

Subject: Re: Request for the extension of the Commission's mandate
Date: Monday, April 22, 2019 at 8:59:16 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From: Eric Schmidt
To: Ylli Bajraktari
CC: Michael Gable, Robert Work

Completely agree

On Mon, Apr 22, 2019 at 7:49 AM Ylli Bajraktari <(b) (6)> wrote:

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you with the request to provide me with joint authorization to seek an extension to the Commission's mandate from October 2020 to March 2021 from the defense authorizing committees.

I believe this is warranted because of the following. Given when the Commission started (March 11th, 2019), the extra time would allow the Commission to leverage and put to use "down periods" during the calendar year (including summer months and those months which will be inactive due to presidential and congressional elections) to generate its first legislatively-mandated report to Congress.

The first few months from December 2020 through March 2021 would be directed towards socializing our report, which would largely complete by that time, with the incoming Administration. Given the pro forma nature of the request and the need to have it included in the Chairman's mark of the NDAA, we would need to seek this extension in the next couple of weeks from at least one of the defense authorizing committees as they are already in the initial drafting stages of the NDAA.

So, the time for us to seek an extension is already short. I would also recommend that, when explaining to the Commissioners why we are seeking an extension we explain that such an extension would not automatically require an extension of their term of service and at appropriate time we would discuss with them their willingness and time commitment to extending their service.

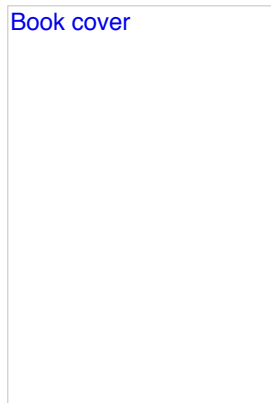
I look forward to hearing from you.

Ylli

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--
We wrote another book!!! Available 4/16/2019
www.trilliondollarcoach.com

Book cover



Subject: Re: Request for the extension of the Commission's mandate
Date: Monday, April 22, 2019 at 9:43:02 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From: Eric Schmidt
To: Robert Work
CC: Ylli Bajraktari, Michael Gable

yes lets approve thanks

On Apr 22, 2019, at 8:40 AM, Robert Work, (b)(6) wrote:

Eric: Ylli and I talked about this and I support the extension

Best, Bob

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 22, 2019, at 8:49 AM, Ylli Bajraktari <(b) (6)> wrote:

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<smime.p7s>

Subject: Re: Request for the extension of the Commission's mandate
Date: Monday, April 22, 2019 at 9:52:00 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From: Eric Schmidt
To: Robert Work
CC: Yll Bajraktari, Michael Gable

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

On Apr 22, 2019, at 8:49 AM, Robert Work, (b)(6) wrote:

Eric: (b) (5)

(b) (5)

Am I missing something?

Best, Bob

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 22, 2019, at 9:43 AM, Eric Schmidt <(b) (6)> wrote:

yes lets approve thanks

On Apr 22, 2019, at 8:40 AM, Robert Work, (b)(6) wrote:

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Best, Bob

Sent from my iPhone

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I look forward to hearing from you.

Ylli

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<smime.p7s>

Subject: Re: Senate Engagement Opportunity

Date: Wednesday, April 24, 2019 at 5:05:31 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Eric Schmidt

To: Robert Work

CC: Yll Bajraktari

Yes we should definitely do this !

On Apr 24, 2019, at 2:08 PM, Robert Work <(b) (6)> wrote:

Eric: know your schedule is crazy, but think this would be a fantastic opportunity for us to connect with are primary customers

Bob

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Yll Bajraktari](#)

Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2019 2:05 PM

To: [Eric Schmidt](#); [Robert Work](#)

Subject: Senate Engagement Opportunity

Dear Sirs,

I met today with (b) (6) (b) (6) for Senator Mitch McConnell). He is an old friend and wants to be helpful.

He offered the following opportunity. Organize a briefing on AI in the next four weeks where he and **Sen. Schumer Staff Member, (b)(6)** would bring all the Policy staffers (somewhere between 70-100) to attend this one hour session.

What do you think? Would you be able to support this?

I know you are busy but I think this is a great opportunity for us to get supporters in the Senate that will be helpful going forward.

This would be the first step. The next step would be briefings with the Members.

Let us know.

Y

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any attachment from your system; you must not copy or disclose the contents of this message or any attachment to any other person. Transmission **of any material prepared by a third-party should not be construed to constitute an endorsement of that material or any analysis or commentary therein by the NSCAI. *

Subject: Re: Discussion with the UPenn Profs on Scientific Research
Date: Monday, April 29, 2019 at 7:48:47 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From: Eric Schmidt
To: Yll Bajraktari
CC: Robert Work

All seems very sensible

On Apr 29, 2019, at 3:25 PM, Yll Bajraktari <(b) (6)> wrote:

Dear Sirs,

We reached out to a group of academics from UPenn (see names below) after we read their recently published article (attached) in (b) (6).

(Profs: (b) (6); (b) (6)
(b) (6), and (b) (6)
(b) (6).)

I usually spare you from all the readouts of our ongoing outreach but I thought the conversation today was extremely productive and wanted to share with you their thoughts. NSCAI Staff Member, (b)(6) in our team prepared the readout below.

Their broad points/recommendations are:

- (b) (5)
- (b) (5)
- (b) (5)
- (b) (5)
- (b) (5)
- (b) (5)

On the issues of US/China competition, (b) (6) offered valuable insights into the Chinese/American cooperation paradigm in academia:

- (b) (5)
- (b) (5)
- (b) (5)
- (b) (5)
- (b) (5)

In closing, we asked them what specific recommendations they would offer in terms of research areas and funding mechanisms, as aligned with their budgetary recommendation. **They offered to convene a group of colleagues (“Ivy Plus”) to build a white paper to this effect.** I warmly welcomed the offer and asked them to aim to have it ready to present to the Commission in October.

Best,

Yll

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<(b) (6) >

Subject: Fwd: I'm assuming you are following these AI ethics programs in other countries; more to come I am sure

Date: Thursday, May 2, 2019 at 11:54:41 AM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Ylli Bajraktari

To: Ylli Bajraktari, (b)(6)

Begin forwarded message:

From: Eric Schmidt <(b) (6)>

Date: May 1, 2019 at 18:23:30 EDT

To: "Marcuse, Joshua J HQE OSD Osd" <(b) (6)>, (b) (6)

<(b) (6)>, (b) (6), Robert Work

<(b) (6)>, Ylli Bajraktari <(b) (6)>

Subject: I'm assuming you are following these AI ethics programs in other countries; more to come I am sure

<https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/ethics-guidelines-trustworthy-ai>

<https://www8.cao.go.jp/cstp/stmain/aisocialprinciples.pdf>

<https://marcomm.mccarthy.ca/pubs/share2.htm>

<https://consult.industry.gov.au/strategic-policy/artificial-intelligence-ethics-framework/>

Subject: Re: Engagement with the (b) (6) for Sen. Schumer & Sen. McConnell
Date: Monday, May 6, 2019 at 7:17:06 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From: Eric Schmidt
To: Yll Bajraktari
CC: Robert Work, NSCAI Staff, (b)(6)

all amazing !

On May 6, 2019, at 6:08 PM, Yll Bajraktari <(b) (6)> wrote:

Dear Sir,

Good evening,

We met this morning with Sen. Schumer Staff Member, (b)(6) to Senate Minority Leader, Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY), and Sen. McConnell Staff Member, (b)(6) to Senate Majority Leader, Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY).

Below are some of the details of our conversation prepared by our team member (b) (6)

Summary:

- Both staffers emphasized their boss's intense interest in the Commission's recommendations on AI, emerging technologies, and issues related to China.
- Schumer's (b) (6) briefed us on Sen. Schumer's pending legislation on AI, which proposes an aggressive and broader approach to AI research and development investment beyond national security. We will synchronize our efforts.
- McConnell's (b) (6) requested that we conduct our outreach by introducing our Commissioners to key members of Congress in both chambers--this already forms the foundation of our congressional outreach plan.

They offered the following items to assist us with our efforts.

- Host the Senate "AI 101" briefing for Senate policy and personal staffers. This would include a big number of staffers from both sides. (b) (5)

[REDACTED]

- (b) (5)

[REDACTED]

- Introduce us to their House-side leadership colleagues, who we will meet in the coming weeks to coordinate briefings for both chambers and to acquire House leadership AI priorities.

(b) (6) and (b) (6) on our team will reach out immediately to our Committees to back brief them.

Let me know if you have any questions or need more information.

Best,

Ylli

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Subject: Fwd: 5G study - can you circulate to the staff and commission members as worth reading carefully and a good example of a well done piece thanks

Date: Monday, May 6, 2019 at 11:24:15 AM Eastern Daylight Time

From: NSCAI Staff Member, (b)(6)

To: NSCAI Staff Member, (b)(6)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Yll Bajraktari <(b) (6)>

Date: Sat, Apr 6, 2019 at 7:54 PM

Subject: Fwd: 5G study - can you circulate to the staff and commission members as worth reading carefully and a good example of a well done piece thanks

To: NSCAI Staff Member, (b)(6), NSCAI Staff Member, (b)(6), NSCAI Staff Member, (b)(6), NSCAI Staff Member, (b)(6), NSCAI Staff Member, (b)(6), NSCAI Staff Member, (b)(6)

Cc: NSCAI Staff Member, (b)(6), NSCAI Staff Member, (b)(6), NSCAI Staff Member, (b)(6), Gable, Michael L CIV OSD OSD (USA) <(b) (6)>, NSCAI Staff Member, (b)(6), NSCAI Staff Member, (b)(6), NSCAI Staff Member, (b)(6)

FYSA

Begin forwarded message:

From: Eric Schmidt <(b) (6)>

Subject: 5G study - can you circulate to the staff and commission members as worth reading carefully and a good example of a well done piece thanks

Date: April 6, 2019 at 7:40:02 PM EDT

To: Ylli Bajraktari <(b) (6)>, Robert Work <(b) (6)>

https://media.defense.gov/2019/Apr/03/2002109302/-1/-1/0/DIB_5G_STUDY_04.03.19.PDF

Subject: Fwd: From Senator Schumer

Date: Sunday, May 12, 2019 at 3:21:36 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Ylli Bajraktari

To: Ylli Bajraktari, (b)(6)

Begin forwarded message:

From: Eric Schmidt <(b) (6)>

Date: May 12, 2019 at 15:20:50 EDT

To: Ylli Bajraktari <(b) (6)>

Cc: Robert Work <(b) (6)> "Marcuse, Joshua J HQE OSD Osd"

<(b) (6)>, (b) (6), (b) (6)

<(b) (6)>

Subject: Re: From Senator Schumer

yes good

Lets see if we can help them with priorities

On May 12, 2019, at 3:17 PM, Ylli Bajraktari <(b) (6)> wrote:

Eric,

We can put something together by tomorrow COB and coordinate with Josh and others so we can send to you. Does that work with you?

Ylli

On May 12, 2019, at 13:25, Eric Schmidt <(b) (6)> wrote:

Do we have a written response that I can send Senator Schumer?

Begin forwarded message:

From: Eric Schmidt Support Staff, (b)(6)

Subject: Fwd: From Senator Schumer

Date: April 17, 2019 at 7:01:28 PM EDT

To: Eric Schmidt <(b) (6)>

Cc: Eric Schmidt Support Staff, (b)(6)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: (b) (6) (Schumer)' via Eric Schmidt Support Staff, (b)(6)

Date: Wed, Apr 17, 2019, 7:00 PM

Subject: From Senator Schumer

To: Eric Schmidt, (b)(6) <Eric Schmidt, (b)(6)>

Cc: Eric Schmidt Support Staff, (b)(6) <Eric Schmidt Support Staff, (b)(6)>

Hi Eric – Please see the message below from Senator Schumer. Thank you

—

Dear Eric,

Enclosed is our work-in-progress AI proposal. I would be very interested in your thoughts.

(b) (6) will follow up on the other things we discussed.

Your friend,

Chuck

—

American Innovation and Competitiveness Initiative Act

The United States is at a crossroads with regards to ensuring the future prosperity and security of its citizens. Since WWII, the U.S. has been the unequivocal global leader in technological innovation. Today, however, this leadership position is being eroded by global competitors such as China who are aggressively stealing American intellectual property and investing in research and commercialization to dominate the key technology fields of the future.

Without a significant increase in investment in research and development, it is only a matter of time

before America's global competitors overtake the U.S. in terms of technological primacy: whichever country wins the race in key technologies – artificial intelligence, quantum computing, advanced communications, advanced manufacturing – will be the superpower of the future.

While it is critical that we protect U.S. companies and their technological know-how, the U.S. government needs to change the trajectory of U.S. innovation. To do this, we are proposing the American Innovation and Competitiveness Initiative Act.

Under the American Innovation and Competitiveness Initiative Act:

- The National Science Foundation (NSF) would be renamed the National Science and Technology Foundation (NSTF) and establish a new directorate responsible for funding fundamental research related to specific international technology challenges facing the U.S. The bill identifies 10 initial technology focus areas.
- The new NSTF would have two Deputy Directors – one to oversee existing NSF operations and the other to oversee a newly established Directorate for Technology. The bill would provide the new Directorate with flexible personnel and awarding authorities (similar to DARPA).
- The new Directorate would be organized like DARPA, with program managers who select awardees (no requirement for peer review process).
- NSTF would have a newly created Board of Advisors for the Directorate for Technology to advise the Deputy Director on how to advance technology in the 10 focus areas, and on new areas that could be identified after five years. In

order to ensure persistent coordination across military and civilian research efforts, the DARPA Director and Director of the Department of Energy Office of Science will always be members of the Board. Congressional leadership would appoint some of the individuals for the Board. The Board would not have decision-making authority.

- The authorization for the new Directorate would be \$100 billion over five years to reinvigorate American leadership in the discovery and application of key technologies that will define global competitiveness.

- The new Directorate would focus on investing in a number of key focus areas, which are:

1. artificial intelligence and machine learning;
2. high-performance computing, semiconductors, and advanced computer hardware;
3. quantum computing and information systems;
4. robotics, automation, and advanced manufacturing;
5. cybersecurity and secure systems, including data privacy, trusted semiconductor chips, and future cryptography;
6. advanced communications technology, including fifth-generation, or 5G, communications technology and future communications technology;
7. biotechnology, genomics, personalized medicine, and synthetic biology;
8. advanced aerospace and space;
9. technologies relating to datacenters; and
10. clean energy technologies, including fusion.

- The authorized activities include:

1. Increases in research spending at universities to advance U.S. progress in key technology areas, including the creation of focused research centers;
2. New undergraduate scholarships, graduate fellowships and traineeships and post-doctoral support in the targeted research areas;

3. The development of test-bed and fabrication facilities; and
4. Support for start-up companies.

Subject: Fwd: ChinAI #50: FT Follow-up, Chinese Americans caught in the midst of Geopolitical Competition
Date: Monday, May 13, 2019 at 7:25:42 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From: Yli Bajraktari
To: Yli Bajraktari, (b)(6)

Begin forwarded message:

From: Eric Schmidt <(b) (6)>
Date: May 13, 2019 at 07:21:11 EDT
To: Robert Work <(b) (6)>, Yli Bajraktari <(b) (6)>
Subject: Fwd: ChinAI #50: FT Follow-up, Chinese Americans caught in the midst of Geopolitical Competition

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Eric Schmidt <(b) (6)>
Date: Mon, May 13, 2019 at 12:20 PM
Subject: Fwd: ChinAI #50: FT Follow-up, Chinese Americans caught in the midst of Geopolitical Competition
To: Schmidt Support Staff, (b)(6) | Schmidt Support Staff, (b)(6)
Schmidt Support Staff, (b)(6)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: ChinAI Newsletter <(b) (6)>
Date: Mon, May 13, 2019 at 12:15 PM
Subject: ChinAI #50: FT Follow-up, Chinese Americans caught in the midst of Geopolitical Competition
To: Eric Schmidt, (b)(6)>

ChinAI #50: FT Follow-up, Chinese Americans caught in the midst of Geopolitical Competition

May 13 Public post

Welcome to the ChinAI Newsletter!

These are Jeff Ding's (sometimes) weekly translations of writings on AI policy and

strategy from Chinese thinkers. I'll also include general links to all things at the intersection of China and AI. Please share the [subscription link](#) if you think this stuff is cool. Here's an [archive](#) of all past issues. *Subscribers are welcome to share *excerpts* from these translations as long as my original translation is cited.

I'm a grad student at the University of Oxford where I'm based at the Center for the Governance of AI, Future of Humanity Institute.

FT Follow-up

If I could rewind time and rewrite [last week's issue](#), I would have focused on the larger systemic issues/context surrounding why reporting on these issues is so hard rather than targeting the reporting itself. As many people reminded me, the debate format can sometimes optimize for "winning" over more productive deliberations. The goal should have been to build each other up to do better rather than take each other apart over mistakes. In parts of my rebuttal, my sarcastic (and let's be honest — douche-y) tone was unfair to both the journalists and commentators, and detracted from the substance. I apologize to all injured parties and promise to learn from my mistakes. That doesn't mean I won't express my strong opinions on issues (see my musings on Chinese Americans as strategic assets in the last section of this issue), and I stand by all the substantive arguments in my rebuttal. It just means I need to recognize the immense privilege of having a platform like ChinAI, as well as the privilege of being a male in this space (when I go in on an issue, I don't need to worry about being labeled "emotional" or "ranty"), and do better on all these fronts.

One last clarification on the reporting details from last week, and then we're moving on. I respect the FT reporters and staff for defending their reporting, as Madhumita did in [her responses](#) to some of my points, which I linked at the bottom of last week's post. Thanks to FT for correcting [the article](#) to include links to the coauthored papers. Madhumita informed me that one of the papers (the one on how facial features, dress, and voice collectively affect the human sense of beauty) originally shared with me was not one of the three FT was reporting on. Instead it was [this paper](#) on machine reading comprehension.

I do want to address one point of substance: why am I harping on the technical content of these papers? I think it links to bigger issue with AI+politics/tech+politics research — or what I call the "technology abstraction problem." An exercise to

illustrate this: take a sample of AI+politics articles/papers that claim AI has revolutionized X, and replace AI with “high-level statistics.” **The best policy research on AI should use the word artificial intelligence in an abstract sense as few times as possible.** AI has become too prone to hype and it’s too broad of a concept to be analytically coherent or useful, encompassing anything from subfields of fuzzy mathematics to research on decentralized drone warfare. Analysts should rigorously force themselves to specify what claims they are making about “AI” in terms of the domain and technological layer they are talking about.

4 million Chinese Americans as Strategic Resources for the U.S. and China

This week’s two translations are not on spectacular research analysis or incredibly well-reported investigative pieces but rather they are “thermometer” pieces that give a good sense of the overall temperature of Chinese public/influencer opinion on a particular subject. The subject in question is the position of Chinese Americans as a strategic asset for the U.S. and China in the competition over scientific and technological development.

The first piece, by Dong Jieli, an associate researcher at China Institute for Science and Technology Policy (CISTP) of Tsinghua University, who received her PhD in Physics from Carnegie Mellon University. She states that Chinese Americans “Are very important strategic resources for China and the United States,” and if the “‘friendly-to-China’ Americans and the ‘friendly-to-America’ Chinese are purged clean, and the two sides are divided clearly into two camps, then the bridge is broken and there will be no one to repair it.” She reviews the history of Chinese Americans in the United States and highlights the cases of American physicist Xiao Xianning and U.S. Meteorological Administration expert Chen Xiaofen as instances of **discrimination toward Chinese Americans** in wrongful charges of espionage. It’s a short piece so I’d recommend reading it in full, but one tidbit I found particularly interesting. Dong references that many people in China accuse Chinese immigrants in the U.S. of causing frictions in the U.S.-China relationship due to their misconduct (e.g. illegal tech transfer) and Dong calls for Chinese Americans to “strengthen their legal awareness and compliance.”

READ FULL TRANSLATION: Chinese Americans: The Sacrificial Lamb of Great Power

Contestation?

The second piece shows how some Chinese thinkers and media view U.S. targeting of Chinese American scientists and engineers as a strategic opportunity. Usually in ChinAI issues, I feature the “cream of the crop” Chinese reporting/analysis, so “these “thermometer”-type pieces give a truer sense of how there are still a lot of flaws in the media environment. Titled “The United States has extensively restricted ethnic Chinese talents, the backbone of technology has returned to China, and the edge in AI has been reversed,” this piece gets basic facts wrong and spreads some scary rumors.

One passage states, ***“Washington believes that all Chinese-American talents are inherently suspect as ‘spies.’ The White House even uses its power to go to major high-tech companies and other companies involved in key technologies, and ordered that them to remove all these Chinese talents within a certain time period to ensure that US technology will not flow out.”*** Unless I’ve been living under a rock (to be fair, have not been checking Twitter all that much lately), this is a false rumor, presumably, because the author wants to push the narrative that the US is no longer friendly to Chinese-American scientists and engineers and encourage them to move back to China.

READ FULL TRANSLATION: The United States has extensively restricted ethnic Chinese talents, the backbone of technology has returned to China, and the edge in AI has been reversed.?

Reflections on Chinese Americans as “Strategic Resources” in the US-China Tech Competition

Chinese Americans are not strategic assets. We are people. Translating these two pieces reminded me of this video of the announcement of the **2008 Nobel Prize in Chemistry** which was awarded to Roger Tsien along with two others — I would strongly recommend watching it alongside my breakdown of what happens. At 13:40, a journalist from Chinese news agency Xinhua asks, “Are you Chinese? Can you speak Chinese?” Roger’s response is pure grace. Born in New York to Chinese immigrants, he responds in Mandarin, “I can speak a bit.” Xinhua follows-up by asking what his achievement means to Chinese scientists. “Well I can’t say I’m really

a Chinese scientists. I grew up entirely in America, but if this should make Chinese people feel good and proud and it will inspire a lot of young people to do science in China, that's a good thing." It's an eloquent reply that takes claim of his own identity but also one that acknowledges why the reporter is asking the question: he recognizes that no Chinese citizen of the PRC had won a Nobel Prize in science, and that aspiring Chinese scientists may draw inspiration from someone who looks like him winning.

Still, what I can't shake about this clip is the drawn-out "ummm" after he's being asked if he's a "Chinese scientist." I wonder what was flashing through his mind in that "um." Was he thinking about the astronomical odds that his mom faced in immigrating to the U.S. when the Chinese Exclusion Act was in force? Was he recalling how a NJ developer wouldn't sell to his family because they were Chinese? Was he thinking about how for so many Chinese Americans, no matter how good your English is, how high you climb (even getting a Nobel prize), there will be some people who only see you as Chinese? In a world where science is more politicized, increasingly framed in the context of international competition, where you hear whispers about people of Chinese ethnicity not having the U.S. national interest in mind, Roger's story reminds us that Chinese Americans have agency to claim their own identities, that we who have Chinese faces and family but U.S. passports and roots contain multitudes like everyone else, but inhabit multiple identities more often than everyone else. That it matters to read Roger's story to see a great Chinese American scientist who did work for the world. Roger passed away in 2016. He was a fine pianist, a gifted amateur photographer, and loved by family, friends, and colleagues. He was a person, not an asset.

I think this links back to why I was so mad about those FT pieces. I wonder if FT saw the humanity in the Chinese American researchers involved in the collaborations, if they would have tried to get the views of people who would have defended the collaborations or at least added more context. One of the researchers named in the FT pieces was Thomas Huang, who, like me, was born in Shanghai. In 1949, his family moved to Taiwan where Huang studied electronics before going on to get a Doctor of Science at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). I don't pretend to have any insight into Professor Huang's political views, but let's just say that most people with families who moved to Taiwan at the time when Mao proclaimed the founding of the People's Republic of China are usually not schills for the Chinese Communist

Party. Huang has taught at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he was named as a Swanlund Chair, the highest endowed title, for his contributions to one of those midwestern public research universities (shoutout to the University of Iowa, my alma mater) that are the engines of America's competitiveness and economic strength.

Again, as I emphasized in last week's newsletter, Huang's collaboration with Cloudwalk on re-ID research is concerning. What I'm trying to get at here is that as we can critique personal actions, government policies, and the CCP, let's not lose sight of the humanity of Chinese people. Recently, I was at one of those meetings where a bunch of powerful "influencers" get together and talk about "influencer" things. I gave a brief on China's AI development alongside a Chinese American friend. After the briefing, I was surprised by how many people came up to me and confused me with my friend (we look nothing alike). It reminded me of a passage from a Vulture profile of Korean American actor John Cho, which has been stuck in my head ever since July 31, 2016, when I shared it in my previous (now-temporarily-defunct) newsletter project, the New Chimericans, a collaborative effort with my good friend Laura Wang that looked at Asian American issues. John makes this comment on Asian American representation in media:

"I've seen many instances where we're seen as a little less than human, or maybe a little more than human — like ultrahuman, rather than subhuman. What is wrong with film representation? Some of it is mechanical, surprisingly. I've thought about why Asian stars — from Asia, I mean — look so much better in their Asian films than they do in their American films, and now I can answer that to some extent. There's an eye, and it's not a malicious eye, which is a way that the people working the camera and behind the scenes view us. And then they process it and they put it on film. And it's not quite human. Whereas Asian films, they are considered fully human. Fully heroic, fully comic, fully lovely, fully sad, whatever it is. And it's this combination of lighting, makeup, and costume.

*If you don't think of a person as fully human, you sort of stop short and go, **That's good enough**. Do you remember Doug Liman's film Go? I remember Taye Diggs in that movie, and he was charcoal black. I was surprised to see him in "How Stella Got Her Groove Back" — I realized that Go was not an accurate representation of his skin tone whatsoever. And I've met him. He was carelessly lit. Why is that? Why is one*

carelessly lit? The white people were carefully lit.”

How do we tell stories, write analysis, and understand the role of Chinese Americans in U.S.-China strategic competition that sees Chinese Americans as "carefully lit" human beings. Recently, there were reports that the U.S. State Department's policy planning staff is composing a memo in the style of George Kennan's "X Article" that argues the coming conflict with China is "the first time that we will have a great power competitor that is not Caucasian." As Professor Ward points out in analysis for the [Washington Post](#), the argument Trump's State Department is making is not about ideology or civilization. "It is about race. China — unlike Russia — is not predominantly white, and thus must be dealt with differently."

I think Chinese Americans can play a valuable role in dissecting these dangerous modes of thought. We represent an America that is not "Caucasian." We have a "strategic in-betweenness." Many of us are high-skilled, Western-educated Chinese natives who can move back and forth between the countries. But we can also leverage this "strategic in-betweenness" to question the humanity behind arguments like the ones coming out of the U.S. State Department about race-based great power politics.

This Week's ChinAI Links

Chinese phrase of the Week: 泛泛之辈 (fan4fan4zhi1bei4) - a mediocre person.

Human Rights Watch [report](#) on a system that "surveils and collects data on everyone in Xinjiang. The system is tracking the movement of people by monitoring the "trajectory" and location data of their phones, ID cards, and vehicles; it is also monitoring the use of electricity and gas stations of everybody in the region." Also, read [this account](#) of women fleeing Xinjiang and telling their stories.

Show some love for the [American Mandarin Society newsletter](#) - they are a great resource for those looking to keep up their Mandarin abilities.

Check out and subscribe to DigiChina's [must-read monthly digest](#): an exclusive from April's edotopm — translated excerpts from Zhang Shu, a researcher at the China Information Technology Security Evaluation Center (CNITSEC), analyzing U.S. "containment" strategies in technology and arguing China should prepare for a

“long-term competition by promoting openness.

ChinaLawTranslate is an invaluable resource for unofficial translations on Chinese legal documents. See this [new translation](#) of Measures for Determination of Violations of Laws and Regulations in APPs' Collection and Use of Personal Information (Draft)

Thank you for reading and engaging.

Shout out to everyone who is commenting on the translations - idea is to build up a community of people interested in this stuff. You can contact me at jeffrey.ding@magd.ox.ac.uk or on Twitter at [@jjding99](https://twitter.com/jjding99)

If you liked this post from [ChinAI Newsletter](#), why not share it?

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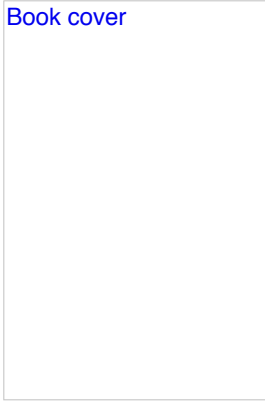
[2611 Walden Road, Iowa City, IA, 52246](#)

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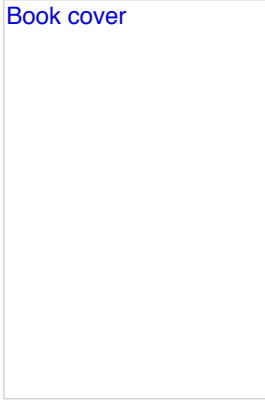


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We wrote another book!!! Available 4/16/2019

www.trilliondollarcoach.com

Book cover



Subject: Fwd: DIB Inquiry

Date: Tuesday, May 14, 2019 at 7:14:56 AM Eastern Daylight Time

From: NSCAI Staff Member, (b)(6)

To: NSCAI Staff Member, (b)(6)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Yll Bajraktari <(b) (6)>

Date: Mon, May 13, 2019 at 7:55 PM

Subject: Re: DIB Inquiry

To: Eric Schmidt <(b) (6)>

CC: Schmidt Support Staff, (b)(6), Marcuse, Joshua J HQE OSD Osd
<(b) (6)>, Schmidt Support Staff, (b)(6)

Happy to accommodate. I'll offer Josh the right of refusal first.

On May 13, 2019, at 19:15, Eric Schmidt <(b) (6)> wrote:

This is a Stanford undergraduate who is very very sharp; majoring in CS. I'm sure one of you can find a use for his skills this summer, can you pursue

Think super technical skills

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6)

Subject: DIB Inquiry

Date: May 13, 2019 at 11:57:30 PM GMT+1

To: Eric Schmidt, (b)(6)

Dear Dr. Schmidt,

Thank you again for referring me to Google-- unfortunately, I haven't heard anything yet for this summer, but I hope something may work out next year. I have made plans to come home to Washington, D.C., for the summer and was wondering if there might be an opportunity to intern or work for the Defense Innovation Board. Thank you for any suggestions you have on this.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

P.S. Congratulations on *Trillion Dollar Coach*.

--
NSCAI Staff Member, (b)(6)

Life is not measured by the breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away

Subject: Re: Artificial Intelligence Initiative Act (AIIA)

Date: Sunday, May 19, 2019 at 7:19:39 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Eric Schmidt

To: Jason Matheny

CC: Yll Bajraktari, Robert Work, Safra Catz, Steve Chien, Mignon Clyburn, Chris Darby, Kenneth Ford, José Marie Griffiths, Eric Horvitz, Andy Jassy, (b)(6), Gilman Louie, William Mark, Katharina Mcfarland, Andrew Moore, NSCAI Staff, (b)(6)

Presumably we should offer a strong statement of support? To be discussed

On May 20, 2019, at 12:30 AM, Jason Matheny <(b) (6)> wrote:

Tomorrow, Senators Heinrich and Portman are introducing the \$2.2 billion Artificial Intelligence Initiative Act (AIIA). Overview, below; language, attached. They're accepting statements of support from industry & academia.

Artificial Intelligence Initiative Act (AIIA)

Sponsored by U.S. Senators Martin Heinrich and Rob Portman

Background: Artificial Intelligence (AI) is transforming technology across the globe. Generally speaking, AI uses algorithms, computer programs, and other techniques to behave in ways commonly thought to require intelligence. Applications of AI are expediting information processing, re-thinking manual labor, and altering decision making for governments, businesses, and consumers.

These commercial advances however also raise new challenges, including changes in the workforce, uncertain national security implications, and serious ethical questions. The importance of this technology cannot be overstated and will have implications spanning a number of fields including transportation, health care, agriculture, manufacturing, and national security.

In countries all over the world, the rapid growth and discovery in AI has opened numerous doors for technological and economic advancements. In the last few years, countries including China, Russia, the European Union, India, Mexico, Australia, South Korea, United Arab Emirates, among others – have released national strategies to promote the use and development of AI.

The United States must act with expediency to ensure it remains the global leader in AI and guide the research and development of technologies in a way that is consistent with our values.

Summary: The Artificial Intelligence Initiative Act (AIIA) would create a national strategic plan to invest \$2.2 billion over the next 5 years in U.S. research, development, and application of AI across the private sector, academia and government agencies, including the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the National Science Foundation (NSF), and the Department of Energy (DOE).

National AI Initiative

- Establishes an AI Coordination Office that will serve as the central access point for coordinating AI research and development (R&D) across federal agencies to ensure consistency, increase collaboration, and reduce duplication.
- Establishes an AI Interagency Committee to develop a 10-year strategic plan for public and private sector AI R&D in the U.S.

- Establishes an AI Advisory Committee, comprised of non-governmental AI experts, to provide input and advice on AI technologies and assist in evaluation of the success of the AI Initiative.
- Directs the National Institute of Standards and Technologies (NIST) to establish standards for evaluating AI algorithms and their effectiveness as well as the quality of training data sets for safety, responsibility, and security.
- Requires an independent AI workforce study to identify and develop actions to ensure an appropriate increase in the size, quality, and diversity of the AI workforce.

Research & Development Investments

- Directs the National Science Foundation to invest \$500M over five years in institutions of higher learning to study algorithm accountability, explainability, data bias, privacy as well as societal and ethical implications of AI. At least one of these five centers will have K-12 education as its primary focus, one will be minority-serving institution, and all will include a lifelong education component.
- Directs the Department of Energy to invest \$1.5B over five years in institutions of higher learning and national laboratories to ensure AI researchers and educators in academia and the private sector have access to state-of-the-art computing resources for making scientific discoveries and advanced research.

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Subject: Re: It looks like there is no way for me to get to San Jose for the morning sessions; so I think best if I call in presumably from the plane flight

Date: Monday, May 20, 2019 at 12:15:53 AM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Yll Bajraktari

CC: NSCAI Staff Member, (b)(6), Schmidt Support Staff, (b)(6), NSCAI Staff Member, (b)(6), Schmidt Support Staff, (b)(6)

Guys,

Can Eric S dial in for unclassified sessions?

On Sun, May 19, 2019 at 9:10 PM Yll Bajraktari <(b) (6)> wrote:

(b) (6),

I'm about to land in SFO. Stand by for more info. Please use my work email cc.

On May 19, 2019, at 16:39, Schmidt Support Staff, (b)(6) wrote:

(- Eric and Bob)

Hi Ylli,

If you don't already have a dial in set up for meeting, shall we use following?

+ (b) (6)
PIN: (b) (6)

Best,
(b) (6)

On Sun, May 19, 2019 at 4:15 PM Eric Schmidt <(b) (6)> wrote:

Very sorry about this

--

You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "ped" group.

To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to

(b) (6).

To view this discussion on the web visit

(b) (6)

--

(b) (6) | Office of Eric Schmidt, Technical Advisor, Alphabet Inc

(b) (6) | (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Meeting with Pelosi's and McCarthy's National Security Advisors

Date: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 at 7:25:04 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Eric Schmidt

To: Ylli Bajraktari

CC: Robert Work, NSCAI Staff Member, (b)(6), NSCAI Staff Member, (b)(6), Schmidt Support Staff, (b)(6), NSCAI Staff Member, (b)(6)

very good

On May 28, 2019, at 7:24 PM, Ylli Bajraktari <(b) (6)> wrote:

Good afternoon,

NSCAI Staff Members, (b)(6) and I met this afternoon with Speaker Pelosi Staff Member, (b)(6) to Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) & Leader McCarthy Staff Member, (b)(6) to Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA). Below are some of the details of our conversation but bottom line up front:

--They are interested in organizing on hosting an "AI 101" briefing for House staff on June 28th - the same date the Senate leadership is hosting you at noon. The House leadership is interested in organizing this BEFORE the Senate staff briefing, in part because the House staffers typically leave town in early Friday afternoon.

- The draft proposal from us for that day would be the following:

10:30 AM - House Staff Briefing

12:00 PM - Senate Staff Briefing

13:00 PM - Meeting in a classified House/Senate room to get the ONA brief "China 2040" with key Senate and House NSAs.

Dr. Schmidt we will work with your team to see if this is feasible since I know you have a late engagement on Thursday in NYC.

More to follow.

Ylli

Summary:

(b) (5)

[Redacted summary content]

(b) (5)

[Redacted summary content]

(b) (5)

[Redacted summary content]

(b) (5)

We will continue to keep in touch with both staffers to ensure that their boss's are apprised of the Commission's progress and great work. Feel free to let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

(b) (6)

--

NSCAI Staff Member, (b)(6)

Director of Legislative Affairs
National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence

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Subject: Fwd: I'm in a conference where military and AI have come up
Date: Saturday, June 1, 2019 at 7:07:35 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From: Ylli Bajraktari
To: Ylli Bajraktari, (b)(6)

Begin forwarded message:

From: Eric Schmidt <(b) (6)>
Date: June 1, 2019 at 07:00:55 EDT
To: Ylli Bajraktari <(b) (6)>, "Marcuse, Joshua J HQE OSD Osd" <(b) (6)>, Robert Work <(b) (6)>
Subject: I'm in a conference where military and AI have come up

Here are some key points

A) (b) (5)
— (b) (5)
— (b) (5)

B) (b) (5)
(b) (5)

C) (b) (5)

D) (b) (5)

E) (b) (5)

Subject: Re: Must-read paper on the geopolitics of hardware

Date: Tuesday, June 4, 2019 at 10:31:07 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Eric Schmidt

To: Robert Work

CC: Yll Bajraktari, Marcuse, Joshua J HQE OSD Osd

(b) (6) used to work for Google and is quite good and the paper is quite accurate

Here is my analysis

A) (b) (5)

B) (b) (5)

C) (b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Thank you for sending

> On Jun 4, 2019, at 2:53 AM, Robert Work <(b) (6)> wrote:

>

> Eric: I found this paper to be interesting and compelling. (b) (5)

>

> Have you seen it? What are your thoughts?

>

> Best, Bob

>>

> <(b) (6)> hardware paper.pdf>

>

Subject: Fwd: Delivery Status Notification (Failure)

Date: Friday, June 7, 2019 at 6:03:51 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Yli Bajraktari

To: Michael Gable, (b)(6) NSCAI Staff Member, (b)(6)

Begin forwarded message:

From: Eric Schmidt <(b) (6)>
Date: June 7, 2019 at 18:02:30 EDT
To: Ylli Bajraktari <(b) (6)>
Subject: Re: Delivery Status Notification (Failure)

Good !

I've also sent it just in case

On Jun 8, 2019, at 12:00 AM, Yli Bajraktari <(b) (6)> wrote:

Apologize for that. Here is another one but wanted to let you know that she called from Ireland where she was traveling with POTUS and said yes to join our team.

Tara Rigler, (b)(6)

On Jun 7, 2019, at 17:53, Eric Schmidt <(b) (6)> wrote:

Can you get a different email Thanks !

Begin forwarded message:

From: Mail Delivery Subsystem <mailer-daemon@googlemail.com>
Subject: Delivery Status Notification (Failure)
Date: June 7, 2019 at 11:52:44 PM GMT+2
To: Eric Schmidt, (b)(6)

<icon.png>

Address not found

Your message wasn't delivered to (b) (6) because the address couldn't be found, or is unable to receive mail.

The response from the remote server was:

554 delivery error: dd This user doesn't have a [yahoo.com](https://www.yahoo.com) account

(b) (6) [-9]
- (b) (6)

Reporting-MTA: dns: [googlemail.com](https://www.googlemail.com)

Received-From-MTA: dns: Eric Schmidt, (b) (6)

Arrival-Date: Fri, 07 Jun 2019 14:52:41 -0700 (PDT)

X-Original-Message-ID: <(b) (6)>

Final-Recipient: rfc822; Tara Rigler, (b) (6)

Action: failed

Status: 5.0.0

Remote-MTA: dns: (b) (6). (74.6.137.64, the server for the domain [yahoo.com](https://www.yahoo.com).)

Diagnostic-Code: smtp; 554 delivery error: dd This user doesn't have a [yahoo.com](https://www.yahoo.com) account (b) (6) [-9]

- (b) (6)

Last-Attempt-Date: Fri, 07 Jun 2019 14:52:44 -0700 (PDT)

From: Eric Schmidt <(b) (6)>

Subject: NSCAI role

Date: June 7, 2019 at 11:52:40 PM GMT+2

To: (b) (6)

Tara,

I understand from Ylli that you are exploring the possibility of joining the NSCAI team. We need someone with your talent to manage our public relations. I cannot emphasize enough the importance I place on the work of this Commission and how much we all rely on the staff to research, develop, and recommend actions for us to review. This topic is of great importance to me and the future of our country so I hope you will join us soon!

Basically put another way the staff that has been assembled is truly first rate and I guarantee you will have an amazing time with this

Thanks Eric

Subject: Re: War on the Rocks

Date: Thursday, June 13, 2019 at 11:28:37 AM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Eric Schmidt

To: Yli Bajraktari

CC: Robert Work, [REDACTED], NSCAI Volunteer, (b)(6)

yes very good lets proceed with this

On Jun 13, 2019, at 8:59 AM, Yli Bajraktari <(b) (6)> wrote:

Good morning,

[REDACTED] on the Commission's staff came up with a very good idea to work with War on the Rocks (one of the premium online platforms for analysis, commentary on foreign policy and national security) to publish a call for papers that will address the Commission's areas of interest.

We believe their authors have the potential to present high quality policy ideas from voices we would be unlikely to hear from otherwise. Their editor, Ryan Evans, would like the call for papers to come from our leadership. If you are interested, once you have reviewed and endorsed the prompt at the link below, we will send it to Ryan. If he has any major changes, we will send it back to you for review. He would like to publish the call for papers by the end of the month.

(b) (5)

[REDACTED] NSCAI Volunteer, (b)(6) has also been very helpful in shaping the document and the issues to be addressed.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Best, Yli

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Subject: Re: Talking Points for tomorrow

Date: Friday, June 28, 2019 at 8:41:20 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Eric Schmidt

To: Yll Bajraktari

CC: Robert Work, NSCAI Staff, (b)(6) Eric Schmidt Support Staff, (b)(6) Eric Schmidt Support Staff, (b)(6)

A really good day

Thank you all

I am very much looking forward to this ! All of it!

> On Jun 27, 2019, at 5:49 PM, Yll Bajraktari <(b) (6)> wrote:

>

> Per our phone conversation, I am resending you the talking points.

>

> See you tomorrow.

>

> Ylli

>

>

> --

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> any material prepared by a third-party should not be construed to
> constitute an endorsement of that material or any analysis or commentary
> therein by the NSCAI. *

> <Hill Briefing Materials – 28 June.docx>

Subject: Re: Thank you emails for the Senate event

Date: Sunday, June 30, 2019 at 5:49:22 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Eric Schmidt

To: Ylli Bajraktari

CC: Robert Work

both done

Thanks and well done!

On Jun 30, 2019, at 4:20 PM, Ylli Bajraktari <(b) (6)> wrote:

EMAILS:

Sen. McConnell Staff Member, (b)(6); Sen. Schumer Staff Member, (b)(6)

Dear (b) (6) and (b) (6),

Thank you for hosting Friday's briefing to senate staff on artificial intelligence and national security. We were delighted--and a little shocked--by the pre-Fourth of July recess turnout.

We are confident the National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence will provide substantive recommendations and a conceptual framework for approaching the AI challenges and opportunities of today and the future. The depth and breadth of staffers' questions and concerns are promising signs of the Hill's willingness to take on the challenge, but also of the difficulty of moving into a new era. We will do everything we can to examine the issues they raised.

We are extremely grateful for the bipartisan, bicameral support we have received, and urge you to stay in touch with the Commission on issues big and small. We and the Commission staff will keep you apprised of our work over the next two years. We will look to you for ideas and to stress test our findings and recommendations.

We stand ready to assist Senators McConnell and Schumer. By October we will be in a position to preview our findings and solicit feedback in preparation for submitting an interim report in November. Perhaps that would be a good time for us to discuss the Commission's interim findings with your leadership. I would also like for you to talk to Ylli about an event we are planning for November as part of the rollout of our interim report. We would really like to have both leaders involved.

Thank you again. We look forward to continuing to collaborate with you on this important mission moving forward. You can always reach us or Ylli. You are our most important customer.

Best,

Dr. Eric Schmidt

Chairman, NSCAI

Hon. Robert Work
Vice-Chairman, NSCAI

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Subject: Fwd: Thank you thank you for the Senate.. on friday !
Date: Sunday, June 30, 2019 at 6:04:50 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From: Ylli Bajraktari
To: Ylli Bajraktari, (b)(6)

Begin forwarded message:

From: Eric Schmidt <(b) (6)>
Date: June 30, 2019 at 17:47:39 EDT
To: Sen. McConnell Staff Member, (b)(6), Sen. Schumer Staff Member, (b)(6)
Cc: Robert Work <(b) (6)>, Ylli Bajraktari <(b) (6)>
Subject: Thank you thank you for the Senate.. on friday !

(Eric sending on behalf of Bob as well. Looking forward to more..)

Dear (b) (6) and (b) (6),

Thank you for hosting Friday's briefing to senate staff on artificial intelligence and national security. We were delighted--and a little shocked--by the pre-Fourth of July recess turnout.

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Best,

Dr. Eric Schmidt
Chairman, NSCAI

Hon. Robert Work
Vice-Chairman, NSCAI