



The Passport

World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area (www.wacmb.org)

October 2017

A REVOLUTION NO MORE

The Trajectory of Egyptian Politics Since 2011

Professor Jennifer L. Derr

University of California, Santa Cruz

Thursday, October 26, 2017

11:30 am: registration ~noon: luncheon~1:00-2:00 pm: program

Rancho Canada,

Carmel Valley Road



After the Arab Spring of 2011 the Muslim Brotherhood won Egypt's first free elections; by 2012, under the leadership of Mohammed Morsi, it ruled the country. The Brotherhood had been considered one of the world's pre-eminent Islamist movements. But the army, led by Abdel el Fattah el Sisi, and backed by mass protests, soon forced Morsi out of office. Or did they?

Our guest, Professor Jennifer Derr, will chronicle the trajectory of Egyptian politics since the revolution of 2011 and the rise of President Sisi to power. She will also explore Egypt's position within the Middle East.

Jennifer Derr is an Assistant Professor of History at the University of California, Santa Cruz, where she

teaches courses in the history of the modern Middle East and post-colonial politics. She completed her Ph.D. in History at Stanford University in 2009. She also holds a B.A. in Biological Sciences from Stanford University and an M.A. from Georgetown University in Contemporary Arab Studies. After receiving her B.A. she spent nearly a decade living in the region; part of that time was devoted to teaching at the American University in Cairo. She has conducted extensive research on Egypt supported by the Fulbright-Hays Commission, the Social Science Research Council, the American Research Center in Egypt, the Mellon Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Humanities among other institutional donors.

(Please see page 3 for reservation details.)

Calendar of Events

Monday, October 2	Discussion Group on <i>What's Happening in Venezuela?</i> meets in Room 101, Social Science Building, MPC.	4-5:30 pm
Thursday, October 5	Board meets in Conference Room, McCone building, MIIS. Open to members.	4:30 pm
Mondays, October 9 & 23	Great Decisions Discussion Groups meet at CSUMB Ryan Ranch.	4-5:30 pm
Wednesday, October 11	WAC Book Club meets at Monterey Public Library, Community Room reviewing <i>Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind</i> by Yuval Noah Harari.	5-6:30 pm

EXPLORATIONS

August program report.....

The Taliban and the Future of the Afghan Conflict

Professor Thomas H. Johnson, NPS

October 7, 2017 marks the beginning of the 17th year of the US engagement in Afghanistan. The position of the Afghan government has deteriorated in the last three years to the point where the Taliban controls 30% of the country-more than any time since 2001. The reasons include:

- * Pakistani treachery through support and safe havens for the Taliban;**
- * Afghan National Unity Government's inability and/or unwillingness to implement any of the agreements made after the election of 2014;**
- * Endemic corruption revealed in the many audit and inspector general's reports.**
- * Heavy losses by Afghan national security forces through attrition (6500 in each of the last three years), low reenlistments and desertions;**
- * American strategic failure to counter the rural nature of the insurgency.**
- * Absence of any compelling narrative underpinning the U.S. mission in recent years in the face of an indigenous narrative re-asserted by the Taliban.**

The apparent turnabout in the US commitment announced by President Trump on 8/21/17 is essentially a formula for "not losing" under his watch. Johnson's assessment is that the policy extending the US engagement will make "no significant difference" to the outcome.

Philip Morgan

By now WACMB members for whom we have email addresses will have received an email from President Cynthia Harris regarding a new communication vehicle for the WACMB.

According to our national headquarters, WACA is defined as "The largest non-profit organization in the United States dedicated to fostering grassroots understanding and engagement in international affairs." With that in mind, Project Directors Gail Sheridan and Elizabeth Robinson are offering an electronic bulletin designed to keep our members even more in touch and better informed about world affairs than ever.

The bulletin, *Explorations*, initiated on September 22 will be followed up in November, and after that our members will be asked for feedback to determine if the service should be continued. *Explorations* is designed to come out "occasionally," on an unscheduled delivery and is not designed to replace *The Passport*.

According to the Project Directors the goal of *Explorations* is to "Find ways to wed our members more closely to the WACMB by providing a deeper experience for them through communication about their area of interest, i.e., world affairs." Hopefully members will explore these areas of interest with their friends, thusly encouraging them to join our organization. Contents will include links to articles about foreign affairs, possibly short articles by WAC speakers and/ or book reviews of recent WAC speakers, and notification to our members of call-in simulcasts from the National WAC.

Please advise the WACMB office a.s.a.p. if you have not listed an email address with WACMB, but would like to be included in the *Explorations*

BOOK CLUB

**Meets the second Wednesday of each month 5-6:30,
Monterey Public Library. Everyone welcome!**
October: *Sapiens*, by Yuval Noah Harari
November: *The Great Game* by Peter Hopkirk
**December: *Black Wind, White Snow* by Charles
Clover**

RESERVATION FORM

Reservations due October 23 for October 26, 2017 presentation

*Registration 11:30 am
Luncheon at noon
Program 1 pm*

Mail form & check or credit information to:
WAC-P.O. Box 83, Monterey, CA 93942
or Fax reservation form to (831) 643-1846.

*Members @ \$25 ea. _____
Guests @ \$35 ea. _____
Credit card charge \$2 ea. _____
Total _____*

A Revolution No More

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Questions? Call the office at 831-643-1855

- - **from the President's Desk,** particular thanks go out to **Bernardus Winery and Ventana Vineyards** for their recent donations of fine wine to the **World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area.** The wine is used for presentation to our esteemed speakers, who offer their thanks, too.
- - And to **CSUMB** for assistance in developing **WAC's** new YouTube connection.
- - And to **Dr. Paul Goddard, of Saratoga, CA** who just donated a much needed projector for our luncheon presentations.

C.H.

WELCOME!

**David & Karen Johnson
Roger Powers
Dean & Helen Turner
C.E. Armstrong & Marilyn Strandberg
Daniel Villa Richard Volberg
Jim & Nancy Ortize
Tim & Elaine Kramer**

LUNCHEON MENU

*House Salad with
Ranch Dressing*

*Panko Crusted
Chicken with
Sherry Cream Sauce
Garlic Mashed Potatoes
& Green Beans*

Chef's Choice Dessert

*(Vegetarian)
Portobello Mushrooms
Napoleon*



The Passport October 2017

This is the monthly newsletter of the World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area. Founded in 1951, the Council is a non-profit, non-partisan organization established to promote the presentation, discussion and study of international affairs. WACMB is a tax exempt 501(c)3 organization, EIN-770301206. Contributions are tax deductible as permitted by law. WACMB sponsors monthly luncheons, discussion groups and student scholarships.

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WAC, P.O. Box 83, Monterey, CA 93942**

Name/s _____

Address _____

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Student memberships are limited to full-time students matriculating at an accredited college or graduate school. This includes special military membership for enlisted personnel. Grades E-1 to E-4 only.

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