THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE KNOXVILLE

BAKER BUZZ

News and Events from the Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy

Events

Ashe Lecture: U.S. National Security in the Indo-Pacific

Please join us for an Ashe Lecture featuring former U.S. Ambassador to South Korea and former Commander of United States Indo-Pacific Command, Admiral Harry B. Harris, Jr. He will provide an overview of current issues affecting Asia and the Indo-Pacific region.

Harris will discuss the rise of China, ongoing tensions between North Korea and South Korea; U.S. partners in the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad); the important role of U.S. alliances with Japan, South Korea, and Australia (including AUKUS); and what these issues and tensions mean for U.S. national security interests in the region.

Harris will also address the impact of the Russian war in Ukraine in Asia and how the war could impact the status of Taiwan and China's threats to invade.

The lecture will be held on **Tuesday, August 30, from 5:30 to 6:30 pm** in the Toyota Auditorium or through our live webcast.

Research & Engagement

Appalachian Leadership Institute Holds Graduation

On Thursday, July 28, the Appalachian Regional Commission's Appalachian Leadership Institute 2021-2022 Class of Fellows Class graduated after completing a nine-month all-inclusive leadership and economic development training program. Dr. Katie Cahill, Director of the Center's Leadership and Governance Program, addressed the fellows on what is now expected of them. "You all came to us as leaders, but you are now charged with leadership of the Region. It is your job, your task, and your responsibility to help communities thrive and be successful."

National Nuclear Security Administration

Global Security Director Krista Wiegand and Fellows Wonjae Hwang, Brandon Prins, Jon Ring, and Gary Uzonyi met on July 20 with 16 representatives from the Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs of the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) who visited the Baker Center as part of a trip to Tennessee. In the meeting, the Global Security Fellows discussed with the NNSA representatives issues ranging from North Korea's threats, nuclear deterrence, the rise of China, disinformation campaigns by Russia, maritime security, and U.S. national security priorities. The NNSA group also visited ORNL and Y-12 National Security Complex as part of their trip to the area.

REE Article on Climate Policy

Energy & Environment Fellow Dr. David McCollum published an article in *Resource and Energy Economics (REE)* on climate policy alternatives to carbon pricing. His abstract shares, "In the real-world of political opposition and complex market failures, carbon pricing alone will not achieve deep GHG mitigation targets. Hence, we search for the most cost-effective "second-best" policies." Be sure to check out the research here.

Rare Earth Elements Research

Economics graduate student Prabuddha Prakash will present his research on the economics of rare earth elements at the Camp Resources environmental economics workshop on August 8 and 9 in Asheville, North Carolina. Prabuddha's research, partially supported by the Department of Energy, investigates China's ability to manipulate the global market for rare earth elements used in electric vehicle batteries, solar panels, and defense applications ranging from laser-guided rockets to jets.

Coal Ash Workshop

The Baker Center hosted a workshop on July 14 with representatives from TVA and Southern Company on the economics and policy implications of using coal ash for beneficial uses ranging from construction materials to sources for critical minerals.

U.S.-Korea NextGen Scholars Program

Global Security Post-Doctoral Fellow Sojeong Lee was accepted as a participant of the 2022-23 U.S.-Korea NextGen Scholars Program, a two-year program and initiative sponsored by the Center for Strategic and International Studies Korea Chair and the University of Southern California Dornsife Korean Studies Institute. The program was established to help mentor the next generation of Korean specialists in the United States who will make long-term contributions to the U.S.-ROK relationship.

Terrestrial Biodiversity

Energy & Environment Fellow Dr. Paul Armsworth recently co-authored a paper titled, "Co-benefits for terrestrial biodiversity and ecosystem services available from contrasting land protection policies in the contiguous United States." The research finds that the scope of the co-benefits can significantly vary according to context and policy decisions.

A Well-Deserved Retirement

Global Security Fellow Emeritus Candace White, Professor in the Tombras School of Advertising and Public Relations, has retired after working at the university for 28 years. We wish Candace the best during her retirement!

Teaching & Mentorship

Student Ice Cream Social

Are you looking to get involved in student programming at the Baker Center? Do you have an interest in learning more about public policy through an internship, traveling to D.C. to learn from public officials or writing a thesis on a subject you enjoy? Join us on the first day of classes, **August 24 at 5:00 pm in the Toyota Auditorium** at the Baker Center, for an ice cream social to learn about student engagement opportunities this year. If you are unable to attend, but still wish to become involved this year, contact BakerStudents@utk.edu.

Don't miss us at the Student Engagement Fair

Join us at the Student Engagement Fair to chat with current students to hear about their experiences and pick up save-the-dates for upcoming events. Hosted by the Center for Student Engagement, the fair will take place on **August 26 at 5:00 pm** on Pedestrian Walkway.

Spotlight

Student Spotlight

Garrett Howe of Knoxville is double majoring in Business Analytics and Economics with a collateral in Finance. He also has a minor in Honors Leadership Studies. Garrett is involved with the Baker Center as a Baker Ambassador and recently traveled to D.C. through the Washington Fellows Program. He also completed an internship in U.S. Rep. Tim Burchett's DC office this summer after interning with the Knoxville office last spring.

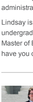
Garrett shares, "During my time at the Baker Center I have thoroughly enjoyed many opportunities to meet with and hear from a plethora of excellent public servants. The Washington trip was eye-opening, inspiring and breathtaking. I had the chance to learn from a great team of young professionals and build lasting relationships with many UT Alumni on the Hill."

Meet Us

Baker Center Staff Spotlight

We want to highlight **Lindsay Herrell** for this month's staff spotlight. Lindsay started as the Center's Student Programs Coordinator in July. She previously served as an academic advisor in the Haslam College of Business. In her role as Student Programs Coordinator, Lindsay will develop and implement the Center's student programs, advise and provide professional mentorship to students in the Center's programs, and assist with the administrative and logistics support of the curricular and co-curricular programs.

Lindsay is a lifelong Tennessean and graduated from King University with an undergraduate degree in Political Science and History. She also received her Master of Education from East Tennessee State University. We are excited to have you on our team and cannot wait to see you thrive in your new role!



Get Involved with the Baker Center

The Center is a home for civic engagement for students in all disciplines and at all levels. Through programs, events and lectures, and helpful faculty and staff, the Center aims to engage the community on the topics of Global Security, Leadership & Governance, and Energy & Environment. Visit bakercenter.utk.edu for more information.

Some ways to get involved with the Center:

- Minor in Public Policy Analytics
- Baker Scholars
- Baker Ambassadors
- Washington Fellows Program
- Events

Support Us

The Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy is devoted to education and research concerning public policy and civic engagement. For more information about the Center and ways to support our efforts go to bakercenter.utk.edu.

Contact Us

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