

Pomona Valley Chapter UNA-USA February Meeting
Tuesday, February 17, 2015 7:00 PM
Hahn Hall, Room 101 420 N. Harvard Avenue, Claremont

Introduction: Mel Boynton, Chapter President, welcomed approximately 50 members and guests. He thanked Adnan and Barbara Aswad for the refreshments, and Charlene Martin and her committee for arranging the program. Our Chapter interns, Julius Kellinghusen and Sharon Musa, were recognized. Mel then introduced Bertil Lindblad, UNA PV Chapter Board Member and Senior Advisor, International Initiatives at Pomona College, who helped facilitate the meeting.

Program: Mel then introduced Char Miller, Professor of Environmental Analysis, who spoke on "Troubled Waters: The Global and Local Dimensions of a Vital Resource". Addressing the problems of insufficient fresh water and rising sea levels as they affect the human populations who live at and near sea level, Dr. Miller showed maps that reinforced his concerns. Urbanization, especially near seacoasts, and climate change dynamics will converge to require billions of dollars for flood costs. Hundreds of millions of peoples will be displaced and become refugees. Inland areas will be without fresh water for human and agricultural uses. Although the Great Lakes hold 20% of the earth's fresh water, the bordering states and Canadian provinces are agreeing not to export the water beyond their borders. Systems designed to capture snowmelt and rainwater runoff are, with changing weather patterns, in the wrong places. Along with these challenges, Dr. Miller talked about some solutions. The Delaware River Partnership, the Edwards Aquifer Authority (a hydraulic district in Texas) and local bio-swales are operational and models. Because of lack of funding from Congress, the federal government cannot address the problems so local agencies will need to form their own collaborative groups. A lively question/answer session followed, with Dr. Miller agreeing to make his visuals available through the UNA website.

Announcements

UNA

February 28, 1:00 PM Chapter Board meeting

March 17, 5:30 PM Dr. Barbara Aswad, "Arab Women: Appearance and Reality"
Porter Hall, Pilgrim Place

March Claremont Library Display will feature the United Nations and the UN Association – anyone with materials to loan, please contact Katie Gerecke
Extra copies of books are available to interested persons – see Katie Gerecke

Other Organizations

February 21 3:00 PM NAACP Dialog Series on Police-Race Relations
Kennedy Austin Foundation, 2401 N. Garey Avenue, Pomona

March 2, 7:00 PM Sustainable Claremont Dialog on Food Security in Claremont
Through Education Hahn Building, Pomona College

March 3 and March 31 7:00 PM The American Institute for Progressive
Democracy 2-Part Series on Economic Inequality in America Rose Hills Theater

176 E. 6th Street, Claremont