

For Immediate Release

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Kluver to Testify in Congressional Hearing this Week

Dr. Randy Kluver, director of the Institute for Pacific Asia and the Confucius Institute at Texas A&M University, was ask to testify in the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission (USCC) public hearings on Wednesday June 18. The topic or discussion is related to Chinese media which is Kluver's area of research expertise.

The hearing on media control will seek to examine the ways in which media censorship and restrictions on publicly-available information within China can affect the economic, diplomatic, and security relationships between China and the United States. Kluver is scheduled to testify in this hearing on the topic of information control and media influence associated with the Olympics.

Other panelists on the June 18 hearing with include Ms. Lucie Morrillon, Washington Representative of Reporters Without Borders; Mr. Dan Southerland, Vice President for Programming and Executive Editor of Radio Free Asia; Col. Susan Puska (USA-Ret.), Defense Group Inc.; Mr. Xiao Qiang, Director of the China Internet Project at the University of California-Berkeley; Dr. Ronald J. Deibert, Director of the Citizen Lab-Munk Centre for International Studies at the University of Toronto, Principal Investigator for the OpenNet Initiative; Dr. Peter Gries, Harold J. & Ruth Newman Chair in US-China Issues at the University of Oklahoma; Dr. Perry Link, Professor of East Asian Studies at Princeton University; Mr. Charles Freeman, Freeman Chair in China Studies at the Center for Strategic and International Studies; and Mr. Gilbert Kaplan, Partner at the Law Firm of King & Spalding, Legal Representative for the California First Amendment Coalition.

Kluver also serves as a research professor in the Department of Communication. Prior to coming to Texas A&M, he was Executive Director of the Singapore Internet Research Centre, and an Associate Professor in the School of Communication and Information at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. Kluver is one of the principal investigators of the international "Internet and Elections" project, a comparative analysis of the use of the Internet in the 2004 election cycle. This work can found in the recently published book by Routledge, "The Internet and National Elections – A Comparative Study of Web Campaigning", which Kluver co-edited. He also is the co-founder and co-moderator of the Chinese Internet Research listserve, a mailing list that was identified by Foreign Policy magazine as a "website changing the world." He serves on the editorial boards of New Media and Society and Chinese Media Research, and the Executive Board of the Association of Internet Researchers.

The Commission was created on October 30, 2000 by the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act to monitor, investigate, and submit to congress an annual report on the national security implications of the bilateral trade and economic relationship between the United States and the People's Republic of China.

The official press release and a detailed schedule of the hearings is available at the USCC website at http://www.uscc.gov/pressreleases/2008/08_06_18-19pr.php