

高校英语专业阅读教程

ENGLISH EXTENSIVE READING (中级)

主编 刘英杰 赵书颖 于婷

主审 王 华



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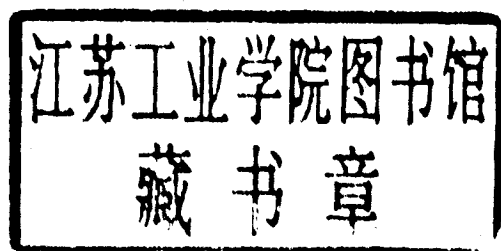
高校英语专业阅读教程

GAO XIAO YING YU ZHUAN YE YUEDU JIAOCHENG

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编写原则及使用说明

本教材为《高校英语专业阅读教程》，供高等学校本科英语专业学生使用。

本册书共有 17 个单元，51 篇文章，供高校英语专业本科学生二年级一个学期使用。

一、《高校英语专业阅读教程》全面贯彻《大学英语教学大纲》【修订版】的要求

大纲明确规定：“培养学生具有较强的阅读能力和一定的听、说、读、写、译能力，使他们能用英语进行流利的交流。”《高校英语专业阅读教程》始终把阅读能力的培养放在首位。阅读不仅是语言输入的主要来源，也是听、说、读、写、译其它技能发展的基础和源头，没有足够的语言输入，其它技能的发展与提高也是有限的。调查显示，阅读能力是大部分英语专业学生今后使用英语的主要技能。

二、《高校英语专业阅读教程》的选材

《高校英语专业阅读教程》针对高校英语专业本科学生。在选材上注重趣味性、信息性、可思性、时代性和前瞻性，题材广泛，内容丰富，主要涉及语言、文化、习俗、伦理、信息、科学、社会焦点，等等。

每一个单元侧重于讨论一个话题，但三篇课文的体裁却不尽相同，体现文体的多样性。课文绝大部分选自 21 世纪初期出版的英美报刊书籍和作品。为配合教学需要，对选材的部分内容进行了删改。《高校英语专业阅读教程》按照初、中、高等级别，每篇课文控制在 400~500, 600~700, 1000~1500 英文词汇左右，重点培养不同年级学生的阅读能力。

三、《高校英语专业阅读教程》（中级）的主要内容

《高校英语专业阅读教程》（中级）每课由 Section A, Section B, Section C 构成。每部分包含一篇课文和相关的练习。Section A 和 Section B 主要是为了在课堂上训练学生的阅读能力和理解能力，老师可参照不同的学生阅读水平，选取不同的阅读内容进行教学。Section C 主要供学生课后进行阅读训练。该部分内容较难，词汇量较大，学生可以参照课文注释及相关资料进行阅读。教师应在上课时进行必要的检查。

四、鸣谢

本册教程在编写的过程中得到了哈尔滨师范大学外语学院刘英杰、赵书颖、于婷老师的大力帮助，其中刘英杰老师撰写了 12 万字，赵书颖老师撰写了 11 万字，于婷老师撰写了 10 万字。哈尔滨学院外语学院王华老师对本册书进行了主审。黑龙江司法警官职业技术学院钱英军老师、黑河莱恩英语学校张宝祥校长参加了全套书的编撰工作。

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Unit One

Section A

What Does a Credit Card Bring Us?

“Charge it!” If those two words sound familiar, it is no wonder. Over 75 million Americans use credit cards to pay for everything from tickets on American Airlines to AAA car rental. And the number of cardholders increases every month. In fact, most Americans receive at least two or three credit card applications in the mail from Visa, MasterCard, or American Express every month. Why have credit cards become so popular?

For a merchant, the answer is obvious. By depositing charge slips in a bank or other financial institutions, the merchant can convert credit card sales into cash. In return for processing the merchant's credit card transactions, the bank charges a fee that ranges between 1.5 and 5 percent. Typically, small, independent businesses pay more than large stores or chain stores. Let's assume that you use a Visa credit card to purchase a microwave oven for \$400 from Richardson Appliance, a small retailer in Texas. At the end of the day, the retailer deposits your charge slip, checks, and currency collected during the day, at its bank. If the bank charges Richardson Appliance 5 percent to process each credit card transaction, the bank deducts a processing fee of \$20 for your credit card transaction and immediately deposits the remainder in Richardson Appliance's account. Actual bank fees are determined by the volume of credit card transactions, total dollar amount of credit sales, and how well the merchant can negotiate.

For the consumer, credit cards permit the purchase of goods and services even when the funds are low. Today most major credit cards are issued by banks or other financial institutions in cooperation with Visa International. The unique feature of bank credit cards is that they extend a line of credit to the cardholder, much as a bank's consumer loan department does. Thus credit for the cardholder, who instructs the bank to pay the merchant immediately and reimburses the bank later. Of course, the ability to obtain merchandise immediately and pay for it later can lead to credit card misuse. Today the average American cardholder has a credit card balance in excess of \$2,000. And with typical financial charges ranging from 1 percent to 1.5 percent a month, you can end up paying large finance charges. For example, if you carry a \$200 balance on your credit card and your credit card company charges 1.5 percent a month, your monthly finance charge will be \$30. And the monthly finance charges continue until you manage to pay off your credit card debt.

A credit card can be your friend because it can get you through unexpected emergencies. And if there is a problem with the products or service you purchase with your credit card, you have an opportunity to withhold payment by asking the credit card company to “charge back” to the retailer until the dispute is settled. Monthly credit card statements can also help you keep your records in order. Finally, if you make payments on time, the card helps you to establish a good credit history.

A credit card can be your enemy because it is an invitation to purchase items you really do

not need. The credit card companies' continuous offers of low minimum payments, cash advances, and even months without payments may seem like a way to skate through a money crunch. In reality, your finance charges and fees only increase, and you go deeper into debt.

If you do find yourself in trouble, do not ignore the bills. Contact your creditors to explain your problem and express your desire to pay down your card balance. If that fails, a nonprofit organization like Consumer Credit Counseling Service can assist you in getting back on your financial feet.

Protect your credit card number and your credit history. Never give your card number and expiration date to someone you did not contact first. Never write your credit card number on a personal check. Do not answer every pre-approved credit card letter you receive. Finally, photocopy your card, and if it is stolen, notify the credit card company immediately.

Notes:

expiration n. 满期

line of credit 信贷限额

charge v. 记账

Master Card 万事达信用卡

AAA: American Automobile Association

American Express 运通卡

Visa Card 维萨卡

pay down 先支付部分贷款

Questions:

1. A credit card can be your friend because except

- A. It can offer you an opportunity to withhold payment by asking the credit card company to "charge back" if the products or services cannot satisfy you.
- B. Monthly credit card statements can also help you keep your records in order.
- C. If you make payments on time, the card helps you to establish a good credit history.
- D. It is a temptation to purchase items you really do not need.

2. In the processing of the transactions of the merchant's credit cards, how much does the bank charge?

- A. A fee that ranges between 1.5 and 5 percent
- B. A fee that ranges between 1.0 and 1.5 percent
- C. A fee that ranges between 1 and 1.5 percent
- D. A fee that ranges between 0.5 and 1 percent

3. In fact, what are the banks determined by?

- A. The volume of credit card transactions only.
- B. The volume of credit card transactions, total dollar amount of credit sales, and how well the merchant can negotiate

- C. How the merchant can negotiate and how rich the merchant is
 - D. Total dollar amount of credit sales as well as the reputation of the card.
4. What is the advantage that credits can bring to the customers?
- A. Credit cards can help the customers to save a lot money.
 - B. Credit cards can make customers not trouble-taking lots of cash on them.
 - C. Credit cards permit the purchase of goods and services even when the funds are low.
 - D. Credit cards permit the purchase of goods more easy and quick.
5. According to the text, why can a credit card be your enemy ?
- A. Because it can stimulate you to buy some items you really do not need.
 - B. Because it can make you fall into great debt.
 - C. Because it can attempt you to make crime.
 - D. Because it can help you to get a lot of money from banks illegally.

Section B

A Flap About Fingerprints

War is looming, and America stands at the highest alert. Seeking to batten down the country's domestic defenses, the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) begins fingerprinting visitors and recording their race, weight and hair color. Those already living in the U.S. are ordered to report to the nearest post office to be printed and interviewed. The month is July of 1940.

Sixty-two years later, Attorney General Hohn Ashcroft has just unveiled a similar proposal tailored to this equally jittery but higher-tech moment. Set to take effect in the fall, the new program will fingerprint and photograph some 100,000 visitors from as many as two dozen nations deemed to pose an "elevated national security risk"; some visa holders already living here will also be questioned and printed. In a matter of seconds, the prints will be matched against an FBI database stocked with thousands of fingerprints lifted from locales as varied as al-Qaeda training camps in Afghanistan and motels in Italy and Spain frequented by Osama bin Laden sympathizers. Once cleared, the visitors will be kept on a short leash, required to check in with the INS every time they change address and before they leave the country.

Though Aschcroft was intentionally vague about who will be registered, civil libertarians get the point. "This is clearly tarring a whole community with indelible ink," says Angela Kelley of the National Immigration Forum, "and it will make them much less likely to come forward with intelligence information we need from them." The Council on American-Islamic Relations likened the move to asking Muslims to don star-and-crescent armbands, just as the Nazis required Jews to wear Stars of David during World War II.

Legally, at least, the program is viable. The U.S. already holds visitors from Iran, Iraq, Libya and Sudan to a higher immigration standard, requiring them to register and be fingerprinted and photographed at ports of entry. And the courts have consistently sided with the government on such immigration restrictions, including President Carter's order at the height of the Iran hostage crisis that all Iranian students studying in the U. S. register with INS. That decision, though, was handed down before racial profiling became part of the national vocabulary.

Will the new measures screen out the bad guys or merely multiply the INS workload without enhancing security? Since January, the INS has been testing a new fingerprint-identification system at the border and has used it to arrest 1400 wanted criminals. None had terrorist ties, but two were accused murderers and one was an alleged international jewel thief. Though the Sept. 11 hijackers took pains to enter this country initially on legal visas, it seems unlikely that any self-respecting al-Qaeda operative will send a "just moved" postcard to the INS. Even some officials within the agency are tempering their hopes. "There's a way around any system," says one. "None of them is foolproof."

Notes:

naturalization n. 移入, 移植
 indelible adj. 擦不掉的; 不可磨灭的
 unveil vt. 使公诸于众
 alleged adj. 声称的, 所谓的
 database n. [计] 数据库, 资料库
 foolproof adj. 十分安全的
 tarre vt. 用柏油覆盖
 jittery adj. 神经过敏的

Questions:

- What happened to the college students studying in the U. S. when Iran hostage crisis took place?
 - All Iranian students register with INS for their fingerprints.
 - All Iranian students are driven off by the U.S.
 - All Iranian students are questioned for a long time.
 - All Iranian students has been testing a new fingerprint-identification at the border.
- What's the use of fingerprint?
 - Record any visitor's file.
 - Help FBI to investigate criminal cases.
 - Be matched against an FBI database stocked with thousands of fingerprints.
 - Be matched against the fingerprints stocked in al-Quaeda.
- Whose action did the Council on American-Islamic Relations compare the move to asking Muslims to wear star-and-crescent armbands to?
 - The Nazis required Jews to leave Germany in the Second World War.
 - The Nazis required Jews to wear Stars of David
 - The Nazis required his army to slaughter all the Jews.
 - The Nazis required all the Jews stay in the camps.
- From which countries the visitors are required by the U.S. to register and be fingerprinted and photographed at ports of entry?

A. Iran, Iraq, Libya and Palestine.	B. Iran, Iraq, Egypt and Sudan.
C. Iran , Iraq , North Korea.	D. Iran ,Iraq, Libya and Sudan.
- How many terrorists have been arrested by INS since the new fingerprint-identification system has been used at the border ?

A. 1,400	B. 100,000	C. None	D. Not mentioned
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Section C

Job Worries Flow from Freer Trade

What is happening to jobs and work across the West is beginning to worry the political and economic establishment everywhere. Whether it is President Clinton ruefully blaming the scale of the Democrat's electoral defeat on the new world of work insecurity or British industry and trade unions urging action to alleviate long-term unemployment, the backwash of endless rounds of downsizing and rationalisation is causing mounting concern.

Yet still national elites tend to cast solutions in national terms, apparently unaware of the global nature of the forces at work. Plainly there were specific US factors in the Democrats' defeat—but Clinton is right to identify the impact of the tidal wave of low-cost imports on the US labour market as a source of political disaffection. We live in a world where the social gains of the past 40 years—the 40-hour week, rising real wages, paid holiday entitlement and employers' contributions to pensions are under assault. The impact is most acute in Britain and the US, where exposure to free trade with minimal welfare systems is most marked, but the phenomenon is universal. Right-wing free marketeers and social democrat liberals alike want to deny that this wave of low-cost exports from the underdeveloped South to the developed North has any significant relationship to the collapse in demand for unskilled labour. The right blames the welfare state and the burdens it imposes upon employers and state budgets; the left cites insufficient commitment to training and labour market intervention.

Both can tell part of the story, but to imagine that the collapse in demand for unskilled workers in industries as disparate as textiles and shipbuilding, from Japan to Canada, is independent of trade conditions is wrong. It may be a global imperative for the North to keep trade flows continuing, without which the South is condemned to penury—but the North needs to diagnose correctly the source of its ills.

In the "golden age" after the war, western societies were able to accommodate the adjustments resulting from free trade fairly painlessly because the international financial system allowed governments the room for manoeuvre to run expansionary macro-economic policies, develop active labour market policies and improve social safety nets. But now, when the trade flows have become much more significant, the new international financial regime has denied governments such initiative.

Global financial deregulation has raised the cost of capital, intensified the speed with which shocks like the rise in US bond yields are transmitted worldwide and made the markets more volatile. To keep borders open and sustain social cohesion, western governments need a properly governed international financial environment.

Those who defend the current position should reflect on the likely impact on western labour markets of 10 years of Chinese and Indian exports growing in double figures on top of the existing exports from the newly industrialised countries (NICs) if the present emphasis on deficit-cutting, high real interest rates and rollback of the welfare state remains. It will be a murderous cocktail and heading off protection in the US and Europe will be very difficult.

These conditions are the recruiting sergeants for political extremism from both left and right.

For those outside the national debates the commonality of the experience is more obvious as are its roots. The international institutions charged with regulating trade, financial and labour standards increasingly realise the interconnectedness of developments and how the love affair with unfettered markets can destabilize social systems and economics. A sign of the way opinion is moving is that it is no longer just the International Labour Office (ILO) that recognises the rights of workers to basic labour standards is a fundamental precondition of social cohesion and the wider wealth-creating process, and that this is being derailed by excessive trade and financial deregulation.

In Geneva last week, the ILO hosted a seminar with the World Bank and the IMF as part of its 75th anniversary celebrations and both Robert Picciotto, director-general of the World Bank's policy evaluation division, and Jack Boorman, director of policy development at the IMF, signed up to the basic proposition. Indeed, Mr Boorman said that unless the unfair income distribution resulting from global market pressures was properly addressed there was a growing risk that market capitalism would become discredited, while Mr Picciotto insisted that an uninhibited laissez-faire labour market could not work. The labour market, like the financial market, had to be given boundaries to its operation.

NEITHER dissented from the importance the ILO attached to agreeing a social clause that would be incorporated in the constitution of the new policeman of world trade, the World Trade Organisation. This would require all signatories to establish procedures that would permit workers to be represented by trade unions and to engage in collective bargaining.

The idea, says the ILO's director-general, Michel Hansenne, is a kind of grand bargain between the industrialised West and the less developed world. We keep our markets open; they put in place procedures which ensure that competitive advantage is not won by rank exploitation of labour. It is a minimalist measure, but recognises the force of the pressures in train.

But even if the ILO can persuade the less developed countries to agree such a clause, which the 'Third World may see as a form of cultural imperialism that compels stable societies like Singapore and South Korea to import mechanisms for social and worker dissent, it is not obvious that agreement will be reached to insert it into the WTO. Or even if it were, it might not be robust enough to do more than simply stem the worst forms of unfair competition. The Asian NICs are determined to protect the combination of social authoritarianism, state-directed investment, and export-led growth that has brought them so far and worker representation is not part of the picture. Others in Latin America share that view.

For liberal regimes in the industrialised West this poses a formidable challenge. They want to keep their markets open to capture the gains from trade; but they have to manage the gathering dislocation, insecurity and social privation at home, while deregulated global finance increases the cost of capital for the private sector and exerts an effective veto on public initiative. The IMF, designing a special loan facility for industrialised countries at the receiving end of unwarranted speculative attack, trying to build its special drawing rights as a proper

world reserve currency and canvassing support for a more rules-based international financial system less prone to instability and volatility, desperately wants to contain and shape the new forces a belated return to its Keynesian roots.

But, as Mr Boorman remarked, if the US, Germany and Japan are not prepared to cede sovereignty to make a new order work, then the hopes of a more progressive Bank and IMF reshaping the world financial system are minimal.

The right does not, of course, share such views, but the concerns expressed in Geneva show just how shallow that position is. It may be that free trade has tripled world per capita incomes over the past 50 years; but income disparities have doubled and are set to widen further. In the past, the poor could consider that the system required their exploitation and thus gave them some leverage in return; now it simply ignores them. Can you run the domestic and international economy in this way for long? I doubt it but those prepared to heed such fears grow less confident and less powerful by the day.

Notes:

derail v. to cause to run off the railway line 使……出轨

deregulation n. removal of rules and controls 撤销管制, 解除控制

disparity n. (an example) of being different or unequal 不等, 悬殊, 不一致

entitlement n. the right to do or have sth. 权利

laissez-faire n. (the principle) of allowing people's activities to develop without control
自由放任, 放任主义

leverage n. the action, use or power of a lever 杠杆作用

penury n. poverty 赤贫, 缺乏

privation n. lack or loss of the necessary things for life 缺乏, 乏, 贫困

rank n. (esp. of bad things) complete 极坏的, 不足的

rollback n. the act of reducing prices or causing to retreat price 压低价格, 击退

Questions:

1. According to the passage, what is the view of national elites towards unemployment problem?
2. What is the difference between the right and left free marketeers?
3. Discuss briefly the consequences of free trade over the past half Century.
5. What are some of the features of a welfare state?
6. Why are the years after World War called the "golden age" to western societies?
7. What attitude does the writer hold toward free international trade?

Unit Two

Section A

A Sales of Twin Babies on Internet

The way the London tabloids told it, the story of how two adorable, U.S.-born infant girls got to Britain was shocking tale of baby-selling on the Internet even Tony Blair got into the act, saying he found this type of e-commerce "absolutely deplorable." He had a point, since large sums allegedly changed hands when the twins, Kiara and Keyara Wecker, were offered for adoption. But the real story was an escalating custody battle between two couples, one British and the other American, who seemed equally desperate to make the little girls their own. To make matters worse, the girls' birthmother last week announced she wants them back, turning a perplexing case into a three-way struggle that seemed to defy fair resolution.

At the weekend, the twins were in the care of social workers in Wales taken from their British adoptive parents, Alan and Judith Kilshaw, while authorities investigated the situation. The facts are complex. The girls' American prospective adoptive parents, Richard and Vickie Allen of Highland, Calif., had Kiara and Keyara in their home for about two months last fall. They signed a pre-adoption agreement with the babies' birthmother, Tranda Wecker of St. Louis, and agreed to pay \$8,500 in fees to the adoption facilitator, a San Diego woman named Tina Johnson. Then came a disagreement over legal details and money, and the Allens stopped payment on a \$2,500 check. Wecker asked to see her children one last time. According to Richard Allen, she and Johnson picked up the girls and disappeared. The twins were handed over to the Kilshaws in San Diego. The Kilshaws who reportedly paid Johnson more than \$11,000 in fees then drove to Arkansas, where they adopted the babies in a court hearing, later renaming them Belinda and Kimberly.

Anguished at the lose, the Allens took their complaint to authorities. Now, the FBI is investigating the transaction as possible Internet wire fraud. The Allens also hired a lawyer, John Giffen, who defends the transaction. Giffen says the Allens "weren't buying a baby. They're trying to do it the proper way. And so did the Kilshaws they didn't do anything wrong." Giffen said he has been in touch with Tranda Wecker and her ex-husband and now hopes to "sit down with them and decide what's best for these kids."

He said the insinuation that Wecker "has been selling her babies is untrue. As far as I know, she has not accepted money at all." Wecker denied taking money. Johnson told a British reporter she's done nothing wrong."

The larger question is whether the Internet is somehow to blame and the answer, according to most U.S. experts, is no. adoption scams have been around for years, and while unscrupulous operators certainly use the Web, reputable agencies see it as a tool to connect kids with new families." I think what happened to these folks is horrendous," said Steven Kirsh, an Indianapolis adoption lawyer. "But there are always bad apples. If adoptive parents will use reputable practitioners, this kind of thing won't happen."

Notes:

tabloid n. 小报

defy vt. 使……难于

deplorable adj. 可叹的

insinuation n. 暗示, 暗讽

allegedly adv. 涉嫌; 有嫌疑

scrupulous adj. 小心谨慎

custody n. 监护权; 监管

Questions:

1. This case involved into a three-way struggle , what does the three-way struggle refer to?
 - A. The twins were offered for adoption , the two couples debate each other and the people were shocked by the story, even Tony Blair.
 - B. The girls' birthmother wants them back, the twins were offered for adoption and the two couples quarreled about them.
 - C. The girls' birthmother wants them back , Tony Blair blamed the e-commerce and the twins were sold on Internet.
 - D. The adopter had quarrel with the birthmother who wants them back, and the two couples quarreled about them.
2. Where were the twins while authorities investigated the situation at the weekend?
 - A. They were in an American couple's home
 - B. They were in a British couple's home
 - C. They were in the care of social workers in Wales
 - D. They were still on sale in Internet.
3. Who picked up the girls and disappeared according to Allens ?
 - A. Tranda Wecker and Steven Kirsh.
 - B. Tranda Wecker and Tina Johnson.
 - C. Tina Johnson and Kilshaws.
 - D. Tranda Wecker and Judith Kilshaw.
4. How much did Richard and Vickie Allen actually pay to Tranda Wecker and the facilitator, Tina Johnson ?
 - A. \$25,000
 - B. \$8,500
 - C. \$ 6,000
 - D. \$11,000
5. Which of the following statement is not true according to the text?
 - A. Anguished at the lose, the Allens hired a lawyer
 - B. The FBI is investigating the transaction as possible Internet wire fraud.
 - C. John Giffen, who defends the transaction says the Allens maybe bought a baby.
 - D. The twins' American prospective adoptive parents signed a pre-adoption agreement with the babies' birthmother

Section B

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao

Elaine L. Chao is the 24th Secretary of Labor of the U.S. , representing a new generation of American leadership. She was confirmed by the United States Senate on January 29,2001.

When President George W. Bush nominated Elaine L. Chao, the first Asian-American woman appointed to a President's cabinet in U.S. history, he described her as an individual with "strong executive talent, compassion, and commitment to helping people build better lives." Her experiences and skills as an executive and leader in the private, public and nonprofit sectors uniquely qualify her to head the U. S. Department of Labor.

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer William H. Longfield of Bard's board of directors said, "Although we will miss her valuable insight and guidance as a member , Elaine will be an extraordinary Cabinet secretary as she serves President Bush and the American people in heading up the Labor Department." While serving on the board Ms. Chao was a member of the Audit, Finance, and Regulatory committees.

As technology and globalization change the way employees work and employers do business, Secretary Chao has pledged to focus on the emerging realities of the new economy and to ensure that laws governing the workplace are more flexible for working people. She is an effective and articulate champion, advocating a "strong and productive workforce in which everyone can participate...where jobs and opportunities are available for those leaving welfare, job training is accessible for those left behind, disability never bars a qualified person from the workplace, and where parents have an easier time balancing the responsibilities of work and home."

As an Asian-American, Chao seeks to advance the movement for justice, dignity and true democracy—not only among those formally recognized as laborers, but among the millions who work under low-wage and no-wage conditions. She staunchly opposes the idea that racism limits some people's opportunities. She argues that the conservative values of hard work and individualism will result in success regardless of color or ethnicity. Thus, she dismisses the long history of African-American, Asian-American, Latino and American Indian communities that have struggled to improve their lives.

Before coming to the Labor Department, Secretary Chao was a Distinguished Fellow at the heritage Foundation, a Washington-based public policy research and educational institute. Previously she served as President and Chief Executive Officer of United Way of America (UWA) , where she restored public trust and confidence to the nation's largest institution of private charitable giving after organization was tarnished by mismanagement and financial abuse. Prior to joining UWA, she was Director of the Peace Corps, the world's largest international volunteer organization. As Director, she established the first Peace Corps program in the Baltic nations of Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, and the newly independent states of the former Soviet Union.