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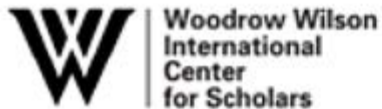
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Conference



Mitchell Lerner

Associate Professor of
History
Director of the Institute
for Korean Studies
The Ohio State University



North Korea's Cold War

Monday, February 27, 2012

9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Mershon Center for International Security Studies

1501 Neil Ave., Columbus, OH 43201

To RSVP for this event, email Ann Powers at powers.108@osu.edu by Thursday, February 23, 2012.

Organizer

[Mitchell Lerner](#), Associate Professor of History and Director of the Institute for Korean Studies at The Ohio State University

Overview

Perhaps no country in the modern era has perplexed Western observers as much as North Korea, a nation whose extraordinary secrecy and

internal repression has generally prevented scholars from exploring its Cold War experience. As a result, the country remains to many an enigma, a land of provocation and intrigue that is often criticized but rarely understood.

Then came the liquidation of the Soviet empire, and with it a torrent of new information from the archives of North Korea's former communist allies. Records from the embassies of Russia, East Germany, Poland, Romania, Albania, Hungary, and elsewhere, pulled back the curtain of secrecy that had long enshrouded North Korea, and for the first time allowed outsiders to begin to understand the policies of the "Hermit Kingdom."

By utilizing these materials, this conference will examine the inner workings and foreign relations of North Korea during the Cold War, and in doing so will open a virtually unparalleled window into the nation's use of force and diplomacy during the Cold War and beyond.

Program

8:45-9 a.m. -- Coffee and pastries in Mershon Center Lobby

9-9:30 a.m. -- Welcome Remarks (Mitch Lerner and James Person)

9:30-11:30 a.m. -- Panel I - North Korea in the 1970s

Chair: [Christopher A. Reed](#), The Ohio State University

[Charles Armstrong](#), Columbia University

Juche and North Korea's Global Aspirations

Bernd Schaefer, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars,
Washington, DC

Overconfidence Shattered: North Korean Reunification Policy, 1971-1975

[Ryoo Kihl-jae](#), Kyungnam University, South Korea

The Development of the North Korean Political System, 1965-1974

11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. -- Lunch

[Marcus Noland](#), Peterson Institute for International Economics

Witness to Transformation: Refugee Insights Into North Korea

1-3 p.m. -- Panel II - North Korea in the 1960s

Chair: [Michelle Mood](#), Kenyon College

[Gregg Brazinsky](#), George Washington University

China, North Korea, and the Third World in the 1960s

[Mitchell Lerner](#), The Ohio State University

"Mostly Propaganda in Nature:" Kim Il Sung, the Juche Ideology, and the Second Korean War"

[Yafeng Xia](#), Long Island University

The Arrogance of Certitude: Beijing's Grandiose Self-image and China's Deteriorating Relations with North Korea during the Cultural Revolution, 1966-1969

Joeun Kim, Georgetown University

The Origins of North Korea's Brinkmanship Diplomacy

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

3:15-5:00 p.m. -- Panel III - North Korea in the Early Cold War

Chair: [Deborah Solomon](#), Otterbein University
Cheehyung Kim, Hanyang University
Post Korean War Socialist Order and North Korea's Urban Reconstruction
[James Person](#), History and Public Policy Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars
From Anti-Formalism to Self-Reliance: The Origins of North Korea's Juche Ideology, 1953-1956
[Jongdae Shin](#), Kyungnam University, South Korea
The Response to the 1961 Park Chung-Hee coup

5-5:30 p.m. -- Closing Comments

Christian Ostermann, History and Public Policy Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

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1501 Neil Ave.

Columbus, OH 43201

Phone: 614.292.1681

Fax: 614.292.2407

Email: mershoncenter@osu.edu