



USAID Alumni Association

May 2020 Newsletter

Note from the UAA Board

Members of the USAID Alumni Association Board reached out recently to USAID's new Acting Administrator, John Barsa, at his request. In a virtual conference on April 24th with Acting A/AID Barsa, other members of USAID senior management, and three UAA Board members, he expressed his interest and enthusiasm for the UAA alumni volunteer initiatives in support of the agency. If you missed his message of appreciation and encouragement to the USAID family which we shared with all UAA members following our meeting, you can view the message on the UAA website or by [clicking here](#).

To our UAA alumni family: Be safe and well. We thank you for everything you do in support of the UAA efforts.

Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming UAA Events

POSTPONED. Please watch for emails announcing any rescheduling details of the following events that have been postponed due to the novel coronavirus pandemic emergency.

The **UAA Book Club** meeting to review Daniel Markovits's new book, *The Meritocracy Trap: How America's Foundational Myth Feeds Inequality, Dismantles the Middle Class, and Devours the Elite*.

The **Development Issues Committee** planned bimonthly meeting on the formation and goals of the recently established Development Finance Corporation (DFC) with guest discussion leaders Andrew Herscovitz, newly appointed DFC Chief Development Officer (formerly Director of USAID's Power Africa initiative) and Amanda Burke, DFC Deputy Vice President, External Affairs.

UAA/DACOR Development Dialogue dinner, with Henrietta Holsman Fore, UNICEF Executive Director (and former USAID Administrator), to discuss "From USAID Administrator to UNICEF Executive Director - Challenges and Opportunities."

The **UAA Spring Reception** to be hosted again this year by Alex and Patricia Shakow at their home in Chevy Chase View (Kensington), Maryland.

SAVE THE DATES for the following events:

Wednesday, August 12, 2020, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. - Connie Carrino and Jeff Sharat will host the **annual alumni picnic in Vermont** at Connie's home in Stowe, Vermont. For USAID alumni passing through Vermont this summer, you are invited to join the fun. If you can make it, please RSVP to Connie at cacarrino@gmail.com.

Saturday, September 12, 2020, 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.- UAA Summer Picnic will be held at Fort Hunt Park, Alexandria, VA. More details to come.

Friday, October 30, 2020, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. - UAA Annual General Meeting will be held at the Center for Global Development, Washington, DC. More details to come

New! On USAIDAlumni.org

- **Home Page:** Take note of the departing message of USAID Administrator Mark Green to UAA members and the recent video remarks by the Acting Administrator John Barsa.
- **Obituaries:** The [In Memoriam](#) page has seven recent obituaries of USAID colleagues -- Peter John Davies, Marie Angela Mastrobattista Love, John A. "Jack" Shaw, Beverly Youmans, Frank W. Brecher and Donald W. Maccorquodale.
- **Articles:** Seven articles are featured, including items on: Trump and Congress scramble to revive virus-hunting agency that was marked for cuts; a UAA member shares his recollections from a lifetime in Africa; Trump hobbles foreign aid as Coronavirus rips around the world; USAID ships COVID-19 supplies from Dubai to Oregon; after COVID-19 evacuations around the world, Peace Corps volunteers fear for the future of their organization; and with WHO funding on hold, USAID looks to alternate partners.
- **Job & Volunteer Opportunities:** No job opportunities are specifically listed for retirees, but an important message (on the Home Page) highlights the recent Congressional directive to USAID to recruit and maintain a permanent Foreign Service workforce of 1,850 officers worldwide. The Agency anticipates potential short-term and long-term appointments, contract and/or volunteer opportunities to support the development of a new cadre of officers. Those interested should monitor the UAA communications.
- **Forum:** The Forum offers three items: Administrator Mark Green's video on USAID's COVID response; RMD Requirement Modified for 2020; and more recent update on Thrift Savings Plans with regard to COVID-19 Updates and further RMD changes.
- **Web Links:** One item has been added on The Global Health Security Index - the first comprehensive assessment of global health security capabilities in 195 countries.

2020 Membership Survey Report

We are pleased to share with you the results of the March 2020 UAA Membership Survey which had two main purposes: (1) for leadership to learn what is working or not working for the membership; and (2) for membership to express interest in UAA committees and other volunteer activities. This information has been shared with the Board and respective UAA committee chairs.

The 2020 Membership Survey saw more than a doubling of the participation rate over last year's survey, representing responses from 17% of the 1,100 some registered UAA alumni. The survey confirmed that the UAA membership is diverse in terms of past USAID service, with all employment categories, such as FSO, GS, PSC, et. al., represented in the UAA. The Association's diversity is also demonstrated by the number of years of USAID employment and years since retirement or separation, with all periods represented although skewed toward the longest period of over 20 years of USAID service or separation by the highest percentage of respondents.

The survey asked several questions, including: (1) ideas for specific UAA events in areas outside the District, Maryland and Virginia; (2) what the UAA should do that is not now being done; and (3) what would better inform and attract more eligible USAID alumni to join the UAA. The respondents offered approximately 150 comments in response to the questions, many of which were thoughtful, innovative, and interesting and others were already being implemented or were not feasible.

Finally, 96 respondents expressed interest in participating in the UAA strategic goals implemented by the six committees, as well as other volunteer opportunities through the UAA. Their names have been provided to the relevant committee chairs.

The full report on the 2020 Membership Survey is available by clicking [here](#). Our appreciation to all members who responded to the survey.

2020 Annual Awards Program

The UAA Awards Committee is eagerly awaiting your nomination of a UAA member (or yourself) for the 2020 "Alumni of the Year" awards for international and/or domestic service. The deadline for submission of nominations is July 31. The prestigious awards will be announced at the Annual General Meeting on October 30. The "Alumni of the Year" awards recognize and celebrate new paths taken by USAID alumni to provide service to their communities and improve the lives of others at home and/or abroad. There are impressive contributions among our alumni community waiting to be recognized. Don't wait until the last minute to share those stories. All nominees, including the 2020 winner(s), will be featured in future editions of the monthly UAA newsletter. For full details about the awards and how to make nominations, please click [here](#).

Alumni Profile: Franklin C. Moore

Franklin Moore retired from USAID in 2014, after also serving at two other federal agencies during a 35 year career. He began his federal career as an Associate Peace Corps director for agriculture and natural resources management in Ghana. He also served at The Environmental Protection Agency before beginning his career at USAID in The Environment Center. His career at USAID included a number of technical support positions in agriculture and the environment, particularly climate change before retiring from the position of Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Africa Bureau.



Franklin with partner Erich on safari in southern Africa

Retirement has been full of activities, most of which Franklin calls delayed gratification! He has been able to better utilize his dual residences in Southwest Washington and outside Shepherdstown in West Virginia. First of equals is the theater. In South West DC, Franklin and his partner, Erich, can be found at Arena Stage plays and events. However, their strongest participation is in West Virginia with the Contemporary American Theater Festival (CATF), a series of American authored and often premier presented plays. The

Festival, now in its 30th year, takes place every July. As Franklin remembers, "Over the past 15 years it has been gratifying to participate in the festival's growth from four plays on two stages to six reportorial plays in three theaters. It has also been a pleasure to provide a place for new, relevant American composed plays." Since retirement, Franklin's volunteer service has increased to now serving on the CATF board.

Franklin has also kept his attachments to Africa, agriculture and the environment. He has lectured on food security, climate change and resilience in a number of forums. Franklin

participates in the Africa Policy Group and is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. He states, "Contributing to the sustainable existence of species and their habitats is an important objective of mine." Franklin has recently begun to serve on the board of the Jane Goodall Institute which focuses on chimpanzees and their habitats. He has also volunteered with the USAID Alumni Association by serving on the UAA Board.

As with many alumni, travel has also been an objective. As Franklin states, "After all these years living and working in Africa, I have finally taken that three-week safari in southern Africa." He welcomes hearing from UAA friends and former colleagues at franklinmoore@gmail.com.

Newsletter Schedule

The next UAA newsletter will be sent on June 1, 2020. Newsletters will be provided approximately monthly on the first Monday throughout the year. We would like to hear from you about stories or events that can be shared with your fellow alumni. Please send the information along with a picture and caption of the event, date, and people shown to office@usaidalumni.org.

[Make Your 2020 UAA Membership Contribution here](#)