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Before China Beat, There Was China beyond the Headlines

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For several years now there has been a close connection between China Beat and China beyond the Headlines. The latter, a series of essay collections edited by myself and Lionel M. Jensen, is designed for a general and classroom audience (Volume One was published in 2000; Volume Two, China’s Transformations, was released in 2007). In addition to some common players who have been involved with both, such as Geremie Barmé, Tim Cheek, Tim Oakes, Jeff Wasserstrom and myself, China Beat and China beyond the Headlines are fortunate to share Susan McEachern of Rowman & Littlefield Publishers as an editor. Each of these ongoing projects strives to create a space for discussion of China that falls between the purely academic and the purely journalistic. Both are committed to accessible and open-ended discussion and to a plurality of subjects and sensibilities. Both are informed by the belief that there’s a strong need for robust, open-minded, and self-reflexive public intellectualism with regard to contemporary China and its rapidly evolving place in the world. Given these close connections and parallel goals, it is fitting to announce an upcoming public outreach workshop that will take place at the University of Colorado this coming weekend.

This event will serve as the basis for a third edition of China beyond the Headlines, which will be published in 2011.

Workshop Schedule:
Panel discussion #1: “China In the Headlines”
Friday, April 16, 6:30 – 8:30 PM, CU Boulder campus, Humanities 250
Timothy Cheek, University of British Columbia: intellectuals & intellectual life
Alex Wang, Natural Resources Defense Council: environmental issues
Zheng Liang, University of Colorado: ethnic relations in Xinjiang
David Bandurski, University of Hong Kong: investigative journalism
Timothy Weston, University of Colorado: urbanization in China

Panel discussion #2: “China Beyond the Headlines”
Saturday, April 17, 1:00 – 3:30 PM, CU Boulder campus, Humanities 250
Tim Oakes, University of Colorado: the rise of Chinese tourism
Jessica Teets, Middlebury College: NGOs in China
Kang Wenqing, Cleveland State University: same sex relations in China
Orion Lewis, Middlebury College: Chinese news media & propaganda
Lionel Jensen, University of Notre Dame: Confucianism & contemporary China

Screening of the documentary “Ghost Town”
Saturday, April 17, 6:30-10:00 PM, CU Boulder campus, Humanities 150
David Bandurski, who was involved with its production, will discuss the film before & after its showing

This event is made possible with generous support from the National Committee on United States-China Relations’ Public Intellectuals Program, which is funded by the Henry Luce Foundation and the Starr Foundation, and from the Center for Asian Studies and Teaching East Asia Program at CU Boulder

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