

## CENTRE FOR KOREAN RESEARCH

*The Centre for Korean Research is pleased to present:*

### **“The North Korea Crisis: A Dangerous Stalemate”**

By Mike Chinoy (University of Southern California)

Tuesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>

3:00pm -4:30 pm

Conference Room #120, C.K. Choi Building  
1855 West Mall

**Abstract:** Since the sinking of the South Korean navy ship the Cheonan by North Korea in March, tensions have risen sharply in Northeast Asia. Joint U.S.-South Korean naval exercises held in recent weeks in response to the sinking have triggered dire threats from Pyongyang. At the same time, the Korean crisis has added new strains to Sino-American relations, as Beijing has objected strenuously to the deployment of a U.S. aircraft carrier in international waters near China. China's reluctance to support tougher sanctions against the North has added to American frustration. The regional tensions have unfolded against a backdrop of mounting uncertainty about the situation inside North Korea. The country's leader Kim Jong Il is in poor health and maneuvering to have his youngest son succeed him. Amid continuing economic difficulties, there has been growing speculation about the possibility of a North Korean collapse.

How did the current crisis take shape? What are the choices facing Washington, Seoul, Beijing, and Pyongyang? What are the implications of continuing tension for the region?

**Bio:** Mike Chinoy is a Senior Fellow at the U.S.-China Institute at the University of Southern California and Vice President and Managing Director for Asia for News Certified Exchange, a media training company. He has visited North Korea 14 times and is the author of "Meltdown: The Inside Story of the North Korean Nuclear Crisis," which was described by the Washington Post as a "tour de force of reporting." He was a foreign correspondent for CNN for 24 years, serving as Bureau Chief in Beijing and Hong Kong, as well as Senior Asia Correspondent.

