

Chairman Mike Gallagher Speech
Address on Research Security in American Higher Education
as prepared for delivery
3.4.24

Thank you all for being here, I'd like to open by recognising two truths. The first is that the American higher education system is the best in the world, and one of our core national strengths because it reflects our national values of openness and collaboration.

It draws brilliant minds from across the world who then enrich our nation with their innovation and drive. The second truth is a lot harder, which is that for decades, the Chinese Communist Party has exploited the openness of our academic institutions to fuel the PRC, military modernization to obtain technology critical to dominate in the future, and to use American technology to refine and retrench its repressive surveillance state.

The Chinese government is not shy about this, they even have a phrase for it, which is picking flowers in foreign lands to make honey in China. Unfortunately, for a long time, America and the free world have made this exploitation, downright easy for the CCP. But thankfully, people are starting to wake up, led by the people in this room, you see this problem clearly, and you want to do something about it. So sincerely. Thank you. Thank you, we need people like you around the world leading the charge to protect us. This is a team sport. It's the free world versus the CCP. And we can only win if we're in it together.

One of the biggest problems that we currently have in our hands is that there's just no clear restriction even on DoD fundamental research, involving US researchers who can currently collaborate on fundamental research projects with PLA affiliated entities and yes, it is so clearly a problem. That is why it's so important that universities for their own sake rethink how they collaborate with CCP and PLA affiliated researchers and institutions.

No American university should help the CCP develop or acquire technologies that strengthen their technic totalitarian surveillance state, or their military and intelligence capabilities. They should also go for allies and partners. After all, who could possibly want to contribute technology and know how to the CCP's gross human rights abuses or to their military aggression? I'm confident that the answer is no one.

Therefore, our task is simple. Help people understand the Chinese Communist Party and it's clearly stated national strategy to exploit global talent and research for its own nefarious purposes.

So thank you for your courage and commitment. I'm confident that working together we can respond in a way that preserves our free and open society, including our higher education system with all its natural strengths, while maintaining our moral, intellectual and financial integrity.

Thank you.