

## Deborah L. Trent, Ph.D.

4408 Puller Drive, Kensington, MD, 20895

[dtrent@civilstrategies.net](mailto:dtrent@civilstrategies.net) ~ 301.814.0149

### Work Experience

Publicity and web content lead, [Covid-Free Kids Campaign, Venio Art](#), 2021--.

Pracademic-in-Residence, [Community Mediation Maryland](#), 2020-2021.

Public policy graduate program accreditation site visit team member, [NASPAA](#), 2020, 2021.

Evaluator for the Arab American Institute Foundation project, [“U.S.-MENA Experiential Partnership,”](#) a good governance/civic engagement program pairing Arab American and Tunisian public servants, funded by the U.S. Department of State Middle East Partnership Initiative, 2019.

Independent evaluation of the [International diaspora Engagement Alliance](#), and the Montgomery County (MD)- Morazán (El Salvador) and Chicago (IL) – Kyiv (Ukraine) Sister Cities programs, funded by the University of Southern California Center on Public Diplomacy, 2014-2018.

Managing Editor, book project for the Public Diplomacy Council, [Nontraditional Public Diplomacy: Past, Present, and Future](#), 2014-2017.

Proposal team member with the Academic Consortium for Global Education for the successful U.S. Department of State Foreign Service Institute pilot course “TOMORROW NOW: American Diplomacy in a World of Rapid Change,” 2015.

Adjunct Professorial Lecturer, American University School of International Service International Communication Program, Spring, 2014 course: *Global and Comparative Perspectives on Public Diplomacy* (course blog: <https://edspace.american.edu/sis628/>).

Consultant to the Global Humanities Institute, Montgomery College, Maryland, 2013-2014.

Coordinator, Co-chair and web content lead for the Public Diplomacy Council Fall Forum, <https://www.publicdiplomacycouncil.org/advocacy/forums/>.  
U.S. Department of State, 2013-2014.

U.S. Interview Team member, Institute for Migration Studies, Lebanese American University, “Home Politics Abroad: The Role of the Lebanese Diaspora in Conflict, Peace Building and Democratic Development,” 2011, final technical report:  
<https://www.idrc.ca/en/project/home-politics-abroad-role-lebanese-diaspora-conflict-peacebuilding-and-democratic>.

Site Visit Coordinator, GW Seminar on Public Sector Management in the U.S. for Vietnamese Ministry Officials, 2010.

Research Fellow, Arab American Institute, Washington, D.C., 2009-2010.

Teaching Assistant for MPA capstones, introduction to public policy, and international development policy and administration, GW Trachtenberg School, 2007-2009.

Research Coordinator, Center for Innovation in Public Service, GW Trachtenberg School and BearingPoint, 2004-2007.

Co-Founder and Secretary, Global Innovation and Development, Inc., a non-profit international education and training consultancy (no longer operational), 2001-2003.

Consultant to colleges, universities, and education organizations designing and expanding international research, curriculum, faculty, and development projects, 1998-2004.

Coordinator, college and university partnerships, and Co-Manager/Supervisor, Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program, U.S. Information Agency (USIA), 1992-1998.

Fulbright Program Manager, USIA, 1985-1992.

Presidential Management Intern: U.S. Customs Service, 1983-1985; USIA, 1985.

### **Education**

Ph.D., Public Policy and Public Administration, The George Washington University, Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration, 2012. Dissertation: *Transnational, Trans-Sectarian Engagement: A Revised Approach to U.S. Public Diplomacy toward Lebanon*, <https://www.proquest.com/docview/1038836409/A057C31F549F41F3PQ/7>

Master of Public Administration, The George Washington University, concentration in Budget and Public Finance, 1983.

Bachelor of Science, Georgetown University, Russian and Arabic Language Studies, 1979.

### **Other Research and Consulting Activities**

Co-author, “6 Key Steps for Targeted US Diplomacy to Stabilize Lebanon and Advance US Foreign Policy,” The Middle East Institute and the American Task Force on Lebanon, 24 March 2021, <https://www.mei.edu/sites/default/files/PB%20link%20final%2023Mar21.pdf/>.

Conference Theme Track Chair, Association for Research on Nonprofits and Voluntary Action, 2020.

2014-2016 Research Fellow, University of Southern California Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism, Center on Public Diplomacy: “Gauging the Quality of Public-Private Partnership Programs involving U.S.-based Diasporas.”

Participant, Design, Monitoring and Evaluation (DM&E) in Peacebuilding Community of Practice, 2014-present.

International Mediators Community of Practice, 2014-2018.

Manuscript reviewer, *Journal of Muslim Philanthropy and Civil Society* (2018), *Hague Journal of Diplomacy* (2013), and *Journal of Development and Social Transformation* (2008).

Invited lecturer, Georgetown University advanced undergraduate seminar on public diplomacy, spring, 2010.

Contributor, "Pilot Project for The Democracy Workshop," by Robert Stoker, Eric Lawrence, Wilhelmine Miller, Lori Brainard, and John Dryzek, GW Institute of Public Policy, [https://gwipp.gwu.edu/sites/g/files/zaxdzs2181/f/downloads/Working\\_Paper\\_037\\_DemocracyWorkshop.pdf](https://gwipp.gwu.edu/sites/g/files/zaxdzs2181/f/downloads/Working_Paper_037_DemocracyWorkshop.pdf), January, 2009.

GW proposal team member, U.S. Agency for International Development-sponsored project for senior-level Iraqi government officials, spring, 2008.

## **Publications**

["Teaching and Practicing Cultural Competency in the MENA"](#) with Aziza Zemrani and Sawzan Abutabenjeh (2020, January), *Siyasat Arabiya* 42: 109-123 (Arabic); and (2020, December) [AlMuntaqa 3\(2\): 64-78](#) (English), Arab Center for Research & Policy Studies.

[Healthy Responses Amid Turmoil: Medical Diplomacy and Citizen Protest](#), (2020, January 2), University of Southern Californian Center on Public Diplomacy.

[Cross-Sectoral and Inter-Sectional Collaboration at #ASPA2018, #ASPA2019 and Beyond](#), (2019, November 19), *PA Times*.

["Where Interests and Identities Intersect,"](#) (2019, May 3), *The Washington Post*.

"Building Trust and Capacity through Community-Based Partnerships in Montgomery County, Maryland," (2019, February 28), *PA Times*.

"Many Voices, Many Hands: Widening Participatory Dialogue to Improve Diplomacy's Impact," May, 2018, University of Southern California Center on Public Diplomacy *Perspectives* Paper 4, Los Angeles: Figueroa Press.

*Nontraditional U.S. Public Diplomacy: Past, Present, and Future* (ed.). 2016. Public Diplomacy Council, Washington, D.C., and <https://www.uscpublicdiplomacy.org/story/nontraditional-us-public-diplomacy>.

"Cultural Diplomacy Partnerships: Cracking the Credibility Nut with Inclusive Participation," in *Nontraditional U.S. Public Diplomacy: Past, Present, and Future*, 2016. Public Diplomacy Council, Washington, D.C.

Khaldoun AbouAssi and Deborah L. Trent. (2016). "NGO Accountability from an NGO Perspective: Perceptions, Strategies, and Practices." *Public Administration and Development* 36: 283-296.

[App or No App, Public Diplomacy is Still All About Relationships \(Pt. 2\)](#), (2016, February 15), University of Southern California Center on Public Diplomacy).

[App or No App, Public Diplomacy is Still All About Relationships](#), (2016, February 12), University of Southern California Center on Public Diplomacy).

[Public-Private Partnership Programs with U.S.-Based Diasporas](#), (2015, July 16), University of Southern California Center on Public Diplomacy).

“From the Forum Floor,” 22 October 2014, Global Diaspora Media Forum, International diaspora Engagement Alliance, <http://diasporaalliance.org/global-diaspora-media-forum/>

“Peacebuilding’s Vital Role in National Security: Best Value for Impact at All Levels.” (2013). <http://www.allianceforpeacebuilding.org/2013/09/peacebuildings-vital-role-in-national-security-best-value-for-impact-at-all-levels>

Khaldoun AbouAssi and Deborah L. Trent. (2013). “Understanding Local Participation amidst Challenges: Evidence from Lebanon in the Global South.” *Voluntas: International Journal of Voluntary and Nonprofit Organizations* 24(4): 1113-37.

"American Diaspora Diplomacy: U.S. Foreign Policy and Lebanese Americans." (2012). Clingendael, Netherlands Institute of International Relations, The Hague, [https://www.clingendael.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/20121206\\_discussionpaperindiplomacy\\_125\\_trent\\_beveiligd.pdf](https://www.clingendael.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/20121206_discussionpaperindiplomacy_125_trent_beveiligd.pdf)

James Edwin Kee, Kathryn E. Newcomer, Deborah L. Trent, Valerie Oster, Sasha Rosen, Dan Proudfoot, Whitney Setzer, Mike Davis, and Allen Cermak. (2007, April). *Leading Change, Managing Risk: The Leadership Role in Public Sector Transformations*. Report of the Center for Innovation in Public Service, GW and BearingPoint.

Kathryn E. Newcomer, Deborah L. Trent, Brent Bushey, Charlene Johnson, Mike Davis, and Allen Cermak. (2006, October). *A Strategic Framework for Implementation of Human Capital Management in the Federal Government*. Report of the Center for Innovation in Public Service, GW and BearingPoint.

“Partnership Program Strengthens U.S.-NIS University Linkages.” (1997). *USIA World* 15(4): 12-13.

“155 Muskie Fellows from the Former Soviet Union Begin Their Studies in the U.S.” (1993). *USIA World* 12(3): 11.

“Algeria Country Note.” (1990). *National Geographic Atlas of the World*, 6<sup>th</sup> ed.: 127.

### **In Progress**

*Listen, Mediate, Understand, Transform: Catalyzing Diversity for Social Justice, One Conversation at a Time*: an ethnographic memoir project on teaching and practicing conflict mediation amid intensifying ethnic and racial diversity and economic inequity.

### **Conference Papers**

“Widening Participatory Dialogue to Improve Public Engagement and Program Impact,” for the October, 2020 [NASPAA](#) conference.

“The Expanding Space for Faith-Based Mediating Institutions in the Time of COVID-19,” for the November, 2020 conference of the Association for Research on Nonprofits and Voluntary Action.

“Administering Diversity: Transnational, Collaborative Engagement through Public-Private Partnerships in Lebanon, the U.S., and Beyond,” the American Society for Public Administration’s annual conference, March 6-10, 2015.

“Multiple Meanings of Public Diplomacy: Identity Crisis or Predictable Growing Pains?” Presented at the annual convention of the International Studies Association, San Francisco, California, April 3-6, 2013.

“Limits and Possibilities: U.S. Government Public Diplomacy and International Development in Lebanon,” annual conference of the American Society for Public Administration Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada, March 2-6, 2012.

“Exploring Diaspora Diplomacy through the Case of U.S. Public Diplomacy toward Lebanon,” annual conference of the International Studies Association, Montreal, Canada, March 16-19, 2011.

“Governance of U.S. Public Diplomacy toward Lebanon: A Study of U.S. – Transnational Civil Society Relations,” annual conference of the Association for Research on Nonprofits and Voluntary Action, Alexandria, Virginia, November 18-20, 2010.

Kathryn E. Newcomer and Deborah L. Trent, “Improving and Sustaining Authentic Collaboration in the New Public Service,” annual conference of the American Society for Public Administration, Washington, D.C., March 23-27, 2007.

“Building a ‘Globalization-Ready’ Partnership,” annual conference of Community Colleges for International Development, Tucson, Arizona, February 15-18, 2003.

### **Other Presentations and Convenings**

Panel convener, “Preparing Public and NGO Managers to Govern in a Globalized World – Cases and Opportunities for Development,” American Society for Public Administration, 2021 conference.

Panel discussant, “Preparing Public and NGO Managers to Govern in a Globalized World,” American Society for Public Administration, 2020 conference (cancelled due to covid-19 pandemic).

Panel co-convener, “[After the Merger: Public Diplomacy 20 Years after USIA](#),” Public Diplomacy Council of the United States, October 7, 2019.

Panel convener, “[Strengthening Women’s Leadership in Middle Eastern Public Administration and Civil Society](#),” American Society for Public Administration, 2019 conference.

Webinar, “Widening Participatory Dialogue to Improve Impact in Diplomacy and Peacebuilding,” [https://www.dmeforpeace.org/media\\_gallery/me-thursday-talk-widening-participatory-dialogue-to-improve-impact-in-diplomacy-and-peacebuilding/](https://www.dmeforpeace.org/media_gallery/me-thursday-talk-widening-participatory-dialogue-to-improve-impact-in-diplomacy-and-peacebuilding/), 2018.

Panel convener, “[Amplifying Women’s Leadership across the Middle East](#),” American Society for Public Administration, 2018 conference.

Undergraduate seminar talk on humanitarian intervention in the Syrian civil war by U.S., transnational, and Lebanese NGOs, John Cabot University, Rome, Italy, October 3, 2012.

Panel chair, “The Middle East in the West: Diasporas and Identities,” Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., December 2, 2011.

“Sensemaking of U.S. Public Diplomacy toward Lebanon: A Study of Cross-Sector, Transnational Engagement,” seminars at the Lebanese Emigration Research Center, Notre Dame University,

Louaize, Lebanon, May 5, 2011, and at the Lebanese American University, Institute for Migration Studies, Beirut, May 10, 2011.

Panel chair/discussant, "Ethics and Public Service Values," annual conference of the Public Administration Theory Network, University of Nebraska, Omaha, May, 23, 2010.

Invited discussant, GW Institute for Global and International Studies, Research Seminar on "Diasporas and Identity: A Framework for Understanding Potential Threats and Contributions," by Jennifer M. Brinkerhoff, Ph.D., October 27, 2007.

Presenter/discussant on "Diasporas and the Economic Development of Their Former Homelands," by Milton J. Esman, Ph.D., at GW research workshop: "The Role of Diasporas in Developing the Homeland," June 16, 2006.

Panelist representing USIA's Fulbright programs at meetings of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, Association of College and University Offices, American Council on International Intercultural Education, Middle East Studies Association, National Council for Resource Development, 1988-1998.

### **Pertinent Recognition**

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 2018      | Certificate of recognition and appreciation from the County Executive of Montgomery County, Maryland, for commitment and competence toward a more welcoming, compassionate, and inclusive place to live and work. |
| 2016      | The President's Volunteer Service Award (Bronze) for community mediation at the Conflict Resolution Center of Montgomery County.  |
| 2011      | Co-recipient, Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice Collaborative Social Justice Award.  |
| 2007-2008 | Sar and Brita Levitan Fellowship in Public Policy and Administration (GW).  |
| 1998      | U.S. Information Agency Certificate of Appreciation for Significant Contributions to Global Understanding.  |
| 1992      | Featured in "Job Sharing: Is It For You?" <i>Federal Times</i> (June 1).  |
| 1987      | Certificate of Appreciation for fundraising efforts, Presidential Management Alumni Group.  |
| 1983-1985 | United States Presidential Management Internship (U.S. Customs Service, U.S. Information Agency).   |
| 1978-1979 | Georgetown U. Co-Recipient, National Endowment for the Humanities Youth Grant. Research team conducted a critical content analysis, with some translation, of the Soviet Russian journal, <i>Imost'</i> (Youth).  |
| 1978      | Georgetown U. Nominee, Fulbright-Hays Study Abroad grant, Cairo, Egypt. Proposed to study modern Egyptian literature, sociology, and Arabic.  |

- 1978 Johns Hopkins U. School of Advanced International Studies, Arabic Study Fellowships from Mobil Oil Corporation and the Sultanate of Oman (summer).
- 1978 Georgetown U., Dobro Slovo National Slavic Honor Society.

### **Training**

Conflict Resolution Center of Montgomery County (Maryland) training to volunteer in client intake, inclusive-model mediation, and community outreach, 2014-2017.

Online Learning Faculty Certification Program, American University, fall, 2014.

Arab American Culture Two-Day Educator Workshop, Arab American National Museum, Dearborn, Michigan, June 24-25, 2011.

GW Graduate Teaching Assistant Program, spring, 2008.

Faculty Development Workshop: Strategies for Teaching International Negotiation, GW Center for International Business and Education Research, June 12-16, 2007.

Ten-Day Leadership Training in citizen leadership and community organizing, Industrial Areas Foundation, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, November, 2003.

### **Language Ability**

Modern Standard Arabic: Level 1 (on U.S. Foreign Service Institute scale of 0-5); Russian: Level 1.

### **Professional Affiliations**

Alliance for Peacebuilding

American Evaluation Association

American Society for Public Administration (2017-2019 chair of ASPA Section on Effective and Sound Administration in the Middle East)

Arab American Institute (National Policy Council member)

Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action

GW Diaspora Research Program

International Studies Association

Middle East Institute

Middle East Studies Association

Network for Peacebuilding Evaluation Community of Practice

Public Diplomacy Council (past Board member, secretary, program chair)

### **Volunteering and Citizen Engagement**

Montgomery County Office of Community Partnerships, Middle Eastern American Advisory Group (chair, 2017-present).

Vice-Chair, [Citizen Diplomacy Research Group](#), Public Diplomacy Council.

Conflict Resolution Center of Montgomery County (CRCMC), 2014-2017, CRCMC Quality Assurance Task Force, 2015-2017.

A Wider Circle (anti-poverty nonprofit), Silver Spring, Maryland, 2014-2016.

Greater Washington Immigration Film Fest volunteer, 2014.

Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church, Stewardship Team (2013-2016) and Right Relations Education Team (2018-present), Bethesda, MD.

GW Trachtenberg 50th Anniversary Policy Forum Planning Committee and Alumni Awards Committee, 2012-2013.

Organized brown-bag seminar by Dr. Guita Hourani (Director, Lebanese Emigration Research Center, Notre Dame University, Lebanon), “The Socioeconomic Mobility and Political Participation of the Kurds of Lebanon: Does Naturalization Matter?” at the GW Institute for Middle East Studies-GW Diaspora Research Program, September 13, 2011.

Leader, [Action in Montgomery](#) (AIM), Industrial Areas Foundation Maryland affiliate, 2000-present, Friends of AIM fundraising campaign member, 2013-2017.

Past president and other offices, neighborhood civic association, 1995-1998.

Alumni Mentor Program for GW MPA students, 1985-2009.

September, 2021