



Upcoming Events

Global Issues

Conference: *What Is Global Is Local*

Topic: [Food Security, Drones and Diplomacy](#)
Th 11.7.2013
[Advance Registration Required](#)

International Education Week Kickoff Breakfast

Featuring: [Rafe Esquith](#)
Tu 11.12.13
[Advance Registration Required](#)

Community Outreach Luncheon

Featuring: [Gabriela Othon Lothrop](#)
We 11.13.13
[Advance Registration Required](#)

November TV Shows

[On WUCF TV Channel](#)

Su 11/3 at 9:30 a.m.
"Not So Trivial Pursuits"
featuring Ken Jennings

Su 11/10 at 9:30 a.m.
"Deep Space Dangers: Is Mars Beyond Reach?"
featuring Dave Williams

Su 11/17 at 9:30 a.m.
"Gender War: A Report from the Frontlines"
featuring Irin Carmon

Su 11/24 at 9:30 a.m.
"Discussing Downton Abbey" featuring Jessica Fellowes

Event Spotlight

UCF students, faculty and staff, as well as the surrounding community are invited to register to attend a half-day global issues conference on Thursday, Nov. 7, at the UCF Student Union. There, leading figures will be discussing local and global issues surrounding food security, use of unmanned aerial vehicles and implementation of U.S. policy in the Middle East.



The conference features discussions on diplomacy, food security and unmanned aerial vehicles (which some know as "drones"). Each panel or presentation highlights local and global trends related to these pressing issues.

The morning keynote features Ambassador Garry Grappo, the former Head of Mission of the Office of the Quartet Representative, the Honorable Tony Blair, in Jerusalem.

The Food Security Panel provides local insights on the issue from Gabriela Othon Lothrop, Market Director for East End Market, a neighborhood market and food hub in the Audubon Park Garden District of Orlando, Florida; national insights from Ricardo Salvador, Director, Food and Environment Program,

Union of Concerned Scientists; and global insights from Jonathan Foley, Director, Institute on the Environment, University of Minnesota.

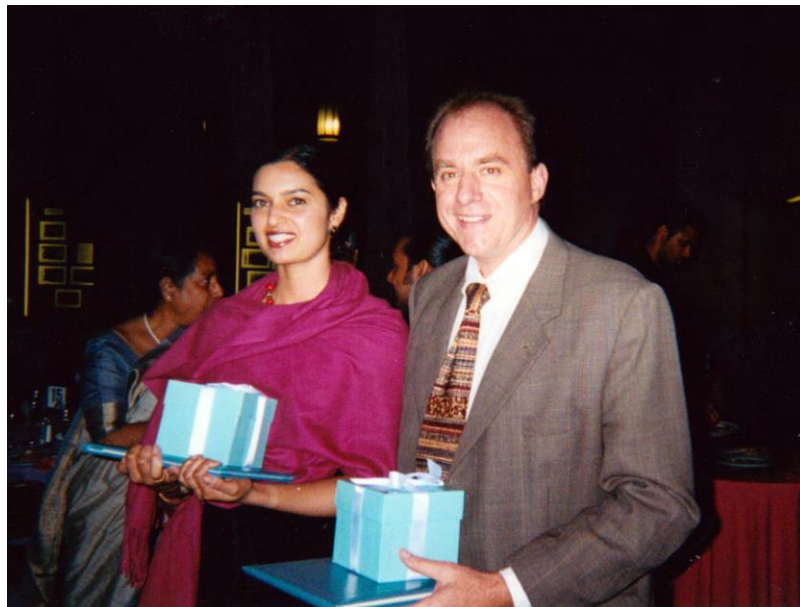
The panel on Unmanned Aerial Vehicles is moderated by John C. Bersia, Special Assistant to the President for Global Perspectives at UCF, and includes local perspectives on the issue from Lt. Chris Francisco, Emergency Management/Homeland Security Section, High Risk Incident Command Division, Orange County Sheriff's Office; and national and global insights from Bernard Finel, Associate Professor of National Security Strategy, National War College.

The Luncheon Keynote features Tamara Wittes, Senior Fellow and Director, Saban Center for Middle East Policy, The Brookings Institution.

Advance registration is required to attend this event. Registration is provided at no cost, thanks to our sponsors. To register, or for more information, please email global@ucf.edu.

A Blast from the Past

After 13 years, GP Director John C. Bersia and acclaimed writer Jhumpa Lahiri reconnected in October on the [Diane Rehm Show](#). Lahiri was the featured guest, highlighting her new book, *The Lowland*, and Bersia called in to offer his congratulations. Bersia and Lahiri met during the Pulitzer Prize awards ceremony at Columbia University in 2000.



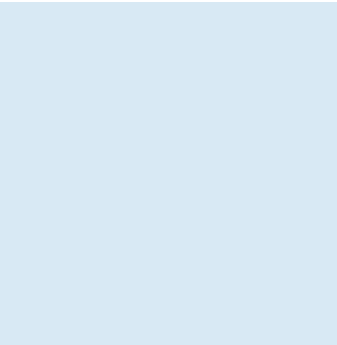
One Pulitzer went to Lahiri for *Interpreter of Maladies*, a collection of short stories, another to Bersia for a year-long investigation into predatory lending. “She is one of the most impressive writers and storytellers of our time,” Bersia said. He added that she focuses on the Indian-American experience, which is of great interest to The India Center at UCF. Might the serendipitous conversation inspire Lahiri to visit UCF? “We’d be pleased to host her,” Bersia said.

GP Running for a Cause

Global Perspectives (GP) staff members ran in last month's United Way Spooky Knight 5k. The race, which benefited the Coalition for the Homeless of Central Florida, was held around UCF's main campus on Oct. 25. Participants were encouraged to dress for the near-Halloween occasion, and Team GP are pictured below in their "runners" costumes.



Above are Andrea de la Camara, Program Assistant for the Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd Program for Strategic Research and Studies (right), Jocelyn Figueroa, Program Coordinator for GP (left) and Stephanie Jarvis (center), Senior Information



Specialist for The India Center at UCF. Said Jarvis, "Running in the race was a great way to raise money and awareness for an important cause, and it was a fun way to help us achieve our own fitness goals!"

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