



The Passport

World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area (www.wacmb.org)

November 2019

The Rise of China: Past, Present, and Future

Covell Meyskens, PhD
Naval Postgraduate School

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

11:30 am: Registration ~11:50 am: Luncheon ~12:50 pm: Program

** Palo Corona Park HQ, Carmel Valley Road (formerly Rancho Canada) **

Over the past fifteen years, China has implemented an expansive strategy of economic outreach and growth of national capacities, including military and diplomatic power. In 2013, China's global share of gross domestic product (GDP) exceeded that of the United States for the first time. China's growth has had a profound impact on US-China relations and the balance of power in Asia. The rise of China now makes it a geopolitical, economic, and security competitor to the US.

Professor Covell Meyskens looks at the rise of China through the historian's lens. "China's rise is not occurring within a historical vacuum," he asserts. "It is taking place within an East Asian international order that has been dominated by the United States since World War II." In his presentation, he will discuss the main pillars of American power in East Asia, how China has challenged them in the last few decades, and how the US and its



regional allies have responded. He will further explore China's current ambitions and its prospects for realizing them.

Covell Meyskens is an Assistant Professor in the Department of National Security Affairs at the Naval Postgraduate School. He received a BA in Philosophy from UC Santa Cruz and an MA in the same subject from the University of Paris. He attended National Taiwan University, Renmin University, and the University of Chicago, where he obtained his PhD in International History. Dr. Meyskens's first book, *Mao's Third Front: The Militarization of Cold War China*, is forthcoming from Cambridge University Press. He is currently working on a second book on the building of the Three Gorges Dam.

(See page 3 for reservation information)

Monday, November 4

4:00 - 5:30 pm

Discussion Group: MPC Social Science Building Room 101. Parking \$3.00 in Lot D.

Thursday, November 7

4:30 pm

Board Meeting: McCone Building Conference Room, MIIS. Open to members.

Monday, November 18

4:00 - 5:30 pm

OLLI Discussion Group: CSUMB at Ryan Ranch, 8 Upper Ragsdale Dr.

Program Report: Alex Zaragoza

For our September luncheon, the World Affairs Council was honored to have Professor Alex M. Saragoza from UC Berkeley speak on "Relations Between the US and Mexico." Dr. Saragoza focused on three key issues: trade, immigration, and drugs, noting that for each issue, domestic politics on both sides of the border are really consequential.

Regarding trade, the recently negotiated US-Mexico-Canada trade agreement has not yet been ratified by Congress due to reservations over worker rights and environmental protections. It is another example of the triumph of domestic politics: the Trump administration made a big show over what are only "cosmetic changes" to NAFTA, while the current House of Representatives has no interest in giving Trump a political win.

Immigration of Mexicans to the US has declined overall since the recession of 2008. Today, most people crossing the southern border are from Central America, not Mexico. There are different drivers of this migration; for example, 65 percent of Hondurans live below the poverty line. However, it is important to note that 60 percent of illegal immigrants in the US are people who have overstayed their legal visas, and the lion's share of those overstays are Canadians. The immigration issue will likely remain a hot button issue as automation increases. It is expected that by 2030, about 73 million US jobs will have been automated.

The problem of illicit drugs coming into the US from Mexico has gotten worse as more countries get a piece of the action. Before, both Mexican and Colombian drugs would enter the US from Mexico. Now, countries around the world ship illegal drugs to Mexico, and those drugs then find their way to the US market. For example, much of the banned drug Ephedra that enters the US from Mexico is produced in China.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

The World Affairs Council of Monterey Bay is pleased to welcome our new members:

***Karina Dmitri
Colette Erreca-Norris
Mary Fisk
Lori Sanders
Roger Smith***

Calling All World Travelers!

As a member of the World Affairs Councils of America (our umbrella organization), you are eligible to participate in *Travel the World*, an international travel program that has been run by the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia for more than 35 years. The 2019-2020 program is already underway, and quite a number of trips in the spring and summer of 2020 still have space available. The following examples are just a taste:

- 12/29/19 to 1/7/20: Ring in the New Year under Antarctica's midnight sun aboard the MV *Hondius*, the world's first Polar Class 6 ice-strengthened ship.
- 1/27/20 to 2/9/20: Explore New Zealand's spectacular North and South Islands, from Auckland in the north to Stewart Island in the far south, on this trip led by Peter Hillary, son of Sir Edmund Hillary.
- 4/28/20 to 5/12/20: Experience the glory of the mighty Himalayan range on this journey to Nepal and Bhutan. You'll visit temples and monasteries, dine with local families, and go rafting on Bhutan's Mo Chu River.
- 6/2/20 to 6/10/20: Explore the history, culture, and cuisine of southwest France. From your base in Albi, with its Gothic cathedral and Toulouse-Lautrec Museum, visit the Carcassonne Fortress, cruise the historic Canal du Midi, and sample the region's wines and cheeses.

Intrigued? Go to <https://wacphila.org/travel> for the full list of trips and further details!

RESERVATION FORM

Reservations due November 16 for November 20 presentation

Registration 11:30 am

Luncheon 11:50 am

Program 12:45 pm

Mail form and check or credit information to:

WACMB, PO Box 83, Monterey, CA 93942

or fax reservation form to (831) 643-1846

or register online at www.wacmb.org

Members @ \$31 _____

Guests @ \$40 _____

Total \$ _____

The Rise of China

Name/s _____ Card Holder Name _____

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Vegetarian? (Requires 72 hours notice) _____ Signature _____

Note: No refunds or credit will be given for cancellations received after the due date

DISCUSSION GROUPS

WAC discussion groups are free and open to the public. Each month, the group will select the topic for the following month's discussion.

MPC: November's topic is "Turmoil in Hong Kong." Participants will explore the genesis of the current turmoil in Hong Kong, and will discuss possible outcomes.

Meetings are *almost* always on the second Monday of the month, from 4:00 - 5:30 pm in Room 101, Social Sciences Building. ***However, due to Veteran's Day, this month's meeting will be on November 4.*** Parking is available for \$3 in Lot D.

OLLI/CSUMB: Following up on October's luncheon topic, the OLLI discussion group will also address the unrest in Hong Kong.

Meetings are always on the third Monday of the month, from 4:00-5:30 pm at the CSUMB Ryan Ranch location. This month's meeting will be on November 18. Parking is free. Note: Preregistration is required for OLLI programs. Register at olli.csumb.edu.

LUNCHEON MENU

- House Salad with Ranch Dressing
- Classic Roast Turkey with Stuffing and Gravy
- Whipped Potatoes
- Green Beans
- Cranberry Sauce
- Fresh Rolls and Butter
- Chef's Choice Dessert
- Coffee

VEGETARIAN OPTION

- Pasta Primavera

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This is the monthly newsletter of the World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area (WACMB). WACMB is a nonprofit, non-partisan organization established to promote the presentation, discussion, and study of international affairs. WACMB is a tax-exempt 501 (c) (3) organization, EIN-770301206. Contributions are tax deductible as permitted by law. WACMB sponsors monthly luncheons, discussion groups, and student scholarships.

Corporate and institutional support for the World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area is provided by

- *California State University Monterey Bay
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- *Naval Postgraduate School *Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey
- *Horan & Lloyd Law Firm

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Individual	\$30
Student*.....	\$15

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(Couples, please include both first names)**

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*Student memberships are limited to full-time students matriculating at an accredited college or graduate school. This also includes a special military membership for enlisted personnel, grades E-1 to E-4 only.

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