

## **Report on Visit by Lt. General Noboru Yamaguchi**

On Monday, February 23, NCSU's School of Public and International Affairs (SPIA) joined with the Triangle Institute for Security Studies (TISS) to host a visit by Japanese Lieutenant General Noboru Yamaguchi. General Yamaguchi joined SPIA Director Rick Kearney, Japan Center Interim-Director John Baugh, TISS Executive Board member Bill Boettcher, and several SPIA faculty members for a comprehensive discussion of the state of U.S.-Japan relations over dinner at Porter's. Later in the evening, General Yamaguchi presented a talk titled—"U.S.-Japan Defense Cooperation under Obama"—to faculty and students assembled in Riddick Hall.

Yamaguchi advocated greater U.S.-Japan bilateral defense cooperation—particularly in the areas of missile defense, aircraft development, prevention of nuclear proliferation, counterterrorism, and suppression of piracy. He expressed great hope that recent concerns regarding the U.S. Marine presence on Okinawa would be alleviated by the expansion of the U.S. base on Guam and the reduction of the American troop presence in Japan. Yamaguchi was enthusiastic about the new Obama administration's emphasis on East Asia—citing Secretary of State Hilary Clinton's choice to visit the region on her first overseas trip and Japanese Prime Minister Taro Aso's invitation to be the first head of state to meet President Obama at the White House.

On Tuesday, February 24, General Yamaguchi discussed "National Security in East Asia" as part of Duke University's Program in American Grand Strategy.

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