Title: “The Balancing Act: Nixon, Taiwan, and the Tactics of Détente”

Abstract:
Richard Nixon’s “opening to China” in 1972 is one of the most dramatic moments in Cold War history, but there was a second side to the coin: the what most scholars believe was a closing to Taiwan. Revisiting the record of the administration’s deliberations between 1969 and 1972, I argue that Nixon did not want the United States’ new relationship with China to mean an end to the relationship with Taiwan. Instead, he sought to walk the fine line between the two and balance relations with both governments.