We are delighted to announce that George Mason University, together with the National Committee on US-China Relations, will convene the Sixth Annual *CHINA Town Hall: Local Connections, National Reflections* on Monday, October 29, 2012.

China's rapid development and US-China relations directly impact the lives of just about everyone in the United States. *CHINA Town Hall* is a national program at fifty sites across the country designed to give Americans the opportunity to discuss these issues with leading China experts. George Mason University will host the only *CHINA Town Hall* in the greater Washington, D.C. region.

The evening will begin with a reception and refreshments at 7:15 p.m. The program itself will begin at 7:50 p.m. with opening remarks and a live webcast featuring Ambassador Gary F. Locke, former Secretary of Commerce and Governor of Washington and current U.S. Ambassador to the People's Republic of China.

The webcast will be followed by a discussion with special Mason guest Dr. David M. Lampton, George and Sadie Hyman Professor and Director of China Studies at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). Dr. Lampton will share his thoughts and insights regarding the latest developments in China and address questions from the audience.

When Americans explain their own country's foreign policy to outsiders, domestic politics usually plays a role in their explanation. Similarly, much of China's behavior in the world and in US-China relations can be explained by an understanding of the domestic challenges confronting Beijing leaders. What are these challenges and where, in the end, does America fit in the list of issues of concern to the Chinese elite?

*Join us on October 29 to learn more and have your own questions answered.*

**CHINA Town Hall: Local Connections, National Reflections** is free and open to the public.

**Location:**
George Mason University – Johnson Center Cinema (lower level)
4400 University Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030 (Visitor parking in Mason Pond Deck.)

**Date & Time:**
Monday, October 29, 2012, 7:15 pm to 10:00 pm
- 7:15 p.m. Reception and Refreshments
- 7:50 p.m. Welcoming Remarks
- 8:00 p.m. Webcast and discussion featuring Ambassador Gary F. Locke
- 9:00 p.m. Presentation by Dr. David M. Lampton
- 9:20 p.m. Q & A/open discussion

We welcome your participation and would appreciate your spreading the word to other students, friends, and family who might be interested. For more details and directions see: [http://chss.gmu.edu/events/2824](http://chss.gmu.edu/events/2824) and [http://www.gmu.edu/resources/welcome/Directions-to-GMU.html](http://www.gmu.edu/resources/welcome/Directions-to-GMU.html). (Visitor parking in Mason Pond Deck.)
Ambassador Gary F. Locke

On March 9, 2011, President Barack Obama nominated Gary Locke to be the 10th Ambassador of the United States of America to the People’s Republic of China. He was confirmed by the Senate on July 27, 2011 and was sworn in on August 1, 2011. He assumed duty as the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the People's Republic of China on August 13, 2011.

Previously, Ambassador Locke served as the Secretary of Commerce where he worked to implement President Obama’s agenda to turn around the economy and put people back to work. As the administration’s point person for achieving the President’s National Export Initiative, he presided over a 17 percent increase in exports from 2009 to 2010, while exports to China saw a 32 percent increase. Before his appointment to the President’s Cabinet, Ambassador Locke served two terms as Governor of Washington. He expanded the sale of Washington products and services by leading trade missions to Asia, Mexico and Europe.

Ambassador Locke has extensive experience working with China. As Secretary of Commerce, he co-chaired two sessions of the U.S.-China Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade that resulted in important changes to Chinese trade policy. As Governor of Washington, he strengthened economic ties between China and Washington State, more than doubling the state's exports to China to over $5 billion per year. As a partner in the Seattle office of the international law firm, Davis Wright Tremaine LLP, he co-chaired the firm’s China practice.

Ambassador Locke is the first Chinese-American to serve as Ambassador to China, as Secretary of Commerce and as Governor. His grandfather emigrated from China to Washington State, initially finding employment as a servant, working in exchange for English lessons. His father, also born in China, was a small business owner, operating a grocery store where Ambassador Locke worked while receiving his education in Seattle public schools. Ambassador Locke went on to earn a bachelor’s degree in political science from Yale University and a law degree from Boston University.

Dr. David M. Lampton


Dr. Lampton received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees from Stanford University. He has an honorary doctorate from the Russian Academy of Sciences’ Institute of Far Eastern Studies, is an Honorary Senior Fellow of the American Studies Institute of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, and he was the inaugural winner of the Scalapino Prize in July 2010 awarded by the National Bureau of Asian Research and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. In March 2011 he was named to the inaugural class of Gilman Scholars at Johns Hopkins University and he consults with the Kettering Foundation. He is completing a new book on how Chinese leadership views of internal governance and the outside world have changed over the last forty years.