On Thursday, March 27th, at 4:30PM in Lewis Auditorium, Goldwin Smith Hall, Andrew C. Weber, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear, Chemical, and Biological Defense Programs, will give a talk entitled "Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction." The talk is part of the Einaudi Center's ongoing Foreign Policy Distinguished Speaker Series.

Andrew C. Weber is the principal advisor to the Secretary of Defense, the Deputy Secretary of Defense, and the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics on matters related to nuclear, chemical, and biological defense programs (NCB). Mr. Weber is the Staff Director of the Nuclear Weapons Council, which manages the nuclear weapons stockpile. He also oversees the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction Program and the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, which focuses on activities such as basic science research and development, operational support to U.S. warfighters on the front line, and in-house capabilities to anticipate and mitigate future threats.

Since taking office, Mr. Weber has overseen an expansion of Nunn-Lugar programs into new regions, including the Middle East, Africa and the Asia-Pacific. The program has supported the elimination of chemical weapons in Libya and Syria. He has also focused on reform of the nation's biodefense enterprise. His nuclear duties include executing President Obama's direction to ensure a safe, secure, and effective nuclear weapons stockpile, and to prevent nuclear terrorism.

Prior to his appointment by President Obama, Mr. Weber served for 13 years as an Adviser for Threat Reduction Policy in the Office of the Secretary of Defense. He played a key role in
Nunn-Lugar operations to remove weapons grade uranium from Kazakhstan and Georgia, and nuclear capable MiG-29 aircraft from Moldova. Mr. Weber also developed and oversaw the Department of Defense Biological Threat Reduction Program.

The majority of Mr. Weber's 28 years of public service have been dedicated to reducing the threat of weapons of mass destruction, proliferation, and terrorism. Prior to joining the Department of Defense, he served as a United States Foreign Service Officer, with diplomatic assignments in Saudi Arabia, Germany, Kazakhstan, and Hong Kong. He holds a bachelor’s degree from Cornell University and a master’s degree in Foreign Service from Georgetown University. Mr. Weber speaks Russian and is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

The Foreign Policy Distinguished Speaker Series features prominent leaders in international affairs who can address topical issues from a variety of perspectives. The Speaker Series is part of the Foreign Policy Forum at Cornell University led by the Einaudi Center to maximize the intellectual impact of Cornell's outstanding resources in this area.