



USC Center on Public Diplomacy Acting Director Geoffrey Wiseman
Co-Edits New Publication on the Diplomatic Corps

Los Angeles -- March 28, 2008 -- The USC Center on Public Diplomacy at the Annenberg School (CPD) is proud to announce the recent publication by Palgrave Macmillan of "The Diplomatic Corps as an Institution of International Society," co-edited by CPD Acting Director Geoffrey Wiseman in conjunction with Paul Sharp of the University of Minnesota Duluth.

The volume challenges the conventional view that the diplomatic corps is a leftover from the ceremony and privilege of a bygone era of "old diplomacy." Its essays trace the historical development of the diplomatic corps. They demonstrate its importance in setting the terms on which everyday international life continues to be undertaken and the way the corps has adapted to a world in which states are increasingly only one among many actors which require diplomatic representation.

"Wiseman and Sharp have assembled a thought provoking compendium that makes a solid contribution to the study of diplomacy," commented CPD's Public Diplomat in Residence for 2007-2008 and Visiting Professor, Anne Chermak. "By focusing on the diplomatic corps as the subject of analysis, the volume allows the reader to gain a multidimensional perspective on this often overlooked element in international relations."

Contributors to the volume include leading scholars from the field of diplomatic studies, serving diplomats, and scholar-diplomats. "Wiseman's new co-edited collection is an invaluable addition to the literature on diplomacy as it is practiced, and the interface of those debates with the issues of international relations theory," said Nicholas Cull, Director of the Master of Public Diplomacy program at the University of Southern California. "The essays combine practitioner experience with regional case study and theoretical examination. Contributors include Mai'a Cross, shortly to join the USC public diplomacy team. It is especially good to read Geoff's own autobiographical contribution to the book which reminds us how lucky public diplomacy at USC is to have a 'switch hitting' practitioner/academic at the heart of its work."

•••

About Geoffrey Wiseman

Dr. Geoffrey Wiseman is Professor of the Practice of International Relations and Public Diplomacy at the University of Southern California, and Acting Director in the USC Center on Public Diplomacy at the Annenberg School. From February 2006 to May 2007, he served in the Executive Office of the UN Secretary-General, working on the non-proliferation and disarmament of weapons of mass destruction. Dr. Wiseman is a former Australian diplomat, serving in three diplomatic postings (Stockholm, Hanoi, and Brussels) and as private secretary to Foreign Minister Gareth Evans. From 1992-95, he was the Ford Foundation's program officer for international peace and security, based in New York City. He received his doctorate in International Relations from Oxford University. His publications include *Concepts of Non-Provocative Defence: Ideas and Practices in International Security*. He has also written on Asia-Pacific regional security and diplomatic culture.

About the USC Center on Public Diplomacy at the Annenberg School

The USC Center on Public Diplomacy at the Annenberg School was established in 2003 as a partnership between the USC Annenberg School for Communication and USC College of Letters, Arts & Sciences' School of International Relations. It is a joint research and professional training center dedicated to furthering the study and practice of public diplomacy around the world. For more information, please visit www.uscpublicdiplomacy.org