

*Center for International Studies – Albuquerque International Association present*

## **“China: Menacing Monolith or Fragile Superpower?”**

*Dr. Charles Bergman*

*Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010 3:00pm – 5:00pm  
Albuquerque Museum of Art and History, Special Events Area*

To many Americans, **China’s rise** marks the rise of a strong, confident, and vaguely **threatening colossus** on the world stage. Yet others, like former Assistant Secretary of State Susan Shirk, believe that behind **China’s façade of strength** lie several **crippling weaknesses**. So how should we view China? Is it truly a **gentle giant** in the midst of a “peaceful rising,” as China’s own propaganda would have us believe? Or is China in fact a great and **growing threat to the U.S.** and its global interests? At the heart of this question lies China’s **astonishing economic growth**, which has put China on a **path to overtake the U.S.** as the world’s largest economy **within two decades**. As the economic balance of power shifts to accommodate China’s rise, how will the **U.S. and China react to one another**? And what can we do as thoughtful citizens to ensure that the U.S.-China relationship evolves towards **cooperation instead of conflict**? We’ll explore these questions in what promises to be a lively, thought-provoking lecture.

**Charles Bergman** has taught Chinese to high-school students and adults for more than 15 years. He began his study of Chinese at **Tunghai University in Taichung, Taiwan**, while on a Henry Luce Foundation fellowship. He earned an **M.A. in East Asian Studies** from Stanford University. Currently a faculty member at **Albuquerque Academy**, Charles began teaching Chinese at Cate School in California, where he served for seven years as Asian Studies director.

*Cost/lecture: \$15 Students with a proper ID – free of charge. Payment must be received by Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Please address the check to AIA and mail it to AIA, PO Box 92995, Albuquerque, NM 87199*

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