



# The Passport

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

January 2018

## **Worlds Imploding: Politics and Security in the Gulf and the Middle East**

**Department of National Security, Naval Postgraduate School**

**Dr. James A. Russell**

**Associate Professor of National Security**

**Thursday, January 25, 2018**

**11:30 am: Registration ~ Noon: Luncheon ~ 1:00-2:00 pm: Program  
Rancho Canada, Carmel Valley Road**

Today's Middle East is embroiled in several civil wars that have destroyed the fabric of four regional states—with the wreckage littering the landscape like shattered glass. The region remains in the grip of dangerous interstate rivalries, manifesting themselves in the proxy wars that show no signs of ending. In the Gulf, Saudi Arabia and Iran continue their war of words and some suggest that war between these regional heavyweights is a possibility.



He also teaches courses in strategy and military innovation. He has authored numerous articles and blogs occasionally at the lobe.log at <https://lobelog.com/author/james-russell/>.

His latest book is *Maritime Strategy and Global Order*, Ed., with Daniel Moran (Georgetown University Press, 2016). He is currently working on a book that examines the long term impact of climate change on the stability of the Middle East.

Professor James Russell, associate professor of national security at the Naval Postgraduate School's Department of National Security, will share his perspectives on the region's implosion and the challenges this creates for U.S. strategy and foreign policy. The views presented at the luncheon are his own.

Professor Russell teaches courses at NPS in his department's Middle East studies curriculum.

Professor Russell earned his PhD in war studies from King's College, the University of London in 2009. He has been teaching at NPS since 2001. Prior to arriving at NPS, he worked for 15 years as a civilian in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs (Near East and South Asia).

*(For a Reservation Form, please see Page 3).*

### Calendar of Events

**Thursday, January 4, Board meets in Conference Room, McCone building, MIIS. Open to members. 4:30-5:30 pm**

**Monday, January 8, WACMB/MPC Discussion Group "Cyber Security", Social Science Room 101, 4-5:30 pm**

**Monday, January 29, WACMB/MPC Great Decisions Discussion Group "The Waning of Pax Americana?"  
Social Science Room 101, 4-5:30 pm. Parking in Lot D, permits for attendees.**

**Tuesday, January 30, OLLI/WACMB Great Decisions Discussion Group, "The Waning of Pax Americana?"  
Ryan Ranch. 4-5:30 pm**

**Wednesday, January 10, WACMB Book Club, Monterey Public Library *Red Azalea* by Anchee Min 5-6:30 pm**

**Thursday, January 25, Luncheon and presentation on *Worlds Imploding* by Dr. James A. Russell, 11:30-2 pm  
Rancho Canada, Carmel Valley Road**

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## Crisis in the European Union

Presentation by Dr. Michel R. Gueldry,  
Middlebury Institute of International Studies

November 29, 2017

By Edwin P. "Phil" Morgan

Gueldry identified a number of political and social tensions in several countries of Europe threatening the future unity and democratic character of the EU.

- The United Kingdom: The Brexit decision reflects long-held suspicions of formal ties to Europe, of immigration, and an intra-UK north-south divide symbolized by London's affluence and cosmopolitanism compared to the slowdown in the mid-and northern industrial centers.
- France: In the fall presidential elections, the anti-EU, anti-immigration populism of Le Pen's right-wing did not prevail. However, anti-NATO and anti-Eurozone forces and labor unions on the left also challenge the "minority" Macron government.
- Germany: In September, the center-right party of the seemingly invincible Chancellor Angela Merkel suffered a reduced majority in the federal legislature, forcing her to look for a workable coalition with other parties. Merkel has been unsuccessful to date. A populist right-wing party also emerged with 15 seats, propelled mostly by anti-immigration rhetoric, which means that debates in the Bundestag will now include language not heard since 1945.
- Poland and Hungary: In both countries immigration of non-Europeans has essentially ceased, nationalist rhetoric and anti-Semitic insults of outspoken liberals has emerged. Recent legal measures have been taken to undermine the independence of the judiciary and the public media, most clearly in Poland.

The spirit of the EU project has always been to foster prosperity through cooperation as a means to preserve peace in Europe. Liberal democracy and multilateral approaches to decision making have been crucial to that success whether in the areas of trade and economic cooperation, mutual security and the deepening of democratic institutions.

*(continued)*

## In Memoriam

### Abby Foss

Abby Foss, who served the World Affairs Council, Monterey Bay, as secretary and Passport editor for many years, died Nov. 30 at her home in Monterey of heart failure.

She was well known on the Monterey Peninsula as a horse trainer, stable manager and master of foxhounds.

Born Abigail Langdon Wilder Sept. 24, 1928, in Newark, N.J., she had lived on the Peninsula since 1975.

Abby graduated from UCLA where, in her senior year, she was managing editor of the university's Daily Bruin newspaper.

She then worked as a buyer for a large department store, where she met her husband, Jay Foss. The two lived in Houston, Texas, Albuquerque, N.M., and Atlanta, Georgia, before moving to the Peninsula.

Abby was a founder of the Juan Tomas Hounds fox hunting club in Albuquerque and co-master of the Los Altos Hounds in San Benito County.

She managed the Pebble Beach Equestrian Center, Cypress Stables in Monterey and Holman Ranch stables in Carmel Valley.

Abby was preceded in death by her husband, a sister, Jane, and two sons, Robert and Langdon Foss. She is survived by a niece, Margot Jacqz of New York and a nephew, Christian Jacqz of Ipswich, Mass.

A celebration of her life will be held 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 13, at Carmel Valley Manor. There is no parking at the Manor. Please park at the Sanctuary Bible Church, 8340 Carmel Valley Road, just east of Schulte Road, on the south side of Carmel Valley Road. A shuttle bus will take you to the Manor.

*This Passport is dedicated to Abby Foss.*

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### Crisis in the European Union

*(continued)*

These challenges not only undermine progress toward an integrated Europe, they have parallels in American populism, openly expressed racial and religious prejudice, policies which aggravate inequality, and pander to plutocrats which, together, contribute to what Gueldry called a "Disunited States".

**RESERVATION FORM**

*Reservations due January 21 for January 25, 2018 Luncheon*

*Worlds Imploding by Professor James A. Russell, NPS, Jan. 25, 2018*

*Mail Form & Check or Credit Card information to:*

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

**Or Fax Reservation Form to (831) 643-1846**

*Registration 11:30 am*

*Luncheon at noon*

*Program 1:00 pm*

*Members @ \$25 each* \_\_\_\_\_

*Guests @ \$35 each* \_\_\_\_\_

*Credit card charge \$2 each* \_\_\_\_\_

*Total* \_\_\_\_\_

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**Luncheon Price increase**  
**Starting February 2018**

**Due to rising labor and food costs, the price of our luncheons at Rancho Canada will increase. This is the first increase in many years. Please check your February Reservation Form for the new price.**

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**WACMB Book Club**

**WACMB BOOK CLUB members meet on Wed., Jan 10, 2018, to review Red Azalea by Anchee Min in the Community Room of the Monterey Public Library. This Club is not sponsored or endorsed by the Monterey Public Library or the City of Monterey.**

**For information regarding the WACMB Book Club, or to be included on the mailing list, contact Doug Wilhelm at [wacmbbookclub@gmail.com](mailto:wacmbbookclub@gmail.com) or (831) 620-0876.**



**LUNCHEON MENU**

*Wedgewood Salad*

*With*

*Italian Dressing*

*Chicken Cordon Bleu*

*Whipped Potatoes*

*and Vegetables*

*Chef's Choice Dessert*

*(Vegetarian)*

*Tortellini Pesto Parmesan*

**WACMB/MPC Discussion Group**

Discussions are led by Larry Johnson and held monthly on the 2nd Monday. "Great Decisions" begins weekly January 29 - March 26 every Monday, excluding Feb. 19, 2018. Attendance is free and open to the public. Parking in Lot D is \$3, with parking permits available to attendees.

# The Passport January 2018

*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-0301206. Contributions are tax deductible as permitted by law. WACMB sponsors monthly luncheons, discussion groups and student scholarships.*

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| Individual .....     | \$30   |
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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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