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Dean of the Humphrey School to Deliver 2013 Jooinn Lee Lecture

Summary: The title of Schwartz’s talk will be “Human Rights and the Responsibility to Protect Civilians at Risk: Promise or Pipe Dream?”

(September 25, 2013)-Eric Schwartz, dean of the University of Minnesota’s Humphrey School of Public Affairs, will deliver the 2013 Jooinn Lee Lecture on Wednesday, October 9, at 7 p.m. in Imholte Hall 109. The title of Schwartz’s talk will be “Human Rights and the Responsibility to Protect Civilians at Risk: Promise or Pipe Dream?” This lecture is free and open to the public.

According to Schwartz, governments of the world expressed their support for stronger measures to safeguard civilians from gross violations of human rights in the aftermath of genocides in Rwanda and Bosnia in the 1990s. He argues, however, that the deaths of tens of thousands of Syrians and the flight of approximately one million people from the country prove that civilians continue to be victimized. His talk will address how to assess progress in the effort to protect individuals at risk of gross violations of human rights.

Schwartz became dean of the Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs in October 2011, after a 25-year career in senior public service positions in government, at the United Nations, and in the philanthropic and non-governmental communities. Prior to his arrival in Minnesota, Schwartz served as United States Assistant Secretary of State for Population, Refugees, and Migration. Working with Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, he served as the Department of State’s principal humanitarian official, managing a $1.85 billion budget, as well as State Department policy and programs for both United States refugee admissions and international assistance worldwide.

Schwartz holds a law degree from New York University School of Law, a master of public affairs from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University, and a bachelor of arts degree, with honors, in political science from the State University of New York at Binghamton. His areas of expertise include International humanitarian affairs and human rights, conflict prevention and response, United States foreign policy, international migration, international organizations, and peacekeeping.

The Jooinn Lee Lecture Series was created to honor Professor Jooinn Lee on the occasion of his retirement from Morris in 2007. The endowed lecture series will showcase the political science discipline and cutting-edge scholarship by bringing to campus distinguished alumni, scholars and prominent practitioners representing the field of politics.

Parking for the lecture is available in the North Lot on campus. For more information, please contact Seung-Ho Joo, professor of political science, at 320-589-6203 or joos@morris.umn.edu.

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