



NEBRASKA HUMANITIES COUNCIL

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N E W S R E L E A S E

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April 1 Gifford lecture to be simulcast statewide

The E.N. Thompson Forum on World Issues concludes its series on “Encountering China” with an April 1 lecture by Rob Gifford entitled “China Road: A Journey Into the Future of a Rising Power.” Originating from the Lied Center for Performing Arts at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the lecture will be simulcast in Columbus, Hastings, North Platte, Omaha, Scottsbluff and Wayne.

“Encountering China” has presented speakers from many backgrounds to explore China from diverse perspectives. Gifford will share highlights of a two-month journey along China’s 3,000-mile east-west route that took him through factory towns of the coastal areas, across the heart of China, and up to the Gobi Desert, where Route 312 merges with the old Silk Road.

Now National Public Radio’s London correspondent, Gifford served as NPR’s China correspondent from 1999-2005. His recently published book, “China Road,” recounts his travels as he witnessed many aspects of China’s social and economic revolution. Gifford’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.
- **Hastings** at Hastings College, Wilson Center. For details contact Sharon Brooks at (402) 461-7267.
- **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 Wei Rowe at (402) 554-2812.
- **Scottsbluff** at Western Nebraska Community College’s Harms Advanced Technology Center, Room A113. For details contact Carla Stein at (308) 635-6050.
- **Wayne** at 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. 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 Cooper Foundation, Nebraska Humanities Council and the hosting 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>.