**CONFERENCE AGENDA**

8–8:30 am  **Reception**

8:30–8:40 am  **Welcome Remarks**
Dr. Louis Pol, John Becker Dean, College of Business Administration, University of Nebraska at Omaha

8:40–9 am  **Keynote: Omaha and Other Nebraska Businesses in China**
Mindy Ruffalo, Director of International Business Development, The Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce

9–10 am  **Keynote: Will China Eat Our Lunch or Take Us to Dinner**
Dr. Lawrence Kotlikoff, William Fairfield Warren Distinguished Professor and Professor of Economics at Boston University, Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Fellow of the Econometric Society

10–10:15 am  **Coffee Break**

10:15–11 am  **Keynote: China’s Growth Potential and Forthcoming Fiscal Reforms**
Dr. Shuanglin Lin, Noddle Distinguished Professor, College of Business Administration, University of Nebraska at Omaha; Director, China Center for Public Finance, Peking University

11–11:30 am  **Question & Answer**

11:30–1 pm  **Lunch Break**

1:30–2 pm  **Demographics and Aggregate Household Savings in China, India, and Japan**
Dr. Steven Legauere, Department of Economics, University of Notre Dame

2–2:30 pm  **Dynamics of China’s Urban System: An Analysis Based on Zipf and Gibrat Laws**
Dr. Shunfeng Song, Professor of Economics, University of Nevada at Reno

2:30–3 pm  **Mergers and Acquisitions in China: Who Benefits?**
Dr. Andrew Vivian, Accounting and Financial Management School of Business and Economics, Loughborough University

3–3:10 pm  **Coffee Break**

3:10–3:15 pm  **Welcome to Guests**
Dr. Lynn Harland, Associate Dean, College of Business Administration, University of Nebraska at Omaha

3:15–4 pm  **Panel Discussion**

**KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**

**MINDY L. RUFFALO** brings a wealth of global experience to her role as international business development director for the Greater Omaha Economic Development Partnership. She took advantage of her degrees in international business management and political science from Franklin University, Switzerland and studies in Chinese business and Mandarin at the University of International Business and Economics in Beijing, China, to develop a career in international business development working with top global blue chip companies in Europe, Asia, and the U.S. Most recently, she served as vice chair at the Phoenix National Association of Asian American Professionals.

In her current position, her responsibilities include overseeing all international economic development programs; building the area’s business, governmental and cultural infrastructure to support international trade; and enhancing Omaha’s image as a center for international trade.

**LAURENCE J. KOTLIKOFF** is a William Fairfield Warren Distinguished Professor and professor of economics at Boston University, a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a fellow of the Econometric Society, a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research, and president of Economic Security Planning, Inc., a company specializing in financial planning software.

Kotlikoff received a Ph.D. in economics from Harvard University in 1977. From 1977 through 1983, he served on the faculties of economics of the University of California, Los Angeles, and Yale University. In 1981–82, Professor Kotlikoff was a senior economist with the President’s Council of Economic Advisers.

Kotlikoff has published extensively on issues of financial reform, personal finance, taxes, Social Security, health care, deficits, generational accounting, pensions, saving, and insurance. He has served as a consultant to the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the Harvard Institute for International Development, numerous international financial institutions and government agencies, as well as government agencies and major corporations in the U.S. He has provided expert testimony on multiple occasions to Congressional committees.

**SHUANGLIN LIN** is Noddle Distinguished Professor of Economics and co-director of China Studies Program in the College of Business Administration at the University of Nebraska Omaha. He is also the director of the China Center for Public Finance at Peking University and research associate of the East Asian Institute at National University of Singapore.

Lin received his Ph.D. in economics from Purdue University. His research concentrates on public finance, economic growth, and the Chinese economy. He has undertaken a number of research projects from the World Bank and Ministry of Finance of China. Lin has published extensively in academic journals and authored, co-authored or edited numerous books. His policy articles have appeared in the New York Times and China Daily. Lin serves as columnist for the people.com.cn, the official website of the Chinese government, providing policy advice to the government.

Lin is a member of the editorial board of China Economic Review, and associate editor of China Economic Quarterly, a top economic journal in Chinese. He was president of the Chinese Economists Society from 2002–2003. He served as chair of the Department of Public Finance at Peking University from 2005 to 2013, and is a director of the Chinese Public Finance Association.