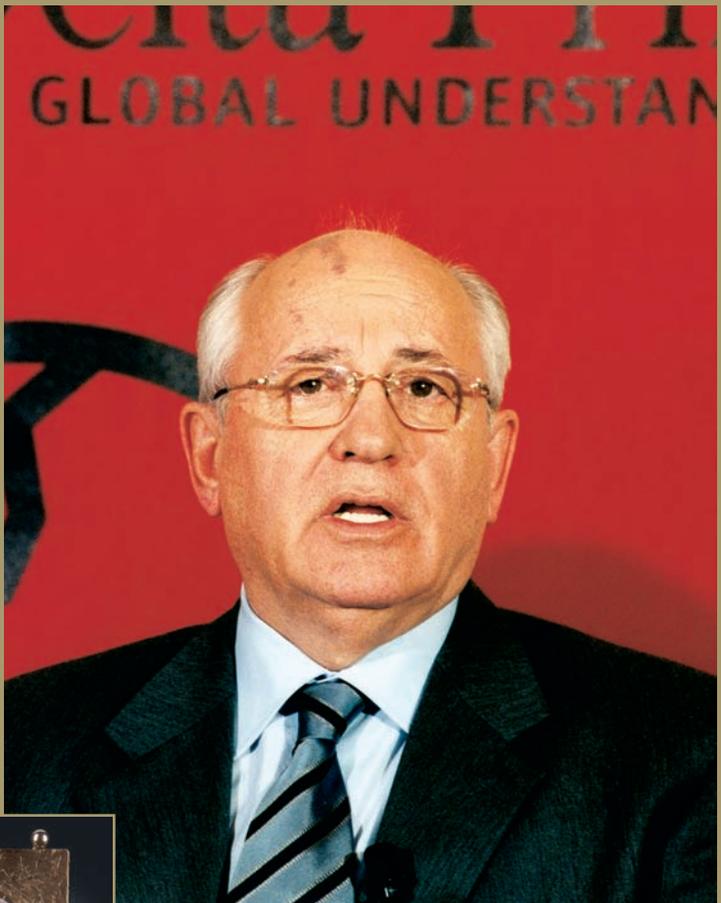


The Delta Prize for Global Understanding

The University of Georgia

Awarded in 2001 to

Mikhail S. Gorbachev

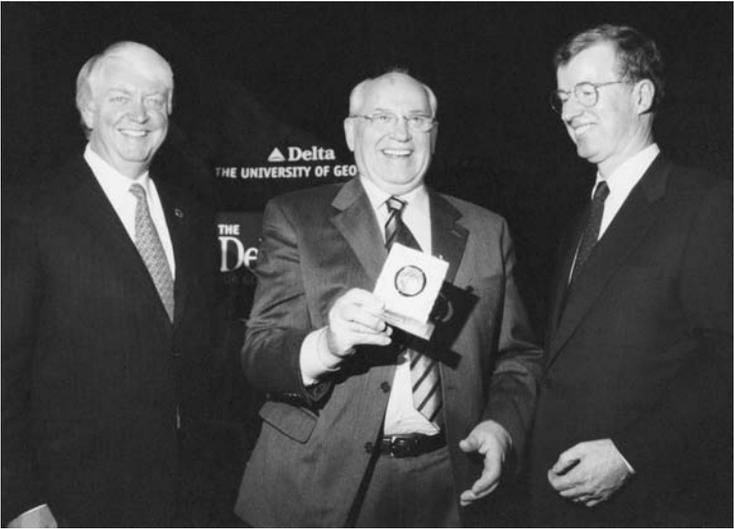


The Delta Prize for Global Understanding

At The University of Georgia

Awarded in 2001 to

President Mikhail S. Gorbachev



Overleaf: President Mikhail S. Gorbachev accepting the Delta Prize from Michael F. Adams, President of The University of Georgia, and Leo F. Mullin, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Delta. (Photo/Peter Frey)

Front cover: President Mikhail S. Gorbachev delivers his acceptance speech for the Delta Prize on April 16, 2001, in Atlanta, at The Ritz-Carlton, Buckhead, co-sponsor of the award ceremony. (Photo/Peter Frey)

Inset: The Delta Prize Sculpture. The Delta Prize sculpture was designed by Barbara Mann and Gary Noffke. The sculpture consists of a sterling silver medallion, approximately 2 1/4 inches in diameter and 1/8 inch thick, held in place by a titanium pin on a bronze triangular base. The medallion portrays the earth with the abstracted continents in low relief. In raised lettering surrounding the earth are, on one side, the words "THE DELTA PRIZE FOR GLOBAL UNDERSTANDING," and, on the other side, the words "THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA." The medallion rotates in place on the stand. The name of the recipient of the Delta Prize is inscribed on the bronze base. (Photo/Paul Efland).



The Delta Prize for Global Understanding

The Delta Prize for Global Understanding, endowed by the Delta Air Lines Foundation and administered by the University of Georgia, is awarded on an annual basis to individuals or groups who by their own initiative have provided opportunities for greater understanding among cultures and nations. The Delta Prize honors a variety of contributions to peace and cooperation, such as grassroots projects that diminish hostilities in a particular region of the world, international programs that facilitate communication or commerce among different peoples, and the leadership of individuals in the solution of global problems.

Contents

Foreword

Michael F. Adams, President of The University of Georgia
5

Preface

Gary K. Bertsch and Betty Jean Craige, Co-Founders
and Co-Directors of the Delta Prize for Global Understanding
6

On Behalf of Delta Air Lines

Leo F. Mullin, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Delta
8

“Building Together a New World, a New Peace”

(Acceptance Speech)
President Mikhail S. Gorbachev
11

The Delta Prize Board

16

The Delta Prize Student Selection Committee

17

Foreword

On behalf of the University of Georgia, I am pleased to introduce this record of proceedings from the third annual Delta Prize for Global Understanding award ceremony. It was a great honor to join Leo Mullin of Delta in presenting the 2001 Delta Prize to President Mikhail Gorbachev.

For over four years now, I have traveled all over this state, and over much of the country, saying that the University of Georgia and the people of Georgia deserve a flagship university every bit as good as those of California, Michigan, Virginia, and North Carolina. Now, as one of America's top twenty public universities, I believe that we are on the verge of moving into that upper echelon of the very finest public institutions in America.

We are achieving this goal for two reasons. First of all, we have remained true to those three principles in the Seal of Georgia: Wisdom, Justice, and Moderation. And secondly, we have enhanced longstanding public/private partnerships, anchored by the support of the people of Georgia and led now by Governor Barnes and the legislature. Indeed, the promotion of greater communication and more harmonious interaction among different cultures by the Delta Prize is the fruit of the public/private partnership that the University of Georgia has formed with Delta.

I want also to express our thanks to two groups that play a significant role in the determination of the recipient of the Delta Prize. At the University of Georgia, a Student Selection Committee, composed mainly of UGA's Foundation Fellows—who are among our most talented students—solicits, screens, and researches nominations that come from around the world. They then forward a short list to the Delta Prize Board, which is composed of intellectual, political, and business leaders from many countries, who gather together in Atlanta annually to choose the following year's recipient.

Global understanding is not a one-time accomplishment. It is built through sustained efforts to deepen mutual appreciation of one another's cultures and ideas. In the coming years, the Delta Prize will pay tribute to those individuals who have dedicated their lives to making our collective future one of peace, understanding, and security.

This event is a celebration of success. It's a celebration of the power of education. It's a celebration of the power of the free enterprise system. But most of all it's a celebration of peace. And it's a recognition of extraordinary individual service, a service that has been extended by one of our great international leaders, President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Michael F. Adams

President of the University of Georgia
Member of the Delta Prize Board

Preface

In 1987, Mikhail Gorbachev published a book titled *Perestroika: New Thinking for Our Country and the World*. In addressing the whole global community, the leader of the Soviet Union hoped to initiate an inclusive international discussion on the future of humanity. He said: "It's my conviction that the human race has entered a stage where we are all dependent on each other. No country or nation should be regarded in total separation from another, let alone pitted against another."

It is this commitment to communication transcending intercultural hostilities that the Delta Prize for Global Understanding was established to honor. The Delta Prize is not a peace prize *per se*, although we would expect interdependence and communication to help make peace possible among groups in conflict with each other. It is a prize designed to bring recognition to extraordinary efforts to advance understanding in a world where customs, ethnocentric allegiances, religious beliefs, and political alliances make dialogue sometimes seem impossible to achieve.

Globalization has indeed made the world's nations interdependent and has brought cultures with very different histories and values into close proximity with one another. In so doing, globalization has brought intense pressure upon nations to cooperate with one another at the same time that it threatens to efface their long-standing identities. Our global society demands that the world's diverse peoples learn to talk with each other with respect for each other's differences, whether it be between nations or within nations.

What characterizes all our Delta Prize recipients—President and Mrs. Carter and the Carter Center; Archbishop Desmond Tutu; and now President Mikhail Gorbachev—is their leadership in promoting respectful discussion among people fearful of the changes wrought by globalization. Such discussion becomes the basis for understanding and hence cooperation.

In his book, Gorbachev wrote: "The development of a new mode of thinking requires dialogue not only with people who hold the same views but also with those who think differently and represent a philosophical and political system that is different from ours. For they also carry the historical experience, culture, and traditions of their peoples; they are all part of world development and are entitled to their own opinion and to an active role in world politics."

We are honoring President Gorbachev tonight for his promotion of freedom of expression and change in the former Soviet Union and for his advocacy—as in his book's subtitle—of "new thinking for our country and our world." As his country's political leader he helped to bring the cold war to an end.

But we are honoring President Gorbachev as well for his accomplishments since his presidency, including his endeavors to make a healthier planetary environment for us all. When the Rio de Janeiro Earth Summit passed a resolution in 1992 to form Green Cross International, President Gorbachev became its founding President. Its mission is to work with businesses, governments, and individuals around the world to encourage practices and ideas that will make a sustainable future for the human race. Through Green Cross International, President Gorbachev has himself engaged in efforts to eliminate weapons of mass destruction, prevent international water conflicts, and promote the Earth Charter.

We hope that the Delta Prize for Global Understanding will come to symbolize the hope that is born of such efforts to bring about cooperation through understanding.

Gary K. Bertsch

Co-Founder and Co-Director of the Delta Prize Program

Betty Jean Craige

Co-Founder and Co-Director of the Delta Prize Program



Global Green USA symposium participants actress Julia Louis-Dreyfus and broadcasting executive Ted Turner listen as President Gorbachev speaks at a news conference, Friday, Oct. 9, 1998, in Los Angeles.

(AP Photo)

On Behalf of Delta

I am deeply honored to help recognize, on behalf of Delta Air Lines, this year's winner of the Delta Prize for Global Understanding, President Mikhail Gorbachev. President Gorbachev is, of course, well-known for many things, including the alteration of our vocabularies. Because of his rise to prominence, we all speak easily of *glasnost* and *perestroika*. And, at the same time that he was changing our vocabulary, President Gorbachev was far more importantly changing our world.

Global air transportation networks, such as Delta's, link small towns and villages on one continent to world capitals thousands of miles away. And this more interconnected environment allows the people of the world the opportunity to see for themselves that far more unites us as humans than divides us. But once in a while a single individual emerges who moves this process of understanding forward in such remarkable ways that it astounds and amazes us all. Mikhail Gorbachev is such a man.

Perhaps many people in this room have the same deep feelings of gratitude towards him that I have. My personal reason for this derives from the terrible thirteen days of October, 1962, when the Cuban missile crisis loomed over us. As a college sophomore in Boston, I stared at the sky and wondered whether the earth's last day were arriving. For a generation more, similar conflicts occurred consistently, as great nations repeatedly approached conflict lines of extraordinary danger. And for that generation, citizens of countries everywhere wondered, "Who could stop this? Who could put in place a positive approach to relationships among nations such that life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for all nations and their citizens would be possible?" President Gorbachev was the answer to those questions.

What is most memorable for those of us who studied his progress from afar was the incredible spectacle of one man, the leader of his country, gently but persistently nudging open the door to reform and unleashing a flood of democratic thought that changed forever the world's landscape.

Former Secretary of State James Baker once said of President Gorbachev, "His place in history is secure. For he helped end the Cold War peacefully, and for that the world is grateful and respectful." President Gorbachev did indeed win the respect and gratitude of the world. But his efforts did not stop with his presidency. In the intervening years, he has expanded his leadership to include the even wider arena of planetary environmental concerns through Green Cross International. And the clear link between this and his earlier efforts reflects his ability to see and serve the world as a whole. He himself once said, "Today the world's nations are interdependent, like mountain climbers on one rope that can either climb together to the summit or fall together into the abyss."

Whether his arena is political progress or sustainable future for the human race, President Mikhail Gorbachev is helping to keep us out of the abyss and on the path to the summit.

In conclusion, may I simply say to this man, one of the greatest men of the twentieth century, "Congratulations, President Gorbachev, and thank you."

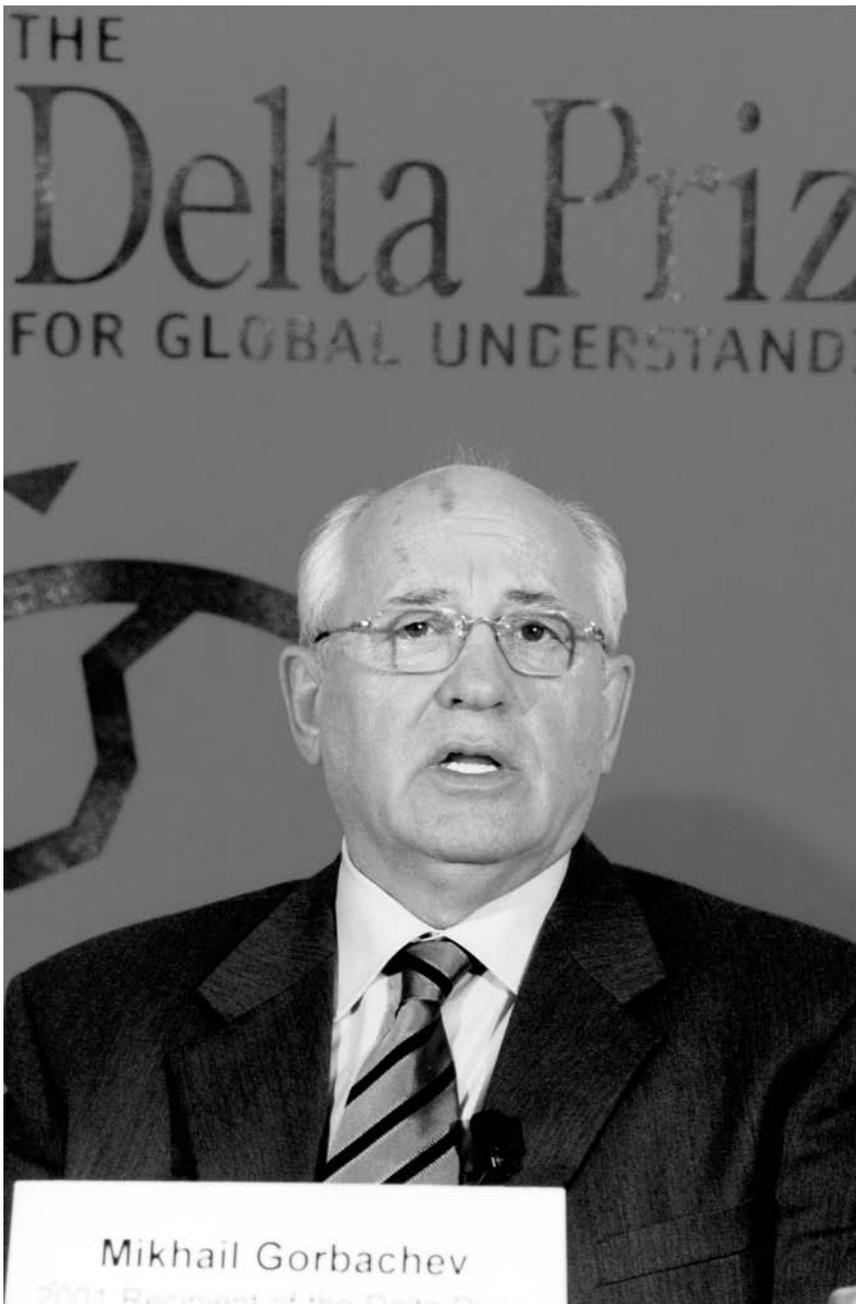
Leo F. Mullin

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Delta



Maurice Strong, left, chairman of the Earth Council, talks with President Gorbachev during a press meeting at the Rio-Plus-Five Conference in Rio de Janeiro, March 18, 1997.

(AP Photo)



President Gorbachev delivers his acceptance speech for the Delta Prize, April 16, 2001, at The Ritz-Carlton, Buckhead, in Atlanta.

(Photo/Peter Frey)

Building Together a New World, a New Peace

(Acceptance Speech – Pavel Palazchenko, Interpreter)

Thank you for the great honor of the Delta Prize for Global Understanding. I would like to salute the University of Georgia and Delta Air Lines for creating the Prize and to express my appreciation for this recognition.

Here in Atlanta, I met and became friends with Jimmy Carter. We understood each other quickly, immediately realizing that our moral positions, our moral attitudes that determine our actions, are very similar, and that is very important.

I would not like to make my speech today too personal, but I just want to mention that I have good friends here in Atlanta, wonderful people with whom I have developed associations, and that I have many equally good friends in other parts of the United States. I can say today that I know America, not only American politics, but also the American people. And, as I have said many times, the farther away one gets from Washington and New York, the more interesting is the life of the American people. We have the same saying in our country, "The farther away you get from Moscow and St. Petersburg, the more interesting is the life of the Russian people."

Let me also recall the Cuban missile crisis and the amazing words of President John F. Kennedy on June 10, 1963. I think that the speech President Kennedy gave on that day was one of the most profound speeches he ever gave. President Kennedy was a person endowed with enormous talent, with great depth and cultural understanding. When he was speaking that June day, threatened by the possibility of nuclear holocaust, he made two points which I recall in particular, and which may have cost him his life.

The first point President Kennedy made was that when Americans criticize Communism they should not at the same time demonize the Soviet people, for the Soviet people are just like Americans, wanting happiness for themselves, their children, their grandchildren, and their great-grandchildren. The second point he made was that when we think about the world of the future we should have either a peace for all or no peace at all, and that Americans should not try to create, as some people wanted, a *pax Americana*.

Every individual who thinks about the world, who thinks about the joys and the sorrows and the problems of the world, who understands or tries to understand the world, who has not only a calculating mind but a humane heart—every such individual must say, "Yes, indeed, either we build together a new world, a new peace, or we could destroy everything that we have and undermine the foundation for the life of future generations."

This is something I understood many years ago. This became my moral imperative. And the award that was presented to me today, the Delta Prize for Global Understanding, makes me see that years ago I made the right choice. So, let me express my very warm

gratitude to the founders of the Delta Prize for their decision. I am very pleased that I will be among such recipients as President Carter and the Nobel Peace Prize winner Archbishop Tutu. Perhaps all of us might one day get together to make some proposals. Let me assure you, you may expect that as a recipient of this award, I understand my responsibility.

Recently, I had my seventieth birthday. I remember a time when Leonid Brezhnev was conferring upon another Soviet leader, Andrei Kirilenko, his second golden star on his seventieth birthday. In thanking Brezhnev, Kirilenko said, "Oh, what is seventy years? This is middle age." At that time those of us who were in our forties laughed at his words—and we thought we would have to use a bulldozer to get those old people out of the Kremlin. But when I turned seventy, I recalled Kirilenko's remark and decided that there was some truth in it. I don't think that I will live too long a life, but I have some years remaining, and I will use those years to do some good things.

I recently visited Italy, and in the north of Italy, near the mountain Mont Blanc, I joined a group of outstanding leaders to create a forum of international politics. The Mont Blanc Forum, as it will be called, will have as its mission the discussion of the problems of international politics at the highest level, because international politics is lagging behind the events of globalization. Increasing interdependence has changed our world. But political leaders are still acting in their old ways. They focus their attention on winning the next election while the international community faces enormous challenges. We need the Mont Blanc Forum to stimulate thinking about these challenges, to bring together ideas that can help the international community, and to elicit new knowledge, new approaches, and new strategies for building a new world order. More than ever before we must have interaction, dialogue, tolerance, and respect for the diverse cultures of the world.



U.S. President Ronald Reagan, right, and President Gorbachev reach across the negotiating table at the Moscow Summit Conference, June 1, 1988.

(AP Photo)



President Gorbachev greets University of Georgia students who served on the Student Selection Committee at the Delta Prize award ceremony, April 16, 2001.

(Photo/Peter Frey)

The major question we face in developing a peaceful world order is this: "Can we impose upon the new global society one religion, one culture, or one government?" And the answer is that we cannot. It would be taking a step backward. So, in order to go forward, we must create rules to preserve these human achievements—religion, culture, and government, in their multitudinous forms—for all the world's diverse peoples. We must preserve justice. And we must preserve what elevates human beings, rather than what suppresses them. We must preserve all that makes people citizens, and not cogs in the wheels of politicians. Building this new world order is perhaps as important as saving our natural environment. We used to say that a world order is basically an order of international relations. Today, we understand that a world order includes the environment, it includes the social situation, it includes culture.

The world will not be stable, nor will it be humane, if we continue to have 1.3 billion people living on one or two dollars a day. Is that life? That's nothing more than survival. We need to think about this too, and so do our political leaders, in building a new world order. The Pope himself expressed concern, when he said, "We do need a new world order, an order that is more stable, more humane, and more just." The question is: "How do we do it?" I will devote much of my efforts to this issue.

Whatever we are doing today, there is one problem that permeates everything, and that is the degradation of our natural environment. Environmental degradation will be the number one item on the agenda of the twenty-first century. Was the problem unexpected? It should not have been, for many thinking people have been warning us. We are now facing global warming, the deterioration of ecosystems, and the pollution of our air and our water. We see environmental degradation everywhere. We see the death of forests. We see the deficit of fresh water. Half the population of the world's

major cities drink unsafe water, and recent studies by independent scientists and scholars in five regions of the world have shown that eighty percent of human diseases result from the use of unclean water.

Nature is not revengeful. But one day we may see a different kind of natural environment, a natural environment in which the continuation of the human species will become impossible. Or one in which the human species will undergo a very painful transformation. The earth supported life before us, and the earth can do without us. We must understand that.

I believe that environmental organizations, such as the International Green Cross, should work on a much larger scale than they do at present. These organizations should exert much greater influence on both business and politics. The business community must realize that we cannot continue our current practices. At some point in the future we human beings will have to moderate our demands for resources and curtail our wants. We all must come to understand that we need sustainable development, sustainable growth that will restore harmony between human beings and the natural environment—or, if not harmony, at least a healthy relationship between human beings and the environment.

Today, Ted Turner and I met and agreed once again that our planet should rid itself of weapons of mass destruction. I very much welcome his and Senator Nunn's initiative to eliminate the nuclear threat. This is very important to the entire world.

So there is a lot of work ahead for all of us. The most important thing for me in my work is to do something for the people. Andrei Voznesenski, the famous Russian poet, wrote in one of his poems: "Any progress is reactionary if it destroys the human being." I believe that this is something all of us—politicians and businessmen and all the others—should remember.

In Russia, we are seeing great changes now, changes that despite all our problems I believe and hope will be positive rather than negative. Alexander Putin is not a god who can solve all problems overnight. He is a human being. He is not experienced enough. He doesn't have his own team. The presidency fell upon him from the skies. So we should understand his difficult situation. Whenever a poll is taken in Russia, 70 percent, sometimes 80 percent, of the people say they support Putin. They support him because they expect him to act. They expect him to live up to their expectations. But they still suffer great hardships. I believe that my role is to support all the positive steps that Putin is taking, and at the same time speak out openly and frankly and publicly when I think that he is making a mistake.

I very much would like for Russia under this new leadership and the United States under its new leadership to move toward better cooperation, cooperation that would develop into a partnership. During the past few days, I have spoken quite a lot about this, even to the forty-first President of the United States, former President George Bush, with whom I have continued to be a friend and a partner. We have very similar views about the future of U.S. - Russian



Costa Rica President Miguel Angel Rodríguez, left, talks with former President Gorbachev on the campus of EARTH University (School of Agriculture of the Tropical Humid Regions) near Pocora, Costa Rica, June 6, 2000.

(AP Photo)

relations. Former President Bush and I both believe that the relations between our two countries can be good and must be good.

I am very much opposed to the political hawks that you have in the United States and that we also have in Russia: people who are fueling conflicts, who cannot live without an enemy. I think it would be a mistake for us not to act now to make our relations constructive and friendly.

With a group of like-minded, serious people, we have created a foundation to support cooperation in high technology between Russia and the United States. We have already had some meetings here in the United States, and we will have more meetings in Denver and Washington. I believe that the prospects are good for our two nations to cooperate in this area. When businessmen cooperate, when there is common business for two nations, then politicians are more cautious and more constructive. We should bear that in mind and move toward such cooperation.

So, let me say to all of you once again, thank you for today, thank you for tonight, thank you for all your kind words about me. You understand that our character is shaped when we are young people, when we are twenty or thirty, and afterwards it's very difficult to change a human being. Well, I am seventy, and therefore I would say that even if you lavish much praise upon me, the praise will not spoil me—it will give me strength.

Thank you.

President Mikhail S. Gorbachev

Recipient of the 2001 Delta Prize for Global Understanding

The Delta Prize Board

Dr. Michael F. Adams
Mr. Frederick W. Reid
Dr. Gary K. Bertsch
Dr. Betty Jean Craige
Mrs. Anne Cox Chambers
Mr. John L. Clendenin
Ambassador Kai Eide
The Honorable Joe Frank Harris
Ms. Charlayne Hunter-Gault
Dr. Charles B. Knapp
Dr. Ali Mazrui
Sir Alister McIntyre
Mr. William P. Payne
Mr. Charles S. Sanford, Jr.
Ambassador Roland Timerbaev
Mr. Norio Tsubokawa
Ms. Jane Wales
Ms. Judy Woodruff

The Delta Prize Student Selection Committee

Dr. Steven Elliott-Gower, Chair*
Marshall Chalmers
Adam Cureton
Brian Dunham
Jennifer Gibson
Ally Harper
Amita Hazariwala
Kathryn Hull
Rachel Kassel
Meredith McCarthy
Kameko Nichols
Mary Catherine Plunkett
Jeff Pugh
Sai Reddy
Suzanne Scoggins
Ethan Sims
Steve Smith
Jennifer Srygley
Gemma Suh

*Associate Director, Foundation Fellows Program

© 2001 by The University of Georgia Delta Prize for Global Understanding

This volume commemorating the **2001 Delta Prize for Global Understanding** was edited by Betty Jean Craige, designed and printed by the University of Georgia Printing Department.

For information, please contact The University of Georgia, Delta Prize for Global Understanding, 164 Psychology Building, Athens, Georgia 30602 (prize@uga.edu).

See also <http://www.uga.edu/news/deltaprize/>

The University of Georgia is a unit of the University System of Georgia. The University of Georgia is committed to the principle of affirmative action and does not discriminate against otherwise qualified persons on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, physical or mental handicap, disability or veterans status in its recruitment, admissions, employment, facility and program accessibility, or services. If you have a disability and need assistance to obtain this publication in an alternative format, please contact the Delta Prize for Global Understanding.



The University of Georgia
Delta Prize for Global Understanding
164 Psychology Building
Athens, Georgia 30602-3001

Michael F. Adams

President (presuga@uga.edu)

Kathryn R. Costello

Senior Vice President for External Affairs (kcostell@uga.edu)

Gary K. Bertsch

Director of the Center for International Trade and Security (gbertsch@uga.edu)

Betty Jean Craige

Director of the Center for Humanities and Arts (bjcraige@uga.edu)

Lloyd Winstead

Managing Director of the Delta Prize for Global Understanding (prize@uga.edu)



The University of Georgia
Delta Prize for Global Understanding
164 Psychology Building
Athens, Georgia 30602-3001