CN FORUM 2011
The CN Forum at Michigan State University focuses on policy and international concerns relating to Canadian-U.S. relations. It is attended by business leaders, public officials, scholars and students from throughout the upper Midwest.

The 2011 CN Forum will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 24 and 25, 2011. It will examine the trade relationship between the U.S. and Canada and Michigan’s current—and potential—role in that relationship. The discussion will examine how universities, business and policymakers are working toward the mutual goal of economic growth, a stronger workforce in expertise, and an infrastructure that allows for thriving business enterprise as well as meeting universal human needs, such as food and medical access.

In the past, the CN Forum has featured keynote speakers including:

- **The Honorable James Blanchard**, former U.S. Ambassador to Canada and Michigan Governor, whose address encouraged regional and national collaboration for economic and societal vitality;
- **Harold Kvisle**, President and CEO of the TransCanada Corporation, who spoke on “Thinking Across Borders,” focusing on the interdependence of Canada and U.S. energy distribution systems, particularly, the natural gas and oil pipelines that link the economies of the two nations and was joined by Hamish Gow (Global Agrifood Systems Development), William Nugent (New England Conference of Public Utility Commissioners, Inc.), and Peter Wallace (Ontario Deputy Minister of Energy).
- **Paul M. Tellier**, former President and Chief Executive Officer of Canadian National Railway and business CEO, who stressed the importance of moving people and product across borders and recognized the mutual benefit of exchanges between the U.S. and Canada.
- Responding to the address of then Consul General Robert Noble, Senior VP for International Development Harry Whalen of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation was joined by Sean O’Dell, Executive Director of the Windsor Gateway Project with Transport Canada and Senior Manager for the Federal Highway Association, James Steele, offered perspectives on next steps for connecting U.S. and Canada transport systems.
- Following up on a video conference with Canada’s Ambassador to the United States, Michael Wilson, a panel of experts including Christopher Sands (Brookings Institution); Adam Salerno (U.S. Chamber of Commerce); David Davidson (Border Policy Research Institute), and Katie Friedman (UB Regional Institute) examined border policy and measures of balancing security and economic flow.

These two days provide an opportunity for advisors, university faculty and students as well as policymakers to network and exchange information. Most importantly, this time with center stakeholders leads to a strategy for advancing the Center’s academic and outreach standing, as well as its ability to serve these audiences.