

# Craig Snyder

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World Affairs Council of Philadelphia  
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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **President & CEO, World Affairs Council of Philadelphia**

October 2012 - Present

Snyder is the 6<sup>th</sup> president in the 70 year history of the Council, one of the nation's leading educational organizations on public affairs. The Council aims to fulfill its mission of public education and citizen engagement on world affairs through providing a nonpartisan podium for the debate of issues, bringing enrichment programs to middle and high school students, and conducting a nationally recognized global educational travel program.

Since becoming Council President, the organization has increased its revenues by nearly 60% and has launched a significant new program category—the “Great Debates” series. Most recently, Snyder launched the “Rising to the Occasion” 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign – a \$2 million development campaign to fund the long-term growth of the organization.

Most significantly, Snyder is the Creator and Executive Producer of the Council's Public TV series, *The Whole Truth with David Eisenhower*, which has thus far aired coast-to-coast in approximately two-thirds of U.S. households, with an estimated national first-run audience of approximately 500,000 per episode. [www.wacphila.org/the-whole-truth](http://www.wacphila.org/the-whole-truth)

### **President, IKON Public Affairs**

1997- Present

IKON is a widely respected national government relations and political campaign consulting firm, headquartered in Washington, DC.

IKON's suite of services has included registered lobbying for a broad spectrum of not-for-profit institutions, strategic consulting for candidate and “cause” campaigns (including the design and placement of electronic media, for which IKON has earned three “Pollie” awards – the “Oscars” of political campaign consulting).

One of IKON's most long standing clients has been Autism Speaks and its predecessor organization. On behalf of the autism community, IKON secured passage of four major pieces of federal legislation—with associated spending in excess of \$2 billion—and autism insurance reform legislation in 31 states, covering 72% of the American people.

**Chief of Staff to U.S. Senator Arlen Specter** 1996-1997

Snyder served as Senator Specter's senior policy, political and administrative aide, managing the Senator's 6 offices, with a staff in excess 50 and a budget over \$3million per year.

During Senator Specter's tenure as Chairman of the United States Intelligence Committee, Snyder served as the senior Congressional staffer with oversight responsibility for the CIA and all other Intelligence Agencies of the United States, hold a "top secret" security clearance.

**Legislative Assistant for Foreign and Defense Policy to U.S. Senator Arlen Specter** 1993-1996

Snyder traveled globally, among Congressional staff delegations, involved in, among other issues, the negotiations between the United Kingdom and China for the end of British rule of Hong Kong and negotiations amid the Arab-Israeli peace process.

**Republican Nominee for U.S. House of Representatives,** 1992  
Pennsylvania's 1st Congressional District

**Vice President for Programming, World Affairs Council of Philadelphia** 1991

**Associate Attorney, Commercial Litigation, Dechert (Philadelphia, PA)** 1989-1991

**Republican Nominee for the Pennsylvania General Assembly, 182<sup>nd</sup> District** 1990

**Program Director, World Affairs Council of Philadelphia** 1983-1989

#### **COMMUNITY/VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

**Vice Chairman, Global Philadelphia Association** 2013 – present

**Member, Board of Directors, World Affairs Councils of America** present

**Chairman, Government Relations Committee, Autism Speaks** 2006 - 2012

Served as Chair of the Board Government Relations Committee for the world's largest science and advocacy organization related to autism. The Committee has oversight over the organization's staff and consulting government relations team, with an annual budget of approximately \$3million.

**Member, Board of Directors, Autism Speaks** 2006-2009

**Member, Board of Directors, Cure Autism Now** 2002-2006

#### **EDUCATION**

**J.D. Temple University School of Law** 1989

**B.A. Philosophy and Political Economy, Summa Cum Laude, University of Pennsylvania** 1983

## **PUBLICATIONS/WRITINGS** (selected)

“Commentary: America First or an American century?” *Philadelphia Inquirer*, February 9, 2017

“The Un-American Century” *Huffington Post*, January 30, 2017

“The New Day” *Huffington Post*, November 4, 2016

“Choose Right Now” *Huffington Post*, June 15, 2016

“Polarizing insurgent movements of left and right” *Philadelphia Inquirer*, May 5, 2016

“What Obama needs to see while in Cuba” *Philadelphia Inquirer*, March 21, 2016

“Clinton on Autism: Need for a Paradigm Shift” *Huffington Post*, January 27, 2016

“In Tunisia, understanding core of democracy” *Philadelphia Inquirer*, May 1, 2015

“When electing a mayor this year, think globally” *Philadelphia Inquirer*, March 12, 2015

“Is American Politics Broken” *Huffington Post*, October 7, 2013

“Graduating to the Adulthood of the World” *Huffington Post World*, June 11, 2013

“Join revival of city's debate heritage” *Philadelphia Inquirer*, April 30, 2013

“What We Have Here Is a Failure to Communicate” *Huffington Post Politics*, April 18, 2013

“To Petition the Government for a Redress of Grievances” (with Peter Bell) – chapter 80, *Autism Spectrum Disorders*, David G. Amaral, et al editors, Oxford University Press, 2011

Periodic Op Ed contributor to *The Philadelphia Inquirer* 1989-2006

Contributing Consultant – “The West Wing” NBC television series – episode 17 – “The Stackhouse Filibuster” 2001

“Democracy and the Vitality of Evil” article by Craig Snyder, *The National Interest*, number 17, Fall 1989

“Conference of the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia and the Philadelphia Bar Association on the Occasion of the Bicentennial of the Constitution – Toward a More Democratic World?” *Temple Law Quarterly*, volume 60, No. 4, 1987

*The Strategic Defense Debate*, Craig Snyder editor, University of Pennsylvania Press, 1986 (recently reissued in 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition)