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Fall 2016, China Town Hall

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UNH Global

2016 China Town Hall

Chris Reardon, COLA
Thursday, October 20, 2016

Over 90 Members of the UNH Community Gather for China Town Hall to Hear Henry Kissinger

This year’s China Town Hall, sponsored by the UNH Political Science Department and the National Committee for US-China Relations, took place in Richards Auditorium on October 18. Over 90 UNH students, faculty, and visitors—including several visitors from Malaysia and China—listened to a live webcast of Dr. Henry Kissinger, who was national security advisor and secretary of state under Presidents Nixon and Ford. Dr. Kissinger reflected on his years of involvement in US-Sino relations, which included laying the groundwork for President Nixon’s historic trip to China in 1972 and the establishment of bilateral relations in 1979. Following Dr. Kissinger’s comments on the current state of Sino-US relations, Dr. Douglas Spelman commented on Dr. Kissinger’s talk, and answered questions from faculty and students about Chinese human rights, problems with the South China Sea, controversies during the current presidential campaign, and the situation in Tibet and Hong Kong. Dr. Spelman’s thoughtful answers were based on his decades-long experience working in the US Foreign Service, where he was based in Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, and Taipei, as well as his Ph.D. training at Harvard in Chinese history.
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