



## Upcoming Events

[2018 Florida  
International Summit  
1.30.18](#)  
[Adv. Registration  
Required](#)

[LIFE Global Issues  
Series - Jeffrey Baxter  
1.30.18](#)  
[Public Forum](#)

[LIFE Global Issues  
Series - Lucien  
Charland  
2.6.18](#)  
[Public Forum](#)

[LIFE Global Issues  
Series - Ambassador  
Harriet Elam-Thomas  
2.13.18](#)  
[Public Forum](#)

## Event Spotlight: Florida International Summit

On Jan. 30, the Florida Network for Global Studies (FNGS) will host the 2018 Florida International Summit at the University of Central Florida (UCF) in Orlando, Florida. The theme for the summit is Transatlantic Security, and addresses the important relations shared between the U.S. and European countries and political institutions.



Attendees will gain expert insights on various aspects of transatlantic relations, including military, economic and human security. Guest speakers for the 2018 Florida International Summit include Jennifer Clinton, President and CEO of Cultural Vistas, Amb. Luis CdeBaca, former U.S. Ambassador-at-Large to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Mark Hertling, former Commanding General of U.S. Army Europe, James Bacchus, UCF Distinguished University Professor of Global Affairs and Amb. Harriet Elam-Thomas, Director of UCF's Diplomacy Program. The event will also feature the winners of a student poster competition.

This event will take place in the Cape Florida Ballroom, on the third floor of the UCF Student Union. Check-in for the event will open at 8:30 a.m., and the event will run from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30

## 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.

[Carol Moseley Braun - How to Transform The World](#)



[Eyton Gilboa - An Interdisciplinary Perspective on the Middle East](#)



[Arun Gandhi - Nonviolence in an Increasingly Violent World](#)



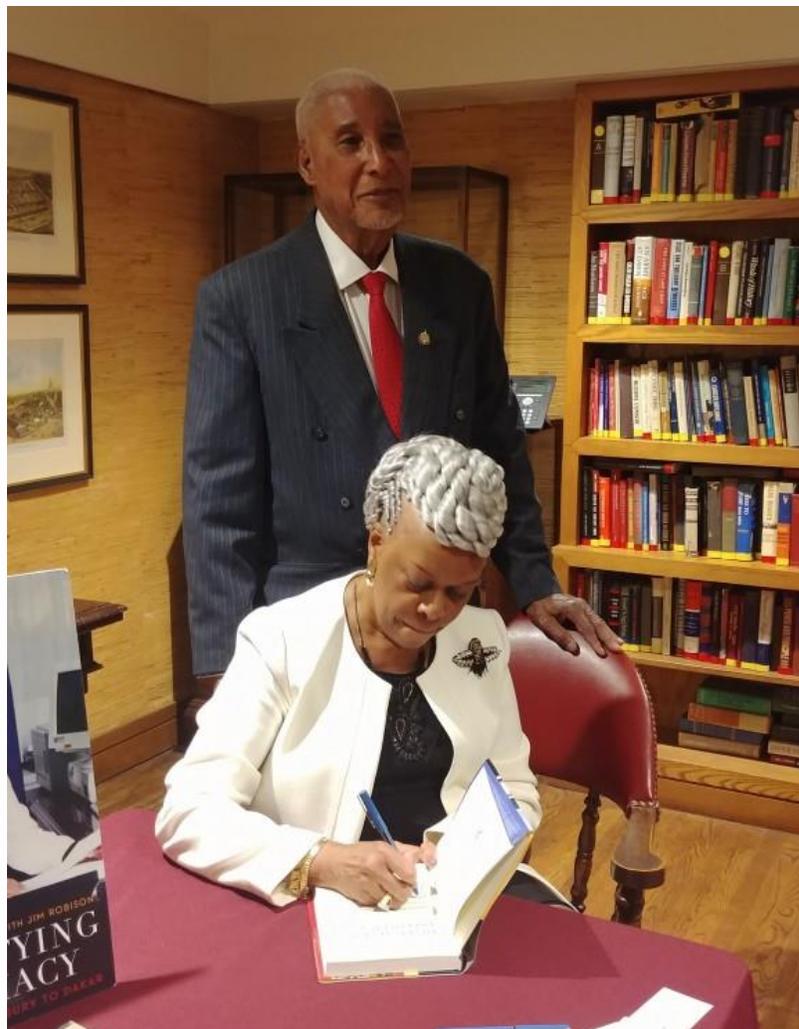
[Patrick Ibembe - Uganda's Role in Africa](#)



p.m. Because a light breakfast and lunch are provided, advance registration is required. To register, email [global@ucf.edu](mailto:global@ucf.edu). Registration is free, thanks to event sponsors, and all are welcome to attend.

The Florida International Summit is the signature, annual event of FNGS, a consortium of Florida universities that alternately host or co-host the Summit. This year, UCF, through the Global Perspectives Office (GP), will serve as host. Each of the participating FNGS universities – FIU, FSU, UCF, UF, UNF and USF – has established programs that, in one form or another, seek to advance the exchange of information on change taking place in an increasingly globalized world. For more information about FNGS or the Florida International Summit, please email [global@ucf.edu](mailto:global@ucf.edu) or visit [www.ucfglobalperspectives.org](http://www.ucfglobalperspectives.org).

## Diversifying Diplomacy



On the evening of Dec. 5, 2017, a large crowd gathered at the DACOR Bacon House in Washington, D.C. to celebrate the book launch of *Diversifying Diplomacy*, the memoir of UCF Diplomacy Program Director Amb. Harriet Elam-Thomas. The book is her account of her struggle to distinguish herself as a young, black woman, her decades-long career in the Foreign Service, and her dedication to encouraging future generations of diplomats.

Guests of the event included colleagues from her 42-year diplomatic career, friends she's made from around the world and a few GP alums. During the launch party, Amb. Elam-Thomas made some remarks about the book, expressed her gratitude for the role those there played in her life, and even distinguished her former students: Shannon Payne, a current Sié Fellow in the Korbel School of International Studies at the University of Denver, Nicholas Grandchamps, a U.S. Foreign Service Officer, and Richard Haddock, Program Coordinator for the Sigur Center for Asian Studies at George Washington University.



When asked for his reflection on the evening, Haddock noted, "To be at her memoir launch was to be embraced by her rich and lasting legacy. The many individuals gathered at the celebration came from all parts of the world, and represented the multicultural and multi-generational impact this elegant and thoughtful woman from Roxbury has left. We are what we grow beyond, and the Ambassador has grown quite the everlasting garden!"

## **Expanding Opportunities through Partnership**

From a teleconference briefing by Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) President Richard N. Haass to a simulation on U.S. relations with Nigeria, dozens of UCF students have taken their study of global/international issues in a hands-on direction. GP Director John C. Bersia was immersed in CFR partnership programming in New York earlier this year and brought back multiple ideas to complement classroom learning. The briefing with Haass (on the state of the world) – as well as others during the fall term with Shannon K. O'Neil (on Latin America), Steven A. Cook (on the Middle East) and Jack A. Goldstone (on revolutions) – allowed students to hear directly from leading experts on timely issues and ask questions. In addition, students in Bersia's Honors Human Trafficking in Global Affairs class took part in a CFR model-diplomacy session on Boko Haram in Nigeria. They played the roles of top-level U.S. officials as they examined issues such as human rights/human trafficking, U.S. military aid and terrorism. "The students enthusiastically and capably took on their assignments," Bersia said. "They clearly learned a lot and got a taste of what it's like to tackle complicated global/international subjects and make decisions that have real-life consequences," he added.