We are delighted to announce that George Mason University, together with the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations (NCUSCR), will convene the 10th Annual CHINA Town Hall: Local Connections, National Reflections on the evening of Tuesday, October 18, 2016.

China’s rapid development directly impacts the lives of just about everyone in the United States. CHINA Town Hall is a national day of programming on China involving seventy cities throughout the United States and is intended to provide Americans the opportunity to learn about and explore 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 national webcast featuring a conversation with Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, former U.S. national security advisor (1969-1975) and the 56th U.S. Secretary of State (1973-1977), moderated by Mr. Stephen A. Orlins, President of the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations.

The national webcast will be followed by a discussion with special Mason guest Dr. Sheila A. Smith, an expert on Japanese politics and foreign policy and Senior Fellow for Japan studies at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR). Dr. Smith is the author of Intimate Rivals: Japanese Domestic Politics and a Rising China (Columbia University Press, 2015) and Japan’s New Politics and the U.S.-Japan Alliance (Council on Foreign Relations, 2014). She will share her thoughts on Japan’s response to China’s rise as well as issues surrounding regional maritime boundary and island disputes in the South and East China Seas. Following her remarks, Dr. Smith will field any questions that members of the local audience might have.

Join us on Tuesday, October 18, 2016 to learn more and have your own questions answered.

Location: George Mason University – Center for the Arts/Concert Hall (Lobby) 4400 University Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030 (Visitor parking in Rappahannock River Parking Deck, bldg. #42 on campus map)

Date & Time: Tuesday, October 18, 2016, 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.        Live national webcast featuring Dr. Henry A. Kissinger
8:00 p.m.        Remarks by Dr. Sheila A. Smith
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 Parking Deck).
Local Guest Speaker: Sheila A. Smith


Smith is a regular contributor to the CFR blog *Asia Unbound*, and frequent contributor to major media outlets in the United States and Asia. She joined CFR from the East-West Center in 2007, where she directed a multinational research team in a cross-national study of the domestic politics of the U.S. military presence in Japan, South Korea, and the Philippines. She was a visiting scholar at Keio University in 2007-08, where she researched Japan’s foreign policy towards China, supported by the Abe Fellowship. Smith has been a visiting researcher at two leading Japanese foreign and security policy think tanks, the Japan Institute of International Affairs and the Research Institute for Peace and Security, and at the University of Tokyo and the University of the Ryukyus.

Smith is vice chair of the U.S. advisors to the U.S.-Japan Conference on Cultural and Educational Exchange (CULCON), a bi-national advisory panel of government officials and private sector members. She also serves on the advisory committee for the U.S.-Japan Network for the Future program of the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation. She teaches as an adjunct professor at the Asian Studies Department of Georgetown University and serves on the board of its *Journal of Asian Affairs*. She earned her MA and PhD degrees from the department of political science at Columbia University.

National Speaker: Henry A. Kissinger

Henry Alfred Kissinger was sworn in on September 22, 1973, as the 56th Secretary of State, a position he held until January 20, 1977. He also served as Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs from January 20, 1969, until November 3, 1975. At present, Dr. Kissinger is Chairman of Kissinger Associates, Inc., an international consulting firm.

Among the awards Dr. Kissinger has received have been a Bronze Star from the U.S. Army in 1945; the Nobel Peace Prize in 1973; the Presidential Medal of Freedom (the nation’s highest civilian award) in 1977; and the Medal of Liberty (given one time to ten foreign-born American leaders) in 1986.

Dr. Kissinger was born in Fuerth, Germany, came to the United States in 1938 and was naturalized a United States citizen in 1943. He served in the Army from 1943 to 1946. He graduated summa cum laude from Harvard College in 1950 and received M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Harvard University in 1952 and 1954. From 1954 until 1969 he was a member of the faculty of Harvard University, in both the Department of Government and the Center for International Affairs. He was Director of the Harvard International Seminar from 1952 to 1969.

Dr. Kissinger is the author of over fifteen books, the most recent of which are *On China* (Penguin, 2011) and *World Order* (Penguin, 2014). He has also published numerous articles on United States foreign policy, international affairs and diplomatic history. His column, syndicated by Tribune Media Services International, appears in leading U.S. and international newspapers.