

# Nixon in the World: American Foreign Relations, 1969-77



*China's Communist Party Leader Mao Tse-Tung shakes hands with President Richard Nixon on Feb. 29, 1972. Nixon's 1972 trip to China was the first visit by an American president.*

## Conference Organizer



Robert McMahon  
Ralph D. Mershon Professor  
Department of History  
The Ohio State University



**December 1-2, 2006**

Mershon Center for International Security Studies  
The Ohio State University  
1501 Neil Avenue  
Columbus, OH 43201  
[www.mershoncenter.osu.edu](http://www.mershoncenter.osu.edu)

## Friday, December 1

### 9 a.m. – Welcoming Remarks

Andrew Preston, Cambridge University, and Fredrik Logevall, Cornell University

Richard Herrmann, Director, Mershon Center for International Security Studies

### 9:30 a.m. – Panel 1: Strategy

**Presenter:** Jussi M. Hanhimäki, Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva, “The Search for a Grand Design”

**Comment:** Alexander Wendt, The Ohio State University

**Presenter:** Jeremi Suri, University of Wisconsin, Madison, “The American Grand Strategy”

**Comment:** Walter Hixson, University of Akron

### 11 a.m. -- Break

### 11:30 a.m. – Panel 2: Domestic Politics

**Presenter:** Dominic Sandbrook, Rothermere American Institute, Oxford University, “Salesmanship or Substance? The Impact of Domestic Politics and Watergate”

**Comment:** Alonzo Hamby, Ohio University

### 12:15 p.m. -- Lunch

### 1:45 p.m. – Panel 3: Openings in China and Europe

**Presenter:** Margaret MacMillan, University of Toronto, “Nixon, Kissinger, and the Opening to China”

**Comment:** John Mueller, The Ohio State University

**Presenter:** Michael Cotey Morgan, Yale University, “American Visions of Détente and the Helsinki Process”

**Comment:** Carole Fink, The Ohio State University

### 3:15 p.m. -- Break

### 3:30 p.m. – Panel 4: Détente and Arms Control

**Presenter:** Mary Elise Sarotte, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, “Contemporaneous but not Coordinated: Détente and Ostpolitik”

**Comment:** Ted Hopf, The Ohio State University

**Presenter:** Francis J. Gavin, LBJ School of Public Affairs, University of Texas at Austin, “Nuclear Nixon – Successes, Failures, Puzzles”

**Comment:** Randall Schweller, The Ohio State University

## Saturday, December 2

### 9 a.m. – Panel 5: Vietnam

**Presenter:** Lien-Hang Nguyen, University of Kentucky, “The Vietnam War, 1969-1973”

**Comment:** Jeffrey Kimball, Miami University (Ohio)

**Presenter:** Robert D. Schulzinger University of Colorado, Boulder, “Nixon, Ford, Kissinger, and the Bitter End in Vietnam, 1973-1976”

**Comment:** Chester Pach, Ohio University

### 10:30 a.m. -- Break

### 11 a.m. – Panel 6: The Middle East and South Asia

**Presenter:** Salim Yaqub, University of California-Santa Barbara, “The Triumph of Incrementalism: Arab-Israeli Peacemaking in the Nixon-Ford Era”

**Comment:** Peter Hahn, The Ohio State University

**Presenter:** Robert J. McMahon, The Ohio State University, “The Danger of Geopolitical Fantasies: The Nixon Administration and the South Asia Crisis of 1971”

**Comment:** Gary R. Hess, Bowling Green State University

### 12:30 p.m. -- Informal Lunch Talk

Edward Keefer, U.S. Department of State, “The Challenges of Documenting Nixon’s Foreign Policy”

### 2 p.m. -- Panel 7: The Western Hemisphere

**Presenter:** Mark Atwood Lawrence, University of Texas at Austin, “Policing the Neighborhood: Nixon, Ford, Kissinger, and U.S. Policy Toward Latin America”

**Comment:** Jason Parker, The Mershon Center and Texas A&M University

**Presenter:** Robert Bothwell, University of Toronto, “Not on the List: Kissinger and Canada”

**Comment:** Mary Ann Heiss, Kent State University

### 3:30 p.m. -- Break

### 3:45 p.m. – Closing Session

**Comment:** Participants, commentators, and audience

### 4:45 p.m. – Closing Remarks

Andrew Preston, Cambridge University, and Fredrik Logevall, Cornell University