



## White House Conference on the Americas Advances Issues of Social Justice

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice noted at the recent White House Conference on the Americas that the “transformational power of the Americas” is in the “private citizens like all of you, who strengthen your communities and care for you neighbors, who create new jobs and new businesses, and who organize the rousing energy of our people into a positive force for change.”

President and Mrs. Bush hosted the White House Conference on the Americas to highlight the United States’ engagement in the Western Hemisphere and discuss effective ways to deliver aid and build institutions that are necessary for strong civil societies. Representatives from approximately 150 organizations from the region and from 100 US-based groups attended. The Conference focused on sharing lessons learned on how to promote education, health care and economic opportunity at the grassroots level throughout the region. The participation of five cabinet Secretaries underscored the region’s importance to all sectors of the Federal Government.

Special attention was brought to the ways that public-private partnerships enable governments and private sector organizations to amplify their resources. As Under Secretary of State Karen Hughes commented, “achieving an Americas where economic opportunity, education and health care extend to all will take more than the efforts of government alone.”



State Department Photo/Jeff Jackson

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The **Building Public-Private Partnerships** panel – led by Secretary of Commerce Carlos Gutierrez and moderated by BJ Goergen, Director of Private Sector Outreach for Public Diplomacy at the State Department – explored how the public, private and non-profit sectors can work together to achieve common objectives. Panelists William S. Reese (International Youth Foundation), Agustin Carrizosa (Centro de Informacion y Recursos para el Desarrollo, Paraguay), Ann Cramer (IBM North America), and Miguel Angel Pichardo Espinosa (UNETE, Mexico) shared their best practices in leveraging resources in order to increase the impact of development programs. Ann Cramer shared her company’s top thirteen lessons learned, which she referred to as their “Baker’s Dozen.” The stories shared by each of the panelists showed how the “time, talent, treasure, and technology” that different parties bring to the table amplifies the efforts made by all partners.

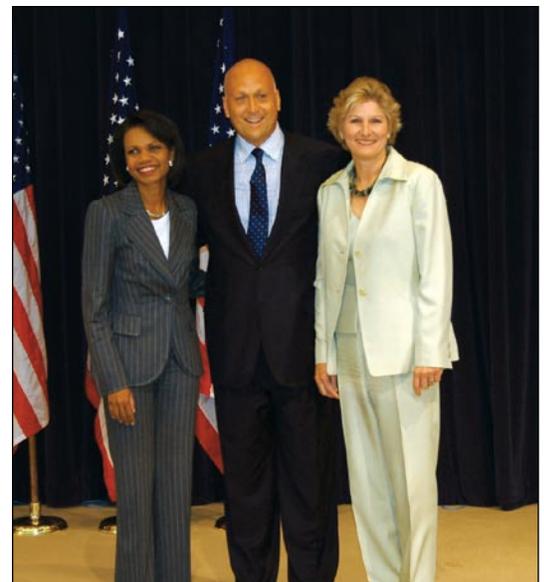
## Secretary Rice and Under Secretary Hughes Appoint Cal Ripken, Jr. Envoy for U.S. Public Diplomacy

“I happen to think that sport — baseball, in particular — is very magical. It can go across cultural lines. It can appeal to all kids and all people.” Cal Ripken, Jr.’s words support the growing recognition that the international appeal of sports is an excellent platform for public diplomacy. This message was reinforced by the recent appointment of Cal Ripken, Jr. as an American Public Diplomacy Envoy.

“The most rewarding thing about my post-playing career is the chance to use the platform that baseball provided me to help grow the game at the grassroots level”, said Cal Ripken, Jr. “Working with kids is my passion and I look forward to meeting youth around the world, sharing my baseball experiences, and helping them gain a better understanding of our country and our national pastime.”

As an American Public Diplomacy Envoy Ripken will be joining Karen P. Hughes,

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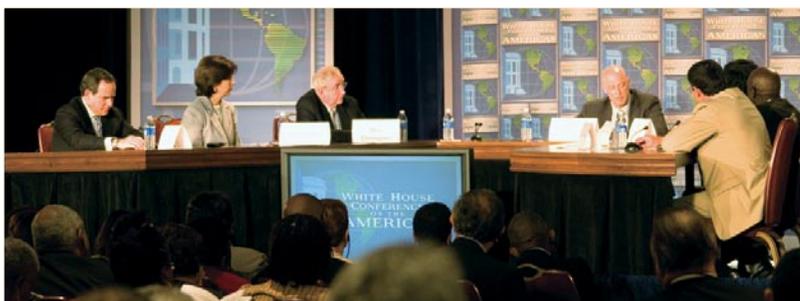


State Department Photo

*White House Conference on the Americas continued from page 1.*

As a part of the Conference, Mrs. Bush announced the launch of the Partnership for Breast Cancer Awareness and Research of the Americas. This unique partnership joins the University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, the Susan G. Komen for the Cure, the Institute of International Education's West Coast Center, and the Department of State with experts from Brazil, Costa Rica, and Mexico in the fight against breast cancer. Together the partners will develop breast cancer awareness campaigns, increase research, training and community-outreach efforts, and help women build the knowledge and confidence they need to be in charge of their own health.

The Conference on the Americas followed the President's visit to the region in March, 2007, which underscored the United States' commitment to advancing social justice in Latin America. Both demonstrate the United States' engagement in the region to ensure that all of the citizens of the Americas have access to the benefits of economic prosperity and good governance. ■



State Department Photo

**Investing in Education** panel – led by Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings – called for a culturally adaptive curriculum to curb the current drop-out rate. Panelists Liliana Montenegro (Universidad Pontificia Catolica Madre y Maestra, Dominican Republic), Linda Louise Claflin (Junior Achievement Worldwide), Garry Delice (Haitian Education and Leadership Program - H.E.L.P), and Luis Javier Castro (Asociacion Empresarial para el Desarrollo, Costa Rica) suggested that students could identify more with culturally diverse materials and mentors. Retention rates might be boosted by creating more accessible curriculum because students would be more engaged in their education. The panelists discussed incorporating intercultural, bilingual and indigenous education into traditional models, as well as introducing early childhood education as a possible way to prevent future matriculation problems. Each of the panelists shared the financial and bureaucratic challenges they faced in their organizations, and explored some of the solutions they have shaped with the support of private sector partners. The panelists concluded that civil society and government need to work together on alternative models of education, both formal and non-formal, to attract youth from all sections of society.

“Give a man a fish, you have fed him for today. Teach a man to fish, and you have fed him for a lifetime.” Dr. Marie-Marcelle Deschamps (GHESKIO, Haiti), Stephen Miller (Dillon Gage, Guatemala), Oscar Veranoza (Durexporta, Ecuador), and Dr. William P. Magee (Operation Smile) seemed to agree with the old proverb as their **Strengthening Healthcare** panel discussion focused mostly on the need to educate local populations, so that trained doctors in those communities may continue healthy practices in a sustainable way. The panel was led by Secretary of Health and Human Services Mike Leavitt. The panelists spoke about their own program experiences and shared their vision of multi-pronged initiatives involving individuals, NGO's, government and private sector partners working together to resolve health issues in the Americas through a formula of micro loans, research and training.

*Secretary Rice Appoints Cal Ripken, Jr., continued from page 1.*

Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs, and the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs in efforts to promote cross-cultural dialogue with international youth to increase understanding of America by sharing his impressive personal story and life experience. He will reach out to a worldwide audience of young people while visiting their schools and clubs, hosting baseball skills clinics, and sharing the keys to his success: character, hard work and perseverance.

Cal Ripken, Jr.'s first trip as an envoy will be to China October 28 – November 6, 2007. In China, Ripken will visit Beijing, Guangzhou and Shanghai, the hometowns of the Chinese Sports Visitors who were here for a 5-week baseball program at Ripken's baseball academy where they learned coaching skills and how to introduce the great American pastime of baseball to youth in China. During his program, Ripken will engage with underprivileged local youth, speak about his career in baseball and help the returned Chinese coaches conduct baseball skills clinics for Chinese youth, employing lessons learned during their U.S. Sports Visitors program.

Ripken was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame on July 29, 2007. Since leaving the game as a player, Cal Ripken, Jr. has dedicated his life and work to youth not only here in America, but also around the world. He established the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation which teaches life lessons through baseball to disadvantaged youth. He has also built the Ripken Youth Baseball Academy, the largest baseball academy in the United States, where thousands of youth enjoy the baseball experience. Moreover, he is the man behind the Cal Ripken World Series for 11- and 12- year olds from all over the world. ■

## Under Secretary Hughes' Visit to Peru Sends Strong Message of U.S. Compassion, Support and Commitment



State Department Photo

The United States is committed to working with its neighbors in the Western Hemisphere to improve people's lives. In the weeks following the White House Conference on the Americas, Under Secretary Hughes visited Peru, highlighting the important ways that the two countries are working together to assure that the benefits of economic expansion result in improved living standards for all of the citizens of the Americas.

One highlight from the trip was Under Secretary Hughes' visit to the Navy hospital ship, the COMFORT, where she met with members of the U.S. military and volunteers from Project HOPE and Operation Smile. As announced by President Bush earlier this year, the USNS Comfort is currently on a 4-month deployment to the region in order to provide medical services and humanitarian assistance to those that need it most. In partnership with host

nation governments, non-governmental organizations and civil society, the COMFORT deployment to the region is one of many U.S. military assistance projects this year that symbolize the friendship and partnership between the people of the United States and the people of Peru – underscoring the United States' commitment to working together with Peru to help address humanitarian needs.

During her visit, Under Secretary Hughes noted that the deployment of the "hospital ship is a wonderful example of what I like to call America's 'diplomacy of deeds,' 'Diplomacia de Hechos,' the concrete ways in which our country reaches out to help people across the world have better lives, especially in the areas we all care about most—education, health care, and economic opportunity."

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### State Department to Accept Nominations for the New Benjamin Franklin Award for Public Diplomacy

The State Department is accepting nominations for the **Benjamin Franklin Award for Public Diplomacy** from September 15, 2007 through December 15, 2007. This prestigious new award recognizes outstanding contributions in public diplomacy made by U.S. citizens and private sector organizations, both at home and abroad. The award is the result of collaboration between the Department and some of its private-sector partners, and was first announced by Secretary Rice at the Private Sector Summit on Public Diplomacy in January 2007.

The Benjamin Franklin Award recognizes that all sectors of American society – individuals, schools, foundations, associations, and corporations – actively contribute to advancing America's ideals through public diplomacy. In keeping with the character of America's consummate diplomat, Benjamin Franklin, these honors will give special emphasis to activities that: provide hope and opportunity in education, culture, and information; empower, educate, and inspire key audiences such as women, students, and educators; and engage under-served communities and grassroots organizations.

Benjamin Franklin Awards will be presented in four categories: individuals, corporations, academic institutions (schools, universities, etc), and not-for-profit organizations (for example, foundations, associations, and labor unions). Nominations will be accepted from any individual or group. Those submitting nominations need not be U.S. citizens, but all nominees must be U.S. citizens. The nominated activity must have taken place during calendar year 2007, and nominations will be considered only for activities that do not involve U.S. Government funding.

The first Benjamin Franklin awards will be presented by the Secretary of State in early Spring of 2008, and annually thereafter.

Detailed nomination criteria are available on <http://www.state.gov/r/partnerships>, or by sending an email request to [diplomacyupdate@state.gov](mailto:diplomacyupdate@state.gov).

*For more information, call (202) 647-9199 or email [diplomacyupdate@state.gov](mailto:diplomacyupdate@state.gov).*

## President Announces Unprecedented Commitment to Combat HIV/AIDS

President Bush is continuing his historic fight to save lives by asking Congress to double his initial pledge to fund the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). PEPFAR is the largest international health initiative dedicated to a specific disease ever undertaken by a single country. A total of 1.1 million people received treatment after three years of PEPFAR, including over one million in Africa.

As a follow-up to the President's request, First Lady Laura Bush visited Mali, Mozambique, Senegal, and Zambia on a five-day trip which highlighted the PEPFAR as one of her primary focuses. The President said that he and the First Lady "believe strongly that to whom much is given, much is required. Much has been given to the United States of America. Therefore...much is required of us in helping solve this problem."

PEPFAR draws on the power of partnerships with all sectors, from public to private to faith-based. "Religious institutions bring a personal healing touch to the fight against AIDS," the First Lady said at a gathering in the Mutata Memorial Center. With the support of RAPIDS, a group of organizations including Catholic Relief Services, World Vision, Africare, the Salvation Army and the Population Council, the center is able to provide home-based care to those suffering from HIV/AIDS.

The President's plan expands PEPFAR by transitioning it from an emergency response to a sustainable practice of treatment, prevention and care that focuses not only on HIV/AIDS, but also works on strengthening the overall health system. The plan leverages programs that address malaria, tuberculosis, child and maternal health, clean water, food and nutrition, and education.

The President introduced PEPFAR in 2003, pledging \$15 billion over five years to combat HIV/AIDS around the world, with the majority of that marked for Africa. In a Rose Garden Ceremony on May 30th, the President asked Congress to approve a total of \$30 billion for HIV/AIDS prevention, for care, and for treatment over the next five years. ■



White House Photo



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*Under Secretary Hughes' Visit to Peru continued from page 3.*

During her trip, Under Secretary Hughes also visited with students involved in Project Citizen, a program that teaches young people how to assume their responsibilities as citizens in a democratic society. The students described their projects to the Under Secretary, specifically demonstrating their work to monitor and influence public policy. As a result of the program, Project Citizen students develop support for democratic values and principles, tolerance, and feelings of political efficacy and eventually become the citizens who are helping to building democracy in Peru from the ground up.

This was Under Secretary Hughes' second trip to Latin America this year and underscored the importance of the region to the United States and recognized Peru's key leadership and strategic role in the Western Hemisphere. ■

## Jumpstarting Talk Radio in Iraq



State Department Photo

At a dusty forward combat outpost in Iraq's Diyala Province sits a small concrete building and a 350 meter antenna tower in the middle of an otherwise empty field. From a studio inside that building four Iraqis – three men and one woman, two Sunni and two Shia – are broadcasting messages of peace, hope, and reconciliation to their war torn nation.

Four members of the State Department's Global Outreach Team (GO Team), a small team of media experts, have been working since February with these four brave Iraqis to get the radio and television stations back on the air and advising on programming issues. They have endured numerous personal hardships, but the independence, freedom and power they find in the broadcasting booth makes challenges faced seem like small nuisances.

Thanks to a stroke of pure luck, jumper cables (no joke) and a 12-volt battery, a long since forgotten 3,000 watt radio transmitter from the Saddam Hussein era roared to life around midnight on March 3, 2007. With transmission wires cabled to the top of the tower, one of the tallest radio towers standing in the Middle East, the radio half of the Independent Radio and Television Network (IRTN) hit the airwaves at 99.3 FM as four Iraqis danced in celebration.

These courageous and tireless Iraqis, all with dreams of broadcasting independently and freely as professional journalists, are fulfilling those dreams in the harshest of circumstances in Diyala Province, a region that has recently surpassed the infamous Anbar Province in violence.

They know if they step out of the station perimeter that is guarded by the US Army that they will certainly be killed; killed for being Sunni, killed for being Shia, or killed for their message of peace and reconciliation. Yet still they broadcast what they want, when they want, and how they want.

IRTN is different from any other radio or television entity in Iraq. It is truly independent. Most media organizations in the country are still owned and operated by the government or political parties.

Their message of non-sectarianism is particularly powerful. They believe if they can live and work together, united in peace and harmony in the small confines of an isolated radio station, then so can their countrymen all across Iraq. And so for 14 hours a day, seven days a week, these four Iraqis are letting their voices be heard, broadcasting news, government legislation, farm reports and music.

Just as people with names like George, Thomas, Patrick and Benjamin brought independence to America more than 200 years ago, the independent voices of Rafed, Samir, Donia and Mohannad may very well become Iraq's patriots, heroes who refuse to let hope die. ■

*This story was written by Susan Phalen who recently returned from her ninth trip to Iraq.*



State Department Photo

### The Paul Simon Water for the Poor Recognition Reception

Under Secretary for Democracy & Global Affairs Paula J. Dobriansky (left) and Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy & Public Affairs Karen Hughes (center) honored former Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist (right) and Congressman Earl Blumenauer (not pictured) for their efforts in passing the Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005 to help those around the globe in need of clean water. The award, shaped like a water pump, was given to Frist and Blumenauer at a reception sponsored by the Millennium Water Alliance in late June. Nearly 10 million people gain improved access to safe water supplies and better sanitation each year, thanks to support from the State Department, USAID and other public and private sector agencies.

## American Business Women Host Middle East Counterparts

“Women today have more power than ever before to change the world – and if we work together we can leverage that power even more,” First Lady Laura Bush remarked at the culmination of the Women Business Leaders Summit – Jordan. “One woman standing up for her rights is a powerful example. Two women are a team. Five are a committee for change. And 30 women will be a ballroom of a thousand before you know it. Women are good at networking for the good of their community and the world community.”



State Department Photos

Nearly 100 women business leaders from across the Middle East and the United States gathered in Washington this May for the Summit, co-sponsored by the Office of Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs and Bonnie McElveen-Hunter, Chairman of the American Red Cross, President & CEO of Pace Communications and former U.S. Ambassador to Finland.

Summit participants initially gathered in Amman, Jordan this past February, and as part of this two-way exchange, the Arab businesswomen recently traveled to the United States to visit their American partners' companies and hometowns, and attend a closing program in Washington, DC.

The group met with distinguished Congresswomen on Capitol Hill, and attended program sessions at Georgetown University, a dinner at the National Museum of Women in the Arts, and an afternoon tea and reception at the White House, graciously hosted by Mrs. Bush, who emphasized the importance of these types of exchanges.

While both portions of the Summit focused on business and professional development and provided access to key government and corporate leaders, the Washington program strengthened the personal connections between participants and focused on steps to further build on the incredible experience. The level of interaction allowed participants to learn first-hand about the social, political and economic realities of women in other countries, and fostered not only business partnerships, but lasting friendships as well.

As one participant from Lebanon put it, when participants hear news stories about Lebanon or Iraq, or even New York or Texas, they will listen with a new perspective because each country in the Middle East, and each city in the U.S., now has a face – a very real, and a very personal face. ■

## Country's First National Strategic Communications Plan Presented

Under Secretary of State Karen P. Hughes presented the final version of the National Strategic Communications Plan in June to the inter-agency Policy Coordinating Committee that helped develop the blueprint for the government's messaging efforts.

“The plan is designed to provide a unified strategic framework for U.S. government communications, yet be flexible and adaptable to meet the different needs and responsibilities of very diverse government agencies,” Under Secretary Hughes said. “It is deliberately short so it will be read and used, rather than placed on a shelf.”

The development of the plan was based on more than 30 different studies of U.S. public policy, as well as the feedback from the inter-agency council, the U.S. Government Accountability Office, the Inspector General of the Department of State, academic institutions and public relations professionals in the private sector. Attached to the 12-page plan are several appendixes that provide detailed examples of how to put the strategies into action, as called for by reports from the U.S. Government Accountability Office and the Inspector General of the Department of State.

Resulting initiatives will include inter-agency support for a Counter Terrorism Communications Center to coordinate messaging on the war on terrorism, greater focus on the “diplomacy of deeds,” highlighting specific ways that America is working to save and improve lives across the world, and the identification of issue and policy experts with foreign language skills from each agency.

The plan has been presented to Members of Congress as well as the White House. The next steps, Under Secretary Hughes said, will be for each U.S. Government agency and embassy to develop specific action plans, to help implement the strategy.

“The development of the plan and the approval this spring by Congress of \$50 million for public diplomacy programs as part of the War on Terror supplemental budget reflect the increasing role of public diplomacy as a national security priority,” Under Secretary Hughes said. “With this framework in place, we can build an even stronger platform to deliver our country's messages.” ■

## Public Diplomacy in Action: Stories from the Field

### University Students from the United States and Saudi Arabia Take Part in a Joint Habitat for Humanity Build in Jordan

Twenty-four women from Harvard University and Dar Al-Hekma Women's College in Saudi Arabia met in Jordan this March to build two houses in a Jordanian community with Habitat for Humanity. The joint effort provided an opportunity for women from both countries not only to help build homes, but also to exchange ideas and experiences and strengthen intercultural bonds.

The project was facilitated by the United States Department of State through the Office of the Senior Advisor to the Secretary of State for Women's Empowerment. Ambassador Shirin Tahir-Kheli, who heads the office, envisioned the program as an opportunity for the women to build intercultural and leadership skills. The partnership enjoyed support and participation from the State Department's top-level officials, including Undersecretary of State for Public Diplomacy,



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Ambassador Karen Hughes, who visited Dar Al-Hekma College in 2005. This was the first-ever U.S. Government-facilitated initiative to bring together women students from U.S. and Saudi Arabian universities specifically for community service-based diplomacy and dialogue.

U.S. Ambassador to Jordan, David Hale, said "this initiative brought to Jordan young women from different religions and backgrounds in the name of understanding, respect and community service. This kind of dialogue helps to strengthen the relationships between our people and, thus, our nations. The U.S. Department of State is proud to have partnered with Habitat for Humanity, Dar Al-Hekma College in Saudi Arabia, Harvard University and the people of Jordan on this exciting program."

Jordan's Habitat for Humanity representative noted, "Habitat for Humanity is really about bringing people together for a common purpose... We thought this was the perfect opportunity to bring these two unique groups of women together."



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### State Department Leverages YouTube to Reach New Audiences

The State Department is making an effort to disseminate its message as widely as possible. To that end, State has begun posting video to YouTube when appropriate. YouTube has taken notice of some of the State Department's efforts and featured one of its videos as the editor's pick for news and politics. This video featured Randall Bennett who was the Regional Security Officer in Pakistan during the time Daniel Pearl was kidnapped and later murdered in 2002. One comment at the site, praised the clip saying, "Great use of youtube — someone with personal knowledge of an important event making his impressions known in a media that can be accessed."



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### U.S. Diplomats Engage in Non-Traditional Ways

Big banger: Alexander Vershbow, right, U.S. ambassador to Seoul, well-known as the "drum-playing ambassador," plays a traditional Korean drum during an impromptu session with a Korean troupe at the Artists' Village in Damyang, South Cholla Province. *Korea Times*, Yonhap, April 27, 2006.

### American Muslims Build Bridges to East African Muslim Communities

A Citizen Dialogue team of Imam Mohammed Bashar Arafat, Tiye Mulazim, and Na'eel Cajee conveyed their first-hand experiences on Muslim life in America to Muslim communities in Mombasa, Nairobi, Dar Es Salaam, Pemba and Zanzibar. The Citizen Dialogue program empowers American Muslim citizens to share their experiences with audiences overseas as a way to emphasize the vibrant role that Islam plays in the U.S. Imam Bashar Arafat led prayers during the visit and spoke with followers in numerous impromptu mosque gatherings. In Kenya, Baraka FM (500,000 listeners) and Radio Salaam (400,000 listeners) interviewed the team. In Tanzania, the delegation gave live interviews on Muslim radio stations, Channel 10, Star TV, Radio Free America, and TV Zanzibar.



State Dept. photo

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## All My Sons Touches the Hearts of Palestinians in Jerusalem



State Dept. photo

Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) Cultural Envoy Allen Nause, the Artistic Director of Portland Oregon's Artists Repertory Theatre (ART), assisted the Al-Hakawati Palestinian National Theatre by co-directing Arther Miller's classic play *All My Sons* in Arabic. The premiere produced rave reviews from local theater-goers and the press. The production focused on themes of accountability, family and society, war-profiteering and materialism. A Palestinian journalist with the independent *Al-Quds* Daily remarked on the similarities between the play and the Palestinian situation, emphasizing the power of "simple human feeling" over political views.

## New Initiatives Reach Youth

One of Under Secretary Hughes' key priorities is outreach to the youth of Iraq, Pakistan and the Palestinian territories through summer programs run by local Embassies and Consular Generals in partnership with local governments and organizations. In the West Bank and Gaza, 225 at-risk boys and girls from Palestinian refugee camps participated in English-language classes as well as activities that taught artistic expression, scientific discovery, leadership and team-building. At the Iraqi camp, students worked to develop their baseball and basketball skills in addition to their English language abilities; they learned a great deal about U.S. sports and culture and engaged in open conversations with American coaches and teachers.

Sports development was the focus of the Pakistani summer camp as well; through these soccer training sessions, all aspects of the program—which was aimed at reaching Pakistani girls—emphasized team-building, tolerance and well-being through physical fitness along with actual skills training.

## American Fulbrighters Immerse in Critical Languages

The State Department's Bureau of Educational Affairs Critical Language Enhancement Awards, a component of the National Security Language Initiative (NSLI), were awarded to 130 U.S. Fulbright students for intensive language study for 2007-2008. Mary Zeng, an American Fulbrighter to Turkey and Award recipient, conducted research on the development and future of Turkish nationalism and undertook intensive Turkish language study at Bogazici University. NSLI helps young people like Zeng study critical-need languages as a way to connect with foreign governments and people to encourage reform and greater cross-cultural understanding and respect.



State Dept. photo



State Dept. photo

## Website Provides Tiananmen Facts to Chinese Youth

Embassy Beijing and a website created by the State Department's Bureau of International Information Program are providing the opportunity for China's younger generation to learn about Tiananmen Square. One participant commented, "I was too young at the time [of Tiananmen]. What was happening? What was the truth?" ■

## HOW TO GET INVOLVED

The Office of Private Sector Outreach for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs was established in 2005 by Under Secretary of State Karen Hughes to engage U.S. businesses, universities, foundations, and private citizens in the critical work of public diplomacy. The global presence, creativity and efficiency of private sector organizations make them invaluable resources and natural allies in our efforts to share America's story and ideals with people around the world.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Develop a mentoring partnership with emerging business, academic and civic leaders from around the globe.
- Sponsor an academic, cultural, or professional exchange: The State Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs manages the Fulbright and other scholarship programs, cultural exchanges, sports programs, youth study exchanges, English language initiatives, and several programs for professionals in various fields.
- Speak with international audiences: The U.S. Speaker program, administered by the Bureau of International Information Programs, recruits and sponsors American experts to travel to one or more foreign countries to engage international audiences through lectures, workshops, roundtables and seminars. Speakers can also participate in digital videoconferences or webchats.
- Share your corporation's best practices and success stories: We are interested to hear about, learn from, and help expand the good work being done by American companies abroad.
- Encourage employees and their families to host international youth exchange students.

To learn more about the Office of Private Sector Outreach, or to discuss potential partnerships, email us at [diploacyupdate@state.gov](mailto:diploacyupdate@state.gov).