



BAKER INSTITUTE REPORT

NOTES FROM THE JAMES A. BAKER III INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY OF RICE UNIVERSITY

GERMAN UNIFICATION FOCUS OF FALL CONFERENCE

By Lisa Singhania, Managing Editor
Twenty years after the fall of the Berlin Wall, policymakers and scholars will gather at the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy in an unprecedented discussion reuniting some of the key players from the United States, United Kingdom, France, Russia, and East and West Germany.

The “German Unification: Expectations and Outcomes” conference begins with an evening panel discussion on Oct. 30

reflecting on the historic occasion and the events leading up to it. The following day, scholars will discuss the transition from Communism to a free market system, democracy and a post-Cold War international order.

Former U.S. Secretary of State James A. Baker, III, will join his colleagues in a panel including Markus Meckel, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, Roland Dumas, Douglas Hurd and Eduard Shevardnadze. Meckel was the next-to-last

foreign minister of East Germany; Genscher was foreign minister of West Germany; Dumas was foreign minister of France; Hurd was British foreign minister; and Shevardnadze was minister of Foreign Affairs of the Soviet Union. All members of the panel were crucial players in the diplomatic process leading to German unification. Baker Institute fellow and Rice University professor

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PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE OF U.S.—CHINA RELATIONS EXAMINED

By Franz Brotzen, Rice News Staff
The United States and China both stand to benefit from working collaboratively to resolve economic and geopolitical issues, former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger told a Baker Institute conference marking the 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the nations.

His sentiments were echoed by China’s Ambassador to the United States Zhou Wenzhong and former U.S. Secretary of State James A. Baker, III. All three men were keynote speakers at the April 3



The Honorable Henry Kissinger

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

As we enter the final quarter of 2009, policymakers in Washington, D.C., are considering the most significant changes in health care reform since the introduction of Medicare and Medicaid in the 1960s. The discussion is vibrant and the stakes are high, as policymakers address three major issues that are central to efforts at reform, including the quality and cost of health care, financing health care reform and increasing health insurance coverage.

Here at the Baker Institute, our Health Policy Forum, part of the Health Economics Program, provides objective analysis of health care reform at the national and regional levels. A top priority, as always, is engaging and educating decision makers so that our research bridges the gap between the theory and practice of public policy.

To that end, in July, Vivian Ho, the James A. Baker III Institute Chair in Health Economics, wrote an op-ed for *The Houston Chronicle* calling for significant financial reforms in any health care overhaul. She noted that as much as 30 percent of health care expenditures in the United States are for treatments that provide little or no value to patients. Indeed, the leading health care reform proposals before Congress now include increased Medicare payment rates to hospitals that achieve lower death rates and reduced readmission rates for patients.

Tax policy will dramatically change with health care reform, and the full implications for our economy are difficult to predict. One important issue concerns the current tax exemption for employer-sponsored health insurance. In May, the Health Policy Forum held a conference on health care reform, during which a panel of prominent experts expressed the opinion that the current policy of providing more generous tax breaks for purchasing health insurance to high-income families was regressive — and weakened the ability of those with the least resources and the self-employed to purchase health insurance plans on their own. John Diamond, our Edward A. and Hermena Hancock Kelly Fellow in Public Finance, also plans to study this issue.

On the issue of coverage, the experts at our conference recognized that those citizens who are happy with their current health insurance coverage are worried that major reform could potentially harm them. In addition, disagreement also remains regarding the advisability of introducing a new public health insurance option for individuals under age 65 in large part because of the high cost. But for society's youngest members, there appears to be more consensus. Our recent Baker Institute Policy Report, "The Economic Impact of Uninsured Children on America," indicates that covering all uninsured children would be cost-saving in the long

run. The study, which reviewed existing medical and scientific literature on the subject, found that the expense of health insurance for children would be offset by the increased value of additional life years and improved health-related quality of life gained from better health care.

As we move forward, the Baker Institute Health Policy Forum will continue to provide objective analysis of health care reform at the national and regional levels and convey findings to policymakers. Our summer Health Policy Research newsletter addressed the question of whether the Obama administration's investment in comparative-effectiveness research would yield improvements in health care for the average patient. In October, we will co-host a conference, "Advancing the Quality of Health Care in Texas," in Austin with The University of Texas System and The Brookings Institution. Plans are also underway for a conference on health information technology, a vital component of successful health care reform.

Edward P. Djerejian
Founding Director,
Baker Institute for Public Policy

Related Links:

Health Policy Forum Web site:
<http://healthpolicy.rice.edu>

HEALTH ECONOMISTS DISCUSS HEALTH CARE STRATEGIES FOR A COUNTRY IN CRISIS

By Franz Brotzen, Rice News Staff

Health care reform is definitely coming; the only question is what form it will take.

That's according to five leading experts on health economics who spoke at a May 6 Health Policy Forum conference titled "National Health Care Reform: Strategies for a Country in Crisis."

Because of the "incredible pressure" for reform, some health care legislation will be passed this year, said Mark McClellan, The Brookings Institution's Leonard D. Schaeffer Chair in Health Policy Studies and director of the Engelberg Center for Health Care Reform.

With more than 46 million Americans uninsured and growing concerns about rising costs and the risk of not being insured, long-awaited reforms are "firmly on the agenda," said Katherine Baicker, professor of health economics in the Department of Health Policy and Management at Harvard's School of Public Health. She supports altering the tax code, which currently does not tax health insurance premiums paid by employers, because it creates "an unbalanced playing field" that favors high-income earners and places self-employed workers at a disadvantage.

James C. Robinson, the Kaiser Permanente Distinguished Professor of Health Economics and director of the Berkeley Center for Health Technology at the University of

California, advocated adopting pay-for-performance programs for health care providers. He believes that providers should be financially rewarded for the overall quality of care, including for both surgery and postsurgery recovery and therapy — not just for the number of procedures performed.

Thomas G. McGuire, professor of health economics in the Department of Health Care Policy at Harvard Medical School, discussed challenges in mental health care policy, and the correlation between mental illness and other health care costs, criminal involvement and homelessness. People with physical health problems tend to have a greater likelihood of developing mental health problems, he noted. Yet many patients who are impaired by mental health problems are not treated, while other patients are diagnosed and treated by mental health providers even though they are not impaired.

Janet Currie, the Sami Mnamneh Professor of Economics and chair of the Department of Economics at Columbia University, urged policymakers to consider the social costs of health care. Extending Medicaid to the uninsured would be relatively inexpensive, Currie said, and giving money to families below the poverty line to improve children's health would also be relatively inexpensive. Similarly, the cost of expanding child-directed programs like Head Start and WIC, the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants and children, would be modest and would have demonstrable benefits for society, she said.

Related Links:

Webcast: <http://www.bakerinstitute.org/events/hcreform09>



Mark McClellan, The Brookings Institution's Leonard D. Schaeffer Chair in Health Policy Studies, believes that the "incredible pressure" for health care reform will result in some type of legislation in 2009.

ENERGY FORUM EXPLORES RUSSIA AND THE CASPIAN STATES

By Matthew Schumann, *Energy Forum Intern*, and Lauren Smulcer, *Energy Forum Research Associate*

The 2003–2008 run up in energy prices “created openings for Russia to assert itself on the international stage,” but Moscow may find it more difficult to sustain such influence in the future, according to a study by the Baker Institute Energy Forum.

Preliminary findings from the study “Russia and the Caspian States in the Global Energy Balance” were released March 20 in Moscow, Russia, at a conference featuring keynote addresses from former U.S. Secretary of State James A. Baker, III, former Soviet Foreign Minister Alexander A. Bessmertnykh and noted economist Edward L. Morse.

According to the study, lower commodity prices may mean that “Russia will find it slow going to accumulate the kind of wealth it would take to recast its economy for growth and also support an active foreign military agenda.”

Still, the United States must recognize Russia as a strategic global player and engage Russia in mutual areas of interest — like global arms control, combating terrorism and stabilizing Afghanistan — while negotiating on NATO expansion, reducing nuclear weapon caches and ending military assistance to Iran. The study also recommends the United States and European Union increase their cooperation on conflict settlement within the Russian and Caspian region.



Former U.S. Secretary of State James A. Baker, III, and former Soviet Foreign Minister Alexander A. Bessmertnykh at the Energy Forum's Moscow conference. Both diplomats noted that international cooperation is crucial for the future of the global energy market.

At the Moscow conference, Baker called for increased cooperation between the United States and Russia, particularly in preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons. “Moscow and Washington share a vital interest in seeing that Tehran not become a nuclear power,” he said. “Not only would such a development dangerously shift the balance of power in the Middle East, it could also trigger a destabilizing arms race as other countries ... rushed to develop their own nuclear capabilities.”

Bessmertnykh described the 21st century as an “energy age” and cautioned against restrictive energy policies. He stated that energy resources, like water, “have to be a privileged consumption item for all,” adding that major global energy players should forge agreements to this end.

Morse, managing director and chief economist at LCM Commodities, concluded conference discussions, warning that without a substantial change in policy, Russia’s position as a major energy producer would deteriorate. He noted that European shale gas production would reduce Western reliance on Russian supplies and thereby significantly damage Russia’s global energy influence.

The Moscow conference, co-sponsored by Baker Botts L.L.P., was followed on May 7 by the rollout of the final study working papers and policy report at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington, D.C.

Related Links:

Policy report and research papers: <http://www.bakerinstitute.org/energy-forum/russia2009>

CONFERENCE EXAMINES DIFFERENT APPROACHES TO ENERGY POLICY IN LATIN AMERICA

By Franz Brotzen, Rice News Staff

The governor of the Mexican state of Veracruz encouraged a Baker Institute audience to invest in Mexico's energy sector, saying a new oil field in the Gulf of Mexico could dwarf earlier finds.

Delivering the keynote address at the Feb. 26 conference "Energy, Policy and Politics: The Changing Energy Landscape in Latin America," Fidel Herrera Beltrán said the Chicontepec Basin contains four times the reserves of the Cantarell Field, which produced more than 2 million barrels of oil a day at its peak.

The event, co-sponsored by the institute's Latin American Initiative and Energy Forum, as well as the Americas Society/Council of the Americas, also focused on the diverse energy policies of governments in Venezuela, Brazil and Argentina.

David Mares, Baker Institute Scholar for Energy Studies, explained that Brazil's model, designed under former President Fernando Henrique Cardoso and largely followed by his successor President Luis Inácio Lula da Silva, reflects development policy that oil and gas production must benefit the Brazilian people. This approach is balanced with limited efforts at privatization and tempered by the fact that each leader had to work under the constraints of a coalition government.

The future for Brazil, which has announced several huge deepwater

petroleum discoveries in recent years, will be determined by the administration's combination of privatization measures and nationalist tendencies, Mares said.

Rice political science professor Mark Jones underscored the strong role of the Argentine provinces in determining their country's energy industry profits. Governors and their party machines dominate politics in the hydrocarbon-rich provinces, Jones said, citing as examples the provinces of Neuquén and Chubut, which are home to about half of the country's oil and gas reserves. Public policy in Argentina is generally based on a short-term vision on the part of political actors and, thus, potentially changes with every election, Jones said.

Ramon Espinasa, a consultant with the Inter-American Development Bank and a former chief economist with PDVSA, the Venezuelan state-owned oil company, described the downward trend in Venezuelan energy exports over the last decade. Poor management of PDVSA's resources, Espinasa said, has made declining production irreversible.

Laurence Whitehead, a senior fellow at Oxford University's Nuffield College, told the conference that the Brazilian approach favored incremental change, while Argentina and Venezuela have opted for a more complete break with the past.

Paul Isbell, director of the energy program and senior analyst

of the U.S.-Spain Relations Project at the Elcano Royal Institute in Madrid, questioned whether the current economic crisis will force Mexico to abandon its long-held prohibition on foreign investment in PEMEX, Mexico's state-owned oil company.

Related Links:

Slide presentations and conference webcast: <http://www.bakerinstitute.org/events/laenergy>

"Latin America's Changing Energy Landscape" by Baker Institute scholar David Mares: <http://www.bakerinstitute.org/energy-forum/LAenergy-Mares>



Fidel Herrera Beltrán, governor of the Mexican state of Veracruz

PANEL DISCUSSES GEOPOLITICS OF ENERGY DEMAND, SUPPLY

By *Matthew Schumann, Energy Forum Intern*

Shifting energy demand and supply has the potential to cause geopolitical conflict, though whether the fallout would be greater for consumers or producers remains subject to debate.

At an April 29 panel discussion on “Oil, Natural Gas and Geopolitical Conflict in the Current Economic Environment,” hosted by the Baker Institute Energy Forum, scholar and author Michael T. Klare expressed his belief that consumers would feel the effects in response to changing global oil and gas supply — a key theme of his recent book,

“Rising Powers, Shrinking Planet: The New Geopolitics of Energy.”

But Klare, who is the director of the Five College Program in Peace and World Security Studies, acknowledged he never would have predicted the global financial crisis or the subsequent fall in oil prices. Nonetheless, he asserted that the basic tenets of his theory remain strong.

His viewpoint was challenged by Amy Myers Jaffe, the Wallace S. Wilson Fellow in Energy Studies at the Baker Institute. She stated that historically, resource-related conflicts have arisen between energy producers rather than energy

consumers, such as the Iran-Iraq war in the 1980s. Jaffe also cited the current relationship between Israel, Iran, Saudi Arabia and Russia, where she believes energy policy could help resolve tensions that are generated by social, political or economic factors.

The conversation then shifted to Russia, with Kenneth B. Medlock III, the James A. Baker, III, and Susan G. Baker Fellow in Energy and Resource Economics, presenting on several scenarios generated using the Baker Institute World Gas Trade Model that indicate Russia’s share of the European natural gas market will decrease in the future.

WORKSHOP STUDIES CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSIONS REGULATIONS

By *Jane Kliakhandler, Energy Forum Program Coordinator*

Policies that limit carbon dioxide emissions will encourage different energy sources. Exactly how this takes shape, however, is still an open question, according to preliminary results from the Rice World Energy Model.

The model is still under development, but participants at an Aug. 28 workshop sponsored by ConocoPhillips got an update from Kenneth B. Medlock III, the James A. Baker, III, and Susan G. Baker Fellow in Energy and Resource Economics. Medlock also addressed the impact of carbon

leakage on industry and the costs of various energy technologies.

Rice University economics professor Ted Temzelides talked about his work on a model of research and development which can be used to determine the most effective subsidies for encouraging innovation. While subsidies could be beneficial on net, he cited evidence that decreased R&D expenditures might be the result of decreasing returns to R&D. Peter Hartley, the George and Cynthia Mitchell Professor of Economics and Baker Institute Rice scholar, discussed wind power in Texas. He noted that while wind is likely to

displace natural gas in the short run, the longer run would be more favorable for natural gas due to its flexibility in the power generation sector.

The event was the Energy Forum’s third workshop on carbon emissions. A final workshop is planned for January 2010, with the final study to be released that spring.

Related Links:

“Carbon Solutions” Web site:
<http://www.bakerinstitute.org/energy-forum/carbonsolutions>

BAKER INSTITUTE PRESENTATION CHRONICLES

ENERGY'S WILD RIDE IN 2008

By Franz Brotzen, Rice News Staff

2008 was a tumultuous year in the world of energy, not just because of the dramatic rise and fall of fuel prices but also because energy consumption in the developing world exceeded consumption in the industrialized countries for the first time.

Presenting the 58th annual BP Statistical Review of World Energy, Mark Finley told a June 16 audience at the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy that, "Energy remains a cyclical commodity."

Energy prices "went up when the world's economy was growing and fell precipitously" when it contracted in mid-2008, Finley, BP America's general manager for global energy markets, said. Oil prices peaked in July 2008 and fell by 75 percent over the next six months, while natural gas and coal prices dropped by 60 percent. The lower prices coincided with a "pronounced slowdown in global energy consumption," he said.

That slowdown was most evident in the countries that make up the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), especially the United States. Oil consumption dropped by 6.4 percent in the United States, Finley said.

The decline in energy consumption by OECD countries was partially offset by a rise in parts of the developing world, particularly in countries that subsidize energy use, Finley said.

Amy Myers Jaffe, the Wallace S. Wilson Fellow in Energy Studies at the Baker Institute, spoke of different scenarios for growth in U.S. energy demand. But she concluded that demand is likely to remain low over the next year, and she discounted the notion that demand from China and India are sufficiently high at present to drive a price recovery.

Finley said OPEC raised production levels just as the global economic crisis hit, leading to increased inventories at the same time demand for energy was plunging. The result was a drop in the price of a barrel of crude oil from almost \$150 to less than \$40.

Turning to natural gas, Finley said global consumption rose by 2.5 percent, reaching 24.1 percent of

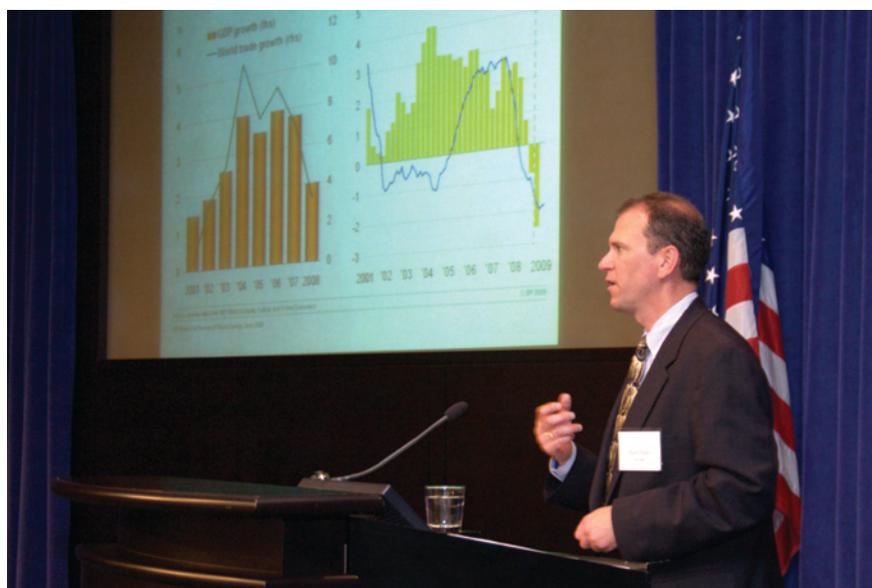
total energy use — its highest share ever. Coal consumption grew by 3.1 percent, with China accounting for 43 percent of world consumption.

Wind generation grew by 30 percent in 2008, according to the BP report; solar grew by 69 percent worldwide. However, it will take decades before renewable energy sources, which currently produce approximately 1.5 percent of the world's electricity, reach the scale of fossil fuels, Finley said.

The event was hosted by the Baker Institute Energy Forum and the United States Association for Energy Economics.

Related Links:

Webcast: <http://www.bakerinstitute.org/events/bpstat09>



Mark Finley, BP's general manager for global energy markets, said energy consumption in the developing world exceeded consumption in industrialized countries for the first time ever in 2008.

IMPROVED STOVES COULD REDUCE POLLUTION, CONSERVE ENERGY AND SAVE LIVES IN AFRICA

By Jane Kliakhandler, Energy Forum Program Coordinator, and Lauren Smulcer, Energy Forum Research Associate

Every year, an estimated 2 million people in Africa and the developing world die from indoor air pollution related to biomass combustion, but new energy-efficient cook stoves could change that.

In an April 8 lecture sponsored by the Baker Institute Energy Forum with the Shell Center for Sustainability, Bryan Willson, professor of mechanical engineering at Colorado State University and co-founder of Envirofit International, noted that Africa obtains 75 percent of its household energy from biomass, such as wood, dung and stover.

But traditional biomass stoves typically are poorly constructed,

energy-inefficient and emit harmful emissions — to the detriment of the environment and human respiratory health and vision.

Approximately 500 million cook stoves with improved combustion chambers and greater air-fuel ratio control could help alleviate these conditions.

Envirofit, a nonprofit group that seeks to “develop well-engineered technology solutions to improve the human condition,” particularly in the developing world, is currently selling safer, more efficient cook stoves in India, with hopes of expanding the product line to other regions, including Africa.

However, low population density and underdeveloped commercial networks make Africa a tough market — although the potential of carbon credits and less expensive

production costs could make the continent an attractive investment for business.

This summer, Rice University students interning with the Energy Forum spent six weeks in Maseru, Lesotho, studying consumers’ reactions to Envirofit’s innovative alloy-combustion chambered cook stove. See page 26 for more on the interns’ project.

Related Links:

Webcast: <http://www.bakerinstitute.org/events/willson>

Envirofit’s cook stoves: <http://www.envirofit.org/?q=our-products/clean-cookstoves>

Energy Forum project in Lesotho: <http://www.bakerinstitute.org/energy-forum/lesotho>



NOVEL MATERIALS

Professor Michael Depledge, a member of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution, discusses the commission’s report, “Novel Materials in the Environment: The Case of Nanotechnology,” at the Baker Institute on March 9. The November 2008 report examines issues related to innovation in the materials sector, and the challenges and benefits arising from introducing nanomaterials and other novel materials to the environment. The commission also makes recommendations on how to deal with ignorance and uncertainty in this area, which can be applied to other areas of rapid technological development.

Related Links:

Webcast: <http://www.bakerinstitute.org/events/depledge>

WORKSHOP SEEKS TO BOLSTER INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COLLABORATION

By Franz Brotzen, Rice News Staff

Scholars from the United States and Asia called for a “joint conversation” on ways to eliminate barriers to international research during the April 27–28 “Science Collaborations Across Borders” workshop at the Baker Institute.

While the 19th-century revolution in chemistry was nurtured by the free flow of ideas throughout Europe, noted Rice University president David Leebron, visa requirements today burden the exchange of researchers and ideas. Others said that excessive requirements around technologies that might have military applications should not be allowed to interfere with the international collaborations that could lead to important, beneficial scientific advances.

C.W. “Paul” Chu, a professor at The University of Houston and president of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, called scientific collaboration “inevitable — not an option but a necessity.”

Michael M.C. Lai, president of Taiwan’s National Cheng Kung University, said that research institutions must communicate internationally, appreciate other cultures and conform to international standards to attract the best talent. He called for greater incentives to overcome these obstacles to collaboration, especially ways to motivate scientists to spend time in other countries.



C.W. “Paul” Chu, a professor at The University of Houston and president of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology; Meng Hwa Er, senior associate provost at Nanyang Technological University; and Michael Lai, president of Taiwan’s National Cheng Kung University, discuss ways to promote international scientific collaboration.

As part of Singapore’s efforts to attract “the best and the brightest” minds in science, Nanyang Technological University encourages its students to take part in international exchanges, said Meng Hwa Er, senior associate provost at that institution. He highlighted the Research, Innovation and Enterprise Council, chaired by Singapore’s prime minister, as an example of efforts to transform Singapore into a knowledge-based economy, with a focus on research and development.

The Baker Institute Science and Technology Policy Program organized the workshop, with assistance from the Transnational China Project and the Technology, Society and Public Policy Program to bring together scientists,

university administrators, government officials and policy scholars to discuss impediments to international science collaborations. Support was provided by the Richard Lounsberry Foundation, the Quantum Magnetism Lab and Rice faculty members Krishna Palem, Evan Siemann and Neal Lane.

Related Links:

Conference webcast and policy report: <http://www.bakerinstitute.org/events/science-collaborations-across-borders>

QATAR WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTS STEM CELL RESEARCH AND POLICY

By Kirstin Matthews, Fellow in Science and Technology Policy

Two Nobel laureates, as well as scholars from around the world, gathered in Doha, Qatar, this spring to discuss stem cell research, policy and ethics at a first-of-its-kind workshop sponsored by the Baker Institute Science and Technology Policy Program and the Qatar Foundation.

The goal of the March 16 event was to interact with scientists and doctors in Qatar on stem cell biology research, as well as associated policy and ethical considerations. Scholars also had an opportunity to explore what a stem cell policy might look like in Qatar. Currently, stem cell research in the Middle East is mostly limited to Israel, Iran and Turkey.

“The important partnership represented here today helps to realize both the Baker Institute mission of bridging the gap between the theory and practice of public policy, and the further development of vital scientific research and education in Qatar,” said Baker Institute Founding Director Edward Djerejian in his opening remarks.

Speakers included Nobel laureates Gunter Blobel and Sir Martin Evans, as well as Irving Weissman, director of the Stanford Institute for Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine. Paul Simmons, director of the Center for Stem Cell Research at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston; Stephen Minger, senior lecturer of stem cell

biology at King’s College London; Margaret Elizabeth Ross, professor of neurogenetics and development at Weill-Cornell Medical College; Ludovic Vallier, senior nonclinical fellow at the University of Cambridge; and Nagy Habib, professor of surgery at Imperial College in the United Kingdom, also presented their research in stem cell biology in the morning session.

The afternoon session focused on ethical and religious views of stem cell biology. Herbert Gottweis, professor of political science at the University of Vienna in Austria, offered a review of stem cell policies around the world. Timothy Caulfield, Canada Research Chair in Health Law and Policy at the University of Alberta, discussed the impact of policies and patents on research. Ilhan Ilkilic, doctor of ethics of medicine at the Institute of History at the University of Mainz in Germany, and Abdulhafez Helmy Mohammad, professor emeritus at Ain Shams University in Egypt, presented on the ethics of stem cell research from an Islamic perspective. Laurie Zoloth, director of the Center for Bioethics at Northwestern University, gave the Jewish and various Christian views.

Following the workshop, the Qatar Foundation announced its plans to develop a center for stem cell research in Doha with a focus on the region’s primary health issues, including diabetes, neurological disorders, cancer and

cardiovascular disease.

“Recognizing the importance and challenges, particularly ethical and policy challenges supporting an ambitious stem cell program, the unique opportunity offered by Qatar, and recognizing interpretive flexibility towards stem cell research by Islam, the International Stem Cell Advisory Panel will make every effort to assist and advise the national government agencies as appropriate,” said Dr. Abdelali Haoudi, vice president of research for Qatar Foundation.

The workshop is part of an ongoing collaboration between the Baker Institute Science and Technology Policy Program and the Qatar Foundation. In 2007, the State of Qatar and the emir of Qatar, His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, endowed a program for the study of international stem cell policy at the Baker Institute.

Related Links:

Workshop Web site:
<http://www.stemcellqatar2009.com>

Baker Institute International Stem Cell Policy Program:
<http://www.bakerinstitute.org/ISCPP>

Qatar Foundation:
<http://www.qf.org.qa>

HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE

A dozen students and scientists from Rice University and the Qatar Foundation got a firsthand look at stem cell research, including the chance to manipulate mice embryonic stem cells, as part of a weeklong class organized by the Baker Institute Science and Technology Policy Program.

The “Stem Cell Theory and Practice” short course in January included lectures from top stem cell researchers and policy scholars, tours of laboratories around Rice and the Texas Medical Center actively involved in stem cell research, and hands-on activities to feed and grow embryonic stem cells.

“The labs were pretty cool,” said Rice University student Sarah Tambra, a class participant who eventually plans to go to medical school. “You always hear people talking about stem cells, and you really got to see what could be done with them and the fields of study you could go into.”



STEM CELL RESEARCHER ENCOURAGES ADVOCACY, EDUCATION

By Monique Vieites, Baker Institute Intern

When British stem cell researchers found themselves hampered by government regulations, they went to Parliament for help — and got a surprisingly warm reception. The result was new, improved regulations that empowered scientists to advance their work in a less-restrictive manner.

During a Feb. 6 lecture at the Baker Institute, Stephen Minger, a leading human embryonic stem cell researcher, said the lesson learned was that collaboration between scientists, combined with efforts to educate policymakers, is essential. He urged other scientists to step forward and fight for better legislation when needed.

“If you believe in it, you have to do it,” said Minger, director of the Stem Cell Biology Laboratory and senior lecturer at the Wolfson Centre for Age-Related Diseases at King’s College London.

In his remarks, “The New Consensus: How Scientists and Government Created New Embryo Legislation in the United Kingdom,” Minger discussed how the significant constraints during the early days of stem cell research prompted U.K. researchers to take action and promote legislation that would allow for the creation and use of animal-human embryos. The main objective of the researchers was to use stem cells from the embryos to understand and develop tools for human disease, such as for therapeutic purposes and drug discovery.

By talking with legislators and highlighting the importance of the research on future studies, researchers acquired the support of even the most conservative politicians.

Minger’s lecture was sponsored by the Baker Institute Science and Technology Policy Program with support from the state of Qatar’s Emir, Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, through the State of Qatar Endowment for International Stem Cell Policy. Funding was also provided by the U.K. Science and Technology Section; British Consulate-General, Houston; and the Texas-United Kingdom Collaborative.

Related Links:

Webcast: <http://www.bakerinstitute.org/events/minger>

SCIENCE EDITOR CALLS FOR EDUCATION OVERHAUL

*By Jesse Flynn, Baker Institute Intern,
and Franz Brotzen, Rice News Staff*

A “revolution” in education that casts a wider net for future scientists and improves the reasoning and communication skills of all students will produce a generation that can better compete in the new world economy, said the editor-in-chief of Science Magazine.

Bruce Alberts, editor of one of the world’s most prestigious scientific journals, spoke at the Baker Institute Feb. 9. “Children who are prepared for life in this way would be great problem solvers in the workplace, with the abilities and the can-do attitude that are needed to be more competitive in the global economy,” he said.

“Even more important,” he added, “they will also be more rational human beings — people who are able to make wise judgments for their family, their community and their nation.”

Alberts served as president of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences and chair of the National Research Council for two terms (1993-2005), and is a professor of biochemistry and biophysics at the University of California, San Francisco.

In his talk, “Redefining Education and the Roles that Scientists Play in Society,” Alberts advocated “making a science out of science education” by using “knowledge of what increases student learning, based on scientifically obtained evidence, to create a continuously improving education system at all levels.”

He envisions an educational system that requires students to tackle increasingly difficult problem-solving challenges from elementary through high school. In the process, he said, students will learn to base decisions on logic and evidence, which could ultimately lead to more rational and peaceful societies.

Citing the National Science Education Standards, a set of guidelines for science education in U.S. primary and secondary schools established by the National Research Council in 1996, Alberts said students should be expected to know, use and interpret scientific explanations; generate and evaluate scientific evidence and explanations; understand the nature and development of scientific knowledge; and participate productively in scientific practices and discourse. “We should all unite around this redefinition of

science education,” he said.

Alberts offered a mixed view of current efforts to teach science to American schoolchildren. The No Child Left Behind Act required all states to conduct science assessments. “It is much easier to test for science words than for science understanding and abilities,” Alberts cautioned. “Bad tests are forcing a trivialization of science education and drive most students, including many potential scientists, away from science.” Good tests, he said, motivate good teaching and learning.

He called for creation of field sites, akin to teaching hospitals for educators, where researchers, teachers and designers work together to “observe, explain, document, replicate and evaluate practice.” He also backed teacher

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Bruce Alberts, editor-in-chief of Science magazine, says education needs to focus on improving the reasoning and communication skills of all students.

GENETICIST CALLS FOR GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT IN RESEARCH

By Franz Brotzen, Rice News Staff

Pointing to the historical impact of research and development on the U.S. economy, the leader of the effort to map human DNA told an audience at the Baker Institute that investing in science would help counter the current economic downturn.

Francis Collins, the former director of the National Human Genome Research Institute, said “the case is very strong” for such investments because “more than half of the economic growth of this country since World War II has been on the basis of science and technology and innovation.” He called President Barack Obama’s first steps to raise the profile of science “an encouraging start at a difficult time.”

Collins, along with Neal Lane, Baker Institute senior fellow in science and technology policy and the Malcolm Gillis University Professor at Rice, spoke at the Jan. 21 event titled “Mapping the Human Genome: A Dialogue on Science and Public Life.”

Collins, who has since been confirmed as the new director of the National Institutes of Health, underscored the “blurry line” of ethics while discussing biotechnical enhancements. Some, like vaccinations against childhood diseases, are not only permitted, but required. Other innovations are not so clear-cut. Collins pointed to DNA enhancements that could help reduce obesity.



From left, Baker Institute scholar and Rice assistant professor of sociology D. Michael Lindsay, Baker Institute senior fellow Neal Lane, Francis Collins (who was confirmed in August as director of the National Institutes of Health) and Baker Institute fellow Kirstin Matthews.

The same methodology could also be used to allow parents to pick their children’s gender. Collins and Lane both said they opposed reproductive human cloning.

While “there have to be other people at the table” when debating ethics, “scientists have to play a role,” Collins said. Otherwise, “the ethical conversation may go way over here into an area of application that’s completely unfeasible and miss the one over here that actually might happen next month.”

Personalized medicine, energy issues — including alternative fuels and climate change — and global health are among the major scientific concerns Collins sees coming to the fore in the next 10 years. Lane said that a greater understanding of biology may

lead to a new understanding of the nature of life.

“The pace at which medical research is advancing, and many other fields as well, and the coming together of the physical sciences (nanotechnology and biology),” Lane said, “are going to present society with challenges we probably can’t even imagine today — and these ethical challenges might come within a couple of years.”

Related Links:

Webcast: <http://www.bakerinstitute.org/events/collins>

SPACE MEDICINE, ASTRONAUT HEALTH FOCUS OF CONFERENCE

On May 14–17, 2009, the Baker Institute and Baylor College of Medicine hosted the third International Space Medicine Summit. In an interview below, Baker Botts Senior Fellow in Space Policy George Abbey discusses highlights of the three-day conference, which drew attendees from 11 countries.

The International Space Medicine Summit III (ISMS III) focused on medical and biomedical challenges associated with long-duration space flight. Why this theme?

The medical and biomedical challenges represent major obstacles that must be overcome if humans are going to spend long periods of time on the Moon and make long-duration flights to Mars and beyond. The attendees concluded that it is critical to better understand not only the radical changes that the human body undergoes when transitioning from the Earth's gravitational environment to the zero gravity environment of space over long periods of time, but also the effects on the human body when returning to Earth. Minimizing the effects of these radical changes is crucial to the survival of long-duration space travelers. The summit's attendees also concluded that solutions to these problems can best be obtained through international collaborative research and investigations.

What countries and specialties were represented at this year's conference?

During our first two ISMS conferences in 2007 and 2008, leading physicians and space biomedical scientists from around the world gathered for high-level discussions about the research needed to prevent and/or mitigate the medical and biomedical challenges that astronauts and cosmonauts face in long-duration space flight. This year, representatives from Australia, Canada, China, Costa Rica, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States attended, ensuring there was representation from all the world's spacefaring nations, with the exception of India. Attendees included astronauts, cosmonauts, program managers and directors,

doctors and biomedical researchers, engineers and scientists, educators and training personnel.

The first-time participation of the Chinese delegation brought a new dynamic to the conference and increased excitement about prospects for international collaboration. Shanguang Chen, director of the China Astronaut Research and Training Center, presented a summary of China's past, present and future space activities.

Former U.S. Secretary of State James A. Baker, III, commended the global nature of the conference in his keynote address, noting that, "International cooperation is critical to the future of manned space travel." He described

continued on page 30



Baker Botts Senior Fellow in Space Policy George Abbey, far right, addresses a panel discussion at the third International Space Medicine Summit.

NETANYAHU'S FOCUS TO REMAIN ON IRAN, ISRAELI JOURNALIST PREDICTS

By Lianne Hart, Staff Editor

The first priority of recently-elected Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is to block Iran's nuclear ambitions, award-winning journalist Nahum Barnea said during an April 16 presentation at the Baker Institute.

"From (Netanyahu's) point of view, this is the only issue that really matters," since the survival of Israel could be at stake, he said.

A nuclear-armed Iran will change the balance of power in the region, Barnea added. "We have a wild game which can end up in a war. Even an Israeli military attack

on Iran will only delay the project. It can't wipe it from the face of the Earth. We are not living in ideal times in this respect."

Israel supports U.S. President Barack Obama's plans to engage Iran on its nuclear program, but "what kind of scenarios the people in Washington" think will come from the talks is unclear, Barnea said. "Let me remind you, with North Korea you were not very successful in trying to stop the project."

Barnea, chief political columnist for the influential Israeli daily Yedioth Ahronoth, said that Netanyahu's new right-

wing coalition appears unwilling to negotiate with Syria or make territorial concessions to Palestine. "It looks like stonewalling in a way," he said. "I believe it is more than that. It's an effort to widen the room to maneuver" by lowering expectations. Netanyahu will negotiate with the Palestinians "if he must do it," Barnea added.

Related Links:

Webcast: <http://www.bakerinstitute.org/events/barnea>

EDUCATION, JOBS CRUCIAL FOR WOMEN, ACTIVIST SAYS

By Lianne Hart, Staff Editor

Women survivors of war who become self-sufficient through education and job training can be "agents of change" in their traditionally male-dominated countries, activist Zainab Salbi said during a May 8 address at the Baker Institute.

"We cannot talk about the building of strong nations, strong economies, without the inclusion of strong women," said Salbi, who in 1993 co-founded Women for Women International, which provides basic necessities while teaching literacy, vocational skills and rights awareness to women in eight countries, including Afghanistan, Bosnia and Rwanda.

But empowerment is meaningless when every day is a struggle to find food and shelter, Salbi added. "Unless we shift the discussion of women's rights from an intellectual exercise to a tangible delivery that improves and deals with daily reality, we will lose them We have to address the needs of women at the street level."

A \$27-a-month donation to her group guarantees that a woman survivor of war or other conflict "will stand on her feet in one year and move from victim to active citizen," Salbi said. The group has so far provided nearly \$32 million in direct aid and loans, and assisted 93,000 women and their families.

Without such aid, fundamentalist religious groups with the funds to feed and clothe the poor will make even greater inroads in places like the Middle East, Salbi said. "Women are not making an ideological choice, they are making a pragmatic choice We need to create and encourage an alternative that respects religion but also looks into secular activities."

The event was sponsored by the Kelly Day Endowment on the Status of Women and Human Rights in the Middle East and the Ghada Irani Discretionary Fund.

Related Links:

Webcast: <http://www.bakerinstitute.org/events/salbi>

NEW APPROACH NEEDED FOR MIDDLE EAST PEACE

By Lianne Hart, Staff Editor

After long years of failed policies, Palestinians and Israelis are no closer to peace. What is required is a change in the tone and direction of negotiations, Palestinian scholar Hanan Ashrawi told a capacity audience at the Baker Institute on March 24. A real “peace initiative” should replace the discredited “peace process,” she said.

“We need a new approach,” Ashrawi said. While the appointment of former U.S. Senator George Mitchell, the former peace negotiator in Northern Ireland, as U.S. envoy to the Middle East is a good sign, time will tell if he has the mandate and the power to make a difference, she said.

A well-known Palestinian activist and legislator, Ashrawi is the institute’s Diana Tamari Sabbagh fellow in Middle Eastern Studies. She served as the official spokesperson for the Palestinian delegation to the Madrid Peace Conference negotiations in 1991. In 1996, she was appointed minister of higher education in the Palestinian Authority. In August 2009, Ashrawi was elected to the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, making history as the first woman to hold a seat in the highest executive body in Palestine. The executive committee is headed Palestinian Authority president Mahmoud Abbas.

Ashrawi’s forthcoming Baker Institute policy paper, “The Case for Democracy in the Palestinian National Narrative,” explores



Hanan Ashrawi, the Diana Tamari Sabbagh Fellow in Middle Eastern Studies at the Baker Institute, discusses the need for change in current Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

the roots and future prospects of Palestinian democracy.

Ashrawi said that from the start, a major impediment to peace has been an “asymmetry of power, the imbalance between the occupied and occupier.”

“We always asked for accountability for Israel as an occupying power and protection for the Palestinians as people under occupation, which of course we never got,” she said. Israel acted with impunity, she contended, “building settlements, taking land” and “bomb[ing] and abduct[ing] at will.”

For its part, the United States “always brought to bear its strategic alliance with Israel,” Ashrawi said. “By no stretch of the imagination can you ever accuse the U.S. of being evenhanded when it comes to the peace process.”

“We need positive constructive engagement by a third party” to ensure Palestinian statehood is achieved, she added.

“The time has come to consider U.N. involvement. ... It’s an international responsibility. We didn’t create this mess and the Israelis and Palestinians alone cannot solve it because we’re not even.”

Ashrawi expressed concern that the possibility of a two-state solution is disappearing and called it a “major strategic shortcoming. This is something that has to be addressed seriously.”

“Solving the Palestinian question is key to solving most of the problems in the region,” she said.

Related Links:

Webcast: <http://www.bakerinstitute.org/events/ashrawi>

SETTLEMENTS, SECURITY KEY TO MIDDLE EAST PEACE

By Lianne Hart, Staff Editor

In a proposed five-part strategy for Middle East talks, Baker Institute fellow Yair Hirschfeld called for a two-state solution that ensures the security and economic well-being of Israel and Palestine and allows residents to “live in good neighborly relations side-by-side.”

“It will not be easy, but it is the only choice we have and that is what we are going to work for,” said Hirschfeld during the May 12 presentation at the Baker Institute.

Major components of the strategy include the relocation of Israeli settlements; a clear policy on dealing with groups that use violence to undermine attempts to achieve peace; a coordinated effort between countries in the region, including Egypt and Jordan, to fight nuclear and other terrorist threats from Iran; and the formulation of “bridging proposals” that draw the

strategies together and move the peace process forward.

The success of the plan will depend, in part, on support from the United States and the United Nations, Hirschfeld said. “Bilateral negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians ... are not good enough.”

Hirschfeld is the institute’s Isaac and Mildred Brochstein Fellow in Middle East Peace and Security in Honor of Yitzhak Rabin. Under the auspices of the Baker Institute Conflict Resolution program, he is also part of the institute’s Israeli-Palestinian Working Group, which is preparing a step-by-step framework to guide U.S. policymakers in fostering peace in the region.

Previous settlement talks have been hampered by three ineffective “narratives” or mindsets, Hirschfeld said. For instance, some believe that nothing can be done to solve

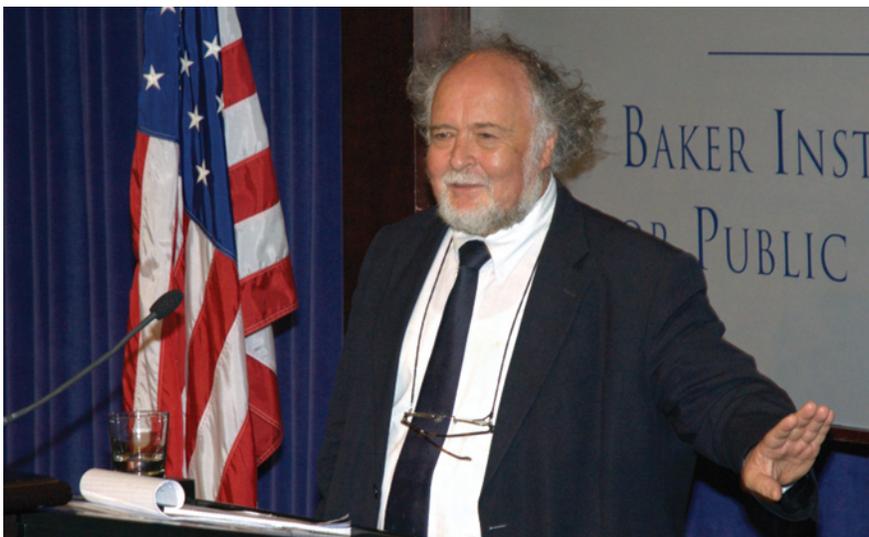
problems in the region; this is an ultimately dangerous view that can lead to new military conflict, he said. Another view is that with time, Palestine can destroy Israel. This perspective is countered by the third narrative — the Israeli belief that “we are better organized, have better politics and can fight it through all the way.”

A fourth narrative falls under the category of “opportunity,” Hirschfeld said, and is the basis of his proposal. “We can learn from mistakes and develop a strategy that can work It is a far more complex approach ... but it is the only narrative that can actually move us ahead to the future that won’t be worse than the present and the past.”

Hirschfeld is currently teaching at the University of Haifa in the Department of Middle Eastern History. In December 1992, he created the Oslo Channel and headed its Israeli team until May 1993. From 1994 to 1995, Hirschfeld was a member of the Israeli team that prepared the first Israeli-Palestinian blueprint for the permanent status agreement.

Related Links:

Webcast: <http://www.bakerinstitute.org/events/hirschfeld0509>



Yair Hirschfeld, the Isaac and Mildred Brochstein Fellow in Middle East Peace and Security in Honor of Yitzhak Rabin at the Baker Institute, discusses prospects for a two-state solution for Israel and Palestine.

LIMITED PARALLELS BETWEEN OBAMA AND FDR, HISTORIAN SAYS

By Lianne Hart, Staff Editor
Barack Obama, like Franklin Roosevelt, took office as the nation's economy crumbled, but their presidencies aren't necessarily destined to be comparable, according to historian H.W. Brands.

A key difference is that the nation's economic woes aren't as dire now as they were in the 1930s, said Brands, a University of Texas professor and the author of "A Traitor to His Class: The Privileged Life and Radical Presidency of Franklin Delano Roosevelt." He spoke at an April 17 institute luncheon moderated by Douglas Brinkley, the Baker Institute fellow in history and a professor of history at Rice University.

"Things are kind of scary at the moment, but they're not

disastrous," Brands said. "When Franklin Roosevelt became president, things were so bad everybody knew they could hardly get worse. They were willing to let Roosevelt pretty much do whatever he wanted."

In contrast to Obama so far, Brands said, Roosevelt "took a much more combative tone toward those people that he called the 'economic royalists,'" pushing for regulations that set wages, work hours and other employment terms because "he realized he had this majority behind him." Roosevelt didn't shy from class warfare, he added.

Roosevelt understood that "to get anything big done in politics, you've got to identify and isolate the enemies. You can't say, 'We're all in this together.' When you

seek consensus, nothing happens," Brands added. "For Barack Obama, I suspect this cuts against the grain of his personality."

In some respects, Obama is in a more difficult position than Roosevelt, Brands said. While Roosevelt essentially disregarded foreign policy during his first term, today, with the economy and other domestic problems to attend to, "Barack Obama might like to ignore the world, but the world won't let him get away with it."

Related Links:

Webcast: <http://www.bakerinstitute.org/events/brands>

EXPERIENCING AMERICA

Former Secretary of State James Baker, III, engaged in a question-and-answer session Jan. 13 with 41 ambassadors visiting the Baker Institute. The diplomats' visit was part of the group's "Experience America" trip, organized by the U.S. State Department's Office of the Chief of Protocol to expose foreign diplomats and their spouses to areas of the country outside of Washington, D.C. After brief welcoming remarks by Baker Institute Founding Director Edward P. Djerejian, Baker took the lectern and opened the floor to a wide array of questions from the diplomats. Most concerned the possible new direction in U.S. policies under the administration of President Barack Obama. "Experience America" trips are designed to provide concrete examples of flourishing businesses, innovative technology, experimental health care and cutting-edge environmental practices.



DIPLOMATS' SPOUSES DISCUSS LIFE ABROAD



Françoise Djerejian (left), wife of Baker Institute founding director Ambassador Edward P. Djerejian, and Diana Untermeyer (right), wife of Ambassador Chase Untermeyer, flank moderator Alan Crain, senior vice president and general counsel of Baker Hughes Inc. Mrs. Djerejian and Mrs. Untermeyer spoke about the crucial role a spouse can play in the conduct of diplomacy.

Whether she — along with her husband, who is the U.S. president's personal representative in a foreign country — is an interlocutor in important bilateral discussions, lifts the morale of Americans abroad or raises their children in a sometimes-hostile environment, the role of a U.S. ambassador's spouse is crucial, challenging and ultimately rewarding, two former ambassadors concluded during a program at the Baker Institute on April 21.

Baker Hughes senior vice president and general counsel

continued on page 30

FORMER U.S. ARMY INTERROGATOR RECOUNTS HIS SEARCH FOR SADDAM HUSSEIN

By Derrick Huang, Editorial Associate
Former U.S. Army staff sergeant Eric Maddox is proof that ordinary citizens can alter the course of history.

Maddox chronicled his involvement in Saddam Hussein's December 2003 capture to members of the Houston and Rice University community at the Baker Institute on April 6, 2009. The full story is told in Maddox's book "Mission: Black List #1."

Currently a civilian working for the U.S. Department of Defense, Maddox was a U.S. Army staff sergeant assigned in 2003 as an interrogator in Iraq. He was eventually detailed to Tikrit,

Saddam's hometown. Instead of targeting the Army's "wanted" lists, Maddox sought to learn more about the social circles of insurgent leaders.

The people we questioned "weren't 'wanted' (but) they had knowledge," he recalled. Through these informants, Maddox identified those closest to Saddam, who eventually led the U.S. Army to the ousted Iraqi leader.

Related Links:

Webcast: <http://www.bakerinstitute.org/events/maddox>



Former U.S. Army Staff Sergeant Eric Maddox, author of "Mission: Black List #1," discusses the capture of Saddam Hussein.

RELIGIOUS ENGAGEMENT KEY TO COUNTERING POLITICAL EXTREMISM, EXPERT SAYS

By Franz Brotzen, Rice News Staff

Religion can help mediate and end conflicts that are resistant to traditional diplomacy, national security expert Douglas Johnston argued during an April 8 lecture at the Baker Institute.

Johnston, the founder of the International Center for Religion and Diplomacy (ICRD), recounted his experiences negotiating with militants using what he called “faith-based diplomacy.” The strategy incorporates “religious considerations into the practice of international politics” and makes “religion part of the solution in these intractable, identity-based conflicts,” he said.

Johnston’s group has been involved in negotiations in Sudan,

Kashmir, Iran and Afghanistan. He has also spent considerable time trying to reform Pakistan’s madrassas, some of which are accused of instilling extremist views in their pupils. His approach is to try to reach agreement with the madrassa leaders on religious concepts they may share and work from there to build trust. For example, as a Christian, he said, he and his hosts believe in the God of Abraham. With his indigenous partners, Johnston said he was able to make strides in convincing some of the most militant Pakistanis that their anger toward the West was politically, rather than religiously, motivated.

“You can look in the holy scriptures of just about any

religion,” Johnston said, “and you can find seeming justification for violence. Or you can look hard and find that really overwhelming those kinds of passages — this is true of the Bible as well — it’s really about peace.”

Johnston acknowledged the dangers he and his colleagues have faced. Some of his colleagues have been killed over the years, he said. Despite the risks, “I think the stakes are simply too high for us not to give it our best shot,” he said.

Related Links:

Webcast: <http://www.bakerinstitute.org/events/johnston>



DOCUMENTARY SCREENING

Calvin Skaggs, president of Lumiere Productions Inc. and film director, screened his documentary “Religious Right at the Crossroads” at the Baker Institute on Jan. 15, followed by a question-and-answer session. The documentary “Religious Right at the Crossroads” allows viewers to experience the religious right’s dilemma and to get an inside view of the McCain and Obama campaign workers who were dedicated to faith outreach. The documentary also shows how younger evangelical Christians are reshaping the movement’s political and cultural commitments while providing a glimpse into the future of the religious right movement and its progressive evangelical adversaries. Skaggs has produced or directed more than 30 dramas and documentaries for television and theatrical exhibition. He has produced major documentary series for the Public Broadcasting Service, as well as numerous films for Discovery Communications, LLC; Home Box Office, Inc. (HBO); and Channel 4 U.K.

EVANGELICAL LEADER WANTS CHRISTIANS TO LEAD ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

By Franz Brotzen, Rice News Staff
Evangelical Christians should take a leadership role in protecting the planet, religious leader Richard Cizik told an audience at the Baker Institute on Feb. 24.

Cizik, the former vice president for governmental affairs for the National Association of Evangelicals (NAE), backs a concept called “Creation Care,” which is rooted in biblical injunctions to prevent activities that are harmful to the Earth and its inhabitants. “From Genesis to Revelation, there is this admonition,” he said, “to care [for] and protect” the Earth.

Cizik’s stand has sparked debate within the evangelical community. He was forced to step down from his position at the NAE last year after making comments on civil unions for same-sex couples and abortion.

Nonetheless, Cizik remained outspoken in his criticism of the evangelical hierarchy, telling the Baker Institute audience, “The failures of the religious right to have a broad agenda of concern that includes the Earth” are “manifestly apparent.”

Evangelicals must “cast a vision” for what the religious community

should be doing and then develop a strategy for doing it, he said.

Cizik expressed optimism that younger evangelicals are more comfortable with the broader agenda he espouses. Leadership, he said, “is about creating a climate — no pun intended — where the truth is heard and the brutal facts are confronted.”

FIRST PERSON: SCHOLAR’S NEWSPAPER COMMENTARY PROMPTS LEGISLATIVE INVITATION

By William Martin, Harry and Hazel Chavanne Senior Fellow in Religion and Public Policy

For the past three sessions of the Texas Legislature, I have written and lobbied in support of bills allowing local jurisdictions to operate or permit needle exchange programs, which reliably reduce the spread of blood-borne diseases such as HIV/AIDS and hepatitis C among injecting drug users.

To help counter opposition to such programs by religious conservatives, I wrote an op-ed piece for *The Houston Chronicle*, contending that — using Jesus’ treatment of outcasts as an example — religious people could support

needle exchange programs in good conscience. Shortly afterward, I was invited to help organize a panel of religious leaders to testify in favor of the bill. When I introduced myself at the session, the committee chair, Rep. Lois Kolkhorst, R-Brenham, asked if I had written the *Chronicle* article. When I said that I had, she said, “That’s the reason we are having this session.”

The committee subsequently sent the bill forward with a strong positive vote. Unfortunately, needle exchange fell victim to the peculiar rules of the Texas Legislature, which ends its session on a given date rather than when it gets its work done. But it seems

quite likely that we have the votes to approve the measure in 2011. Many other people, within the legislature itself and from public interest organizations, worked on this issue. But I was told by several closely involved people that having someone from the Baker Institute support this legislation was regarded as significant.

Related Links:

William Martin’s April 5, 2009, op-ed “Creating needle-exchange programs would be the Christian thing to do”: <http://www.bakerinstitute.org/oped/needles0409>

MEET THE SCHOLAR: ERIKA DE LA GARZA



Erika de la Garza is the program director of the Latin American Initiative at the Baker Institute. She is interested in U.S.-Latin American relations; emerging leadership; coalition building; and trade and business development. De la Garza holds a master's degree in international affairs from Columbia University and a master's degree in diplomacy from the University of Costa Rica.

What is the Latin American Initiative (LAI)?

The LAI seeks to foster a better understanding of the cultures, economies, histories and contemporary affairs of Latin America with three programs: the U.S.-Mexico Border Program, which focuses on economic development, security and migration issues; the Americas Project, which, with the Organization of American States, brings together young leaders from the Americas to discuss key policy issues; and the Vecinos Lecture Series, which brings distinguished speakers to lecture on topics vital to Latin America.

What was the impetus for LAI?

Latin America is extremely important to the United States. We wanted to offer a space that brings together leading stakeholders from the government, the private sector, academia and civil society to exchange views. Texas' shared border with Mexico leads to discussions on migration, trade and commerce, policy and a common history. Houston is home to one of the largest Hispanic populations in the United States, and our business interests often overlap with those in Latin America — for example, oil and gas.

Describe some recent projects and programs.

We have just completed a major research project on the U.S.-Mexico border, including a policy report with findings from nine commissioned research papers on border security, economic development and migration. The “Developing the U.S.-Mexico Border Region for a Prosperous and Secure Relationship” project aims to provide policymakers with more coordinated approaches to forging stronger U.S.-Mexico relations.

Additionally, the Americas Project held its annual colloquium. Fellows from 15 different countries discussed the challenges of urban migration, including affordable housing and public education. The LAI also held its first conference on the politics of Latin American energy policies, in conjunction with the institute's Energy Forum (see page 5).

What's on the LAI calendar for the 2009–2010 academic year?

In collaboration with the institute's Drug Policy Program and The University of Texas at El Paso, we will hold a conference on the 40-year-old “War on Drugs,” with discussions on topics such as drug-related violence, the effects of imprisonment and alternative strategies. This year's Americas Project will bring together young leaders to discuss peace and stability in the Americas given the current political and economic conditions, which include 200 million people living in poverty. We are also finalizing our guest list for the Vecinos Lecture Series.

What are your long-term goals for the LAI?

We would like to recruit a fellow in Latin American studies and implement a visitors program so that young Latin American leaders come here to learn about policy formulation. Finally, I'd like to see the institute hold events and programs in Latin America.

Related Links:

Latin American Initiative:
<http://www.bakerinstitute.org/LAI>

U.S.-Mexico Border Program research:
<http://www.bakerinstitute.org/programs/u-s-mexico-border-program>

Recent Americas Project newsletters in English and Spanish: <http://www.bakerinstitute.org/programs/the-americas-project/newsletters.cfm>

PANEL ANALYZES BUDGET DEFICIT

By Franz Brotzen, *Rice News Staff*

A panel of economic analysts raised an alarm over the growing federal budget deficit, saying it poses a moral as well as financial threat. The analysts, part of the nonpartisan Concord Coalition's Fiscal Wake-up Tour, spoke Jan. 29 at the Baker Institute.

Robert Bixby, executive director of the national grassroots coalition dedicated to eliminating the federal deficit, said the budget is a "statement of our national priorities," reflecting a "vision of how we see our place in the world ... and the opportunities we would like to see for future generations."

"We're at a critical crossroads in our country," argued David Walker, former comptroller general of the United States, noting that the nation's debt is expected to rise to \$56 trillion dollars.

Brian Riedl, lead budget analyst at The Heritage Foundation, said that with an estimated 77 million baby boomers set to retire in coming years, "entitlement reform

is really the only option for digging us out of our financial hole." Are we ready, he asked, "to hand a multitrillion-dollar retirement bill over to the next generation?"

Will Marshall, president of the Progressive Policy Institute, called for "mechanisms that will begin to impose fiscal discipline once the economy starts to recover."

The problem of huge budget deficits "affects everybody's interests," Bixby said, because they represent a horrendous debt burden for future generations while limiting the possibility of lower taxes and investment in education or infrastructure.

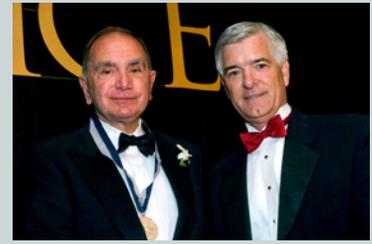
The event was sponsored by the institute's Tax and Expenditure Policy program.

Related Links:

Webcast: <http://www.bakerinstitute.org/events/fiscaltour>

Fiscal Wake-up Tour:

<http://www.concordcoalition.org/act/fiscal-wake-tour>



DJEREJIAN, LANE HONORED BY RICE ALUMNI

Edward P. Djerejian, founding director of the Baker Institute, and Neal Lane, the institute's senior fellow in science and technology policy, have each received the Association of Rice Alumni Gold Medal, the organization's highest honor.

Under Djerejian's leadership, the Baker Institute has succeeded "beyond the highest expectations," Rice president David Leebron noted at the May 2009 awards dinner.

Lane was lauded for his leadership and continuing efforts to advance and promote science and technology, as well as his service to Rice as a provost, faculty leader and professor.

Djerejian (above) and Lane (below) stand with Robert Taylor of the Association of Rice Alumni.



Tax Policy Fellow John W. Diamond, left, speaks on a panel of fiscal analysts about the growing federal budget deficit, and the implications for the country.

LESSONS FROM HURRICANE IKE: THE CHALLENGES OF BUREAUCRACY AND RECOVERY

By Franz Brotzen, Rice News Staff

The mayors of Houston and Galveston say much has been learned from the devastation caused by Hurricane Ike, but bureaucratic obstacles remain a challenge to the region's recovery.

At a March 11 panel discussion, Houston Mayor Bill White said that the storm demonstrated the need to fortify facilities and infrastructure, including the electricity grid, as well as to trim trees to avoid power outages. He also applauded the city's zip-code-based evacuation and evacuation of people with special needs during Ike — efforts that showed considerable improvement from Hurricane Rita in 2005.

But White decried the plodding disbursement of government funds to deal with the disaster — a sentiment shared by Galveston Mayor Lyda Ann Thomas. She blamed bureaucratic inertia for delays in promised payments for tents, food, portable toilets and other facilities.

Thomas also recalled the frustration in dealing with state and federal officials with different priorities. She said that the Texas Department of Transportation did not allow Galveston to remove debris from major thoroughfares, and it took three months to get them cleared.

Galveston had buses ready to evacuate people who rely on public transportation, she said, but the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) did not. "FEMA



Galveston Mayor Lyda Ann Thomas, Houston Mayor Bill White and Baker Institute founding director Ambassador Edward P. Djerejian at an event discussing the lessons learned following the devastation of Hurricane Ike.

needs to have prearranged contracts prior to these storms," Thomas said.

The panel discussion, titled "Life After Ike: The Future of Houston and Galveston," was co-sponsored by Texas Monthly and the Baker Institute. Paul Burka, senior executive editor of Texas Monthly, and Joan Neuhaus Schaan, fellow in homeland security and terrorism at the Baker Institute, also participated in the discussion.

Neuhaus Schaan, who has served as the executive director of the Houston-Harris County Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council since 2004, underscored improved coordination between local authorities, regional officials and first responders — a product of lessons learned from earlier hurricanes. She also praised cooperation from the

private sector, particularly the Red Cross, whose efforts she said were "critical" after Ike.

Burka, a Galveston native, said that Ike, a Category 2 storm, showed that the seawall (built after the 1900 storm that killed an estimated 6,000 people) can only provide limited protection. He also questioned whether Texas has the political will to deal with the effects of future storms. Setting aside large amounts of money to pay for hurricane cleanup may not be so appealing to a legislator from Amarillo, he noted.

Related Links:

Webcast: <http://www.bakerinstitute.org/events/afterike>

FOUNDING DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL ROUNDTABLE DINNER

By Starr Dickerson, Development Coordinator

The Baker Institute hosted its annual Director's Dinner for Partner-, Diplomat- and Ambassador-level Roundtable members on May 4. During an informal question-and-answer session, Ambassador Edward P. Djerejian, the institute's founding director, addressed a wide range of policy-related issues including health care reform, border security, conflict resolution and the challenges faced by the Obama administration. This marked the first year Ambassador-level members of our Associate Roundtable, the institute's premier membership group for young Houston professionals, were also included in the invitation-only dinner.

Founded in 1997, the Baker Institute Roundtable has grown

to approximately 800 members. "The Roundtable's role is to foster community engagement in some of the most pressing public policy challenges of our time," says Roundtable chair Beth Robertson. "Its members get to experience, firsthand, the presence and impact of world leaders, national decision makers and leading researchers in some of the most important areas of public debate."

If you are interested in joining the Roundtable or participating in a policy-specific focus group, please call 713.348.8087. Special membership rates are available for policy- and leadership-minded Houstonians ages 20 to 40.

Related Links:

Membership information:

<http://www.bakerinstitute.org/support/roundtable>



From left, Betty Cabaniss, Florence Hargrove Ray, Roundtable chair Beth Robertson, and Marion Hargrove, attend the annual Roundtable dinner. The event included an informal question-and-answer session with Ambassador Edward P. Djerejian, the institute's founding director, on policy-related issues including health care reform and border security.

THE BAKER INSTITUTE ACKNOWLEDGES 2009 AMBASSADOR-LEVEL ROUNDTABLE SUPPORTERS

Mrs. Nancy Crow Allen

The Honorable Hushang Ansary and Mrs. Ansary

The Honorable James A. Baker, III, and Mrs. Baker

Mr. and Mrs. E. William Barnett

Dr. and Mrs. F.T. Barr

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Brochstein

Mr. Charles Butt

Mr. and Mrs. John T. Cabaniss

Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Cheng

Mr. and Mrs. James Crownover

Mrs. Linnet F. Deily

Mr. Art Dula

Ms. Meg Goodman and Mr. Mike Bonini

Ms. Jeanie Kilroy

Mr. and Mrs. Lucian Morrison

Ms. Nancy Brown Negley

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Randall, III

Ms. Beth Robertson

Mr. and Mrs. Clive Runnells

Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Sarofim

To enquire about program support at the Baker Institute, or enquire about Roundtable membership at the Baker Institute, please contact Starr Dickerson, development coordinator, at 713.348.8087.

BAKER INSTITUTE INTERNS GO GLOBAL

By *Steven W. Lewis, Fellow in Asian Studies and Jesse Jones Leadership Center Summer Intern Program Coordinator*

More than two dozen Rice students experienced public policy on a national and global scale this summer as part of Baker Institute internship programs in Washington, D.C., Africa and, for the first time, France and Belgium.

Thanks to the Jesse Jones Leadership Center Summer in D.C. Policy Research Internship Program, seven students assisted research at prestigious think tanks and government agencies in the nation's capital. In this sixth year of the program, students also participated in policy seminars led by Baker Institute fellow Steven Lewis and prepared an original research project.

Five students headed for Africa as part of the Lesotho Sustainability Assessment Project, an ongoing effort to work with the local communities to identify challenges to sustainable development through survey assessments, and to design and implement small-scale solutions that can be adopted and maintained locally. The project is sponsored by the Baker Institute Energy Forum and by Rice 360°: Institute for Global Health Technologies.

And, as part of a new arrangement with the French Institute of International Relations (IFRI), three students researched policy in France, and a fourth student in Belgium.

All interns were nominated by Baker Institute and Rice faculty on the basis of their accomplishments and potential. A list of interns, their current class years and their summer internships follows.

Washington, D.C.:

Fiona Adams, a senior from

Pittsford, N.Y., majoring in anthropology and policy, studied the impact of low levels of health insurance coverage for children with Embry Howell of the Health Policy Center of the Urban Institute. Fiona was recommended by Rice political science professor Karoline Mortensen.



Rice University interns in the joint Energy Forum-Rice 360° internship worked with volunteers in Lesotho to build gardens that conserve water and maximize yields. Pictured above with local participants are interns Kelley Liao (third from left) and Mark Hoffman (fourth from right), and Eugenia Georges (third from right), a professor and chair of the Rice Department of Anthropology.



Rice students participating in the 2009 Jesse Jones Leadership Center Summer in D.C. Policy Research Internship Program gather outside of the National Archives and Navy Memorial. Left to right: Jingyuan Luo, Rachel Solnick, Fiona Adams, Cort Malmberg, Kara Calhoun, Sean Graham and Devin Glick.

Kara Calhoun, a junior from Tyler, Texas, majoring in anthropology and health care management, assisted Molly Singer of the National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems in looking at public health care policies. Kara was recommended by Baker Institute fellow Kirstin Matthews.

Devin Glick, a sophomore from Houston, Texas, majoring

in economics, policy studies and political science, researched civil rights in the workplace with Deena Fidas of the Human Rights Campaign's Workplace Project. Devin was recommended by Baker Institute fellow Amy Myers Jaffe.

Sean Graham, a senior from Corpus Christi, Texas, majoring in cognitive science, analyzed defense security policy issues with Joseph Trevithick and John Pike

of Globalsecurity.org. Sean was recommended by Baker Institute fellow Chris Bronk.

Jingyuan Luo, a senior from Chandler, Ariz., majoring in biochemistry and policy studies, assisted researchers Alan Tessier and Rita Teutonico in looking at policies on the environmental impact of nanotechnology at the

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BAKER INSTITUTE STUDENT FORUM EXAMINES LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

By Franz Brotzen, Rice News Staff

The Baker Institute Student Forum focused on global and national issues during the spring semester of 2009. Key events included a lecture by a former presidential hopeful and a panel discussion on genocide and ethnic conflict.

More than 200 students attended a Feb. 5 address by U.S. Rep. Ron Paul, R-Texas, about his experiences in politics. The two-time presidential aspirant's campaigns have put the spotlight on his ideas, particularly his focus on limited government, opposition to the war in Iraq and advocacy for a return to a commodity-backed currency. During his remarks, Paul expressed optimism for the current generation of students. He said his experience with students during his 2008 presidential campaign gave him hope that the United States can emerge from its current problems.

Theories of ethnic conflict and historical case studies were



Rice University Professors Michael Emerson and Gale Stokes sit with Mary Lee Webeck, director of education at the Holocaust Museum Houston, are introduced by members of the Baker Institute Student Forum during a panel discussion about ethnic conflict. At the podium, from left, are Rice University students Katherine Gomer '09 and Sarah Nouri '10.

the focus of a March 31 panel consisting of Mary Lee Webeck, director of education at Holocaust Museum Houston; Michael Emerson, Allyn and Gladys Cline Professor of Sociology at Rice University; and Gale Stokes, Mary Gibbs Jones Professor Emeritus of History at Rice.

The panelists provided students with an understanding of the role of the media and nongovernmental organizations in encouraging

governments to take action in conflicts. The panelists also discussed reasons why governments intervene in certain conflicts and not others, and why ethnic disputes erupt in violence.

Related Links:

Webcast: <http://www.bakerinstitute.org/events/ronpaul>



DEFENDING FRIENDSHIP

Richard J. Arneson, a philosophy professor at the University of California, San Diego, discusses the concept of friendship at a March 26 lecture at the Baker Institute. The event, titled "Ethics, Politics and Society: Friendship and Partiality" examined the limitations of friendship and how the notion itself reconciles with morality, which requires impartial concern for all. If putting a thumb on the scale in favor of one's friends and family members is acceptable in some contexts, what about partiality to fellow members of one's own community, nation, ethnic or racial group? "Being a friend involves the disposition to give greater weight to the good of one's friend than to the good of non-friends," Arneson told the audience. The event was part of the 2008–2009 Ethics, Politics and Society series, which is co-sponsored by the Baker Institute.

INTERNS

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National Science Foundation. Jingyuan was recommended by Rice professor of kinesiology Nick Iammarino.

Cort Malmberg, a senior from Kodiak, Alaska, majoring in English and political science, worked with Bryan Marcus of the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs of the State Department in analyzing affairs in Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus. Cort was recommended by Rice professor of political science Jerrold Rusk.

Rachel Solnick, a senior from Potomac, Md., majoring in film, policy studies and psychology, assisted Barbara A. Ormond of the Health Policy Center of the Urban Institute in looking at local health care coverage systems in the United States. Rachel was recommended

for the program by Rice professor in biochemistry Michael Gustin.

France:

Everette Kreider, a senior from Helotes, Texas, majoring in political science, studied "Africa and the Changing World of Conflict."

Claire Newman, a senior from Sugar Land, Texas, majoring in English and policy studies, focused on "The Middle East and Maghreb."

Ruchir Shah, a sophomore from Barrington, R.I., majoring in energy studies, studied "European Governance and Geopolitics of Energy."

Belgium:

Joyce Yao, a senior from Taipei, Taiwan, majoring in history and political science, studied "European Governance and Geopolitics of Energy."

Lesotho:

Marielle Schweickart, a sophomore from Seattle, Wash., majoring in social sciences, and **Margaret Murphy**, a senior from Chicago, Ill., majoring in civil engineering, coordinated the building of rainwater catchment systems for garden irrigation.

Mark Hoffman, a junior from Austin, Texas, majoring in civil engineering, and **Kelley Liao**, a senior from Houston, Texas, majoring in ecology and evolutionary biology and earth science, focused on sustainable urban homestead gardening practices.

Amanda Hu, senior from Seattle, Wash., majoring in psychology, installed roof insulation at a primary school to promote a healthy learning environment and energy efficiency.

GERMANY

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of history Douglas Brinkley will moderate the panel discussion.

The academic conference will examine the reunification process from a public policy perspective and use hindsight to evaluate the consequences of those decisions. Invited guests include Ingrid Matthäus-Maier, former deputy

speaker of the Social Democratic Party of Germany and advocate of monetary union in 1989–1990; Ulrich Preuss, a jurist who was part of the committee that drafted a constitution for the reunited Germany; and Marianne Birthler, an East German dissident and currently federal commissioner for the records of the State Security Service of the former German Democratic Republic.

“The purpose of the conference

will be to look at the expectations going into the process of reunification and see how those expectations squared with the outcomes,” said Peter Caldwell, a history professor at Rice, who is helping organize the conference. “We want to grasp what these people were facing and how they came to their decisions.”

CHINA

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event, titled “America and China: The Next 30 Years.”

“Our two countries are partners in cooperation,” Zhou told the capacity crowd, “not strategic rivals.” U.S.-Chinese cooperation, he went on, “is good for China, it is good for the United States, it is also good for the Asia/Pacific region and the rest of the world.”

Baker urged both countries to concentrate on areas where their interests converge — stability in the Middle East, strategic arms control, global climate change, energy security and the overall world economic order — and to avoid protectionism and other inward policies.

Kissinger said the current economic crisis “can only be solved cooperatively. And it can only be solved cooperatively if the United States and China work together closely and trustingly and with a long-term point of view.”

Reflecting recent comments from the Chinese government on the origin of the worldwide

recession, Zhou sought to emphasize the international response needed to combat it. “The fact that the current economic and financial crisis started in one country and spread to every corner of the world,” he said, “highlighted the reality of a global village.”

The conference was the fourth since 2004 held by the Baker Institute and the Shanghai Institutes for International Studies (SIIS). SIIS President Yang Jiemian brought a delegation of five scholars to present research at the conference. In the summer of 2010, Ambassador Edward Djerejian, founding director of the Baker Institute, will lead a group of Baker Institute and Rice scholars to Shanghai. Discussions will focus on relations between the United States, China and the Middle East.

In his welcoming remarks, Rice University President David Leebron noted that normalization of relations with the United States came halfway through the People’s Republic of China’s 60-year history, making it an appropriate time “to pause and reflect on the past and also think on how to move forward in the future.”

Kissinger, who played an important role in the negotiations that led to the establishment of U.S.-Chinese diplomatic relations, recounted the intricate diplomacy under the Nixon administration that resulted in the 1979 normalization during the Carter administration.

“In the ’70s, our relationship was based primarily on the attempt to achieve a strategic balance with the Soviet Union,” he explained. “In the ’80s, China began its reconstruction, but the Soviet Union was still an important factor. In the ’90s, the Soviet Union collapsed, and China began to become a powerful economic factor in the world.”

Participants included Baker Institute fellows Joe Barnes, Amy Myers Jaffe and Steve Lewis; SIIS scholars Li Weijian, Wu Chunsi and Ye Qing; Princeton scholar Daniel Kurtzer; and Brookings Institution fellow Kenneth Lieberthal.

Related Links:

Conference webcast: <http://bakerinstitute.org/events/uschina30>

SCIENCE

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empowerment. “Our best science teachers need to have more influence on the education system,” he said, from school districts to the state and federal government.

SPACE MEDICINE

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collaborations with Russia, China, Japan, the European Union and “all countries committed to the peaceful exploration of space” as crucial. Baker also noted that “this summit is dedicated to broadening and deepening that cooperation in ways that advance knowledge and inspire the human imagination.”

SPOUSES

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Alan Crain deftly moderated the discussion, alternating serious and lighter questions, thereby engaging an audience of approximately 120, whose participation during the question-and-answer session brought forth more candid perspectives from the panelists.

The event highlighted the contrast between career diplomats and political appointees who end up with the rank of ambassador without having had to climb the Foreign Service ladder, but rather have had to prove their loyalty to a party or a candidate.

Diana Untermeyer, whose husband was ambassador to Qatar from 2004 to 2007, remarked, “It can be an unbelievably enriching

Alberts’ lecture was hosted by the Baker Institute Science and Technology Policy Program and is part of its Civic Scientist Lecture Series funded by Marathon Oil Corporation. The series highlights scientists and engineers who have moved beyond the lab to influence public policy.

Are there any policy recommendations you would make based on this year’s meeting?

The summit inspired a number of policy recommendations. The International Space Station needs to be enhanced, extended and supported by the Space Shuttle program. International life science

experience.” An accomplished equestrian, Mrs. Untermeyer rapidly became a familiar sight at riding events in Qatar. “My involvement with horses brought us into contact with many in the country; Chase called it ‘equine diplomacy,’” she remarked.

Françoise Djerejian, who accompanied her husband, veteran U.S. diplomat Ambassador Edward P. Djerejian, to assignments in Morocco, France, the Soviet Union, Jordan, Syria and Israel, recalled with emotion an anecdote Secretary of State George Shultz told the Djerejians and a small group of ambassadors and their spouses on the eve of their departure to their respective assignments. Shultz

Related Links:

Webcast: <http://www.bakerinstitute.org/events/alberts>

cooperation should be pursued. The exploration program needs to be re-evaluated and refocused into a program based on international cooperation, building upon the success of the space station as a foundation, and international collaboration should be extended to include China as a partner.

recounted having asked every new ambassador to step over to a large globe and point to his country. Invariably, the ambassador would point to his country of assignment. There was one exception: U.S. Sen. Mike Mansfield, who had been appointed ambassador to Japan, put his hand over the United States and said “This, Mr. Secretary, is my country.” That was a valuable lesson that the Djerejians always kept in mind during their ambassadorial assignments.

Both women cautioned that despite the hardships of diplomatic life, there are many wonderful memories, the strongest of which is having had the privilege to serve one’s country.

BAKER INSTITUTE IN THE NEWS

Compiled using Dateline Rice, these are highlighted interviews given by the Baker Institute fellows between Jan. 1, 2009, and Aug. 12, 2009.

George W.S. Abbey

- July 27: Quoted in a KRIV-TV story on Rice professor James Tour's work to create educational video games.
- July 24: Interviewed on BBC Radio about the 40th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing.
- Feb. 3: Quoted in a Houston Chronicle article on an institute study suggesting that NASA refocus the scope of its efforts. Neal Lane was also quoted.
- Jan. 15: Quoted in a KTRH story on the legacy of President George W. Bush's plans to expand space exploration.

Joe Barnes

- April 29: Mentioned in a Tribune (Canada) op-ed on oil and gas development in Canada and the northeast United States.
- April 20: Wrote a Houston Chronicle op-ed on America's foreign policy and the financial crisis.
- March 20: Quoted in a New Brunswick Business Journal article on the potential of the city to be a Northeast energy hub.

Douglas Brinkley, Ph.D.

- Aug. 11: Interviewed on "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart"

about the legacy of Theodore Roosevelt.

- Aug. 10: The New York Times reviewed his book "The Wilderness Warrior: Theodore Roosevelt and the Crusade for America."
- July 21: Mentioned in a Bloomberg.com article examining Obama's policies six months into his first term.
- July 20: Quoted in a San Francisco Chronicle article remembering Walter Cronkite.
- May 28: Interviewed on Fox News about the nomination of Sonia Sotomayor for the U.S. Supreme Court.
- Feb. 20: Appeared on "Hardball with Chris Matthews" discussing the Historians' Survey of Presidential Leadership.
- Jan. 5: Quoted in Boston Globe and Washington Post articles on the last days of Bush's presidency.

Christopher Bronk, Ph.D.

- July 30: Quoted in a New York Post article on the Internet attacks on South Korean and U.S. government Web sites.
- July 23: Authored an op-ed for Federal Computer Week that recommends the outsourcing of e-mail servers.
- July 16: Authored an op-ed for Federal Computing Week on the increase in "netbook" use.
- July 7: Co-authored a Houston Chronicle op-ed on ways to turn NASA into a prototypical 21st century organization.

- June 15: Co-authored a Houston Chronicle op-ed calling for the creation of a government agency to protect America's communications networks from attack.
- May 4: Co-wrote, with Ken Medlock, a Houston Chronicle op-ed on America's vulnerabilities to hackers.
- Jan. 23: Quoted in an ACM TechNews article on software developed to identify terrorist groups.

Erika de la Garza

- July 20: Co-authored a Houston Chronicle op-ed on the ousting of Honduran President Manuel Zelaya.
- June 1: Quoted on CBS Radio's "World News Roundup" on U.S. and Mexican efforts to stem drug cartel violence.
- April 29: Quoted in a KXLN-TV story on the swine flu outbreak.
- April 15: Quoted in a Voice of America News article on Obama's visit to Mexico City to meet with President Felipe Calderón.

John W. Diamond, Ph.D.

- June 8: Quoted in a Reuters article discussing the effect of the economic crisis on the 2010 midterm elections.
- May 11: Quoted in a Houston Chronicle article on controversy over Tax Increment Reinvestment Zones in Galveston.

- April 15: Quoted in a KTRH.com story on the likelihood that the economy will worsen before it improves.
- Feb. 23: Quoted in a Globe and Mail article discussing the possible effects of nationalizing Bank of America and CitiGroup.
- Feb. 11: Quoted in a KRIV-TV story on the Obama administration's efforts to stop the economic decline in America.
- Feb. 5: Quoted in a KTRH.com article on the "buy American" clause in the Senate's economic stimulus bill.

Edward P. Djerejian

- Aug. 11: Wrote an op-ed for The Wall Street Journal encouraging direct dialogue between the United States and Syria.
- June 15: Quoted on KHOU-TV about Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's call for an independent Palestinian state.
- May 28: Quoted in a Newsweek article on challenges facing White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel.
- April 3: Quoted in an ABCNews.com article on challenges facing President Barack Obama to create peace between Israelis and Palestinians.
- March 13: Quoted in a Today's Zaman article on Obama's upcoming trip to Turkey.
- Feb. 2: Quoted in a McClatchy News Service article on the impact of Obama's interview

with Al-Arabiya Television.

- Jan. 5: Interviewed on NPR and CNN on the Israeli-Gaza conflict.

Vivian Ho, Ph.D.

- July 28: Quoted in a KTRK-TV story on health care reform.
- July 21: Wrote a Houston Chronicle op-ed on the health care reform bill currently under debate in Washington, D.C.
- June 19: Wrote a Houston Chronicle op-ed on research that indicates providing uninsured children with health insurance coverage would yield substantial economic benefits.
- June 19: Featured on Futurity.org, which promotes "Breaking News from the Future," about children's health care.
- April 29: Interviewed on KTRH-AM and KTSU-AM on the swine flu outbreak.
- April 3: Quoted in a KRIV Channel 26 report on why women pay higher health-insurance premiums.
- Jan. 26: Quoted in a redOrbit.com article on research that states that dropped regulations overseeing the performance of two common heart procedures showed no increase in death rates.

Amy Myers Jaffe

- August 11: Quoted in a Financial Times article on the debate over a pipeline that would carry fuel from Canada to the United States.
- July 1: Quoted in a San Francisco Chronicle article reporting that oil company

Chevron has withdrawn from the Iraqi oil field auctions.

- June 2: Interviewed by Reuters on the effect the Federal Reserve's monetary policy has on surging crude oil prices.
- June 1: Quoted in a Dallas Morning News article on Texas' resistance to the Obama administration's green energy policies.
- May 20: Quoted in a Forbes.com article on Iraq's efforts to restore the country's oil production capacity.
- March 30: Quoted in a New York Times article on the effect of lower oil prices on the major oil companies and oil-producing nations.
- Jan. 20: Co-wrote a Houston Chronicle editorial proposing higher gasoline taxes to foster long-term health of the economy.

Neal Lane, Ph.D.

- Aug. 10: Quoted in an Associated Press article on the financial costs of the Large Hadron Collider.
- April 23: Quoted in a New York Times article on issues facing NASA as the deadline for the space shuttle's retirement looms.
- April 10: Wrote an op-ed for Science magazine offering advice on implementing science policy to Obama and Science Adviser John Holdren.
- April 3: Featured on PhysicsToday.com for receiving the 2009 Karl T. Compton Medal for Leadership in Physics.

- March 6: Quoted in a PBS.org article discussing state opposition to the lifting of federal restrictions on stem cell research.
- Jan. 26: Featured in Houston Business Journal for receiving this year's National Academy of Science Public Welfare Medal.
- Jan. 23: Co-wrote a ScienceProgress.org op-ed urging more funding for scientific research.

Steven W. Lewis, Ph.D.

- June 25: Quoted in a Globe and Mail (Canada) article on Chinese interest in foreign oil rights.
- March 25: Quoted in a Houston Chronicle article on Continental Airline's new service to Shanghai.
- Feb. 18: Quoted in a Forbes article on ethical issues facing investors in Chinese ventures.

William Martin, Ph.D.

- July 17: Quoted in a German-language DomRadio.de article on American evangelist Billy Graham.
- April 21: Quoted on NPR's "All Things Considered" about the possible legalization of marijuana.
- March 6: Wrote a Houston Chronicle op-ed urging the creation of a needle-exchange program in Texas.
- Jan. 21: Quoted in a Wall Street Journal article discussing the invocation delivered by Pastor Rick Warren at Obama's inauguration.

Kirstin R.W. Matthews, Ph.D.

- March 26: Quoted in a KHOU story on teaching evolution in public schools.
- March 16: Quoted in a Houston Chronicle editorial on an executive order issued by Obama enabling greater federal funding for stem cell research.
- March 10: Quoted in a KPRC-TV story on the debate over stem cell research in America.
- Feb. 23: Quoted in a Houston Chronicle editorial on U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval of drugs produced from animals that have been injected with a human gene.
- Jan. 30: Mentioned in a National Journal news brief on advice suggesting more emphasis on information technology. Neal Lane and Chris Bronk were also mentioned.

Allen Matusow, Ph.D.

- July 24: Quoted in a RealClearMarkets article on the policies of Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke.

Kenneth B. Medlock III, Ph.D.

- June 30: Quoted in a Reuters article about the renewable energy mandate in the climate change bill approved by the U.S. House of Representatives.
- May 20: Quoted in a Wall Street Journal article on new fuel efficiency standards proposed by the Obama administration.
- April 9: Quoted in an American Public Media "Marketplace" story on the effect of the recession on

green technology investment.

- March 19: Quoted in a New York Times article discussing the debate over a proposed Alaskan natural gas pipeline.
- Feb. 24: Quoted in a CattleNetwork.com article about the major oil companies' donations to universities.
- Jan. 20: Co-wrote a Houston Chronicle editorial proposing higher gasoline taxes to reduce America's dependence on foreign oil and foster long-term health of the economy.
- Jan. 14: Quoted in an Associated Press article on difficulties faced by car manufacturers due to fluctuating gasoline prices.

Joan Neuhaus Schaan

- May 11: Wrote a Houston Chronicle op-ed on establishing a tip line to help battle drug cartels.
- April 16: Mentioned in a Houston Chronicle editorial commending the scholarship of the institute. Amb. Djerejian is also mentioned.
- April 13: Wrote a Houston Chronicle op-ed on battling Mexican drug cartels.
- March 5: Mentioned in a Bizjournals.com article on two upcoming Hurricane Ike forums at Rice. Amb. Djerejian is also mentioned.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

To download the complete text of these publications and others, please visit our Web site at <http://bakerinstitute.org/publications>.

**“Needle Exchange Programs:
Sending the Right Message”**

Research Paper
January 2009
William Martin, Ph.D.

**“Fiscal Stimulus 101: Lower Taxes
and Sensible Spending”**

Opinion Piece
February 2009
John W. Diamond, Ph.D.

**“Frequently Asked Questions:
Climate Change”**

Opinion Piece
February 2009
Ronald L. Sass, Ph.D.

**“Urban Migration in the Americas:
Planning for the Future”**

Conference Report
March 2009
Erika de la Garza; Lisa Guaqueta;
Pablo Ava; Fred Perpall; Monica
Piquet-Rodriguez

**“Americas Project Newsletter
Spring 2009 — Public Education:
Challenges, Opportunities and
Innovative Approaches”**

Newsletter
March 2009
Erika de la Garza; Lisa Guaqueta;
Marcelo Driusso; Tania Callado
Borges; Mishelle Mitchell
Bernard; Jose Roberto Grajales;
Monica Piquet-Rodriguez

**“Health Economics Newsletter —
March 2009”**

Newsletter
March 2009
Vivian Ho, Ph.D.

**“Baker Institute Policy Report 38:
Developing the U.S.-Mexico
Border Region for a Prosperous
and Secure Relationship”**

Policy Report
April 2009
Erika de la Garza; David Mares, Ph.D.

**“Developing the U.S.-Mexico
Border Region for a Prosperous
and Secure Relationship:
Binational Research Papers”**

Working Papers

**“Baker Institute Policy Report 39:
Russia and the Caspian States in
the Global Energy Balance”**

Policy Report
May 2009
Amy Myers Jaffe

**“Energy Study Working Papers —
Russia and the Caspian States in
the Global Energy Balance”**

Working Papers

**“Frequently Asked Questions:
Stem Cells”**

Opinion Piece
May 2009
Kirstin R.W. Matthews, Ph.D.

**“What We’re Thinking: Latin
America’s Changing Energy
Landscape”**

Opinion Piece
June 2009
David Mares, Ph.D.

**“Latin America’s Changing Energy
Landscape (Unabridged)”**

Opinion Piece
June 2009
David Mares, Ph.D.

**“Baker Institute Policy Report 40:
The Economic Impact of
Uninsured Children on America”**

Policy Report
June 2009
Vivian Ho, Ph.D.; Marah Short

**“Baker Institute Policy Report 41:
Sustainable U.S. Policy Options
to Address Climate Change:
Highlights of the Debate”**

Policy Report
June 2009
Lauren A. Smulcer; Kirstin R.W.
Matthews, Ph.D.; Amy Myers
Jaffe; Neal Lane, Ph.D.

**“Health Economics Newsletter —
June 2009”**

Newsletter
June 2009
Vivian Ho, Ph.D.

**“Zelaya’s Military and Political
Coup: A Step Back for
Democracy in the Hemisphere”**

Opinion Piece
June 2009
Erika de la Garza

**“Throwing More Dollars at a
Broken Health Care System”**

Opinion Piece
July 2009
Vivian Ho, Ph.D.

**“Baker Institute Policy Report 42:
Science Collaboration Across
Borders”**

Policy Report
August 2009
Kirstin R.W. Matthews, Ph.D.;
Neal Lane, Ph.D.

**“Who Is In the Oil Futures Market
and How Has It Changed?”**

Research Paper
August 2009
Kenneth B. Medlock III, Ph.D.;
Amy Myers Jaffe

BAKER INSTITUTE FELLOWS AND SCHOLARS

Edward P. Djerejian

Founding Director
Janice and Robert McNair Chair in
Public Policy
Edward A. and Hermena Hancock
Kelly University Chair for Senior
Scholars

Allen Matusow, Ph.D.

Associate Director for Academic
Programs

George W.S. Abbey

Baker Botts Senior Fellow in Space
Policy

Hanan Ashrawi, Ph.D.

Diana Tamari Sabbagh Fellow in
Middle Eastern Studies

Joe Barnes

Bonner Means Baker Fellow

Douglas Brinkley, Ph.D.

Fellow in History

Christopher Bronk, Ph.D.

Fellow in Technology, Society and
Public Policy

Erika de la Garza

Program Director, Latin American
Initiative

John W. Diamond, Ph.D.

Edward A. and Hermena Hancock
Kelly Fellow in Public Finance

Yair Hirschfeld, Ph.D.

Isaac and Mildred Brochstein
Fellow in Middle East Peace and
Security in Honor of Yitzhak
Rabin

Vivian Ho, Ph.D.

James A. Baker III Institute Chair
in Health Economics

Amy Myers Jaffe

Wallace S. Wilson Fellow in Energy
Studies

Neal Lane, Ph.D.

Senior Fellow in Science and
Technology Policy

Steven W. Lewis, Ph.D.

Fellow in Asian Studies
Jesse Jones Leadership Center
Summer Intern Program
Coordinator

David R. Mares, Ph.D.

Baker Institute Scholar for Energy
Studies

William Martin, Ph.D.

Harry and Hazel Chavanne Senior
Fellow in Religion and Public
Policy

Kirstin R.W. Matthews, Ph.D.

Fellow in Science and Technology
Policy

Kenneth B. Medlock III, Ph.D.

James A. Baker, III, and Susan
G. Baker Fellow in Energy and
Resource Economics

Joan Neuhaus Schaan

Fellow in Homeland Security and
Terrorism

José Antonio Ocampo, Ph.D.

Will Clayton Fellow in
International Economics

Daniel B. Rodriguez

Fellow in Law and Urban
Economics

Ronald L. Sass, Ph.D.

Fellow in Global Climate Change

BAKER INSTITUTE REPORT

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