



MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release

Contact: Masako Toki, Project Manager (Phone: 831-647-3580, 831-915-6162 (mobile))

E-mail: masako.toki@miis.edu)

Website: <http://www.criticalissuesforum.org/>

US AND RUSSIAN HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS DISCUSS NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

Who: Twenty teachers from U.S. and Russian high schools will participate in the annual Critical Issues Forum (CIF) Teachers Development Workshop sponsored by the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies (CNS), December 4-6, 2008, at the Monterey Institute. Teachers from high schools in California, Hawaii, Texas, and Wisconsin will join Russian teachers from Russian closed nuclear cities of Novouralsk and Zelenogorsk in learning about nuclear disarmament issues. The theme of this year's workshop is "Nuclear Disarmament: Challenges, Opportunities and Next Steps." Workshop lecturers include CNS experts and invited speakers, among them CNS deputy director Dr. Patricia Lewis (former Director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research), and Dr. Ron Ott, a nuclear weapons specialist from the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Participating teachers will supervise their students in semester-long projects on nuclear disarmament and return to Monterey in April 2009, when U.S. and Russian high school students will present their projects at the annual cross-cultural CIF student conference.

What: The workshop will introduce the topic, "Nuclear Disarmament: Challenges, Opportunities and Next Steps." Recently the disarmament debate in the United States and several other countries has gained momentum, mainly due to an initiative undertaken by four former high ranking U.S. officials, Henry Kissinger, Sam Nunn, William Perry, and George Shultz, expressed in two *Wall Street Journal* op-eds that have become an inspiration to many. Their initiative has reopened the public debate and compelled U.S. and foreign governments to develop a vision and practical steps toward a world free of nuclear weapons. At the same time, leaders in key nuclear weapons states, including the new U.S. president, have recently been elected to their posts. These developments could bring a significant change to nuclear weapons policy in the United States and in many other countries. The time seems ripe for many actors to join forces, contribute to public debates, and work with their respective governments and newly elected leaders to move the disarmament agenda forward.

At this critical time for nuclear disarmament, it is very important for the next generation to consider this issue seriously and take actions to reduce the threat of nuclear weapons. With this background, the workshop will include presentations by resident and invited experts and discussion sessions focusing on how to implement the CIF disarmament project in the classroom. For more on the program, visit: <http://www.criticalissuesforum.org/>

When: December 4-6, 2008

Where: James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies,
Monterey Institute of International Studies,
400 Pacific Street, Suite D-100, Monterey, CA 93940

NOTE:

The James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies (CNS) strives to combat the spread of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) by training the next generation of nonproliferation specialists and disseminating timely information and analysis. More information about CNS, the largest nongovernmental organization in the United States devoted exclusively to research and training on nonproliferation issues, can be found at www.cns.miis.edu. The Monterey Institute of International Studies, a private graduate institution located in Monterey, California, is at the forefront of international professional education preparing students for global careers in the private, public, non-profit, and educational sectors. The Institute offers degree programs in International Business, Translation and Interpretation, International Policy Studies, and Language Teaching. The Institute's approximately 750 students come from more than 50 countries. Further information about the Monterey Institute of International Studies may be found at www.miis.edu.

- END -

CNS news releases and photos are also available on the CNS website: <http://www.cns.miis.edu>



Students' role-play at 2008 spring conference