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Trent's most recent research was funded by the University of Southern California Center on Public Diplomacy, resulting in the publication "[Many Voices, Many Hands: Widening Participatory Dialogue To Improve Diplomacy's Impact.](#)" Debbie was managing editor and contributing author of the council's 2016 volume, [Nontraditional U.S. Public Diplomacy: Past, Present, and Future](#). She has also published in [Clingendael-Netherlands Institute of International Relations](#), *Voluntas*, *Public Administration and Development*, and the former *USIA World*.

Entering the U.S. government as a Presidential Management Intern, Debbie served at the United States Information Agency's Office of Academic Programs for 13 years, managing Fulbright programs and college and university partnerships. She then co-founded a nonprofit consulting firm assisting universities, community colleges, the Institute for International Education, and the former Academy for Educational Development with expansion and implementation of academic exchanges and institutional partnerships. Debbie moved to the George Washington University to pursue a doctorate and coordinate a multi-year human capital research partnership with BearingPoint, completing a Ph.D. in Public Policy and Public Administration with the dissertation [Transnational, Trans-Sectarian Engagement: A Revised Approach to U.S. Public Diplomacy toward Lebanon](#). She received fellowship support from GW and the Arab American Institute.

Debbie continues [research and consulting](#) at the intersection of diplomacy, development, diaspora, and evaluation, including Montgomery College's Global Humanities Institute. She can be reached at dtrent@civilstrategies.net.