

Speaker: Good evening and welcome to today's meeting of The Commonwealth Club of California. You can find us online at commonwealthclub.org, on Facebook and Twitter, and on the club's YouTube channel. I'm Dennis Wu, past Chair of The Commonwealth Club Board of Governors and a member of the Board of Directors of the Committee of 100. I am your Chair for today's program.

This program has been co-organized by the Committee of 100. Established in 1990 as a nonprofit organization, the Committee of 100 has a rich legacy of harnessing the power of its distinguished memberships to address significant complex issues pertaining to Americans of Chinese descent and U.S.-China relations. And now, onto the program.

With China's growth slower than it has been in 25 years, it is undoubtable that China is experiencing an economic slowdown. The government has made changes to stabilize the situation and move the economy towards a new norm. Today, we'll discuss the different kinds of reforms China is working on and how likely those reforms are to succeed. What does it mean for Americans if those reforms succeed or if they fail? Do we need to fear a stronger China or, even so, a weaker one? It's my pleasure to introduce our distinguished speakers.

Yingyi Qian is Dean and Professor of the School of Economics and Management at Tsinghua University in China, a post he has held for ten years. Professor Qian was born in Beijing and graduated from Shantou University. He received his PhD in Economics from Harvard University after earning a Master's in Management Science/Operations Research from Yale University and a MA in Statistics from Columbia University.

Speaker: He's been on the faculty at Stanford, the University of Maryland, and the University of California, Berkeley. His main research areas include comparative economics, institutional economics, economics of transition, and the Chinese economy.

Nicholas Lardy is a senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics and a board member of Asia Policy and the China Review. Before joining the Peterson Institute in March 2003, Dr. Lardy was senior fellow at Brookings Institution. Before Brookings, he served at the University of Washington where he was the Director of the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies, and before that, as Adjunct Professor of International Trade and Finance at Yale University. Dr. Lardy received his PhD in Economics from University of Michigan and is a noted expert on the Chinese economy.

Moderating today's discussion will be George Lewinski, former editor of Marketplace Radio. George Lewinski is well regarded for his coverage of international business and economic issues on U.S. public radio. Much of his reporting on Marketplace involved the growing relationship between the U.S. and Asia, particularly China. Mr. Lewinski also served as a lecturer at the UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism where he taught radio reporting for more than a decade. Previously, Mr. Lewinski served as foreign editor and producer for the Canadian Broadcasting Company's radio and television news divisions. He received his BA in History from McGill University.

Please welcome Professor Yingyi Qian, Dr. Nicholas Lardy, and George Lewinski.