

**IFE/INFO**

# **Public Policy Breakfast Salon**

*Enriching Washington's Public Policy Life • Making World Affairs Our Business*



*Featuring*

## **U.S. Senator Al Franken (D-MN)**

*Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pension (HELP) Committee; the Judiciary Committee;  
the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and the Committee on Indian Affairs*

*Introduced by*

### **Norm Ornstein**

*IFE Steward, Author, Pundit and Scholar, American Enterprise Institute*

*United States Capitol | Historic "LBJ" Room | Washington, DC*

**Tuesday, December 9, 2014**

Public Policy Breakfast Salon

Announcing IFE’s New Diplomatic Steward



H.E. Johan Verbeke  
Ambassador of the Kingdom of Belgium to the United States

Johan Verbeke joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1981. He started his foreign service career at the Belgian Embassy in Beirut, followed by assignments in Amman, Bujumbura and Santiago de Chile. In 1992, he became the Chief Spokesperson at the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs followed by position as the “Antici” in the Permanent Representation of Belgium to the European Union. Verbeke arrived in Washington for the first time in the summer of 1994 to become the Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of Belgium. In 1998, he returned to Brussels and served first as Deputy Director General for Political Affairs (1998-99), and later as Director General for European Affairs (1999-2000), Chef de Cabinet to the Minister of European Affairs (2000-02) and finally as Chef de Cabinet to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (2002-04).

In 2004, Ambassador Verbeke was appointed Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York where Belgium was a Member of the Security Council. In 2008 he moved to Lebanon as the Special Coordinator of the UN Secretary General. Later that year he was appointed the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General in Georgia and Head of UNOMIG. Verbeke was appointed Ambassador to the United Kingdom in 2010, where he served until December 2013. He received the “Best Ambassador of the year 2011” DIPLOMAT award in recognition of his significant impact on the diplomatic community in London.

He began his current appointment as Ambassador to the United States in January 2014, and presented his credentials to President Barack H. Obama on March 10, 2014. Ambassador Verbeke graduated from the University of Ghent with degrees in Law and Philosophy. He also studied at the University of Nancy in France and obtained his LL.M. at the Yale Law School. He is married to Mrs. Catherine Dubois and has three children.

Introduction



Norm Ornstein  
IFE Steward, Author, Pundit and Scholar

Norman Ornstein is a long-time observer of Congress and politics. He is a contributing editor and columnist for National Journal and The Atlantic and is an election eve analyst for BBC News. He served as co-director of the AEI-Brookings Election Reform Project and participates in AEI’s Election Watch series. He also served as a senior counselor to the Continuity of Government Commission. Mr. Ornstein led a working group of scholars and practitioners that helped shape the law, known as McCain-Feingold, that reformed the campaign financing system. He has written many books and, most recently, the New York Times bestseller, *It’s Even Worse Than It Looks: How the American Constitutional System Collided With the New Politics of Extremism*, with Tom Mann, published in May 2012 by Basic Books. It was named as one of 2012’s best books on politics by The New Yorker and one of the best books of the year by the Washington Post.

Special Guest Speaker



Senator Al Franken (D-WI)  
United States Senate

Senator Al Franken was born on May 21, 1951, and grew up in St. Louis Park, Minnesota. In 1973, he graduated from Harvard, where he met his wife Franni. They’ve been married for 38 years, and have two grown children, Thomasin and Joe. Senator Franken has one grandchild, Joe, born to Thomasin and her husband Brody in May 2013. Before running for the Senate, Al spent 37 years as a comedy writer, author, and radio talk show host and has taken part in seven USO tours, visiting our troops overseas in Germany, Bosnia, Kosovo, and Uzbekistan - as well as visiting Iraq, Afghanistan, and Kuwait four times.

In 2008, Al was elected to the Senate as a member of the DFL (Democratic-Farmer-Labor) Party from Minnesota, and was sworn in July of 2009 following a statewide hand recount. He currently sits on the Health, Education, Labor, and Pension (HELP) Committee; the Judiciary Committee; the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and the Committee on Indian Affairs.

**Scheduled**  
**Commissioner Terrel McSweeney**  
*Federal Trade Commission*  
Hosted by H.E. Johan Verbeke  
*IFE Diplomatic Steward*

**INFO Season Kick-off**  
**Alibi Club Lunch**  
Hosted by Judge William Webster  
*IFE Steward, Former Director of CIA and FBI*

**Inaugural West Coast PIF Kick-off**  
San Francisco, CA  
**Commissioner Ajit Pai**  
*Federal Communications Commission*

**Ambassador Daniel Sepulevda**  
*U.S. Department of State*  
**Invited**  
**Mayor Muriel Bowser**  
*Washington, DC*



IFE INFO Public Policy roundtable is 23 years strong, with over 280 distinguished speakers including, five Supreme Court Justices, 18 Ambassadors, 46 Senators, a Maestro, 27 senior advisors to the President over five administrations, the heads of the CIA, FBI, World Bank, and the National Academies of the Sciences, one Vice President, five Governors, four Mayors, two Fortune 500 CEOs, and a Miss America. IFE INFO is a Washington Institution promoting civility and encouraging Youth Global Citizenship. You can visit us at [www.instituteforeducation.org](http://www.instituteforeducation.org), or follow us on Facebook and Twitter.



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### Guests

**H.E. Rudolph Bekink**  
Embassy of the Netherlands

**Mary Brady**  
The Economic Club  
of Washington

**Sarah Brooks**  
Dept. of Veterans Affairs\*

**Freddie Brooks**  
Improvisiona

**Andy Burness**  
Burness Communications

**Casey Aden-Wansbury**  
Franken Chief of Staff

**Jeff Chen**  
NASA\*

**Grace Choi**  
RFFG Fellow

**Christopher Daggett**  
Internal Revenue Service\*

**William Edington**  
Edington Peel

**Ken Elliott**  
RFFG Fellow

**John Paul Farmer**  
Microsoft, IFE EMR Cofounder

**John Felleman**  
GSA\*

**David Fenstermaker**  
Raymond James & Associates

**Thomasin Franken**  
DC Prep

**Greg Gershman**  
AdHoc, LLC\*\*

**Alex Ghara**  
RFFG Fellow

**Mark Ginsburg**  
Mark Ginsburg Media

**Christopher Goranson**  
Dept. of Interior\*

**Tyrone Grandison**  
Dept. of Labor\*

**Brody Greenwald**  
White & Case

**Rachel Harrison-Gordon**  
Dept. of Veterans Affairs\*

**Hillary Hartley**  
MyUSA, GSA\*\*

**Scott Hartley**  
USAID\*

**Andrea Ippolito**  
Dept. of Veterans Affairs\*

**Stacy Kane**  
Acting Deputy Director  
of PIF, GSA

**Jacqueline Kazil**  
FEMA\*

**Coach Kathy Kemper**  
IFE Founder and CEO

**Timothy "Bo" Kemper**  
Robertson Foundation  
for Government

**H.E. Ritva Koukku-Ronde**  
Embassy of Finland

**H.E. Björn Lyrvall**  
Embassy of Sweden

**Raphael Majma**  
Open Data\*\*

**David Naffis**  
National Archives & Records  
Administration\*

**Counselor Hermann Nehls**  
Embassy of Germany

**Norm Ornstein**  
IFE Steward, Author, Pundit  
and Scholar, American  
Enterprise Institute

**Laura Perez Vazquez**  
Embassy of Mexico

**Genelle Quarles**  
Burness Communications,  
IFE Fellow

**Elise Ravenscroft**  
IFE Deputy Director

**Marty Ringlein**  
RFP-EZ, OSTP

**James Sanders**  
Future Ready Schools\*

**Mark Schulte**  
Pulitzer Center on Crisis  
Reporting, IFE Fellow

**Henry Schuster**  
CBS News '60 Minutes'

**Nick Seaver**  
Burness Communications,  
IFE Fellow

**Lea Shanley**  
NASA\*

**Bosco So**  
Dept. of Energy\*

**Robert Sosinski**  
Dept. of Veterans Affairs\*

**Hugh Sullivan**  
Johns Hopkins Univ., IFE Fellow

**Gajen Sunthara**  
Dept. of Health & Human  
Services\*

**Steve Taylor**  
United Way Worldwide

**James Valentine**  
TriAlpha Energy

**H.E. Johan Verbeke**  
Embassy of Belgium,  
IFE Diplomatic Steward

**Mark Wagner**  
EdTech

**Dr. Clarence Wardell III**  
Dept. of Energy\*

**Aurite Werman**  
RFFG Fellow

**Julia Winn**  
Dept. of Veterans Affairs\*

**H.E. Jean-Louis Wolzfeld**  
Embassy of Luxembourg

**Charles Worthington**  
OSTP\*\*

**George Zaidan**  
Free Energy Productions LLC,  
IFE Fellow

### IFE INTERNS

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\*\*Former White House Presidential Innovation Fellow

Design: Xanthus Design



## CHRIS International Tennis Cup & Awards Dinner - October 4, 2014



Joanne Breyer



Gitte Wallin Pederson  
[Denmark]



Christine Sager  
[Switzerland]



Nobuko Sasae  
[Japan]



Laura Vásquez Pérez  
[Mexico]