

# Council Chronicle



Vol. 9, No. 2

The National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations is pleased to provide the 29th edition of the *Council Chronicle*, the Council's periodic newsletter. The *Chronicle* seeks to keep the Council's alumni, donors, and other supporters informed and updated, expanding the nature and extent of the Council's efforts in pursuit of its vision and mission. One among other efforts to do so on an ongoing basis is achieved by presenting highlights and special reports on the Council's programs, projects, events, and activities. For new readers interested in learning more about the Council's vision and mission, and for ongoing supporters keen to keep abreast of the Council's accomplishments, together with the ways and means it utilizes to pursue both objectives, please read on and visit the Council's website at [ncusar.org](http://ncusar.org).

## Message from the President

The following pages contain reports on the National Council's ongoing and more recent new programs and activities in Arab-U.S. relations education, training, and leadership development. Of special note are accounts of how approximately 2,200 university and secondary school participants, as well as those opting to engage with the Council for the first time, expanded their knowledge, understanding, and ability to share with others what they have learned and continue to learn through and with the Council. "Learn what?" one might ask. The answer: about the Arab world, about Arab culture,

about Arab society, about Arab economics, governmental structures, political dynamics, international relations, and, most important, about doing whatever is necessary to strengthen and empower the positive benefits of the U.S.-Arab relationship.



**The National Council's Model Arab League Student Leadership Development Program helps prepare students to be knowledgeable, well-trained, and effective citizens as well as civic and public affairs leaders.**

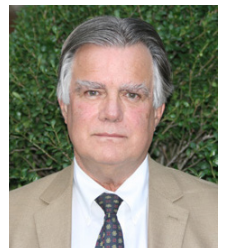
Through participation in the National Council's programs, 36 of these American youth won Council scholarships. With these in hand, they were able to join Council-organized and -led separate study visits to Saudi Arabia and Qatar, two of America's most important friends, allies, and strategic partners. The visits provided the students an array of firsthand cultural and educational experiences that they could not obtain in any other way. Of particular interest and value were the students' exposure to the continuing dynamics of the overall U.S.-Arab relationship and the specific Saudi Arabian-American and Qatari-American relationships, together with other pressing American and Arab issues and ideas of the day.

In these ways, the Council's leadership, management, staff, and other supporters helped a growing number of America's emerging leaders gain a degree of knowledge and understanding of the Arab world – and America's relations with its peoples and cultures – that they could not find in academic classes alone or in lectures, briefings, and

published works. One among other results of these firsthand educational experiences is that what the students learn will last them all their lives. They acquire an unparalleled preparation for careers in the Arab-U.S. diplomatic, military, academic, business, and public policy research communities, to which they will bring leadership and management abilities for strengthening and expanding the mutually beneficial relations between the Arab and American peoples.

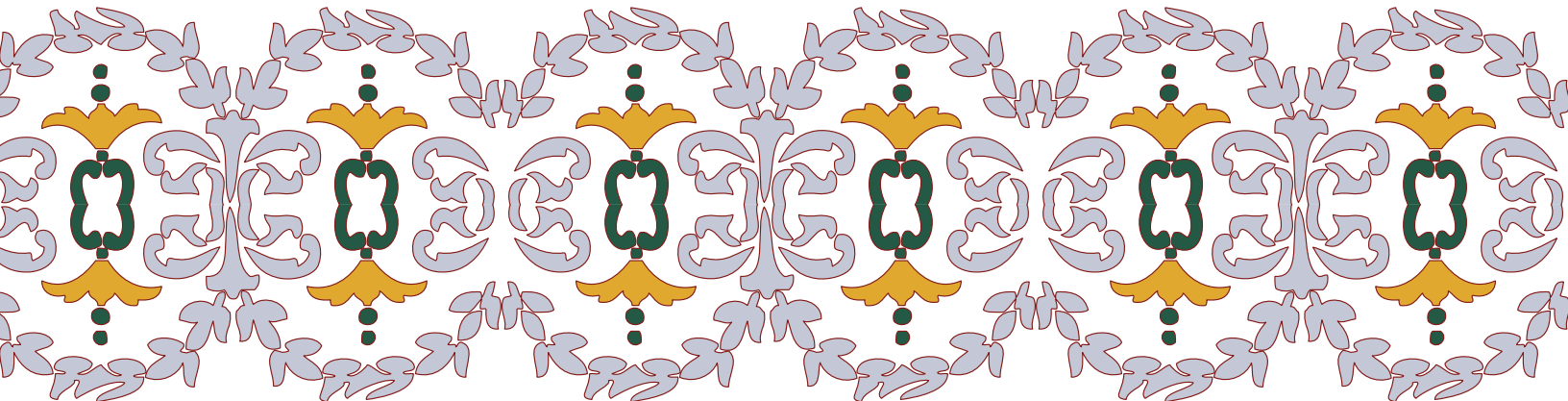
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Duke Anthony".

Dr. John Duke Anthony  
Founding President and CEO  
National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations



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## About the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations

Founded in 1983, the National Council is an American educational, non-profit, and non-governmental organization. The Council is dedicated to improving American knowledge and understanding of the Arab world one person at a time through TEN annual programs, events, and activities.

**First**, the National Council is committed to educating, training, and developing the leadership skills of the current and emerging generation of Americans tasked with improving the overall U.S.-Arab relationship. From one Council leadership development effort alone, the [Model Arab League Program](#), there are more than 40,000 alumni. The number of participants in the **Council's 21 annual Models** – through 2015, held in 17 cities throughout the United States and in Egypt, Lebanon, and Saudi Arabia – is over 2,200. Illustrative of the increasing national and international recognition of the leadership skills that this one Council program provides its participants is the following: contributions from supporters enabled the Council to administer **three additional Models in 2014-2015**. As evidence of the extraordinary value that comes through participation in the Models, all Council staff members are graduates of this program. Each has exhibited the sterling leadership qualities necessary for helping to strengthen



[National Council Analyses & Assessments](#)



[Arabia, the Gulf, & the GCC Blog](#)



U.S.-GCC  
CORPORATE  
COOPERATION  
COMMITTEE

and expand the youth component of the Arab-U.S. relationship; for exercising discipline and organization; for analyzing clearly and effectively; for speaking lucidly and forcefully in addition to editing quickly and efficaciously; for managing time in composing and fulfilling results-oriented agendas; for building coalitions in support of one's views and new ideas as well as existing schools of thought; and for acquiring the attributes of tolerance and respect for the opinions of others that may differ from one's own. Of special note is that in the past year, 36 young American alumni of the Council's Model Arab League Program received National Council Study Abroad Fellowships and Washington, DC Internships as a result of their participation in the Models.

**Second**, the National Council is the world's only organization to have administered, for 24 years and counting, an annual [Arab-U.S. Policymakers Conference](#). The Conference brings together many of the world's foremost American and Arab specialists. The scope and focus of their contributions encompass the multiple dynamics of the overall relationship between the United States and Arab governments, economies, and societies. For each of the past four years the Conference has drawn record numbers of more than 1,200 registrants. Through coverage for four of the past six years by C-SPAN, annual attendance



Former U.S. Congressman Paul Findley, a founding Member of the National Council’s Advisory Board and since 2014 its Co-Chairman, pictured here with Dr. John Duke Anthony in 1985, served in the U.S. House of Representatives for 22 years, representing the 20th District of Illinois. In 2013, the Council presented Congressman Findley its first-ever Distinguished Public Service and Lifetime Achievement Award.

in the District of Columbia. The internship provides a professional work experience and a series of site visits to, meetings with, and briefings by representatives of Arab embassies, Congress, the Supreme Court, the Department of State, and other institutions. The internship also includes participation in the world’s only known 20-part seminar on “Arabia, the Gulf, the GCC, and the U.S.-Arab Relationship.” In the seminar the interns not only learn to read and write weekly analyses and critiques of publications by some of the world’s most renowned

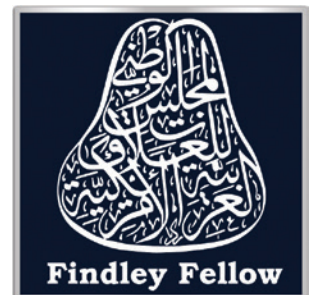
by other television satellite and radio broadcast networks plus dozens of print media outlets, and also through the Council’s website at [ncusar.org](http://ncusar.org), additional millions have been able to benefit from the proceedings.

A *third* National Council annual highlight is its ten-week intensive [University Student Summer Internship Program](#) in the nation’s capital. In the past year alone the Council educated, trained, and developed the leadership skills of **5 interns during the academic year and 25 interns in the summer**. In cooperation with The George Washington University Elliott School of International Affairs, the program was administered for the seventh consecutive year in association with 18 sister organizations

authors. They also meet and are briefed by a dozen of the assigned topics’ most accomplished role models. Among them are scholars, former Ambassadors, career Foreign Service officers, and other specialists of both genders, many of whom agree to serve as the interns’ informal mentors.

Among the exciting features of the National Council’s University Student Summer Internship Program, in which 25 interns participate annually, are the *Findley Fellowships*, which were first instituted in 2014. The Fellowships are

In 2014 the National Council instituted the Findley Fellowship Award to recognize outstanding participants in the Council’s University Student Summer Internship Program. Students honored as Findley Fellows are presented this lapel pin and their names are displayed prominently on a wall in the National Council’s entry foyer in recognition of their achievement.



presented at the end of the program to the most outstanding interns. The awardees are selected for having met four multifaceted criteria. First, they must have demonstrated on a regular basis the trait of excellence in the program's academic component. Second, they are required to manifest the skills of organization, productivity, research, analysis, assessment, composition, writing, and editing within tightly prescribed deadlines. Third, they are expected to display an ability to role play as Arab diplomats in a simulated introduction to Arab challenges and opportunities. Fourth, they must have exhibited throughout the seminar the critical thinking and communications skills as well as the moral, leadership, educational, and, especially, extraordinary traits of courage and commitment associated with the life and works of Congressman Paul Findley. (Information on a documentary film about Paul Findley can be found on page 11). If the reader concludes that only an exceptional few individuals in the average 18 to 24 age range are likely to possess all four of the traits noted, it would be because of precisely that: Findley Fellowship awardees are indeed exceptional, which is exactly the kind of Arab-U.S. relations leader that is needed and that the National Council seeks to recruit, educate, train, and help develop.

In retirement soon after leaving office, Congressman Findley wrote *They Dared to Speak*

*Out*, an award-winning account of more than two dozen nationally prominent Americans from all walks of life. Each of the individuals profiled had the courage of their convictions. They did not shy away from the duty to speak publicly and write for publication in an effort to set aright America's relations with its Arab friends, allies, and strategic partners. And like Congressman Findley himself, they were often subjected to name calling, slander, defamation of character, and forced prematurely to withdraw from public life early for doing so.

A *fourth* National Council program is designed to contribute positively to national public and private sector conversations about American policies, positions, attitudes, and actions toward the Arab world and its peoples. To this end, the Council administers year-round a series of seminars on Capitol Hill and in other venues. In each instance, one or more internationally recognized specialists is tasked with analyzing, assessing, and recommending more effective American approaches to dealing

with some of the most important challenges confronting American and Arab policymakers. The seminars, usually held in Congressional hearing rooms, are typically filled to capacity. In attendance are Members of Congress, Congressional staff, media representatives, research and publications specialists in prominent public policy research institutes, members of the diplomatic corps, and other foreign affairs practitioners.



H.E. Mohammad Jaham Al Kuwari, Ambassador of Qatar to the United States, addresses a National Council Congressional Briefing Event in the Rayburn House of Representatives Office Building.

The National Council is committed to building, maintaining, and wherever possible strengthening and expanding the human, institutional, and programmatic bridges between and among the American and Arab public and private sectors.

A *fifth* National Council activity is a specialized publications program. For the past eight years, the Council has achieved this, in part, through the *Council Chronicle*, which appears four times a year, and through an *Annual Review*. Still another feature of the Council’s publications outreach and continuing efforts to provide perspective on matters pertaining to the overall Arab-U.S. relationship, and to Arabia and the Gulf in particular, is the Council’s blog: *Arabia, the Gulf, and the GCC*, which features cutting-edge analyses by Council Founding President & CEO Dr. John Duke Anthony, Dr. Imad Harb, and other specialists. Visit the blog at: [ncusar.org/blog](http://ncusar.org/blog). In 2016, the National Council introduced an online publication series titled *National Council Analyses & Assessments* that regularly features articles on an aspect of U.S.-Arab relations or the Arab world. The series seeks to deliver unique insights and commentary on contemporary affairs and policies. It also seeks to provide a forum for pieces on broader issues such as the position, role, and rights of women, water, national security, climate change, economic reform, and Islamophobia. Read articles at: [ncusar.org/aa](http://ncusar.org/aa).

A *sixth* National Council activity is organizing and providing scholarly escorts

for delegations of American leaders on study visits to one or more Arab countries — in the past year, to Oman, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia.

A *seventh* National Council activity is a public service in the form of facilitating the participation of American students and faculty in Arabic language and area study learning experiences in Lebanon, Morocco, and Oman.

An *eighth* National Council activity is its ongoing participation in year-round heads of organizations meetings. These forums, which began under the Council’s auspices in 1991 in the aftermath of the reversal of Iraq’s aggression against Kuwait,



National Council Founding President & CEO Dr. John Duke Anthony (left) bestows the Council’s first-ever Global Corporate Leadership Award on HRH Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud (right) in November 2013.

periodically gather the CEOs and other key representatives of like-minded organizations that are committed to strengthening and expanding the overall Arab-U.S. relationship. Beyond deepening the bonds of trust, confidence, and a willingness to join forces in pursuit of common goals, the meetings in themselves demonstrate how vital donor support remains to these organizations' operations. Most important, they provide evidence to the respective organizations' "shareholders" that their financial, in-kind, and other investments in and contributions to what the organizations seek to accomplish have not been and are not in vain.

A *ninth* and most recent National Council activity is its President and CEO's serving as Chair of the *North American Bridge Network* (NABN). Established in April 2015 by HRH Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal and comprised of six American non-profit educational and social activism organizations, the network endeavors to fulfill the programmatic activities supported by Alwaleed Philanthropies. In a letter to Dr. Anthony on March 16, 2016, HRH Prince Alwaleed, who appointed Dr. Anthony to serve as the NABN's Chair, wrote, "We are proud of what our partnership and our North American Bridge Network Initiative have achieved in a wide range of activities. My contribution to the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations is a continuation of a lifelong effort to build bridges, foster cultural understanding, develop communities, empower women, enable youth, and to provide vital disaster



2016 National University Model Arab League awardees with the League of Arab States Washington Office Director Mr. Sameh Al Fonse and Dr. Anthony.

relief. In all, I wish to promote a more tolerant and accepting world. It is a commitment without boundaries – a commitment to all of humanity.”

A *tenth* National Council endeavor – the establishment of the first-ever Arab Cultural Institute in the nation’s capital – is as yet more a project than a program, more a dream and a vision than as yet a reality, although in time it is designed to be that and far more. For the better part of the past 20 years Dr. Anthony, the proposed institute’s visionary conceptualizer, has sought to obtain appropriate support for the idea and its implementation. To date, the project has received the informal and unofficial support of the Arab country cultural attachés and embassies’ representatives of the League of Arab States’ office in Washington. Representatives of appropriate agencies and officials of the U.S. government, in informal meetings and briefings, not only have acknowledged the national and pressing need for such an institute. They have also noted its innumerable, multifaceted, and potentially beneficial attributes. These include, first and foremost, enhancement of the awareness,



strategic dialogues between the United States and numerous Arab countries, together with increased exchanges and the development of Arab-U.S. relations skills among current and emerging American and Arab leaders. The envisioned Arab Cultural Institute will provide a cultural-centric forum for enhancing the Arab-U.S. relationship at many different levels.

\* \* \* \* \*

The National Council's *mission* is educational. It is committed to building, maintaining, and wherever possible strengthening and expanding the human, institutional, and programmatic bridges between and among the American and Arab public and private sectors. The Council seeks, in particular, to heighten and deepen American awareness and appreciation of the extraordinary range of benefits that the United States and the American people have long obtained, and continue to derive, from the overall U.S.-Arab relationship. But one among many hallmarks of the Council's mission is its emphasis on the publication and dissemination of documented facts.

National Council Founding President & CEO Dr. John Duke Anthony (center), Executive Vice President Patrick Mancino (left), and Board Member Paige Peterson (2nd from left), with students from the Council's Washington, DC Summer Internship Program after Dr. Anthony received the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee's 2014 Distinguished Service Award.  
Photo: Washington Report on Middle East Affairs.

knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of the dynamic *cultural* dimensions of the longstanding Arab-U.S. relationship. A summary description of the project and the underlying rationale for the establishment of such an institution is available on pages 9-10.

\* \* \* \* \*

Running through all of the National Council's programmatic works, activities, and other public services is the Council's vision for the U.S.-Arab relationship. The Council's *vision* is anchored in the legitimate needs, concerns, interests, and key foreign policy objectives of the American and Arab peoples. Resting on a solid and enduring foundation of cultural, strategic, economic, political, commercial, defense, and people-to-people cooperation, the vision encompasses the belief that the relationship is strengthened continuously by a range of richly rewarding efforts by people on both sides. Chief amongst these are the newly institutionalized and diverse

In pursuit of its mission, the National Council serves as a U.S.-Arab relations programmatic, human resources, and leadership development clearinghouse. In so doing, it provides cutting-edge information, insight, and learning opportunities for national, state, and local grassroots educational organizations, media, and public policy research institutes in addition to select community civic, business, and professional associations.



## An Arab Cultural Institute in the Heart of the Nation's Capital

*Washington, DC is host to numerous museums and cultural institutions – but none that feature the culture, development, economics, history, and societies of Arab countries. Neither is there a major center in the heart of the national capital that showcases the extraordinary range of Arab contributions to science and technology – indeed, to the world's civilizations and to humankind in general. An Arab Cultural Institute will do justice to these topics, to Arabs, and to America's relationship with this vitally important part of the world.*

### Fast Facts

- ▶ The Arab Cultural Institute will have permanent and temporary exhibits on Arab countries' culture and distinctive characteristics in addition to administering high quality educational programs together with special events and activities;
- ▶ In addition to its permanent, rotating, and special exhibitions, the Institute will feature space for the national day commemoration and events year-round for each of the 22 Arab countries. There will also be a conference hall, an auditorium, a library with research facilities, and meeting rooms for seminars, lectures, poetry readings, film screenings, book signings, and concerts;
- ▶ The Institute will offer visitors a bookstore/gift shop, a café and/or restaurant, a prayer room, and world-class museum items showcasing Arab historical monuments, archeological treasures, literary masterpieces, and examples of the innumerable, extraordinary, and myriad impacts that Arabs have had on humanity's endless quest for modernization and development as well as the relations of Arabs with other world regions and cultures, and vice versa;
- ▶ The Institute will ideally be in a prime location in the center of Washington within walking distance of the National Mall as well as the White House and easily accessible to the Metro and other public transportation;
- ▶ A management team comprised of the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations, in association with the League of Arab States' office in the United States and cultural attachés from the various Arab embassies, is working with American and Arab business and diplomatic leaders as well as the world's foremost museum designers, engineers, and architects to plan and administer the Institute.



## Benefits to Arabs

- ▶ The Arab Cultural Institute will undoubtedly do much to correct the many false images of Arabs among key groups in the United States by addressing widespread myths and stereotypes;
- ▶ The Institute will likely be visited by most Members of Congress, their principal staff, and large numbers of senior and mid-level representatives of the U.S. Executive Branch;
- ▶ The Institute will serve as a forum for representatives from the media, think tanks, lobbies, professional associations, and other institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. It will provide cultural and educational services for universities and history, geography, and social studies teachers as well as their students not only in the District of Columbia area, but also for the thousands of collegiate youth that visit the nation's capital year-round in addition to significant numbers among many of the city's annual 20 million tourists;
- ▶ The Institute will be an important tool to heighten Americans' interest in and appreciation of Arab culture, Arab civilization, and the Arabic language, thereby providing current and future leaders a more educated and accurate portrayal of Arabs and the position and role of Arab countries and their peoples in regional and world affairs;
- ▶ The opportunities for the Arab Cultural Institute to aid pan-Arab cooperation and American-Arab engagement will be limited only by the imagination.

## Broader Significance

The potential appeal of an Arab Cultural Institute in the nation's capital to large numbers of Americans and visitors to Washington from every country is obvious. Also obvious is that the Institute's contents and programming will enhance American knowledge and understanding of Arab and Islamic culture and the world's indebtedness to the manifold contributions to the betterment of humanity that countless numbers of Arabs have made.

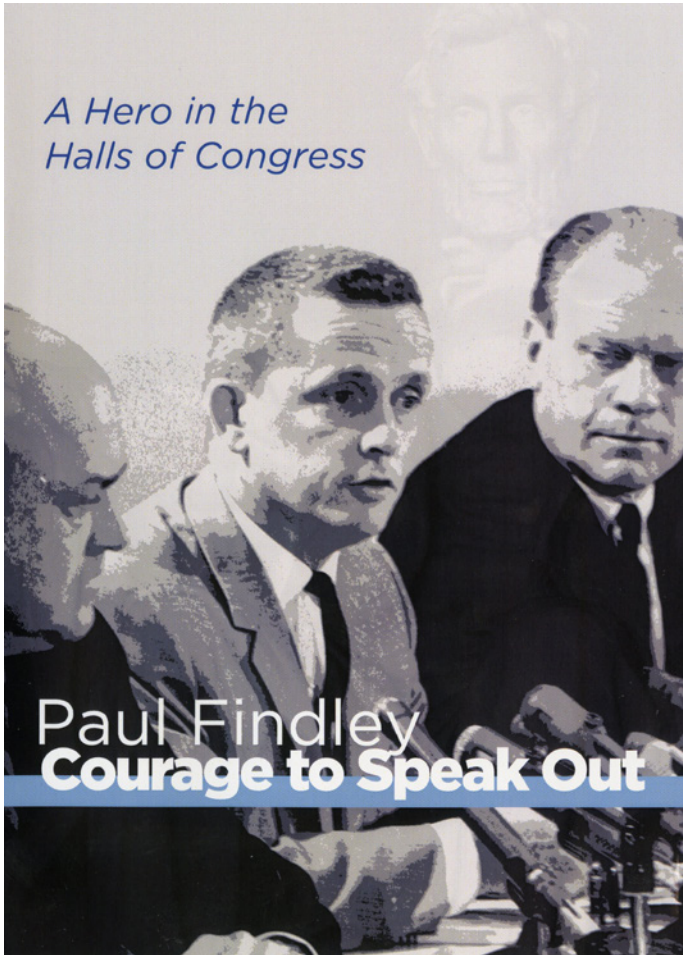
Of monumental significance is that the Arab Cultural Institute's contributions will occur in the center of the world's most technologically advanced, economically wealthiest, financially influential, and militarily powerful country.

The Institute will foster international education cooperation, tolerance, and respect for other peoples and their cultures. And it will demonstrate the belief in and commitment to increasing and ever-strengthening American-Arab ties across a broad range of mutual endeavors.

With the launching of the Institute, the United States and the Arab peoples will be celebrating the onset of a new chapter in their relations.

Documentary Film on the Life and Career of Congressman Paul Findley  
Co-Chair, International Advisory Committee,  
National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations

# Courage to Speak Out



"I view Paul as one of the finest men I ever knew in politics, and therefore not necessarily a good politician, because to be politic is not to offend. Paul didn't care. He said what he thought."  
**Congressman Pete McCloskey**

As a young high school student, Paul spoke out against a minstrel show. Like then and during his twenty-two years in Congress, he never let controversy or politics deter him from fighting for causes of justice, fairness and peace.

## Paul Findley Courage to Speak Out

He championed Civil Rights and was responsible for the first black page in Congress. He took on the powerful Cotton and Sugar lobbies. He wrote the Famine Relief Act and co-wrote legislation against age discrimination.

In foreign affairs he was a leader. A critic of the Vietnam War, he co-authored the War Powers Act, called for diplomatic relations with Red China and was instrumental in a nuclear non-proliferation treaty between Brazil and Argentina. He was the first to meet with Arafat and to call for a Palestinian state alongside Israel.

**This is the story of Paul Findley who had the courage to speak out.**

Produced and Directed by  
Stewart Nestor

DVD Video	Stereo	Bonus Feature
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Gales Creek Films  
(c) Copyright 2014

The National Council is pleased to announce production of an extraordinary video highlighting one of the most noble American public servants of the Twentieth Century.

Producer Stewart Nestor should receive an award for the effectiveness with which he captured, profiled, and dramatically illustrated in living film and sound the contributions to the United States, the world, and to humanity of one of America's finest leaders.

*Paul Findley: Courage to Speak Out* on DVD can be purchased from the American Educational Trust's [Middle East Books and More](http://bit.ly/findley-dvd) online store: <http://bit.ly/findley-dvd>

# Why Should Anyone Listen to You, Read What You Write, or Care About What You Advocate?

## What About Your Life is Worth Noting?

*In answering the quiz below and reading the pages that follow, consider doing one of two things.*

*One, imagine being someone who has yet to participate in a **National Council Model Arab League Program** and perhaps doesn't even know what it is. Then, once you have an idea of what it is and what it involves, ask yourself, "If I were to participate in this program, how might it help me? What difference will it make to what I am doing now to prepare more effectively to be a recognized leader? How might it help me to live a life of accomplishment and selfless service to my fellow human beings? How might I achieve this by supporting noble causes? Is it really possible to leave the world a better place than I found it? If so, how?"*

*Two, if you are no longer enrolled in a secondary school or university, ask yourself, "How, if at all, might my life have evolved differently if I had but participated in this program when I was a student?"*

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## Are you a leader?

*Everyone knows that being a leader is a good thing. But what does that really mean? Take the quiz below. Score it by giving yourself a point for each question checked. Then discover what your leadership skills are.*

Can you:

- A**rticulate an argument successfully in 45 seconds?
- S**peak in front of your peers under an exceptionally tight deadline?
- W**rite quickly, clearly, and forcefully within a short time limit?
- E**dit rapidly and effectively?
- D**isplay policymaking talents?
- U**timize parliamentary language and procedure?
- M**aster resolution language and processes?
- E**xhibit and implement intra-committee consensus-making attributes?
- F**orm coalitions of a majority or plurality in support of your positions?
- P**rovide evidence of productive decision-making?

**Scoring Guide:** Add 1 point for each question checked.

0 – 3: You have a few leadership skills; however, to develop more, you could use some help.

4 – 6: Your leadership skills are about half of what one needs to be an effective leader. You have a good foundation, but you need further work on developing these skills.

7 – 9: You're amassing the skills that will help to make you a good leader, but you still have a few lessons to learn.

10: Congratulations! You must be participating in the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations' Model Arab League Program!

## Model Arab League: Arab-U.S. Relations Youth Leadership Development Program

2015 marked the 32nd year of the National Council’s flagship Arab-U.S. Student Leadership Development Program, *the Model Arab League (MAL)*. The Models are similar in organization and format to the older and more widely recognized Model United Nations, with its 193 members. However, the MAL focuses exclusively on the 22 member countries that comprise the League of Arab States. Established in February 1945, and thereby pre-dating the founding of the United Nations, the Arab League is the world’s oldest regional political organization dedicated to, among other things, the diplomatic and peaceful

settlement of disputes.

The Models provide primarily American but also Arab and other international students opportunities to develop invaluable leadership skills. In few if any other ways elsewhere in the United States do students have a comparable chance to work with their fellows for common goals and shared interests. Among the 18 sister NGOs with which the National Council has a cooperative relationship, and among America’s 2,968 colleges and universities, participation in the Models, like nothing else, provides students an opportunity to



Students from universities throughout the United States and other countries convene to vote on a resolution during the final “summit” session at the National University Model Arab League at Georgetown University in Washington, DC.

develop, learn, and practice their leadership skills with regard to Arab world issues and challenges – skills that serve one well in any walk of life. No other known opportunity allows emerging leaders – to anywhere near the same extent – to learn firsthand what it is like to be and perform in the shoes of Arab diplomats and other foreign affairs practitioners. In the process, the students come to realize how different these international relations realities are from what they previously thought and, often inaccurately, assumed to be true.

Given the contemporary state of world affairs, the fact that the National Council enables thousands of American, Arab, and other youths to grapple with the legitimate needs, concerns, interests, and key international goals of a government other than their own, and especially that of an Arab country, has obvious and enduring merit. Students not only deepen their knowledge and understanding of the Arab world and its peoples. They also develop and practice useful analytical, organizational, writing, editing, and public speaking skills. In so doing they strengthen their ability to engage in the art of reasoned argument and spirited debate, while honing and refining their leadership attributes and effectiveness. For many students, such opportunities are often unavailable or exceptionally difficult to acquire in the course of reading a book, viewing films, videos, or television, listening to a specialist, participating in academic classes, attending briefings, or accessing the Internet.

## Educating, Training, and Developing Tomorrow's Arab-U.S. Relations Leaders

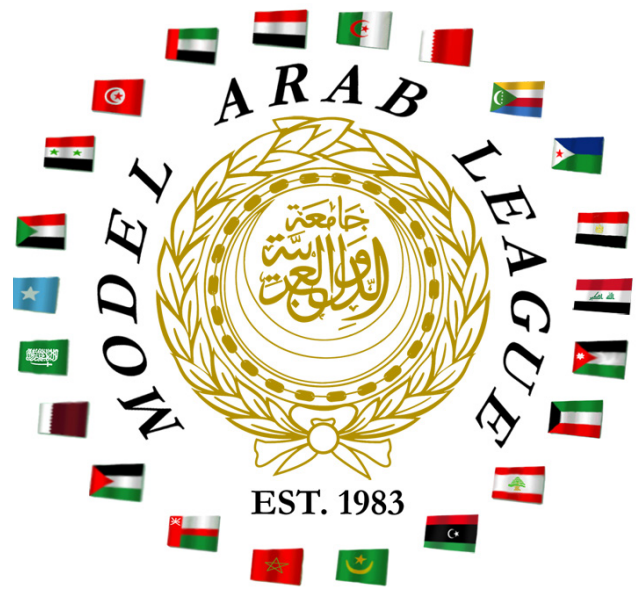
The Models enhance students' abilities to discuss and debate the national and regional cultural, defense, economic, political, social, and related issues and policies of the Arab countries they choose to represent. They do so using parliamentary procedure. In the process the students wrangle



Students receive awards for outstanding representation of their country's policies and positions from former Arab League Ambassador H.E. Mohammed Al Hussaini Al Sharif.

with one another over a broad and diverse range of policy-centric challenges and opportunities. An example is the proper course of policy formulation and action with regard to Palestinian affairs. Other examples include issues related to governance, security, stability, and development in such countries as Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, and the six GCC countries. Still others focus on Syria, Yemen, and matters pertaining to human rights, justice, defense cooperation, and the environment.

As in real-life public policy debates, the prospects for the participants' success turn on several factors. Each is a key component of effective leadership. One is the extent to which the participants have prepared. Another is the degree to which they are – and can remain – as organized, disciplined, and focused as possible. They must also be able to advocate their viewpoints with facts, clear oral and written expression, and the passion of their convictions as well as all the logic, strength of argument, and erudition they can muster. What is more, participants have to try to be as effective as they can within prescribed requirements and procedures, including tight time constraints. For example, in keeping with established rules of order, the Models' Secretaries General, Assistant Secretaries General, and Standing Council Chairs (each of whom is elected by their peers) are responsible for ensuring that debates keep to time variants of 45 seconds, one minute, three minutes,



Participants in the National Council's Model Arab League Program use parliamentary procedure to debate the issues and policies of the Arab countries they choose to represent.

and/or, at the Secretary General's discretion, a maximum of five minutes. In addition, for student

participants interested in the possibility of a career in journalism or other media fields, there are parallel opportunities to sharpen their reporting and writing skills. To that end, they participate in mock press conferences and the drafting of communiqués for publication during the Model's proceedings.

For the students involved, there is no denying either the rarity or the human resource development value of such an enterprise. In the field of Arab-U.S. relations, only the Models provide



Members of the Model Arab League Student Secretariat serve as Chairs, Vice-Chairs, and Rapporteurs on a variety of intra-Model councils as well as assist with overall conference administration. Here two such student leaders display their gavels and certificates of outstanding participation at the National High School Model at Georgetown University.



Model Arab League (MAL) delegations from (left) Converse College, with their Faculty Adviser, Malone Fellow alumnus Dr. Joe Dunn, and (right) Northeastern University, with their Faculty Adviser, Malone Fellow alumnus Dr. Philip D'Agati, display awards for outstanding team delegations at the National University Model Arab League in Washington, DC. Students from Converse and Northeastern have participated in National Council study visits to Qatar and Saudi Arabia as a result of their notable performances in various different Models.

the coming generation of tomorrow's leaders the opportunity to practice and master what it takes to become proficient in public affairs abilities. Participants are unique in more than nature and number. Performing under the watchful eyes of their faculty advisers and adult judges, they are eager to prove to themselves, their teachers, and their families that they are worth the investment made to enable them to participate in – and reap the rewards from – this one-of-a-kind component of their education and leadership development. To that end there is no way around the students' having to study hard, conduct serious research, and prepare as effectively as they can in advance of the Models. Doing so, like nothing else, will enhance the prospects of their winning awards for their performance.

## Strengthening and Expanding Arab-U.S. People-to-People Ties

First-time readers of the *Council Chronicle* often ask why, in some cities, there is more than one Model. The answer has to do with the immense popularity of this program. Students want to participate in it

year after year for as long as they can. A result is that at the end of numerous Models most of the student and faculty participants immediately register to participate in the next year's Model at the same venue, leaving little if any room for new universities and students to participate. Students newly aware of such opportunities and who want to participate would therefore be unable to do so if not for new Models being continuously established. In this way, the early 1980s original number of slightly more than 100 participants in a single city has grown more than twenty-fold – to more than 2,200 per year in 17 cities – and continues to increase.

Beyond the proven education, training, and leadership development skills and achievements that are the hallmarks of the Models' experience, a further incentive in recent years has been student and faculty awareness of the increasing number of additional benefits for which Model alumni and their faculty advisers become eligible. Indeed, participation in the Models has become a gateway for Model delegates and advisers to win National Council study abroad scholarships and fellowships. Such awards grant the recipients entry into the Council's Annual University and



High School Student Summer Internship Programs in the nation's capital; the Council's Arabic Language and Study Abroad Programs in Lebanon, Morocco, and Oman; and the Council's study visits to Oman, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia.

*In the past year, 36 young American alumni of the National Council's Model Arab League Program received, as a result of their participation in the Models, internships in the nation's capital and all-expenses-paid study abroad fellowships in Qatar and Saudi*

**In 2015, 36 students and 23 faculty advisers from the Model Arab League Program received, as a result of their participation in the Models, internships in the nation's capital and all-expenses-paid study abroad fellowships in Oman, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia.**

*Arabia.* For the students, acceptance and fulfillment of the requirements of these awards enabled them to strengthen their Arab-U.S. leadership skills in preparation for careers in international affairs and service in their country's public and private sectors.

*In addition, 23 Model Arab League faculty advisers received all-expenses-paid fellowships that allowed them, too, to participate in Council study visits to Oman, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia.* The faculty advisers' participation in such experiences has



Students vote on a resolution in the Social Affairs Council at the Ohio Valley Model Arab League.



Students who participate in the Model Arab League receive priority consideration for enrollment in (left) the National Council’s Washington, DC University Student Summer Internship Program. Additionally, students and faculty advisers from the Model Arab League Program are eligible to join (right) select Council educational study visits to Oman, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia.

enabled them not only to strengthen and diversify their teaching, writing, research, and public speaking expertise. It has also enriched the global component of their universities’ campus atmosphere and overall curricula.

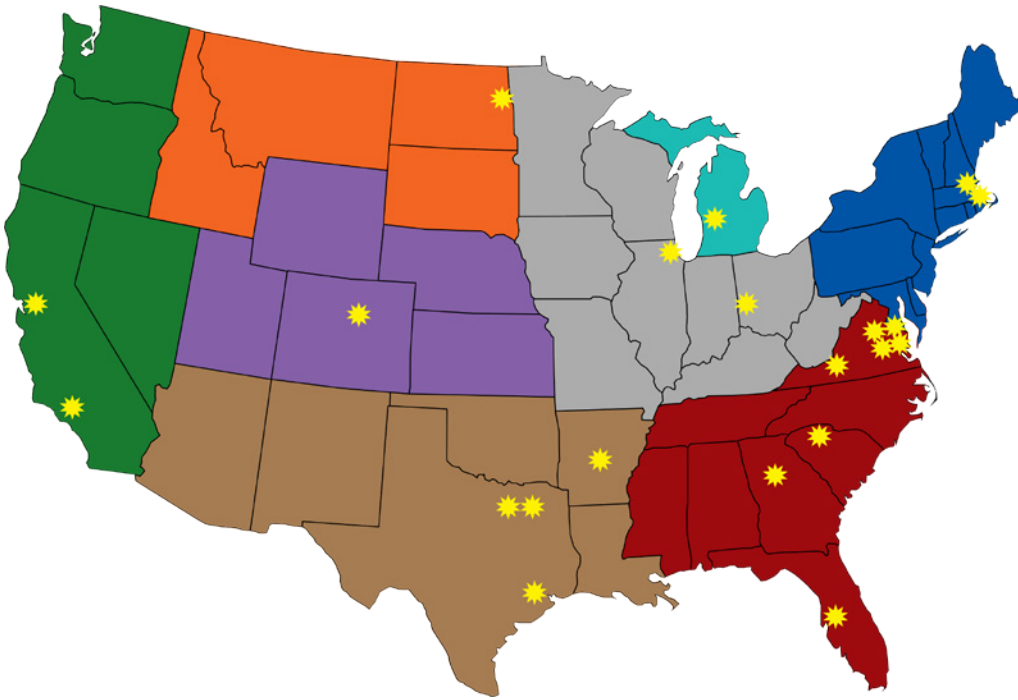
The National Council’s 2015 ten-week Washington, DC University Student Summer Internship Program combined professional work experiences in international affairs organizations with an academic seminar on Arabia and the Gulf; *six of the 25 interns were MAL alumni*. For the eighth year in succession, the academic portion of the program – chaired and directed by Dr. Anthony, who addressed the interns eight times – was held at The George Washington University’s Elliot School of International Affairs. *A special feature of the 2015 Internship Program was the holding of a summer Model Arab League at Georgetown University.*

***In the National Council’s cultural immersion visits to Saudi Arabia and Qatar in 2015, all 15 of the participants in each delegation were MAL Student and Faculty Alumni. In addition to those visits, 13 MAL faculty advisers took part in Council cultural immersion programs in Oman in 2015.***

## Scope and Focus of the National Council’s Network for Preparation and Participation

In preparation for participating in a Model, students benefit from the National Council’s national network of supporters and volunteers. Each of the participants can also obtain assistance from the Council’s staff comprised of Model Arab League Program alumni. Many gain further from contacting the numerous Arab embassies that support the Models. Still other participants are guided by one or more of the faculty advisers in 800 American universities with alumni of the Council’s Malone Faculty Fellows in Arab and Islamic Studies Program. What makes the Fellows unique sources of information and insight is their firsthand experience in Arab-U.S. relations derived from participation in the Council’s cultural immersion programs in one or more of the Arab countries that, in support of the Council’s mission, have hosted the Fellows.

In 2015, the National Council administered 21 Model Arab Leagues, of which 16 were university Models and 5 were high school Models. University Model Arab Leagues were conducted



In 2015, the National Council held Model Arab League conferences in seventeen cities across the United States.

in: Allendale, Michigan at Grand Valley State University; Berkeley, California at the University of California, Berkeley; Boston, Massachusetts at Northeastern University; Commerce, Texas at Texas A&M University-Commerce; Denver,



Model Arab League students not only learn about the history and politics of the Arab world but also develop negotiation and public speaking as well as organization, writing, editing, parliamentary procedure, and coalition-building skills.

Colorado at Metropolitan State University of Denver; Grand Forks, North Dakota at the University of North Dakota; Houston, Texas at the University of Houston Honors College; La Verne, California at the University of La Verne; Oxford, Ohio at Miami University; Roanoke, Virginia at Hollins University; Spartanburg, South Carolina at Converse College; Tampa, Florida at the University of South Florida; and Washington, D.C. at Georgetown University. High School Model Arab Leagues were conducted in: Atlanta,

Georgia at The Marist School; Chicago, Illinois at Carl Schurz High School; Denton, Texas at the University of North Texas; Little Rock, Arkansas at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock; and Washington, D.C. at Georgetown University.

As Council President Dr. John Duke Anthony has noted, “We are providing future leaders the experience of being in the shoes of and having to understand someone they might never be able to deal with effectively otherwise.” *“The beneficiaries,”* MAL Program Coordinator Zachary Hrynowski adds, *“are not only America and the world’s coming generation of diplomats, other international relations specialists, business representatives, and educators, but also humanitarians, peace and justice activists, armed services personnel, and future conflict preventers as well as resolvers.”*

## The National Council's Model Arab League Student Leaders Visit Saudi Arabia

The National Council, in partnership with the Saudi Arabian Cultural Mission (SACM) and the Saudi Arabian Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE), organized and escorted a delegation of ten Model Arab League students and five Model Arab League faculty advisers on a cultural immersion study visit to Saudi Arabia from December 27, 2014 to January 6, 2015.

*In the 2014-2015 academic year, over 92,000 Saudi Arabian students were enrolled in American universities in communities large and small across the United States. In contrast, barely a handful of American students have graduated from a university in Saudi Arabia.*

In an effort to help reduce this American deficit in knowledge, understanding, and empirical experience, and in particular with regard to empathy, the National Council has partnered with the SACM and the MOHE to provide a firsthand educational introduction to the Kingdom's culture and society. The beneficiaries are a select group of American students. During the course of the 2014-2015 study visit, the students met with and were briefed by Saudi Arabian educators, business representatives, and civil society leaders, secondary school student participants in the Kingdom's Model Arab League



The National Council's Model Arab League delegation visits Saudi Arabia's Majlis Al-Shura (Consultative Council), which advises the King on issues such as human rights, education, culture, health and social affairs, services and public utilities, foreign affairs, economy and industry, and finance.

Program, and U.S. diplomats. In addition, they visited numerous sites of cultural, developmental, and historical interest.

The study visit's American participants were selected from applicants with outstanding records of research, debate, and leadership in one or more of the National Council's sixteen Model Arab Leagues in 2014. The students were led by Council Founding President and CEO Dr. John Duke Anthony; Council Board Member, former long-time Saudi Aramco executive, and former Vice



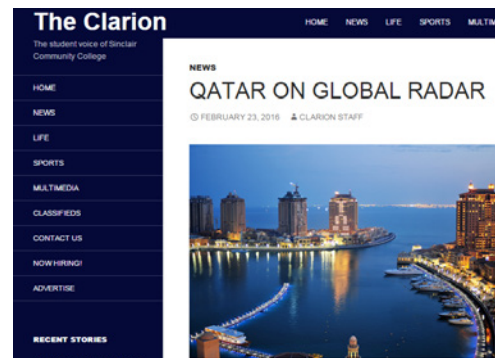
The National Council's Model Arab League delegation visits Mr. Khalid Alturki and Dr. Sally Alturki, founders of the Dhahran Ahliyya School.

President of the American Business Association of the Eastern Province John Pratt; and Council staff members Laura Tucker and Kaylee Boalt. The ten students and five faculty advisers were chosen from a like number of U.S. universities involved in the Models. An additional unique feature of the program was that each of the students had a minimum of two semesters remaining before completion of their undergraduate degree. This ensures their having *a full year to share what they learned in and about Saudi Arabia* with members of their community's civil, business, religious, and professional associations, as well

as the media, in addition to, as a given, their classmates and professors.

As with all National Council Study Abroad Programs, the experience begins with a pre-departure orientation at the Council's Washington, DC office. The objective is threefold: first, to introduce the participants to some of America's and the Kingdom's foremost specialists on Saudi Arabia and the Saudi Arabian-U.S. relationship, with whom the students can follow up and use as a resource; second, to provide the students with what would be hard-to-come-by background, context, and perspective regarding the experience that lies

Upon their return from study visits, Model Arab League students and faculty advisers share what they learned and experienced with their local communities.



ahead of them; and third, to provide examples of how the students can most effectively share their newfound knowledge and understanding with as many people as possible following their return to the United States.

Upon arrival in Saudi Arabia, the 2015 delegation visited Riyadh, the capital, in the Central Province; Dhahran, Saudi Aramco, and Jubail Industrial City – one of the world’s largest and most vital energy industry-centric cities – in the Eastern Province; and Jeddah, long referred to as the “Bride of the Red Sea” and the country’s preeminent commercial center, in the Western Province. The delegation visited and received briefings at the King Faisal Center for Research and Islamic Studies, the King Abdulaziz Historical Center, the Majlis al-Shura (Consultative Council), Dhahran Ahliyya School, the U.S. Embassy in Riyadh and the U.S. Consulate General in Dhahran, The Jeddah Historic Preservation District, and the

Nafisa Shams Female Academy for Arts & Crafts. They received additional briefings from Dr. Khalid I. Al Awwad, Member of the Majlis al-Shura and its U.S.-Saudi Arabian Friendship Council; Mr. Khalid Alturki and Dr. Sally Alturki, founders of the Dhahran Ahliyya School; Gulf Research Center Founding Chairman Dr. Abdulaziz Sager (see page 23); and Ms. Somayya Jabarti, Editor-in-Chief of *Saudi Gazette*. The delegation also visited many of the Kingdom’s most prominent institutions of higher education, including King Saud University, King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, Queen Effat University, and King Abdulaziz University. The study visit enabled the participants, to a degree unparalleled by the experiences of most other American university students and their faculty advisers, to meet and interact with Saudi Arabians from all ages and walks of life.



The National Council’s Model Arab League delegation visits Queen Effat University in Jeddah. Established in 1999, the university was the first private institution of higher education for women in Saudi Arabia. It currently offers 13 degree programs and has more than 3,000 bachelors and masters students.

Dr. Abdulaziz Sager is the founding and chief facilitator of the **Annual Gulf Research Meeting (GRM)**. Administered in Great Britain at Cambridge University annually during July and/or August, these three-day events have rapidly become the foremost of their kind. Beginning with an assemblage of more than 100 scholars, authors, and doctoral candidates specializing in one or more facets of the contemporary realities characterizing Arabia and the Gulf, these one-of-a-kind gatherings have grown to accommodate more than 300 participants. They are organized into roughly ten simultaneous mini-seminars with no more than 20 to 30 participants per seminar.



The National Council's Model Arab League delegation met with and was briefed by Gulf Research Center (GRC) Founder and Chairman Dr. Abdulaziz Sager in Jeddah. In 2015 the Council signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the GRC to collaborate on programs, publications, and activities analyzing the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), the GCC's six member countries, Arabia and the Gulf as a whole, and U.S. relations with the region.

In each seminar, as many as half a dozen papers are presented. Led by Dr. Sager, together with Drs. Christian Koch, Mustafa Alani, and others, GRM papers have been published by I.B. Tauris, Palgrave Macmillan, Routledge, and Gerlach. National Council President and CEO Dr. John Duke Anthony, the sole American to have participated in all six of the GRMs since their founding in 2009, commented, "No remotely comparable annual scholarly conference comes close to gathering and concentrating anywhere near as numerous a body of serious scholars on this globally vital region."

Impressive as this achievement has been and continues to be, it is lamentable that so few American scholars and prospective specialists have participated in these annual endeavors at Cambridge, one of the world's foremost institutions of higher education and second only to the University of Chicago in the number of Nobel Prize laureates. Indeed, beginning from the miniscule number of two American participants in the first GRM, representing one-fiftieth of the participants, the highest number of American participants to date has been just shy of 20, or one-fifteenth, the total.



**Gulf Research Center**  
Knowledge for All

Queried as to why this is the case, Dr. Anthony replied, "The following is opinion, not documented fact. From 1987 through 2008, scholars and specialists on Arabia and the Gulf within the GCC countries researched, located, and reached out to EU university professors and research institute specialists who shared their interests. This had no counterpart between the GCC and the United States, for reasons owing to the latter's comparable lack of interest. The result was a

dramatically asymmetrical pairing of GCC and EU scholars on Arabia and the Gulf. The educational, knowledge, understanding, and policymaking consequences of this are hardly unknown. They can be seen in the post-September 11, 2001 American reaction to Arabs and Muslims, a reaction that, since then, has intensified. It was seen also in the invasion and occupation of Iraq as well as in pan-GCC shock at perceived official U.S. lack of empathy as exhibited in Washington officialdom's unwillingness to ally GCC countries' dismay at unchecked Iranian meddling in GCC country and other Arab affairs."

## The National Council's Model Arab League Student Leaders Visit Qatar

The National Council, in partnership with the Embassy of Qatar in Washington, DC, organized and escorted a delegation of ten American students and five university faculty members, all selected from the Council's Model Arab League Program, on a study visit to Qatar from November 27 to December 4, 2015. The visit provided the students and faculty an opportunity to explore some of the major economic, political, and social determinants of Qatar's culture as well as features pertaining to the country's rapid and diverse modernization and development.



Dr. John Duke Anthony greets Dr. Abdullah Baabood, Founding Director of Qatar University's Gulf Studies Program, the GCC region's first accredited university program for Gulf studies to offer Master's and Ph.D. degrees. Dr. Anthony is the only American on the Qatar University Gulf Studies Program Advisory Board.

National Council Founding President & CEO Dr. John Duke Anthony and Council staff members Mark Morozink and Kaylee Boalt escorted the delegation. As with the Council's study visit to



The National Council's Model Arab League delegation visits the world-renowned Museum of Islamic Art on the corniche in Doha. Its iconic building, designed by I. M. Pei, includes Islamic art from three continents spanning over 1,400 years.

Saudi Arabia (see pages 20-22), the students all had a minimum of two semesters remaining before completing their undergraduate degree. This ensures their having *full year to share what they learned in and about Qatar* not only with their classmates and professors, but, most especially, members of their respective communities' civic, business, and professional associations.

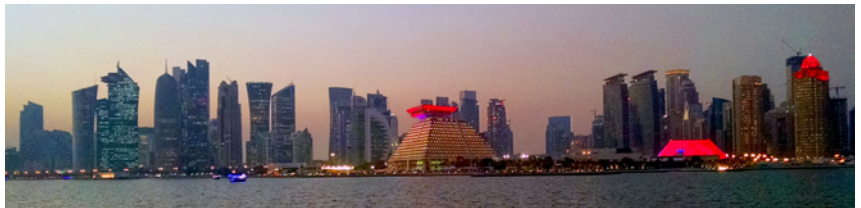


The delegation visited Qatar’s Al Jazeera Media Network, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Information and Communications Technology, the National Human Rights Committee, the Qatar Foundation, Ras Laffan Industrial City, Ooredoo Telecommunications, and the Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy. They explored the Museum of Islamic Art, Souq Waqif, the Katara Cultural Village, and the Msheireb Museums, including Bin Jelmoed House, the first museum to focus on slavery in the Arab world. The delegation also spent an evening with a Qatari family at their farm and sailed on an Arab dhow – a traditional “sundowner” experience, with Doha’s glittering skyline of modernist buildings as the backdrop.

Dr. Anthony helped arrange for the delegation to meet and have briefings with the founding director and head of Qatar University’s Gulf Studies Program (GSP), for which Dr. Anthony serves as the only American member of the advisory board. Established and led by Dr. Abdullah Baabood in conjunction with College of Arts and Sciences Dean Dr. Eiman Mustafawi and University President Dr. Hassan Rashid Al-Derham, the GSP aims to become the world’s foremost center for Gulf studies. It is also the GCC region’s first accredited university program for Gulf studies to offer Master’s and Ph.D. degrees.



The National Council’s Model Arab League delegation tours Al Jazeera and watches a live broadcast from one of its television studios.



The National Council’s Model Arab League delegation sailed on an Arab dhow and took in Doha’s impressive skyline.



The National Council’s Model Arab League delegation surveys Education City from a viewing platform at the headquarters of The Qatar Foundation. Education City, on the outskirts of Doha, brings together branches of eight leading international universities as well as other educational, research, and cultural initiatives on one campus.



# What will your legacy be?

Accomplishing the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations' educational, training, and leadership development mission cannot be achieved by accident or coincidence. It can be realized only through a steady stream of resources from individuals and families that have benefited from the Council's educational programs, projects, events, and activities, and benefactors who believe in what the Council seeks to accomplish.

*Investment in the National Council – at any level and at any point in one's life – will make a difference for generations to come.*

Contributing to the National Council is a powerful and meaningful way for one to strengthen the Council's philanthropic legacy. Inclusion of the Council in one's will is a guaranteed means of bequeathing resources to ensure a lasting impact on the Arab-U.S. relationship for far into the future.



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*For more information about your personal legacy promoting the Arab-U.S. relationship, please contact:*

**Mr. Pat Mancino**, Executive Vice President & Director of Development  
Telephone: 202-293-6466  
Email: [pat@ncusar.org](mailto:pat@ncusar.org)

## Suggested Bequest Language:

I bequeath \_\_\_\_\_ percent of my residuary estate (or \$ \_\_\_\_\_) to the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations, a not-for-profit organization, with its office at 1730 M St NW, Suite 503, Washington, DC 20036, for its ongoing educational programs (or name a specific National Council program, e.g., the Model Arab League, Malone Fellowship, Summer Internship Program, or Findley Fellowship).  
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Dr. John Duke Anthony; see next page;

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Mr. Mark Morozink; also: Alumnus and former Coordinator, Model Arab League Program;

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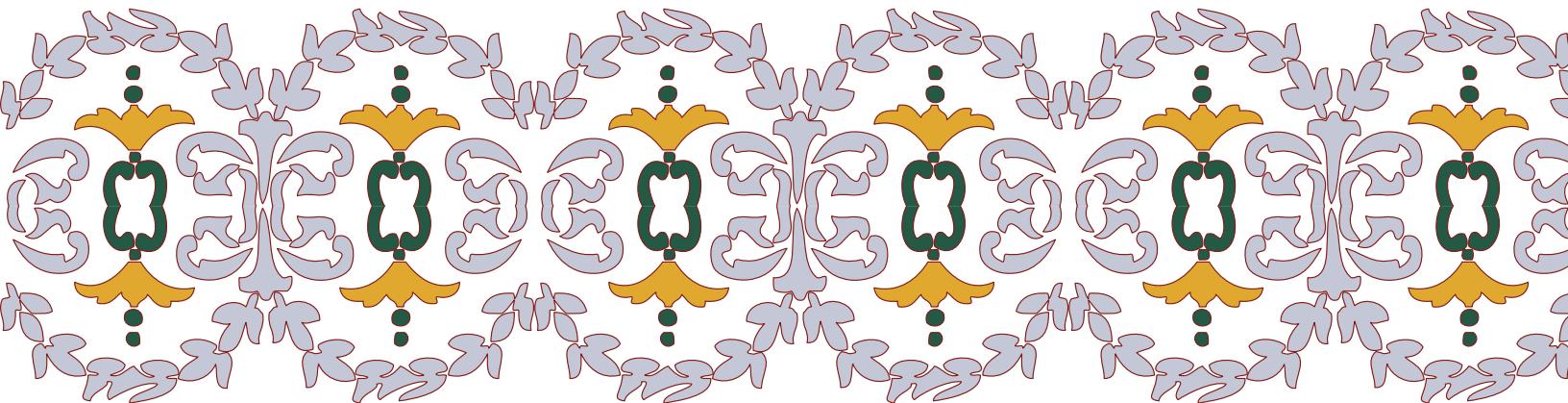
Mr. Zachary Hrynowski; also: Alumnus, Model Arab League Program;

### *Program Coordinator*

Ms. Megan Madison; also: Alumna, Model Arab League Program; and

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Mr. Nabil Sharaf; also: Alumnus, Washington, DC Internship Program.



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