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Dear Members of the Center Community,

Over the past year, several of you have expressed interest in holding an open forum on the future direction of Slavic, Eurasian, and East European Studies. My colleague at Duke, Professor Edna Andrews, and I agree that this would be a valuable initiative for our Centers. This idea coincides with the re-application process to the Department of Education National Resource Center (NRC) grant that jointly supports our Centers. That application will be due in the fall and we are beginning to prepare for the application process.

In this context, I am pleased to announce the first of two joint sessions will take place at UNC:

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 4:00-8:30 PM
GRAHAM MEMORIAL HALL, ROOM 039 (KRESGE COMMON ROOM)

A second joint meeting will take place at Duke later in the semester.

The schedule for FEBRUARY 23:

4:00-5:00	Professor Michael Kennedy: <i>"Linking Culture and Security: the Future of Slavic, Eurasian, and East European Studies"</i>
5:00-5:45	Catered Dinner
5:45-6:25	Breakout groups for discussion on topics of joint interest
6:35-7:15	Breakout groups for discussion on topics of joint interest
7:25-8:30	Plenary session to report on breakout groups and set an agenda for the remainder of the semester

This event is supported by The Robertson Scholars Collaboration Fund.

Michael Kennedy is Professor of Sociology and former Vice Provost for International Affairs, Director of the International Center, and Director of the Center for Russian and East European Studies at the University of Michigan. He holds a 1985 Ph.D. from UNC.

I encourage you to contact me with issues and concerns that you might like for Michael to address in his presentation and/or to be included in the breakout sessions. We hope that this forum will be an opportunity to learn more about each other and to shape our common goals for the future. Please contact me if you want to offer additional input or have questions.

We encourage faculty, students, and members of the broader community to take part in this event. Please spread the word and join us. We look forward to seeing you on February 23.

Sincerely,

Bob Jenkins