We are delighted to announce that George Mason University, together with the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations (NCUSCR), will convene the 8th Annual CHINA Town Hall: Local Connections, National Reflections on Thursday, October 16, 2014.

China’s rapid development directly impacts the lives of just about everyone in the United States. CHINA Town Hall is a national program at more than seventy sites around the world designed to provide Americans the opportunity to learn about and discuss critical issues of concern with leading China experts.

The evening will begin with a reception and refreshments (hors d’oeuvre) at 6:15 p.m. The program itself will begin at 6:50 p.m. with opening remarks and a live webcast featuring Jimmy Carter, 39th President of the United States and a Nobel Peace Prize laureate, who has authored 28 books, most recently A Call to Action: Women, Religion, Violence, and Power, published in April 2014. President Carter’s address is part of the “Conversations at the Carter Center” speaker series and will be followed by a live Q & A session moderated by Steve Orlins, President of the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations.

The webcast will be followed by a discussion with special Mason guest Dr. Weiping Wu, professor and chair of the Department of Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning and senior fellow at the Council for Emerging Market Enterprises at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, both at Tufts University. Dr. Wu has also served as a consultant to the World Bank and a research fellow at the Brookings Institution. She will share her thoughts on the various opportunities and challenges presented by China’s ongoing and intensifying processes of urbanization and migration and will address questions from the audience.

Join us on October 16 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 – Mason Global Center (old Mason Inn), Salon A 4400 University Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030 (Visitor parking in Mason Pond Deck.)

Date & Time: Thursday, October 16, 2014, 6:15 pm to 9:30 pm

6:15 p.m.   Reception and Refreshments (hors d’oeuvre)
6:50 p.m.   Welcoming Remarks
7:00 p.m.   Webcast and discussion featuring President Jimmy Carter
8:00 p.m.   Presentation by Dr. Weiping Wu
8:20 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/3729 and http://www.gmu.edu/resources/welcome/Directions-to-GMU.html. (Visitor parking in Mason Pond Deck.)
Jimmy Carter, 39th president of the United States, was born on October 1, 1924, in the small farming town of Plains, Georgia, and grew up in nearby Archery. His father was a farmer and businessman and his mother was a registered nurse.

He was educated in the public schools of Plains, and attended Georgia Southwestern College and the Georgia Institute of Technology before graduating from the United States Naval Academy in 1946. Chosen for the nuclear submarine program, he studied reactor technology and nuclear physics at Union College in Schenectady, NY, and served as senior officer of the pre-commissioning crew of the *Seawolf*, the second nuclear submarine.

In December 1974, he announced his candidacy for president of the United States, and was elected president on November 2, 1976. He counts among his administration’s significant foreign policy accomplishments the Panama Canal treaties, the Camp David Accords, the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel, the SALT II treaty with the Soviet Union, and the establishment of U.S. diplomatic relations with the People’s Republic of China. He championed human rights throughout the world.

In 1982, President Carter became University Distinguished Professor at Emory University in Atlanta, and founded The Carter Center to address national and international public policy issues, working to resolve conflict, promote democracy, protect human rights, and prevent disease. The permanent facilities of The Carter Presidential Center were dedicated in October 1986. President Carter is the author of 28 books, most recently *A Call to Action: Women, Religion, Violence, and Power*, published in April 2014.

On December 10, 2002, the Norwegian Nobel Committee awarded the Nobel Peace Prize to Mr. Carter “for his decades of untiring effort to find peaceful solutions to international conflicts, to advance democracy and human rights, and to promote economic and social development.”

**Weiping Wu**
**Tufts University**

Weiping Wu is a professor and chair of the Department of Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning at Tufts University and senior fellow at the Council for Emerging Market Enterprises at the Fletcher School. An urban specialist and China scholar, she has been a consultant to the World Bank, a fellow in the Public Intellectuals Program of the National Committee on United States-China Relations, and a research fellow at the Brookings Institution. Professor Wu conducts research on migration and urbanization, urban infrastructure, and China’s urban development.

In addition to her book *The Chinese City*, Dr. Wu is the author and editor of five other books. She serves on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Urban Affairs*, the *Open Urban Studies Journal*, the *Journal of Urban and Regional Planning* (Chinese), and *World Regional Studies* (Chinese).

Dr. Wu received her bachelor’s degree in architecture and master’s degree in urban planning from Tsinghua University in Beijing, and her Ph.D. in urban planning and policy development from Rutgers University.