## **Panelists**

**Chris Van Hollen** is a Democratic Representative from the Eighth Congressional District of Maryland. First elected to the House of Representatives in 2002, he has risen rapidly in the leadership and committee ranks: He now serves as chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee; is a member of the House Ways and Means Committee and its Subcommittees on Trade; and is a member of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and its Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs. Prior to his election to the House he served 12 years in the Maryland General Assembly. He previously worked in the Congress as a legislative assistant for defense and foreign policy to former Maryland Senator Charles McC. Mathias, Jr., and then as a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee staff, specializing in national security and foreign policy issues. He earned a B.A. degree from Swarthmore College, an M.A. degree in public policy from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, and a J.D. degree from The Georgetown University Law Center.

**Frank R. Wolf** is a Republican Representative from the 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of Virginia. First elected to the House in 1980, he currently serves on the House Appropriations Committee where he is the ranking Republican on the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice and Science. In the preceding Congress was senior Republican on the Subcommittee on State and Foreign Operations. He also serves on the Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development. Prior to his election to the House of Representatives he was in private practice as a lawyer; served on the staff of Rep. Edward G. Biester, Jr., of Pennsylvania; served on the staff of Secretary of the Interior Rogers C.B. Morton, and then as deputy assistant secretary in the department. He earned a B.A. degree from Pennsylvania State University and an LL.B. degree from the Georgetown University Law School. He served in the U.S. Army and the Army Reserve.

Christopher J. Deering is professor of political science at The George Washington University where he also served as Associate Dean of Arts and Science from 1990 to 1994. He is coauthor of *Committees* (1984.1990. 1997). editor in Congress and of Congressional Politics (1989). His areas of specialty include congressional leadership, committees, and careers, and Congress' role in foreign and national security policy making. As an APSA Congressional Fellow he served as a legislative aide to Sen. George J. Mitchell (D-Maine). He earned a B.A. degree in political science at the University of Southern California, and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in political science from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

**Karen De Young** is associate editor of *The Washington Post* where she has worked since 1975. Over the course of her career with the paper she has served as assistant managing editor for national news, national editor, London bureau chief, foreign editor, and Latin America bureau chief. She is the recipient of several prestigious journalism awards including the 2003 Edward Weintal Award for Diplomatic Reporting, the Sigma Delta Chi awards for investigative and foreign reporting, and a Pulitzer Prize she shared with several with several *Washington Post* colleagues for national coverage of the war on terrorism. She earned a B.A. degree in journalism and communications from the University of Florida.