



USAID Alumni Association

June 2023 Newsletter

Note from the UAA Board

The quarterly USAID-UAA meeting with Deputy Administrator Paloma Adams-Allen and other senior staff on May 11 to discuss progress for activities included in the MOU was highly productive. We covered key activities such as the status and desired ramp up of the mentoring program, UAA support to FSNs who have been relocated to the U.S., lessons from the retirement ceremony, and a variety of public outreach programs supported by UAA, including the public education presentations developed by UAA with input from LPA.

Planning for the next AGM on October 27 is moving forward nicely. Among the topics on the agenda is the new USAID Policy Framework, and how the newer elements of the policy, such as “development diplomacy and progress beyond programs,” will have implications for Mission staff and relationship with US Ambassadors and Country Teams. Key USAID senior staff have been invited to join us in these discussions. We hope that Administrator Power will deliver the keynote address. The event will be in-person in Washington, D.C. and accessible for those who chose to join virtually from elsewhere.

Calendar of Upcoming UAA Events

NEW! On **June 5**, in a long-awaited return to Monday morning (10:00 to noon) Development Dialogue sessions at DACOR, **Dr. Steven Sinding** will discuss “**Whatever Happened to the Population Explosion and Where Are We Today?**” Steve is well-known to the USAID family as he spent 20 years at AID, including as head of the Population Office, and he was also Director-General of the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) during his long and productive

career. While this will be a hybrid session, we urge all who are able to come to DACOR House to celebrate this less formal and more relaxed time schedule than at lunch programs. Coffee and cookies will be available. To register for this event please click [here](#).

NEW! On **Wednesday, June 28, from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM EST, the Development Issues Committee is pleased to sponsor a virtual discussion on "The U.S. International Development Finance Corporation: Progress and Prospects," featuring our colleague, Andrew Herscowitz, Chief Development Officer, U.S. International Development Finance Corporation.** The discussion will be open to all UAA members who have made a contribution for 2023 membership. Please register for this timely discussion by COB Sunday, June 25. (Registration link is forthcoming.)

NEW! **Small Group Social Event Wednesday, July 11.** The UAA Social Events Committee is proposing a small group event at the **National Portrait Gallery's "I Dream a World: Selections from Brian Lanker's Portraits of Remarkable Black Women (Part II)" exhibit**, which runs through August 27. This small, exquisite selection of portraits dates from 1988-1989 and appeared in Lanker's 1989 book of the same title. The photographer "discovered women whose images show us the high cost of living and the rich reward of thriving" including Dorothy Height, Betty Shabazz, Althea Gibson and many more. Look for more details soon.

NEW! At noon on **Friday, July 21, there will be a hybrid UAA/DACOR lunch program at DACOR featuring Dr. Liesbet Steer, the newly appointed President & CEO of the Education Development Center**, a global nonprofit advancing lasting solutions to improve education, promote health, and expand economic opportunity. She will speak about **"The Vision of Universal Education: What Went Wrong and How to Fix It?"** For the past seven years she has been the Executive Director of the Education Commission, an international initiative driving progress on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal for inclusive and equitable quality education, chaired by UN Special Envoy for Global Education and former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Gordon Brown. More details about this event and how to register will follow closer to the scheduled date.

NEW! SAVE THE DATE! Wednesday, August 2nd, 11-2:30 pm in Rochester, Vermont. Anne Aarnes, David Sprague, and Ann and Mike Van Dusen will host **the annual "development wallah" picnic**. All are welcome, including alumni and their spouses/partners who may be visiting New England in early August. For more information, contact Ann Van Dusen (<mailto:avandusen4@gmail.com>).

NEW! SAVE THE DATE! Saturday, September 9, 12-4 pm at Ft Hunt Park, Alexandria, Va. UAA Annual Picnic. The event is open to all UAA alumni and their families. Covered Dish lunch with details to follow. UAA will provide ice, soft drinks, cups, flatware, and dinnerware.

New! USAIDAlumni.org

In Memoriam: Molly Hageboeck, Roy Allen Plucknett

Bulletin Board:

2nd Quarter

- Monday, June 26, 9-11 AM, USC June Forum on "Africa's Future: Peace and Security," at Lindner Commons in George Washington University's Elliott School, 1957 E Street NW, 6th floor, Washington DC. RSVP: Judy Kang at junghwak@usc.edu.
- Invitation to USGLC Global Impact Forum on 7 June 2023 in Washington, DC
- A Celebration of the Life and Work of Molly Hageboeck will be held at 1834 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington DC, 2009 on Thursday, July 13, 2023.
- **Supporting our FSN Colleagues in Sudan.** As of Sunday, April 23, 2023, the U.S. suspended Embassy Sudan operations after the successful evacuation of our U.S. direct-hire staff. Many of our Foreign Service National (FSN) colleagues remain in Sudan, facing both immediate risks to their safety and grave uncertainty about their country's future. There are two direct ways you can help our colleagues today. **[Click here for more information.](#)**

Articles:

- UAA requests your support for a U.S. commemorative coin recognizing the centennial of the U.S. Foreign Service, UAA Board, 20 May 2023
- **The Effort to Transform the Aid Business**, *The Economist*, 6 May 2023, pp. 22-23. USAID is changing the way it tries to do good in the world.
- **Coming to Grips with Poverty in Africa**, Mark G. Wentling, *American Diplomacy*, May 2023.

Jobs & Volunteer Opportunities:

For details of these and other opportunities, click [here](#).

Want to be a Mission Director (again)?

USAID reached out to the UAA asking if there were individuals interested in serving as acting Mission Director or Deputy Mission Director should the opportunity arise.

If you would be available and have the requisite experience, please provide your contact information and a couple of points on your relevant experience to Chris Milligan at <mailto:t.chris.milligan@gmail.com>

USAID/Iraq Job Opportunity: Come to Baghdad and Make a Difference!

USAID/Iraq seeks offers from qualified persons for a Chief of Operations, a de facto Deputy Mission Director, USPSC for one year with the possibility of an extension. The Chief of Operations serves as a senior manager and policy advisor for USAID/Iraq and has primary

responsibility for operations. The position will be based in Baghdad. The solicitation closes on June 16, 2023, 5:00pm EST. Point of Contact is Diego Marquez at iraqrecruitment@usaid.gov. [See linked solicitation..](#)

Additions to the Bibliography of USAID Authors

One more interesting book has recently been added to the [Bibliography](#). Ordinary Man, Extraordinary Journey, a new memoir by retired USAID Career Minister Hank Bassford is this month's addition to the Bibliography of USAID Authors. The book provides a personal glimpse of his adventures as a Peace Corps volunteer in India followed by a 26-year career as a USAID Foreign Service Officer. All royalties from the sale of this book will support "Strength in Peers" a non-profit founded by his youngest daughter. Read more [HERE](#).

Please forward notice of any new books to jpielemeie@aol.com

Spring Reception



Assembled Attendees with Henrietta Fore

On June 1, the USAID Alumni Association (UAA) Spring Reception had a record turnout. Sixty-four plus attended in person and ten more were on-line! Many former USAID employees came to celebrate each other and the Agency to which we dedicated our careers. Chris Milligan was an excellent MC and Michele Sumilas, Assistant Administrator for Policy, Planning and Learning (PPL), updated us on the Agency's policy framework and development priorities. Laura Jagla, Communications Director in the Office of the Chief Diversity Officer, shared the avenues the Agency is

taking to embed DEIA principles throughout the Agency. Christophe Tocco, Deputy Assistant Administrator for PPL, rounded out the discussion highlighting development challenges in various parts of the world. Aaron Williams introduced our special guest for the day, Henrietta Holsman Fore, former USAID Administrator and CEO of UNICEF, who was the original impetus for the establishment of UAA. She expressed her continued commitment to development and her appreciation of the work of USAID foreign service officers. The rest of the time we socialized and enjoyed catching up with long lost colleagues. The weather cooperated and turned in a beautiful day for our reception held in DACOR Bacon House's lovely garden.



Bambi Arellano, Terry Brown, Clinton White, Sharon Pauling, Linda Whitlock-Brown, Denise Rollins, Chris Milligan, and Karen Freeman



Michelle Similas, Chris Milligan, Christophe Tocco, Laura Jagla



Barbara Hughes, Melissa Williams, Antoinette Almaguer, Margaret Muese, Jerry Manarollo



Scott Kleinberg and Jean Lange



Henrietta Fore engaging virtual attendees



Mary Alice Kleinjan, David McCloud, Franklin Moore



Aaron Williams and Henrietta Fore



Henrietta Fore and Sharon Pauling



Aaron Williams and Terry Brown

UAA Board Election 2023: Request for Self-Nominations

There are two vacant positions on the UAA Board to be filled by vote of the Membership prior to the 2023 Annual General Meeting (AGM). The Board Nominations Committee is seeking to broaden the selection of candidates to fill these two vacancies by soliciting current UAA members to self-nominate. The only required criterion is that you must be a 2023 UAA member (having made the required contribution on or after December 1, 2022) as of the deadline for submission of expressions of interest as a candidate for the Board. Candidates may have worked under any USAID hiring authority eligible for membership in UAA.

Candidates may be located anywhere, including outside the CONUS, as long as they have access to high-speed internet. Attendance at both monthly Board and Executive Committee Zoom meetings on weekday mornings, Eastern time, is expected. The Board of UAA is a working Board and all members, through their participation, contribute significant time.

The Nominations Committee will take into consideration factors such as active participation in UAA Standing Committees, participation in the UAA Mentoring Program, or other activities that demonstrate the candidate has contributed to the work of the UAA and is willing to invest time and energy into the activities of the UAA. Activities have expanded under our MOU with USAID and we anticipate that they will continue to expand and diversify.

Consistent with UAA's Statement of Intent on Diversity and Inclusion, the Nominations Committee encourages UAA members who identify as coming from a diverse or under-represented community to self-nominate for Board membership. The Statement of Intent can be found under UAA Policies in the About Us section of the UAA website.

If you wish to self-nominate, please send the following information to the Nominations Committee:

- Name
- Last position held at USAID, hiring authority, and most recent date of retirement or separation
- Examples of contributions to UAA or its operating framework/objectives as stated in the About Us section of the UAA website
- Brief statement of why you wish to join the Board

Send your self-nomination to the members of the Nominations Committee NLT July 14, 2023 to allow adequate time for consideration. The Nominations Committee members, Margaret Neuse, Carol Dabbs and Miles Toder can be reached at: elections@usaidalumni.org.

UAA Southwest meets UAA Southeast in San Juan Capistrano, California

UAA "Regional Chapters" supporters Christine Sheckler from San Diego, CA, and Alan Van Egmond from Naples, Florida, reunited in Southern California on May 24 to consult about efforts to set up UAA chapters in their respective regions. UAA Outreach Co-Chair Christine Sheckler is taking the lead in her region. UAA Board member Miles Toder has been bringing USAID alums together in Florida. The latter included hosting a gathering in Jacksonville, Florida, on May 19, attended by Washington, D.C.-based UAA Executive Committee Member Margot Ellis. The next UAA/Florida meeting is scheduled for September 8, 2023, in Ft. Lauderdale. UAA/West Coast is under formation.



*Christine Sheckler & Alan
VanEgmond*



*Taroub Faramond (Jacksonville), Miles Toder (Sarasota),
Liliana Avalde (Ft. Lauderdale) & Margot Ellis (D.C.)*

Former FSNs Family Day Picnic on June 25th!

USAID Counselor to the Administrator Clinton White is organizing an informal USAID family day picnic for former FSNs living in the Washington, DC metropolitan area (including Maryland and Virginia suburbs) at Fort Hunt Park in Alexandria, VA on June 25th. This is a casual social event to get together our former FSN colleagues and their families. A small committee of former FSNs are working with Counselor White on plans for the event. Former FSNs planning to attend should bring one or two food dishes to share during this classic American "covered dish" event. Non-alcoholic beverages (no alcohol allowed at this event), ice, picnic necessities, and staple food items will be provided.

Interested former FSNs should email UAA Board Member Denise Rollins at denise_rollins@hotmail.com as soon as possible, who will then let Counselor White or his planning committee know. If they are OK with you directly sharing their names and email addresses with Denise, please you may do so asap."

UAA 2023 Awards Program

Only two months remain to nominate deserving UAA alumni for its signature Alumni of the Year Award. The UAA will continue this year to recognize significant contributions by UAA members through its annual awards program. Since the inception of the program in 2014, the UAA has celebrated new paths taken by USAID alumni in retirement to provide service to their communities and to make lasting contributions to others at home and abroad.

The Awards Committee **will accept nominations for Alumni of the Year until July 31, 2023**. Send nominations electronically to: awards@usaidalumni.org. The award winners will be announced at the UAA Annual General Meeting in October. To see the 2023 Awards Program guidance please [click here](#).

UAA Mentoring Program - Cohort 12 - Mid-Point Check-In

The UAA Mentoring Program Mid-Point Check-In for Cohort 12 was conducted in April. The results affirmed that this program matching retired Foreign Service Officers with current Foreign Service Officers to provide professional and career mentoring is on track and growing in demand. Despite busy schedules and post-COVID work arrangements, the majority of mentor and mentee respondents reported that they began meeting in January, as per the program timeline, and were meeting regularly on agreed varying schedules. All responding mentees said they were pleased with their mentor match and beneficial topics discussed included a wide range of management, career development and promotion issues.

This summer, a fuller program evaluation will be conducted to review key issues and benefits to help inform the management and matching process for Cohort 13. A consideration for the next cohort is the possible expansion of the program, which is in increasing demand by Agency leadership to help support workforce development initiatives, but will largely depend on the number of available mentors. Due to the program's growing popularity, all UAA foreign service retiree members are encouraged to consider mentoring. More recruitment information will be provided about this exciting opportunity this summer. For more information, please contact Denise Rollins at denise_rollins@hotmail.com or Sharon Pauling at sharonpauling@hotmail.com.

Development Dialogues



Former Peru President Francisco Sagasti and Alex Shakow at DACOR, 24 May 2023

On May 24, 2023, **Francisco Sagasti** provided a UAA/DACOR audience an insightful description of his recent experience as Interim President of Peru and of political developments in Latin America more broadly, reflecting on the exercise of political power and authority at crisis times. Sagasti has had a long and distinguished career in Peru and around the world, including at the World Bank and the United Nations. Reflecting the audience's enthusiastic reception for his comments, one attendee even stated she wished he were an American citizen so he could become President here! To watch the entire program please click [here](#).

2023 Membership Contributions are Due!

It is now six months into the year! If you have not already responded to the UAA's messages encouraging you to join or renew your 2023 membership, you can still do this by clicking on the **[MEMBER 2023](#)** icon now, or see below for a link to information on paying by check. You will be able to enjoy all UAA activities during the membership year January through December 2023. For membership eligibility, contribution levels, payment options, and how to join, see the listing on the left side of the UAA website home page: <https://www.usaidalumni.org>.

You can submit your credit card data online by clicking the member icon above, or send a check made out to USAID Alumni Association to Treasurer, USAID Alumni Association, DACOR, 4th floor, 1801 F Street NW, Washington, DC 20006.

Alumni Profile: Roxana Rogers De Sole

Since 2013, Roxana Rogers has occasionally been a consultant for USAID programs in Africa, Washington, and even Italy following the terrible



*Roxana with husband Giuseppe and daughters
Natalie and Melissa*

havoc wreaked by COVID. But most of the time she can be found birding, hiking, skiing or otherwise enjoying her native state, Colorado. As a Peace Corps volunteer in Ethiopia, Roxana taught English for two tumultuous years which witnessed the overthrow of Haile Selassie and rise of the ruthless Mengistu Haile Mariam. Forced to close the program, Peace Corps asked several volunteers, including Roxana, to drive Land Rovers over the sparsely traveled route from Addis to Nairobi. An Italian physician hitched a ride and the rest is history: in

1978, Roxana married Dr. Giuseppe De Sole.

First, they moved to rural Mali for his job. A few years later, armed with graduate degrees from Columbia and School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Roxana (a Brown grad) began to work on USAID/Burkina's family planning program. It was an inspirational time in the former French colony which had only recently legalized contraception. Over six years, Roxana saw the vast improvement of family planning services and their expansion to remote areas. The sleepy country was even exciting as it was rocked by a war with Mali, and by the dramatic rise and bloody overthrow of the iconic Thomas Sankara.

In 1991, Roxana, with Giuseppe and daughters, Natalie and Melissa, moved to Zimbabwe to manage a new USAID family planning project. Again, she worked with a groundbreaking program known for its bicycling Community Based Distributors. Contraceptive use surged in the 1990s. But, as HIV started taking a horrific toll in Zimbabwe, Roxana became involved in supporting USAID's response to the pandemic.

In 1999, she returned to Washington, at first in the energetic Africa Bureau's Sustainable Development division and then as Deputy Director in the equally energetic Global Health Bureau's HIV/AIDS Office. In 2003, President Bush announced the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). For Roxana the next years were busy, challenging, rewarding, and exhausting as this new program was established and got well underway.

Roxana returned to Africa to direct USAID's HIV Office in Pretoria in 2007. There Roxana led a talented team devoted to improving and expanding HIV prevention, treatment, and care including care for orphans. Finally in 2011, Roxana returned to Washington as Director of the Office of HIV. But soon she and Giuseppe decided to return to a quieter life of occasional USAID consultancies and more frequent

enjoyment of the natural pleasures of Colorado. Roxana welcomes hearing from former friends and colleagues at roxanarogers@gmail.com.

Make Your 2023 UAA Membership Contribution **USAID Alumni Association**

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

[Unsubscribe stucallison@yahoo.com](mailto:stucallison@yahoo.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by office@usaidalumni.org