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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 in Hastings

Rob Gifford, National Public Radio's London correspondent, will deliver an April 1 lecture entitled "China Road: A Journey Into the Future of a Rising Power."

The concluding lecture in the 2009-10 E.N. Thompson Forum on World Issues will be simulcast at Hastings College, in the Wilson Center.

Originating from the Lied Center for Performing Arts at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the lecture will be simulcast at 7 p.m. and is free and open to the public. A discussion on the topic will follow.

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. NPR's China correspondent from 1999-2005, Gifford is the author of "China Road," which recounts his travels as he witnessed many aspects of China's social and economic revolution.

"The *possibility* to dream dreams that might actually be fulfilled now exists," Gifford writes in "China Road," published by Random House in 2007. "It is starting to change China, one person at a time, and create a new nation. A nation of slowly empowered individuals."

The simulcast, sponsored by the Nebraska Humanities Council, the Cooper Foundation and Hastings College, allows more Nebraskans the opportunity to benefit from outstanding speakers and community discussion. Details about the E.N. Thompson Forum are available at <http://enthompson.unl.edu>.

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