

MEMORANDUM

To: CSIS Alumni
From: John Hamre
Date: October 14, 2009
RE: Update to CSIS Alumni

Greetings from Washington... Things are hopping here at CSIS. The activity rate is as high as ever and we have come through the worst of the recession largely intact. To complicate things, we lost a good number of people who have joined the new Administration, but we have also recruited excellent new people. Things are looking good here at the Center and we are on the move.

Our New Building... Since I last wrote, we have made great progress on the new building. We are at the final stages of design work. We cleared the important zoning hurdles this summer with the District of Columbia's Zoning Commission and are working hard to raise money to build the building. That part of the process is going remarkably well, given the state of the economy.

NPT Review Conference... Two years ago, we launched an ambitious effort to bring together France, Britain and America on nuclear issues in anticipation of the Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference next May. We started with a classic "track two" approach (Track 1 is government to government. Track 2 is think tank to think tank dialogue and Track 1.5 is a mix of the two), but that quickly turned into a Track 1.5 approach. We met last week with government officials and think tank policy experts from all three countries and worked line by line through a very good joint declaration. This is CSIS at its best. We got in front of the issue, created a constructive and neutral space for collaborative thinking, and have a process to hand it to the government for action.

Food Security Task Force... Johanna Nesseth and Steve Morrison are working on a new phase for our food security project. We met last week with senior leaders at the State Department, which is leading an effort for the U.S. government on food security. To learn more about our food security project, please click on this link: <http://csis.org/program/food>.

New NATO Concept... NATO is again looking at its so-called "strategic concept." Former Secretary of State and CSIS alum, Madeleine Albright, is heading up a group of "eminent persons" to help with this effort. Stephen Flanagan from here at CSIS is in turn helping Madeleine. We will keep you posted on its progress.

Recent Reports... There have been a few interesting reports recently released by our experts here at CSIS. The "*Countering Threats to Security and Stability in a Failing State: Lessons from Columbia*" report was released in September. It examines developments in Columbia to assess the lessons to be learned from that country's impressive recovery. To read the report, please click here: http://csis.org/files/publication/090918_DeShazo_CounteringThreats_Web.pdf.

Another report entitled, “*Enhancing U.S. Leadership on Drinking Water and Sanitation*,” was also released in September. This report focuses on the links among water, sanitation, and the health sector and identifies opportunities for greater U.S. engagement on water and sanitation as global health challenges. If you are interested in reading this report, please click on this link: <http://csis.org/publication/enhancing-us-leadership-drinking-water-and-sanitation>.

Now and Then

Emma Davies (Editorial Assistant, Publications, October 2007 to July 2009) is now at the University of Maryland where she is studying for her Ph.D. in government and politics.

Hubertus Hoffman (Research Fellow, Office of Dr. David Abshire, 1983-1984) is the Founder and President of the World Security Network Foundation in London. At his foundation, they are interested in hearing from experts in foreign affairs, as well as getting them involved in their “Codes of Tolerance” project. If any of you are interested in his work, please go to his website: www.worldsecuritynetwork.com or www.codesoftolerance.com for more information.

Tressa Guenov (Research Associate, Commission on Science and Security, Action Commissions, GIIC, 1999-2002) recently left the Office of the Secretary of Defense to become the Legislative Assistant for National Security Affairs for Senator Claire McCaskill.

Monica Kohli (Program Manager, Abshire- Inamori Leadership Academy, 2006-2009) has recently moved to Ecuador to work on an Ecuadorian company's corporate social responsibility project. She then plans on moving to work on similar issues in India.

Karina Marshall (Deputy Director of Marketing and Communications, External Relations, February 2007 to August 2009) is currently pursuing her M.B.A. from the University of Oxford in England at their Saïd Business School.

Michelle Warren (Intern, New European Democracies Project, January 2008- May 2008) now has a Presidential Management Fellowship (PMF) position in the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs at the U.S. Department of State and began her my new role as a Foreign Affairs Officer in September.