



UC INSTITUTE ON GLOBAL CONFLICT
AND COOPERATION

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*The University of California
Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation (IGCC)
and the UC Washington Center
Cordially invite you to a luncheon discussion:*

**The Price of Security:
The Politics of the U.S. Defense Budget and Its impact on National Security**

Prof. Daniel Wirls
Professor of Politics, UC Santa Cruz

Dr. Christopher Preble
The Cato Institute

Friday, November 6, 2009, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
University of California Washington Center, 1608 Rhode Island Ave. NW, Washington, D.C.

Over the last eight years, the core U.S. defense budget has risen 70 percent, even without factoring in \$500 billion-plus separately appropriated for wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Iraq and Afghanistan appropriations were reintegrated with the DoD budget for FY-2010, but this has not altered the broad trend. Since September 11, 2001, under the cover of the “global war on terror,” U.S. military spending has undergone one of the largest increases in the country’s history. This buildup is one of the most important legacies of the Bush presidency and one of the least understood and controversial. It is not clear that the Obama Administration is prepared to pay the political price to significantly change the trend. Prof. Daniel Wirls of UC Santa Cruz is author of the forthcoming *Irrational Security: The Politics of Defense from Reagan to Obama* (Johns Hopkins, 2010) and *Buildup: The Politics of Defense in the Reagan Era* (Cornell 1992). Christopher Preble is Director of Foreign Policy Studies at the Cato Institute and author of *The Power Problem: How American Military Dominance Makes Us Less Safe, Less Prosperous, and Less Free*. They will discuss the background and politics of this build-up and its implication for future U.S. budgets and security policy.

Please RSVP, acceptances only, to Joseph R. McGhee at the IGCC Washington office: Phone (202) 974-6295; Fax (202) 974-6299; email: joseph.mcghee@ucdc.edu. See the IGCC website at <http://igcc.ucsd.edu>

_____ **I plan to attend. Name, Phone, Affiliation** _____.