

BAKER INSTITUTE REPORT

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



Mikhail Gorbachev

ANNUAL CONFERENCE TO FEATURE FORMER SECRETARIES OF STATE, GORBACHEV TO RECEIVE ENRON PRIZE

The Baker Institute's Third Annual Conference will be held Thursday, October 16, on the Rice University campus. It will feature four former United States secretaries of state—Henry Kissinger, Cyrus Vance, James A. Baker, III, and Warren Christopher—discussing foreign policy priorities on the eve of the twenty-first century. Noted journalist Bernard Shaw of CNN will moderate the panel.

According to Edward P. Djerejian, director of the institute, the conference is a special event coinciding with the dedication of the Baker Institute building. "We are immensely honored that the secretaries have agreed to participate in this year's conference," said Djerejian. "Two served Democratic presidents; two served Republicans. They all possess extraordinary knowledge of and insights into American foreign policy, and they are all profoundly committed to the concept of American leadership abroad."

Commenting on the format of this year's conference, Djerejian said, "We're aiming at a unique and highly informative exchange

among our nation's senior statesmen. We also want to involve the audience as much as we can. With Bernie Shaw there to guide the discussion, I'm sure we will achieve both goals."

The conference will also include the second presentation of the Enron prize for distinguished public service. This year's recipient is Mikhail Gorbachev, former president of the Soviet Union. "We are delighted that Mikhail Gorbachev will be here to accept the Enron prize," said Djerejian. "As the father of perestroika and glasnost, Gorbachev fundamentally altered the course of history." In 1995 the first Enron prize was awarded to former head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Colin Powell.



Henry Kissinger



Warren Christopher



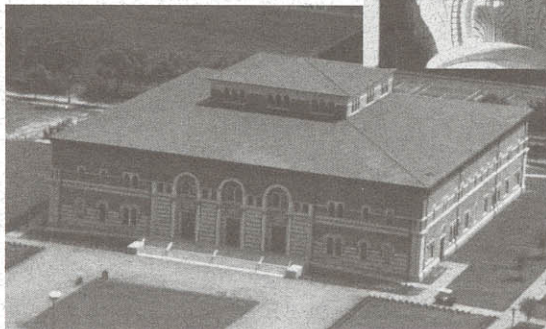
Cyrus Vance



James A. Baker, III

INSTITUTE BUILDING SET FOR OCTOBER 15 DEDICATION

The dedication of the new building that houses the Baker Institute will be held October 15. The 60,000-square-foot building, designed by noted architect Thomas Beeby of the Chicago-based firm of Hammond,



Beeby, and Babka, has housed the institute and social science faculty and staff since March. According to institute director Ed Djerejian, a formal dedication in the fall allows completion of landscape and other detail work. "This is a truly beautiful building," said Djerejian, "and we want to show it off to its best advantage at the formal dedication." He added that a fall date also permits the dedication to take place the day before the annual conference, scheduled for October 16. The conference will feature four former American secretaries of state. "Holding these two events back to back sends an important message," declared Djerejian. "The institute is here as an integral part of the Rice campus and as an important forum for our national public policy debate." He also stressed the importance of the dedication in terms of thanking the many individuals whose support—monetary and moral—made the building possible. "We owe so much to so many people," said Djerejian, "and we see the dedication as our own modest way of expressing our appreciation. We're not just celebrating our new building. We're also celebrating our supporters."

BAKER INSTITUTE PRESENTS THE FIRST AMERICAS PROJECT COLLOQUIUM

On April 20-23, the Baker Institute presented the first annual Americas Project colloquium. In collaboration with the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Greater Houston Partnership, the institute hosted a dozen emerging Latin American leaders from the business, government, academic, and cultural spheres who met in a series of closed seminars on the theme of "Trade and Reform: the Political, Economic, and Social Implications of Free Trade in America." The colloquium began on Monday morning with a speech from OAS secretary general Cesar Gaviria, who also attended the first seminar and was honored at a dinner. On Tuesday evening, Carlos Fuentes, noted social critic, author, and statesman made a keynote address to an open audience. The colloquium closed with a dinner and address by former secretary of housing and urban development Henry Cisneros.

The colloquium participants convened for three seminars: the implications and consequences of free trade and reform, moderated by Cresencio Arcos, Jr., AT&T's regional vice president for public affairs; civil society and social responsibility, moderated by Professor Peter S. Cleaves of the Institute of Latin American Studies at the

University of Texas; and public service and the private sector, moderated by Professor Doug Schuler of Rice's Jones School of Administration. A summary seminar was moderated by Baker Institute director Ed Djerejian.

The seminars featured wide-ranging discussions of free trade and related political, social, and cultural issues. The diverse perspectives of the participants made for a lively and active exchange of ideas. There was general consensus that free trade, while a positive development for the hemisphere, should be accompanied by



Participants meet in Lovett Hall's historic Founder's Room while novelist and diplomat Carlos Fuentes, far left, addresses the press at the conclusion of deliberations.

further democratization and economic, social, and legal reform throughout the region. However, free trade can produce negative effects as well, particularly on the smaller countries in the region. No two countries in the hemisphere are alike, and care must be taken that the uniqueness and culture of each does not diminish as free trade increases in the region. Preserving diversity in a period of regionalization and globalization is a daunting challenge, but one that can be met if effective policies are pursued. A more complete account of the deliberations and conclusions of the Americas Project will appear shortly in a Baker Institute study.

Preliminary planning is already under way for next year's Americas Project on the subject of United States-Mexican relations and implications for the hemisphere.

ARAFAT, SHARANSKY AMONG SPEAKERS AT RICE

Yasir Arafat, president of the Palestinian National Authority, spoke at an institute-sponsored event at Rice on March 5. After being introduced by James A. Baker, III, Arafat discussed at length the current status of the Middle East peace process and the prospects for future progress. While strongly supportive of the peace process in general, he was sharply critical of specific policies pursued by the government of Israeli prime minister Binyamin Netanyahu. An overflow crowd attended Arafat's speech, which also received wide coverage by the national and international press and media.

On June 1, Natan Sharansky, Israeli minis-

ter of industry and trade and former Soviet dissident, also spoke about the Middle East peace process. He noted that there are serious difficulties, with each step forward becoming progressively more difficult and stressed the importance of the Palestinian National Authority living up to its security obligation and preventing acts of violence and terrorism. Sharansky argued that the real key to the peace process is the democratization of governments in the Middle East. He added that unless such a democratization takes hold, there are serious doubts about the irreversibility of the peace process in the Middle East.

Other recent institute visitors included the

current Kuwaiti ambassador to the United States, Mohammed Al-Sabah, and former Saudi energy minister Zaki Yamani. On April 10, Yamani spoke on energy issues to a group of business executives in an event cosponsored by Ernst and Young.

Drew Mann, a career foreign service officer currently teaching at the University of Washington, visited Rice on February 26 to share his experiences as a former staff member of the international tribunal in The Hague investigating war crimes in Bosnia. Mann spoke to Rice students as well as to a group of Houston experts in international law and human rights activists.

ASIAN STUDIES MEETING

On April 25–26, with support from the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation, the Baker Institute sponsored a two-day conference, “Rethinking Area and Ethnic Studies: The Case of China.” Panelists included a group of distinguished Chinese scholars from Hong Kong, Taiwan, mainland China, and the United States who discussed pedagogical and research issues as well as new forms of interinstitutional collaboration devoted to the study of contemporary China.

The first day featured a number of formal presentations by academics on the state of China studies, both in American universities and throughout the world. The general conclusion of the participants was that the divisions existing between international, area, ethnic, and cultural studies have contributed to an academic “balkanization” at precisely the time when universities need to go global. Area programs have encouraged work on local cultures but have generally overlooked the global processes that are acting (and have acted) upon them. Moreover, these programs have tended to marginalize or dismiss ethnic studies scholars as though they were concerned only with some sort of domestic version of “authentic” local societies (e.g., “Chinese studies” versus “Chinese-American studies”). Cultural studies pro-

grams have focused on contemporary culture but have lacked both historical perspective and comparative depth. International relations programs tend to focus on the economics and politics of nation-states and have only begun to adjust to a world in which nonstate relations are increasingly important and the power of nation-states is not always what it once was.

In short, the internationalization of culture and communication has produced a situation in which local and transnational issues are being brought into ever-closer contact, with ever-increasing speed. Our views of ourselves and others have become inextricably intertwined, and no single academic discipline or site possesses the intellectual or institutional resources to understand this process of change fully. Greater understanding will require new forms of international collaboration, a reorientation of established disciplinary frameworks, and a redirection of resources. Among other things, the development of globalized telecommunications, especially the Internet and teleconferencing, offers new ways to create courses and to coordinate research. Moreover, the Internet makes it possible to create a comparative perspective on current events and issues both at home and abroad.

The next day, in closed sessions, the participants discussed plans for the establishment of what will be called the Consortium on Contemporary Chinese Studies—a permanent cooperative venture between the schools represented by the conference participants (and several other institutions as well, both at home and abroad), which will serve as a concrete model for other area-based but globally oriented collaborative programs. Already under way is an interactive Web site that will be able to handle English, Chinese, and, eventually, Japanese materials, including both images and videos. It can also be fully integrated with international teleconferencing.

These new technologies will make possible the coordination of conferences, research, course development, editing, and publishing among the various institutions that are a part of the consortium. With such sophisticated technological support, it will be possible to conduct interviews and have discussions with foreign colleagues that can be videotaped and distributed for courses, as well as data archives for course development. Collaborative research projects would then follow naturally, to be published in *En-*

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BAKER INSTITUTE PRESENTS MAJOR STUDY ON ENERGY SECURITY AND THE MIDDLE EAST

On April 1, the Baker Institute unveiled the results of a comprehensive year-long study on oil and the Middle East at a public presentation in the Kyle Morrow Room at Rice University. The gathering was attended by scholars and oil industry and government leaders and included six members of the Rice University faculty who were involved in the research effort, Baker Institute fellows, and participating economists from the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO). The research was funded by the Center for International Political Economy (CIPE).

Baker Institute director Edward P. Djerejian began the program with an overview of the political, economic, social, cultural, and religious trends that will shape the Middle East and Persian Gulf in the years to come. The study concludes that world leaders are too complacent about the ability of market forces to cover a disruption in energy supplies of the magnitude experienced during the Gulf War crisis of 1990–1991. “Decision makers tend to think of energy policy as taking care of itself,” explained Djerejian. “But there are great challenges on the horizon both in the Middle East and Asia that could change the geopolitics of competition for oil supplies into the twenty-first century.”

He also discussed steps recommended in the report to reduce the risk of a major oil crisis, including accelerated development of alternative supplies outside the Persian Gulf, reassessment of U.S. oil sanctions policy, and expansion of the International En-

ergy Agency to include emerging Asian economies, as is now under consideration. Djerejian stressed that U.S. policymakers also need to assess what can and should be done in the face of generational and political change in the Gulf and in Iraq. Following Djerejian’s remarks, Amy Myers Jaffe, Baker Institute project coordinator for energy research, explained how these shifting circumstances in the Middle East would combine with burgeoning Asian energy demand to influence the geopolitics of world energy markets over the next decade.

A press conference was held the next day to release the findings and recommendations of the study to both print and broadcast media. Media coverage of the Baker report included newspaper articles, wire service reports, and radio and television coverage, including broadcast on Cable News Network. Among policymakers requesting copies of the study were senior members of the Saudi, Iranian, and Iraqi oil establishments, members of the White House staff, the International Energy Agency, the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, the World Bank, and the U.S. Departments of State, Energy, and Treasury. To date, over eight hundred copies of the Baker Institute report have been mailed to industry, academic, and government representatives in the U.S., Asia, Europe, South America, and the Middle East. The report was also posted electronically on Columbia University’s Gulf/2000 electronic library and bulletin board service. Copies of the report can be obtained by request.

Thompson Lecture

On April 17, Dennis Thompson, founder and director of the Program in Ethics and the Professions and professor of philosophy at Harvard University, gave the concluding talk in the Rice University Lecture Series on Ethics, Politics, and Society. The series was cosponsored by the Baker Institute, the School of Humanities, the Department of Philosophy, the Office of the President, and the Office of the Provost. The support of the Baker Institute was made possible by the Shell Foundation.

The theme of Thompson's speech was the tension in a democracy between openness and secrecy. His lecture came just one month after a congressional commission on government secrecy released a report on what it termed a "culture of secrecy" in the government, primarily in the executive branch. The commission recommended that Congress pass legislation regulating secrecy.

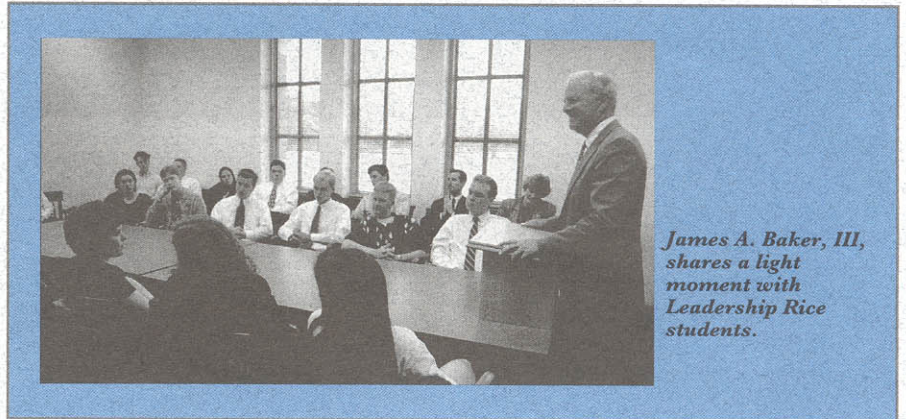
For a democracy to function effectively, Thompson said, there must be a flow of information to and from its citizens. Without that flow, intelligent decisions on policy are impossible to make. But governments also have a need to maintain secrecy—at least in the short run—on some issues of policy. Any number of international negotiations would have broken down if they had been conducted in the glare of publicity. But the challenge for a democracy is to maintain effective policies while maximizing the amount of information that is available to the people. There is no simple solution to this challenge, but it is one that democracies must continually work to solve.

glish, Chinese, and Japanese.

All this fits directly into an important Baker Institute initiative, funded by the Ford Motor Company and Coopers & Lybrand. This project, Internationalization of the New Middle Class in China and Asia, focuses on understanding the forces shaping the rise of the new middle classes in the greater China region and discerning the relationships between these emerging groups and their counterparts throughout Asia.

The Ford/Coopers & Lybrand project will use the Consortium on Contemporary

Chinese Studies to coordinate and develop a number of scholarly activities over the four-year period of the grant. These activities include: (1) a major annual conference in a Chinese environment (Hong Kong, mainland China, Taiwan, and Singapore), (2) an annual international conference at Rice, (3) three or four visitors from China each year who will come to Rice, (4) a distinguished lecture series given by American China scholars, and (5) the electronic archiving and distribution of material drawn from the ongoing collaborative research on the new middle class.



James A. Baker, III, shares a light moment with Leadership Rice students.



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News about upcoming Rice events (including the Baker Institute) may be found at <<http://www.rice.edu/ricenews/>>.



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