Most people believe that with few exceptions like China and India, the majority of developing countries are hopelessly mired in deep poverty, led by inept dictators, and living with pervasive famine, widespread disease, constant violence, and little hope for progress. But a major transformation is underway – and has been for two decades now -- in the majority of the world’s poorest countries, largely unnoticed by much of the world. Since the early 1990s more than 700 million people have been lifted out of extreme poverty, the average income for hundreds of millions of people in dozens of poor countries has more than doubled, six million fewer children die every year from disease, war and violence has declined significantly, average life expectancy has increased by six years, tens of millions more girls are in school, the share of people living in chronic hunger has been cut nearly in half, millions more people have access to clean water, and democracy – often fragile and imperfect – has become the norm rather than the exception in developing countries around the world. *The Great Surge* tells the remarkable story of this unprecedented economic, social, and political progress among the global poor.

**Wednesday, November 18, 2015 12:30-2:00 PM**

**Benjamin T. Rome Building, Rome 200**

**1619 Massachusetts Avenue NW**

**Washington, DC 20036**

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**THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Please email any questions and your RSVP to developmentroundtable@jhu.edu