



The Sam Nunn School of International Affairs



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U.S., North and South Korea Diplomats meet on critical Energy Security issues at Georgia Tech conference

ATLANTA, GEORGIA (February 23, 2009) Amid continuing economic, security, and political tensions, diplomats and policy experts from the U.S. and North and South Korea will converge to discuss Korea's energy future and the attendant issues of energy security and diplomacy at a conference hosted by the Georgia Tech Center for International Strategy, Technology, and Policy. *The Six-Party Talks and Korea's Energy Security* conference will take place on Thursday, February 26, 2009 from 8:30am-5:00pm on in the Klaus Building, room 1116 on the Georgia Tech campus.

Speakers at the conference include the director of the US Department of State Korea Desk, Mr. Kurt Tong; former U.S. Ambassador to South Korea, Dr. James T. Laney; South Korean Ambassador Chun Hae-jin, Consul General of the Republic of Korea; director of the Northeast Asia Cooperative Security Project, Dr. Leon Sigal; and North Korean Deputy Ambassador to the United Nations, Minister Kim Myong-gil. *** Minister Myong-gil's remarks will be "off-the-record."

Energy security has taken on new meaning on the Korean Peninsula with the [February](#) 2007 signing of a plan for the peaceful denuclearization of North Korea, the election of President Lee Myung Bak in South Korea, and the election of a new administration in Washington.

CISTP Co-director, Adam Stulberg stated, "In light of persistent difficulties with implementing the denuclearization agreement, the surging Korean demand for energy, and the focus on energy diplomacy in the U.S., the future trajectory of the Six-Party process is becoming increasingly tied to energy security, creating challenges and opportunities for sustaining cooperation not only on the peninsula but across the region."

Stulberg added, "As national differences over approaches to engaging North Korea come under greater scrutiny, there will be growing pressure to search out new areas for deepening global and regional cooperation, especially on energy security."

The diplomats and experts assembled by CISTP have dealt extensively with security policy on the Korean peninsula. The conference also includes an outstanding roster of academics and policy analysts from the United States and Korea who specialize in energy policy.

The Center for International Strategy, Technology, and Policy (CISTP) is the interdisciplinary policy research arm of The Sam Nunn School of International Affairs at Georgia Tech. The Center provides a collegial venue for scholars, policy analysts, scientists, technical experts, practitioners, and community leaders to explore innovative approaches to issues situated at the nexus of science, technology, and international affairs. In this capacity, CISTP is committed to generating independent, policy-relevant research and serving as an analytical "bridge builder" for engaging concerned members of the local community and influencing policymaking on contemporary strategic issues.

The Sam Nunn School of International Affairs within the Ivan Allen College at Georgia Tech was created in 1990 and named in honor of former U.S. Senator Sam Nunn in 1996. The only school of its kind at a major technological university, the Sam Nunn School is committed to a new model of professional education in international affairs that focuses on understanding the global context of advances in science, technology and policy. Nunn School alumni are distinguished leaders in the fields of policy, law, business, education, communications, and the non-profit sector.

The Georgia Institute of Technology is one of the nation's premiere research universities. Ranked among U.S. News & World Report's top 10 public universities, Georgia Tech educates more than 16,000 students every year through its Colleges of Architecture, Computing, Engineering, Liberal Arts, Management and Sciences. Tech maintains a diverse campus and is among the nation's top producers of women and African-American engineers. The Institute offers research opportunities to both undergraduate and graduate students and is home to more than 100 interdisciplinary units plus the Georgia Tech Research Institute. During the 2003-2004 academic years, Georgia Tech reached \$341.9 million in new research award funding.

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