



TUCSON COMMITTEE ON
FOREIGN RELATIONS

ANNUAL REPORT 2018 - 2019

July 2019

Dear Members and Friends of TCFR:

TCFR began life in 1965 as a local affiliate of the New York-based Council on Foreign Relations. The Council on Foreign Relations comprises a foreign policy elite and has an exacting and exclusive membership process. That exclusivity carried over to some extent in the practices of its local affiliate organizations.

The Council on Foreign Relations terminated its affiliates program in 1995, and today TCFR continues to thrive as a fully independent organization. But for several years after our association with the Council on Foreign Relations ended, some of the old ways of operating persisted. Not too many years ago TCFR still required applicants for membership to be sponsored by a current member, and some international experience was expected, as evidenced by a biographical summary submitted as part of the membership application.

In recent years TCFR has evolved into an open membership organization. We no longer require membership sponsors and no longer ask about prior international experience. Interest in the subject matter has taken precedence over common experiences. Although the TCFR bylaws still mandate a membership cap of 150, for the past two years the board has voted, as it is permitted to do by the bylaws, to allow membership to rise above the 150-member limit. At the end of our fiscal year on June 30, 2019, our membership stood at 189. (A "family membership" counts as one member, so the membership total actually represents 313 individuals).

We are at a time in our nation's history when American diplomacy is underfunded, understaffed, and underused; when major news media have virtually abandoned international coverage; and consequently when interest in and knowledge of international relations are dangerously low among the citizenry. TCFR's greatest service at this critical time, it seems to me, is to encourage interest in world affairs among members of the Tucson community and to provide balanced, detailed information to enable better understanding of foreign policy issues. This implies a broad outreach rather than a narrow focus.

Whether you agree with that approach or prefer a different one. I encourage you to take part in determining the future of TCFR. We always welcome volunteers to serve on the Executive Board or on the various committees. That is the most direct way to influence

TCFR's policies and practices. If you don't wish to volunteer, your comments and suggestions are welcome and are always paid attention. The direction TCFR takes in the years to come is up to you.

It has been my privilege to serve as TCFR's president for the past three years. It's been an enjoyable and edifying experience, and I thank the Board and TCFR members for the opportunity. On June 1, 2019, Dr. Thomas Volgy became TCFR's president. I wish Tom well, and I will continue to support him and TCFR as a member of the Board.

Sincerely,
Robert L. Thompson
2018-19 President

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TCFR's 2018 - 2019 Programs

TCFR presented seven dinner programs and two luncheons this season. The topics and speakers were:

- "The Russian Invasion of American Democracy," **Steven Hall**
- "Negotiating With North Korea: Past Lessons & Future Challenges," **Amb. Christopher Hill**
- "Democracy in Crisis?: Assessing the Mid-Term Elections" **Thomas Mann, Ph.D.**
- "America's Foreign Policy: The Players and Their Playbooks," **Richard Fontaine**
- "Is It Too Late to Reverse Climate Change?" **Diana Liverman, Ph.D.**
- "American Foreign Policy in the Trump Era," **Amb. Nicholas Burns**
- "Afghanistan: How and When Do We Disengage?," **Stephen Biddle, Ph.D.**
- "Successes & Failures in the War on Terrorism," **Bruce Hoffman, D.Phil.**
- "How Demographic Changes Will Shape the Future in Developed & Underdeveloped Countries" **Robert Walker, J.D.**

These speakers appeared without fee or honorarium (TCFR pays travel expenses). We are grateful for their generosity.

Thomas Volgy, Ph.D., Is New TCFR President

Tom Volgy assumed the presidency of TCFR on June 1, 2019. Dr. Volgy is professor of political science at the University of Arizona School of Government & Public Policy, specializing in international politics, democratic processes, and domestic public policy. He served in public office from 1977 through 1991, first as a member of the Tucson city council and then as mayor of Tucson. Dr. Volgy consults extensively with foreign governments on democratic political development and public policy. Tom has served on the TCFR Board since 2014.

Elliott Weiss, professor emeritus at the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law, became vice president of TCFR on June 1. Dr. Gary Guertner, Christine Shea, and Cody Nicholls continue in the offices of, respectively, vice president, program; treasurer; and secretary. David Gupton and Bruce Turkstra were elected to the TCFR Executive Board, effective June 1.

Mind the Gap

Announcements of TCFR events always come with deadlines for registration and payment. This is necessary because the event venues require us to submit a final headcount and meal orders several days before the event, and we are then committed to pay for those meals. We do not want to turn members away, but when deadlines are missed it puts an added burden on our event volunteers and can impose unnecessary costs on TCFR. As attendance at TCFR events grows, missed deadlines can become unmanageable. Please “mind the gap” between the registration deadlines and the event dates. Be sure to register and pay **on time**. Thank you!

2018 - 2019 Executive Board and Officers

We appreciate the many hours invested by our Executive Board on behalf of TCFR. The following served on the Board in the past year:

Robert Thompson, President
Thomas Volgy, Vice President
Gary Guertner, Vice President, Program
Christine Shea, Treasurer
Cody Nicholls, Secretary
John Bryant
George Gluski
Marvin Goldberg
David Gupton*

Margaret Houy
Roy Morey
Janet Sanderson
Donald Shepperd
Elise Collins Shields
Bruce Turkstra*
Elliott Weiss
Christine Wells

* Took office as of June 1, 2019

Thanks to Our Donors!

The following persons made donations to TCFR beyond their annual dues in 2018. We are extremely grateful for their support.

Arch Brown
James and Frances Dauber
David and Barbara Earnest
Dolores Hillenbrand and Phillip Ferranti
Charles Gannon and Andra Karnofski
Gene and Sandy Gerner

J. Boyd and Otilie Rose Matchette
Thomas McAndrew
Roy and Delores Morey
Jeannie H. Mueller and Robert Crone
Dr. and Mrs. John Mueller
Sig Olney

Marvin and Carol Goldberg
 Robert Hamilton and Eleanor Staley
 Dr. and Mrs. John H. Hughes
 David Huisjen
 Bob and JoAnne Hungate
 Oscar and Jackie Hunsaker
 Neil Kochenour
 Jim Kolbe
 Randolph and Carol Long
 David and Gypsy Lyle
 Jacqueline Manning

Don and Shirley Peterson
 Bradford Rich
 Susan and Larry Ring
 Peter Salomon and Patricia Morgan
 Anne Snodgrass
 Robert B. and Eileen Thompson
 Robert L. and Carolyn Thompson
 Jane Toussaint
 Bruce and Cheryl Turkstra
 Thomas Volgy
 Christine Wells and John Corbett

The following firms made valuable in-kind contributions to TCFR:

Duffield Adamson Helenbolt, P.C., Attorneys-at-Law
 Robert E. Fee Law Offices

Thanks to Joy Thompson for enabling TCFR to host events at Tucson Country Club under her TCC membership.

Summary Financial Statements

BALANCE SHEET As of June 30, 2019, and June 30, 2018

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
<u>Assets</u>		
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$29,515	\$20,434
Fixed Assets	4,190	4,190
TOTAL ASSETS	33,705	26,624
<u>Liabilities & Equity</u>		
Liabilities	0	0
Equity		
Retained Earnings	24,420	13,816
Net Income/Loss	9,285	10,808
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$33,705	\$24,624

INCOME STATEMENT
 For Fiscal Years Ended
 June 30, 2019,
 and June 30, 2018

<u>Revenue</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Dues	\$21,175	\$18,643
Donations	4,225	5, 870
Program Revenue	62,550	53,980
Other Revenue	15	12
TOTAL REVENUE	87,965	78,505
 <u>Expenses</u>		
General & Admin.	6,632	5,004
Speaker Fees & Travel	9,964	8,565
Program Expenses	61,984	54,078
Taxes	100	50
TOTAL EXPENSES	78,680	67,697
<u>NET INCOME</u>	\$9,285	\$10,808

For a copy of complete financial statements or IRS Form 990-EZ, send requests, in writing, to:

TCFR
 Attn: Treasurer
 P.O. Box 32076
 Tucson, AZ 85751

TCFR is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization.

Tucson Committee on Foreign Relations
 P.O. Box 32076
 Tucson, AZ 85751

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