



World Affairs Council
of the Monterey Bay Area

The Passport Newsletter

February 2024



Why Mexico's Forthcoming Elections Are Important

Professor Rodrigo Nieto-Gomez
Department of National Security Affairs
& Center for Homeland Defense
Naval Postgraduate School

Tuesday, February 27, 2024

The Pacific Grille

Hilton Garden Inn

11:15 AM: Registration

11:45 AM: Lunch

12:45 - 2:00 PM: Speaker Presentation & Questions

The Pacific Grille (1st Floor), Hilton Garden Inn,

1000 Aguajito Road, Monterey

Registrations are due by Tuesday, February 20, 2024

www.wacmb.org

[Download mail-in form](#)

[Register online for this event](#)

The coming year will see numerous elections throughout the world. For the United States, Mexico's June election to choose a new president and an entirely new national Congress could be one of the most important. Much attention will be focused on the choice of a new president, as Mexico's constitution does not allow the popular incumbent president, López Obrador, to run again.

Many argue that no other country has more impact on the daily lives of Americans than does our southern neighbor. Mexico is the United States largest trading partner and production partner. It is also the entry way for massive amounts of deadly, illegal drugs and large flows of migrants.

Our guest, Professor Nieto-Gomez, is a professor in the Department of National Security Affairs and Center for Homeland Defense at the Naval Post Graduate School where his course offerings include classes on Mexican politics and border security. In his remarks he will discuss Mexico's Presidential candidates, their party policies, and how the election outcomes may affect democratic institutions, public security, and Mexico-U.S. relations.

Dr. Nieto-Gomez earned his Ph.D. in Geopolitics from the French Institute of the University of Paris and a J.D. from the State University of Sant Luis Potosi, Mexico.

Location

The Pacific Grille - 1st Floor

Hilton Garden Inn

1000 Aguajito Road,

Monterey, CA

Agenda

11:15 AM: Registration

11:45 AM: Lunch

12:45 PM: Speaker Presentation & Questions

Tickets

\$36 for World Affairs Council members

\$41 for Guests

Menu

California Field Green Salad: Arugula, Cherry
Tomato, Pine Nuts and Shaved Parmesan with
Lemon and Balsamic Dressing

Bread and Butter

Seared Chicken Cordon Bleu in a Mushroom
Cream Sauce with Mashed Potatoes and
a Sauté of Seasonal Vegetables

Vegetarian Alternative

Spinach and Cheese Ravioli in a Tuscan Sauce
of Sun Dried Tomatoes, Artichoke,
Kalamata Olives and Capers

New York Cheesecake with a Chocolate
& Caramel Drizzle and Spiced Walnuts

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Please Note: Our February luncheon will be in The Pacific Grille at the Hilton Garden Inn located on the 1st floor of the building that also houses the Big Sur Room. The seating capacity in The Pacific Grille is limited so please register early to ensure your attendance.

If you encounter difficulties with our online registration or wish to audit the presentation please email info@wacmb.org to reserve a spot by the registration deadline.

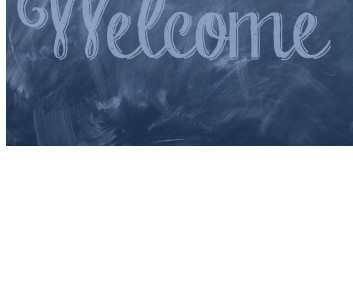
Vaccination Requirements

Until further notice documentation of COVID vaccination will not be required to attend in-person events.

WACMB will accept auditors to this event, requiring notification to the WACMB office no later than Tuesday, February 20, 2024 to www.wacmb.org.

Auditors will be allowed entry at 12:20 pm.

Welcome to Our New Members



Shereen Caswell
Lawrence Falk
Pam and Gifford Lehman
Patricia Poile
Patricia Royster



DailyChatter

Independent • Non-Partisan • Fair

Just a reminder of an important benefit to your WACMB membership : a FREE subscription to the newsletter the Daily Chatter. Please see the introductory message below from our joining in June 2022, and enjoy this addition to our mission of education and distribution of global news.

We're delighted to announce a wonderful new benefit for members of the World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area, a free annual subscription to [DailyChatter](#), the largest daily newsletter in the United States devoted to world news with more than 170,000 subscribers.

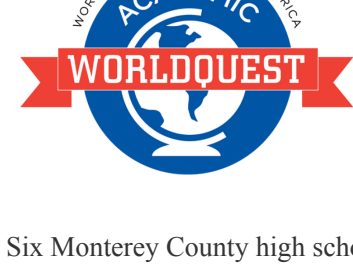
To take advantage of this opportunity, just click this [link](#) and then use the simple signup form. Once you've entered your name and email address, you will be enrolled and your first edition of DailyChatter will arrive in your inbox the next weekday morning at 6am ET. We hope you'll enjoy this special, free access to one of the best-read newsletters covering the world.

Published via email every Monday through Friday, DailyChatter is written in a reader-friendly style and at a length that's optimized for our busy lives. Custom-designed maps accompany every story allowing you to place the news of that country in its regional and global context.

DailyChatter is independently owned and completely non-partisan, and it's achieved exceptional levels of reader engagement. The newsletter's editorial mandate is also truly global with more than 150 countries reported on every year.

We sincerely hope this new benefit will enrich your discovery of the world.

With best wishes, your WACMB Board of Directors



WACMB Academic World Quest

Six Monterey County high school teams spent their winter break studying for the February 24th local Academic World Quest contest. This event is cohosted by The World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay and The Monterey County Office of Education. The winning team will represent WACMB at the national competition in April. The national event is hosted by The World Affairs Council of America. On May 14th, WACMB will host a dinner for the winning team. All WACMB members are invited to attend the dinner.



Great Decisions Discussion Group

The WACMB Discussion Group will take up the 2024 Great Decisions topics beginning on Tuesday, February 6th for eight weekly meetings on **Tuesday afternoons from 4:30 to 6:30 PM via ZOOM**. The meetings will be held jointly with participants from the OLLI CSUMB program.

The first thirty minutes of each meeting will view an optional Master Class lecture on the topic followed by group discussion starting at 5:00 PM. The schedule of topics is provided below. You can read short descriptions of the topics at https://www.fpa.org/great_decisions/?act=gd_topics.

February 6: Mideast Realignment

February 13: Climate Technology & Competition

February 20: Science Across Borders

February 27: U.S.- China Trade Rivalry

March 5: NATO's Future

March 12: Understanding Indonesia

March 19: High Seas Treaty

March 26: Pandemic Preparedness

You are cordially invited to join the Great Decisions discussions. If you are not already part of the discussion group, please send an email to discussiongroup@wacmb.org with your name so that we can include you and provide the ZOOM link.

All participants must purchase and read the Briefing Booklet published by the Foreign Policy Association (FPA). There are two ways to obtain the booklet:

1. Order the hard-copy booklet directly from FPA at https://www.fpa.org/great_decisions/index.cfm?act=show_material&product_id=16882 or by calling FPA at 1-800-477-5836. The booklet costs \$35 plus shipping to your address,

or

2. Purchase the e-booklet for \$25 from [Barnes&Noble](#).

Discussion Group Moderators:

Linda Dilger is now retired from 36 years of mathematics education leadership. She was also a lecturer at CSUMB and holds master's degrees in educational technology and leadership.

Boyd Haight spent 35 years living overseas as an official of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization and is currently involved with a number of non-profit organizations in the Monterey area.

Message from Our President

World Affairs Council



of the Monterey Bay Area



We LOVE our volunteers!

It takes many hands and feet to bring the outstanding speakers and expert analysis of Global Affairs to our members. From monthly program lectures and discussion groups to newsletter publishing, publicity and membership management, our volunteers make it all happen. WACMB is grateful for the financial support of our members and the countless volunteer hours dedicated to raising awareness of international issues in our community.

If you'd like to help, please let us know. Our Membership Application Form on our website lists a number of areas for volunteer help or, just send an email to info@wacmb.org letting us know your interest. We'd be grateful for your support.

Our regards,

Peter Albano

President of the World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area

[Join, Renew, Donate](#)

This is the monthly newsletter of the World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area (WACMB). WACMB is a nonprofit, non-partisan organization established to promote the presentation, discussion, and study of international affairs. WACMB is a tax-exempt 501 (c) (3) organization, EIN-770301206. Contributions are tax deductible as permitted by law. WACMB sponsors monthly luncheons, discussion groups, and student scholarships.

Corporate and institutional support for the World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area is provided by *California State University Monterey Bay *Defense Language Institute *Monterey Peninsula College *Naval Postgraduate School *Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey *Castle Rock Wealth Management

*Comanche Cellars *Horan & Lloyd Law Firm *Cal Alumni Club of the Monterey Peninsula