



USAIRE

USAIRE NEWS – JANUARY 2007

Recent Events – News from the Board – Upcoming Events

RECENT EVENTS

Friday, 12 January: Our first luncheon of 2007 in Paris welcomed **Thierry de Montbrial, Director of IFRI (Institut Français des Relations Internationales)**. He spoke on the relationship between Russia and the Western countries as seen from the Russian viewpoint. He stated that President Putin is considered by the Russians as a strong leader who has restored the country's power and prestige despite the collapse of the former Soviet Union. The core of Russia's economic development will be based upon their natural resources, including oil and gas. Russia wants to maintain strong ties with the West with a balanced approach in their relations toward Europe and the U.S.

Also in January, USAIRE's Board welcomed as new Board members **Jean-François Coutris**, Managing Director of Sagem's Division Optroniques & Systèmes Aéroterrestres and **Gilles Berkovitch**, Manager of Invant. The composition of the new Board appears on our website www.usaire.org.

Tuesday, 23 January: At an exceptional second luncheon, USAIRE organized a debate at La Maison des Polytechniciens between **Senator Jean-Pierre Masseret (PS)** and **UMP MP Guy Teissier**, President of the National Assembly Defense Committee. These experts debated the orientation of the future French defense policy in the context of the upcoming French Presidential campaign. The debate was chaired by international relations expert, **Guillaume Parmentier**, President of CART. Both speakers stressed the importance of maintaining the defense budget effort and structuring the European defense dimension to ensure a balanced transatlantic relationship.

NEWS FROM THE BOARD

Student Award Program: USAIRE's 2006 Program was very successful as demonstrated by the enthusiastic participation among selected French "grandes écoles". The winners were introduced at our Thanksgiving dinner and received their awards. This event was highlighted by the appearance of U.S. Ambassador Craig Stapleton. We will continue the Program for 2007 on the theme, "Globalization and Delocation - Challenges for the Aerospace and Defense Industry for the Next 20 Years."

The Board welcomed the following new members during January:

EADS Sogerma	Anne-Marie Perus	President and CEO
GE Aviation	Lloyd Thompson	VP Marketing Airbus/EADS Programs

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, 13 February: Our luncheon will take place in Les Salons de Boffrand, Présidence du Senat under the presidency of **Senator Serge Vinçon**, President of the French Senate Foreign Affairs & Defense Committee. Guest speakers will include the winners of our 2006 Student Award Program. Each will present a summary of his "Vision of the World Aerospace and Defense Industry in 20 Years Time."

Future Luncheon Dates (Speakers and Themes to be confirmed): Our Board is currently planning for our future events. As demonstrated by the record attendance at our 23 January luncheon, our members realize that USAIRE is capable of attracting high-level guest speakers who, in turn, realize that our Association represents a quality audience.

Michel Dubarry, USAIRE President

