



USAID Alumni Association

August 2016 UAA Newsletter

Mark your Calendars for Upcoming UAA Events

Saturday, August 6, 2016, noon to 3:00pm - Fifth Annual UAA Summer Picnic will be held again this year at Fort Hunt in Alexandria, Virginia. See below for details. RSVP today!

Wednesday, August 17, 2016 - Will you be in Vermont this August? Join other USAID alumni for a picnic hosted by Steve and Monica Sinding on Wednesday, August 17th, at their home in Manchester, Vermont. For more information, contact Steve at ssinding@gmail.com.

Tuesday, September 20, 2016 - 12:15 - 1:30 pm - **Professor Sir Gordon Conway**, former President of the Rockefeller Foundation and currently Professor at Imperial College, London, will speak on "**Sustainable Intensification is the Answer to Global Food Insecurity**". Note: This event will be co-sponsored by UAA and the International Food Policy Research Institute and will be held at IFPRI, 2033 K St. NW, Washington, D.C.

New on USAIDalumni.org

- **Obituaries:** Some recent notices have been added to the [In Memoriam](#) page.
- A new article by **Kiertisak Toh**, entitled **Emerging Growth Economies in Sub-Saharan Africa**, has been added to [Papers Recently Published By USAID Alumni](#). In it, he explores the topic of uneven economic growth in the region over the past 25 years.
- In the [Forum](#), take a look at 1) a request for input to an effort cataloguing distinguished black Americans in foreign policy and 2) an Agency Notice on the new Assistant Administrator for DCHA.
- In [Articles](#), take a look at items on 1) the suspension for fraud of \$200m of USAID aid programs in Syria; 2) takeaway conclusions from the White House Summit on Global Development; 3) President Obama's development legacy; 4) the incalculable value of having a job you love; 5) what President Obama has done to ensure the sustainability of his global development policy; 6) the passage of the Foreign Aid Transparency and Accountability Act; 7) the challenges of aiding Palestinians - comments from the outgoing Mission Director; and 8) medical drones in Africa.
- In [Web Links](#), view the latest edition of the USAID Impact Newsletter.
- In [Jobs and Volunteer Opportunities](#), there are several newly posted job offerings.

Do you have news, an article or event you would like to share? Please send it to

office@usaidalumni.org or, better still, post it on the [Forum](#).

Looking for someone with a USAID alumni background and skills to hire or as a volunteer? If you would like to post a job or volunteer opportunity, please email us at office@usaidalumni.org, Attn: Jobs/Volunteers.

5th Annual UAA Summer Picnic : August 6, 2016

SAVE THE DATE! JOIN THE FUN!

5th Annual UAA Summer Picnic
Fort Hunt Park, Alexandria, VA
Saturday, August 6, 2016
Noon - 3:00 pm

In order to have adequate water and soft drinks available, please let us know that you are coming and with how many adults and children. Respond to office@usaidalumni.org

Music!! We are looking for Alumni who can provide us with periodic entertainment at the picnic. If you play guitar or banjo or other instrument please bring it along. However, please note that there is no electricity for electronic instruments.

Details:

The USAID ALUMNI ASSOCIATION will have its annual picnic on Saturday August 6 at Fort Hunt picnic area. While the site is reserved for the full day, our get together is scheduled from noon till 3:00pm. We hope everyone will come and bring other USAID Alumni, children, guitars, games, etc. The parking lot is a very short, convenient distance to the sheltered picnic area so we will proceed rain or shine.

This year we decided to repeat our successful pot luck so that people can bring dishes to share. We will provide non-alcoholic beverages, table covers, paper goods, cups and plastic ware.

Please bring one dish sufficient for 6 to 8 people. If you have a special dish that would be great. Otherwise, bring a dish according to the following categories.

People with last names between A and D are requested to bring a salad or side dish.

People with last names between E and M are requested to bring an appetizer.

People with last names between N and R are requested to bring a dessert.

People with last names between S and Z are requested to bring a main dish.

We will provide soft drinks and water, but please bring your own wine and beer - and some to share. The area has a liquor license, but for wine and beer only.

Directions: From Interstate 395, take exit 10B for the southbound George Washington Memorial Parkway. Merge onto the parkway and continue for about 12 miles. Turn right onto Fort Hunt Road and continue to the Park. The UAA picnic will again be held in site B-001. Fort Hunt is South of Alexandria and just north of Mount Vernon. For further details [click here](#).

Reminder to all registered alumni who have not made a contribution to the Association in 2016

We would like to remind you that being registered in the website directory is not the same as being a member. The UAA has some 925 registered alumni but only about 235 contributing members so far this year.

Please note that UAA membership contributions are recorded on a calendar year basis, regardless of the month in which you make a contribution. To be listed as a member in 2016, you must make a contribution this calendar year. The UAA is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, so your membership contribution is tax deductible.

The Association relies on the voluntary contributions of the alumni community to underwrite its modest costs, including our highly regarded Annual General Meetings, periodic social events and the administrative costs of maintaining the website and the Directory, and of issuing the monthly newsletter. The leadership of the UAA, including its elected Board members, as well as standing committee co-chairs and members, are all volunteers who give of their time and effort without compensation. Your contributions go exclusively to maintain and expand the growing range of membership activities.

Forgot whether you contributed in 2016? Check the UAA website Home Page under the "Alumni" tab and scroll down to "UAA Members 2016". The list is updated at the beginning of each month. If your name is not listed, chances are you have not made a 2016 contribution. The Association needs your support.

As a reminder: The suggested membership contribution levels are:

- \$75 for those within a 50 mile radius of DC,
- \$50 for those who reside in the US but beyond the DC area, and
- \$25 for those who live overseas or are former FSNs.

There is another category of members: "**Friends of UAA**". This recognizes our angels who generously contribute \$100 and above. We are very pleased that almost 40% of this year's contributors have opted to become "Friends of the UAA."

As a further reminder, you can become a contributing member online or renew your membership by clicking on the "sign up" tab of the UAA website home page or by sending a check by mail to: USAID Alumni Association, DACOR House, 1801 F Street N.W. (4th Floor), | Washington, D.C. 20006.

Announcing improvements to the UAA website Alumni Directory

Our alumni community is making increased use of the UAA website. A major attraction is the easy access to former friends and colleagues through the Alumni Directory. This password-protected directory now has location information on over 700 of our colleagues who have agreed to share at least some contact information. Improvements to the directory now allow users to search a person listed by first name, last name, e-mail address and/or state or country of residence. All you need to do is to go to the top of the directory and sort out the entries in any way appropriate to your search needs and chances are that you will soon find someone you have been meaning to contact for a while!

We encourage registered alumni who have not yet provided the OK to include contact information - some 200 of you - to do so in the coming weeks to make sure you are not missed in upcoming get-togethers in your community or when USAID friends try to reach you!

Reaching out to local alumni

Now that it is infinitely easier to find registered alumni near you, the Membership Committee urges all to reach out to fellow alumni near you. Perhaps a get-together over lunch or at another suitable setting can help in forming local alumni groups. A quick search of the Alumni Directory by state of residence shows that as of April 30 we had alumni living in DC and 41 states, plus 22 foreign countries. Surely there are fellow alumni near you! While over 50% of our alumni live in the DC/Maryland/Virginia region, there are significant clusters elsewhere, including California, Florida, North Carolina and Oregon. Reach out to those near you. And when you do, tell us about it, including who participated and future plans.

Search for Candidates to Serve on the UAA Board

The Board of Directors is seeking from the UAA membership expressions of interest to serve on the UAA Board for the 2016 - 2018 cycle. Please contact **Carol Peasley**, Chair of the 2016 Nominating Committee, at cpeasley@usaidalumni.org to express your interest in running and/or to share your recommendations of other candidates.

UAA Board composition: A seven-member Board of Directors governs the affairs of the UAA. Each position on the Board is filled by election from among the UAA members for a two-year term. Incumbents may serve for up to two consecutive terms.

Eligibility to serve on the Board: UAA members who have paid their annual membership contribution for the current year are eligible to vote and to run for a seat on the Board. The applicable contribution amounts for 2015 are: \$75 for those living within a 50-mile radius of DC, \$50 for those living in the U.S. beyond the DC Metro area and \$25 for those living overseas or are former FSNs.

Voting procedure: Elections are conducted on-line beginning several weeks before the Annual General Meeting (AGM). We expect all voting this year to be done on-line prior to the AGM by COB Wednesday, October 19; we do not expect to permit voting the day of the AGM. Results are announced at the conclusion of the AGM, which this year is scheduled for Friday, October 21.

Board seat openings in 2016: This coming October, two UAA Board members will be completing the two-year terms for which they were elected. One additional Board member will have completed an (exceptional) one-year term that will be followed by a normal two-year term. Hence, **three** of the seven **UAA Board positions will be on the ballot this year.**

Slate of Candidates: A proposed slate of candidates recommended by the Board, along with all other candidates who have expressed an interest in serving on the Board, will be submitted to the UAA membership no later than the week of **September 7**, six weeks before the AGM, for the members' consideration and vote.

Expressions of interest: Please let us know if you are interested in running for a position on the UAA Board, or if you wish to recommend other UAA members who would be good candidates. Deadline for submission of names is August 7 so that the UAA Board can prepare and send out the ballots by the week of September 7.

Thank you for your ongoing support and participation in the activities of the UAA.

The 2016 UAA "Alumni of the Year" Awards Program

The deadline has now passed for submission of nominations for the 2016 "Alumni

of the Year" awards. Thank you to all who took the time to submit a nomination. Once again, these nominations show the terrific work our alumni community is making in support of worthy causes at home and abroad. The UAA Awards Committee will be reviewing these nominations in the next few weeks and will announce the results at the October 21 AGM. Most nominees will be featured in the coming months in the "Alumni Profiles" of this monthly Newsletter.

Vacancy: Co-Chair, Public Outreach Committee

UAA is looking for an Alum who would be interested in serving as Co-Chair of the UAA Public Outreach Committee, with Bill Anderson. The purpose of the Public Outreach Committee is to sponsor activities that will inform the American public and the professional development community on successful and sustainable development by drawing upon the wisdom and collective on-the-ground experience of UAA's membership. Recent activities have included the reestablishment of a Speakers Bureau, media training for alums provided by USAID/LPA, and outreach to USAID alumni currently teaching or associated with colleges and universities in the US. Interested alum should send an email to outreach@usaidalumni.org.

Alumni Profile

Carol Dabbs

August 23, 2011 at 1:51 p.m. an earthquake rippled through Virginia during Carol Dabbs' first-month of retirement. Was Mother Nature showing her disapproval?

After 35 years of hard work, Carol relishes getting enough sleep, lunching with friends in Shirlington and attending plays and movies. Not one to remain inactive, Carol has joined exercise classes, two book groups and continues to be very involved in her local community. She's been Treasurer and Membership VP in the Arlington Branch of the American Association of University Women, Board Member and Secretary of the Fairlington Citizen's Association and has served on an Arlington School Board committee to provide input for expansion of her neighborhood elementary school. She remains committed to a neighborhood dining group she organized in 1993. She's held elective office in the

International Health Section of the American Public Health Association since the early 1990's, and has joined UAA's Membership Committee, crafting the questionnaires and reports for the evaluation of the Annual General Meeting and the Annual Membership Survey. Carol serves on the Board of the Public-Private Alliance Foundation, which is working on an alcohol stove project in Haiti, and was active on the Advisory Council for the Mount Carmel House program for formerly homeless women.

Carol also enjoys traveling with her four nieces to celebrate high school and college graduations. She has taken them to Italy, France (twice) and Japan. Graduates' wishes and Carol's travel bucket list will determine destinations for future trips, which usually include other family members. She also traveled to Antarctica with high



Recent college graduate Lizzie Dabbs with her Aunt Carol in front of Chateau Saurac

school friends, collecting the 7th continent punch on her passport. Carol plans to produce a polished version of her 10 Rules for Successful Travel, based on TDYs and personal travel, which begins with "Conserve cash" and "Eat when food is presented."

Originally from Oak Ridge, Tennessee, Carol Dabbs resides in Arlington, Virginia. She joined USAID as an International Development Intern to pursue her interest in international family planning. During her 35 year career, she worked in 29 countries on public health programs in gradually widening circles, starting with family planning, expanding to child survival, infectious diseases, maternal health, and non-communicable diseases, as well as women's and water programs; serving as a program officer for worldwide programs; and developing the public health budgets for State and USAID in the now Office of Foreign Assistance Resources. This included assignments in LAC, now-GH, AFR, now-PPL, and the Foreign Assistance Bureau, and made good use of both her bachelor's degree in Spanish and French from Duke University and master's degree in public health administration from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Carol welcomes contact from former colleagues at carol_dabbs@yahoo.com

Make Your 2016 UAA Membership Contribution

USAID Alumni Association

USAID Alumni Association, 1801 F Street, Washington, DC 20006

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