



**UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

UNA UN Alumni Affinity Group

Please join the inaugural event of UNA's UN Alums Affinity Group!

June 24th from 8:00 pm to 9:00 pm ET via Zoom

"Re-engaging the U.S. in the UN – Assessment of Realities, Paths to Progress"

Keynote speakers:



U.S. Acting Ambassador for Special Political Affairs to the United Nations **Jeffrey deLaurentis** has had an extensive career in the U.S. Foreign Service, primarily as a multilateral diplomat at the UN in New York and Geneva, and on Western Hemisphere issues. He served as the first Chargé d'Affaires at the U.S. Embassy in Havana following the re-establishment of diplomatic relations between the U.S. and Cuba in 2014 and was Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, among other senior assignments.



Former Assistant Secretary-General for External Relations **Gillian Sorensen** has had a distinguished career with the United Nations, serving as Special Adviser for Public Policy and as ASG for External Relations, and later as National Advocate for the United Nations Foundation. She worked closely with three Secretaries-General and with diplomats from 193 nations, including ten U.S. ambassadors.

The speakers will provide their assessments of UN strengths and accomplishments, as well as the shortcomings and criticisms of the UN that people ask us about – reflecting in some respects Secretary-General Guterres's perspectives in his recent Vision Statement presented to the USA and all UN Member Governments.

Following their remarks, responses will be sought from two members of UN Alums, Mina Mauerstein-Bail and Nancy Donaldson. The discussion will be moderated by Marcia Brewster, UNA National Council Adviser for UN Alums, and Herb Behrstock, UN Alums Co-chair. UN Alums members are encouraged to prepare questions for our distinguished speakers. We will reserve up to 20 minutes after the moderated program to survey interests for future activities.

[Please register for the meeting here.](#)