

Kuala Lumpur LRC Newsletter

February 2010

Lincoln Resource Center Programs and Events

U.S. Embassy Political Counselor Details U.S. Relief For Haiti To 50 Students



US Embassy Political Counselor Explains Obama Policies at LRC Seminar

On January 19th, Political Counselor Brian McFeeters spoke on "Obama Administration Policies: Challenges and Opportunities" to 50 debate club students from Kuala Lumpur's International Islamic University. The students were interested in the U.S. response to the Haiti earthquake and how global humanitarian issues are top priorities for President Obama.

The students learned how the President and his top advisers concurrently address domestic issues such as the economy and healthcare while focusing internationally on issues such as Iraq, Afghanistan,

Pakistan, North Korea, the Middle East, as well as global climate change and food security. McFeeters engaged the students to role play as the Chief Executive who enters the Oval Office and sees what is in his "in-box." In this unique way, he enabled the students to think and figure out for themselves a day in the life of President Obama and how the President, with the aid of his top advisers, seeks partnerships with countries around the world to combat terrorism and secure global peace and prosperity.

The LRC distributed information packets with articles and fact sheets on the Administration's economic and political agendas which enabled the audience to further understand current U.S. foreign policy.

LRC Librarian Explains How a Bill Becomes a Law



LRC librarian used interesting graphics and images to describe how a US bill becomes law

On January 28, an LRC librarian briefed a group of 15 law librarians on how a bill becomes a law in the U.S. She began her presentation describing the separation of powers between the Executive, Legislative and Judiciary, the bedrock of the U.S. political system. Then she led them to observe similarities and differences between the U.S. and Malaysian legislative processes before showing them the path taken by a bill before it finally becomes law. Participants were

intrigued by the fact that although the U.S. and Malaysia were democracies which had bicameral legislatures, unlike the U.S., a bill that is passed by the Malaysian Parliament has to receive royal assent from the King. The law librarians found the program very useful as it enhanced their understanding of the basics of the U.S. political process, significantly useful in their reference and research work. Impressed with the productive presentation, participants requested future collaborative programs with the Lincoln Resource Center on information literacy seminars, including one dedicated to identifying authoritative U.S. and international web resources accessible on the Internet.

New Electronic Publications

eJournal USA



More Than Elections: How Democracies Transfer Power

Democracy requires more than holding elections. Healthy democracies are defined by the expectations of citizens and the common rules, understandings, and trust they build. This *eJournal USA* explores the contours of civil society and political legitimacy within which peaceful transitions of power can occur.

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eBook

Pop Culture versus Real America



U.S. television and cinema promote images of Americans that are ... well ... wrong! *Pop Culture versus Real America* will contrast those pop culture images with profiles of real Americans in every walk of life. Look here soon for the entire book. For now, this First Look edition includes the introduction and two chapters: *Baywatch* / Real Lifeguards and *Grey's Anatomy* / Real Doctor.

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