues. He served for almost 20 years on the staff of the U. S. House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations, for a majority of that time as Staff Director of the State, Foreign Operations Subcommittee. He also served as the Staff Director of the Military Construction Subcommittee. During this period he worked on international issues regarding development, economic, military, trade, human rights, child survival and global health. He is a recipient of the UNICEF James Grant Children’s Champion Award.

Morning Panel on “Dealing with Disaster”

- **Diana Ohlbaum** is a senior associate with the Center for Strategic & International Studies Project on Prosperity and Development and heads an independent consulting firm. From 2009 to 2013, Dr. Ohlbaum served as a senior professional staff member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, coordinating the effort to rewrite and reform the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, culminating in the introduction of the Global Partnerships Act of 2012. Previously, she directed the staff of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on International Economic Policy, where she conducted oversight of the foreign assistance budget and battled against the elimination of USAID. From 1999 to 2001, she served as deputy director of USAID's Office of Transition Initiatives and later worked as director of public policy for InterAction.
- **Andrew Natsios** is an executive professor and director of the Scowcroft Institute of International Affairs. He was administrator of USAID from 2001-2006, served as Assistant Administrator for the Bureau for Food and Humanitarian Assistance (now DCHA) from 1991 to 1993, and directed the USAID Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance from 1989 to 1991. He also served as US special envoy to Sudan in 2006-2007. He served in the US Army Reserves for twenty-three years, and he was vice president of World Vision US. Previously he served in the Massachusetts House of Representatives, as the chief financial and administrative officer of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and as the CEO of Boston's Big Dig, after a cost overrun scandal.
- **Bill Garvelink** is currently a senior advisor at Center for Strategic & International Studies and senior adviser at the International Medical Corps. At USAID he served as deputy coordinator for development for the presidential Feed the Future: Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative. He served previously as U.S. ambassador to the Democratic Republic of Congo and as principal DAA in USAID’s DCHA Bureau, as USAID mission director in Eritrea and as the assistant director for response and then as deputy director of OFDA. He also worked in the Department of State’s Bureau for Population, Refugees, and Migration, was posted in Bolivia for USAID, and served for three years as a staff member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.
- **Jeremy Konyndyk** began his appointment as the Director of USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) in September 2013. Previously he worked for Mercy Corps, for the American Refugee Committee in South Sudan, Uganda, and Guinea, and earlier served as a Refugee Officer with the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration where he managed the Bureau’s program portfolio

for the Balkans, and previously led non-governmental organization (NGO) relief programs in Kosovo and Albania following the Kosovo refugee crisis of the late 1990s.

Afternoon Plenary Panel on “Issues and Objectives That Should Shape the USAID of the Next Administration”:

- **Nancy Birdsall** is the Center for Global Development's founding president. From 1993 to 1998, she was executive vice president of the Inter-American Development Bank. Before that she worked 14 years in research, policy, and management positions at the World Bank, and served previously as Senior Associate and Director of the Economic Reform Project at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. She is the author, co-author, or editor of more than a dozen books and many scholarly papers.
- **Ben Leo** is a senior fellow at the Center for Global Development and the director of the Rethinking US Development Policy initiative. Leo rejoined CGD after serving as Global Policy Director at the ONE Campaign. In 2011, he worked for the African Union as a facilitator and technical expert in the secession negotiations between Sudan and South Sudan. Leo worked at the White House as the director for African affairs helped design and implement several development initiatives at the US Treasury, and led business development efforts in Africa and the Middle East for Cisco Systems.
- **Casey Dunning** is a senior policy analyst for the Rethinking US Development Policy initiative at the Center for Global Development. Dunning previously worked as a senior policy analyst for the Sustainable Security and Peacebuilding Initiative at the Center for American Progress, and in a previous position at CGD, she conducted the center's analysis on the Millennium Challenge Corporation and researched the application of aid effectiveness principles within USAID. She has worked on harmonizing gender violence and rule-of-law programs in Liberia with Emory University's Institute for Developing Nations, and at the Carter Center and the International Rescue Committee.
- **Les Munson** is Staff Director of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee since January 2013. His earlier experience in the U.S. Congress included serving as Chief of Staff for Senator Mark Kirk (R-IL) from 2010 to 2012, Chief of Staff for Congressman Henry Hyde (R-IL) from 2007-2011, Senior Professional Staff Member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee from 2001-2003, and Communication Director of the House Committee on International Relations from 1999-2003. Munson also served at USAID during 2003-2007 as DAA in the Legislative and Public Affairs Bureau and as Chief of Staff for Global Health.
- **Tim Rieser** is democratic clerk of the Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, of the U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations. Rieser has served with Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT) since 1985, first as an aide in the Senator's office, and since 1989, as a professional staff member of the Appropriations Committee, becoming democratic clerk of the Subcommittee in 1995.

Guest USAID Speaker:

- **Michele Sumilas** currently serves as USAID's chief of staff. She has served on the House Subcommittee on State and Foreign Operations, worked at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, leading a global health advocacy portfolio, and was director of government relations for the Global Health Council.