



Ambassador's Speech on the New Administration Draws Large Audience at AmCham

Ambassador Bradtke delivered a speech entitled *New Directions in the Obama Administration* at the American Chamber of Commerce luncheon at the Hotel Esplanade in Zagreb. Speaking to over 150 members of the business community, the Croatian government, the diplomatic corps and the media, the Ambassador highlighted the foreign and economic policies of the Obama administration, placing them within the context of Croatian-American relations. Following the speech, the Ambassador answered questions from the audience and the media on a wide variety of bilateral and foreign policy topics. The event generated broad coverage in the Croatian press.



Ambassador Bradtke at the American Chamber of Commerce luncheon

Deputy Chief Of Mission Speaks About the American Dream

Deputy Chief of Mission Vivian Walker visited the 4th High-school in Zagreb on January 28, 2009, and gave a lecture on "The American Dream".

Drawing on themes from U.S. history, politics, culture, and literature the DCM discussed the concept of the American Dream with over 60 secondary school students. The speech generated questions on contemporary social issues in both Croatia and United States.



Deputy Chief of Mission, Vivian Walker visited the 4th High school in Zagreb

Do you want to study in the USA?



*Vice Consul
Todd Bullock
in Pula*

As part of the Embassy Outreach Program, Vice Consul Todd Bullock visited the coastal town of Pula where he talked to around 70 Byron language school students about life and customs in America, and educational opportunities in the United States.

The first such visit by an embassy diplomat attracted a wide media coverage providing Mr. Bullock the opportunity to give interviews to two local TV stations and several daily newspapers.

Daria Marjanovic, Croatian TV editor and former PDYer, is recognized by the New York Film Festival

Daria Marjanovic, Croatian TV editor, lecturer at the University of Zagreb Journalism Department and former participant in the Professional Development Year program, has been awarded an honorary diploma ("Finalist Certificate") by the New York Film Festival. Her TV story, "Winnetou Lives," was aired on CNN's World Report, and has been awarded one of the 2009 Television Programming and Promotion Awards in the "Best News Magazine" category. This is Daria's second award at the New York Festival. Her first award came in 2002, when she was awarded for a short documentary film under the title "Allegedly." Daria Marjanovic spent the 2000-2001 academic year at the University of Tennessee School of Journalism and Electronic Media as part of the USG-funded Professional Development Year Program. She spent nine months in Knoxville, where she attended classes, as well as learned from and worked with TV journalists at the WBIR-TV, the NBC affiliate.

Fulbright Stipend for Croa- tian Researcher Leads to Breakthrough in Curing Colon Cancer

Dr. Janos Terzic, professor at the Medical School, University of Split, Croatia, together with a group of American and international scientists, made a major breakthrough in curing colon cancer. They discovered a protein which is the most important impact factor in the development of colon cancer. The results are based on the research on animal specimen but the scientists are in agreement that the same treatment can be applied on humans by blocking this protein. The article on this scientific discovery was published on February 3 in a prestigious U.S. scientific magazine, *Cancer Cell* ([http://www.cell.com/cancer-cell/issue?pii=S1535-6108\(09\)X0002-4](http://www.cell.com/cancer-cell/issue?pii=S1535-6108(09)X0002-4)). Croatian print and broadcast media covered it extensively and Dr. Terzic acknowledged the Fulbright Program, among others, for sponsoring the research. Dr. Terzic spent academic year 2005-06 as a Fulbright post-doctoral researcher at UC San Diego's Laboratory of Gene Regulation and Signal Transduction where most of the research was conducted.

Ambassador Bradtke Meets with Croatian Special Olympics Team



Ambassador Robert Bradtke with the Croatian Winter Special Olympics Delegation at the U.S. Embassy

Ambassador Robert Bradtke met with the 13-member delegation of the Croatian Special Olympics team January 27 at the U.S Embassy in Zagreb. The delegation will travel to Boise, Idaho February 7-13 to participate in the Winter Special Olympic World Games. The Ambassador met with the team before their visa interviews at the Embassy and wished them good luck in the games. The event established good relations between the Embassy and the Croatian Special Olympics delegation as well as established positive expectations for participation in the U.S. hosted games.

U.S. Embassy Zagreb Hosts Student Outreach Event in Rijeka

The Public Affairs and Consular sections organized an outreach event at the American Corner in Rijeka January 22 with the Croatian Institute for Higher Education and Camp Counselor's USA to discuss student travel opportunities in the United States. The event provided students at Rijeka University with information on scholarships, study abroad programs in the U.S., and summer work and travel programs. Staff from the Embassy's consular section also attended the event to provide detailed information on the visa process and answer questions about travel. Two former Fulbright scholars who currently teach in Rijeka attended the event and spoke to the students about their experiences in the United States. The event provided detailed information on study opportunities in the United States and the visa process to approximately 50 students.

Based on positive feedback from the event, Embassy organizers discussed planning a second event specifically to provide detailed information about fellowships for younger scholars.



Todd Bullock, Consular Officer at the American Corner in Rijeka

Ambassador Bradtke Appears on Croatian TV and Gives Interview for Vjesnik Daily

Following President Obama's inauguration on January 20, Ambassador Robert Bradtke appeared on the Croatian talk show "Otvoreno", and spoke about the new U.S. administration and its priorities and challenges. In addition to his appearance, Ambassador Bradtke gave an interview for Zagreb-based Government-owned daily, "Vjesnik." The interview, appeared January 27, under the headline "Croatia Is a Very Important American Partner", focused on the inauguration and the new U.S. administration's foreign policy priorities, as well as the new administration's position towards Croatia and the region. In the interview, Ambassador Bradtke explained that the U.S. has supported NATO expansion and Croatia's NATO and EU memberships, and will continue to do so. He also praised the partnership between the U.S. and Croatia in a number of areas, including cooperation within the ISAF mission and partnership in resolving problems in Southeastern Europe. Ambassador Bradtke also commented on Croatia's UN Security Council membership, praising cooperation with the Croatian mission to the UN.



Ambassador Robert Bradtke on Croatian TV's daily evening talk show, "Otvoreno"

Embassy Hosts Inauguration Reception At American Corner Zagreb

Embassy Zagreb hosted an inauguration event January 20 at the American Corner located at Bogdan Ogrizović Library in Zagreb. The reception targeted young Croatian leaders from academic, business, and politics to give them the opportunity to see live inauguration coverage of President-elect Barack Obama including his swearing in, inaugural address and other program events. Additionally, the library remained open during the event and other Croatian patrons including university students were able to watch the inauguration on televisions provided by the Embassy. Approximately 75 Croatians to include guests from political parties, NGOs, government ministries, think-tanks, journalists, and previous fellowship awardees such as Fulbright, Ron Brown, and Ben Franklin awardees and students attended the event. The event was also covered by the major television station Hrvatska Radio Televizija (HRT) as well as radio station Nova and the major daily newspapers. Ambassador Robert Bradtke gave interviews to the press after the inaugural address.



Inauguration Event at the American Corner

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Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs visits Zagreb

During her visit to Embassy Zagreb on December 10, Colleen Graffy, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs, discussed programming with Ron Brown and Benjamin Franklin alumni, offered guidance on fundraising for the Embassy's education exchange partner, engaged with the representatives of the North Atlantic Integration and Promotion Organization about public outreach and conducted two separate lectures on public diplomacy to university students and young Croatian diplomats, respectively. Ms. Graffy donated digital television equipment from the Embassy for the use of the University of Zagreb Journalism Department's TV studio.

DAS Graffy's visit deepened our engagement with key alumni, reached out to student audiences and helped move forward planning for joint activities with both the NGO for NATO promotion and with planning for an alumni reunion of Benjamin Franklin Fellows.

Bringing Holiday Celebration To Croatian Students

On December 12, Michelle McAloon and Susan Mosenfelder, two Embassy spouses, spoke to a group of 30 high-school students about holiday season traditions in the U.S. Using examples from family traditions, Michelle gave a brief overview of celebrations in the American South while Susan presented celebrations in the North. Students asked questions about Hanukkah and Kwanzaa traditions. Following the lecture, the speakers spent extra time answering additional questions.

This program was a part of PA Zagreb's efforts to reach out to the successor generation in Croatia, and to bring a different perspective of the United States to the students, which enables them to better understand the Americans, and American values.

American Diplomat Addresses University Students

Sara Litke, Economic Officer at the U.S. Embassy Zagreb spoke to a group of 50 university students at the Geography Department at the University of Zagreb on December 9, 2008. Her lecture dealt with the US political system and with the 2008 elections, the transition, and what President Elect Obama has said his priorities will be. She also talked about the economic crisis. The audience responded with questions about the economic crisis and about Iraq.

Such lectures prove to bring a different perspective of the United States to the students, which enables them to better understand the United States, and American democracy.



DAS Graffy at the University of Zagreb Journalism Department



Michelle McAloon and Susan Mosenfelder at the American Corner



Sara Litke, Economic Officer at the Geography Department

DCM Reaches Out To Students At Two American Corners

Deputy Chief of Mission Vivian Walker spoke at the American Corners in Zagreb and in Rijeka, on December 1 and December 3 respectively. She spoke on the topic of „Women in Diplomacy.“ Ms. Walker discussed the historical and sociological aspects of women in U.S. diplomacy and connected this to specific figures and dates throughout history. The audience in Zagreb consisted of 60 high-school students who asked about her experience as a diplomat in Croatia and in other countries. The audience in Rijeka consisted of 50 university students and their teachers.



*Deputy Chief of Mission
Vivian Walker
at the American Corner*

Fulbright Professor Discusses U.S. Culture with Students At The American Corner Zagreb

A group of 52 students and two teachers from a high-school in Koprivnica visited the American Corner Zagreb on November 25. Mark Sawin, a Fulbright professor at the English Department in Zagreb, gave an extremely dynamic and engaging lecture entitled *Mixing, Melting, Money Rock 'n' Roll, Hip Hop & America Youth*. Students asked numerous questions and greatly appreciated the opportunity to engage in dialogue interact with a native-speaker of English. The students were also interested in the possibility of studying in the United States. The event offered a personal perspective of the United States to students whose knowledge of the U.S. is based on mass media.



*Mixing, Melting, Money Rock 'n' Roll, Hip
Hop & America Youth Lecture at the
American Corner Zagreb*



Sabre Foundation Zagreb and U.S. Embassy Zagreb Donate Children's Book Collection

The U.S. Embassy and the Sabre Foundation in Zagreb continued their successful partnership in a book donation to the Split City library. Over 200 books for children were donated to the library in Split.

*Ms. Marija Cvetnic-Kopljar, Information Resource Center Assistant
in Split*

American Week in City Library Petrinja



Ken Wetzel at the American Week in Petrinja

During Croatian Book Month in November, the City Library in Petrinja, organized an America Week focusing on American history, literature, music, food, youth culture and native Americans. For the final event of the program, the Assistant Public Affairs Officer Ken Wetzel, gave a presentation to an audience of over 100, ranging from five year olds in native dress to the city mayor, discussing the recent U.S. Elections and life in the United States. The event was covered by a local newspaper and radio station.

Fulbright Senior Fellow Lectures In Osijek, Zadar, and Zagreb

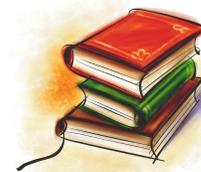
Prof. Virginia Walter, a professor of library science at UCLA, spent one month in Croatia as a Fulbright Senior Fellow. During her stay she lectured at the Library Departments at the University of Osijek and the University of Zadar. She also addressed audiences at the American Corners in Osijek, Zadar, and Zagreb, lecturing on new trends in U.S. libraries. IRC Director Marica Bahlen took Prof. Walter to visit the Karlovac Public Library and the Karlovac Youth Library, the only one of its kind in Croatia. Dr. Walter's visit builds on recent visits to Croatia by other U.S. librarians, including the Director of the MIT Research Libraries who addressed university conference in Zagreb and lectured at the University of Zadar, and the Assistant Librarian of Old Bridge, New Jersey, an expert on library services for the the elderly, who was the keynote speaker at the Conference for Public Libraries in Pula and at another major library event in Zagreb.



Fulbright Senior Fellow Dr. Virginia Walter, a professor of Library Science at UCLA, interacts with young performers at the Karlovac Youth Library

IRC RESOURCES

The Information Resource Center (IRC) provides information and reference services by telephone, fax, and [e-mail](#), and is open by appointment for specialists with more extensive research projects. The IRC is located at the U.S. Embassy.



Embassy Zagreb Donates Sabre Books To The Public Library In Omis

IRC assistant Marija Cvetnic Kopljar delivered American books from the Sabre foundation in Zagreb to the Public library Omis, on February 4, 2009. The donation included books on U.S. history, politics, culture and literature for primary and secondary school students. Library director, Svjetlana Buljevic, expressed appreciation for the books and wishes to continue cooperation between the local library and the U.S. Embassy.

IRC Zagreb Organizes Sabre Book Donation Programs And Jazz Lecture In Knin

The Embassy donated books to the Knin Public Library and Polytechnic College arranged a lecture on jazz in celebration of Black History Month. The book donation was undertaken in partnership with the Sabre Foundation Zagreb. Over 200 books with U.S. themes were donated and approximately 50 books were provided to the Polytechnic. Croatian jazz historian Davor Hrvoj gave a lecture to 50 people at the public library in Knin.

AMERICAN CORNERS

American Corner Zadar

Zadar Public Library, Stjepana Radića 11b

<http://www.gkzd.hr/ak.php>

American Corner Rijeka

Rijeka University Library, Dolac 1

http://www.svkri.hr/portal/index.php?option=com_content&task=category§ionid=8&id=29&Itemid=248

American Corner Osijek

Osijek Public and University Library, Europska Avenija 24

<http://www.gskos.hr/>

AC page coming soon.

American Corner Zagreb Bogdan Ogrizović

Public Library, Zagreb

<http://www.kqz.hr/knijzbo/default.asp>

AC page coming soon.

Croatian Jazz Expert Lectures in Split

Croatian jazz specialist, Davor Hrvoj, gave a lecture on Jazz on February 4, 2009, at the Split City library. This was the first event in the renovated renewed library. Drawing on themes from jazz history, Davor Hrvoj discussed African American jazz musicians like Duke Ellington, Charles Mingus, Miles Davis, Dizzy Gillespie, Booby McFerrin and Stanly Jordan, and their impact on world culture.

For more information, please contact the American Corners Coordinators at the libraries listed on the left side.

Florida High School Students Visit Embassy With Croatian Partner School

High school students and teachers from Clearwater Florida visited the U.S. Embassy on November 21, along with members of their Croatian sister school, Zagreb's 4th High School. These schools have sponsored student exchanges for the past eight years. The students visited the Consular section, met with the Public Affairs Officer, and with the Regional Security Officer Assistant, discussing the work of the Embassy and foreign service careers.

High school students and teachers from Clearwater Florida



Bringing Thanksgiving To Croatian Students



On November 19, Teri Pitts and Kate Furletti visited an elementary school in Karlovac, and discussed the tradition of Thanksgiving in the United States. Teri gave a historic overview of the celebration, while Kate spoke about the Thanksgiving traditions in her family. The students participated actively in the lecture. The speakers also spent time with teachers from the school's English Department, who greatly appreciated the opportunity to interact with native speakers.

Tradition of Thanksgiving in the United States

International Education Week in Zagreb

U.S. Embassy Zagreb and the Institute for the Development of Education (IDE) organized a reception for over 50 U.S. alumni during International Educational Week. This is the second year the U.S. Embassy sponsored IDE's U.S. Affiliates Community (USAC) project. USAC is a virtual platform for cooperation and exchange between Croatian citizens who are linked to the United States through their education, as well as between institutions, companies, organizations and a wider Croatian public. The idea is to encourage communication and networking of alumni registered on the USAC website, and communication between the alumni and the Croatian public on the topics of U.S. based education and social engagement. The reception was also a chance for new embassy officers to connect with USG alumni. The event was covered by the national press.



International Educational Week