History has shown that every dominant country or empire eventually loses its dominance. The Mongols, Romans, Ottomans, and Great Britain offer examples. In some cases the decline occurs quickly. In others, it occurs gradually for a variety of reasons that become irreversible, and new powers emerge.

America has been the world’s dominant power for decades, a role that was solidified even further with the breakup of the Soviet Union in 1989. However, recent internal and external developments suggest that this global dominance may be beginning to erode, along with the perception of America’s influence and resolve. Is it true? If so, what does America need to do to restore it?

The 2015 Summer Lecture Series will focus on these over-arching questions, looking at America’s power and influence from different perspectives.
AMERICAN LEADERSHIP IN AN AGE OF FEAR

In Way of the World, and his other books, Ron Suskind, best-selling author and Pulitzer prize-winning journalist, has framed the debate about how America is struggling, often through the actions and initiative of individuals, to help restore some of the moral authority it has lost in recent years. This opening presentation in the 2015 Osher summer lecture series will examine the basic challenge for the globe's most powerful nation: How to find a way to exercise power with its attendant complications, without compromising moral authority, the source of true power in an ever more connected and transparent era.

Ron Suskind • Author and Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist
Ron Suskind is the author of six critically-acclaimed bestsellers that have examined a variety of relevant current issues including presidential power and America's role in the world. In the 1990s, he was a reporter and senior national affairs writer for the Wall Street Journal, where he won the 1995 Pulitzer Prize for feature writing. He has been a distinguished visiting scholar at Dartmouth and Harvard; last year he established Harvard's Project on Public Narrative, which oversees investigative journalism and organizes events designed to reframe public narratives on core American issues.

WILL THE UNITED STATES MAINTAIN ITS ECONOMIC POWER IN THE 21ST CENTURY?

History shows that the political, military, and cultural power of countries and empires depends greatly on their economic power. Without a vibrant economy, other forms of power are difficult to generate and maintain. What are the economic prospects for the United States in the 21st Century? In the uncertain wake of the world financial crisis, there is legitimate concern about whether America's economic might is waning. Economic growth remains sluggish. Wages and incomes are growing far too slowly, if at all, for many workers and families. Fiscal pressures are building, thanks to aging population and related health-care costs. This talk will examine America's current economic condition and its prospects, with particular focus on policy choices facing the United States today that will shape future economic performance and leadership.

Matthew Slaughter • Incoming Dean of the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth
At the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth, Matthew J. Slaughter is Associate Dean for Faculty, Signal Companies' Professor of Management, and the founding faculty director of the Center for Global Business and Government. On July 1, 2015, he will become Dean of Tuck. He is also currently a Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research; an adjunct Senior Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations; a member of the advisory committee of the Export-Import Bank; a member of the academic advisory board of the International Tax Policy Forum; and an academic advisor to the McKinsey Global Institute.
AMERICAN MILITARY POWER: WHAT IS IT FOR?

What lessons has the United States learned from the last “decade of war?” What went right, what did not and what do we need to learn from this experience? Security threats have changed significantly since 9/11, externally and internally. Will America become increasingly dependent on its allies or will they become a burden on future American leaders, America’s economy and governance? What should America’s strategic military imperatives be in order to achieve its desired political outcomes?

Michael Kofman • National Security Expert

Michael Kofman is a public policy scholar at the Kennan Institute, Woodrow Wilson International Center in Washington, D.C. He has spent years managing professional military education programs and military to military engagements for senior officers at National Defense University. There, he served as an expert adviser to military and government officials on critical issues regarding Russia, Eurasia, and Pakistan. He has published and co-authored articles on security issues along with numerous analyses for the United States government. He holds an M.A. in International Security from the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University, and a B.A. in Political Science from Northeastern University.

AMERICA’S POWER AND INFLUENCE AS PERCEIVED BY THE MEDIA

In an 1787 letter from Paris to fellow-Virginian Edward Carrington, a delegate to the Continental Congress, Thomas Jefferson famously observed that if he had to choose between a “government without newspapers or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter.” Jefferson assumed, of course, that there would be newspapers, and that those papers would contain a critical mass of reliable information that citizens of a democracy would need to govern themselves. More than two centuries later, a plethora of media sources and information – print, broadcast, cable, satellite, and online - are having an unprecedented impact. In this session, two prominent journalists will explore the impact of these revolutionary changes on the reality and perception of America’s global power and influence.

Marty Baron • Executive Editor, The Washington Post

Martin (Marty) Baron became executive editor of the Post in January, 2013. He oversees the paper’s print and digital news operations. Under his leadership the Post won two Pulitzer prizes in 2014 and another in 2015. Previously, Baron had been editor of the Boston Globe; under his tenure the Globe won six Pulitzer prizes. Prior to the Globe, he held top editing positions at the New York Times, the Miami Herald and the Los Angeles Times.

Elisabeth Bumiller • Washington Editor, The New York Times

Elisabeth Bumiller is Washington editor of The New York Times, where she oversees the daily report from the nation’s capital, including the White House, Congress, the Pentagon, the State Department and the C.I.A. She has served in many key reporting posts with The Times - Pentagon correspondent, White House correspondent, U.S. presidential campaign reporter. She has also been a correspondent for the Washington Post in New York, Delhi and Tokyo. She is the author of three books. She was born in Denmark, grew up in Cincinnati, and holds degrees from Northwestern University and the Columbia Graduate School of Journalism.
**AMERICA’S INNOVATION POWER IN THE WORLD**

Stunning advances in technology and science, mobile device proliferation, and fast-growing global markets have fueled a tsunami of innovation—from the molecular to the macroeconomic level, technology is reshaping the way we live, work and play. For American entrepreneurship, it’s an era marked by both opportunity and transformation. The thriving entrepreneurial ecosystem that played such a fundamental role in the U.S.’s ascent as a hub of innovation and economic power must now test its mettle on a global playing field. Even as the pace and magnitude of technological change enable extraordinary opportunities to build new businesses—even create entirely new industries—there are new rules of engagement, new challenges, and new competitors.

From his perspective at the helm of one of the world’s largest venture capital firms, technology investor Scott Sandell explores the changing face of American entrepreneurship, and how the U.S. can continue to be a dominant force in an innovation economy that knows no borders.

*Scott Sandell • General Partner, New Enterprise Associates venture capital firm*

In addition to his role as General Partner of New Enterprise Associates, Mr. Sandell is also head of NEA’s Information Technology and Alternative Energy investing practices. He is one of only six investors to be named to the Forbes Midas List every year since 2007, with 22 technology companies in his portfolio having successfully completed public offerings or mergers. He also leads NEA’s investing activities in China. Mr. Sandell is a Dartmouth graduate with an MBA from Stanford. He began his career at the Boston Consulting Group and was a Product Manager at Microsoft before joining NEA. Mr. Sandell is also Chairman of the National Venture Capital Association.

**AMERICA’S FUTURE POWER AND INFLUENCE: AN INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE**

Canada and its political leaders offer valuable perspectives on the future power and influence of the United States. In this session, one of Canada’s most prominent political and social leaders will elaborate on that theme. Canada does not always agree with the United States and is not reticent about making its views known, usually in private. The two countries work in close collaboration on security, law enforcement, environmental protection, and international relations, and share the largest trade relationship in the world.

*Robert Rae • Canadian Political Leader*

Currently a senior partner in a Toronto law firm, Robert Rae has been a Canadian political and social leader for decades. He was elected eleven times to the House of Commons and the Ontario legislature between 1978 and 2013. He served as Ontario’s 21st Premier from 1990-95 and interim Federal Leader and foreign affairs critic for the Liberal Party of Canada from 2011-13. In 2011, he was chosen by his colleagues as Parliamentarian of the Year. He resigned from Parliament in 2013 to return to legal practice, particularly in assisting First Nation communities. He attended Oxford University as a Rhodes scholar and is a graduate of the University of Toronto Law School.
THE FUTURE OF AMERICAN POWER AND INFLUENCE

LECTURE CALENDAR 2015

Wednesdays from 9:00 am to 11:30 am, Hopkins Center, Spaulding Auditorium, Hanover, NH

Lecture #1  7/15  Suskind  American Leadership in an Age of Fear
Lecture #2  7/22  Slaughter  Will the United States Maintain its Economic Power in the 21st Century?
Lecture #3  7/29  Kofman  American Military Power: What Is It For?
Lecture #4  8/5  Baron & Bumiller  America’s Power and Influence as Perceived by the Media
Lecture #5  8/12  Sandell  America’s Innovation Power in the World
Lecture #6  8/19  Rae  America’s Future Power and Influence: An International Perspective
OSHER@DARTMOUTH SUMMER LECTURE SERIES 2015 REGISTRATION FORM

Six consecutive Wednesdays
beginning July 15,
ending August 19, 2015
9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Hopkins Center, Spaulding Auditorium

Yes, I/we would like to attend the OSHER@Dartmouth Summer Lecture Series 2015. Enclosed is a non-refundable check made payable to Dartmouth College. Mail to: Osher at Dartmouth, 7 Lebanon St., Suite 107, Hanover, NH 03755.

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Non-Member:  Series Ticket(s): ______ @ $120 = $ ________
(Price does not include nor require 2015-2016 membership)

OR $25 per lecture at the door

YOU CAN ALSO REGISTER ONLINE
Visit our website at https://osher.dartmouth.edu, then click on the Summer Lecture Series page.
You must log in or open an account in order to register online.

Please contact the office if you have registered for a previous Summer Lecture Series,
or if you have participated in any OSHER@Dartmouth or ILEAD courses,
as you may already have an account available.

Questions? Call (603) 646-0154 or e-mail us at: OSHER@dartmouth.edu

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS JUNE 26, 2015
(to give us time to process and mail your tickets)
You can purchase admission at the OSHER@Dartmouth office after this date,
or at the OSHER@Dartmouth table (near the entrance to Spaulding Auditorium)
on Wednesday mornings during the series.
Summer Lecture Series 2015

Wednesdays, July 15 - August 19
9:00 AM to 11:30 AM
Spaulding Auditorium, Hopkins Center

The Future of American Power and Influence

The State of Our Union • Economic Health • Military Might
Media Perceptions • Innovation and Technology
International Perspectives