Ms. Lee has been the executive director of the National Committee on North Korea (NCNK) since February, 2006. In her previous position as the Senior Fellow for the East Asia Policy Education Project of the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL), Lee educated congressional staff and members with a special emphasis on North Korea, through office visits, writing and distributing position papers, and hill briefings. She facilitated dialogue between humanitarian organizations and policy makers regarding humanitarian aid, human rights, and refugees in North Korea. She gave presentations and introduced congressional staff to key resource people active in North Korea. She tracked and shared with a broad community legislative and policy developments, and advised grassroots organizations on legislative approaches.

Following more than a decade of service to the United Nations, Professor Bertini joined the faculty of the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs in 2005. She teaches courses in Humanitarian Action, UN Management, and Girls’ Education, drawing on the vast experience she gained during her years of leadership in public sector management, international organizations, humanitarian relief, and nutrition policy. Professor Bertini was the driving force behind reform of the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), where she was the Chief Executive for ten years. During her tenure, WFP’s institutional changes in the areas of efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability were cited by the United States government and the thirty-six-government board of WFP as a model of UN reform.

North Korea, the United States
And the International Community:
Lessons in Engagement

2:00pm-5:00pm, November 8, 2006
Room 500, Hall of Languages
Syracuse University

A Public Forum Co-hosted by
Moynihan East Asia Program, Syracuse University
and
Korea Economic Institute, Washington D.C.
2:00 – 2:10 Welcoming Remarks
Hongying Wang, Associate Professor of Political Science
Director of Moynihan East Asia Program, Maxwell School, Syracuse University
David Choi, Associate Director for Programs, Korea Economic Institute, D.C.

2:10 Panel: Lessons Learned? International Approaches to North Korea
Moderated by Jongwoo Han
Adjunct Assistant Professor of Political Science, Maxwell School, Syracuse University

2:10 – 2:30 George Kallander
Assistant Professor, History, Syracuse University
“Through the Looking Glass: Historical Interaction with N. Korea”
Professor Kallander completed his Ph.D. at Columbia University, where he studied Korean, Japanese and Mongolian History and Culture. His main research interest is late nineteenth and early twentieth century Korean history, particularly the construction of tradition and the role of religion and religious nationalism in Korea's transition to modernity. Professor Kallander recently completed a year as a postdoctoral fellow at the Weatherhead East Asian Institute at Columbia University. Besides Korea, he has also lived and studied in Mongolia, where he came to appreciate horseback riding and airak (fermented mare's milk).

2:30 – 2:50 Stuart Thorson
Professor, Political Science and International Relations, Syracuse University
“U.S. Experiences with Engaging North Korea”
Professor Thorson is a member of the National Committee on North Korea. He is directing research in the area of integrated information technology involving collaborative research teams from Syracuse University and Kim Chaek University of Technology, Pyongyang, DPRK. Professor Thorson is examining e-governance efforts on the Korean peninsula and the PRC. He is also involved with a multidisciplinary team of researchers at Syracuse University doing research in the area of systems assurance. His particular interest within this involves e-governance and questions of privacy and security.

2:50 – 3:10 Scott Rembrandt
Director of Research and Academic Affairs, Korea Economic Institute, D.C.
“U.S. Policy Perspectives Circa 2006”
Having joined the institute in October 2004, Mr. Rembrandt organizes and participates in KEI’s 16 to 20 annual university programs around the country as well as its annual academic symposium, which in 2006 will be held at Harvard University with the Preventive Defense Project at Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs. In Washington, Mr. Rembrandt oversees programming related to Korea’s relations with North Korea, China and Japan and co-organizes KEI’s Korea-Japan Study Group with CSIS and the Mansfield Foundation and KEI’s Korea-China Forum with the Atlantic Council. Mr. Rembrandt’s primary substantive area of research is North Korea, and he writes a monthly column on the DPRK for KEI’s monthly newsletter, Insight. Prior to joining KEI, Mr. Rembrandt was based in Asia, where he served as a consultant in China and as the Business Manager for the Chief Country Officer (CCO) Group – Asia for Deutsche Bank.

3:10 – 3:20 Coffee Break

3:20 – 3:40 Kathryn Weathersby
Senior Associate, the Woodrow Wilson International Center, D.C.
“Soviet Approaches to North Korea”
Kathryn Weathersby is Senior Associate of the History and Public Policy Program at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, DC. She directs the Program’s North Korea International Documentation Project, which is mining the records on North Korea held in the archives of its former allies in the communist world in order to shed light on the evolution of DPRK foreign and domestic policy. She received a Ph.D. in modern Russian history from Indiana University in 1990, with a second field in modern East Asian history.