

Join us! Keynote Speaker Event:



Professor Devesh Kapur Center for the Advanced Study of India

University of Pennsylvania

LIBERALIZATION SANS LIBERALISM: THE CONTROL RAJ, IDEOLOGY AND RENTS IN INDIAN HIGHER EDUCATION

KEYNOTE SPEECH, INDIA AT 70: BALANCING GOVERNANCE AND DEMOCRATIC CHALLENGES CONFERENCE THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2017

4:00PM -5:30PM

HONNOLD MUDD LIBRARY, FOUNDERS ROOM, 1ST FLOOR

The expansion of higher

education in India in the past quarter century has been the most rapid in human history, after China. However, this quantitative transformation of Indian higher education in the post-liberalization period has entrenched government control, fuelled rent-seeking and vitiated many of the core purposes of higher education. The talk will examine the rapid growth in higher education in India and the characteristics of this growth, focusing on the inherent tension among expansion, cost, quality and access. The talk will further examine the political economy of higher education in India and its consequences for India's future.

Devesh Kapur was appointed Director of the Center for the Advanced Study of India in 2006. He is Professor of Political Science at Penn, and holds the Madan Lal Sobti Chair for the Study of Contemporary India. Prior to arriving at Penn. Professor Kapur was Associate Professor of Government at the University of Texas at Austin, and before that the Frederick Danziger Associate Professor of Government at Harvard. His research focuses on human capital, national and international public institutions, and the ways in which local-global linkages, especially international migration and international institutions, affect political and economic change in developing countries, especially India. His book, Diaspora, Democracy and Development: The Impact of International Migration from India on India, published by Princeton University Press in August 2010, earned him the 2012 ENMISA (Ethnicity, Nationalism, and Migration Section of International Studies Association) Distinguished Book Award. His latest book, Defying the Odds: The Rise of Dalit Entrepreneurs (co-authored with D. Shyam Babu and Chandra Bhan Prasad), was published in July 2014 by Random House India He is a monthly contributor to the Business Standard. Professor Kapur holds a B. Tech in Chemical Engineering from the Institute of Technology, Banaras Hindu University; an M.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Minnesota; and a Ph.D. from the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton.

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