



News from the Jackson Hole Center for Global Affairs



JHCGA Takes New Steps with China on Clean Coal

In the past year, JHCGA has added two dimensions to its clean coal work with China: energy security and coal mine methane emissions. U.S.- China-European energy security was the subject of a three day “Triologue” in which JHCGA participated in Beijing in November. The meeting, co sponsored by the East-West Institute (EWI) and the China Institute of International Studies (CIIS), brought together policy experts from these three countries and regions to discuss common energy security concerns.

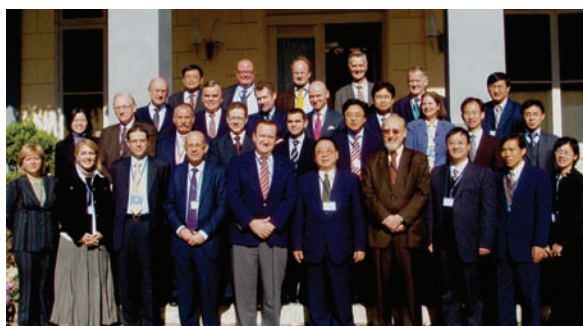
One result of the meeting was a publication series to which JHCGA President David Wendt has contributed with a policy paper entitled, “Clean Coal: U.S.-China Cooperation in Energy Security.” Participants are also in the process of sharing findings and recommendations from the meeting with their respective governments. These recommendations will carry particular weight in the case of experts participating from CIIS, which is the official “think tank” of the Chinese Ministry of

Foreign Affairs (MOFA).

As a partner in EPA’s global Methane-to-Markets partnership, JHCGA has also recently been awarded a grant to do work with China’s Shanxi Province on coal mine methane emissions. Shanxi province alone accounts for approximately 90 million metric tons of CO2 equivalent (MMTCO2e) – or 1/5 of the world’s total of 450 MMTCO2e – of methane emitted from coal mines.

Methane is explosive if left in the mines, but is also a greenhouse gas with 20 times the heat-trapping capacity of carbon dioxide if simply released into the earth’s atmosphere. These outcomes can

be avoided by recovering the methane from the mines and utilizing it as a clean-burning source of energy. JHCGA’s project will help Shanxi accomplish this objective, by tapping the know-how of U.S and technical experts on methane recovery and utilization.



International security experts participate in “Triologue 21” at China Institute of International Studies in Beijing.

Best-selling Author Greg Mortenson Speaks in Jackson Hole

While the U.S. has struggled to regain its footing in Afghanistan and Pakistan, educator and humanitarian Greg Mortenson has been engaged for the past 12 years in efforts to promote education for girls in those two countries. Mortenson related his efforts before a packed crowd of 800 people at Snow King Resort in a meeting sponsored by JHCGA in April 2008. JHCGA’s cosponsors included InterConnections 21, the Teton County Library Foundation, and the Valley Bookstore. Mortenson offers a full account of his experiences in his New York Times best-selling book, *Three Cups of Tea*.



Author and humanitarian Greg Mortenson speaks at Snow King Resort.

From a single school in the village of Korphe, Pakistan, where Mortenson was rescued by villagers on his way down from an unsuccessful attempt at K-2 in 1993, Mortenson’s efforts have blossomed into the building

of over 65 schools for girls in that country and in Afghanistan. In his April appearance in Jackson Hole, Mortenson described girls’ education as the single most effective response to conditions of poverty, oppression, and conflict in Southwest Asia. Those attending contributed a total of over \$75,000 in one evening toward the building of a 66th school.

As a follow-up to this effort, in September 2008 JHCGA hosted a breakfast discussion with the Trailblazer Foundation,



David Wendt and Olivia Meigs of JHCGA (third from left and center left) join at breakfast meeting with Board members of Trailblazer Foundation, including co-founders Chris and Scott Coats (center right and far right).

Roundtable Series Brings Business Leaders to Community

As of March 2008 financial leaders and investment professionals in Jackson Hole have had a new way to gain insights on recent global business and financial trends. The Global Business Roundtable (GBR) is a new project of JHCGA which brings global business and financial leaders to Jackson Hole to meet with



Jack Perkowski, CEO of ASIMCO and author of "Managing the Dragon," was the first speaker at the GBR (center). He is shown here with JHCGA President David Wendt (left) and GBR Chair Bill Best (right).

those in the community who share an interest in these subjects. GBR chair Bill Best brings to this initiative his 15 years of experience as director of A.T. Kearney's operations in the Asia Pacific region.

The GBR features informal luncheon presentations based upon Best's extensive network of personal contacts in the business and financial world. Speakers thus far have included Jack Perkowski, CEO of a \$.5 billion auto parts company in China and author of the recent book, *Managing the Dragon*; Mohammad Farhandi, former director of energy for the Asia-Pacific region at the World Bank; Alex Adamovich, Hong Kong-based manager of Equity Partners Asia Limited and other investment funds in the Asia-Pacific region; and John Mroz, President and CEO of the East-West Institute, a global conflict-resolution center with offices in New York, Brussels, and Moscow.

Participation in the GBR is based on an annual subscription. After 6 months the GBR already includes 15 members of the community who meet for these bimonthly discussions. Those interested should contact JHCGA president David Wendt at david.wendt@jhcga.org.

JHCGA Joins with University of Wyoming to Discuss Mexico & China

Mexico and China were the subject of two joint seminars convened in the past year with the International Studies program of the University of Wyoming (IS/UW). Both countries wrestle with contradictions within their governing systems. In the case of Mexico, Oxford scholar Alan Knight referred to the



Oxford Scholar Alan Knight speaks at seminar on Mexico, sponsored by JHCGA and UW's International Studies program.

"structural hypocrisy" of a system which claims revolutionary roots, while preserving a status quo of entrenched interests. Dr. Knight spoke at the Journey School in September 2007.

China is also torn between its revolutionary past and contemporary justifications for the party's monopoly on power. These justifications include not only the promise of prosperity but increasingly, as pointed out by scholars at a joint IS/UW-JHCGA seminar on U.S.-China relations, the appeal to nationalism. The featured speaker was Dr. Robert Ross,



Harvard Research Associate Robert Ross (left, at podium) addresses issues of U.S.-China relations at joint JHCGA-IS/UW seminar.

Professor of Political Science at Boston College, Associate at the John K. Fairbank Center for East Asian Research at Harvard, and Senior Advisor at the Security Studies program at MIT. Other panelists at the seminar, held in October 2008 at the Center for the Arts, included Jean Garrison, director of the IS/UW program; Yan Quan of Shanghai University; Yarong Ashley of the University of Wyoming; and David Wendt of JHCGA.

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Town Leaders Visit, Reach MOU with China's Shanxi Province

Led by Jackson Mayor Mark Barron and Wyoming Tourism and Travel (WTT) Chairman Gene Bryan, a group of 18 residents from Jackson Hole visited China's Shanxi province in October 2007 as part of a cultural exchange organized by JHCGA. The purpose of the visit was to explore opportunities for cooperation in promoting tourism between Shanxi and Jackson Hole.



Gene Bryan, Wyoming Tourism and Travel Board Chair and co-chair of Goodwill Mission, with wife Jean.

Often referred to as the "cradle of Chinese civilization," Shanxi province is home to many ancient Buddhist cultural and historical sites. These include the "hanging monastery" in Hunuan County, the giant statues of the Buddha carved inside the Yungang Grottoes, and Wutai Mountain, China's holiest Buddhist mountain site.



Mark Barron, Mayor of Town of Jackson and co-chair of Goodwill Mission, with wife Ruth Ann Petroff. Hanging Monastery is in background.



Derek Goodson and Sandra Marshall-Goodson, participants in Goodwill Mission.

Members of the Goodwill Mission learned in the course of their encounters with ordinary people in visiting these sites that the Buddhist culture and way of thinking are pervasive in Shanxi province. They also visited related points of interest, including a middle school at Wutai Mountain and epidemic disease control centers at Wutai Mountain and in Taiyuan, Shanxi's capital.



Kari Cooper, member of Wyoming Tourism and Travel Board, admires an artifact with Dr. Guo Zhengyu, Deputy-director, Shanxi Provincial Tourism Administration.



David Wendt introduces Mayor Barron to Tian Xizhao, JHCGA's Special Representative in China

A significant result of the Goodwill Mission was a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) reached in discussions with provincial government officials involving Mayor Barron, WTT board members Gene Bryan and Kari Cooper, and JHCGA President David Wendt. The MOU, committing partners on both sides to future cooperation in promoting tourism and cultural exchanges, was approved by JHCGA's Board of Directors and Jackson's Town Council in spring 2008.



The group visited a 1,000 year-old wooden pagoda in town of Yingxian.



108 Steps leading to the Longquan Temple

The next step in implementing the MOU will be a visit to Jackson Hole of provincial tourism officials in December 2008. For further information about the visit, contact Olivia Meigs at olivia.meigs@jhcg.org.



Jackson Mayor Mark Barron (standing, far left) takes the lead in negotiating Memorandum of Understanding with Shanxi Provincial Tourism Administration.



Participants in Goodwill Mission assemble on steps leading up to Pu Sa Ding Temple.



Jackson Hole Community Schol students Zeke and Nathan Trautenberg visit Middle School at Wutai Mountain.

Joint Seminars Focus on Islam

Building on a series of discussions on Islam, pluralism, and violence initiated in 2007, JHCGA joined with several partners in spring 2008 to broaden community awareness and understanding of Islam. The need for mutual tolerance and respect was the theme of an interfaith dialogue moderated by JHCGA President David Wendt in March 2008, sponsored by the Wyoming Global Leadership Exchange. Speakers included representatives of three religious traditions, including Paul Hayden of the Jackson Presbyterian Church on Christianity, Carol Mann of Cosmic Café on Judaism, and Tawfik Aboellail of Colorado State University on Islam.

In that same month, JHCGA also joined with the Friess Family Foundation and Rich and Sue Sugden in cosponsoring a symposium on “Radical Jihad: The Two Faces of Islam.” The event featured

speakers Tawfik Hamid, a noted Muslim moderate, and Holland Taylor, President of the Indonesia-based Liberty for All (LibForAll) Foundation. The theme of the symposium, held at the Center for the Arts, was the need both to engage the moderate Islamic center and, as Dr. Taylor put it, to “anathematize” the radical extreme.

Best-selling Author Greg Mortenson Speaks in Jackson Hole (continued from p. 1)

which is involved in similar community development activities in Cambodia. Co-founders Scott and Chris Coats described how they are assisting communities in the province of Siem Reap, Cambodia to mobilize their resources to dig community wells, install water filters, and build schools. Among those who have helped out with these efforts are members of the Interact Group of Jackson Hole High School, who visited the province in spring 2008.

Harnessing the inspirational power of Jackson Hole, the Jackson Hole Center for Global Affairs brings together organizations and individuals to identify and respond to global issues of concern to the community.



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