

# Foreign Policy Forum

## A PROGRESSIVE CANADIAN FOREIGN POLICY FOR THE 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY

### Speakers

**Jennifer Hiscock,**

Vice-President, Ottawa Professional Chapter Engineers Without Borders

Jennifer Hiscock graduated from Carleton University with a Bachelor of Engineering degree in 2004. During her undergraduate career she volunteered and served on the executives of several student clubs and societies, and planned and organized many student events, including a program which recognized students with high levels of extra-curricular involvement, and encouraged other students to become more involved.

For the past 5 years she has volunteered for Engineers Without Borders (EWB); a Canadian international development NGO that promotes human development through access to technology. Her roles have included Director of Events, Director of Logistics, and Vice-President in the Carleton University Chapter, on the National Conference Planning Committee, and currently in the Ottawa Professional Chapter. She has experience organizing and leading volunteers, reaching out to the public, and building education and awareness about development issues, and how we can play our part.

Currently Jennifer works for Natural Resources Canada as a research engineer, in the field of clean fossil fuel combustion R&D. She will be leaving for a 13 month volunteer placement in an African country with EWB, March 2008.

## **Nicole Morgan**

Dr. Schwartz-Morgan is currently Professor at the Royal Military College of Canada here she has taught political philosophy in the Department of Politics and Economics since 2001. It is the most recent stop in a rich and varied academic life spread over two continents, two cultures and several subject matter specialties. Following a Master's degree in philosophy from the University of Dijon she taught that subject briefly in France, then supplemented it with a second Master's degree in anthropology ( University of Aix-en-Provence ). This combination was then applied for several years to public policy and administration, at first in the Paris policy think tank, Futuribles, and later in the Canadian Public Service. A focus in much of this work was the analysis of trends in economic conditions and the human response in administrative behavior. These interests are reflected in many speeches, articles and a few books, in both French and English. (The link to Futuribles was maintained as its North American correspondent.) In 1991 she was named Queen's National Scholar, to teach in the Master's of Public Administration Program at the Kingston campus, and in 1993 she was awarded the Doctor of Philosophy degree by the University of Ottawa . Her dissertation on emergence of the modern state at the beginning of the sixteenth century was issued as a book in 1996 by the Paris house specialized to publishing philosophic scholarship. Evaluation of economic and social trends continued during this period through her appointment in 1994 as Expert in Residence at Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

The current manifestation of these comprehensive interests is a focus on the impact of globalization on human ecology, conceived not only as the bodies of human individuals but also as a social body including the state and other organizations. This is acutely important for the ways that young adults are socialized in an increasingly disordered world and is reflected in her latest book, co-authored with a French linguist and researcher (Mathieu Guidere) and just published by le Seuil in Paris . Le Manuel de recrutement d'Al Qaida comprises hitherto unpublished texts translated from Arabic and an in-depth analysis of the circumstances and ideology that motivate such powerful commitment from recruits.

Her preferred title for that book would have been `The Mask and the Mirror` which she conceives as a metaphor for the general theme of order and disorder she will address in this forum. The break-up of familiar forms of order calls for a new kind of diplomacy. The search for signs of an emergent new order will be discussed.

Dr Morgan also has a website (en français) [www.aaao.ca/schwartz.htm](http://www.aaao.ca/schwartz.htm)

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**SHAUNA SYLVESTER** is a social entrepreneur, a civil society thought leader and an experienced executive. For over twenty years, she has devoted her life to working for positive social change in her community and internationally.

This year Shauna was named a Fellow at the Simon Fraser University Centre for Dialogue. In collaboration with several other academic institutions and non-profit organizations, Shauna will lead Canada's World – a national citizens' dialogue on Canadian international policy.

Prior to developing Canada's World, Shauna was the co-founded and served as the first Executive Director of IMPACS – the Institute for Media, Policy and Civil Society, a charitable organization devoted to strengthening democracy by increasing the voice and profile of civil society and advancing media freedom internationally. During her tenure as Executive Director, IMPACS grew from its humble base in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside to an international organization with programmes in Nepal, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, the Middle East, Cambodia, Haiti, and Guyana. In July 2006, Shauna stepped down from her role as ED of IMPACS to develop Canada's World.

In addition to working in the voluntary sector, Shauna has served on dozens of boards and committees at the local, national and international level. In 2002 she was appointed to serve as B.C.'s representative to the Voluntary Sector Forum where she led a successful national campaign to modernize the Canada Revenue Agency's regulations on charitable activity. In 2003, she was elected to the Board of Directors of VanCity Credit Union, Canada's largest credit union with assets in excess of \$11.4 billion. In the same year, she was also appointed to the board of the VanCity Capital Corporation. During her three year term on the board, Shauna served as the Chair of the Conduct Review Committee, the Vice-Chair of the Financial Policy Committee, the Vice-Chair of Audit Committee and the Chair of the 60th Anniversary Committee.

In 1999 Shauna was asked to Co-chair of the 4th Civicus World Assembly in Vancouver, a bi-annual meeting of over 1500 foundations and non-profit organizations from around the globe. In 1998, she was appointed by Order-in-Council to the B.C. Assessment Authority, a crown corporation, and was Vice-Chair of the Policy and Audit Committee. She has also served as a board member of the Vancouver Folk Music Festival, the Community Development Institute, the Interagency Coalition on AIDS and Development and the B.C. Social Economy Roundtable.

Prior to founding IMPACS in 1997, Shauna worked for fifteen years with a wide range of non-profit organizations, businesses, and educational institutions in Canada and abroad including CUSO, the International

Development Education Resources Association, International Briefing Associates and Canada World Youth. She organized the Canadian preparatory meeting for the UN Conference on Women in Beijing and served on the Canadian delegation to the Prepcom IV of the Rio Summit on environment and development.

Shauna has written and edited several publications related to social and environmental issues and has provided policy advice to governments and foundations on subjects as varied as forestry, human rights, peacebuilding and AIDS.

Shauna holds a Masters in Management from McGill University , and a Bachelor of Arts from Simon Fraser University. She is an avid traveler and has lived and worked in Bolivia, Ecuador, Cuba, Indonesia and most countries of South Asia. In 2005, she was honoured with an Outstanding Alumni Award from SFU for her community service work. In 2003, Shauna was also recognized as one of Canada 's Top 40 Under 40 in the Globe and Mail after receiving a similar award in 2000 by Business in Vancouver Magazine.

Shauna lives in Vancouver with her husband Ross Gentleman, her 12 year-old daughter Rowan, and her 18 year-old step-son Neil.

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*The Group of 78 is convening a Forum in Ottawa on May 12<sup>th</sup> to take stock of some of the key features of Canada's foreign policy and to examine how civil society, both organizations and individuals, can engage effectively with it. We would like to invite you to be part of that Forum.*