The Alan K. Simpson-Norman Y. Mineta Leader Series

“The Necessary Role of Bipartisanship in American Democracy”

April 22, 2013 | 1:00 pm to 2:15 pm | Blinken Auditorium, TWC Residential & Academic Facility
(The dress code is business professional.)

The Simpson-Mineta Leaders Series is founded in the spirit of the lifelong friendship of two extraordinary leaders from opposite sides of the aisle. Norman Y. Mineta and Alan K. Simpson met during World War II when Simpson's Boy Scout troop met with Mineta's in the Heart Mountain Relocation Center in Wyoming where Secretary Mineta’s family was then interned with over 10,000 other Japanese-Americans. Despite their differences, both their friendship and their commitment to leadership and public service endured.

The Simpson-Mineta Leaders Series aims to create a forum in which students from around the country and the world can engage with extraordinary leaders, explore issues of contemporary public concern, and articulate their own views about the meaning of leadership and citizenship in today’s society.

Senator Byron Dorgan (D-ND)
Senior Fellow, Bipartisan Policy Center

U.S. Senator Byron L. Dorgan served as a Congressman and Senator for North Dakota for 30 years before retiring from the U.S. Senate in 2011.

Dorgan's public service career began at age 26, when he was appointed North Dakota State Tax Commissioner. He was the youngest constitutional officer in North Dakota's history. Dorgan served as tax commissioner of North Dakota from 1969 until 1980.

Dorgan was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1980 and served there until he was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1992. He served in the Senate Leadership for 16 years, first as Assistant Democratic Floor Leader and then as Chairman of the Democratic Policy Committee. He was Chairman of Senate Committees and Subcommittees on the issues of Energy, Aviation, Appropriations, Water and Energy, and Indian Affairs.

Senator Dorgan is now active in his post-Senate life teaching, speaking, consulting, writing and much more.

He is a recognized leader in the fields of energy policy, economic issues, aviation policy, Indian issues, trade policy, health care and more. He is considered a compelling public speaker and one of the best debaters who served in the U.S. Senate.

Senator Dorgan is a Visiting Professor at two Universities lecturing on energy, economic policy and political affairs. He works part time as a Senior Policy Advisor with the Washington, D.C. law firm Arent Fox LLP. He is also a Senior Fellow with the Bipartisan Policy Center, a Washington, D.C. think tank, focusing
primarily on energy issues. And he is chairing a new program at the Aspen Institute – The Center for Native American Youth – that assists Native American children with an emphasis on teen suicide prevention.

The Senator is the author of three books. The first, a New York Times Bestseller book “Take this Job and Ship It,” and a second book released in 2009, “Reckless...How Debt, Deregulation and Dark Money Nearly Bankrupted America (And How We Can Fix It).” He just co-authored a novel “Blowout” that was published in March of 2012 and has a contract to write another book in this “eco-thriller” series due out this summer.

Senator Dorgan earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of North Dakota, and a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Denver.

Greta Brawner – Moderator
Senior Producer and Host – Washington Journal
C-SPAN

Greta Brawner is senior producer and a host of C-SPAN’s Washington Journal – a live, national, call-in program. Previously, Brawner worked as a print reporter covering Senate leadership for the twice-daily CongressDaily publication. A graduate of University of Minnesota, Brawner has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science.

About The Bipartisan Policy Center
From www.bipartisanpolicy.org/about

The Bipartisan Policy Center (BPC) drives principled solutions through rigorous analysis, reasoned negotiation, and respectful dialogue. Founded in 2007 by former Senate Majority Leaders Howard Baker, Tom Daschle, Bob Dole and George Mitchell, BPC combines politically-balanced policymaking with strong, proactive advocacy and outreach.

As the only Washington, D.C.-based think tank that actively promotes bipartisanship, BPC works to address the key challenges facing the nation. Our policy solutions are the product of informed deliberations by former elected and appointed officials, business and labor leaders, and academics and advocates who represent both ends of the political spectrum. We are currently focused on health care, energy, national and homeland security, transportation and the economy.

BPC is committed to seeing our policy solutions enacted by lawmakers. Through the Bipartisan Policy Center Advocacy Network, our (c)(4) affiliate, we engage in advocacy and strategic outreach and education to bolster the legislative center and support efforts that bring Republicans and Democrats together on the difficult issues facing the country.