



The Sixtieth Annual

Conference on World Affairs

"Who, How & Why"

Opening Procession

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEWSBRIEF: *The Sixtieth Annual Conference on World Affairs* will begin with an opening procession and keynote address today, Monday, April 7, 2008.

EDITORS: Reporters and photographers are welcome. The participant march will begin at 11:00 a.m. in Norlin Quad and cross from south to north along a walkway lined with international flags, into Macky Auditorium for the 11:30 a.m. keynote address. The keynote address "**U.S.-Mideast Relations: The Cost of a Damaged Dialogue**" will be delivered by Wendy Chamberlin, former U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan. Contact Ramsay Thurber at (303) 492-2515 for more details. (***)Attached is Chamberlin's Biography.)

(Boulder) – *The Sixtieth Conference on World Affairs* week will commence with its annual participant march through Norlin Quadrangle and into Macky Auditorium at **11:00 a.m. today, Monday, April 7**. The CWA opening keynote procession and address is a colorful, time-honored Colorado tradition.

Keynote speaker Wendy Chamberlin, CU president Bruce Benson, CU Boulder chancellor Bud Peterson, Dean of Arts and Sciences Todd Gleeson, CWA director James Palmer, CWA student volunteer coordinators Iilina Datkhaeva and Madeleine Tengler will lead the procession along a sidewalk lined by a brilliant display of over 80 international flags. Conference participants, students and CWA volunteers will join the march into Macky Auditorium.

At 11:30 a.m. Bruce Benson will make welcoming remarks and introduce keynote speaker Wendy Chamberlin. Chamberlin's keynote address "**U.S.-Mideast Relations: The Cost of a Damaged Dialogue**" is free and open to the public, as are all CWA events. This

year the CWA's 200 panels, plenaries and performances will address the overriding theme of *Who, How & Why*.

A perennial highlight of Conference week is the **Tuesday evening Jazz Concert**. This year's date is **April 8 at 8 p.m.** in Macky Auditorium. *Cinema Interruptus*, another beloved CWA tradition, will again highlight the schedule **Monday through Friday at 4 p.m.** in Macky Auditorium. The selection for analysis this year is the Coen brother's *No Country For Old Men* (2007).

The University of Colorado's Conference on World Affairs was founded in 1948, originally as a forum on international affairs. CWA expanded rapidly to encompass music, literature, environmental activism, science, journalism, visual arts, diplomacy, technology, spirituality, the film industry, politics, business, medicine, human rights, and so on.

Every year in April over 100 participants representing a wide range of backgrounds gather in Boulder for what *The New York Times* calls "a week-long extravaganza of discussion and debate" on non-academic, cross-disciplinary panels, plenary sessions and performances.

The Conference challenges its participants to discuss a wide-range of issues on an impromptu basis—offering a refreshing alternative to the specialized gatherings of academia and the business world. According to columnist Molly Ivins, CWA panels offer "...astonishing, cross-disciplinary insights, whole new ways of looking at old questions and information that can transform the way you look at things."

"It's a mind camp. We put fascinating people together and let them think out loud in front of an audience. The Conference is a unique product of students, faculty and community members," explains Jane Butcher, who began her involvement in the Conference as a student volunteer in the 1960's and is now CWA co-chair.

Past participants at the Conference have included Studs Terkel, Molly Ivins, Simon Hoggart, Andy Ihnatko, Dave Grusin, Tim Wirth, Adam Fortunate Eagle, Andrei Codrescu, R.E. "Ted" Turner, Rita Klimova, Steve Allen, Paolo Soleri, Yitzhak Rabin, Ralph Nader, Norman Cousins, Henry Kissinger, Arthur Miller, Howard Nemerov, Buckminster Fuller and Eleanor Roosevelt.

For further information, feel free to contact Ramsay Thurber at 303.492.25125, or email the Conference on World Affairs at cwa@colorado.edu. The full CWA schedule and participant biographies are now online at: www.colorado.edu/cwa

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Wendy J. Chamberlin

Wendy Chamberlin has been the president of the Middle East Institute since March, 2007. She previously served as deputy high commissioner for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (2004 to 2006), where she helped provide vision and leadership for humanitarian operations.

As assistant administrator in the Asia-Near East Bureau for the US Agency for International Development (USAID) from 2002 to 2004, Chamberlin promoted expansion of civilian reconstruction programs in Iraq and as well as development assistance programs in South Asia and the Middle East.

Chamberlin was in the U.S. diplomatic service from 1975 to 2004. She served as U.S. ambassador to Pakistan (2001-2002) and to the Laos People's Democratic Republic (1996-1999). Her assignments also included deputy in the Bureau of International Counter-Narcotics and Law Programs (1999-2001), deputy chief of mission in the U.S. embassy in Kuala Lumpur (1993-1996), director of press and public affairs for the Near East Bureau (1991-1993), director of global affairs and counter-terrorism at the National Security Council (1991-1993), as well as other postings in Morocco, Pakistan, Malaysia, and Zaire.

A graduate of Northwestern University, Chamberlin has an MS in education from Boston University and participated in the Executive Program at Harvard University. She also holds an honorary PhD from Northwestern University and meritorious awards from the U.S. State Department.