



Patricia S. Schroeder Elected Chairman of The English-Speaking Union of the United States

Former Congresswoman and educator Patricia Scott Schroeder, J.D., was elected Chairman of The English-Speaking Union of the United States at a meeting of its Board of Directors on June 4, and her two-year term of office began immediately. Mrs. Schroeder's candidacy was presented to the Board of Directors by Edwina Sandys MBE, granddaughter of Sir Winston Churchill, who served as Honorary Chairman of the Ad Hoc Search Committee. Mrs. Schroeder assumed the Chairmanship upon the resignation of Interim Chairman Dr. Ann Cook Calhoun. Dr. Calhoun had agreed to serve as Interim Chairman for six months or until a Chairman could be elected upon the resignation in January of William R. Miller, OBE, who had served as ESU Chairman for twelve years.



Patricia Schroeder, Chairman of the English-Speaking Union of the United States with Officers of the Board of Directors. (Left to right) Alice Boyne, President and Executive Director; Matilde Jones, Secretary; Mrs. Schroeder; Hollister Sturges, Treasurer; Doe Thornburg OBE, President Emerita.

Patricia Schroeder is eminently qualified to lead the English-Speaking Union of the United States. Following a most distinguished political career, she served as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Association of American Publishers (AAP) from 1997 to 2009 which is the national trade organization of the U. S. book publishing industry. AAP is made up of more than 300 members that publish hardcover and paperback books in every field, educational materials for the elementary, secondary, postsecondary and professional markets, scholarly journals, computer software and electronic products and services.

From January to June 1997, Mrs. Schroeder held the rank of Professor at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University. She was on the boards of the American Bar Association's Center for Human Rights Executive Committee and the Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology and Policy Assessment Panel for the U. S. Department of Justice. She also sits on the Marguerite Casey Foundation Board of Directors and serves on various advisory committees dealing with literacy and with issues affecting children and women.

Mrs. Schroeder left Congress undefeated in 1996 after representing Colorado's First Congressional District (Denver) in the United States House of Representatives for 24 years. For ten years she chaired the Armed Services Committee Delegation to Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia and Antarctica. She has also served on various delegations to the North Atlantic Assembly, to South Africa, Egypt, Switzerland and Mexico. Among her global activities, she participated in the World Economic Forum at Davos, Switzerland.

Mrs. Schroeder was born in Portland, Oregon, in 1940. She attended the University of Minnesota, while supporting herself working as an insurance claims adjuster, was elected to *Phi Beta Kappa* and graduated *Magna cum Laude* in 1961. She went on to Harvard Law School, one of 15 women in a class of more than 500 men, where she earned her J.D. in 1964.

She moved to Denver, Colorado, with her husband, James, who in 1972 encouraged her to challenge the incumbent for the House seat representing Colorado's First Congressional District. The mother of two young children at the time she was elected to the House, Mrs. Schroeder went on to serve 12 terms. During her tenure in the House, she became the Dean of Congressional Women, co-chaired the Congressional Caucus on Women's Issues for ten years, served on the House Judiciary Committee, the Post Office and Civil Service Committees, and became the first woman to serve on the House Armed Services Committee. As chair of the House select Committee on Children, Youth and Families from 1991 to 1993, Mrs. Schroeder guided the Family and Medical Leave Act and the National Institutes of Health Revitalization Act into law in 1993, a fitting legislative achievement for her lifetime of work on behalf of family and women's issues. She was also active on many military issues, expediting the National Security Committee's vote to allow women to fly combat missions in 1991 and working to improve the situation of military families through passage of the Military Family Act in 1985.

Patricia is a leader in the cause of education and a champion of free speech. As Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Courts and Intellectual Property, she was one of the most knowledgeable members of Congress on copyright issues and a strong advocate for protecting intellectual property rights and for reinforcing the creative incentive to develop intellectual property. She continued this advocacy in her leadership of AAP.

Mrs. Schroeder is the author of two books: *Champion of the Great American Family* (Random House, 1989) and *Twenty-Four Years of House Work...and the Place Is Still a Mess* (Andrews McMeel, 1998). She is in the National Women's Hall of Fame and the Colorado Woman's Hall of Fame. She and her husband, James, are currently living in their family home in Central Florida.

Patricia Schroeder's far-reaching experience in education, publishing, management and public service make her the ideal leader to guide the ESU into the future. Upon her election as Chairman of the English-Speaking Union of the United States, she said, "I am very honored to have been selected to step into the

very large shoes of my predecessors and to have the opportunity to work with all the wonderful volunteers that make the English-Speaking Union so vital to today's world. The ESU vision of promoting cultural understanding and human values is needed every bit as much as it was when it was founded after World War I, some might say it is even more needed today. Thank you all for all you have done already and I'm ready to join all of you and go to work.”

Former Chairmen of the English-Speaking Union of the United States

- 1920 – 1936 George W. Wickersham, Attorney General of the United States
- 1936 – 1947 Henry J. Fisher, Publisher
- 1947 – 1949 Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., Secretary of State of the United States
- 1951 – 1959 Lewis W. Douglas, US. Ambassador to the Court of St. James's
- 1959 – 1961 Arthur H. Dean, Lawyer, Diplomat; rank of Ambassador in post Korean Conflict negotiations
- 1961 – 1963 John Hay Whitney, Newspaper publisher, US Ambassador to the Court of St. James's
- 1963 – 1966 Dwight D. Eisenhower, President of the United States
- 1966 – 1968 General Alfred M. Gruenther, Supreme Allied Commander in Europe
- 1970 – 1974 George C. McGhee, Oil Executive; U.S. Ambassador to Turkey
- 1974 – 1978 Barry Bingham, Sr., Newspaper publisher, US. Ambassador to the Court of St. James's
- 1978 – 1980 Anne L. Armstrong, US. Ambassador to the Court of St. James's
- 1981 – 1984 Kingman Brewster, President of Yale University; US. Ambassador to the Court of St. James's
- 1984 – 1987 S. Dillon Ripley, Secretary, The Smithsonian Institution
- 1987 – 1991 Paul H. Robinson, Jr., U.S. Ambassador to Canada
- 1991 – 1996 J. Sinclair Armstrong, Chairman, SEC
- 1996 – 2009 William R. Miller OBE, Vice-Chairman of Bristol-Myers Squibb



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