

Media Release

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Increasing intelligence capability

Congressman C.A. "Dutch" Ruppertsberger speaks at Towson University as part of Badolato Distinguished Speaker Series in Homeland Security

TOWSON, Md. – Maryland Congressman C.A. "Dutch" Ruppertsberger—the 36th most powerful member of Congress according to the newly released 2007 Knowlegis "Pre-Season Power rankings"—served as keynote speaker for the fifth lecture in the Edward V. Badolato Distinguished Speaker Series in Homeland Security at Towson University, on April 3.

Ruppertsberger serves on the highly sought after Appropriations Committee, is chairman of the Technical and Tactical Intelligence Subcommittee within the Intelligence Committee, and is also a member of the Terrorism, Human Intelligence, Analysis and Counterintelligence Subcommittee.

During his lecture, Ruppertsberger called for continuing pressure and oversight from Congress to reform the United States intelligence community—not only for the current Global War on Terrorism, but for future threats from China and Russia. He said America has "the best rocket scientists, engineers, and technical experts in the world. It's important for us to continue to produce them."

Ruppertsberger emphasized that "good intelligence is the best way to prevent terrorism." He observed that the United States has no domestic intelligence agency, noting that the FBI is structured for arrest and prosecution rather than intelligence gathering. In his three terms in Congress and especially through his co-chairing the Congressional Port Security Caucus, Ruppertsberger has supported changing the way the United States secures its borders. Some of his sharpest criticisms were leveled at the Department of Homeland Security, which he deemed "too bureaucratic" and which needed to be "held accountable to protect and help the American people."

"We're never going to fight our way out of terrorism," Ruppertsberger said. For the U.S. to deal with threats it faces in the battle against terrorists, he said the government needs to "increase its diplomatic efforts as well as intelligence efforts."

The speaker series—endowed by Colonel Edward Badolato, President and CEO of Integrated Infrastructure Analytics, Inc.—brings together distinguished leaders in Homeland Security to share perspectives on combating terrorism and making our nation safer. For additional information please refer to our Web site, <http://wwwnew.towson.edu/outreach/homelandsecurity/speaker.asp>

The Center for Homeland Security is an important component of TU's Division of Economic and Community Outreach (DECO).