U.S. Representative Joaquin Castro will speak on "The Future of the U.S.-Japan Strategic Partnership" on March 30, 2016, at the UTSA Main Campus. The event will be held at 4:30-5:30 p.m. in the McKinney Humanities Building, Room 2.01.24. It is sponsored by the UTSA East Asia Institute.

Over the past seven decades, the United States and Japan have forged a strategic alliance that enhances the security and prosperity of both nations and the entire Asia-Pacific region. Castro will share his views on why the relationship between the two nations is so important, how their partnership can continue to grow in the 21st century, and how the U.S.-Japan Caucus – of which he is a founding co-chair – can strengthen the U.S. and Japan’s ties in Congress and beyond.

Castro represents Texas’ 20th Congressional District and serves on both the House Armed Services Committee and the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Castro was the 2013 co-president for the House freshman Democrats and now serves in House Democratic Leadership as Chief Deputy Whip. Since being elected to Congress in 2013, Castro has sought to build out what he calls “The Infrastructure of Opportunity” – good public schools, great universities, and a sound healthcare system.

After Castro’s lecture, attendees will have an opportunity to meet Dr. Mitsuaki Nozaki, Director of the Washington, D.C. office of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS). He will share info on funding opportunities for science, engineering, and humanities research in Japan and address Texas’ future potential involvement.

The JSPS is a quasigovernmental funding agency that supports scientific projects in a variety of fields related to natural and social sciences as well as the humanities and engineering. With offices in nine countries including the U.S., the agency encourages scientific activity and collaboration between Japan and host countries through an alumni association of grant recipients, grant preparation assistance, information sessions and connection to the U.S. government.
For more information about the event, contact the UTSA East Asia Institute at eai@utsa.edu or 210-458-8550. Metered parking will be available in the Bauerle Rd. Garage on the day of the event. See driving directions and UTSA campus map at https://sites.google.com/site/utsaparkinginfo/congressmancastroeventparking

The UTSA East Asia Institute’s mission is to promote appreciation and understanding of East Asian societies and cultures both on campus and in the community through research, outreach, networking, education, student/faculty exchange, and business development and cooperation. The East Asia Institute organizes seminars, workshops, lectures, conferences, film festivals, visual art exhibitions as well as hosting performing arts groups from China, Japan, Korea, and other Asian nations. It also encourages faculty research collaborations both within UTSA and with participating East Asian university researchers.