



Sam Nunn School of International Affairs

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Georgia Tech's Sam Nunn Bank of America Policy Forum to Highlight Work Toward A World Free of Nuclear Weapons

Atlanta (March 19, 2010) – In the midst of unprecedented momentum among the international strategic communities for nuclear weapons disarmament, Georgia Tech's Sam Nunn Bank of America Policy Forum will present on March 29, 2010 "The Path Toward a World Free of Nuclear Weapons: The Euro-Atlantic Challenge." Scheduled speakers include former U.S. Senator Sam Nunn, the U.S. Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, Department of Defense, Michèle Flournoy, the U.S. Under Secretary for Nuclear Security and Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration, Department of Energy, Thomas P. D'Agostino, and the Russian Ambassador to the U.S. Sergey Kislyak. The forum is open to the public. Program background, schedule, and registration are available at www.inta.gatech.edu/sam-nunn-forum.

A number of world events, including global leadership transition, anxiety about the state of the nonproliferation regime, the threat of catastrophic terrorism, and expectations of a global renaissance of nuclear energy have provided a new impetus for nuclear weapons risk reduction. The 2010 Sam Nunn Bank of America Policy Forum seeks to contribute to this agenda by addressing strategic engagement and confidence-building in the Euro-Atlantic relationship – steps that will be integral to advancing U.S. – Russian nuclear arms reductions and enlisting other nuclear weapons states to join in nuclear threat reduction and the disarmament process.

Senator Nunn has said, "The goal of a world free of nuclear weapons is like the top of a very tall mountain. It is tempting and easy to say: We can't get there from here. It is true that today in our troubled world we can't see the top of the mountain. But we can see that we are heading down – not up. We can see that we must turn around, that we must take paths leading to higher ground and that we must get others to move with us."

The Forum will integrate and build upon Senator Nunn's co-leadership of two projects. The Nuclear Threat Initiative's Nuclear Security Project which Nunn leads in concert with former Secretaries of State George P. Shultz and Henry A. Kissinger, former Secretary of Defense William J. Perry, and which, in cooperation with the Hoover Institution, aims to promote global steps towards reducing reliance on nuclear weapons. Nunn also co-leads the Carnegie Endowment's Euro-Atlantic Security Initiative which strives to foster new approaches to collective security. It also builds upon new initiatives to assess future requirements for strategic stability underway at Georgia Tech's Center for International Strategy, Technology, and Policy.

Adam Stulberg, Director of the Center for International Strategy, Technology, and Policy and Professor in Georgia Tech's Sam Nunn School of International Affairs said, "With leaders from across the Euro-Atlantic space now seeking to recapture the promise of strategic partnership, the time is ripe for exploring fresh and pragmatic approaches to forging inclusive security architectures as a critical step towards bolstering strategic reassurance."

The Forum will highlight underlying political, security, economic, and energy issues that currently complicate reassurance among Europe, Russia, and the United States, as well as propose realistic directions for redressing these fault-lines and strengthening cooperation.

The biennial Sam Nunn Bank of America Policy Forum is a day-long policy meeting presented by Georgia Tech's Sam Nunn School of International Affairs. The forum brings together noted academic, government, and private-sector experts on technology, public policy, and international affairs for discussion of critical issues confronting the United States in the 21st century. It was developed from former U.S. Senator Sam Nunn's vision of increasing understanding among policymakers, academic researchers, technologists, and citizens regarding important issues facing them. Senator Nunn is a distinguished professor at The Sam Nunn School of International Affairs at Georgia Tech.

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The Sam Nunn School of International Affairs within the Georgia Tech's Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts 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 premier research universities. Ranked seventh among U.S. News & World Report's top public universities, Georgia Tech's more than 20,000 students are enrolled in its Colleges of Architecture, Computing, Engineering, Liberal Arts, Management and Sciences. Tech 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.