



American Institute  
for Contemporary  
German Studies  
JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

## Workforce Development Case Competition

AICGS  
R.G. Livingston Conference Room  
1755 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20036

**Tuesday, September 1, 2015**

### Agenda

Educating the future workforce is an ongoing challenge for the United States and Europe. This case competition allows the attendee to develop their own hypothetical small-scale workforce development program for the U.S. given a specific prompt to be revealed at the workshop. Teams of two to three people will work together along with an assigned "Advisor." Together, they will come up with a brief presentation to explain how their program would be implemented in front of a panel made up of three judges with German/American and academic/business/government backgrounds. Little to no background knowledge in workforce development is required for participation.

9:00 – 9:15am            **Check-in and Breakfast**

9:15 – 10:00am        **Keynote Speech with Q&A: Adapting the German Dual Vocational Training System**  
Introduction by Parke Nicholson, AICGS  
Birgit Schweeberg, HKS Handelskammer Hamburg Service GmbH

10:00 – 11:00am      **Instruction for Preparation and Presentation of Case Competition Prompt**  
Kimberly Hauge, National Governor's Association  
Scott Alexander, MacFadden/ Independent Consultant  
Kait Lavinder, President of SAIS Consulting Club

Each team of 2-3 people will be matched with an Advisor and given private space to work on their case.

11:15 – 12:00pm      **Team Presentation of Cases**  
Introduction by Kevin Heidenreich, RGIT

*Judges:*

Stefanie Jehlitschka, German American Chamber of Commerce of the Southern U.S., Inc.  
Mark Judge, U.S. Department of Labor  
Stephen J. Silvia, American University's School of International Service

12:00 – 12:15pm      **Luncheon Served**

12:15 – 1:00pm        **Discussion of Results; Award for First Prize**

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### Speakers' and Judges' Biographies

#### **SCOTT ALEXANDER**

*MacFadden/ Independent Consultant*

Scott Alexander splits his time with working for MacFadden, a USAID contractor in a grant management capacity, and as an independent consultant. Previously, he has served in a project management capacity for a USAID project related to the U.S. government's relief efforts in the aftermath of 2010 earthquake in Haiti. Mr. Alexander attended Louisiana State University for undergrad, and Justus Liebig Universität (Giessen, Germany) for his Masters in Transition Studies. For his thesis he wrote about "The Impact of the Global Recession on the Macedonian Small Business Community," and while conducting his research Mr. Alexander did two internships in Skopje: one with a local think-tank, and the other with USAID's Macedonian Business Competitiveness Project. He was also in the U.S. Army Reserve for nine years.

#### **KIMBERLY HAUGE**

*National Governor's Association*

Kimberly Hauge is a Policy Analyst at the National Governor's Association. She was previously a Program Officer at AICGS, where she led the monthly "Learn & Earn: A Young Leaders' Group for the Development of the U.S. Workforce" that brings together young professionals interested in vocational training initiatives in Washington, DC. Previously, Ms. Hauge worked in the OECD Center for Educational Research and Innovation in Paris as an External Consultant on a project related to school choice, led employment workshops at the Montgomery County Department of Correction and Rehabilitation, and helped develop a job shadowing program at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh. She is currently a certificate student in International Development at Johns Hopkins School for Advanced International Studies and graduated with a B.A. in political science and French from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Masters in contemporary European politics from Sciences-Po.

#### **STEFANIE JEHLITSCHKA**

*German American Chamber of Commerce of the Southern U.S., Inc.*

Since joining the German American Chamber of Commerce of the Southern U.S., Inc. (GACC South) in 2006, Stefanie Jehlitschka has held various roles. She became Director of Marketing in 2008 and Vice President in 2011. At the end of 2011, she was appointed Interim President & CEO by the Board of Directors through February 2012. Ms. Jehlitschka initiated the joint AHK USA brand and developed the chamber's communication plan. She heads the current nation-wide workforce initiative for the German Dual Vocational Training System in the U.S. Prior to joining the GACC South, Ms. Jehlitschka held several positions at international training providers as well as law departments. She has a law degree from the University of Tübingen and spent one year in Thessaloniki, Greece, studying law.

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**MARK JUDGE**

*Office of Apprenticeship, U.S. Department of Labor*

Since joining the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) in 1997, Mark Judge has served in a variety of roles pertaining to the health and retirement security of the American worker, as well as topics relating to international workforce development. An employee of DOL's Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA) in Washington, DC, Mr. Judge is currently on a professional detail with the Employment and Training Administration's Office of Apprenticeship, where he specializes in the development of international apprenticeship and workforce training initiatives with transatlantic partners such as the Federal Republic of Germany, Switzerland, Spain, and the United Kingdom.

Mr. Judge holds a B.A. degree in history from the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts, where he was elected to membership in Phi Beta Kappa. He also holds a J.D. degree from the Cornell Law School in Ithaca, New York.

**KAIT LAVINDER**

*Johns Hopkins SAIS*

Kait Lavinder is a graduate student at The Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), where she is focusing on European studies and energy and environment policy. Her research interests include Germany's Energiewende and natural gas markets. Ms. Lavinder spent this past summer in Berlin interning at the U.S. embassy, where she worked on promotional media for the American government's "Going Green" student exchange program. Ms. Lavinder's background is in journalism. Prior to SAIS, she was a writer and morning producer for News Channel 8 in DC. The interviews with policy experts from POLITICO were her favorite segments to produce. She is President of the SAIS Consulting Club, Logistics Head for the SAIS International Staff Ride 2016 trip to Germany and Poland, and sits on the Marketing Committee of SAIS Global Women in Leadership.

**PARKE NICHOLSON**

*AICGS*

Parke Nicholson is the Senior Research Associate at the American Institute for Contemporary German Studies. He oversees the research programs, grant writing, and currently works on U.S. and German foreign policy, transatlantic relations, EU-Asia relations, and workforce education. Previously, he worked at the Center for the National Interest and the Council on Foreign Relations. In 2008, he served on the foreign policy staff at Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign headquarters. He has also worked abroad in Austria and Germany: in 2005 through the Fulbright Program in Klagenfurt and in 2010-2011 as a Robert Bosch Foundation Fellow working in the German Foreign Office for the Coordinator of Transatlantic Cooperation and for Daimler AG's Political Intelligence unit in Stuttgart. He has recently published in Foreign Affairs, The National Interest, and The Baltimore Sun. He received his MA in International Relations from The Elliott School of International Affairs at The George Washington University and a BA in History and Violin Performance at The College of Wooster in Ohio.

**BIRGIT SCHWEEBERG**

*Hamburg Chamber Consult*

Birgit Schweeberg is the head of Hamburg Chamber Consult, the unit in charge of making 350 years of Hamburg Chamber experience available to chambers and associations worldwide. For the past twelve years, Ms. Schweeberg has focused on the German system of dual vocational training and on private sector integration into vocational education and training in

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the international context. Based on her previous experience as Deputy Director of the Vocational Training Department of the Hamburg Chamber of Commerce, she was assigned to manage the implementation of an adapted dual-type vocational training system to Madagascar, which was awarded best SME-project at the World Chamber Championship in 2009. She conducted projects in Tunisia and Ghana and has presented the German system of dual vocational training in Namibia, India, and China, among others. She holds a Master Degree in Economics from the University of Munich, Germany, and has spent a study year abroad at the College of St. Catherine's (today: St. Catherine University), St. Paul, MN, studying American history and politics. She is fluent in English and French and speaks Modern Greek and Spanish.

**STEPHEN J. SILVIA**

*American University's School of International Service*

Stephen J. Silvia is a professor at American University's School of International Service, as well as an affiliate professor in American University's economics department. He has been teaching at American University since 1990. Dr. Silvia is an internationally recognized expert on the German economy, with a specialization of industrial relations. His recent book is entitled *Holding the Shop Together: German Industrial Relations in the Postwar Era* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2013). He is currently researching the industrial relations practices of German automobile "transplants" in the United States. Dr. Silvia has been a resident scholar at Harvard University's Minda de Gunzberg Center for European Studies, the Freie Universität Berlin, the Institut für Sozialforschung in Frankfurt am Main, and the Wirtschafts- und Sozialwissenschaftliches Institut in Düsseldorf. He has also been a guest professor at Universität Kassel in Germany, and université Montpellier in France. Dr. Silvia has been a Fulbright Scholar twice and has received numerous grants and awards. He is on the board of the American Consortium on EU Studies, and is an AICGS Non-Resident Fellow. He is the current president of the District of Columbia chapter of the Labor and Employment Research Association. Dr. Silvia received a bachelor of science degree from Cornell University's New York State School of Industrial and Labor Relations, and a PhD from Yale University.

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