FROM BACTRIAN CAMELS TO THE BELT ROAD

HISTORICAL AND CONTEMPORARY RUMINATIONS ON CHINA'S WESTWARD PIVOT

DATE: FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 2018
TIME: 8:30-5:00       LOCATION: GEAR 258

8:30-9:00 - WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION
WELCOME - Dr. Ted Swedenburg, Professor and Director of Middle East Studies
INTRODUCTION - Overall goals and objectives of the symposium
Dr. Ka Zeng and Dr. Kelly Hammond

9:00-10:30 - THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF CHINA'S RELATIONS WITH OBOR COUNTRIES
Dr. Alessandro Rippa, Post-Doctoral Fellow, European Research Council
OBORed Out of Business: Economic Corridors and the End of Proximity
Dr. Elisha P. Renne, Associate Professor, University of Michigan
One Belt-One Road: Chinese-African Relations, Textile Manufacture, and Trade
Dr. Ka Zeng, Professor and Director of Asian Studies, University of Arkansas
The Political Economy of Chinese Investment in “One-Belt, One-Road (OBOR)” Countries

10:45-12:15 - RETHINKING SPACE AND PLACE IN THE CONTEXT OF OBOR
Dr. Rian Thum, Associate Professor, Loyola College
Exiled to the Center of the World: Turkistanis from China to Mecca
Dr. Jim Millward, Professor, Georgetown University
Eurasian Geo-Schemes, Past and Present, and China’s New Silk Roadlist Remapping
Dr. Jan Nederveen Pieterse, Professor, UC Santa Barbara
BRI Upsides and Downsides

12:15-1:30 - LUNCH

1:30-3:00 - PUTTING SPECIFIC CASES IN CONVERSATION WITH EACH OTHER: TOWARDS A BROADER PERSPECTIVE ON OBOR
Dr. Sophal Ear, Associate Professor, Occidental College
One Belt One Road: The Case of Cambodia
Dr. Dawn Murphy, Assistant Professor, Air War College
The Belt and Road Strategy and China’s Relations with the Middle East and Sub-Saharan Africa
Dr. Manochehr Dorraj, Professor, Texas Christian University
The Red Star is Rising: Belt and Road and China’s Expanding Ties with West Asia and North Africa and their Ramifications

3:30-5:00 - CLOSING DISCUSSION AND REMARKS
Moderated by Dr. Kelly Hammond and Dr. Ka Zeng

SPONSORS:
The Asian Studies Program and the King Fahd Center for Middle East Studies at the University of Arkansas

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This event is free and open to the public.