

Wednesday, December 7



China's "Benjamin Franklin," the world's largest cargo vessel, heads for the port of Oakland

TRADE UNDER STRESS: Multilateral Agreements Face Opposition At Home and Abroad

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Since its founding in 1995, the World Trade Organization (WTO) - established to promote international trade liberalization - has faced increasing difficulties. In particular, the "Doha Round" of negotiations, initiated in 2001 and intended to lower trade barriers, has produced few results. Countries have sought alternatives: bilateral free trade agreements (FTA's); regional accords; and so-called "mega-FTA's" that link countries across regions. Examples include: the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) in Asia, the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) between the US and EU, and the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), which faces bi-partisan opposition in the US. What are the implications of the rise of mega-FTA's for global politics and economics? How will corporations, consumers, and labor be affected?

Dr. Vinod Aggarwal, Professor of Political Science and Travers Family Senior Faculty Fellow at Berkeley, is affiliated with the Haas School of Business and edits *Business and Politics*. A prolific author, his most recent book is *Responding to China's Rise: US and EU Strategies*.

**Pre-paid reservations required for guaranteed seating.
Dinner reservations required by Friday, December 2.**

Dinner & Program

Council & UNA Members: \$40
Non-members: \$45
Students and Dominican
Faculty Staff: \$40

Dessert & Program

Council & UNA Members: \$7
Non-members: \$10
Dominican Faculty & Staff: \$7
Students: Free
(without coffee and dessert)

Reception: 6:30 PM
Dinner: 7:00 PM
Dessert: 7:30 PM
Program: 7:50 PM

Dominican University
Caleruega Dining Hall
Creekside Room
Magnolia at Palm Ave
San Rafael, CA