

MEMORANDUM

To: CSIS Alumni

From: John Hamre

RE: Update to Alumni

Date: November 23, 2010

Thanksgiving... I hope this finds you preparing for a happy Thanksgiving. I expect we will see a relaxed week here at the Center as our hardworking staff stretches the holiday a bit. But they have been working very hard and deserve it. I hope you all have a great Thanksgiving.

Moving Ahead on our Building... We had a meeting last week of the CSIS Board of Trustees and we are moving ahead with this process. The final decision to commit to the building will come when we meet our fundraising goal. We have achieved 80% of the fundraising needed to go ahead with the project. I am confident we will make the goal this winter, but in the meantime, we are moving ahead to select a general contractor for the construction and a bank to be our partner in issuing tax-exempt bonds. Assuming we meet our fundraising goals, we hope to have a ground breaking next May. We will keep you posted.

Public-Private Partnership in Development... We are launching a major new initiative on this issue. As you may know, we launched a pioneering with our "Smart Power" commission four years ago. That effort changed the debate here in Washington, but we missed something at the time- the critical role that the private sector plays in the development process. The central thesis of our new effort is that jobs and opportunity are the best antidotes to war, violence, and poverty. This is an agenda that can bind Republicans and Democrats together and we saw that richly with the recent elections. There are things the private sector needs from government, but there is far more dynamism and energy in the private sector than there is in the traditional development community. So the goal of this new project is to bring together the reinforcing interests of the government and the private sector in promoting the development agenda. We will be sure to keep you informed on the new developments in this area.

Energy Issues Following the Gulf of Mexico Drilling Disaster... Our Energy Program has been holding a series of excellent sessions on the issues surrounding the deep water drilling disaster in the Gulf of Mexico. These sessions have drawn record crowds, but all of the series is available through our recordings. You can go either to the CSIS web site, or to iTunes University, to download recordings of these sessions. We are now routinely recording almost all our public events and we are averaging nearly 300,000 downloads a month. It is a great way for you to stay connected to the work here at CSIS.

New Leaders at CSIS... We recently hired Meredith Broadbent to be the Scholl Chair in International Business. Meredith had a distinguished career on the House Ways and Means Committee staff, and subsequently worked the U.S. Trade Representative office. She will be revitalizing our trade program at a time when trade issues have again become timely and topical in Washington. We recently hired Mark Quarterman to be the director of our PCR project. PCR originally stood for “post conflict reconstruction,” but our team has moved beyond that, even though we retained the PCR name because of its strong brand identity. We will be changing the formal name of the program soon. Mark came to us after a distinguished career at the UN. He was a special assistant to former Secretary General Kofi Annan. Dan Runde has also just joined us, coming directly from the World Bank, and has previously held a senior position at USAID. Dan will be working heavily in the new public-private development partnership agenda.

Global Health and Food Security Meeting in Minnesota... CSIS is partnering with the Humphrey Institute at the University of Minnesota to hold an event this week on “Minnesota’s Role in Global Development.” It will bring together university leaders, private sector participants, and political leadership to discuss areas in global health and agricultural development where the U.S. has engaged and where Minnesota’s leadership can play an important role.

Meeting Series on Competitiveness... The Center recently launched a three-part meeting series to examine the role of manufacturing in the United States and the implications for our nation’s place in the global economy. The third installment of the series will take place here at CSIS in our B-1 Conference Center on December 1 from 2:00- 4:00 PM. This meeting will examine the policies that stimulate production and innovation in countries including Brazil, China, Germany and Russia, assessing the competitive impact of such policies in these countries and in the global economy as a whole. Please email Cecilia Sze at csze@csis.org to RSVP if you would like to attend. We would be delighted to have you join us.

Now and Then

Anca DiGiacomo (Roundtables Manager, Office of Membership Groups, 2006- 2008) is now working as a Donor Relations Specialist at the Children of Armenia Fund in New York City.

Kazuyo Kato (Research Associate, International Security Program, 2003-2007) is now an Associate Program Officer at the Sasakawa Peace Foundation.

Ben Rowswell (Pritzker Fellow, Post-Conflict Reconstruction Program, 2003-2004) will spend the year as a Visiting Scholar at Stanford University’s Center for Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law. He is also currently writing a book on his experiences as a senior Canadian diplomat in Afghanistan.

William Sullivan (Program Coordinator and Research Associate, Burke Chair in Strategy, 2004-2007) is now a Senior Associate at CSP Associates, a M&A consultancy in Cambridge, MA.

Dragomira Zhecheva, (Intern, Eastern Europe Project, Summer 2005) now works as a budget analyst at the central budget office of the New York City Department of Education. Her main areas of focus there are policy, monitoring, and analysis of school budgets and spending.