



Meeting Challenges and Opportunities of China's Rise: Expanding and Improving Interaction between American and Chinese Policy Communities
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On October 11, 2006, the Freeman Chair in China Studies released a report calling on Washington and Beijing to ratchet-up the number and quality of exchanges between the policy communities in the two nations. Authored by Dr. Bates Gill, the report is entitled "Meeting Challenges and Opportunities of China's Rise: Expanding and Improving Interaction between American and Chinese Policy Communities."

Carla Hills, Counselor and Trustee of CSIS, provided the opening remarks. She commented on American perceptions of China as a looming danger in terms of job loss and its undervalued currency, and also noted complications in the bilateral relations such as long distance and difficult travel.

Bates Gill, Freeman Chair in China Studies, CSIS, made the delivery of the report findings. He addressed twelve principle recommendations of the report, which are as follows:

1. Expand embassy and consulate presence;
2. Expand executive branch and congressional staffing on China;
3. Establish a formal, bilateral, interagency, working-level mechanism to plan and coordinate official-level US-China exchanges;
4. Increase lower-level, short-term "secondment" and exchange programs of US and Chinese government specialists;
5. Boost significantly congressional engagement on China;
6. Support and pass relevant legislation;
7. Expand and enhance educational opportunities;
8. Establish a "China-America Educational Fund";
9. Increase and sustain China-related briefings and other informative work on Capitol Hill;
10. Explore and expand innovative US-China partnerships;
11. Establish direct capital-to-capital air service between Washington, D.C. and Beijing;
12. Invest in new communications technologies.

Mike Green, Senior Adviser and Japan Chair, CSIS, provided his commentary on the report findings. He noted the increase in third party players and commented on the need to coordinate on third-country issues where China's influence is considerable. He recommended that the U.S.-China relationship be viewed in a strategic context and that the United States has to have an Asian policy that integrates and involves China. He concluded by noting some of the structural difficulties in the U.S.-China relations, including the excessive number of people involved in China policy in the U.S. government and the unavailability of Chinese scholars.