



NEBRASKA HUMANITIES COUNCIL

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N E W S R E L E A S E

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Sept. 14 Bereuter lecture to be simulcast statewide

Former Nebraska Congressman Doug Bereuter will launch the 2009-10 E.N. Thompson Forum on World Issues on Sept. 14. Bereuter's lecture, which originates from the Lied Center for Performing Arts at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, will be simulcast in Columbus, Kearney, North Platte, Omaha, Scottsbluff and Wayne.

The 2009-10 Thompson Forum on "Encountering China" will present speakers from a variety of backgrounds to explore China from diverse perspectives. Bereuter's lecture, entitled "China's Trade and Soft Power Relationships with Asia and the United States—Reason to Worry?" will provide insight into the U.S. trade deficit with China and China's influence on the developing world.

Following 26 years of service to Nebraska in the U.S. House of Representatives, Bereuter became the president of The Asia Foundation, a San Francisco based non-profit, non-governmental organization committed to the development of a peaceful, prosperous, just, and open Asia-Pacific region. During his congressional career, Bereuter was a leading member of the House International Relations Committee, where he served as vice chairman for six years, chaired the Asia-Pacific Subcommittee for the maximum limit of six years, chaired the Europe Subcommittee immediately before his departure, was ranking minority member of the Human Rights Subcommittee for six years, and had a long tenure on its Subcommittee on Economic Policy & Trade.

Bereuter's lecture will be simulcast and followed with community conversation at the following locations:

- Columbus at Central Community College, Room 205, West Education Center. For details contact Karen Mroczek at (402) 562-1249.
- Kearney at UNK's Communications Center Building, Room 101. For details contact John Anderson at (308) 865-8171.
- North Platte at 1101 Halligan Drive on the North Campus of North Platte Community College. For details contact Tom Gorman at (308) 535-3714.
- Omaha at UNO's Milo Bail Student Center, Chancellor's Room. For details contact Paul Sather at (402) 554-3196.
- Scottsbluff at Western Nebraska Community College's Harms Advanced Technology Center, Room A113. For details contact Carla Stein at (308) 635-6050.
- Wayne at the Wayne State College Library, Room 201. For details contact David Graber at (402) 375-7272.

The lecture begins at 7 p.m. (CST); 6 p.m. (MST) in Scottsbluff; and is free and open to the public. Additional speakers in the series will be heard Oct. 6, Nov. 12, Jan. 26, and April 1.

The series was named in honor of E.N. "Jack" Thompson, who served as president of the Cooper Foundation from 1964 to 1990 and as its chairman from 1990 until his death in 2002. Thompson established the series to promote better understanding of world events and issues for all Nebraskans.

The simulcasts, sponsored by the Nebraska Humanities Council and the local college or university, allow more Nebraskans to have the opportunity to benefit from outstanding speakers and community discussion. Details about the E.N. Thompson Forum are available at <http://enthompson.unl.edu>.