



Upcoming Events

[Kevin Bales](#)

[Tu 1.17.17](#)

[Campus and Community Meetings](#)

[Amb. David H. Shinn](#)

[Th 1.19.17](#)

[Open Forum](#)

[Annette Klein](#)

[Th 1.26.17](#)

[Campus and Community Meetings](#)

[2017 Florida International Summit](#)

[Th 2.2.17](#)

[Advance Registration Required](#)

What's on TV?

Watch the Global Perspectives show on WUCF TV, Sundays at 9:30 a.m., or click [here](#) to watch more videos online.

[Gregory Gause - The Persian Gulf](#)



[Samar Fatany - Women's Rights in Saudi Arabia](#)



[Azedah Moaveni - Young, Modern and Middle Eastern](#)

New Semester, New Events

A new semester means new events and global speakers! Every year, the UCF Global Perspectives Office (GP) helps bring prominent figures to campus to speak about pressing world issues. Links to upcoming events are on the top left of this page, but you should mark your calendars because our [first event](#) that is free and open to the public is this Thursday, Jan. 19!

Amb. David Shinn is an American diplomat and professor. He spent the vast majority of his decades-long career in the Foreign Service in different African countries, including Kenya, Tanzania, Mauritania, Cameroon and Sudan. Additionally, he served as U.S. Ambassador to Burkina Faso and Ethiopia.



At UCF, Shinn will talk about China's involvement in Africa. The event is at 3:00 p.m. in the Garden Key, on the second floor of



[Donisha Prendergast - Life Lessons from the Rastafari Culture](#)



the UCF Student Union. After a brief lecture, there will be time for questions and answers. All are welcome to attend.

For more information about upcoming events, visit us at www.ucfglobalperspectives.org. We hope to see you there!

GP Advisor Recognized by Queen Elizabeth II

Kevin Bales, an internationally recognized leader in the anti-slavery and human-trafficking field, has been named a Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George by Queen Elizabeth II. The [Order](#), founded in 1818, is used to honor those who have provided important services in relation to foreign and British Commonwealth affairs. Bales was appointed to the Order for his work in the global anti-slavery movement.



Bales is a long-time GP advisor and also serves on the UCF Human Trafficking Awareness Program's advisory board. Congratulations to Kevin Bales for this very distinguished appointment.

The Future of U.S. Foreign Policy

Following the U.S. elections, GP Director John C. Bersia participated in multiple briefings, conferences and other discussions in Washington, D.C. Many of them were organized by the World Affairs Councils of America for its annual meeting, themed, "America and Global Megatrends." Bersia is chairman

of the [World Affairs Council of Central Florida](#). Topics included peace and security, U.S. ties with Asia, presidential leadership and foreign policy, resurgent authoritarianism, transatlantic issues and violent extremism, among others.

Offsite meetings were held at the embassies of Canada, France and Oman, the Pentagon, the CIA, the Atlantic Council, the Brookings Institution, the Center for Strategic and International Studies and the Washington Institute. Bersia noted that a sweeping, candid talk on U.S.-France relations by French Ambassador Gérard Araud was especially compelling. Other offsite meetings included a panel discussion at the Brookings Institution featuring Thomas Wright, director of the think tank's Project on International Order and Strategy; Tanvi Madan, director of the Brookings India Project (with which GP has frequently worked); and Michael Doran, a Middle East security expert at the Hudson Institute, and an old friend of GP and UCF. They agreed the Middle East, Asia and Europe would be the geographic priorities of the incoming Trump administration.



Thomas Friedman and his new book, "Thank You for Being Late"

Bersia also had an opportunity to chat with *New York Times* columnist and fellow Pulitzer laureate Thomas Friedman, whom GP hosted during his [2003 visit](#) to UCF. Bersia later participated in a presentation/discussion about Friedman's new book, *Thank You for Being Late: An Optimist's Guide to Thriving in the Age of Accelerations*.
