HEMISPHERIC PERSPECTIVES:
MEXICO AND HEMISPHERIC SECURITY

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SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Manuel Suárez-Mier is a Professor of Economy and International Finance at American University in Washington, D.C. He was Senior Economist for the Latin America department of the Bank of America until the beginning of 2006. He studied economics at the National Autonomous University of Mexico and at the University of Chicago, where he received his Masters and was a doctoral candidate. He was Chief of Staff for the Governor of the Bank of Mexico and Principal Advisor for the Bank’s first governing body. During the negotiation of the North American Free Trade Area (NAFTA), he was Minister for Economic Affairs of the Embassy of Mexico in the United States. For five years he was a member of the economic advisory firm Laffer Associates, of La Jolla, California. He has been a professor of economics at the Autonomous Technical Institute of Mexico and at the schools of business in the universities of Georgetown and New Mexico. He has published numerous books and articles on economics and finance and is a regular collaborator and commentator in the Wall Street Journal, the Financial Times, The Economist and The News Hour with Jim Lehrer.

Armand Peschar-Sverdrup is one of the United States’ foremost experts on Mexico. His specialization derives from having focused on Mexico for the past 13 years as the Director of the Mexico Project at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) in Washington, D.C. In that capacity, he has been responsible for analysis of Mexico’s domestic politics, trade and investment, national security and border security, and the broad range of issues that encompass the U.S.-Mexico bilateral relationship. He is recognized as one of the premier opinion leaders on Mexican issues and is regularly quoted in television, print, and radio media, both in the United States and Mexico. Peschar-Sverdrup has written extensively on Mexico. Prior to joining CSIS, he was senior consultant with Econolynx International in Ottawa, Canada. He did graduate work in government at the Center for Latin American Studies in Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service and his undergraduate work in political science and economics at Carleton University, in Ottawa, Canada.
David Merchant is the executive director of the Policy Studies Organization, headquartered in the historic Garfield house on New Hampshire Avenue, in Washington DC. He coordinates the PSO publications program, which includes two book series with Lexington Press and three journals with editorial offices at Georgetown University, the Bush School of Government at Texas A&M University, and the University of the Americas-Puebla in Mexico, where he earned his degree in International Relations. He is a life member of the honor societies Phi Beta Delta (board of trustees), Phi Sigma Omega, and Pi Sigma Alpha. His papers have appeared in *Contemporary Philosophy, Review of Policy Research* and the *American Behavioral Scientist*. His essay on “Inventing Tradition and Freemasonry: The Craft and the Arabs” appeared recently in the volume *Freemasonry on Both Sides of the Atlantic*. He is secretary of the Walter Beach, Harrell Rodgers, and Seymour Martin Lipset endowments for the Southern, Midwest, and American Political Science Associations.

Glenn Alexander Crowther has served in a variety of platoon and company level positions in the 17th Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division (Light) at Fort Ord, California. He commanded Headquarters and Service Company, United Nations Command Security Force – Joint Security Area – Pan Mun Jom and subsequently the Cheju-do Training Center in Korea. He has served also in a variety of Foreign Area Officer, Operations Officer, Strategist and Political-Military Officer positions in US Army South and US Southern Command in Panama and Miami. He served two tours at the Pentagon working as a Strategic Plans & Policies Officer at the Office of the Chief, Army Reserve and as a Politico-Military Officer at the Joint Staff J-5 (Strategic Plans & Policies Directorate). COL Crowther is currently assigned as a Research Professor of National Security Studies at the Strategic Studies Institute at the Army War College Carlisle Barracks, PA. He has a BA in International Relations from Tufts University, an MS in International Relations from Troy State University and a Ph.D. in International Development from Tulane University. He was also an International Security Studies Fellow at the Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy at Tufts University. COL Crowther is married to the former Marie Elizabeth Toothman-Lim from the Panama Canal Zone. Their children are Laura, Geoffrey and Elizabeth.