



# CHUCK HAGEL FORUM

IN GLOBAL  
LEADERSHIP

UNIVERSITY OF  
**Nebraska**  
Omaha



# OPENING REMARKS

## **Randy Adkins, Ph.D.**

Senior Associate Dean - College of Arts and Sciences  
University of Nebraska at Omaha

## **Fred Kempe**

President and CEO  
Atlantic Council

## **Joanne Li, Ph.D. CFA**

Chancellor  
University of Nebraska at Omaha

## **The Hon. Chuck Hagel**

24th U.S. Secretary of Defense  
U.S. Senator for Nebraska

# THE ROLE OF U.S. LEADERSHIP IN A CHANGING WORLD

## **Eric H. Holder Jr.**

82nd U.S. Attorney General

# MODERATED Q&A

WITH AUDIENCE QUESTIONS SUBMITTED IN ADVANCE

## **Eric H. Holder Jr.**

82nd U.S. Attorney General

## **The Hon. Chuck Hagel**

24th U.S. Secretary of Defense  
U.S. Senator for Nebraska

## **Jody Neathery-Castro, Ph.D.**

Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Global Engagement  
University of Nebraska at Omaha



82nd U.S. Attorney General

## ERIC H. HOLDER JR.

Eric Holder advises clients on complex investigations and litigation matters, including those that are international in scope and involve significant regulatory enforcement issues and substantial reputational concerns. Mr. Holder, who was a partner at Covington from 2001 to 2009, rejoined the firm after serving for six years as the 82nd Attorney General of the United States.

Before his service as Attorney General, Mr. Holder maintained a wide-ranging investigations and litigation practice at Covington. Among numerous significant engagements, he led the firm's representation of a major multi-national agricultural company in related civil, criminal, and investigative matters; acted as counsel to a special investigative committee of the board of directors of a Fortune 50 technology company; successfully tried a complex discrimination lawsuit on behalf of a leading financial services company; and represented several life sciences companies in litigation and investigations.

Mr. Holder served as Attorney General from February 2009 to April 2015. As the third longest-serving Attorney General in U.S. history and the first African American to hold that office, he is an internationally recognized leader across a broad range of regulatory enforcement, criminal justice, and national security issues. In 2014, *Time* magazine named Mr. Holder to its list of 100 Most Influential People, noting that he had "worked tirelessly to ensure equal justice."

Including his tenure as Attorney General, Mr. Holder has served in government for more than 30 years, having been appointed to various positions requiring U.S. Senate confirmation by Presidents Obama, Clinton, and Reagan.



24th U.S. Secretary of Defense  
U.S. Senator for Nebraska

## THE HONORABLE CHUCK HAGEL

Chuck Hagel was the 24th Secretary of Defense, serving from 2013 to 2015. He is the only Vietnam veteran and the first enlisted combat veteran to serve as Secretary of Defense.

Hagel serves on many boards and committees, including the Board of Trustees of RAND; Advisory Board of Corsair Capital; Chairman, Veterans Justice Commission; Senior Advisor to the McCarthy Group; Centennial Scholar, Georgetown Walsh School of Foreign Service; Distinguished Scholar, University of Nebraska at Omaha; Distinguished Statesman at the Atlantic Council; Director and Founding Member of the American Security Project; Advisory Board Chairman of the HillVets Veterans Organization; and Board of Directors of U.S./Middle East Peace Project.

He served two terms in the U.S. Senate (1997-2009) representing the state of Nebraska. He was a senior member of the Senate Foreign Relations; Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs; and Intelligence Committees. He chaired the Foreign Relations International Economic Policy, Export and Trade Promotion Subcommittee; and the Banking Committee's International Trade and Finance, and Securities Subcommittees. Hagel also served as the Chairman of the Congressional-Executive Commission on China and the Senate Climate Change Observer Group.

Secretary Hagel was a Distinguished Professor at Georgetown University and served on the Secretary of Defense's Policy Board, Secretary of Energy's Blue Ribbon Commission on the Future of Nuclear Power, and Systemic Risk Council Board of Directors and as a member of the Board of Directors of Chevron.

Before serving in the U.S. Senate, he was president of McCarthy & Company, an investment banking firm in Omaha, Nebraska. He co-founded VANGUARD Cellular Systems, Inc. and was President and CEO of the World USO, and Chief Operating Officer of the 1990 Economic Summit of Industrialized Nations (G-7 Summit).

He is the author of the book, *America: Our Next Chapter*. Hagel is a graduate of UNO.



Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Global Engagement,  
University of Nebraska at Omaha

## JODY NEATHERY-CASTRO, Ph.D.

Jody Neathery-Castro, Ph.D., currently serves as interim associate vice chancellor for Global Engagement at the University of Nebraska at Omaha where she oversees the International Programs office. She is a faculty member in the Department of Political Science, with courtesy appointments in International Studies, Women's and Gender Studies, and Human Rights. She previously served as interim director of the UNO School of Music and chair of the UNO Department of Political Science. She is a member of the inaugural class of National Strategic Research Institute (NSRI) Fellows and a faculty member and mentor for USSTRATCOM's Strategic Leadership Fellows Program.

Her regional expertise is in European politics, and she teaches and researches in the areas of international relations, comparative politics, security, and gender. Her recent research has examined the new strategic domain of cognitive warfare, the intersection of gender and deterrence, and the feasibility of using AI to improve intelligence decision-making and analysis. She has conducted pedagogical research in the areas of service learning, study abroad, and civic education. She serves as principal investigator on the U.S. State Department-funded Young Southeast Asian Leaders (YSEALI) grant to fund the YSEALI Institute for Civic Engagement bringing a cohort of 25 young ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) state leaders to our campus each semester for civic engagement and learning about the U.S.

She earned her B.A. degree in political science and journalism at Texas Christian University (1990) and M.A. and Ph.D. (1998) in political science at Rice University.



## CHUCK HAGEL FORUM

The Chuck Hagel Forum in Global Leadership explores critical issues with global leaders in search of solutions to today's global challenges. This series provides students with an opportunity to engage with Sec. Hagel and global leaders, policymakers, and thinkers.

Hagel said he believes that those who have had the privilege of serving this country through public service owe it to the community and future generations to inform and engage them about leadership, their future, and things that will be important for them going forward. Hagel is a graduate of UNO, and the university is a natural forum in which he can share these opportunities with students and the greater community.

The Chuck Hagel Forum in Global Leadership is the second series launched by Sec. Hagel in partnership with UNO in recent years, acting as a complement to the Chuck Hagel Symposium in Public Service. The symposium, first hosted in 2018, connects hundreds of high school students from the greater Omaha metropolitan area with university and community experts in a variety of fields, all sharing their perspectives on public service.

Hagel said a leader's job is to leave the institution you came from better than you found it, and he has exemplified this through his continued relationship with UNO.

## Atlantic Council

This year's forum is hosted again in partnership with the Atlantic Council, a nonpartisan organization that galvanizes U.S. leadership and engagement in the world, in partnership with allies and partners, to shape solutions to global challenges.

Secretary Hagel was Chairman of the Atlantic Council from February 2009 to February 2013, and currently is a Distinguished Statesman, serving as a member of the Council's International Advisory Board.



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