THURSDAY, APRIL 13

The Challenge of Global Leadership Today

MIC is pleased to host Carol Bellamy, president and CEO of World Learning, for a discussion on global leadership and citizen diplomacy. Citizen diplomats have been called our country’s greatest asset in countering negative stereotypes about the U.S. Ms. Bellamy is a fine example of how the efforts of a single individual can achieve broad-reaching effect and help change the world for the better.

Prior to becoming head of World Learning in June 2005, Ms. Bellamy served for ten years as Executive Director of UNICEF. In this position Ms. Bellamy championed global investment in children by prioritizing immunization, access to school and early childhood education, reducing the spread of HIV/AIDS, and protecting children from violence and exploitation. Ms. Bellamy also headed the United States Peace Corps in the early 1990s. In addition to her notable nonprofit leadership positions, Ms. Bellamy has had a distinguished career in the private sector and as an elected official.

COSPONSORS: Carleton College, Center for Victims of Torture, Humphrey Institute for Public Affairs, National Council for International Visitors, Returned Peace Corps Volunteers and World Learning

WHEN . . . . . . . Thursday, April 13; registration 5:30 P; program 6:00 – 7:30 P
WHERE: Humphrey Institute for Public Affairs, Lowes Auditorium
301 19th Avenue S, Minneapolis
COST: MIC members, students and members of cosponsoring organizations $5; Non-members $15

MONGAY, MAY 8

Ambassadors Dialogue: The Future of South Korea

The Minnesota International Center is pleased to host a dialogue between Alexander Vershbow, U.S. ambassador to the Republic of Korea, and Tae-sik Lee, Republic of Korea ambassador to the U.S., at a public luncheon. They will discuss recent developments in America’s relationship with South Korea, including economic issues, prospects for free trade agreements and recent developments in security issues affecting the entire peninsula.

Ambassador Alexander Vershbow has served as the United States Ambassador to the Republic of Korea since October 2005. A career member of the Foreign Service, Ambassador Vershbow has extensive experience in East-West relations, non-proliferation and European security affairs. He has also represented the U.S. as Ambassador to Russia and to NATO, and served as the Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for European Affairs at the National Security Council.

Ambassador Lee Tae-sik has served as Republic of Korea ambassador to the United States since November 2005. Ambassador Lee is a career diplomat who has served his country for more than four decades, and has represented the Republic of Korea in Liberia, the Philippines, Austria, Yugoslavia, Israel, the United Kingdom and Belgium. He has also held several senior-level governmental positions, including director-general of the International Trade Bureau at the Foreign Affairs Ministry, deputy executive director of the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization and deputy foreign minister.

*The Republic of Korea is the country name for South Korea as designated by the United Nations Statistics Division.

COSPONSORS: Korean Association of Minnesota; Korean Economic Institute and Korean Quarterly Newspaper

WHEN . . . . . . . Monday, May 8; registration 11:30 A; luncheon and program 12:00 P – 1:30 P
WHERE: Radisson Plaza Hotel, Third Floor Ballroom
30 S. 7th Street, Minneapolis.
For directions, please visit the Radisson Plaza’s website, http://www.radisson.com/minneapolis_plaza
COST . . . . . . . MIC members, students and members of cosponsoring organizations $30; Non-members $40. Advance registration required

APRIL 23—29

National Volunteer Week

Volunteers perform countless acts of service and are one of America’s most valuable assets — Robert Goodwin, president and chief executive, Points of Light Foundation

MIC is indebted to our volunteers who contribute thousands of hours annually as dinner hosts, escorts/drivers, Great Decisions group leaders, interns, speakers, programmers, and event and office volunteers to make MIC’s programs possible.
Wednesdays

World Chats are MIC’s small public gatherings designed to facilitate conversation and discussion among presenters and audience members on a variety of global issues.

World Chat

The Role of Elections in Expanding Freedom and Building Democracy Worldwide

Maati Monjib, who is currently a Fulbright scholar-in-residence from Morocco at Rainy River Community College in International Falls, will discuss the current political scene in Morocco. Dr. Monjib is a professor in the Department of History at Meknes University in Morocco, and has previously held teaching positions in Florida and Senegal. He has written books and articles on the topics of politics and human rights in North Africa, especially the political evolution of Morocco.

Coproror: Other Lifelong Learning Institute

World Chat

The Paradox of Russian Women

Norma C. Noonan, professor of Political Science at Augsburg College, where she directs and teaches in the M.A. in Leadership Program, will speak about the role of women in leadership in Russia. She has lived and traveled extensively in the former Soviet Union, has edited and co-authored two books and written numerous articles about Russian women. Dr. Noonan is a frequent speaker on Russia and other international relations topics for MIC’s Great Decisions program. She holds a Ph.D. in Political Science and a Certificate in Russian Area Studies from Indiana University.

Coproror: Other Lifelong Learning Institute

World Chat

The Role of Elections in Expanding Freedom and Building Democracy Worldwide

MIC is pleased to join with the International Republican Institute (IRI) and the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) in hosting a discussion on the role of elections in emerging democracies. With elections in Iraq, Haiti and the Palestinian Territories making front-page news, this timely program provides the opportunity to discuss the importance and implications of these and other elections for the advancement of democracy.

NDI and IRI are Washington-based NGOs that work to strengthen and advance democracy worldwide. These nonprofit organizations have programs and field staff in more than 60 countries around the globe, focusing on citizen participation and civic responsibility, political party development, training for newly-elected officials, openness and accountability in government, and safeguarding elections. For more information on both organizations, please visit their websites: www.ndi.org and www.iri.org

Coprorors: Center for Victims of Torture and the Humphrey Institute for Public Affairs

TUESDAY, APRIL 18

IN THE PARLIAMENT

Kenneth Wollack, president of NDI, has been actively involved in foreign affairs, journalism and politics since 1972. Mr. Wollack joined NDI in 1986 as executive vice president and was elected president by the Institute’s board of directors in March 1993. He has traveled extensively in Eastern and Central Europe, the former Soviet Union, Latin America, the Middle East, Asia and Africa on behalf of the Institute’s political development programs.

Giorgos A. Fauriol is the Senior Vice President of IRI, with responsibility for strategic planning, program development and evaluation. Prior to joining the staff of IRI, Mr. Fauriol participated in many IRI assessment missions, training workshops and election observations. He is a past director and senior fellow of the Americas Program, specializing in Western Hemisphere issues, at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS).

Coprorors: Humphrey Institute for Public Affairs, Coates Auditorium, 301 19th Avenue South; Minneapolis

Advance registration requested

Advance registration requested

Advances registration requested

we’ll see you there!
Letter from the President: Carol Engebretson Byrne

These last two months at MIC could be characterized as “the best of times and the worst of times.”

We were so proud to receive two national awards for program excellence. In January, MIC was awarded the 2006 Carol Morgan Award for Excellence in Schools Programming by the World Affairs Councils of America (WACA) at their annual conference in late January in Washington, D.C. We also celebrated this award at a sold-out WorldQuest International Trivia Competition on January 27, which raised more than $20,000 to support the International Classroom Connection (our K-12 education program.)

In February I chaired the National Council for International Visitors (NCIV) national meeting in Washington, D.C. with an attendance of more than 500 people from across the nation. It was so proud to witness our own Jennifer Thorvig, International Visitor Leadership program manager, receive the NCIV Outstanding Program Agency Programmer Award for the stellar work she has done this past year bringing 333 U.S State Department International Visitors to Minnesota.

We returned to Minnesota to face the heartbreak of losing Robin. Benson LLP, Moroccan ambassador to the United States, for an evening celebrating the Kingdom of Morocco, a country that offers a unique blend of African, Arabic and European influences. The evening will include elements of Moroccan culture, cuisine and music as well as a Moroccan-themed performance by Circus Juventus. MIC’s famous Tour the World silent auction will again feature a dazzling array of unique travel opportunities, experiences and items.

Historically, Morocco and the United States have a relationship dating back to 1777 when Morocco was the first nation to recognize the fledgling United States; and the oldest non-broken friendship treaty, the Moroccan-American Treaty of Friendship, which has been in effect since 1783. Currently, Morocco is one of Minnesota’s fastest growing trade partners; and Morocco and the University of Minnesota have a 50-year history of collaboration via the USAID-sponsored Minnesota-Morocco project, which has brought more than 400 Moroccan students to the University of Minnesota since its inception.

Look for your invitation in the mail in April and check MIC’s website (www.micglobe.org) for updates on the silent auction items as they become available.

 ICUA

Thank you!

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Lowertown Redevelopment Corporation

Medica

Midwest of Cannon Falls

Pearson NCS

Tripleclick

Sponsoring Hotel

The Marquette Hotel

COST

WHERE

WHEN

Circus Juventas, 1270 Montreal Avenue, St. Paul

Saturday, June 17; 6:00 P.M.

MINNESOTA’S DOOR TO THE WORLD

Each year MIC’s annual benefit features a different country or region. In 2006, the focus country will be the Kingdom of Morocco, providing guests with an opportunity to sample the culture and cuisine of this fascinating country in an exhilarating environment – Circus Juventus. We are invited to join His Excellency Aziz Mekouar, Moroccan ambassador to the United States, for an evening celebrating the Kingdom of Morocco, a country that offers a unique blend of African, Arabic and European influences. The evening will include elements of Moroccan culture, cuisine and music as well as a Moroccan-themed performance by Circus Juventus. MIC’s famous Tour the World silent auction will again feature a dazzling array of unique travel opportunities, experiences and items.

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Volunteer Gardener Opportunity

Scheduling is not that for away and MIC desperately needs help in improving the landscaping surrounding our building. If you are able to provide planning and/or gardening assistance, please contact Carol at mic@umn.edu or 612.625.4421.

MIC OPPORTUNITIES

Dinner Hosting – For MIC Members Only

Here for dinner international professionals visiting Minnesota as guests of the U.S. State Department. Thurs., Apr. 6 – Wed., Apr. 8: Visitors from Kenya here to discuss religion and education. Wed., Apr. 6 – 28: Visitors from various countries here to discuss U.S. Sectional systems. Thurs., Apr. 7 – Mon., May 1: Visitors from the Middle East here to discuss agriculture.

Include international students in your celebration of Passover or Easter.

• To volunteer for any of the above hosting opportunities, contact Carol at mic@umn.edu or 612.625.4421.

GREAT DECISIONS ON TV

The seven-episode television series will be broadcast on Twin Cities Public Television Channel 17 beginning on Sunday, April 9, at 5:00 P.M. and will continue through June. Moderated by Ralph Updegraff, former CNN World Affairs correspondent based in their Washington Bureau, the series features renowned national and international experts on the seven-episode topics. These broadcasts supplement the print materials which are available on each topic. The first four topics will be:

• U.S. Reform: Pipe Dreams or Practicality?
• Understanding the War
• Global Energy Outlook
• Black: The Long Road to Economic Stability.

To confirm the schedule and for more information, visit the Twin Cities Public Television website www.pctv.org.

The seven-episode series is the longest running television program devoted solely in international affairs and foreign policy.

Numerous civic community groups meet in the micro area and in various Minnesota to discuss foreign policy topics. For more information, visit MIC’s website and click on Great Decisions under Upcoming Events.

COSPONSORED EVENTS

Tues., Mar. 28: Hong Kong Networking Luncheon: Turning China into Opportunity

A networking lunch featuring Peter Woo, chairman of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council.

For more information: Call 612.625.4421 or visit http://www.exportminnesota.com/

Thurs., Mar 30: Roundtable and Book Signing

Ahmad Karimi, author of Memoirs, which gives poignant cameos of those who would become Shi’ite Afghani’s post-quotable leaders.

When: 12:30 – 2:00 P.M. (to be confirmed) Where: Humphrey Institute for Public Affairs, 301 19th Avenue S, Minneapolis For more information: Contact Harry Bailey at 612.625.1539.

Mon., May 15 – Fri., May 19: Minnesota World Trade Week

For more information: visit the Minnesota Trade Office website www.exportminnesota.com/