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**Abstracts for Parallel Sessions**



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## Sessions 1: Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2017, 11:40–13:00

### 1A Culture and creativity in urban China (Booker Suite)

Chair: Cathy Yang Liu (Georgia State University)

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#### **Commodifying culture or sustainable urbanism? A comparative study of Overseas China Town (OCT) in Shenzhen and Qujiang New District (QJND) in Xian, China**

Mee Kam Ng\* (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)

In August 2007, both OCT and QJND were awarded the title of 'National Cultural Industry Demonstration District', the only two districts then honoured by the Ministry of Culture. To the Ministry, these two places were characterized by strong, influential, competitive, autonomous, innovative and sizable cultural industries. In 2014, the Party Committee Secretary of QJND became the General Manager and Deputy Party Secretary of OCT Company. These two districts, however, were developed at two very different historical junctures: OCT developed when China first reformed her centrally planned economy and opened her door to foreign investment in the late 1970s; and QJND at the turn of the century when China had experimented with decentralized urban development, realized its downside (extermination of rural communities and fertile agricultural land and polluted urban environment) and actively groping for alternative pathways towards sustainable economic growth.

This paper explores the routes OCT and QJND have taken to the accolade of cultural industry demonstration district at the national level and examines if the honour is simply a result of commodifying culture or genuine efforts have been undertaken to pursue sustainable urbanism. Has the re-discovery of culture in the once 'production-oriented' city of Xi'an played a role to reclaim part of her threatened heritage? Or cultural development is only a gimmick to expropriate farmers, attract tourists and promote real estate developments? To what extent is OCT's production of the evolving cultural landscape a manifestation of Shenzhen's gradual move towards green urbanism? Are the two cities just consuming culture or are they genuinely moving towards a balanced, procedurally inclusive and sustainable multi-faceted development?

#### **Assembling the sites of art: From the art village to the artistic imagination in Beijing**

Murray McKenzie\* (University College London)

In this paper, I introduce the possibility of working across the city to encounter contemporary art in terms of a networked geography that accounts not just for its sites of production, but also for its mobilities, its encounters, and its social interventions. I begin in the Heiqiao artist village, one of peri-urban Beijing's key sites of clustered production, a *chengzhongcun* where urban improvisation converges with cultural experimentation. My argument, however, is that by looking beyond the village we can enrich our sense of the productive role(s) that art assumes in the city. From Heiqiao, I follow the village's artists both across and beyond Beijing, exploring a broader ephemeral assemblage of art's productive agencies. Heiqiao's artists are constructing alternative urban imaginations that should inflect our own sense of Beijing's transformation. But they are also participating actively, enacting a social practice that engages with the experiences of alienation, marginalization, demolition, and displacement that are endemic to the peri-urban areas in which they operate. My concerns are primarily methodological and epistemological, but the paper draws on empirical material collected during twelve months of fieldwork in Beijing.

**From historic village to tourism resort: Reconstruction and transition driven by large-scale investment in Simatai Village in Beijing suburbs**

Linlin Dai\* (Peking University), Shijie Gai (Tsinghua University), Dong Li (Peking University), Ling Yang (Peking University), Karine Dupre (Griffith University)

Historic village tourism is an emerging nostalgia industry which is booming throughout China. Those historic villages facing abandonment, stagnation and decay, are finding themselves locked into a new relationship with urban cores. The majority of them have promoted tourism development for economic growth, eager for external assistance. This article aims to identify the methodology and impact of the reconstruction and transition of historic villages as tourism attractions in China. A case study in Simatai Village, which has completed the transition from an open historic village in northern China to a closed tourism resort, was chosen to examine the formation of tourism resort in suburban areas from three dimensions: spatial morphology, social structure and cultural tradition. Methodologically, our approach relies on the diachronic analysis of the produced built forms in the context of natural environment, internal production and living style, and the politics and strategies adopted by external stakeholders. It also examines the integration of southern watery scenery into northern mountainous and agricultural culture and how this aspect affects the sustainable development of village.

Our contribution aims at presenting our preliminary results, which underline the identification of top-down type of reconstruction and transition patterns, driven by large-scale investment, and how cultural tradition is affected by modern tourism. Our findings challenge the conventional wisdom that both the villages and the local residents benefit from external assistance. On the contrary, in some aspect, especially cultural tradition, local interests have been neglected and damaged by the developers to some extent. The contradictions and conflicts between villages and developers will become increasingly prominent. The findings are important for exploring a multi-dimensional approach for tourism development in historic villages which involves the cooperation of the developer and the local community based upon cultural authenticity and marketing perspectives.

**Towards an inclusive urban economy in China: Creativity and inequality in 35 major cities**

Cathy Yang Liu\* (Georgia State University), Fox Zhiyong Hu (Hong Kong University of Education)

Increased globalization and intensified market competition have necessitated Chinese municipal governments to constantly (re)formulate their competitive strategies. A new and popular approach adopted in recent years has been to foster the development of high value-added manufacturing and service sectors under the rubric of “creative city” or “innovative hub”. While promising to bring about growing economic prosperity and enhanced competitiveness in global urban hierarchy, practicing a creativity/innovation-based urban development strategies is also believed to be accompanied by a widening gap between different social groups. Using a cross-city panel data set, this paper tests the hypothesized link between the growth of the creative sectors and uneven income distribution across 35 major Chinese cities. Controlling for a set of city-specific mediating factors, the empirical results are indicative of a positive association between the strength of creative economy and intra-urban income inequality. The study has important implications for the ongoing theoretical debate revolving around creative city thesis and the practical evaluation of the inclusiveness and sustainability of China’s envisioned urban transformation from “made in China” to “created in China”.

## 1B Governing the environment (Turner Suite)

Chair: Nick Smith (Yale-NUS College)

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### Dynamics of environmental governance in urban China: Different shades of green at district level

Outi Luova\* (University of Turku)

Environmental policies are cross-sectoral by nature, and during their implementation they have to be adapted to the differing context of different sectors. Furthermore, there is variation in the implementation process between different geographical areas: Chinese districts have substantial freedom to adapt policies to fit local conditions. Under these circumstances, how can environmental-policy goals be reached in an effective way?

In this paper, I look at one poor and one wealthy inner urban district in the city of Tianjin, and at how each implements new environmental plans in its educational sector. The cases are interesting, because with regard to numerical targets, the poor district did better than the rich one. The aim is to throw light on the interplay between local features and the systems of environmental planning and implementation. Leaning on Jan Kooiman's work on governance interaction, the study shows how policies are transformed when they encounter structural and intentional levels of governance and interact with non-governmental actors. In schools classified as environmentally-friendly, the environmental education varied between symbolic pale-green and comprehensive deep-green approaches, depending on the dynamics of local governance. Furthermore, an excellent implementation of numerical targets did not ensure satisfactory results from a qualitative point of view. This study highlights (1) variation in policy-implementation processes in inner urban districts, (2) the importance of clear qualitative targets in the definition of policy goals, and (3) specific features of environmental-policy implementation in the educational sector.

The study is based on official documents and media reports, as well as upon research mainly conducted during fieldwork in 2014 and 2015, during which time the author interviewed staff members at various schools as well as at government departments at city and district levels.

### The Land King's two bodies in Beijing's green belts

Yimin Zhao\* (London School of Economics and Political Science)

Land Kings (*diwang*) are emerging in urbanising China – they are land plots that are highest in total prices, average prices or transaction premiums, and they are mostly “crowned” by state-owned enterprises (hereafter SOEs) in recent years. The comeback of SOEs reminds us the need to examine what has *not* been changed regarding the nature of the state after more than two decades' discussions on China's urban process with familiar quadruple themes (namely, globalisation, marketisation, deregulation and decentralisation). This article draws on “the King's two bodies,” a political-theological term, to illustrate the dialectics between a “*Body natural*” and a “*Body politic*” of the emerging Land Kings in China. It investigates cases in Beijing's green belts and recognises that ecological discourses have been deployed in configuring the Land King's “*Body natural*.” What is more critical, however, is the political-economic process that produces the “*Body politic*” of these Land Kings. While SOEs used to be both socialist landlords and state agents in productions and *Danwei* welfare provision, they are now transformed into key players in the monopolistic competitive property market. The *socialist* articulation between the state and SOEs in capital accumulation is consistent yet being changed in forms, and this defines the divine “*Body politic*” of Land Kings crowned by the SOEs. In the dialectics between these two bodies, the capital-power nexus with Chinese characteristics and the state's ambition in reproducing such relations loom large. The urban space has been foregrounded for the state project, and the crowning of Land Kings by the SOEs is but a latest signal of this political-economic process.

### **China's greenway development: Where sustainability meets territoriality**

Calvin King Lam Chung\* (University College London)

In recent years, China has experienced an upsurge of interests in greenway development on an extensive scale. While a rich vein of literature has addressed the technical aspects of planning and designing greenways in diverse landscape conditions, few studies have examined why the idea of greenway would take root in China from the outset. This paper seeks to contribute to the latter strand of research by situating the emergence of greenway within the broader discussion of the environmental and territorial aspects of the politics of urban development in China. With reference to greenway development in the Pearl River Delta, where China's 'greenway boom' was initiated by the provincial government of Guangdong, it argues that greenway represents the latest addition to the repertoire of 'sustainability fixes' for Chinese cities which distinguishes itself with a territorial bearing. The favouritism given to greenway by planners and officials in Guangdong reflects an attempt to capture both environmental and economic opportunities offered by further integration of urban and rural areas in a growingly environmentalised context, with greenway being a key instrument in this process. This finding points to the value of thinking the question of urban sustainability in China through established insights of its territorial politics.

### **Planning for eco-urbanisation: An integrated spatial framework**

Cecilia Wong\*, Qiao Miao, Xiangzheng Deng, Mark Baker (The University of Manchester)

The introduction of the 'National New-type Urbanisation Plan' by the Chinese government in March 2014 signifies a shift in its urban development strategy towards a more human-centred and environmentally sustainable pathway by integrating 'ecological civilisation' into the urbanisation process. 'Eco-urbanisation', emphasising the importance of the ecological and environmental aspects of urbanisation, is not merely about the physical space, but also focuses on residents' different modes of production and consumption as they generate different environmental impacts. This involves balancing the stock and utilisation of different resources and the efficiency and equality of their allocation. In this dynamic process, resource allocation and management are carried out at different administrative levels and thus pose challenges for developing an integrated spatial planning approach for effective implementation and management of eco-urbanisation. Spatial planning could be seen as a broad concept which is 'more centrally concerned with the problem of coordination or integration of the spatial dimension of sectoral policies through a territorially based strategy' (Cullingworth & Nadin, 2006, 91–92).

This paper aims to thrash out the key principles of such an integrated spatial planning framework by examining: the flexibility of scaling; the workability of institutional / governance structure and capacity and the role of different forms of value and knowledge. The policy concept of meta-governance will be examined to see whether it can be used to provide both a flexible and workable management framework for China's multi-layered government structure. Meta-governance involves the imposition of, for example, procedures, guidance, targets and other conditions on network governance processes. Instruments used to reinforce meta-governance include contracts, performance management, and financial frameworks (Sehested, 2009). This network approach of governance has increasingly been adopted in European countries e.g. the Netherlands and the UK (Whitehead, 2003; Zoneveld & Spaans, 2014).

## 1C Geography of innovation (Diploma Suite)

Chair: Chun Yang (Hong Kong Baptist University)

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### **The potential culture-led 'smart' urban agglomeration in China**

Yizhi Song\* (University of Liverpool), Alex Nurse (University of Liverpool)

Recently, cities are entering an age of the smart city along with rapidly globalization, urbanization and ICT (Information Communication Technology) development. Smart city is regard as one of innovative and strategic tools to resolve the challenges of urbanization and problems of urban development. Due to apace ICT development, the geographical distance is no longer a real distance in the future. Smart city increases the strong connection between cities and towns, especially in an urban region with the common culture, the economic agglomeration and the homogeneous environment. Moreover, the novel urbanization of China is not only concentrated on the development of a single town or a large city, but rather a polycentric metropolitan area development, such as urban agglomeration. Therefore, the development of future smart city can not only emphasize the single city movement. The article attempts to explore how to promote future smart city development in urban agglomeration. Furthermore, many regions are up against transformation development in the light of resource shortage. Culture is one of the innovation approaches in the application process of smart city. The article analyses cultural impact on 'smart urban agglomeration' to encourage economic agglomeration transformation more particularly in central-western China.

### **Urban innovation linkage: A case study of main Chinese cities**

Lachang Lyu\*, Huang Ru (Capital Normal University)

Based on the current literature and theoretical analyses on innovation linkages between cities, a gravity model was adopted to measure the intensity of innovation linkages between major cities of China. The results show that the patterns of innovation linkages between China's major cities are strong in the east and weaker in the west. The patterns of innovation linkages between cities in eastern China are as follows: Shanghai, Nanjing and Hangzhou serve as the top angle, Beijing and Tianjin as one base angle, and Guangzhou and Shenzhen as the other base angle; these three major economic circles form a "golden triangle" of innovation linkage. Urban innovation linkage shows a notably hierarchical structure in space. Cities such as Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Tianjin, and Chongqing possess wide innovation linkages with many other cities in the country, and have an extensive nationwide innovative impact. Cities such as Nanjing, Hangzhou, Wuhan, Zhengzhou, Jinan, Qingdao, Dalian and Xian are regional nodes of urban innovation linkage, and have a local innovative impact. China's major east coast economic circles all possess strong urban innovation linkage; the Zhujiang River Delta's economic circle has the strongest innovation linkage between cities, yet its outward impact is limited. The Yangtze River Delta's economic circle has a strong innovation linkage between cities in the circle, and has a strong innovation linkage with the Bohai economic circle. Within the Bohai economic circle, Beijing, Tianjin and Tangshan have a fairly strong innovation linkage, and the outward impact of the Bohai economic circle is seen primarily on cities in the Yangtze River Delta. The study provide new insight into the indirect measurement of urban innovative interaction patterns, and offer an important strategy for building innovation systems in China.

**How does external knowledge transform a region's technology portfolio? An analysis of patent licensing flows among Chinese prefectures**

Ilwon Seo\*, Jung Won Sonn (University College London)

This paper explores the how the external knowledge is assimilated across domestic cities and converted to localised innovation in catching-up countries. It has been widely acknowledged by many scholars that external knowledge is the critical trigger to stimulate late-coming country. Given that technology adoption is not a one-time process rather a spatially gradual process where technology is first adopted by leading regions and eventually reaches lagging regions, however, little has been empirically addressed in the internal diffusion process across domestic cities in the catching up country.

The combination of Chinese inter-city patent licensing DB, derived from 33,570 patent licensing records among 181 Chinese cities, with IPC (International Patent Code) code in patent application information is constructed for analysing in a prefecture level. The gravity-like estimation model and network analysis will reveal which was the dominant technological sectors and how they are changed after an influx of external technology. This study also explores whether the city's traditional industries have evolved over time and which factors make the shift possible.

**Megalopolis unbound: Knowledge collaboration within and beyond the Yangtze River Delta Region in China**

Yingcheng Li\* (University College London)

Over the last six decades since Gottmann published his pioneering work on megalopolises in 1957, the significance of the megalopolis concept has been recognized. The concept has inspired a variety of terms used to describe large-scale urbanized forms such as 'mega-city regions', 'megaregions' and 'polycentric urban regions'. However, the hinge or gateway function that Gottmann (1964, 1976) ascribed to megalopolises from a political-geographical perspective has been often overlooked in today's literature; a function that sees megalopolises articulate between national and global urban systems.

In this paper, we reconsider this defining but often overlooked function of megalopolises by analyzing how megalopolises have articulated national and international urban systems in the context of a globalizing knowledge economy. Drawing upon data on co-publications and co-patents and taking the case of China's Yangtze River Delta (YRD) region, we particularly focus on how knowledge flows and exchanges within and beyond the YRD region by analyzing the pattern and process of knowledge collaboration at different geographical scales.

A key finding is that the structure of scientific knowledge collaboration as reflected by co-publications has been 'nationally connected but locally and globally disconnected' while the structure of technological knowledge collaboration as measured by co-patents has been 'globally connected but locally and nationally disconnected'. Despite this difference, the structures of both scientific and technological knowledge collaboration have suggested that the gateway role of the YRD megalopolis in knowledge collaboration will take time to be realized.

**1D Informality and the city (Nobel Suite)**

Chair: Peter Ho (Delft University of Technology)

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**Informal employment and the persistence of street vending in contemporary urban China**

Gengzhi Huang\* (Guangdong Academy of Sciences)

Street vending as part of informal sectors has grown rapidly in Chinese cities in the past decade. It has become an urban problem local governments seek to eradicate. This article aims to understand the persistence of street vending in urban China by uncovering people's motivations for becoming street vendors and their linkages with the socio-economic transformation in the post-reform era. It is based on extensive interviews with 200 street vendors in Guangzhou, and supplemented by the material drawn from official statistics, reports and documents. In current literature, the viewpoint that considers the informal sector as a result of the lack of jobs or unemployment has long dominated the understanding of urban street vending. In this article, however, we found that street vending exists not only as a survival means the unemployed are forced to choose. Rather, it serves as a response of various labourers including wage workers, farmers, the jobless, small entrepreneurs and other marginal groups to their difficult situations. These situations they are facing are caused by the forces of low-end industrialization, rural poverty, state-owned enterprises reform, income disparity and increasing competitive economic environment which have happened in current China. Small vending is a major problem because it is not a simple urban management problem, but the complicated issues related to labor protection, rural development, unemployment and income distribution. The current suppressive policy is ill-advised as it deprives the ordinary people of an effective means to cope with drastic social transformation and better their livelihoods.

**Unplanned commercial establishments: An investigation of Shenzhen's urban villages**

Pu Hao\* (Hong Kong Baptist University)

The built environment of modern cities is largely shaped by urban planning rather than spontaneous development. While whether planned urban space adequately accommodates human needs remains heatedly debated, the increasing complexity of urban development continues to challenge the competence of planners and policy makers. In Chinese cities, given the rigid control of land use and development, planning generally goes undisputed. However, the distribution of urban activities is increasingly redirected by market forces, leading to unplanned development. Most commonly seen are various commercial establishments that have emerged spontaneously within and around the planned fabric of the urban environment, such as a convenience store popping up at the corner façade, a hair salon opened in the roadside garage and a studio concealed in an apartment building. Despite the downsides of these establishments, they not only meet market demand that is unheeded in city plans, but they also facilitate entrepreneurial endeavours for individuals who cannot afford regular premises. In general, unplanned commercial establishments are distributed sporadically. However, such establishments prevail in urban villages, which are migrant settlements that have been transformed from rural villages engulfed by urban expansion. In a state of quasi-urban jurisdiction where rural collective land ownership remains, the construction and utilization of buildings are beyond the control of planning or building codes. The high level of autonomy allows for excess commercial establishments to emerge in residential buildings and non-residential buildings. This paper presents preliminary findings on the spatiality of unplanned commercial establishments in Shenzhen's urban villages. The configuration and distribution of unbridled commercial development are examined with respect to the intrinsic structure of the buildings and neighbourhoods that accommodate such activities as well as the land, labour, consumption, and capital markets within and beyond the neighbourhoods.

### **Urban informality and inclusive urban planning: An investigation of informal gated communities in Beijing**

Pengjun Zhao\* (Peking University)

Informality has been seen as a generalized mode of urbanization and a way of production of space in many countries, in particular, in the Third World cities. Since the 2000s, a new type of informal housing, the informal gated community, emerged on the urban fringe of China's large cities. The article investigates the informal gated communities in Beijing by looking at Hongfu Yuan Community as a case. Three questions are answered: what are the physical and socioeconomic features of the community? what are the factors influencing the formation of the community? what are the challenges of dealing with the community? Our survey shows that more than one third of the residents in the community are the disadvantaged people, including local urban poor, migrants, and young family. The "unplanned" informal community is actually "unmanageable" because it mainly is a spontaneous response from the local grass to the existing planning system which cannot meet their basic need. In addition, the involvement of real estate speculators makes the situation more complicated. Planners now are facing a dilemma whether to formalize, accept or demolish it. The conventional planning doctrine is being challenged by the emergence of the informal gated community in the process of promoting social inclusion.

### **An endogenous theory of property rights: The credibility of informality and China's urban village**

Peter Ho\*, Sun Li (Delft University of Technology)

This paper deals with institutional variation: *Why* are institutions shaped as they are? In trying to address this question, Neo-institutionally trained theorists have recently embraced context-specificity and thus, the impossibility of institutional teleology. At the same time, paradigmatic schooling paradoxically forces them to adhere to the notion that institutional *form* and the sequence, in which it occurs, is related to institutional *performance* (i.e. growth and development). Opposed to the above, it is posited that endogeneity and institutional *function* might offer a more plausible explanation of variation *without* having to resort to normative or teleological considerations. *Function* posits that institutions, as shaped through actors' endogenous interactions, are the result of adaptation. Thus, once institutions surface as ever-changing entities over time and space, they are credible and functionally adapted (regardless their form), if not, they atrophy or become extinct.

In dealing with variation, the paper examines informality with particular reference to the urban village and informal housing. Discussions regarding informal settlements and housing in developing, emerging economies often revolve around the need for formalization and privatization. However, the argument that formalization and privatization out of necessity leads to better rights of otherwise "victimized slum-dwellers" can be questioned. China is a case in point. The argument is supported through fieldwork and surveys in informal settlements in seven medium and large-size cities. The findings ascertain that – despite alleged tenure insecurity – informal settlements and housing rally a high level of credibility along three dimensions: economic, social, and psychological. Our findings indicate that urban planning and housing policies should consider institutional differences in accordance with existing functions, in this case, social security. Stated otherwise, whereas formalization could be contemplated when there is less credibility for informal housing as social security, maintaining status-quo might be more sensible when that credibility is determined to be high.

**1E Regional development (Jasmine Suite)**

Chair: Yi Li (Hohai University)

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**Examining the transition processes in the Pearl River Delta polycentric mega-city region through the lens of corporate networks**

Miaoxi Zhao\* (South China University of Technology), Ben Derudder (Ghent University), Junhao Huang (South China University of Technology)

This paper presents an analysis of the shifting spatial organization of the Pearl River Delta (PRD), a large-scale urbanized region bordering Hong Kong that includes major cities, such as Guangzhou and Shenzhen, alongside a range of other fast-developing cities and towns. Our methodology measures and compares the different networking components of the PRD's spatial organization and uses data on the geography of firms' networks as observed in the links between locations of headquarters and subsidiaries in 2001, 2008 and 2013. We examine whether there has been a shift towards integrated polycentricity in the unfolding spatial organization of this 'workshop of the world' through functional polycentricity and a typology of the geographies of these links. The results suggest complex interaction processes in the PRD in which network interactions significantly increased in 2001-08 and slightly declined in 2008-13 (with the exception of manufacturing links, which are increasingly managed from headquarters in Guannei, Shenzhen). In spite of a variety of geographical shifts in linkages, outdegree centrality (and therefore headquarter locations) remains confined to the central parts of the Pearl River Delta. We argue that the PRD is increasingly characterized by a functional polycentric and cross-regional interaction pattern for market-oriented sectors; although more regionalized, networks continue to dominate sectors that have higher proportions of state-owned enterprises.

**Comparison between Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei Conurbation region and Yangtze river delta urban agglomeration under the state-led urbanization**

Zhaodan Qu\* (Wuhan University/Newcastle University)

Urbanization is not a spontaneous process. Before 1978, China used to be a non-urban society when production was organized through vertical command. Urbanization takes place only when China launched its reforms toward marketization, because market requires horizontal interactions within a given territory. Domestic conditions and global trend inform China of the solution to its urban problem: regional urbanization as cure for disparities and as path toward competitiveness. Since 2005 when China face outstanding urban problems, dozens of city-centered regional plans have been prepared by the National Development and Reform Commission and approved by State Council. As the time goes these years, much more different characteristics have been shown on these two areas, which especially indicates that the polarization effects are much greater than agglomeration effects in Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei Conurbation Region, and the Yangtze River Delta Urban Agglomeration is just on the contrary. Cities and towns around Shanghai in Yangtze River Delta Urban Agglomeration share the resources and well developed together, even account for nearly 20% of total national GDP, while Beijing seize the most of resources which lead other places in this urban agglomeration to a passive situation. This paper will find out what is causing this situation and illustrate the state-led urbanization in various regions in China, and then point out some new paths to solve the problems.

### **Identifying the giant city regions in China**

Sun Sheng Han\*, Ada Chan, Xiang Li, Yuelong Yang (The University of Melbourne)

According to the 2013 urbanisation policy endorsed by the Central Government, giant city regions (*cheng shi qun*) are new spatial platforms for driving China's urban and national development. Despite widespread academic discussions and policy applications, however, the giant city region concept remains ambiguous in terms of what it is, how many exist nationwide in China, what defines its geographical extent, and whether it represents a cohesive entity in politics and in the economy. The purpose of this paper is to shed light on the diverse academic and policy discourses surrounding China's giant city regions, and to explore the attitudes and development interests of the component cities within selected giant city regions. The analyses of data collected from academic publications in core Chinese language urban research journals, government policy documents, and media reports about integrated giant city region development reveal that the loose use of the giant city region concept has resulted in discrepancies in the numbers, whilst government interests at city, provincial, and central levels are a major source of influence on the geographical extent of the giant city region. Further, the results show remarkable differences in governments' attitudes towards regional integration and in development interests within the giant city regions. It is argued that the time is right to properly define the concept of the giant city region, rather than to continue applying the term in a superficial and inconsistent manner.

### **Internationally orchestrated city-regionalism and the geopolitical process: The case of global city-region building in the Yangtze River Delta, China**

Yi Li\* (Hohai University), Fulong Wu (University College London), Andrew E.G. Jonas (University of Hull)

China has recently witnessed a renaissance of regional policies, yet with qualitative changes from highly-planned regional redistribution to urban-focused regionalism. The recent regional policies are promoted via nationally defined policy objectives of internationalization. These top-down efforts to position city regions in national economic strategies all require regional cooperation and collective action, such as for agreements around economic development strategy, land use and planning, environmental regulation, and so on. Yet collaboration and coordination is structurally insufficient and greatly weakened along with Chinese governmental and economic system. In this context, city-regional cooperation is advocated as a national project of building global city-regions. Namely, regional collaboration has been an essential feature of the international orchestration of city regionalism by the Chinese state. However, for the actually-existing process, cities in the regions do not really engage with the regional imagination but utilizing the regional image and national entitlements to boost urban economic development. Using Yangtze River Delta as a case study, this paper argues that the way in which city-regionalism is internationally orchestrated manifests geopolitics around economic development within the Chinese state.

**1F Community development (Grammy Suite)**

Chair: June Wang (City University of Hong Kong)

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**Community building, neighbourhood organisations, and urban community in China**

Ying Wang\*, Nick Clarke, Thomas Kemeny (University of Southampton)

'The community question' on structural change and social ties has set agendas for urban geography and sociology for almost a century. The great urban transformation in China provides new opportunities to revisit this question in an institutional environment different from where it originally emerged. Under conditions of economic liberation and state control, community in China is being transformed by a combination of extended social relationships, organisational engagement, and political intervention. On the one hand, neighbourhood communities are being marginalised in everyday life as traditional community ties maintained by physical proximity are being eroded by the great urban transformation. On the other hand, such communities continue to be promoted by the state through community-building policies in order to restore neighbourhood vitality and increase civic capacity. This paper studies neighbourhood community and community-building policies in urban China. Questions to be addressed include: to what extent are such communities being restructured and re-territorialised? What is the involvement of neighbourhood organisations in the top-down process of community-building and how effective are they in building community capacity? Does this top-down process trigger bottom-up responses? By addressing these questions, this paper considers the less explored political dimension of urban community and its implications for urban governance realignment in contemporary China.

**Developing a new form of urban community through grassroots action in China's Commodity Housing Estates**

Le Tang\*, David Shaw (University of Liverpool)

An enormous production and consumption of urban commodity housing is evident in recent years following Neo-Liberal reforms. Urban commodity housing has mainly been constructed as an enclosed residential compound. Using documentary analysis, this paper reviews the historical development of such housing from a physical and more importantly social perspective. The production of China's commodity housing estates are a function of the progressive reform of China's urban housing provision, the urban land tenure system, and the central-local financial system. In addition they have become new social entities constantly improved by the China's technological and social development. China's commodity housing estates are becoming recognised as an advance type of residential compound with the better physical social and living environments than other urban neighbourhoods. Various types of private services are often provided in these advanced residential compounds which can be identified as compensating for the deficiencies of public goods delivered to the property owners. These new grassroots self organising arrangements which help to fill the gap left by a vacuum of previously state led public service provision may help to create a new type of urban community in China.

### **Alternative approaches to food: Community supported agriculture in urban China**

Kees Krul\*, Peter Ho, (Delft University of Technology)

One of the most remarkable components of China's development trajectory is its large scale and high pace of urbanization. As cities already accommodate more than half of China's population, new challenges to urban food systems have concurrently emerged. Concerns over environmental degradation and food safety, have imputed growing dissatisfaction with China's current food regime. The aim of this paper is to explore the role of new and alternative approaches, in this study community supported agriculture (CSA), in dealing with emerging food-related issues tied to urbanization. It uses Granovetter's notions of social embeddedness to describe CSA's relational role on consumer-farmer relations, as well as its structural role on the broader relational context. Empirical data is drawn upon from surveys distributed among CSA farms, together with interviews of key stakeholders in the Chinese CSA movement. The study finds that the model of CSA demonstrates an innovative approach that is able to deal with food safety issues, addressing sustainability, and operate in an environment where future food demands are most striking. Although bound by several important limitations, it is argued that the model of CSA may offer important insights in making China's urban food systems more resilient.

### **Urbanisation and rural reconstruction in China – Land transfer, migration and community value**

Bin Wu\* (University of Nottingham), Linghui Liu (University of Electronic Science and Technology of China)

The (sub)urbanisation in China cannot be separated but closely interwoven with rural reconstruction, referring to the relocation of labour, land and capital within and across village boundaries. This paper draws attention to three values of rural land, which involve multiple stakeholders and different interests between the public, investors and villagers. Disagreeing with either urban-centralism or rural-seclusion approaches, we argue that the community building is a key to understand not only a balance account of three values behind land transfer, but also sustainable rural and urban development. Accordingly, this paper aims to address the following questions: Why is the community building important for rural reconstruction and rebalance of rural-urban relationship? What are challenges and opportunities for (re)constructing rural community? What are the attitudes, and perceptions of rural-urban migrants to land transfer, rural reconstruction and their decision of integration in cities or return migration? Empirical evidence of this paper is based upon a questionnaire survey of over 1000 university students with rural background across the country. The research findings highlight new momentum for rural development, entrepreneurship, opening and empowering communities in the new era of urbanisation.

**1G Financing urban development (Palm D'or Suite)**

Chair: Abhas Jha (World Bank)

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**An introduction of World Bank investment in Asia**

Abhas Jha\* (World Bank)

*[no abstract available]*

**Financing the low-carbon transition in Chinese cities: The role of green finance**

Le-Yin Zhang\* (University College London)

This presentation aims to explore the role of green finance for promoting the low-carbon transition in China and its implication for city managers. It is in three parts. Part One explores the financing needs of the low-carbon transition in China. Part Two charts the rise of green finance globally and China's leading position in this area. Part Three evaluates the potential and challenges for Chinese cities to take advantage of green finance for the purpose of the low-carbon transition.

**Financing urban development with the spectacle: Mega-events, local debts and space reproduction in China**

Yifei Wu\* (The University of Hong Kong)

Recent research on the rapid expansion of China's local debts have been made on the basis of either the budget constraints analysis or urban development model, both of which attempt to understand the growth of local debts in terms of the whole country whereas fail to examine their variation in different subnational authorities. This study goes beyond the existing theoretical confines to investigate the public policy adopted by municipal authorities to soften budget constraint and accelerate capital investment in urban domain. An investigation of Guangzhou, the host city of the 2010 Asian Games, has identified a significant cause-effect relationship in which the mega-event strategy has been actively pursued as a means of capital accumulation to stimulate infrastructure-driven urbanization and thus triggered debt crises. The Guangzhou municipality has successfully collected sufficient resources from commercial banks to finance infrastructure projects and prompt urban spatial restructuring by establishing local government financing platforms (LGFPs). Because lands were principle assets that injecting into LGFPs and served as collateral for bank loans, the revenue generated from land sales has been of great significance to back LGFPs. However, the uncertainty of the real estate market made land revenue volatile, which eventually resulted in huge local debts and potential risks. This study provides informative references for local officials when they make decision on whether adopting the mega-event strategy for the sake of urban development.

**Institutional change and investment governance: The case of Xiamen**

Peter Ye\* (Coventry University London)

This paper explores the dynamic of institutional change from the perspective of investment governance in Xiamen, China. It is not a study of investment governance as understood in the conventional developed sense. The study took place in an historical context largely absent of business angel, where trust is a big problem and new business venture faces a plethora of problem including incomplete contract, high transaction cost and political uncertainty. Notwithstanding these institutional difficulties, entrepreneurial investment has arrived and taken its root and thrived, with new forms of organizational linkage and governance structure emerged with the arrival of direct investment and human capital creating new linkages from the old ties, and changing business practices which gradually transform local institutions and governance structure. The starting point of the analysis is on a broader set of actors whose relationship dynamics shape the process of entry and driving the change in the investment governance structure of the Xiamen economy. Questions on how to enter a new territory, finding trustworthy partners, and developing partnership and negotiating entry are fundamentally a question of how to deal with uncertainty in business life as a result of information asymmetry, institutional ambiguity and principal agent problem. Human capital induced new institutional design emerges to provide norm and standard to the conduct of the business. In the context of Xiamen, a process of induced institutional change is partly simultaneous, organised with the arrival of human capital, and partly driven by a developmental state, although the actual process has more layers of intricacy and complexity. The paper draws lesson from the case and argues the developmental outcomes of Xiamen's great institutional transformation has been ambivalent and calls for continuous government reform.

## **Sessions 2: Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2017, 14:00–15:40**

### **2A Regeneration and social change 1 (Booker Suite)**

Chair: Him Chung (Hong Kong Baptist University)

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#### **Social learning and institutional innovation in urban regeneration of South China: The example of Guangzhou**

Xiaohong Tan\*, Uwe Altröck (University of Kassel)

Over the last two decades, China has experienced urban regeneration at an unprecedented scale and speed, and the existing practices and institutional arrangements indicate gradual maturing of urban governance. Urban regeneration has been a fertile ground for the governance debate in China. This research aims to examine the epistemological dynamics of how different forms of knowledge are utilized, shared and produced by various actors according to their respective knowledge, behavioural logics and interests. This study explores the interplay of institutions, actors' practices and knowledge in the spatial restructuring and social innovation process of urban regeneration, and also the collective social learning process through experimental pioneer projects and learning from international good practice. Thus this study tries to explain how institutions (formal and informal) are shaped by knowledge, and further prove that social learning contributes to policy-making and institutional innovation in China. Technical, institutional and local knowledge are activated and utilized to construct storylines by the government, planners, scholars, journalists, residents and NGOs etc., which contribute to the complex processes of framing and reframing of problem and strategy, and also of continuous experimentation on various adaptive strategies. Knowledge utilization and production through networking and interacting of various actors enables social learning in urban regeneration processes. Through "learning by being/doing" from other projects and cities, problem and strategy framing becomes more structured and certain during a continuously experimental practice, and thus facilitate institutional innovations by converting accumulated practice based implicit knowledge into codified/ explicit research results or policy-related knowledge. The institutional framework of urban regeneration in Guangzhou city in South China indicates dynamic innovations especially in the last decade. Guangzhou will therefore serve as a case study in this research.

#### **The research on destruction in conservation: Phenomenon of houses in traditional villages of west Beijing**

Tian Sun\*, Yun Qian (Beijing Forestry University)

The historical villages with massive traditional buildings are definitely invaluable heritage as the reflection of the long and consecutive Chinese agricultural civilization. Many of the existing historical villages have been on the conservation list, and a series of regulations, plans and policies have been issued. However, some of the implementation measures are problematic in practice. The most significant negative consequence is called "destruction in conservation". Shuiyu village and Lingshui village in western suburb of Beijing, which are both historical villages, are selected as the two cases. Through field investigation with in-depth interviews to local villagers and planners, tally the four kinds of destruction phenomenon in the two villages, and the two consequences of the "destruction in conservation" phenomenon of buildings have been summarized: protective vacancy and secondary construction damage. The reasons should be in the side of the government and villagers. Summarize the findings and help to make more "custom-made" policies and regulations for future conservation work for these historical villages.

#### **Evaluation and comparison of aboriginal welfare induced by urban renewal between property swap mode and monetary compensation mode in China: A case study of Chongqing**

Yulin Zhou\*, Tao Zhou, Huiwen Liu (Chongqing University)

Urban renewal changes the living environment and interrupts the social network of aboriginal people, resulting in different welfare states before and after the renewal. This paper employs Sen's Capable Theory to establish a Multidimensional Welfare Measure Model for the subjective evaluation of aboriginal welfare. Then, an investigation of 712 typical aboriginal people on aboriginal welfare is performed to test this model in practice.

The aboriginal people are from a typical renewal area that adopted two compensation and resettlement patterns: one is “property swap mode” with centralized resettlement housing construction; the other is “monetary compensation mode” without physical housing compensation. The evaluation and comparison on aboriginal welfare change between these two patterns show that both aboriginal welfare are improved after renewal and a greater welfare improvement is demonstrated by aboriginal people with property swap mode. The results can indicate the positive impact of Hualongqiao area renewal on aboriginal people in welfare dimension. The influence effects and mechanisms are analyzed according to the similarities and differences of multidimensional welfare change between two resettlement and compensation mode in addition. Furthermore, this paper gives a proposal for improving resettlement and compensation mode in addressing social conflict caused by urban renewal.

### **Urban village redevelopment in China: A case study of Guangzhou**

Weilong Zhang\* (University College London)

There is a plenty of existing researches on China’s urbanisation revealing the process of urban expansion of cities and towns, but little touch on the modality of redevelopment in China’s cities. From late 2000s, China’s economy enters a new stage of ‘new normal’, so-called ‘Xinchangtai’ in Chinese. Against the context, a remarkable change has been noted within the field of urbanisation in China, as the role of planning as a major tool for growth has come to end. The growth-oriented ideology underlying China’s planning is ending. The golden age of China’s spatial production as well as planning is gradually disappearing. Now the focus of urban China’s spatial production turns and moves into a new stage of pro-redevelopment, so to improve the efficiency of land use, place making, promote various types of consumptions, and sustain a high speed economic growth. This research examines the practices of urban village redevelopment in Guangzhou. On the one hand, it discusses the policy evolution of village redevelopment of government in different levels from central, provincial and to local, to explain the governance change in village redevelopment. On the other hand, it intends to demonstrate the evolving power of villages’ collectives and villagers, as well as the contestation and negotiations between villagers and local government within the processes of redevelopment, in order to shed light on the impact of collective power on the evolution of governance of urban redevelopment.

### **Urban village renewal planning confronted with in-effect plans in Wuhan: Conflicts and planning solutions**

Ji Luo\*, Helin Liu, Zhiyong Wang (Huazhong University of Science and Technology)

Since the 1990s, it has been a burden for the city government to perform urban renewal in China. With the foreseeable high cost of housing relocation and economic compensation for the dwellers in urban villages, the renewal planning practice of these places prefers to rearrange the land-use composition and increase the land plot ratio, expecting to get market forces involved in village reconstruction so as to alleviate the government’s budget pressure. With this aim, these renewal planning projects tend to cater for the developers, which inevitably in many cases incur the conflicts with the already established in-effect plans in terms of the control or regulatory indexes. By reviewing the planning system and the evolution of urban renewal planning in Wuhan, this paper points out that this kind of conflict is caused by the ever-increasing land demand, the top-design of the planning regulations, and the rapid land-use change driven by growth-oriented planning. Through analyses of the 46 completed urban village renewal projects in Wuhan city, we generalized three planning approaches adopted in these projects that has successfully tackled the conflict dilemma. They are: adopting new planning policies to realized trade-off between different land-use types so as to reduce the total land demand, customizing the control/regulatory indexes in the urban renewal planning by referring to local context and using them for the generalization of relevant control/regulatory indexes to be defined in other tiers of plans, and full consideration of the differences in planning making time-scale between these urban renewal plans and other relevant plans so as to achieve planning coordination among them.

**2B Urban Studies special session on China urban studies (Turner Suite)**

Chair: Anthony O'Sullivan (University of Glasgow; Managing Editor, Urban Studies)

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**Urban Studies China strategy**

Jon Bannister\* (Manchester Metropolitan University)

*[no abstract available]*

**China virtual special issue in Urban Studies**

Shenjing He\* (The University of Hong Kong)

*[no abstract available]*

**Chinese urbanization: Modernizing, neoliberal, postcolonial, and state led**

John R. Logan\* (Brown University)

The various patterns and processes of urban development in China have been viewed from many theoretical perspectives. This presentation argues that it is a mistake to assert that any single theoretical perspective can reasonably interpret this case. Indeed, although theoretical perspectives are essential to social research, it is a mistake to try to interpret any country's experience as though it could be reduced to a single driving force. Some main aspects of urban change in China will be reviewed and interpreted from the perspectives of modernization theory, neoliberalism, post-colonialism and the developmental state.

**Planning centrality, market instruments: Governing Chinese urban transformation under state entrepreneurialism**

Fulong Wu\* (University College London)

This paper defines the key parameters of 'state entrepreneurialism' as a governance form that combines planning centrality and market instruments and interprets how these two seemingly contradictory tendencies are made coherent in the political economic structures of post-reform China. Through examining urban regeneration programmes (in particular 'three olds regeneration', *sanjiu gaizao*), development of suburban new towns, and reconstruction of the countryside, the paper details institutional configurations that make the Chinese case different from a neoliberal growth machine. The contradiction of these tendencies gives room to urban residents and migrants to develop their agencies and their own spaces and creates informalities in Chinese urban transformation.

**Sociospatial shrinkage amid upgrading in urban China: A case of Wuhan**

Zhigang Li\* (Wuhan University), Jiang Gu (Central China Normal University)

With a microscopic perspective, this study examines the sociospatial effects of economic upgrading or transformation during recent years in urban China, largely through the lens of social sustainability. By shedding light upon Wuhan, the capital city of middle China, we explore a typical case, namely, Wuhan Iron and Steel Corp (WISCO), ethnographically, to interrogate the modality of its sectoral upgrading or transformation, and uncover its resultant effects upon the social space of WISCO workers and their everyday life. As one of the major state-owned iron and steel companies or work-units of China, WISCO faced remarkable challenges to maintain a high-speed growth during last decades. The pro-growth (re)assembling of its capitals, investments and resources, at the global and national scales, results in tremendous local changes. The failure of the efforts, however, indicates the unemployment of above 50,000 workers in 2016, the shrinkage of the social space within WISCO complex, together with tremendous social crisis. The shrinkage puts high pressures upon the local states. As such, this case articulates the intricate linkage between social sustainability and state-led economic upgrading, transformation, and development, particularly in China. It also questions the justice of state as a market player. In this vein, we call for further attentions of the issues of social justice, resilience, and sustainability against the context of economic transformation, particularly its impacts upon industrial workers and their social spaces.

## **2C Transport development 1 (Diploma Suite)**

Chair: Donggen Wang (Hong Kong Baptist University)

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### **Accessibility and urban planning in China**

Zhi Liu\* (Peking University)

Integrated land use-transport planning has long been a difficult subject for the urban planning profession. While “accessibility”—the easy of reaching valued destination—is considered a desirable measure for the performance of land use and transport systems, the work of urban transport planners typically centers on the improvement of “mobility”—often measured as travel speeds to valued destinations. The mobility-oriented approach has led to a number of undesirable consequences, such as increased dependence on automobile and reduced accessibility of the low-income groups to economic opportunities. There are increasing research efforts around the world to better understand, measure and operationalize the concept of accessibility in land use and transport planning.

Over the last two decades, China has undergone an unprecedentedly rapid urban development, which is also coincided with rapid motorization. In response to growing traffic congestion, cities have made significant efforts in urban transport planning, investment and management. These efforts typically focus on the improvement of mobility. There is a host of evidence that such a mobility-oriented approach does not contribute much to the improvement of accessibility, and sometimes contribute to the worsening of accessibility for the low-income, disadvantaged groups. In this presentation, I will trace the history of urban transport planning practices in China, highlight the weaknesses of the mobility-oriented approach, give an overview of the international effort to shift to accessibility-oriented approach, and discuss the implications to China’s urban planning practices. I will conclude that it is time for China to initiate an academic research agenda on accessibility and explore practical ways to integrate the concept of accessibility in land use and transport planning.

### **Status and causes of urban traffic congestion in Guangzhou – Based on the background of implementation of ‘urban public transport priority’ policy and expansion of call-hailing platforms in China**

Chaoqiao Ning\* (Guangzhou Academy of Social Sciences)

“Urban public transport priority” principle is usually regarded as an effective way to alleviate the traffic congestion for mega cities of developing countries. However, China’s urban traffic congestion is exacerbated instead of alleviation after implementing the “urban public transport priority” policy. Therefore, such phenomenon is reinvestigated based on the supply and demand theory of transport and the relevant data of transport from 2011 to 2015 for Guangzhou city. The conclusion indicates that the main cause of this anomaly is the structure dislocation and space-time imbalance between supply and demand, including the heavy transport pressure resulting from the increasing of demand of freight, lower road traffic efficiency resulting from the growing novice driver and the road excavation.

Furthermore, Car-hailing Platforms, such as Didi Chuxing and Uber China have been sprung up in China since 2014. Besides the conventional taxi-hailing service, they also offer a diverse range of customized transportation services including tailored taxi service, ride sharing. The analysis of their user’s behavior indicates that the emergency of Car-hailing Platforms isn’t the root cause of traffic congestion, but has positive influence in satisfying the urban traffic demand and relieving congestion due to its flexibility.

As a result, with the continuous expansion, it is of great urgency for government to adjust the supply structure of the public transit under a new governance mode.

### **Transport, social justice and the capabilities approach: Empirical evidence from Beijing**

Mengqiu Cao\*, Robin Hickman (University College London)

In the transport context, social justice has not previously been treated as a significant issue by most researchers, partly because the relationship between transport and social justice has not been fully understood. Social justice in itself is a difficult term to define; less still quantifying the contribution that

transport investment might make to improving social justice.

From a starting point of interest in social justice issues related to transport and mobility, researchers have investigated the relationship between transport and social exclusion issues, focusing on aspects such as access to opportunities, income, reduced mobility, class, age, ethnicity, gender, social exclusion, travel poverty, and unequal accessibility. The wider social and economic impacts of social exclusion in the transport context have primarily centred on addressing the imbalance in the distributional effects of transport accessibility. This research investigates and explores the relation between transport and social injustice on an individual level, and its wider impacts on neighbourhoods, in relation to large transport infrastructure investment projects. Three stations have been selected as the case study on the Beijing subway line 1 and its extension to the Batong line, namely Guomao, Sihui and Tuqiao. Nussbaum's ten central human capabilities approach is adapted as a theoretical framework and applied within the case study. The results of the research analysis show that functionings, capabilities, freedoms and choices differ according to an individual's socio-economic characteristics and geographical context, meaning that transport-related social injustice remains a problem for many people. In order to attempt to improve social justice in transport, we argue that governments should fulfil the fundamental duty of providing everyone with adequate transport, taking the effects of both capabilities and functionings into consideration, in order to mitigate transport-related injustice and social disparities.

### **Mobility and travel behavior in urban China: The role of institutional factors**

Donggen Wang\*, Mingzhu Yao (Hong Kong Baptist University)

Socio-economic characteristics and residential built environment variables have been widely reported to be important determinants of individuals' mobility and daily travel behavior in the literature of travel behavior. The role of institutional factors, however, has not yet received much research attention. Institutional factors, which are referred to social and economic norms and rules, define individuals' entitlement and access to opportunities and thus may play an important role in shaping individuals' mobility and travel behavior especially in countries that have experienced the transition from a planned economy to market-oriented economy. Studies in Chinese cities show that Danwei or type of work unit is an important factor explaining jobs-housing relationship and commuting behavior. We argue that, Hukou or household registration, another institutional factor may explain the mobility and travel behavior of Chinese urbanites. Unlike population registration systems in many other countries, Hukou, one of the most important institutional arrangements in contemporary China, determines an individual's entitlement to state-provided benefits and opportunities (such as job and housing) and plays a crucial role in defining access to housing, urban amenities, education, jobs, etc., which has far reaching implications for travel behavior. Using data collected from Beijing, we empirically verify our hypothesis about the importance of Hukou in explaining car ownership, travel time and transport mode choice for daily trips. The study improves the understanding about mobility and travel behavior in urban China.

### **Patterns and causes of floating population's intercity migration in China based on the 2010 census data**

Xiaoyan Mu\*, Anthony Gar-On Yeh (The University of Hong Kong)

China has been undergoing a large scale rural-urban migration over the past decades. This paper explores the migration patterns and migration causes of floating population in China based on the 2010 census data. We use the specific origin-destination flows among 336 Chinese cities to analyze the movement preferences of floating population with different attributes such as genders, hukou statuses, ethnic groups, and ages. We note highly differentiated patterns for different groups of migrants. The results demonstrate that (1) The floating population are still concentrating to a few mega and big cities in the eastern coastal region. (2) Young male labor force has a stronger propensity to move. This tendency has profound influence to both origin and destination. The massive out-migration of male laborers even significantly changed the sex ratio of permanent population in some origins. (3) Floating population are constrained to limited manual work due to their low education level. They often gather in a handful of prominent industries of the cities. This deficiency also limits their destination choices. (4) Floating population adjust their migration destinations at different stages of the life circle. Their migration distance varies at different ages. The findings provide new insights on urbanization of Chinese cities and the evolution of the urban system.

## **2D Resident displacement and right to the city (Nobel Suite)**

Chair: Bettina Gransow (Freie Universität Berlin)

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### **Hardening processes of nail households in China's urban housing demolition project**

Chen Li\*, Mark Y. L. Wang, Jennifer Day (University of Melbourne)

Conflict induced by housing demolition in urban China has become an issue that significantly threatens Chinese social harmony and stability. Nail Households (Dingzihu in Chinese) who resist housing demolition are at the center of these conflicts, and their activities against housing demolition are one of the most visible examples of bargaining and conflict resolution over private property in the country. The dominant paradigm based on the existing literature is that nail households are disempowered victims who stand to lose in the transaction. This is in comparison with local governments and developers, who are often seen as the initiators of urban housing demolition and stand to gain. Perhaps the key assumption about nail households is that they lack effective means and resources to be part of a fair bargaining process. Although, a handful of studies revealed that there are tough nail households who have used specific strategies to obtain more compensation or win public sympathy, there has been very little research describing, in-depth, how bargaining is constructed between such tough nail households and their opponents. This paper firstly describes two types of tough nail households: "harden", who increase their resolve over time; and "hard", who remain resolute throughout the bargaining processes. Based on a real housing demolition project in the city of Dalian, this paper fills the research gap by examining why some tough nail households become increasingly uncompromising while others remain "hard" from the beginning to the end of the negotiations. It concludes that tough nail households are heterogeneous groups of fighters whose attitudes and behaviours during bargaining processes are influenced by the internal and external factors. Understanding how nail households become "harden" and "hard" can lead to improved conflict resolution strategies for communities seeking to resistance and the governments and developers in conflict with them.

### **Performing the right to the city of spectacles: Panhandling and the social production of urban public space in China**

Ryanne Flock\* (Freie Universität Berlin / Goethe Universität)

This study examines the strength and limits of the "spectacle" as a mechanism of exclusion in China's contemporary urban public space. Taking the "right to the city" as a perspective of agency, the focus lies on the conflict between the state and the panhandling poor: How, why and which government actors refuse or allow beggars access to public space? How and why do beggars appropriate public space to receive alms and adapt their strategies? And what do the interactions of these opponent groups say about exclusion in urban China? Taking the metropolis Guangzhou as case study, I argue: Beggars contest the expulsion from public space through begging performances. Rising barriers of public space require higher investment in these performances, taking even more resources from the panhandling poor. The trends of public order are not unidirectional, however. Beggars navigate between several contextual borders composed by the discourse on deserving, undeserving, and dangerous beggars; the moral legitimacy of the government versus the imagination of a successful, "modern," and "civilised" city. The local government attempts to gain economically and politically by erasing the public appearance of rural and new urban poverty. However, I elucidate public space in urban China as processual and fluid and show the agency of even those most deprived and most unwelcomed. Interestingly, beggars not only create cracks in an idealized public space, but they fit in and adapt. Their performances are part of the very image they are supposed to negate – public spaces of spectacular consumption and entertainment.

### **De-legitimising right to the city: Urban redevelopment, resistance and adaptive governance in Nanjing, China**

Zhao Zhang\* (The University of Hong Kong Shenzhen Institute of Research and Innovation), Niamh Moore-Cherry (University College Dublin)

The 'right to the city' and grassroots resistance strategies have been key foci of academic work focusing on anti-gentrification and displacement campaigns (e.g. Uitermark et al., 2012; Samara et al., 2012). However,

insufficient attention has been paid to the way in which these campaigns or struggles are de-legitimised through a form of 'passive revanchism' as entrepreneurial urban agendas are further embedded in cities. Based on long-term field research between 2011 and 2015 and secondary data related to urban redevelopment and grassroots resistance in the historic inner city of Nanjing, this paper attempts to understand these intertwined processes from a legal geography perspective (e.g. Blomley, 2004; Shih, 2010).

Firstly, we identify that Nanjing local authority legitimated mega displacement and the downgrading of historical preservation, and de-legitimated rightful resistance (O'Brien, 1996), by enacting pro-redevelopment and pro-displacement administrative legislations. Secondly, it is clear that extra-legal practices were at work during the process of forced displacement. A one-dimensional discourse was employed by the local authority-censored media to create biased narratives and territorial stigmatisation to neutralise staying-put resistance. Additionally, by taking advantage of clientelistic networks and harassment, the determination of resisters was significantly dismantled.

Thus, we argue that it has become manifest in construction of un/institutionalised traps which negate the efforts of resisting alliances by the Chinese local governments. Meanwhile, we point out that China's urban redevelopment process is interlocked deeply with the adaptive governance pursued by the Chinese central government, to accomplish economic growth and to refrain the grassroots resistance from escalating.

### **The place of social suffering in researching displacement in urban China**

Yunpeng Zhang\* (KU Leuven)

The transformation of Chinese cities at such a huge scale and intensity has attracted significant attention. Unsurprisingly, the ontological foundation – displacement and dispossession – has always been heatedly debated through various conceptual lenses. This paper examines the construction of this body of knowledge and explores the position of social suffering in this field. While extant literature has raised important questions as to social justice, social suffering remains a marginalized voice and an under-developed perspective in current research. Emotional experience and moral lives in losing homes, if not denied any place at all, are insufficiently explored and theorized. Drawing upon Bourdieu's conceptual lenses and my own experience of researching displacement in Shanghai, this paper tackles important ontological, epistemological and methodological questions concerning researching emotional experiences/social suffering and its oversight in current research. It views the academic field as a site of political struggles and considers the oversight of social suffering to be an outcome of dominant power structure. In particular, it focuses on the representational techniques and academic censorship in structuring knowledge production, moderating experiences, and in some cases expresses symbolic violence. From this, this paper then considers the relevance, urgency, necessity and challenges to bring social suffering to the centre of critical inquiries into socio-spatial transformations in contemporary Chinese cities. Of particular importance here is the ways in which emotional energies can be mobilized to recreate a space of mattering and caring, conducive to alternative ways of urban space production.

### **Out of context – Long-term coping strategies of a village community from the Three Gorges Dam area relocated into South China's mega-urban Pearl River Delta**

Bettina Gransow \* (Freie Universität Berlin)

The extraordinary construction boom of the last twenty years in China made the relocation of households and whole villages to a common feature. Based on 26 qualitative interviews that have been conducted in 2012 with members of a village community displaced from the Three Gorges Dam Project Area in 2002 to the Pearl River Delta (PRD) the paper analyses the challenges and long-term coping strategies of a displaced village community after living in the PRD for a period of ten years. The case study is part of a comparative analysis of widely differing examples of migrant communities within the PRD arguing that increased mobility – spatial as well as social mobility – will be generated as a common feature of the mega-urban PRD landscape posing challenges for realising a sustainable mega-urban development in the future. Beyond conceptualizations of urban futures that place the megacity and its slums at their center, the planned study will ask how diverse groups of (mainly internal Chinese) migrants are producing transient (mega-) urban spaces and influencing urbanization processes in China.

## 2E Socio-environmental justice and social mobility 1 (Jasmine Suite)

Chair: Pu Hao (Hong Kong Baptist University)

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### **Social effects of spatial differentiation of urban public services and its controlling strategy: An empirical study of Wuhan**

Yanping Tian\* (Zhongnan University of Economics and Law)

Balanced spatial configuration of urban public services is a matter of the livelihood of urban residents as well as the sustainable and stable socio-economic development of the city. The current situation of widespread urban social spatial differentiation highlights the importance of balanced spatial configuration of urban public services. This project, based on political science, urban sociology and urban governance theory, together with the institutional background of the development of Chinese cities, explores the influencing factors on spatial differentiation of urban public services, its social effects and possible controlling strategies. These include: theoretically analyzing the interaction mechanism between urban public services and urban spatial structure; explaining why spatial allocation of urban public service is imbalance as of the management of government, the role of communities, the demand and capacity constraints of urban residents; inspecting the social effects of spatial differentiation of urban public services through the mechanism of spatial differentiation of urban public services on urban social spatial differentiation; raising strategy to control spatial differentiation of urban public services according to the residents' demands of public services.

### **Air pollution and environmental-health inequality in urban China: Evidence from Beijing**

Weifeng Li\* (University of Hong Kong)

While Beijing is not alone when it comes to smoke-filled skies, this city of more than 20 million people has come to symbolize the environmental cost of China's break-neck economic growth. Fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) pollution has been a heated topic for discussion that also leads to health concerns greatly, such as respiratory problems and cardiovascular diseases. Pollution exacerbates socioeconomic inequality as it causes greater suffering amongst the poor. They are more exposed and often unable to pay to prevent or to treat the resulting health consequences.

International literature on environmental inequality and air pollution indicates that most North American studies have shown that areas where low-socioeconomic-status communities dwell experience higher concentrations of criteria air pollutants, while European research has been mixed (Hajat et al., 2015). Research from other parts of the world, especially developing countries is rather limited, though it has shown a general trend similar to that of North America. Therefore, our study aims to fill in the research gap in the Chinese context by examine whether PM<sub>2.5</sub>-induced health burdens differ significantly among different socio-economic groups in Urban China, hence leading to a potential case of health-related social injustice.

We plan to evaluate the socioeconomic disparities related to PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposures at both neighbourhood and individual level in Beijing. The PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations will be estimated by integrating Satellite remote sensing data and ground monitoring data at fine scale. At the neighbourhood level, we will develop the socioeconomic-status indicators based on both the Chinese census 2010 data, location-based social media and housing transaction data. At the individual level, we are collecting around 500 individual surveys which include the socio-economic attributes, GPS-based activity-travel diary data and associated hourly PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations data in Beijing. Hence, we can assess individuals' pollution exposure under different travel-activity modes and measure the variations among different groups by travel-activity pattern and socio-economic attributes. Finally, an integrated regression model will be estimated to evaluate the role of both individual- and neighbourhood-level socio-economic status metrics in their specific populations.

### **Inequities in the perceived environmental health risks and interventions in a fast developing country – China**

Jianquan Cheng\* (Manchester Metropolitan University), Qiyan Wu (East China Normal University)

Over the last three decades, China has witnessed unprecedented pace and scale of industrialisation and urbanisation. However, Chinese cities have experienced notorious environmental degradations, which have had

considerable negative impact on residents' health. This has stimulated an increase in public environmental awareness. As people perceive, experience & prevent environmental pollutions differently, vulnerable and disadvantaged people may be exposed to higher levels of health risks than the rest. The dimension of 'perceptions' has not been incorporated into the theories of environmental justice, which is rarely studied in China where there are distinct political and cultural systems from the developed world. This paper aims to provide scientific and quantitative evidence for understanding the social and spatial inequalities in perceived environmental health risks and interventions through a case study of Nanjing City. A mixed methods approach combining quantitative with qualitative methods is used to analyse structural characteristics and disparities in the perceived risks and interventions. The determinants of such differentiation will be modelled by considering social and spatial effects – demographic, network, media, dependence and heterogeneity. Three methods of data collection (market based, participatory and government-directed), targeting at the age group of 40-60, will be compared as well to assess its methodological merits. The paper ends with discussing implications of the results for urban sustainability.

### **Exploring the green justice issue through mobile phone data: Evidence from Shanghai, China**

Yang Xiao\*, Jia Fang, Cheng Lei (Tongji University)

It is widely recognised that within cities, green space is not always equitably distributed, and people's access is often highly stratified based on income, ethno-racial characteristics, age, gender, (dis)ability, paucity of political power and other axes of difference. In this vein, the uneven accessibility of urban green space has become recognized as an environmental justice issue to both scholars and governments. Despite a growing literature, there is no consensus among scholars about how to measure green space access (Wolch, Byrne and Newell, 2014). The common approach is to employ GIS, measuring accessibility (Oh and Jeong, 2007; Sister et al., 2010; Talen, 1997), but a geographical approach to research actual park users' activities is still relatively scarce (Byrne and Wolch, 2009). Consequently, this research would trigger this point via a novel approach, employing billions of anonymized data collected from mobile phones characterized the patterns of millions of people who accessed the green space in an experiment manner, since such data is prestigious in recording the real space-time activities. We choose a case study of Shanghai, since it is the largest and most prosperous Chinese city, where had emerged serious residential segregation problems. Specifically, this research would examine the hypothesis that whether the present urban park distribution has a particular discrimination for marginalised population during rapid urban growth and urban transition. The expected results will have several policy implications on local spatial planning and land use planning, for instant, how to provide green infrastructures on different social groups that are more or less mobility disadvantaged, a fact that has hitherto received little attention in policy research and practice.

### **Temporal patterns in fine particulate matter time series in Beijing: A calendar view**

Jianzheng Liu\*, Jie Li, Weifeng Li (The University of Hong Kong)

Extremely high fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) concentration has become synonymous to Beijing, the capital of China, posing critical challenges to its sustainable development and leading to major public health concerns. In order to formulate mitigation measures and policies, knowledge on PM<sub>2.5</sub> variation patterns should be obtained. While previous studies are limited either because of availability of data, or because of problematic a priori assumptions that PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration follows subjective seasonal, monthly, or weekly patterns, our study aims to let data show themselves through visualization rather than imposing arbitrary periodic patterns upon the data. To achieve this, we conduct a time-series cluster analysis on full-year PM<sub>2.5</sub> data in Beijing in 2014, and provide an innovative calendar visualization of PM<sub>2.5</sub> measurements throughout the year. Intuitive insights from the analysis on temporal variation of PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration show that there are three diurnal patterns and no weekly patterns; seasonal patterns exist but they do not follow a strict temporal division. These findings advance current understanding on temporal patterns in PM<sub>2.5</sub> data and offer a different perspective which can help with policy formulation on PM<sub>2.5</sub> mitigation.

## **2F Community cohesion (Grammy Suite)**

Chair: Werner Breitung (Hong Kong Baptist University)

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### **Determinants and dynamics of community residents: Place attachment in Guangzhou**

Rong Wu\* (Sun Yat-sen University), Zhigang Li (Wuhan University)

In the context of globalization, economy, politics, society, culture and other forces break through the boundary of the traditional space since the 1980s, presenting the trend of “planetary urbanization”. Because of this, the relation between cities and the structures of urban and rural is becoming vague, and the new global space order appears. On this background, the meaning of place also become vague and complicated, which makes the residents’ cognition and emotion to the place change accordingly. This study takes the place attachment as the research subject. Adopting the combination of qualitative and quantitative methods, we chose 23 communities in Guangzhou, China and collect 1300 questionnaires through neighborhood survey to figure out the level characteristic and the factors that influence the residents’ place attachment. We found that place attachment is constructed by the place identity, place dependence and social bonding, and the standard of place attachment of the residents in Guangzhou are pretty good, which is little higher than medium. The results of structural equation models have shown that the living length, housing tenure, community service, neighborhood interaction, community participation and community environment strongly influence the residents’ place attachment. And the community environment (0.405\*\*\*) and community participation (0.322\*\*\*) are the most important contributor to place attachment. As a mediate factor, community participation decreases the negative effect of the neighborhood interaction.

### **Space, society and safety: a case study of new neighbourhoods in Shenzhen**

Yu Wang\* (University of Glasgow)

As boardly discussed by worldwide researchers, the significance of safety to a neighbourhood is indisputable. A high level of neighbourhood safety is a symbol of respected social development. Massive new urban neighbourhoods have been built in China during past decades’ rapid urbanisation. However, few studies have investigated their contemporary situation regarding safety. Factors that may influence the safety of Chinese neighbourhoods remain unclear. This study aims to assess the level of safety for the special pattern of ‘commodity housing’ in China. Indicators for assessing neighbourhood safety are generated from literature view, from both objective and subjective perspectives. An empirical case study is conducted in the city of Shenzhen using official police data and a questionnaire survey. Results suggest the effect of physical environment on the safety of commodity neighbourhood is limited despite the influence of urban form. On the other hand, social environment has complex impacts. The relationship between safety and socio-demographic features of neighbourhood is explored. Taking into account of both the spatial and social factors, the study concludes with the approach of enhancing neighbourhood safety, as a policy recommendation for China’s future urban development.

### **Social cohesion in rapidly urbanizing peri-urban neighbourhoods: An examination of Panyu district, Guangzhou city, China**

Linyan Dai\* (University of Sheffield)

A wide range of new neighbourhoods are being created as older and less dense areas are being redeveloped in Chinese cities (Forrest & Yip, 2007), including peri-urban areas, such as Panyu in Guangzhou. Panyu has become an important residential area of Guangzhou, which is attracting more people working in Guanzhou city center to live in here (Qu et al. 2012). Furthermore, there are a wide range of factories in Panyu’s peri-urban areas (Huang 2013), which are attracting numerous rural-to-urban migrants. Therefore, the population structure here is changing significantly, and there have been clashes between migrants and locals- at times violent (Tse, 2016; Li & Chui, 2011; Li, 2006; Qian et al., 2012; Bai, 2006; Lin et al., 2011). There has been no prior examination of what might be driving social tensions. It is therefore of interest to examine what impact the planning and design of existing, new and redeveloped neighbourhoods might have - on social cohesion and relations between locals and migrants. This research examines three different neighbourhood types in peri-urban China,

to explore social cohesion in i) villages, ii) redeveloped villages and iii) commodity housing neighbourhoods. Using data collected from 900 valid questionnaires and interviews with residents in 9 neighbourhoods in Panyu's peri-urban areas, this article examines the impacts of different neighbourhood characteristics on social cohesion and relations between locals and migrants. The findings show a number of significant relationships between the socio-spatial features of peri-urban neighbourhoods, dimensions of social cohesion and relationship between locals and migrants in the peri-urban areas.

### **Social capital and social trust in urban China**

Yinxuan Huang\*, Yaojun Li, Cecilia Wong (The University of Manchester)

Studies of Western Societies suggest that social capital is highly generative of collective goods embedded in reciprocity and trust in the wider community. Our study aims to examine whether this observation also holds in Chinese urban society, which comprises established urban locals, new urbanites, and rural migrants owing to internal migration and the hukou (household registration) system. Using the 2014 China Labour-force Dynamics Survey data, the first part of the paper explores the socioeconomic determinants of social networks, neighbourhood attachment, and social involvement as three sources of social capital. The second part of the paper investigates how different types of social capital can be translated into generalized social trust among urban locals, new urbanites, and rural migrants. The analysis of 9,000 urban residents finds that the three types of social capital appear to have distinct socioeconomic characteristics. Moreover, as compared to urbanites, rural migrants who are often found in disadvantaged positions show much stronger neighbourhood attachment, whereas they are significantly less likely to obtain support from their social networks and to join social organizations. Overall, urban locals are shown to be more trusting than new urbanites and rural migrants when other factors are conditioned. The positive effect of neighbourhood attachment on social trust is observable among all urban groups. The results also show that social networks are strongly related to social trust, not least in the case of rural migrants. Social involvement, however, is shown to have a weak association with social trust. These findings reveal a three-tiered structure underlying social capital in Chinese urban society. Social trust is closely associated with networks of neighbours and intimate friends and can hardly be generated from social involvement beyond these networks.

### **The city as home – Comparing the construction of a sense of home in Hong Kong and Shenzhen**

Werner Breitung\* (Hong Kong Baptist University), Feng Dan (South China Normal University)

With the increase of mobility and multi-local lives, the concept of home is receiving more and more attention worldwide and also in China. Strategies of home-making and translocal living have been described and analysed, mostly based on qualitative case studies in the context of international migration. We learned that the concept of home is multifaceted, multi-scalar and highly context-dependent, but we still do not have any systematic knowledge based on larger samples of how people draw on different resources in developing a sense of home in different places.

Furthermore, most existing research focusses either on the nation as home or the individual house as home. The city as home is still under-researched. This paper looks at Hong Kong and Shenzhen to empirically measure and comparatively analyse the constituting factors of people's sense of home at the city-scale. It is based on a survey of border-crossing residents of both cities. The results are discussed in the context of the two city's different migration histories and in the context of increasing cross-border mobility.

It is found that in both cities social contacts are by far the most influential factor creating a sense of home, followed by functional aspects and, to a much lesser degree, nostalgic factors such as ancestors, roots and childhood memories. There are significant differences between the two cities in terms of both the respective strength of the sense of home and the constituents of this sense. One finding is that people resort to different resources available to them when developing their sense of home in these two places.

## **2G Comparative urbanism 1 (Palm D'or Suite)**

Chair: Guofang Zhai (Nanjing University)

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### **Who plans urban space in China?**

Lisa Melcher\* (Freie Universität Berlin)

Spatial plans must be at the basis of any intervention in urban space in China, so as to ensure that projects are reasonable and complementary to local needs and development trajectories. Yet, who shapes the contents and concepts of urban plans? Is it bureaucrats and technicians, people well-versed in technical details but possibly impervious to political tangles on the ground; or politicians vying for positive evaluations and a fast career? Or is planning at the local level merely the application of standards set by the planning departments at higher levels of government?

I will address these questions by mapping the institutional set-up and process of plan-making in a Sichuanese township. Therein, planning companies negotiate the strategic directions, overall contents, and technical details of a general plan with local and regional governments. These general plans and processes are framed and limited by planning law, by regulations and plans of higher administrative levels as well as by analyses of the strengths and opportunities of the locality. The presentation will be based on nine months of ethnographic fieldwork in and around Chengdu.

Using the German planning system for a comparative heuristic, I will point out three characteristics in the relationships and boundaries between technical administration, politicians, planning institutes and the legal framework: First, the outsourcing of plan-making to market-oriented companies and institutes produces an instance for enforcement of higher level policies while at the same time de-politicizing planning. Second, despite strictly formalized and enforced planning standards and procedures, planning offices' standing in a local administration is much weaker than that of their German counterparts. Third, the formalization of relationships between different offices within a planning department, as well as between the planning department and other government offices, leads to compartmentalization and fragmentation of knowledge, strategies, and responsibilities within the local administration.

### **The role of state in urban regeneration programmes: Comparative case study in China and the UK**

Xueying Chen\* (University of Reading)

The institutional transition in China result to the changing mode of urban governance, which is reflected on the intervention approach adopted by municipal government in urban development, from strategic vision to specific project. While plenty of studies look at urban development in urban and regional scale, relatively few attentions are paid on the process of specific development programmes within cities.

This paper looks at the role of state in urban regeneration on a comparative basis, examining the network of relations in specific regeneration programmes and their reflection of local institutions. Cases in the UK and China are studied and compared to illustrate a) the distinctions in China's urban regeneration practice and b) how the institutional differences may work on the way that state interact with other actors in regeneration programmes. Two key questions of this research are: 1) how do the modes of urban governance differs in the two countries, and 2) how does state intervene in urban regeneration programmes.

Six case studies on significant property-led urban regeneration programmes in four cities (Reading, London, Hangzhou and Shanghai) in the two countries have been done for this research; documentary review and interview are the main data collection method. For each case, 10 to 15 face-to-face interviews are done to not only those work for local authorities but also from developers, consultancies, contractors and community groups.

China's urban regeneration programmes are shaped by state through various channels, from planning control to agency in market, while English local authorities usually use planning control as the main approach of intervention. But the fragmented state in China to some extent weakened its control over the development practice.

**Special economic zones and the emergent socio-spatial dynamics: A case of Hyderabad metropolitan region**

Bejene Kothari \* (Government Engineering College, Thrissur, India)

Special Economic Zones (SEZs), the Indian adaptation of its Chinese equivalent, is an explicit manifestation of corporate globalization essentially meant to attract investments in specific sectors and improve export earnings, is currently the vital growth impetus of major city regions in the country. In the wider context of regional development policies, SEZs are critiqued to have pronounced city centric growth strategies and capacity to promote relentless urbanization by rapidly transforming suburban and rural locations of SEZs, aggravating development inequities, increasing poverty and migration. Based on the convincing case example of Hyderabad an emerging Indian mega city that locates large number of SEZs in its metropolitan region, this study attempts to develop a model that represent SEZ induced socio-spatial restructuring processes. Villages that locate SEZs within Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Region are chosen for the study and village samples are selected on the basis of SEZ characteristics. The analysis of the study is spanned across two domains of rural-urban growth: demographic & spatial transformations, and variations in household livelihood assets & linkages. A framework was developed to determine the extent of influence of SEZ characteristics on the ongoing socio-spatial processes occurring in villages. The findings of the study indicate the emergence of a unique r'urbanisation process spatially manifesting similar configuration to 'Desakota' formation, a contemporary spatial growth pattern proposed by Mc Gee in the Extended Metropolitan Regions of south-east Asian Mega Cities. The study reflects that this emerging model of rural-urban growth is in clear conflict with the existing spatial planning and pro-poor development policies that ideally assumes evenness and equilibrium in distributing the benefits of development and hence suggests the need to translate emerging rural-urban development pattern triggered by high-end industrial interventions like SEZs, to viable policy recommendations that ensure pro-poor and sustainable spatio-economic development of the region.

**To be (socially critical) or not to be? – The influence of global professional networks and critical discourse in contemporary Chinese urban planning and architecture**

Dror Kochan\* (Tel-Aviv University)

Urban planning in China has long been considered a professional tool that provides a spatial realization of political and economic goals. Yet, as China's dominant model of market-led urbanism is increasingly challenged by calls for more socially-driven urban development, so does develops a need to adjust the evolving roles and functions of urban planners and architects in China.

This paper address the tensions that are experienced by practitioners in China as they maneuver within the local/global, social/market, critical/post-critical nexus. While this is a global phenomenon, the Chinese context offer some interesting insights that are important not only in their effects on local developments, but also useful as inroads into a more complex understanding of the global condition.

The paper begins with outlying the local context for urban planning in China and the main structural limitations that inform the work of urban planners and architects. I then move to examine the relationship between the definition of social good and the development of the urban environment. Examining the assumption that social good has needed not a specific definition as it has been considered an integral part of socialist planning, I ask who now define the 'social', along what lines, how this definition prescribe a framework of possible planning solutions to social issues, and how adopting or rejecting this definition is related to the professionalization of planning and architecture in contemporary China. Is professionalization tilting practitioners away from the 'social' while placing a greater premium on self-interest preservation, peer-rewarding, or global recognition? Or does professionalization open up new ideological frameworks and professional networks that help produce progressive politics and alternative social agendas?

The paper ends with questioning the notion of critical/post-critical distinction, highlighting the balancing maneuvering of practitioners in China as they aim to critically engage the social while performing within a mostly post-critical or non-critical urban development environment.

### **Slow city in China: Introduction, development and strategies**

Yijun Shi, Guofang Zhai, Shutian Zhou\*(Nanjing University)

The slow city mode advocates to develop cities combining the modernized technologies and the traditional lifestyles, to provide efficient transportation, communication and high quality of life for the residents. The first slow city in China, Yaxi Cittaslow, was born in 2010, and so far there are 6 members of Cittaslow in China. Due to diverse economic foundations, cultural traditions and sociopolitical environments, slow cities in China represent different features comparing with those in Western contexts. Systematic analysis of the background, process and development mode provides a better understanding of the situation of Chinese slow cities. This research investigates into the development mode and its strategies of slow city in China. Based on the literature and practice of slow cities in major member countries, we divide 3 main stages, which are of its development and identified key modes of development in various contexts through comparative analysis. Findings show: first, European slow cities have more diverse and alternative development modes, mainly based on local communities and nongovernmental organizations as key players under the local policy guidance; second, Chinese slow cities show similarities in their development, for which the major directions and actions of developing slow city are dominantly delivered by local authorities. Then we argue that the sinicization process of slow city is at the third stage of its evolution. After evaluating the feasibility of developing slow cities in Chinese urbanization context, from 5 aspects of global trends, domestic socioeconomic situation, urban development positioning, city branding and traditional cultures, several strategies are proposed at different scales for future development of slow cities in China.

### **Sessions 3: Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2017, 16:10–17:30**

#### **3A Regeneration and social change 2 (Booker Suite)**

Chair: Hyun Bang Shin (London School of Economics and Political Science)

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##### **The practice and enlightenment of Chinese gentrification**

Xigang Zhu, Jian Jin, Yang Zhou, Jianshu Li\* (Nanjing University)

Gentrification serves the prevalent context of globalization in developed countries undergoing post-suburbanization, while China's gentrification is emerging in the phase of urbanization in advance. Focusing on 10-year practice of China's gentrification, we find that the rise of gentrification in China is grounded in specific contexts and it is facilitated by certain pre-conditions. Compared to the western model, the Chinese style is distinctive by three characteristics: metropolitan areas playing demonstration effects, planning-leading process and so-called "fast-food implantation". Moreover, three pairs of terms, "Government & market, stock & increment, excellent location & gated community", constitute the dominant paradigm of gentrification in practice. However, China's gentrification is transforming from "planning-directed gentrification" to "self-organized gentrification" against two paralleling contexts: the globalization of homogeneous/heterogeneous constructing, and the domestic status of stock renewal instead of incremental expansion. We therefore suggest that the practice of China's gentrification is an important signal and symbol of the rise of Chinese middle class – it has begun to drive social transformation and development. As a higher "platform" to keep the city vigor, the practice of gentrification is guiding urban transformation – and to promote urbanization continuously, also. In that light, planning a rational development of gentrification might play a positive role in expanding domestic demand, in order to push the structural reform on the supply side by force; cultivating the middle-class atmosphere benefits population's quality and the homogenization of urban/rural co-development. How to respond to the rise of gentrification and its social/spatial effects is a new social issue deserving long-term concerns and studies.

##### **Urban redevelopment and the making of middle class in China**

Him Chung\* (Hong Kong Baptist University)

This paper investigates the role of state in China's urbanization and city dweller's upward mobility. It seeks to enrich current discussions on the country's state-sponsored, or state-led, urbanization in general, and rethink the gentrification process in particular. The state-sponsored discourse has suggested a very important explanation to China's unprecedented speed of urbanization, land development and redevelopment since economic reform. Existing studies usually focus on how cities, as well as land development, are used by the state to facilitate accumulation and modernization; and hence producing inequality, poverty, displacement and dispossession. Some scholars argue the ubiquitous of displacement has demonstrated a process of gentrification in China, a special process which led by the state through new buildings (He and Wu, 2007; He, 2007; 2010). While such an argument has highlighted the major driver for dispossession and displacement, the role of middle class and social change that association with such process does not receive sufficient attention. If state-sponsored represents a powerful, strategical, force for capitalist accumulation, the state also picks/creates winners. This means certain social groups would be given the chance to upgrade their residence, obtain home ownership and eventually move upward in a social stratification. Such state led production of social mobility is in line with the Chinese state's strategy to create wealth and hence encourage consumption – the pursuit of growth and prosperity. In other word, instead of incursion of middle class in a working class neighbourhood, in China redevelopment create a new properties class with economic middle class income. Through the redevelopment of villages-in-the-city, this paper seeks (a) to show how native villagers, rural household registration holders who are institutionally discriminated, have moved from farmer toward economic middle class status; (b) while this change contrast sharply with the plights of dispossessed who are forced to leave the land and out of their home and relocated elsewhere, what are the implications on gentrification? To go further, is the terminology/conceptualization gentrification provide a useful understanding of China's redevelopment process?

**Dynamic demographic solution for urban regeneration in old city through case study of Hehuatang Historic Conservation Area in Nanjing**

Ning Zhu, Shijie Sun\* (Southeast University)

Although urban regeneration in China has been enlarging its field from material environment to social culture, non-material aspects are still playing an assistant role in spatial planning. This research discusses the overlook and inactive arrangements for residents by reviewing typical urban renewal cases in China and proposes a “population renewal” strategy after detailed study of the Hehuatang Historic Conservation Area (HHCA) in Nanjing. It is found that residents with both the largest and smallest average living space share the highest removal inclination from analysis of 140 questionnaires. At the same time, the willingness of cooperation-renovation is strongest among the low-income groups and those whose average living space with no more than 10m<sup>2</sup>. In consideration of residents’ willingness, the “population renewal” strategy guided by economic leverage and supported by protective policy is illustrated.

**Urbanism and Aesthetics Oriented Rural Gentrification in China: case study of Bishan village**

Min Zhang\* (Nanjing University), Peipei Chen (Nanjing University, Southampton University)

In recent years, the aesthetic value of rural areas is now playing more important role in the process of China’s rural transition. Employing an analytical perspective built from the literature on culture-led regeneration, rural gentrification and relational rural, the research focuses on the consumption transition and the social space reconstruction of Bishan Village, Anhui, China. This paper examines how the aesthetic value of rural areas attracts various actors and how they reconstruct rural spaces, leading to a complex local politics. Based on in-depth interview and participant observation, we find that cultural resources in rural areas were firstly consolidated and spread around the world by the artists through which heterogeneous actors from different fields were attracted. They then took part in the reconstruction of rural space in Bishan village and the special aesthetic value of Bishan village was protected and exhibited. In this process, because of artists’ critical attitudes to urbanization and to developers, their activities were largely restricted by local government which allies with developers. We argue that as the influx of the artists, tourists, academics, developers etc. the village became a place full of different interests. The frequent and free mobility of various factors –people, capital, information, technology, idea etc-- between urban and rural areas makes rural areas no longer somewhere far away from the urban areas. Instead of being a peaceful land, the rural area is reconstructed by heterogeneous actors according to their own benefit goals.

### **3B Low-carbon transition (Turner Suite)**

Chair: Vanesa Castán Broto (University College London)

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#### **From transitions in cities to transitions of cities: A case study of solar water heater popularization in Rizhao, China**

Ping Huang\* (University College London)

This paper introduces a novel framework - the Dimensions of Urban Sustainability Transitions (DUST) framework, to unravel the intricate processes of urban energy transitions. Building upon theoretical thinking of both transitions studies and urban studies, this framework highlights three dimensions of sustainability transitions, namely of socio-technical experimentations, urban political process and socio-spatial reconfigurations, and visions transitions of cities. A case study of the popularization of solar water heater (SWH) in Rizhao, China is presented. The Rizhao case illustrates the three dimensions of the DUST framework, through which the dynamic interactions between urban processes and energy transitions are uncovered. It also shows that transition possibilities are continuously shaped by the conflicts/alignments between industry interests and territorial priorities.

#### **Governing energy transitions from a multi-level perspective: A case study of solar PV deployment in Foshan city, China**

Daphne Mah\*, Kevin Lo, Victor Lam (Hong Kong Baptist University)

Solar PV has been positioned as a promising technology that could play a major role in realising more sustainable energy systems, but deployment varies significantly across countries. In China, the deployment of non-utility scale solar PV has remained minimal. This case study adopts the multi-level perspectives of socio-technical transitions to examine and understand the extent to which and how governments, incumbent state-owned utilities (including grid companies and generation companies), and new market entrants (including prosumers and solar manufacturers) interact between national, provincial, and city levels. We also discuss the associated impacts of the observed stakeholder interactions on regime destabilization and niche accumulation. Our analysis focuses on key governance challenges including with utilities' disincentives, regulatory frameworks, business model innovations, and standardisations of new energy products and services are discussed.

### **Eco-innovation and low-carbon transition in China: A case study of Wuxi**

Fangzhu Zhang\* (University College London)

During the past three decades, China's fast economic growth and rapid urbanisation have resulted in unsustainable development in economic, social and environmental respects. Today, with increasing energy demand, climate change, labour cost and global financial crises, China's government has committed to develop a sustainable and low-carbon economy as a top policy priority. A "Green GDP" with balanced economic growth and environmental quality has been targeted as a new economy measure from central government to cities and regions in China. Chinese cities were used as the instrument for fostering economic growth during its rapid urbanization transition. Post-reform urban transition has created intense inter-city competition, which requires localities to act entrepreneurially to focus on economic growth through place promotion or city re-branding. Eco-innovation technologies have been widely applied towards low-carbon transition in many Chinese cities. But it remains unclear about the implementation process of these eco-innovation technologies and the transition governance for sustainable urban development. This paper systematically reviews the development of eco-innovation in China and reveals the dynamics of eco-innovation development under various low-carbon initiatives. This paper aims to explore the driving forces for eco-innovation development and the roles of local government and green industrial market in the implementation process. Using a case study of Wuxi eco-city, I ask what lessons we can learn from the case study of Wuxi eco-innovation development. How effective is the governance? Will China's recent promotion of eco-innovation technologies turn China's urban development into a substantial reality? What are the challenges and discourse of China's sustainable development?

### **Assessing the effect of national carbon market in achieving mitigation targets in China**

Yiyi Chen\* (The University of Hong Kong)

Climate change is one of the most urgent inter-governmental problems in the United Nation's 21st century agenda. China, which is the world's largest greenhouse gas emitter, is under huge pressure from both international and domestic communities to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases. At COP21 in Paris in 2015, China committed to have a more ambitious mitigation target. China pledged to peak its CO<sub>2</sub> emission around 2030, but cut its CO<sub>2</sub> emission intensity per unit of GDP to the 35–40% of the 2005 level. It is noted that stricter mitigation target cannot be achieved simply by the traditional command and control (CAC) method, which has very high regulatory cost. Carbon trade, which has relatively low implementation cost, turns out to be an ideal choice. Also, it allows emitters some flexibility in achieving mitigation targets through a quantity cap by comparing the marginal abatement cost with the market price of carbon emission credits. Followed by China's carbon trading pilot schemes, a national carbon market is planned to set up after 2016. Subject to her large territory, China is characterized by the spatial heterogeneity of economic development. Yet, the effect of national carbon market on regional industrial development remains unexplored. This is also an issue with exigency to be resolved. This research project seeks to establish a computable general equilibrium (CGE) model for China in examining quantitatively the effect of national carbon market on regional economy, industrial development, and mitigation efficiency under different carbon emission targets. The results of this study may have important implication for climate policymaking in regional and urban level.

### 3C Transport development 2 (Diploma Suite)

Chair: Robin Hickman (University College London)

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#### **Mind the gap: An exploratory analysis of broken intercity truck roads in China**

Xingjian Liu\* (The University of Hong Kong)

This paper reports a first exploratory analysis of broken intercity trunk roads (BITRs) in China. The success of intercity cooperation in China is not guaranteed, with broken intercity trunk roads (BITRs) as a major case in point. BITRs (duan tou lu) generally refer to intercity highways and expressways that are (1) planned but unfinished; (2) usually disconnected near city boundaries; and (3) short in distance, but once connected, would greatly improve inter-jurisdictional transport connections. BITRs have become a persistent and pervasive phenomenon across Chinese cities. In spite of the prevalence and the clear-cut inefficiency of BITRs, little research has critically examined the causes and consequences of their presence. Literature on city-regional governance has revealed important socioeconomic, political, and geographical factors underlying (un)successful intercity cooperation, but to date there has been no attempt to develop a large-scale systematic empirical evaluation of the identified dynamics. Studies of transport geography and planning have charted the recent infrastructure development and its impacts on intercity connectivity and urban economics, but missed unfulfilled potentials and distributive effects of BITRs. Missing links and gaps are the hallmark of BITRs, but also evident in the literature on this topic. Our analysis identifies the geographical patterns of broken intercity trunk roads and conjectures the relationship between BITRs and their socioeconomic, political, and geographical underpinnings. More specifically, by comparing national highway plans in 2013 and completed highways in 2015, we identified 75 city dyads that are associated with BITRs. A subsequent logistic regression analysis suggests that fragmented landscape, large gaps in total GDP, and provincial boundaries will also increase the likelihood of BITRs between city dyads. Furthermore, our empirical framework can be extended to assess other inter-jurisdictional infrastructure projects such as power grids, railways, and pipelines, where planned but unfinished links are also common.

#### **Measuring wider spatial-economic impacts of inter-city high-speed rail in Yangtze River Delta mega-city region at firms' level – A study of Shanghai and Suzhou**

Chia-Lin Chen\* (Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University)

Remarkable time-space shrinkage brought by high-speed rail (HSR) has been anticipated to facilitate economic restructuring and integration. However, regardless of economic trajectories, a persistent debate is questioning the power of HSR in changing regions' economic fortunes (Chen & Vickerman, 2017, forthcoming). Current HSR studies in China tend to focus on changes in accessibility, little research has been conducted to look into more disaggregated approaches of the structural changes. This paper aims to understand whether and to what extent the arrival of inter-city HSR has facilitated or hindered economic integration from firms' perspectives e.g. types of firms and activities, internal restructuring, relocation, and operation. Shanghai and its neighbouring city Suzhou (to and from Shanghai in 30 minutes by HSR) within the Yangtze River Delta mega-city region are chosen as a focus of empirical studies. Types of firms under investigation including small-to-large high-tech manufacturing, producer services, and emerging activities identified to be associated with the arrival of HSR. This paper will discuss two major findings. Firstly, regarding HSR possibilities of economic restructuring, a new conceptual framework with hypotheses will be proposed to reflect specific socio-economic, territorial, political, historical, and public policy elements in the Chinese context; secondly, based on the framework, findings of questionnaire surveys will be analysed to gain critical insight into the expected and realised effects of HSR and then identifying key issues for and against economic restructuring and integration at the micro level.

### **HSR networks and regional accessibility of major gateway cities: The case of Yangtze River Delta, China**

Lei Wang\* (The University of Manchester)

The extraordinary speed of HSR development has made unprecedented improvement in regional accessibility and spatial connectivity in China. As one of the most populous and developed mega-regions, the Yangtze River Delta (YRD) has become the hotspot for investment on HSR networks. This paper uses the YRD as a case study to examine the spatial impact brought by the development of HSR networks by assessing the changing rail regional accessibility within the region. It conceptualizes regional accessibility of a specific city through 2 dimensions: the rail travel time and the frequency of train service to the rest cities in the region. In order to account for the hierarchical features of the transportation network, the 42 cities at the prefecture or above level are divided into gateway and ordinary cities. Shanghai, Nanjing, Hangzhou, Hefei, Xuzhou, Ningbo and Suzhou are the 7 gateway cities selected for assessing their changing regional accessibility between April 2007 (pre-HSR era) and October 2016 (HSR era with 15 lines). Comparing to the era without HSR service the HSR networks have significantly improved regional accessibility. However, what is contentious is whether the major infrastructural investment has created an uneven landscape of producing winners and losers. The findings show that HSR trains tended to concentrate more in the gateway cities than conventional trains. However, rather than comprehensively restructured the rail service provision, the HSR networks mainly enhanced regional accessibility formed by the conventional rail networks.

### **Excess commute and efficiency in urban China: A case study in Guangzhou**

Si-ming Li, Yi Liu\* (Hong Kong Baptist University)

Commuting is the fundamental component of the daily life of workers and its underlying mechanism have been the concerns of both academics and policies makers alike. However, only part of the commuting could be explained by land use structure (e.g. Hamilton, 1982; White, 1988). The remainder of the home-to-work travel has attracted lots of attention in recent decades. Nevertheless, most of the previous works are conducted in the Western countries and the unique context of China is basically neglected. To address this deficiency, the present paper considers the influence of hukou in the analysis of commuting and reveals that Guangzhou has greater commuting efficiency in comparison with Western counterparts, and socio-economic inferior groups tend to have shorter commute but lower degree of commuting efficiency than superior groups. Furthermore, the interactions between hukou status and other socio-economic attributes play essential and complex roles in commuting efficiency, and non-locals hukou holders have inferior commuting efficiency due to constraints on jobs/housing market and public services/welfares.

### **3D Activism and inclusive urbanisation (Nobel Suite)**

Chair: Lanchih Po (University of California, Berkeley)

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#### **Rhetoric or reality? China's inclusive urbanization in question**

Sheng Zhong\* (Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University)

China's post-reform urbanization has for a long time been characterized by hyper-hectic spatial expansion that often involves coercive conversion of rural land into urban territories. Parallel to the peri-rurbanization process is the destructive physical renewal of existing urban areas that involves little or only token democratic participation. The recent National New Urbanization Plan (2014-2020), which provides the roadmap for the country's future spatial trajectory, reiterates the importance of renewing and regenerating existing built-up areas to prevent urban sprawl and enhance local quality of life. It also stresses the critical importance of democracy, participation, inclusiveness, and social justice in the country's march toward an urban future. Such a policy reorientation toward the old urban fabric echoes with scholars' call for a comprehensive and collaborative urban regeneration model in line with global best practice. Discursive evidence of participative and/or comprehensive regeneration efforts in China can be identified in the extant literature but most cases happened due to very special circumstances and the replicability of those efforts is in question. Suzhou Industrial Park (SIP), an economic zone built on Sino-Singaporean collaboration, is situated at the forefront of China's local-level socioeconomic reform. In 2012, the SIP Government established the Urban Regeneration Leadership Team to expedite regeneration processes in the district. A few regeneration efforts packaged as "people projects" were subsequently implemented. The research examines China's latest regeneration practices that involve multiple stakeholder participation and the implementation process of one "people project" in SIP in order to answer the question whether a participative and inclusive turn in urbanization consistent with the National New Urbanization Plan can be discerned. Built on extensive literature review, policy review and empirical work, the paper argues that a transformative model of urban regeneration is yet to materialize.

#### **Vote for good reasons: Voter turnout in China's urban grass-root election**

Ciqi Mei\*, Zhilin Liu, Jiawa Li (Tsinghua University)

Disfranchisement is often cited as the primary reason accounting for disinterest of participation in authoritarian system. Particularly in China's urban communities, the voter turnout for grass-root election of residents' committee (RC) has been extremely low by design because the control-minded election law stipulates that a few selected resident representatives could cast votes on behalf of others. However, an interesting question is whether urban residents would be willing to turn out even if elections become more inclusive? The 2015 grass-root election for RCs at Beijing provides a rare opportunity to answer this question. Beijing has since 2000 piloted direct election of RCs, i.e. each household casting one vote to elect RC members in the community. In 2015, the municipal government for the first time requires such direct election to be held in at least 40% urban communities in July 2015. We conduct a door-to-door post-election survey in August 2015 at four different urban communities at Beijing using a stratified cluster sample (N=686). Our data shows that the turnout rate is a little over 40% (45.11%), which is not extremely low as compared to grass-root elections in democratic countries. Our research question in this paper is then: why they vote? Scholarly works have proposed several different accounts for voter turnout in China, referring to positive factors like interpersonal relations, active voter mobilization, good community governance on one hand, and negative factors like election being formalistic, indifference to politics, and estrangement to community life on the other hand. Preliminary results based upon our dataset nevertheless points to several interesting findings. First, against the expectation of the ruling party, good community governance doesn't cash in active participation; second, activities conducive to community coherence indeed increase one's willingness to vote; last but not least, whether the past resident committee have been observed to protect community from potential external harms is very significant a positive predictor for voter turnout.

**Social media as a catalyst for online urban planning public participation in China? An empirical analysis: The impact of local governments' Xinlang microblog sites**

Wenshu Li\* (Wuhan University and TU/E)

Increasingly local governments and planning professionals in Chinese cities have become interested in public participation for plan-making and implementation. The potential benefits of public participation range from gaining up-to-date local knowledge that is not readily available from standard sources, to soliciting planning/design ideas for problem solving, to reducing impacts of NIMBYism, and to monitoring code violations. Achieving effective public participation however is no easy task because engaging with the general public has not been practiced much in China's planning convention. The widespread of internet-access and mobile phones offers a great potential for planning agencies and professionals to reach out various citizen groups and stakeholders. Nevertheless, the availability of new technologies does not guarantee success. Many local planning agencies began with enthusiastic ideas and investments but ended with disappointments and frustrations. This study is to measure the impact of media and content types on stakeholders' engagement on urban planning and management bureau' Xinlang microblog pages of Chinese provincial capital cities, analyzing 50 posts from each official account. The posts were coded into different content types (e.g. environment, housing, infrastructure) and media types (e.g. text, video, picture). Metrics of popularity, commitment, virality and engagement were also computed for each post. Also analyzed the correlation of the areas, economical levels and population. This study provides practitioners and academics with some initial research findings about the effect of different communicational strategies on citizen engagement. There are important conceptual and operational issues that need to be sorted out for best practicing online public participation for planning in China.

**Gendered citizenship in urbanizing China: Women's land activism in the Pearl River Delta**

Lanchih Po\* (University of California, Berkeley)

In light of the unequal "right to the city" resulting from the household registration (*hukou*) system, an increasing number of scholarly works have pointed out how a system of citizenship stratification has emerged in urbanizing China. However, a gendered analysis of this stratification remains largely absent. Rural women, situated at the bottom of the hierarchy of differentiated citizenship, often suffer further gender-based discrimination and tumble still further down the hierarchy. Specifically, women are vulnerable to economical and social dispossession in the process of the displacement of rural populations and renegotiation of land rights. Due to the custom of patrilocal residence, women who have "married out" (*waijianü*) have been excluded from rights, participation, and entitlement to communal land. By creating a class of rural female non-citizens, rural communities have deprived *waijianü* of opportunities to share land-related revenue realized in the process of urbanization, further perpetuating male dominance just as local economies and society are in flux. This discrimination has sparked a wave of struggles on the part of rural women in Guangdong Province since the mid-1990s. The persistence of women's land activism in rapidly urbanized rural areas such as Nanhai and Dongguan, including petitions, protests, and litigation, has forced both the central and the local governments to reassert principles of gender equality provided by the Chinese constitution and to issue policies intended to protect women's rights. Government intervention, however, has triggered another wave of protests from villages asserting their rights to local autonomy and village self-governance, and refusing on those grounds to grant benefits to *waijianü*. Through a case study of these conflicts in Guangdong, this paper explores how women have challenged gendered citizenship in the process of urbanization.

### 3E Socio-environmental justice and social mobility 2 (Jasmine Suite)

Chair: Bo-sin Tang (The University of Hong Kong)

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#### **Towards residential justice or injustice: Socialist legacy in the regeneration of urban shantytown**

Yi Jin\* (London School of Economics and Political Science)

The regeneration of urban “shantytown” (*penghuqu*) has moved to a more central position in China’s urban agenda as it has been regarded as a critical approach toward the justice of urban residence. According to the central state, the regeneration of shantytown will lay emphasis on old industrial cities or urban regions, where (former) state-owned enterprises concentrate. However, the local state may also flexibly appropriate this policy to achieve its ambition on accumulation and urban revalorisation. This article takes the largest project of “shanty town” renovation in Sichuan Province, a mega urban project occurring in a community first established during the “Third-Front Construction” as the case to explore how the socialist legacy associated with (former) SOEs will have an implication for the regeneration of shantytown projects. It will on the one hand observe how the local state takes advantage of the socialist legacy to bend a de facto mega project of urban redevelopment into the category of shanty town regeneration and promote the dispossession of property, and on the other hand explain how inhabitants’ divergent strategies of response derive from their experience in the socialist past. With empirical evidence from China, this article seeks to respond to some prevailing views on the legacy of socialism and neoliberalism in the urban change of post-socialist cities.

#### **Spatial injustice in contemporary Chinese context: The case of neighbourhoods around Shanghai expo site**

Fan Yang\*, Jing Lu, Zheng Ren (Tongji University)

The research focus on the spatial transformation and social structure evolution happened in the neighbourhoods around Shanghai World Expo site. The analysis consist of two aspects, which one we called ‘section analysis’, referring synchronic analysis related to spatial structure, the other one we called ‘trends analysis’, referring diachronic analysis related to transformation. In ‘section analysis’, this research reveals the neighbour-hood’s condition coming under the visualized analysis based on the Fifth and the Sixth Census, such as the population density, aging density and residential properties density at town level. In ‘trends analysis’, this research refers the changes happened in past decade drawing on the trend-line comparing, such as the migration of population, the incoming floating population, and the housing price. Further, the research analysis the change of spatial structure in the neighbour-hoods, and the matching relation between spatial structure and social structure. The discussion about the definition and principle of spatial justice are raised in the paper. Additionally, the research argues that the urban planning, as one spatial public policy in China, was expected to provide a mechanism of local governance for the community, however, was still too weak to be an effective means to strengthen the capability of local public and service. Finally, the main prospects of this research are to find concerning elements to construct the concept of ‘spatial justice’ in contemporary Chinese context.

### **Snakes and ladders: Upwards and downwards social mobility in a post reform declining region?**

Dong Liu\*, Chris Hamnett (King's College London)

The rapid economic and urban growth in many parts of China since 1980 is well known. What is less familiar is the experience of the declining, older industrial cities of NE China. Many of these cities, particularly those dominated by state owned enterprises (SOEs) have experienced economic decline or stagnation. In these regions, the range of economic growth opportunities has not been as extensive as in some of the coastal cities or in the Pearl River delta. Indeed, experience for many people has been job losses and unemployment. The result of this differentiated economic growth and decline has been a very uneven distribution of social mobility and income and wealth opportunities. Whereas in many coastal cities rapid economic growth has opened up major opportunities for those able to take them, the experience in the older de-industrializing regions has been very different. Many people have lost their jobs. But some SOEs have been privatised and for the owners of these enterprises there have been many opportunities. Consequently, in some cities of the North East and other declining areas of China there are groups of people who, by luck of birth cohort, privatization and being in the right place at the right time have done well economically and experienced considerable upwards economic and social mobility. Some have become the new rich. But others, because of plant closures, lack of skills, lack of education and other disadvantages, have experienced sharp downwards social mobility. Consequently it is possible to identify both winners and losers in the process of economic and urban transformation. This paper looks at the experience of a small city – Siping – in Jilin province, NE China and examines the forms and processes of mobility and inequality: in employment, business, education, housing and wealth. It draws on both questionnaire surveys and in-depth interviews with a wide variety of respondents.

### **Inter-suburban socio-economic differences and mobility-related exclusion in suburban China**

Zifeng Chen\*, Anthony Gar-On Yeh (The University of Hong Kong)

The suburbanization of Chinese cities was initially dominated by government-led residential and industrial relocation in 1980s, and followed by a mixture of government- and market-oriented development in the decades afterward. Unlike the Western cities where the suburbanization is mostly driven by affluent groups seeking better living environments, suburban development in China is characterized by the diversified enclaves (e.g. suburban villas, affordable housing, and urban villages), and it is appropriate to argue that greater intra-suburban socio-economic variations (as well as slighter differences between suburbs and inner cities) are witnessed in urban China compared with Western cities. Such socio-economic differentiation may lead to the disparity of individual accessibility among suburban residents, due to the differences in travel capacity (e.g. car ownership) in the context of notable spatial mismatch between housing and job opportunities/urban facilities. When it comes to the research of mobility equality, the causal relationship between transport and social exclusion has been recognized as the forefront of the transportation policy debate. How transportation poverty may result in the risk of the social exclusion for disadvantage groups (e.g. female, ethnic minorities, and elderly) has been studied extensively, while the mobility-related social exclusion as a result of socio-spatial process in the economy-transitioning context remains to be explored, especially for the case of urban China. To address the issue, this paper will put forward a research framework by reviewing the relevant literature and theorizing the above-mentioned arguments, including how the process of suburbanization in urban China has resulted in a socio-spatial pattern that is different from Western cities, and how such socio-economic differentiation may lead to transport inequality and social exclusion. Research gaps from existing literature and possible agenda for future studies will be discussed in order to shed new light on the understanding of suburbanization as well as transport-related social exclusion in China.

### **3F Mega urban projects (Grammy Suite)**

Chair: Yawei Chen (Delft University of Technology)

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#### **Institutional rescaling and community engagement in local state-led urban entrepreneurial place making: A case study of Qujiang New District in Xi'an, China**

Yixiang Sun\* (University College London)

Although the political transition towards entrepreneurial governance was originated in Post-Keynesian Western societies, similar transformations have also been identified in Chinese post-reform urban restructuring. However, the knowledge of how specific local social and economic traditions affect the application of entrepreneurial city making is still not fully established. It is in this context that the author conducted an investigation on a flagship state-led cultural redevelopment project in one of the cities of China's less researched North-western region--the city of Xi'an. This research explores the implementation of entrepreneurial policies and its implications on local political relations, in particular the institutional restructuring and the engagement of local communities. Through the case study of the Qujiang New District, it explores how urban political order has been rescaled with the introduction of new for-growth institutions and how the concept of entrepreneurialism has been adopted in promoting development as a tactic to reconcile tensions and justify controversial agendas. Drawing on data collected from semi-structured interviews with policy makers and local community members, it argues that the mobilisation of entrepreneurial policies in this case bears significant difference with that in the Western context as there is a combination of government dominance and increasing importance of the participation of communities. The paper helps to deepen the understanding of political mobilisation under the non-Western context with a focus on less marketised regions in China. It concludes that there is no universal framework of entrepreneurialism fitting all circumstances and therefore it is the task for policy-makers and academia to think about how to tailor it for the best practice in a specific context.

#### **What drives the rise of metro development in China? A case study in the metro project in Nantong**

Shutian Zhou\*, Guofang Zhai (Nanjing University), Nancy Holman (London School of Economics and Political Science)

The public infrastructure investment has always been an eye-catching driving force contributing to urban development and job creation. During the past period of the blooming economy in China, an increasing number of transport infrastructure projects have been proposed, planned and constructed. This study seeks to uncover the substance of the recent rapid rise of the metro development in Chinese cities, with a case study in the metro project in Nantong, in an effort to fill the research gap of analysing the motivations of transportation infrastructure projects within China. Specifically, the author focuses on the following research question: 'What are the motivations of starting new metro projects?'. To reveal the underlying driving factors that instigated the metro project in the city, predominately qualitative approaches were taken, through comprehensive review of relevant literature and practices, the government documents and mainstream media reports, together with the in-depth semi-structured elite interviews. The findings show that the main influential motivations of local mega transport project include: the multiple purposes in social, economic and environmental improvements; the major role of local economic performance that plays in the decision-making process; the competitive pressure as a key driving force; and the changing overarching policy context as the direct cause. The pursuit for a wider range of economic growth and contributions to sustainability has been often advocated by the mega-project promoters with references to optimistic results of diverse appraisals and projections. This case study confirms these findings. Additionally, the author argues that several political factors also play vital roles in initiating, approving and promoting mega-urban transport projects within the plan-making regime in China. Therefore, this study will enrich the understanding of policy-making of planning and transport development, and arose the attentions in policy and project appraisals further with political consideration in the Chinese context.

### **The multiple roles of the state in mega urban developments in China – Reflections from Lingang**

Zheng Wang\*, Fulong Wu (University College London)

This article explores mega urban developments in urban China from the governance perspective, examining its objectives, key stakeholders and their power dynamics. Our analysis relies on an in-depth case study of Lingang new town in Shanghai and reveals that some conceptual aspects derived from mega urban development research in the Global North such as reliance on public private partnerships and a lean government may not be applicable to Lingang. Although the mega project was borne from the vision of creating a globally competitive Shanghai, the path chosen to realise such objectives differs considerably from the neoliberal discourse. Our findings show that Lingang is characterised by a state driven top down initiative whereby the state has assumed multiple personalities as profit-conscious developers, market regulator and key investor. We particularly highlight the role of state owned development corporations who have to fulfil the political mission of creating a prosperous and populous Lingang whilst ensuring financial viability. The private sector also needs to rely on state owned development corporations to gain access to the development of Lingang but is not substantially involved in the mega project and is instead content with some small scale real estate developments.

### **Post-industrial waterfront development in Shanghai**

Tom Daamen, Yawei Chen\* (Delft University of Technology)

In many of the world's largest seaport cities, the waterfront transformation schemes initiated before the turn of the century are still unfinished. While these projects move forward, a new trend in developing waterfronts seems to have emerged. Old port structures and port-industrial terrains have become search-areas for new and sometimes highly modern types of business and manufacturing. Creative industries take residency in old warehouses and shipyards, and research and development facilities choose to locate themselves in the cheaper, rougher, often easier-to-adapt seaport structures. Still relatively close to the inner city, these waterfronts are exciting new frontiers of 'hybrid urbanism' in which new economies and lifestyles mix with conventional port business, industries, and trade. By extension, it has recently been argued that, since the 1960s, there has been little to no waterfront redevelopment research in mainland China even though many Chinese cities have seen considerable waterfront change. It is therefore both interesting and relevant to mirror the—mostly Western—academic insights on this topic against the features of waterfront development in contemporary mainland China, most notably in Shanghai. What do 'next generation waterfronts' have to offer? And can they also be found in Shanghai? How does the state, market and society perceive the future of waterfront and what roles do they play in defining the future of Shanghai's waterfronts?

### **3G Comparative urbanism 2 (Palm D'or Suite)**

Chair: Paul Waley (University of Leeds)

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#### **An exploration of coastal zone planning and management based on terrestrial and marine integration: A case study of Shenzhen city**

Rong Liu\* (Urban Planning and Land Resources Commission of Shenzhen Municipality, Shenzhen Marine Management Bureau), Sue Kidd (University of Liverpool)

With the rapid urbanization in coastal areas, the coastal zone has become an important space for economic activities and life. On the one hand, it provides many pleasant public spaces which are enjoyed by the citizens. On the other hand, it also caused the segmentation of management between marine and land, causing serious environmental problems. Based on the relevant literatures of marine spatial planning (MSP) and integrated coastal zone management (ICZM), Europe and the United State have attached great importance on the coastal zone planning and management. Compared with Europe and the United State, coastal zoning planning in China is at an early stage. Currently, only Shandong, Guangdong and Hainan province have undertaken some projects about waterfront urban design and coastal zone planning. But most of them were only based on the terrestrial area and ignored the characteristics of the marine area, which was a significant reason for functional conflict and environmental damage. Since 2012, Municipality Oceanic Administration of Shenzhen and Urban Planning & Land Resources Commission of Shenzhen Municipality were merged into one department, which would be beneficial to build integrated planning and management system. After 2012, local government has paid more attention on promoting the integration of terrestrial and marine area. This paper will summarize briefly the experiences and research methods about coastal zone planning and management in Europe and focus on the exploration in Shenzhen from an integrated ecosystem approach, industrial function coordination and development of coastal public space. Through a comparative study, this paper also will put forward some suggestions to integrate coastal zone area planning and management in the future of Shenzhen.

#### **Theorising the East Asian model of spatial planning: Developmental states and the integration of economic planning and spatial planning in South Korea and China**

Jung Won Sonn\* (University College London), Mack Joong Choi (Seoul National University)

Reviving the lost tradition in the development theories of the 1960s and the 1970s, we theorize the spatial dimensions of economic development under the developmental state. For this purpose, we spatialize Amsden's concept of "getting the price wrong" based on Lefebvre's insight on space as a means of production. Then we illustrate such theorization with the South Korean and Chinese experiences. The developmental states used spatial planning to reconfigure the national territory as a more efficient means of production. Their spatial planning was integrated with economic planning, blurring the boundary between spatial planning and economic planning; therefore, we call such planning economic-cum-spatial planning. The concept of economic-cum-spatial planning was in stark contrast to the English tradition of spatial planning or, more generally, Western European and North American traditions. While the latter two traditions were reactive in the sense that they were responses to urban and regional problems caused by economic changes (such as industrial revolution and economic restructuring), the former tradition was proactive in that it intended to be the trigger for economic changes. We further argue that economic-cum-spatial planning is not one of the many actions taken by a developmental state, but is rather one of the essential qualities that define a developmental state.

**Peri-urban China in regional context: The demise of mixed livelihoods and landscapes in the face of satellite urbanization**

Paul Waley\* (University of Leeds)

In this paper I set the urbanization processes that are occurring in peri-urban areas of Chinese cities within a comparative perspective, comparing them with similar trends in other East and Southeast Asian countries. I refer back to the concept of *desakota*, first advanced by the geographer Terry McGee in 1991 to express mixed urban-rural landscapes and households around and between the major cities of East and Southeast Asia, seeing it as a valuable precedent in attempts to construct a comparative geography of regional urban patterns and processes.

Peri-urban areas and to a lesser extent the *desakota* territories beyond them are, I argue, under severe threat. This is primarily because capital interests in the form of property developers in China, Vietnam, Cambodia and Indonesia, abetted by the state, have converted large sections of peri-urban areas into high-rise high-price satellite settlements, dispossessing local farming families and depriving them of their livelihoods. Nowhere has this process been more dramatic and violent than around Chinese cities, where revenue-hungry local governments have expropriated and converted large tracts of once rural land, preparing it for the development of new urban districts.

This paper reinforces its argument through the use of examples of urban developments on the outskirts of major Chinese cities such as Shanghai and Kunming. Here, families have been deprived of their semi-urban semi-rural livelihoods as a result of the Chinese state's urbanization imperative. I argue that while these developments exhibit a few China-specific features, they are characteristic of trends around and between large cities throughout East and Southeast Asia. The paper will therefore look outwards from China and contribute to a comparative understanding of urbanization processes in the broader East Asian region.

**Urbanisation between mysticism and realism: Desiring machine and territorialised power in Yan Lianke's *The Chronicle of Zhalie***

Junxi Qian\* (The University of Hong Kong)

Although urbanisation in post-reform China has been subject to extensive academic scrutiny, the ways in which it constitutes social, cultural and ideological changes are not adequately theorised. Yet, urbanisation is more than a spatial process within, or in synchronism with, which social, economic and political changes unfold; rather, the relationships between urbanisation and post-reform modernity in China are those of co-production, co-evolution and mutual constitution. Under the auspices of this wide argument, though, there is the need to tease out the empirical nuances inherent in different social actors' appropriation and performance of urbanisation. This paper develops a reading of *The Chronicle of Zhalie*, a "myth of urbanisation" conjured up by the renowned Chinese novelist Yan Lianke. The novel portrays the trajectory of Zhalie's urban development, from a small village to a first-tier global metropolis, within a time span of merely thirty years. Adopting a genre which the author himself terms "mythical realism", the book uses extreme hyperboles to paint the drastic nature of socio-spatial changes in Zhalie. While urban development in Zhalie is breath taking to such an extent that it defies any correspondence with reality, the book nevertheless serves as a metaphor, a hyper-real transposition of urbanization in post-reform China – the aspirations for urban identities and aesthetics, and the production of formidable social power through the production of space. This paper analyses urbanisation of Zhalie both as a desiring machine (namely, how an affective and emotional meta-structure justifies perpetual capital accumulation and creative destruction), and as the territorially based production and consolidation of social power.

## Sessions 4: Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2017, 09:00–10:40

### 4A Planning for challenging environments (Booker Suite)

Chair: Jiang Xu (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)

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#### **Discussion on urban waterlogging prevention and control planning strategy under the perspective of resilience thinking**

Liquan Xu\*, Gangyi Tan, Junqing Zhou (Huazhong University of Science and Technology)

In recent years, urban disasters occur frequently in China, especially urban waterlogging disaster. Although urban waterlogging appears to be “natural disaster”, it is caused by “manmade disasters” more. Therefore, this paper conducts the discussion on its characteristics and strategy form the perspective of urban development. By summing up the cases on major urban waterlogging disaster occurred since 2008 in China, this paper concludes that the urban waterlogging disaster has three characteristics – repeatability, huge loss and artificiality. Besides, this paper conducts the analysis on the cause of urban waterlogging disaster from three perspectives and concludes that urban waterlogging is closely related to urban development. Therefore, the theory of resilience thinking is introduced according to the characteristics and problems of urban waterlogging. Under the guidance of resilience thinking, this paper puts forward the urban waterlogging prevention and control planning strategy, namely, establishing the urban waterlogging planning framework at three levels – aboveground, ground and underground. The first strategy is river closure aboveground - low impact development: cooperation framework of river basin development shall be established for achieving low impact development from the perspective of the area. The second strategy is ground penetration - compact development: the flow rate and penetration rate of rainwater on the ground affect the surface runoff volume, and simulation of three different land development densities shows that though the runoff volume per acre land in the high density area is higher, runoff volume per house is less. The third strategy is underground drainage - utility tunnel construction: both domestic and foreign practices show that the perfect underground infrastructure can resist the urban waterlogging disasters completely, and Chinese cities shall strengthen the construction of underground utility tunnel.

#### **The interaction of city and water in Suzhou of Yangtze River Delta: A natural/artificial comparison with metropolitan cities in Euro Delta**

Yan Wang\*, Wei Dong, Luuk Boelens (Southeast University)

Metropolitan Deltas have much in common because of the similar urban-water management conditions and in respect to their governance and institutional behavior (formal and informal). This paper will take Suzhou of Yangtze River Delta as an example introducing the interaction of water system and urban development in and around the city. we will go into this typical water city in the distinguished periods to explore how this specific feature (distinguished in natural and artificial waterways) has influenced urban development. It will use the urban morphology framework to analysis the urban-water features in time and space, the laws and dynamic mechanism in Suzhou. It is put forward that the ancient Chinese cities in Yangtze River Delta showing the distinctive characteristics with water, including the cities` birth, growing up and prosperous, and the long-term stability of ancient Chinese urban formations. We will compare this with a short overview of the metropolitan cities of historic water-urban developments in the Euro Delta from the urban morphology and urban governance but also with respect to recent developments within governments, businesses and civil society, to explore the cultural characteristics , urban planning theory and trend of development. It will conclude that the similarities and differences in the interaction of water and cities, urban morphology and urban governance in metropolitan deltas. And the experiences for reference and the new challenges of resilient uban-water management we need to deal with in both areas.

**Extreme spatial transitions > extreme planning and design transitions: Using the layers-approach to search for more resilient spatial planning and design solutions to mitigate the negative effects of urban pressure in the context of a fragile delta**

Harry den Hartog\* (Delft University of Technology)

Worldwide urban development processes have been dominated by modernism. Especially during the post-war part of last century the idea was that blueprint planning could control social and physical processes. Currently the discourse is changing since a series of dramatic natural and social clashes showed that a more flexible and resilient approach is needed, especially in spatial planning and design. In China spatial planning and design faces two main problems. First of all there is a lack of transparency in spatial planning processes, and secondly the governance system seems not steering consequently towards resilient solutions, economic growth is the main drive. To be able to mitigate the impact on the natural and man-made environment a transition in spatial planning and design approaches is urgently needed.

Chongming Island, located in the estuary of the Yangtze River, is China's national appointed Eco-Island and wished-for model for sustainable development. One of its main features is Dongtan Wetland Park, a Ramsar Zone for migratory birds. Chongming's contemporary dynamics are extremely high. The household registration system on this island has been changed into 'urban' since July 2016. This means that all the more than a million residents of the island will receive access to urban facilities. This will add to the already existing urbanisation pressure on the island that started in 2011 with a new bridge that connects the island to the rest of Shanghai. Additionally a rail-connection is in preparation to be completed in 2018!

How to steer the spatial development and mitigate the collateral damage for nature and society caused by current spatial planning and design practices in this case on Chongming Island? With the help of the Layers-approach this paper aims to find a more resilient development path for Chongming Island, in the context of the continuously rapid urbanizing Yangtze River Delta.

**Comparative review of urban wildscape in the context of urbanization**

Xiyue Wang\*, Shiyang Zhang, Xiangrong Wang (Beijing Forestry University)

Large number of cities in China rushed into the process of rapidly expanding urbanization. With wealth and resources continually converging to cities along with vast workforce, cities are ceaselessly spreading to the periphery. The relationship between the urban civilization and the environment of urban human settlements is facing conflict that hard to reconcile. With outstanding characteristics as low consumption, low maintenance and high efficiency of ecosystem service in urban settings, wildscape have special advantage in human health, ecological environment, aesthetics and cultural expression. Nevertheless, it is easily to be affected in the process of urban construction and intervention before effective protect and usage. Therefore, exploring the value and utilization of wilderness resources and creating efficient and effective wildscape in the urban context is a core subject for sustainable urbanization. Initially the origin and evolution of Wilderness and Wildscape in different period of history along with human civilization and urbanization is explored, from which the transition sequence of human beings perceiving wilderness (Danger-Disorder-Freedom-Nature) can be discovered, the course of human beings exploring and transforming the wilderness in the course of exploring the unknown, building human habitat and cities in different cultural backgrounds is indicated comparatively. According to the variation of cities coping with wildscape worldwide, typical cases of urban wildscape utilization and creation in city scale, regional scale and community scale is analyzed with comparison study. Ultimately, the future trend of how wildscape serves for sustainable urbanization is discussed. As urban wilderness disappearing rapidly in human intervention, its notable potential to become efficient strategy for urban sustainable development must be urgently figured out to ensure the limited resource is well-utilized and protected in urban sprawl.

**Post-disaster reconstruction planning in China: Towards a resilience-based approach?**

Jiang Xu\* (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)

China is disaster-prone. Many scholars have documented the rise of urban planning as an indispensable tool in the processes of recovery and reconstruction, and how planners—initially inexperienced in reacting to perturbations—have gradually built up capacity to meet priorities and solve crises in a timely manner. Some scholars have discovered that signs of resilience-mindedness are evident in the post-disaster planning processes. Others adopt a more pessimistic view. These almost diametrically opposing arguments herald an enormous uncertainty in academic inquiries.

To fill up this gap, this presentation aims to report one of the first empirical studies of the resilience-mindedness of planners who directly participated in the reconstruction planning in China. Drawing upon a questionnaire survey with target planners, the research considers how these planners have understood reconstruction planning, the extent to which ‘resilience-mindedness’ has been developed in the planning process, and its strategic significance. Our research findings seem to suggest that despite the fact that planners do not explicitly apply the concept of resilience, there are clear signs of resilience-mindedness in the planning process. However, there is a high degree of variation in applying the ‘resilience-mindedness’ among different resilience attributes. There is a stronger mindedness for the attributes such as robustness, rapidity, and connectivity, as compared to the weaker mindedness for the attributes such as diversity, redundancy, flexibility, and capital building. This reveals that reconstruction planning, as a normative, political laden practice, has shown more conservative concerns of uncertainty, vulnerability and anxiety than a more radical focus on hope, adaptation and transformation. The study therefore concludes that while post-disaster reconstruction planning gains prominence in China, it may owe less to its normative merits than to its instrumental utility to important societal challenges and to the need for quick economic recovery.

## **4B Economic development (Turner Suite)**

Chair: David Meyer (Washington University in St. Louis)

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### **Regionalisation in the Yangtze River Delta (China) from the perspective of inter-city daily mobility**

Weiyang Zhang\*, Ben Derudder (Ghent University)

We apply a community detection algorithm to the Yangtze River Delta's (YRD) daily inter-city mobility network to produce an interaction-based regionalisation, and then explore the processes underlying this regional (re-)production by comparing it with attribute-based regionalisation. The results show that political boundaries and historical patterns of socio-economic integration are strikingly visible, and the effects of overlapping physical, economic, cultural, and administrative spaces on regional integration are apparent. We conclude that both notions of 'territory' and 'network' come together as the YRD region is spatially configured, while 'regional path dependence' also seems to be relevant for understanding its relational formation.

### **Industrial restructuring and transformation of the town-based urbanization in the Pearl River Delta: Recent evidence from Dongguan**

Chun Yang\* (Hong Kong Baptist University)

Urban development in the Pearl River Delta during the periods of 1980s and 1990s have been widely recognized as a salient pattern labelled as "exo(genous) urbanization" driven by foreign direct investment (FDI), particularly from Hong Kong and Taiwan (Sit and Yang, 1997). However, the prevailed urbanization predominated by the development of small towns and cities, especially in the eastern bank of the PRD along the border with Hong Kong has encountered unprecedented challenges. The 2000s, particularly the aftermath of the 2009 global financial crisis has witnessed dramatic transformation of the town-based urbanization. Taking Dongguan as a case, this paper examines the changing dynamics of the town-based urbanization, with particular emphasis on the impacts of industrial restructuring on urban transformation from the perspective of dynamic global production networks (GPNs) in the post-crisis global economy. The roles of small towns in the context of the central state-designated "new pattern of urbanization" will be reinvented through elaborating the recent policy initiatives of upgrading selected towns into "town-level cities" (zheng ji shi), such as Chang'an and Humen in Dongguan. The study could enrich the developing literature on urbanization in China and provide policy implications for governments during the process of urban transformation in the changing global economy.

### **How to upgrade industries in Chinese cities?**

Canfei He\* (Peking University)

Recent studies have argued that regional diversification emerges as a path-dependent process. Developed countries that industrialize do so first from core areas in an uneven industry space and have more opportunities to jump to new related industries and sustain economic growth than do developing countries that jump from peripheral areas. Can developing countries/regions jump further to break these path-dependent trajectories? Based on China's export data, we show that Chinese cities can make such a jump by investing in extra-regional linkages and internal innovation. The effects of these two sets of variables vary across cities and industries.

### **Interpreting industrial landscape transformation in post-reform China: From production to consumption spaces**

Jie Chen\*, Bruce Judd (University of New South Wales)

Following the adoption of market economic practices since 1978, Chinese cities have experienced various reforms. A crucial result of these reforms is that new urban spaces have been reconfigured in Chinese cities, which are in sharp contrast to the built environment of the past. In terms of industrial landscapes, it has shown a radical transformation of mono-functional industrial sites into diversified urban landscapes. Former inner industrial sites are being converted to new constructions, mainly as residential apartments and commercial premises. This reality raises a fundamental question about the reasons for shaping deteriorating industrial landscape in urban China. Drawing on recent studies, the paper argues that the disappearance of the inner urban industrial landscapes needs to be understood as a result of broad political and economic changes, particularly shifts in the modes of production and consumption.

### **Implications of China's "One Belt, One Road" strategy for its financial centers**

David Meyer\* (Washington University in St. Louis)

China's "One Belt, One Road" strategy has the potential to transform its relations to Asia, the Middle East, and Europe. The linkages are embodied in the Silk Road Economic Belt and New Maritime Silk Road. At the core of the strategy is internal Asian economic development, a process which has never been supported in a significant fashion by the countries of Asia nor by external actors outside of Asia, especially in Europe and North America. The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has been created as a financing vehicle for intergovernmental cooperation, thus serving as an enabler of the development process. This seed money is to be supplemented by even larger sums from Asian governments and private sector actors who will supply most of the capital. Key infrastructure components include railroads, telecommunications, and ports, all of which are to be integrated by sea and by land. Success of the strategy has the potential to accelerate Asian economic development and to alter China's financial centers and their relation to global financial center networks headed by London, the global center and New York, the other global city. Hong Kong, the leading financial center of Asia-Pacific, and arguably the third greatest financial center, may become more co-equal with New York and London. Shanghai may become the greatest national financial center outside of New York for the United States. Beijing, as the political financial center will benefit as the headquarters of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and the pivot of knowledge about China's "One Belt, One Road" strategy. Shenzhen, the satellite of Hong Kong, will benefit from the ties of its financial firms to that city. Under China's "One Belt, One Road" strategy its financial centers have the potential to house the firms which collectively become the largest conduits of global capital.

#### 4C Housing market (Diploma Suite)

Chair: Natacha Aveline-Dubach (CNRS-University Paris I Panthéon Sorbonne)

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##### **Integrating behavioral insights from survey into a spatial agent-based model of housing price dynamics in Beijing**

Ziye Zhang\* (Cornell University)

The rapid urbanization in Beijing, China brings unexpected challenges in many aspects. In housing market, high level, rapid increasing and huge intra-urban difference are all labels of the housing price in Beijing, which suggesting an urgent demand for better understanding and modeling of housing price formation and dynamic. This study aims at integrating behavioral insights from survey into an agent-based model to simulate the spatial and temporal variations of housing price in Beijing, China.

Urban housing market is a complex system. Each individual housing price is formed in a single real transaction process which comprises a sequence of decisions and interactions between housing sellers and housing buyers. Behavioral factors influence participants' decision making and price formation process. Agent-based modeling (ABM) provides an ideal modeling paradigm capable to realize complex heterogeneity and interactions among agents. However, in traditional housing and land market ABMs, the core of model---the micro behavior framework of residential agents is merely built on urban economic theories, lacking empirical evidence from field study of interest area.

To identify and elicit the behavioral factors in housing transaction in Beijing market, a housing consumer survey is designed and conducted in Beijing from July to August, 2016, focusing on the information about initial motives of housing consumption, searching processes, consideration sets, and determinant factors of the final choice. Over 1000 participants were spatial-proportionally sampled in 8 districts of Beijing. An agent-based model is built, integrated the qualitative findings, to simulate the spatiotemporal variation of housing prices. Georeferenced housing transaction data from 2011-2015 in Beijing second-hand housing market is collected and processed to provide 1) real residential locations to setup ABM simulation environment; 2) real housing property information for model calibration; 3) real transaction price dynamic to verify model prediction.

##### **Transit versus hospital oriented residential rental market in Shanghai: Spontaneous city, spatial multicollinearity and social infrastructure disparity**

Yiming Wang\* (University of Bristol), Haoying Han (Zhejiang University)

Transit-oriented development (TOD) is perhaps one of the most popular urban planning ideas in both theory and practice (Cervero, 1989). However, empirical research to date contributes rather mixed evidence relating to the essential TOD question: "if you build it, will they come?"(Dong, 2016). Underlying the TOD issue is arguably a broader intellectual debate regarding how cities organise themselves inherently. While many believe that urban form can be mindfully guided and controlled as in the case of TOD, others argue that cities evolve spontaneously and the influence of formal state-led planning and provision of urban public goods is overstated (Webster and Lai, 2003).

Chinese cities provide an intriguing prism through which the spontaneous city debate in general and the TOD question in particular can be observed. For instance, mainstream empirical research based in China alleges that publicly invested transport infrastructure attracts residential development and thereby contributes transit premiums to the housing market as a measure of positive economic externalities (Pan and Zhang, 2008, Zhang et al., 2016, Zhang and Wang, 2013, Wang et al., 2016). Nevertheless, few studies consider the possible interaction effects between transit facilities and the nearby social infrastructures such as hospitals. In other words, an individual may choose to live in a transit neighbourhood, not directly because of the transport facility per se, but rather because of its geographic adjacency to the local hospital and other surrounding amenities. Statistically, this poses a typical spatial multicollinearity problem when running regressions on geographically cross-sectional data (Heikkila, 1988), since public transits are often deliberately built near major hospitals in large Chinese cities. Yet more importantly, the inflated transit premiums estimated by the regression may disguise the actual reasons why people want to live near a hospital.

Employing a mix of spatial big data econometrics and on-site qualitative case studies, this paper is intended to identify and interpret the price impact of 46 major hospitals in Shanghai on the local private residential rental market, based on a large sample of online asking rents collected between December 2012 and January 2013. Two on-site case studies, respectively around the Ninth People's Hospital/South Xizang Road Metro Station and Xinhua Hospital/Anshan Road Metro Station, would reveal how affordable commercial amenities have evolved spontaneously around the both hospitals, initially just to meet the routine needs of migrant patients who choose to visit hospitals in Shanghai for the lack of decent health services in their hometowns. The convenient amenities around the hospitals later attract non-patient renters into the surrounding neighbourhoods, creating the public need for better transport facilities.

### **The impact of green building labels on housing price — Evidence from China**

Fang Fang\*, Yahong Zhou, Xuesong Li (Shanghai University of Finance and Economics)

In recent years, with deteriorating environment, the Chinese government encourages people to live with low carbon. As newly emerging residence, green buildings have not appeared until recently, which plays a key role in environmental protection in China. This paper focuses on the willingness to pay on the green housing in China, which is related to green house's future in the market because consumer's acceptance usually determines its future development. First, we will briefly discuss the incentives from both demand and supply sides to necessitate the development of this kind of buildings. Second, a hedonic regression model is applied to empirically find whether there exists a significant price premium in residential market. Furthermore, we use the nonparametric matching model under treatment framework to estimate the price premium to see the robustness the results of the hedonic model. The empirical result shows that there exists a positive price premium in the residential market. Another interesting finding is that the premium doesn't increase with certification tiers, which measure the quality from one-star to the highest three-star, and middle tier certification is most valued. That means homebuyers are not sensitive to the difference among the green buildings.

### **Impact of urban green space on residential housing prices: Case study in Shenzhen**

Jiansheng Wu\* (Peking University Shenzhen Graduate School), Meijuan Wang (Peking University), Weifeng Li (The University of Hong Kong), Jian Peng (Peking University), Li Huang (Peking University Shenzhen Graduate School)

Public resources such as transportation, hospitals, parks, and schools are important factors in housing prices. However, studies on property value have mainly concentrated on transportation, and few studies have focused on the effect that greenspace has on property values. Researchers have mainly focused on specific parks within different communities rather than parks (on a larger scale) to study the average impact of green space on housing prices. Therefore, the objective of this research is to quantify the effect of public resources on property value, especially green space, using the hedonic pricing method (HPM). This paper focuses on 71 parks within Shenzhen to make results universal. Transaction price data and the structural attributes of 6,473 dwelling units were collected. This paper looks at HPM from three dimensions: structural attributes, location variables, and environmental variables. The results showed that (1) proximity to a central business district (CBD) produced the greatest effect on housing prices, followed by distance to park, distance to school, distance to arterial road, and distance to subway;(2) proximity to a park noticeably contributes to housing prices at 0.041%, and housing prices decline at a rate of 20,920 CNY (US\$3,356) /km depending on distance to the nearest park; and (3) the average influence radius of Shenzhen parks was 1.73 km, and the 71 parks could promote an increase in value across 412.14 km<sup>2</sup> of land. This research will be helpful in residential housing purchase decision-making, for reasonable estate development layouts (for developers), and for governments (in terms of increasing environmental tax to promote green space preservation).

**Understanding inflating urban property values in China through the Developmental State strategy**

Natacha Aveline-Dubach\* (CNRS-University Paris I Panthéon Sorbonne)

Urban property values have been skyrocketing in China's city-regions over the past two decades. This paper outlines the politico-institutional drivers of this increase through the concept of "developmental state" (DS) coined by Johnson (1982) and further developed by Evans (1995). Most authors of the DS scholarship have considered the state as a unique and central entity. However, to address urban and real estate issues in China it is necessary to acknowledge the importance of state action at subnational level. Departing from Zhu's conceptualization of the 'local DS' for urban China (Zhu, 2004), this paper empathizes the multiscale nature of the DS by taking into account the complex interactions of top-down and bottom-up processes that shape urban policies and property markets' regulation. It is argued that China's multiscale DS has generated a mechanism of land value inflation to pursue productivist goals through a set of four strategies: a) encouraging property development and investment as a macroeconomic strategy to achieve economic transition; b) controlling/filtering capital flows into the built environment and encouraging domestic financial vehicles and land value capture mechanisms as an alternative to global finance; c) supporting domestic property developers to move up the value chain; d) providing quick regulatory responses to real estate market signals.

#### **4D Neighbourhoods and migrants (Nobel Suite)**

Chair: Nick Manning (King's College London)

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##### **Neighborhood-scale social infrastructure and social integration of migrant population in China: Evidence from a twelve-city migrant survey**

Zhilin Liu\* (Tsinghua University)

A large literature has heavily documented the marginalized experiences of migrant populations in Chinese cities. However, scholars largely focused on formal institutions –such as the hukou system, and informal mechanisms – such as social networks that may promote economic, social, and psychological integration of migrants in the urban context. These studies, while valuable, have only indirect planning implications, as little knowledge is offered with respect to the role of service and infrastructure planning in migrant's social integration. Public services and facilities – planned and provided at the neighborhood scale - offer diverse venues and milieu in which migrants, as marginalized as they are, can enjoy the “publicness” and “inclusiveness” of urban life, thus stimulating social interaction and integration. In this paper, I utilize data derived from a twelve-city migrant survey to investigate the extent to which neighborhood-scale social infrastructure facilitates inter-group social interaction of migrant populations, thereby strengthening their sense of place attachment. Controlling for housing sources, migration history, and socio-demographic variables, statistical analysis is employed to test the following hypotheses. First, a migrant tends to interact more frequently with local residents if living in a neighborhood with convenient accessibility to services and facilities (e.g. shopping, cultural-leisure, schools, hospitals, and bus stations), and if living in a neighborhood that offers better community public space and cleaner and safer environment. Second, whereas service accessibility may not be a strong predictor for place attachment, a rural migrant tends to express a stronger sense of attachment to the community and the host city if living in a neighborhood with better social and physical environment. I believe that this research contributes to the scholarly understanding of the social mechanisms of urban integration of China's migrant population, as well as enlighten current infrastructure planning and neighborhood design to promote inclusive urbanization in China.

##### **Growth of rural migrant enclaves in Guangzhou, China: Agency, informality and social mobility**

Ye Liu\* (Sun Yat-sen University), Zhigang Li (Wuhan University), Yuqi Liu (University College London), Hongsheng Chen (Southeast University)

Previous scholarship on migrant enclaves in Chinese cities has portrayed rural migrants as no more than passive and powerless sojourners. In these narratives, rural migrants are exploited by global capitalist production, constrained by the household registration (hukou) system and trapped in the lowest tier of urban labour and housing market. What is missing in this body of literature is the investigation of the ‘bottom-up’ agency of rural migrants during the growth of migrant enclaves. This research aims to provide a more sophisticated understanding of the dynamism of migrant enclaves and the implications for migrants' wellbeing in Chinese cities. Through an in-depth study on Xiaohubei, a migrant enclave with a high concentration of Hubei migrants and small-scale garment producers, in Guangzhou, China, this research examines how migrants negotiate institutional, social, and cultural constraints through urban informality, how they mobilize their resources and power to improve their wellbeing, and how they achieve upward mobility through participating in the enclave-based informal economy. Our findings challenge the conventional wisdom that rural migrants are no more than a homogeneous social group passively responding to economic opportunities and obediently succumbing to constraints. On the contrary, some rural migrants, especially migrant entrepreneurs, play an active and leading role in the growth and prosperity of migrant enclaves. Our findings also show that migrant enclaves are neither hopeless ‘slums’ nor temporary ‘footholds’; they serve as efficient pathways of upward mobility and an entry point for rural migrants to integrate into host cities. In this sense, migrant enclaves smooth the process of Chinese urbanization. The findings of our research suggest the necessity to reflect on the massive eradication of migrant enclaves in Chinese cities.

### **The subjective wellbeing of migrants in Guangzhou, China: The impacts of the social and physical environment**

Yuqi Liu\*, Fangzhu Zhang, Fulong Wu (University College London), Ye Liu (Sun Yet-sen University), Zhigang Li (Wuhan University)

China has witnessed a surge of rural-urban migrants over the past three decades. Although a plethora of literature has shed light on the low quality of migrants' lives, little research has been done to understand how migrants evaluate their own lives in host cities, and no study has been undertaken to link migrants' subjective wellbeing with their residential environments. Using the data collected from a questionnaire survey in Guangzhou and multilevel linear models, this paper examines the determinants of migrants' subjective wellbeing in host cities. It particularly focuses on the extent to which and the ways in which migrants' social ties and residential environment influence their subjective wellbeing. The results indicate that, in general, migrants have a lower level of subjective wellbeing than local residents, and the cognitive and emotional components of migrants' subjective wellbeing are influenced by different factors. The sense of relative deprivation, social support, and neighbourhood social environment matter in determining the cognitive component of migrants' wellbeing (life satisfaction) but have no impact on the emotional component of their wellbeing (positive and negative affect). No evidence shows that neighbourhood cleanliness and neighbourhood amenities influence the level of migrants' subjective wellbeing.

### **An Investigation of migrants' neighbourhood satisfaction in Beijing**

Yu Chen\* (University of Sheffield), Guanpeng Dong (University of Liverpool)

Chinese cities have witnessed enormous neighbourhood changes as a result of housing reforms starting from the early 1980s, rapid urban expansion and massive rural-to-urban migration. Migrants, without local hukou status, are confronted with many constraints in terms of accessing urban housing. They are concentrated in neighbourhoods where cheap (rental) housing is available. Previous studies have focused on migrants' limited housing choices in cities, yet little is known about their self-selection into different neighbourhood types, together with their subjective evaluation of neighbourhood environment. Drawing upon a large-scale questionnaire survey conducted in Beijing in 2013, we examine the factors influencing migrants' choices of neighbourhood types, and how such self-selection affects their neighbourhood satisfaction. We investigate the sources of neighbourhood (dis-)satisfaction, including fine-grained neighbourhood physical attributes derived from open geographic data and district-level contextual variables, while controlling for individual socioeconomic and demographic characteristics. The study is important to inform policies aimed at improving migrants' residential environment in cities.

### **Sociospatial exclusion, precarious urban life and mental health of internal migrants in Shanghai**

Jie Li,\* Nick Manning (King's College London)

The mass rural-urban migrants in China associated with processes of socio-spatial exclusion bear significant implications on public health, which is an important yet under-researched area. Epidemiologic research has documented that associations between particular features of the urban environment, such as concentrated disadvantage, residential segregation and social norms, contribute to the risk of mental illness. In China, rural-urban migrants are also faced with institutional discrimination tied to the hukou system, through which they are denied of full citizenship to basic social welfare and services, which may elevate the stress of urban living and exacerbate the risks to mental illness. This paper aims to link the sociospatial exclusion and inequalities in migrants' everyday life and its mental health consequences, based on extensive review of Chinese and English literature, media reports, as well as fieldtrip observations. More specifically, it asks what the daily experience of being a migrant in Shanghai is actually like, particularly regarding sources of stress from housing, displacement, service accessibility, and cultural conflict, and whether these stresses affect mental health? The paper is derived from a large scale project "Mental health, migration, and the Chinese mega-city" jointly funded by ESRC in the UK and NSFC in China.

#### **4E Land development (Jasmine Suite)**

Chair: Guangzhong Cao (Peking University)

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##### **State-market interaction and self-organization in the transfer of land development rights in China: The case of Chengdu**

Chen Shi\*, Bo-sin Tang (The University of Hong Kong)

To ensure a continuous supply of urban construction land is a major problem faced by many Chinese cities under the rapid pressure of urbanization. The existing literature has suggested that China's dual-land system supports local state domination in urbanization, prevents efficient land utilization and disallows most rural areas from sharing the tremendous land benefits arising from urbanization. This paper argues that implementation of the recent 'Linkage between Urban-land Taking and Rural-land Giving' (Linkage) Policy has not only enabled the transfer of development rights (TDRs) between rural and urban land markets in China, it has also triggered the emergence of a diversified institutional arrangement in organizing land projects. Borrowing the theoretical tools from New Institutional Economics (NIE), this paper reports the findings about changing rural land governance from a recent empirical study in Chengdu. It illustrates that, with the strengthening of rural land property rights, a more sophisticated interaction among local government, investors, village cadres, and villagers has emerged leading to rising competition of these actors for the value of TDRs.

##### **Urban planning and polycentric development in China: A case study of Tianjin**

Weikai Wang\*, Ya Ping Wang, Keith Kintrea (University of Glasgow)

In the post-industrial and post-suburbanisation era, polycentricity has become not only an increasingly prominent feature of the modern urban spatial pattern, but also a standard and normative agenda for both planner and policy maker. In the transitional China, many cities have drawn up planning strategies for polycentric development through the construction of various economic development and high-tech zones, CBDs, sub-centres, special districts and new towns, although only a few of them show a polycentric spatial pattern in reality. This paper will first review the similarity and difference between China and Western countries in terms of this development pattern. Then it will use Tianjin, a mega city with typical and unique urban structure, as a case study to investigate the changing planning ideas and evolving urban form, the socio-economic trajectory, and the corresponding problems in contemporary development. Unlike western countries, polycentric urban development in China is a top-down, growth-oriented and planning-dominant process. The study shows that Tianjin has experienced dramatic changes in urban structure since the 1990s, and gradually evolved from monocentric spatial structure to a polycentric land use and functional distribution. The Binhai New Area (TBNA) has growing into a secondary city centre from one of small industry satellite towns in the early phase. As the main drives for the rise of TBNA is the project-led and property-led development strategy, the significant changes in the socio-economic and physical structure of the city resulted in many problems such as excessive cost of transportation, fragmented land use around both centres and disintegrated population with the TBNA over relying on migrant workers.

##### **High speed rail land development under entrepreneurialism in China: Institutional interpretation and policy reflection**

Fengqing Li\*, Cheng Yao (Tongji University), Mathey Kosta (Darmstadt University of Technology)

For a long term of fast economic growth, the fragmentation in the territorial and functional administrative systems in China is deemed as an approach for Chinese central power to balance the entrepreneurial local powers in large-scale local land development. These balance could also be widely seen in the urban land development motivated by China's high speed rail (HSR) booming in the early 2000s. However, after 2008 crisis, when entering a new track of slower economic growth but still seeing the continuing momentum of urbanization, the large-mileage HSR construction in China became financially unsustainable. Accordingly, an interest "marriage" between local government and the functional bureaucracy, both of which were highly entrepreneurial and possessed their own business agencies, was born in 2014. With the formation of this

interest community, the traditional balance amongst central government and local powers in HSR land development has been weakened. This mutual interests of relevant authorities, endorsed by the central government, caused a fever of new zone development around HSR stations. By investigating and comparing the cases before and after 2014 in Anhui province, this new zone fever is further interpreted with an institutional perspective. However, in the context of China's slowdown in economic growth and urbanization, the national wide new zone development is risky and highly concerned. Therefore, in the end of this paper, the policy reflections and suggestions are proposed correspondingly.

### **Does the influence of the dual land ownership system on land urbanization vary over space? A case study of Shenzhen, China**

Xiaoguang Wang\* (Central Michigan University), Lingjing Wu, De Tong (Peking University Shenzhen)

The conversion of rural land to urban land, a.k.a. land urbanization or urban expansion, often follows two tracks in China: 1) the government becomes the owner of the land through land expropriation and performs primary land development and land transfer; 2) villagers maintain their ownership of the land collectively and convert their non-construction land into construction land by themselves. Dual land ownership system is a unique factor which influences urban expansion in China. However, such influence of dual land ownership may not be consistent over space. Local variations in land use regulations, government controls, and stakeholder participations could all lead to varied relationships between land ownership and urban expansion. This research aims to answer two main questions: 1) whether or not the influence of the dual land ownership system on land urbanization is consistent over space (spatial stationarity), and 2) how such relationships vary over space. Capitalizing on the land parcel data collected in Longhua district in Shenzhen in the year of 1996 and 2010, our research utilizes a geographically weighted logistic regression (GWLR) modelling approach to test and visualize spatial non-stationarity in the relationship between land ownership and urban expansion. We focus on Shenzhen, China, because it has experienced one of the most rapid urbanization, and because dual land structure in Shenzhen is very notable. Our preliminary results demonstrated that land ownership (collectively-owned vs. government-owned) has statistically significant relationships with urban expansion, and such relationships do vary over space. There are areas where land ownership profoundly influences urban expansion, whereas in other areas the influences are limited. GWLR was proven to be a useful exploratory spatial analysis tool which may lead to new insights on the interconnections between dual land ownership and urbanization.

### **Administrative hierarchy and economic growth – From the perspective of development zone**

Zhifeng Wang\*, Yourong Wang, Yunting Wang (Central University of Finance and Economics)

Economic resources, institutional arrangements and management authority vary across cities along administrative hierarchy. This contributes to the disparity of economic growth in different cities. Along the administrative hierarchy, all cities are grouped into directly controlled municipalities/sub-provincial cities/specifically designated cities, province capital cities, and general provincial cities. Based on the data of 282 cities during 2004-2014 from China, we find that cities with higher administrative level have higher GDP per capita because of their advantage positions over resource distribution represented by the number and performance of development zones. This result shows that administrative hierarchy has a significant positive impact on the city's economic growth. However, the marginal contribution of economic resource is decreasing along the administrative hierarchy. These findings have important policy implications for sustainable economic growth and urbanization.

#### **4F Planning practices (Palm D'or Suite)**

Chair: Mee Kam Ng (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)

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##### **Finding unity among difference and then difference among unity: 20th century urban planning in China**

Toby Lincoln\* (University of Leicester)

For centuries, Chinese cities were pockets of urban experience in the world's largest and longest existing agricultural empire. In the late 19th century, the pace of urbanization increased, and Chinese saw the future of their country in the development of cities. This paper focuses on some of the ideas that have influenced urban planners, architects and government officials in China in the 20th century. It concentrates on two moments, and argues that in the first there is more unity about China's urban future than is commonly believed, and in the second the urban vision is less homogenized than is sometimes presented. The first moment is during and after China's War with Japan (1937-1945). New laws gave the Nationalist Government a regulatory mechanism to manage urban development and postwar reconstruction. This vision for postwar development drew upon the latest international ideas on urban zoning, and illustrates how despite the different experiences of cities across the country in the first half of the 20th century, a unified vision for an urban future was emerging. The second moment concentrates on the vision of cities as socialist production centres that developed in the 1950s. However, not all were destined to be dominated by factories, as ancient cities were to be redeveloped, and scenic cities landscaped. These two moments connect China's rapid urbanization since 1978 with its past, and ask whether historical study can be of use in understanding processes of urban change today and in the future. History may provide a foundation for a more complex comparative urbanism which considers how international ideas have combined with China's long urban history to shape its cities. This considers how just as large scale global processes such as capitalism and industrialization have been shaping the world for centuries, so has urbanization.

##### **Review and retrospection theory and planning practice – Based on historical perspective of Wenling study**

Yang Zhou\*, Xigang Zhu, Jianshu Li (Nanjing University)

Urban-rural integration had become a hot issue in both theory research and practice since 2000. Firstly, this paper reviews the related theory of the integration of urban and rural areas and the practice experiences in the past twenty years practice. It points out that the core contributions are to explore how to achieve a higher level of city and countryside in a better urban and rural relationship and to understand the traditional rural characteristics. Secondly, it takes Wenlin, a typical sample of the reform and opening up city in China, as an example to examine and assess the implementation of the planning of integration of urban and rural areas from the perspective of history. In 1998 and 2007, Wenling took the lead in the preparation of China's first integration of urban and rural planning and the overall master planning in county-level cities. It is the first county to try to seek the overall coordination of urban and rural areas with win-win solutions. But the development of Wenling today is declining. This paper hopes to find the reason for its decline through the following three ways: (1) the comprehensive evaluation of Wenling's two edition of plans in 1998 and 2007; (2) comparison of Wenling's economic and social development data in 2015 with the future aims; (3) review of the main policy measures subject to the implementation of the plan and the implementation of the project to restore the historical track in the past 15 years. The third part is to construct the harmonious relations between city and countryside as the goal, based on the development of the new situation and new requirements. It puts forward the new pattern of integration of urban and rural development strategy of Wenlin which includes the strategic evolution of the core on the basis of the structure, and three types of action plans of force, micro, significant actions.

##### **A city of goodness: The urbanization in Xinjiang under “New Normal” background – Take the regulatory detailed planning of Shanshan in Turpan as an example**

Huijun Li\*, Chun Chen, Biyun Liu, Xiulin Hao (Shanghai Jiaotong University)

“New normal” is an official definition of China government compares to current developing situations. It means, after 30 years rapid developing increases, what a major premise and an overall background we are facing considering Chinese urbanization. The development of urbanization in China is presenting new directions

and transformations. However, in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous region, “New normal” means another particularly significant implications besides above: the security of city. Xinjiang is the west connector of China “one belt and one road”, its strategic position is irreplaceable. From “7.5 Accident” till now, the importance of stabilization and social security has been improving to the highest level as a political task. With the alternative of local leader, to safeguard stability is not only be regarded as a cardinal question, but also company with the tremendous forces to enhance the system arrangement and the resources supply. The urbanization in Xinjiang, is just ongoing and deepening under such “New normal” situations. Turpan is a well-known tourist city in Xinjiang meanwhile is the nearest prefecture-level city to Urumqi. It is also the earliest tourist destination owning international popularity in Xinjiang. In Turpan’s administrative structure of one district and two counties, County Shanshan occupies over 60% land areas and over 80% GDP of overall Turpan. This addressed nearly 40,000 square kilometers total land areas and 200,000 populations county used to be the famous and powerful county in whole Xinjiang. The regulatory detailed planning of Shanshan, inevitably has to considering the dual reply to both economy development and city security: on one hand it has to facing the contradiction between the slowing down economy increasing speed and the strong developing will of local; on the other hand is the continuing increased requirements of city security. At the same time, because the regulatory detailed planning is a statutory planning procedure in Chinese urban management system, its impact on city development is confessed. A goodness city, is the core concept during the compiling new round regulatory detailed planning of Shanshan, which focus on discussing the possibilities and the operability in realizing the dual solutions of city security and development under “New normal” of Xinjiang.

#### **The formation and evolution of water net plain cities in the perspective of human-water relationship – A case study of Ningbo city, Zhejiang province**

Shiyang Zhang\*, Xiyue Wang, Xiangrong Wang (Beijing Forestry University)

Diverse natural environment determines the diversity of Chinese landscape, resulting in unique features in various cities. Ningbo, a city of more than two thousand years of history, is located in the eastern end of the Ningshao Plain, one of the most typical water net plains in China. In the geographical pattern of mountain-plain-marine, the relationship between human and water in the water-rich environment determines the formation and evolution of Ningbo city. Based on the relationship between human and water, the study take Ningbo city as the research object. Through the collection, analysis and visualization of the ancient data, the influence of the regional water pattern on the location, shape and layout of the city is studied. Meanwhile, the construction and operation of urban water system which is based on water supply and discharge, flood prevention and transportation, as well as the connection with urban transportation system and public space system is expounded. In the current context of urbanization, the traditional water network of Ningbo city has been obscured, the unique characteristics of the city is facing with collapse. Through the study, it is emphasized that the close relationship between human and natural elements in a specific area is the key to maintain urban uniqueness. Ultimately, the transition of human-water relationship in the future, the preservation and continuation of urban characteristics in Ningbo are discussed.

#### **What's the future of Chinese planning professionals? The changing role of urban planning professionals in transitional China**

Xin Feng\* (University of Sheffield)

Decentralization, economic reform and globalization have brought great changes to Chinese cities. The contemporary Chinese planning system is faced with the country in transition: a change in the exercise of state power, and a process of urbanization which has been evolving from planning for growth to planning for land adjustment. In practice, the emergence of new planning forms challenges the traditional role of planners and raises requirements regarding new roles for planners. Having adopted the concept of ‘rules of appropriateness’ from the sociological wing of new institutionalist analysis, this research tries to develop a conceptual framework to understand the role of planning professionals in a changing social and political context. China offers fertile ground to explore these issues. How planners located themselves in different roles, as ‘handmaiden of power’, ‘initiative knower’ and ‘active initiator’, has become important in the inquiry of the continuous process of social and political change which affects the way planners conceptualize problems, forming rules of practice. Also, this leads to further questions: facing these changes, what is the future of the planning profession and planning education in China?

## Sessions 5: Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2017, 11:10–12:50

### 5A Green urbanism and realities 1 (Booker and Turner Suite)

Chair: Yiming Wang (Bristol University)

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#### **Factors on developer's decision on green dwelling and pricing strategy**

Chenchen He\*, Xiaoming Wang (Huazhong University of Science and Technology)

Green dwelling aims to minimize their impact on environment by considering the whole life cycle. It is a good way to address the climate change and energy crisis. As a precondition for green dwellings, developer decides whether to develop a green dwelling and further, the green degree of dwelling. In this paper, we apply structural equation model to analyze the factors impacting green developing decisions, moreover, we analyze the developer's price strategy of green dwellings under the comprehensive influence of these factors. Three influencing aspects are considered, namely, green market expectation, developer green consciousness and government stimulating policy. The green degree is represented by nine attributes. It shows that the green market expectation has the biggest effect to green developing decision. Besides, the price strategy is mostly affected by green degree. The paper gives an insight into the factors affecting green dwelling developing decision and the pricing strategy. Therefore, it is conducive to promote green dwelling from developer perspective.

#### **Explaining city branding practices in China's three mega-city regions: The role of ecological modernization**

Martin de Jong (Delft University of Technology, Fudan University), Yawei Chen (Delft University of Technology), Simon Joss (University of Westminster), Haiyan Lu\* (Delft University of Technology)

Wealthy, highly educated and demanding citizens in China look out for cleaner, greener and more attractive places to live and raise their families, with investors and high-value added service industries following in their wake. This has driven many East Coast cities to try and phase out heavy and polluting production and processing activities and replace them with more environmentally desirable lighter forms of manufacturing and high-tech services. Given China's imperative not to let ecological preservation go at the expense of economic growth, the absorption of environmental considerations take the shape of a discourse along the lines of 'ecological modernisation': producing higher economic value added with fewer ecological resources and thus increasing eco-efficiency in the industrial production chain. This highly desirable transformation is far from an automatic transition; it is one that involves fierce competition among cities, partly fought out by each of them by strengthening their public profiles.

In this contribution, we seek to examine city branding practices in relation to particular pathways followed in ecological modernisation, by addressing two interrelated questions:

1. How do city brands, as promoted by the Chinese cities analysed, reflect the stage of urban economic development?
2. How do these city brands reflect the cities' geographic positions within the region?

These questions will be answered for all cities in the three Chinese mega-city regions Bohai Rim, Yangtze River Delta and Greater Pearl River Delta. This is done through data-intensive examination of their general geographic, demographic and economic features, their industrial profile and position within the region, and relating these data to their city branding and profiling choices made in socio-economic five year plans, urban master plans and land use plans.

#### **Greenway concept: The knowledge output, consumption, network structure and actual investment comparison**

Heng Li\*, Liang Li, Xiangrong Wang (Beijing Forestry University)

Since the 80s of last century, with the rapid development of electronic information technology that widely used, marking the formal entry of human society into the post-industrial era. The current era emphasizes the

outstanding role of theoretical knowledge, and all kinds of advanced concepts or disciplines of knowledge are also integrated with the development of the times. Theory precedes practice, so the output and consumption of knowledge become the key to whether it can be applied to practical problems. At the beginning of the 21st century, "Greenway" was formally introduced into China. Due to its excellent connectivity and accessibility, which became an effective means to construct natural and social ecological networks, and a green infrastructure media to promote a variety of activities. The certain density of the greenway network is like capillaries, bearing the city's organic renewal and dynamic development. Greenway got a great concern in China at 2010, after more than ten years of research and practice, the greenway concept is how to be output and consumption in the end, these ideas are weather truly implemented in the specific process, it's significant for the sustainable development and update fusion of research. Therefore, the output and consumption of greenway exists what kind of relationship or regularity in the spatial distribution, and what kind of networks are formed in the ten years' course, which can help us find the current situation in practical greenway projects and potential relationships between cities of China. This thesis takes the output of paper as a breakthrough point and collects the capital investment data of the existing greenways in the major cities, after the compares to explore the consumption, network structure of knowledge and actual construction investment of greenways in China. Finally, finding the internal relations between them, and making the prospect of future research.

### **The land of reconciliation – Policy experimentation and everyday geopolitics in the construction of Pingtan pilot zone**

Hui-Chun Liu\* (University College London)

In this paper, I present case studies of an emerging economic zone in Southeast China, which aims to strengthen economic integration with Taiwan. Different from conventional economic zones, which aim for capital accumulation through specialization of production, the new type of the economic zone with aims of ambitious geopolitical strategy—seeking stability—involves a more complicated mode of economic exchange, network building and ethnicity-based identity mobilization. Unlike previous studies on economic zones, which primarily focus on the market logic of economic zones and assumes a consistent and stabilized structure of the central-local government interaction sharing same interests, through secondary document analysis I will explore the politicisation of economic zone practices as a prominent policy experiment and uncover how different levels of actors— including extra-territorial/territorial actors — define their purposes and measures with different strategies. More importantly, inspired by everyday geopolitics approach, which focuses on assemblage, affect and identity remaking in different contexts, I will attempt to address how identity performativity is fluid, situated, and context-based in the zone making.

### **Territorial strategies, standardisation and the role of Chinese local state in rural-urban interface: An analysis of bamboo shoot standards in Lin'an county**

Kin Wing Chan\*, Andrew Flynn (Cardiff University)

Although current studies into urban food supply and quality provide different explanations for the causality of food problems there is limited inquiry into the role of the county state to manage food supply in China rural-urban interface. This is a serious omission because firstly county government performs a key role in providing support for farmers through agricultural extension services and farmers' co-operatives; secondly, the county level is central to novel instruments that seek to manage supply chain relationships, such as the implementation of food production standards to safeguard the quality of foods through the supply chain, from the rural grower to the urban consumers plate. We investigate who are the key players involved in standard making and delivery at the county level. We also analyse how and why the local state engages in standard setting activities. We use Lin'an's bamboo shoot production industry as a case study to understand how the local state implements hazard-free, green and mountain food production standards to ensure urban food quality. The paper concludes that traditional conceptualisations of the local state do not sufficiently address how bamboo nature, knowledge of standards and state authority co-produce institutional capacity to control food supply and quality in China. By analysing the territorial strategies of a local state, we can identify the (re)production of nature; farmers' co-operatives and standardisation as major territorial strategies to help Lin'an county to expand its spatial control on bamboo shoot production and remake it's political economic territory.

## **5B Governing development processes (Turner Suite)**

Chair: Roger Chan (The University of Hong Kong)

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### **Land consolidation, land tickets and state-village power restructuring: The case of Chongqing**

Xi Wang\*, Bo-sin Tang (The University of Hong Kong)

A rapidly growing literature about urbanization in China has suggested the retreat of the Chinese state in rural governance. However, this study argues that the control of the local state on rural development is strengthened rather than weakened in the process of urbanization. Driven by the need to preserve cultivated land and provide adequate construction land, the local state has implemented a series of new land-related initiatives and local practices which have successfully reorganized the power relations in the rural areas. Using Chongqing as a case study, this paper discusses how land consolidation and land tickets are operated by the local state in increasing its power to exercise controls on rural land resources. Land consolidation and land tickets have empowered the local state in negotiating with village collectives and villagers in managing and developing land. Village cadre management is restructured, through which cadres are facing better incentives but also new constraints. This paper provides some recent findings for understanding the changing governance of land development in the context of rapid urbanization in China.

### **The time-compression in governance of urban redevelopment in Guangzhou, China from 1990 to 2015**

Bin Li\* (University of Birmingham)

This paper aims to reveal the pattern and mechanism of governance in urban redevelopment of Guangzhou, China from 1990 to 2015 through a connection with the characteristics of an authoritarian regime. Inspired by the concept of 'time-space compression' from David Harvey, the primary finding of this research is that a time-compression has happened in the research field compared with western cities in a very broad meaning. This time-compression means changes of governance mode of redevelopment in Guangzhou have been compressed in terms of speed, scale and significance. Governance modes have changed from semi-market mode to semi-hierarchy mode, and to semi-network mode in the last 25 years when similar transformations of governance modes have happened in Western cities from 1834 to date.

Data from this study are collected through semi-structured interviews, secondary data and participation observation. Thirty-three stakeholders have been interviewed for this study, including local political leaders, related officers in different sectors, developers, involved citizen and villagers, renters in the urban village, urban planners, scholars, journalists and members of NGOs. Secondary data includes documents from developers, planning projects from planners, newspaper reports from the mass media, research reports from academic institutions and journal articles. Participant observation concerns my attendance at a meeting in the urban redevelopment office in the city government and observation in the field.

This paper includes three parts. After defining the concept of governance, the first part employs Polanyi's concept of embeddedness to analyse history of governance in western cities after 1834. In advance capitalist economies, especially the U.K. and the U.S., urban governance could be very briefly divided into four stages, embedded markets before 1834, classic liberalism: dis-embedded markets (1834–1930s), embedded liberalism (1945–1970s), neoliberalism: re-disembedded markets (1981–date). The modes of governance in the last three stages could be described as market mode, hierarchy mode and network mode. Changes between modes have their structural reasons and struggling processes. The second part of paper describes the changing process of governance in urban redevelopment in Guangzhou. It comprises 4 phases with different pattern of governance: 1 the Primitive Enterprise Phase (1990-1996), 2 the Pure Governmental Phase (1996-2003), 3 the Mega Event Phase (2003-2010), and 4 Fiscal Income Phase (2010-2015). The first phase is a semi-market mode of governance, the second one is close to hierarchy mode when the third and fourth phases have more characteristics as network mode. Compared with changing process of governance in Western cities which is analysed in the first part, what happened in Guangzhou could be described as a case of time-compression. The third part of this paper investigates the mechanism of time-compression from a connection with the authoritarian regime in Guangzhou. The incentives and capacities of local state are strong because of institutional arrangement in an authoritarian regime. Changes of mode in Guangzhou have less resistance because the local state could make decision and implement its decision with mobilising various resources.

Different modes are employed to realise economic growth in different political, economic and social environments. Because of this time compression, public actors and non-public actors have not enough time to adapt changed governance modes. Every mode of governance has not become mature before they have been replaced. Conflicts and contradictions are unavoidable; such conflicts and contradictions are not just negative, they might be the recourse of energy, innovation and creation in developing Chinese cities. It may contribute to China's economic miracle through a different pathway.

### **Power relations in an urban consolidation project in Shenzhen, China**

Xiang Li\*, Sun Sheng Han (University of Melbourne)

After more than thirty years of rapid urban expansion, the Chinese government has begun to put a brake on greenfield development and instead encourage urban consolidation. The latter calls upon increases in land use intensity and efficiency in built-up areas in order to improve economic development efficiency, safeguard ecological security, and protect food safety and the environment. The existing complexity of property rights and the increasing diversity of stakeholders' interests, however, provide a context in which power relations are (re)constructed whilst powers are consequently discharged to influence the consolidation process. In this paper, we develop a research framework to explore power relations, by applying the 'power sources approach' to the participating parties including their goals and interactions, power sources, the ways that power is discharged, and the rules of interaction. An urban consolidation project in Luohu District, Shenzhen is used as a case study. Our data are collected by field reconnaissance surveys and key informant interviews. The preliminary analysis has already shown interesting results in relation to the dynamic changes in power relations, power sources, and the spatial ramifications of stakeholders' interactions. The mechanisms that regulate power discharge and trigger changes in the built environment are also becoming clearer. These findings will be critical to theorizing Chinese urban development and formulating innovative policies to safeguard China's urban consolidation.

### **Modular urbanism: Bureaucratic time-space, isomorphic form, and urban crisis**

Shiuh-Shen Chien\* (National Taiwan University), Max D. Woodworth (Ohio State University)

Chinese urban development in the 2000s has unfolded through the serial replication of large-scale, multi-functional land-development projects, including university towns, new districts, and eco-cities that tend diffuse downward through the urban hierarchy and westward from the coast. Consequently, cities have rapidly acquired a remarkable isomorphism. Referring to the project basis of urban growth as 'modular urbanism,' this paper identifies three inter-related and distinguishing features of China's recent urbanism that are of theoretical interest: bureaucratic time-space, isomorphic form, and episodic crises in cities across the country. Following Zheng Yongnian's notion of 'organizational emperorship,' we conceptualize the coupling of concentrated political power and intense inter-agency and inter-city competition in terms of a bureaucratic time-space fueling particularly fast – and often reckless – urban development. Isomorphic urban form results from a diffusion of large-scale spatial development schemes from showcase cities, usually Beijing and Shanghai. Yet, while the proliferation of project types tends to mimic successful 'proof of concept' demonstration projects in a major city, many projects are plagued by localized crises, by which we mean a high occurrence of commercial failure in projects, redundant infrastructures, 'ghost town' developments, and sporadic convulsions of social discontent. Drawing upon ethnographic and archival data, this paper asks: How does modular urbanism reconfigure local state power? How does it facilitate or frustrate local accumulation and state legitimation? What spatial patterns of project types and crises can we discern?

**China's engagement with neoliberal urbanism: The experience of Chongqing**

Roger Chan\* (The University of Hong Kong), Lingyue Li (Shanghai Academy of Development and Reform)

This paper seeks to engage in a discourse of China's ongoing urban development through the theoretical lens of neoliberalism. It takes decentralization and marketization as the governance background, and examines the evolving policies on land, housing, and public service in China, with a particular focus on Chongqing. The various mismatches under the evolving policies are also discussed. It concludes that there has been a re-regulation of the land, housing and public service markets in urban China in the post-reform era that manifests in a rescaling of statehood, recalibration of central-local relations and reinvention of urban governance. It involves a policy evolution from the market-socialism principle in the early reform period to a hybrid approach of matured state intervention.

## 5C Housing urban China (Diploma Suite)

Chair: Qiulin Ke (University College London)

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### **Reaching the destination of home: The housing relay race of Chinese young adults**

Wenjing Deng\*, Joris Hoekstra, Marja Elsinga (Delft University of Technology)

All over the globe, young adults have trouble finding stable, affordable, and independent accommodation. They increasingly rely on their parents when buying their first home ownership dwelling. This paper investigates this phenomenon in contemporary China. We argue that Chinese young adults are going through a “housing relay race”, in which parental background and intergenerational transfers play a crucial role. Our research is based on 31 in-depth interviews with young adults and their parents in the city of Chongqing. Using the metaphor of the “housing relay race”, we identify three types of “runners”. The “early-starters” become home owners as early as their first full-time job starts, or even before that, mainly due to the financial support of their parents. The “follow-uppers” usually become home owner several years after their first full-time job, and particularly so after they get married. Follow-uppers partly rely on their own economic capacity but they may also receive financial support from their parents, The “left-behinders” still live in parental or rental homes after marriage, due to lack of economic capacity on both the side of the young adults and the parents (and sometimes also due to different priorities in life). Our empirical evidence shows that, a few exceptions from successful entrepreneurs put aside, the presence of parental help is not easily compensated by young adults’ performance in the labour market.

### **Institutional reforms in urban housing in China and in The Netherlands: Urban housing for elderly, migrants and low income groups in China and The Netherlands**

Cor van Montfort\* (Tilburg University), Li Sun (University of Leeds), Ying Zhao (Renmin University)

In our paper we discuss institutional reforms in urban housing for elderly, migrants and low income groups in China and in The Netherlands. In both China and The Netherlands the question how to organize and finance affordable housing for these groups in a way that is sustainable for the future, is a social and political issue.

Despite huge differences between these countries, there are remarkable parallels that emerge in the issues on urban housing for immigrants, poor and elderly. As a result of social, demographic and economic developments in both countries existing institutions and relations between government, private parties and citizens are put under pressure. Existing rules and regulations (institutions) don’t always seem to fit to the new demands, but new configurations between government, private organizations and citizens – so called public-private mixes (Van Montfort & Sun, 2013) – are arising in both countries.

Our research shows that the problems that have to be solved in both countries are very similar, but that the solutions differ in both countries in terms of changing relations between state (national and subnational), market and civil society. In the long run legitimacy could become a problem in both countries (1) because of increasing differences in local service delivery (*‘poor’*), or (2) because of a feeling of native people of being subordinated by newcomers (*‘migrants’*), but also (3) because institutional arrangements don’t fit any longer the cultural values or historical developments in society in that specific sector (*‘elderly’*). To handle this dormant legitimacy problem may be the biggest challenge in both countries for the next decades.

### **Mobilising the welfare machine? A relational analysis of the resumed socialist concern in housing policy**

Mingye Li, June Wang\* (City University of Hong Kong)

In 2007, the state council of China declared a priority of expanding the coverage of social housing, upgrading slum areas, and more importantly, increasing migrant workers’ accessibility to housing. At the first sight, this seems to indicate a renaissance of socialist concern that has been absent thus criticized by many scholars since China’s housing reform. This paper nevertheless cautions the immediate cheers and call for exploration towards philosophical reasoning behind such measures and the logic of policy making process. Indeed, there is a resurgent reflection on the nature of welfare, evidenced by debates on the validity of productivist thesis after welfare expansion observed in post-crisis East Asia, and the comparative studies of workfare programs in the

UK, USA and South America. The two contradicting phenomena on the surface, nevertheless, put the issue of labour market governance to the fore in welfare regime studies. Moreover, the division between labour/non-labour has been further fragmented to the desired labour, categorised by socio-cultural characteristics like industrial sectors, education, and so on. As such, welfare that used to be envisaged as right and entitlement, can be made conditional by welfare-to-work policies, can be graduated in different zones or for different social groups, or be commodified such that accessible by those who can afford through self-entrepreneurializing. Drawn insights from preceding debates, this paper examines the social housing policy reform in two Chinese cities in different stages of economic development and thus adopts different strategies of urban growth. Note that, we do not aim to negate the social benefits of this policy. However, what we caution is how such social housing regime shapes the norm of citizenship and welfare regime by splitting society to different categories of labour-communities and differentiating their accesses to welfare. What concerns us is the interrelation between social housing regime and economic developmental strategies, which will help to illustrate the dynamic state, market, and society relations.

### **Bridging formal and informal dynamics of affordable housing development in urban China**

Shenjing He\* (The University of Hong Kong)

In China, rocketing housing price in large cities and limited provision of affordable housing have pushed many into despair. Adding to this problem is the urban-rural dichotomy that institutionalizes and perpetuates the inferiority of rural migrants in the city, who have amounted to more than 270 million in recent years. Central to the housing affordability problem haunting many Chinese cities is the predominant land revenue-driven urban growth model. Against this backdrop, different strategies have been developed both from top-down and bottom-up. On the one hand, the central government has announced an unprecedentedly large-scale affordable housing development plan to construct 36 million affordable housing units during the 12th five year plan (2011-2015). On the other, informal housing strategies are thriving on the collective land owned by villagers whose farmland has been encroached by the waves of urban expansion.

Seemingly, these two mechanisms of affordable housing development led by the state and the village collective respectively are targeting at different social groups and evolve along parallel paths independent of each other. However, both mechanisms closely hinge upon the dual land system and land provision mechanism and can complement and learn from each other. Based on a case study in Chongqing, I try to explore the connections between formal and informal affordable housing from two perspectives: (i) the ways in which these two processes are connected with local land development and financing strategies; and (ii) the extents to which formal and informal affordable housing affects residents' social mobility.

### **Informal employment and social production of space: A case study of day laborers in Hefei, China**

Yi Liu\* (Sun Yat-Sen University)

As the both special and normal group, migrant workers have already been the significant part of dynamics to boost the urban construction and social harmony. Many concerns on them in China have met a significant progress, which focus on their life traces, social identification and networks, urban integration and protection, crimes, and even their children's education and so on. This marginalized social group who mainly struggling in informal employment sectors, is continually reconstructing the urban social space. But still, the day laborers as a big part of rural migrants in China, are still conducting their social production of space. Differences from the normal rural migrants in cities, day laborers are willing to get engaged in informal employment and get paid daily. The selected case, open air day labor market of Zhantang Road in Hefei, contains around 2000 rural migrants, working as the paid-daily worker from building worker, carpenter, plumber, electric welder to upfitter, stevedore and cleaning staff. They live in the urban villages and hunt for jobs besides the cross roads before dawn. The social triangle interaction between day laborers, employers and the locals, directly affects the social connections, relationships and produces a relatively stable social space which as the representation of non-modernization and non-urbanism. In the context of rapid neo-urbanization in China, including the underway urban renewal, the employment discrimination and their lack of skills will block them to climb the social ladder. And the local government's policies seem seldom to improve the day laborers' employment and trust. So the improvement of this contradictory phenomenon of day laborers would be continuous till the elimination of urban villages and diversified increase of social employment.

## **5D Migrant residential patterns and integration (Nobel Suite)**

Chair: Si-ming Li (Hong Kong Baptist University)

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### **Housing trajectory divergence between skilled migrants and locals in urban China: A case study of Nanjing**

Can Cui\* (East China Normal University)

The last two decades have witnessed a substantial growth of the owner-occupied housing sector in urban China, where many people follow a conventional life-course in terms of ascending the housing ladder towards homeownership. Yet, with skyrocketing housing prices in the real estate market, fragmentation in housing opportunities has become more important in reshaping the structure of social inequalities. This paper investigates disparities in housing trajectories between skilled migrants and their local counterparts in urban China. Different from existing empirical studies on the “discrete event” (residential move, entry into homeownership) in the housing career, this paper focuses on the temporal and spatial aspects of housing careers. Specifically, the paper examines how skilled migrants’ housing tenure and location change over time, and to what extent do these changes differ from those of skilled locals. Adopting sequence analysis, the results show that skilled migrants exhibit an outward-bound pattern, which is often associated with the housing tenure change from renting to owning; while skilled locals are much more stable in terms of both tenure and location.

### **A new study on the effects of Hukou policy on migrants under the background of national economic change and gradual institutional reform**

Ming Tian\* (Beijing Normal University)

The hukou system, or household registration system, is viewed as one of the most important institutions affecting urbanization in China. Most related studies argue that the hukou system has been hindering the urbanization process and migration from rural areas to cities. According to the new guidance of the central government, China has gradually pushed the reform over hukou policies and regulations, as well as related measures. However, many migrants do not have strong intention to transfer their hukou to the cities. This paper addresses two research questions: what roles have the hukou system played in the urbanization process after China adopted the market economy, and why migrant population are reluctant to transfer their hukou status to the urban sector.

This paper tries to understand the evolution of the hukou system under the social and economic change in China, and analyzes the impacts of hukou on the size and direction of migration flows. First, it points out that the constraints brought by the traditional hukou status have been gradually reduced with social and economic progress, as many kinds of social welfare attached with hukou have been separated from it. Second, because of the unbalanced development between the rural sector and the urban sector and between large and small cities, the hukou status of some first-tier cities is considerably important for middle and high income groups, but does not matter much for common migrants with rural background. The effects of hukou differ significantly by region and social group. Finally, historically hukou reform was pushed by solving policy problems in reality, instead of being designed comprehensively and equally from the top. The current hukou reform is characterized by its graduality and path dependency, so many Chinese migrants have unstable expectation of their final settlement and face uncertainty and anxiety.

### **Residential satisfaction of migrants in an ordinary city of China, Wenzhou**

Sainan Lin\*, Zhigang Li (Wuhan University)

Although residential satisfaction has long been a major discussed topic in urban studies, most studies emphasize a relative small group of cities, particularly global cities. This paper, however, focuses on Wenzhou, a Chinese city that is rather ordinary in the global city networks. Drawing from a survey of 435 migrants and 20 in-depth interviews in Shuangyu, Wenzhou, this paper finds that the majority of migrants are dissatisfied with the current housing conditions. Migrants, particularly who live in the rented housing in urban villages are more dissatisfied with the housing than those who live in the factory dormitory. The factors influence residential satisfaction for migrants with these two different housing types are also vary. In general, income,

length of residence, housing cost and housing facilities significantly affect residential satisfaction. Some main social-economic factors, institutional factors, housing variables which are usually found important to residential satisfaction are not significant for migrants. It indicates that simply transferring migrants' hukou status from rural to urban or replace urban village with better apartment housing do not directly help to enhance migrants' residential satisfaction. Contradict to the findings in the megacities, providing better facilities is likely the most effective way.

### **Migrant integration in Beijing -- Transition from migrants to residents**

Siyao Liu\*, Fulong Wu, Fangzhu Zhang (University College London)

Studies on ethno-cultural enclaves and mixed neighbourhoods show a highly complicated relationship and a vague connection between integration into mainstream society and neighbourhood characteristics. Segmented assimilation theory and empirical study in ethno-cultural enclaves and mixed residential communities provide an insight that neighbourhoods may play either positive or negative roles in Chinese internal migrants' integration. This research aims to interrogate the potential correlation between the migrant integration and neighbourhood types. Via an anthropological approach--participant observation, qualitative data of migrant households' daily life in four neighbourhoods are collected and analysed. Then through ethnographic narrative, the processes of their different integration approaches are unfolded and the dynamics behind are clarified. The results illustrate that firstly neighbourhood type is significantly related to the outcomes of migrant integration; secondly different neighbourhoods provide various approaches for migrant to integrate into receiving city. The reason is that neighbourhood is an important space in which economic integration and acculturation happens or social networks are knitted. The existence or absence of above upward mobility in different neighbourhoods either provides pathways for the adaptation into a new urban society or the hindering of integration. However, insufficient interaction with neighbours may not necessarily mean unsuccessful integration into city as neighbourhood is not the only place for migrants to integrate, their upward mobility might be achieved outside the residential communities that they live in. As migrant integration is found significantly influenced by neighbourhood types, the finding develops segmented assimilation theory that spatial distribution is another determinant of integration. This detailed empirical investigation also fills the gap of Wu, F. and Logan, J.R.'s research which mainly focuses on the statistics without detailed neighbourhood level observation.

### **Immigration and residential differentiation: Hong Kong post-1997**

Si-ming Li\*, Huimin Du, Pu Hao (Hong Kong Baptist University)

Changing policy and socio-political environment impinges heavily on residential location, and hence the pattern and nature of spatial segregation/mixing of population groups at various junctures and geographical scales. In the case of Hong Kong post-1997, the return to Chinese sovereignty, ironically, has not reduced mainland-Hong Kong schism. Neither has China's recent re-ascendance as a leading world power helped cultivate national pride among Hong Kong Chinese. On the contrary, there has rising localism in Hong Kong accompanied by increasing stigmatization of recent immigrants from the mainland, including not only the low-status One-Way Permit migrants but also professionals and businessmen admitted under various schemes to attract mainland talents and capital, as people reaping the fruits of the hard labour of "local Hong Kong" and as agents of the Chinese Communist Party to undermine Hong Kong as a self-ruling entity. The present paper tries to provide an account of how this socio-political divide between recent mainland immigrants and local people is manifested residentially at different spatial levels: Primary (3 areal units), secondary (19 areal units), Tertiary Planning Units (289 areal units in the 2011 Population Census), and residential neighbourhoods (street blocks), and such differentiation is structured by policies affecting housing access and by mutual mistrusts between the two population groups.

## 5E Rural and suburban development 1 (Jasmine Suite)

Chair: Jie Shen (Fudan University)

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### **Smart small towns development model and space support: A case study about Tongzhou small towns in Beijing sub-center**

Peng Zeng, Liuhui Zhu\* (Tianjin University)

As a part of China's urbanization process, small towns have become important for the future urbanization and the key for breaking the urban-rural dual structure and optimizing the urban size-hierarchy system. Leap development and application in information technology and the Internet threaten to change traditional urban construction. So far, related scholars have done much researches on smart cities, but there is few research regarding smart small towns. Successful cases about smart cities on a worldwide scale are very few. However, the scale for the smart small towns would be more feasible for achieving smart development and effective advancing urbanization based on enormous and various small towns in China. Therefore, the paper focuses on smart small towns, and discusses their development model and space support.

The paper first analyses the advantages of smart small towns. Compared with smart cities, smart small towns have human-scale dimension, characteristic industries, and ways of cluster development, and are closer with environment. Compared to the traditional small towns, smart small towns, as their advanced form, have intelligent industries and more intensive, but balanced spatial arrangement, more environmentally friendly. The paper analyses space requirements from views of industries, people and environment, and summarized planning framework, including the modules regarding management, infrastructure, residence, industry, and the public service. The infrastructure module is the cornerstone of achieving smart small towns, and the management module promotes the development of residence, industry, and public service. The five modules make joint efforts to support smart small towns. Taking the smart construction of Tongzhou small towns in Beijing sub-center as an example, the paper explores existing problems of the current situation, and summarizes smart small towns construction contents, including building smart infrastructure, developing smart industries, creating smart and livable space, and upgrading management system to accomplish the goal of achieving smart small towns.

Authors' note: This project is supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (No:51678393) and The Ministry of Education Research in the humanities and social sciences planning fund (No: 14YJCZH195)

### **Beyond the edge and in-between: The making of Xintang an edge city in Guangzhou, China**

Hui Cheng\*, David Shaw (University of Liverpool)

Towards the end of 20th century, *polycentricity*, was introduced into China as a new planning concept. Subsequently a number of mega city-regions began to apply polycentric development spatial planning strategies designed to better facilitate more sustainable and balanced development by promoting sub-centres within urban settlements and new or expanded settlements at an intra-urban scale. Often intra urban scale development has been termed edge cities in the West, we argue that the so-called Chinese edge cities needs to be redefined through the lens of a polycentric framework in China. The analytical framework used in exploring Chinese edge cities includes three major themes: spatial location and spatial linkages; specialized function/functions; and, governance changes. From these perspectives this paper seeks to explore whether Chinese edge cities are well developed and formed at local level thereby helping to form a polycentric structure, by examining the changing dynamics in polycentric development processes of mega city-regions. The empirical basis of this paper is a case study of Xintang, planned as a satellite city within Guangzhou mega city-region. Xintang originated as an economic growth pole on the edge of Guangzhou central city and Zengcheng county-level city through a 'spontaneous' process led by private investors. It has now become a city in-between driven by both state interventions and local integrations.

### **Understanding heterogeneous suburbs in China: A case study of Jiangning New Town**

Tianke Zhu\* (University College London)

Chinese suburban residential landscape is emerging heterogeneous forms. Suburban China in its current forms are by means rapid process of land use transformation and spatial reconfiguration. Suburb growth in China play an important role not only in creating new physical space for decentralization and fast urbanization but also in providing locations for new properties including formal and informal settlements. The features are relevant but also distinct to the western theory of suburbanization. This article describes the diverse suburban residential development through in depth study on select representative residential neighborhoods in a new district of Nanjing, China. The roles of the state and market are mapped with the residential typology. Finally, this article provides a Chinese suburban model to reflect the modalities and mechanisms of suburban governance for global suburban study.

### **The political economy of urbanizing rural communities: Observations from Guangzhou, China**

Karita Kan\* (The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)

Taking Guangzhou as a case study, this paper examines the political economy of the urbanization of rural communities in Chinese cities. The urbanization of rural China has involved not only the large-scale expropriation of farmland but also the incorporation of large numbers of rural communities into urban systems of governance. Beginning in the 2000s, the policy of “converting villages into urban neighbourhoods” (*cungaiju*) has been widely implemented in major cities around China. The initiative targets villages located within the jurisdictional boundaries of cities and aims to integrate them into urban administrative systems. The administrative village is converted into the urban *shequ*, while villagers of these communities are given new status as urban residents.

In recent years, the administrative and fiscal relations between these newly urban communities and the local state have become a focal point of policy debates. On the one hand, the uneven and fragmented process of transition has meant that these communities have yet to be fully integrated into municipal finance and governance systems. While given urban household registration, rural-turned-urban residents do not yet enjoy the same welfare entitlements as do other urban-*hukou* holders. On the other hand, many of these semi-urbanized communities have access to collective resources such as land from which they can derive revenues for dividend distribution and public goods provision. Some have developed land-based shareholding mechanisms and established cooperatives and joint-stock companies to manage collective wealth and assign property rights. This paper examines how ongoing negotiations between state and village and between different levels and functional branches of the local state have contributed to re-adjustments in administrative and fiscal relations. In shedding light on the local political economy of the urbanization of rural China, this paper also problematizes the assumed linearity of urbanization processes as well as universalist conceptualizations of the urban.

### **Beyond the ivory tower: Universities and the (sub)urban growth machine in China**

Jie Shen\* (Fudan University)

While existing literature emphasizes the strong role of the state in China’s suburban growth, there is a noted lack of recognition of the non-state actors in the processes. Noting that the university town is a ubiquitous form of contemporary China’s suburbanization, this study focuses on universities as important agents of the suburban growth machine. The paper begins by examining the changing relationship between the universities and the cities under globalization and neoliberalization. It then develops a framework to understand the growth logic of universities and the mechanisms through which they engage in suburban development in post-reform China. This is illustrated through an intensive case study of the development of suburban university towns in Shanghai. Finally, the paper concludes with the main findings and provides broader implications.

## 5F Chinese urban systems and development (Palm D'or Suite)

Chair: Deljana Iossifova (The University of Manchester)

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### **Spatial-temporal evolution of urban systems in capital metropolitan area, China**

Huan Li\* (Nankai University)

In recent years, China is facing a new challenge of “city disease” in megacities. Building coordinated and healthy urban systems has been a major issue attracted both scholarly interests and societal concerns. This paper analyzes the evolution and mechanism of 35 cities in capital metropolitan area based on census 2000 and 2010 data. The result shows that allometry is the main characteristic of urban systems evolution, with megacity expansion, medium-sized city vacancy and small city contraction. Furthermore, the “rank-size” distribution of urban systems deviates from the optimal. A socioeconomic framework is developed to further investigate the mechanism of urban systems evolution. The result shows labor and capital inflow to megacities like Beijing for higher productivity and wages under market force. And the level of public good provision is much higher in megacities, which attracts migration for better life. Hence, this paper has two policy implications: (1) extend mega-city planning to mega-region spatial planning for regional collaborative development. (2) enhance public service facility of small and medium-sized cities to improve social equity.

### **What can Zipf's law tell us?**

Jiawen Yang\*, Guangzhou Wu (Peking University)

Power law, with Zipf's Law as a special case, has been a puzzling empirically-observed mathematic regularity for many social science disciplines such as geography, economics, and linguistics. Its multi-disciplinary popularity implies a reason deeper than the theories developed to explain size growth in any particular discipline. We hypothesize that power law serves as the most frequently observed mathematic regularity when size distribution has a zero-sum nature, and Zipf's law serving as the mode of a family of possible mathematic functions. This hypothesis is proved with functional analysis. While existing theories, such as random growth models or entropy maximization models (with hierarchical constraints), have been developed to explain why Zipf's law exists, they revealed sufficient, but not necessary conditions for its popularity. Zipf's law tells how scientists research this world more than how the studied entities actually grow.

### **The geography of city liveliness and consumption: Evidence from location-based big data**

Wenjie Wu\* (Heriot Watt University), Jianghao Wang (Chinese Academy of Sciences), Chengyu Li (Northeast Normal University), Mark Wang (HSBC Edinburgh)

Consumption amenities have been and will remain as an essential component for sustaining city liveliness. This is particularly the case in fast urbanizing countries where cities are much denser than developed countries. This paper explores the complexity in the connection between city liveliness and spatial configurations for consumptive amenities. The sources of this complexity are captured by an integrated spatial and temporal non-stationary modelling approach that estimates heterogeneous dynamics of the spatial-temporal process. City liveliness is measured by aggregated space-time human activity intensities using mobile phone positioning data from Beijing. Consumption amenities are identified by data from Chinese Yelp website (dian ping). We find that spatial configurations for consumptive amenities play a significant role in attracting human activity intensities, controlling for a wide range of locational-specific characteristics. Such effects vary substantially over space and during a 24 hours life span.

**Urban sprawl in Wuhan, Central China: A comprehensive analysis of surface changing patterns and government-led land development process behind at different administrative level**

Jiren Zhu\* (National University of Singapore), Yan Guo (Wuhan University)

The study of urban development form is intrinsically the analysis of land development, since the process of land development greatly influences the evolution of urban spatial patterns. While the wide application of remote sensing techniques and geographical information system have brought a boom of research work on investigating spatial patterns of urban sprawl across Chinese cities since the 1990s, the relationship between distinct spatial changing patterns and underlying determinants is hardly been clarified without exploring the local land development process under China's unique institutional background. More importantly, as pioneering mega-cities like Shanghai, Beijing, and Guangzhou discussed extensively in the majority of studies on Chinese urban sprawl, have shown a slowed trend of urban expansion rate during the last decade, the limited studies of recent fast-growing cities located in the less developed areas, has become a research gap. The main objective of this paper attempts to provide a comprehensive analysis of spatial-temporal patterns and driving forces of urban sprawl in Wuhan, Central China. Through employing Landsat TMs and Wuhan Land Use Survey Maps from 1990 to 2014, the first part of this research examines spatial configuration and changes of urban sprawl patterns in the scale of city development area, district, town/township level respectively, as well as quantified the changes by landscape ecological indices. Results indicate that before 2000, the urbanized area expanded compactly along transportation corridors and the urban center, with main types of infilling and edge-expansion; after 2000, the urban sprawl patterns prevail in suburban districts with outlying growth, creating a multi-nuclei urban development structure with fragmented clustering land patterns extended from the central city to the suburban districts. In the second part of this paper the authors link observed urban sprawl patterns with local land development structure and power relations, which are identified as main drivers based on outcomes of in-depth fieldwork conducted by the authors. The results reveal that there is a transformation of determinants shaping urban spatial patterns from transportation NO.A91 and geographical factors to land management intuitions regarding different levels. As the local land institutions emerged gradually in Wuhan's political hierarchy, the land development competition between district governments, the municipal government, and town-level governments has played a curial role on the evolution of urban structure and land sprawl in Wuhan. The information provided by the land development analysis ultimately helps tailor policies and plans for better land management and reduces fragmentation of new development in the municipality.

**Urban transformations in China: Linking soft and hard urban systems**

Deljana Iossifova\* (The University of Manchester), Ulysses Sengupta (Manchester Metropolitan University)

The change in the speed, scale and scope of urbanisation over the past decades and the emergence of different urban forms and constellations require the development of new analytical frameworks and practical tools to model, understand and manage sociospatial change. The increasing availability of urban data carries potential for the development of new methods for an evidence-based understanding of cities as interrelated and linked systems. However, existing approaches, such as smart or eco city strategies, do not offer an understanding of correlations and causalities between different urban systems. They fail to address the links between 'soft' (economic, ecological and social) and 'hard' (engineered) systems. This paper reports on progress and findings from the international and interdisciplinary project *Data and Cities as Complex Adaptive Systems (DACAS)*. Building on the increasing availability of (big) urban data, DACAS develops new analytical frameworks to understand urban processes. Rooted in a complexity science framework, the paper proposes appropriate interdisciplinary methods for the comparative analysis of soft and hard urban data sets. It asks: What kinds of urban systems exist in Chinese cities today and how have they changed over time? How are urban systems planned, financed, implemented, managed, maintained and improved? Which urban systems are linked with each other (e.g. health; local governance; regulation; finance)? Which strategies can be applied to 'future-proof' their provision? The paper presents initial protocols for interoperable models for the use of data to link hard and soft urban systems. It demonstrates how digital tools and technological applications can reflect urban complexity and the linked and relational behaviour of real urban systems to aid their planning and design in the context of rapidly urbanising China and beyond.

## Sessions 6: Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2017, 13:50–15:10

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### 6A Green urbanism and realities 2 (Booker Suite)

Chair: Shih-Shen Chien (National Taiwan University)

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#### **Challenges of Chinese eco-cities: A multi-perspective analysis of the current status**

Ali Cheshmehzangi\*, May Tan-Mullins, Linjun Xie (The University of Nottingham Ningbo, China)

It is decade past from China's first step towards eco-city development; a decade that has brought new development projects across the country, new policies and strategies as well as pilot cases with both national and local initiatives. In these last 10 years, China has proven to be at the frontline of eco-city development globally. Yet, through this route, there are some significant challenges and issues that have created different pathways of the first pilot projects. In this paper, we aim to look into these challenges from various forms of media and conduct a multi-perspective analysis of the current status. In this research paper, we first briefly explore the current status of Chinese eco-cities and then introduce six mediums/sources that cover both Chinese and Western overviews of eco-city projects in China. These mediums are oriented in three main bodies of 'academia', 'formal news' and the 'social media'. Finally, this research paper provides an analysis of these sources through a systematic approach and offers a multi-perspective analysis of the challenges that Chinese eco-cities are facing in general. The study would then suggest intensity of these challenges through a rating system across the studied sources. This research study also maps these challenges from various viewpoints and analyse the gaps, commonalities and disparities between them. Finally, this study develops a new approach in providing a list of challenges from multiple perspectives.

#### **Planning eco-cities in China: A politics of discursive competition among cities**

Yanyan Chen\* (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)

Over the past decade Chinese cities has seen a plethora of eco-city initiatives in urban plans. However, there is a paradox at the core of local enthusiasm for the emerging discourse. On the one hand, the translation of policy rhetoric into urban plans is still general and vague in essence. Inherited from the socialist planning in Soviet Union, the municipal government still pursued a comprehensive and planned approach in planning a visionary city. The environmental concerns did not go too far from those in the former plans, covering the basic aspects such as pollutant control, greenway system, natural preservation and aesthetic landscapes. On the other hand, the number of initiatives and pilot projects that seek to address environment appears to be rapidly proliferating. Whether this relates to specific policies, urban renewable programs, or even new technologies in architecture, the discourse of eco-city is increasingly attaching itself to the development of the city. As such, planning for an eco-city, by forcing ecological knowledge into development debate, reveals the essentially political nature of different levels and sectors of states as never before.

One major concern in this article is that how multiple, sometimes conflicting, goals will be achieve, and which will take priority. Particular focus is put on the diverse meanings of environmental discourse, and also the interaction between different state actors in planning practices. It is argued that, planning an eco-city in Shenzhen is more than a technical rationality, but as a deliberative agenda through which preferences might be shaped and modified. That is to say, the meanings are temporally fixed only to achieve a particular purpose by a specific group of actors. The environmental discourse in planning is purposively constructed by local agents, and their meaning is filled with complex intentions and interactions between different actors. The resultant discourse might influence join with the existing ideology, leading to another round of discursive process.

### **Comparative analysis of key environmental criteria: Chinese eco-city to Western city**

Austin Williams\*, Junjie Xi (Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University)

When people imagine an Eco-city, China or Abu Dhabi's tabula rasa solutions like Tianjin Eco-city and Masdar, surely spring to mind with 7 million and 4.5 million hits on a Boolean Google search respectively. These two have been developed as newly created urban areas, built from virtually nothing, with the intention to create a model city of inter alia, ecologically benign technology, public transport, fresh air and minimal carbon emissions. Using this conceptualisation, Eco-cities as they are commonly understood, could surely only proliferate in China: a vast country with large areas of notionally clear space (or the will to create large areas of open space), a pliant population, an authoritarian regime, vast amounts of money, a positive vision of the future, a desire to recover environmental credibility, local and national pride, a competitive spirit, and a belief in making things happen.

While Masdar has stalled somewhat, China's Eco-cities programme has grown from six Eco-cities in 2007, to 284 today. These statistics are clearly up for debate and definitional clarification but the Chinese government announced in 2010 that there would be 300 new cities built by 2025 of which approximately 20 would be Eco-cities. It now tells us that 42 percent of all Chinese cities are already, in some way, "eco".

To provide some clarity, and some comparative, competitive analysis, this research looks at a number of key performance indicators from Tianjin Eco-city set against New York and London. This is not an international comparison of Eco-City Frameworks exploring connections between Eco-cities but a comparison across non-Eco-prefixed cities and one of the most high-profile Chinese Eco-cities in the world.

### **Envisioning Pingdi International Low Carbon City (ILCC) in Shenzhen: Can we foresee a sleeping dragon?**

Ali Cheshmehzangi, Linjun Xie\* (The University of Nottingham Ningbo China), Frans Sengers (Utrecht University), May Tan-Mullins (The University of Nottingham Ningbo China)

In recent years, low carbon initiatives are on top of China's agenda for urbanisation and sustainable urban development. From the urban development perspective, 'Low Carbon cities' are developed by NDRC (National Development and Reform Commission), while 'Low-Carbon Eco Cities' are led by MOHURD (Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development). With two central actors at the national level, the low-carbon planning and innovations are expected to remain on top of the national agenda. In this research study, we intend to look into the case of Pingdi International Low Carbon City (ILCC) in Shenzhen, South China; a renowned project with strong low carbon attributes and aspirations that feed directly into national goals of sustainable cities and ecological civilization. By studying the case, we aim to elaborate on two questions of: 1) how the top-down initiatives unfold in the case of Pingdi ILCC? And 2) how a micro-scale project like Pingdi ILCC can feed into the national agenda of low carbon urbanisation? To answer these questions, the study proposes four case scenarios, assessed based on two elements of 'low carbon' and 'economy'. The four scenarios envision the future development of Pingdi ILCC based on its current status and include: 1) failure as a project from both economic and low carbon dimensions; 2) successful as an ecological park but with potential economic failure; 3) successful as an industrial park but with failure in low-carbon achievements; and 4) successful as a low carbon model with success in economic development. Based on these four scenarios, we assess the role of Pingdi ILCC in addressing the eco- and low carbon- promises of China.

## **6B Creating sustainable places (Turner Suite)**

Chair: Jung Won Sonn (University College London)

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### **How public? New public spaces in neoliberal Chinese cities: Case studies in Chongqing**

Yiming Wang\* (University of Technology Sydney), Jie Chen (University of New South Wales)

Since 1978 when the state replaced its development approach of 'self-reliance' by 'reform and opening-up', China has been experiencing a new form of urbanism under what David Harvey describes as 'neoliberalism with Chinese characteristics'. The turn to neoliberalism gives birth to new kinds of public spaces in Chinese cities. In the neoliberal urbanism, however, those new public spaces are highly privatised and commercialised. In existing literature, great scholarly attention has been paid to the social-political, economic and environmental consequences of China's neoliberal urbanisation. While, empirical studies on how this process has impacted the publicness of Chinese urban space can hardly be found in the mainstream research. Aiming at closing this gap, this paper assesses to what degrees public spaces newly emerged in the neoliberal urbanism of China are public. To this end, the paper proposes a scoring index building upon previous works. On this basis, case studies were carried out in Chongqing. The levels of publicness of three different kinds of new public spaces (a civil square, a shopping street in the CBD, and the open space in a shopping mall) were scored using the index. The case studies find that the newly emerged public spaces are generally in low degrees of publicness, but spontaneous social activities can still be observed in those spaces. Drawing on these findings, this paper argues that the rise of neoliberalism has made significant impacts on the publicness of urban spaces in Chongqing, but it does not necessarily lead to 'the end of public space' in the city. The ideas underpinning the policy-making process to balance economic growth under neoliberal urbanisation and social justice, therefore, need to be modified in the future.

### **Can building new towns reform China's housing model? An investigation of urban morphology, development history, and social perceptions in Liangzhu Cultural Village, Hangzhou, China**

Xi Qiu\* (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

China is searching for urbanization strategies that generate physically appealing cities while being environmentally and socially responsible. To encourage sustainable development strategies, in 2016, China announced to build 1,000 "characteristic new towns" by 2020. As one of the experiments preceding this policy, Liangzhu New Town was planned as a pioneering mixed-use community and a promising paradigm for a revised Chinese housing model. Liangzhu features historical heritage, novel architectural design, ecological setting, New Urbanist planning strategies, and is intended for middle-class and entrepreneurial audiences. Through archival research, fieldwork, and interviews, this study examines whether and how Liangzhu's morphological characteristics differ from the Chinese norm, how the project's design was conceived and enacted, and how Liangzhu's users – original inhabitants, new residents, and visitors – perceive its distinctions. In this experimental and partially successful project, I find that urban design greatly contributed to the qualities of its physical environment, including comprehensive program integration, tourist-friendly neighborhood environment, advocacy of communal culture, and a focus on improved livability and reformed social norm. Its novel spatial, environmental, and cultural characteristics are well-received by its users. I conclude that Liangzhu represents the fashion of new town ideology and marks a shift in China's housing development from a single-used gated community to a town, one that encompasses comprehensive services and attractive environment. This study demonstrates how design has enhanced livelihoods in China and how spatial characteristics have impacted lifestyles and brought about social change. Liangzhu experience offers valuable lessons for the ongoing development of housing and new towns in China's continued search for "ideal," "improved" urban life.

### **A comparison of perceived and geographic access to predict urban park use**

Dong Wang\* (The University of Hong Kong)

Park use and accessibility have been the focus of research in many green space studies, but the psychological study of behavioural intentions to use urban parks has rarely been investigated. This study proposes and evaluates an expanded model of the theory of planned behaviour (TPB) that incorporates the variables of perceived park accessibility, geographic proximity, and past use behaviour. The expanded TPB model was empirically tested using primary data collected from community level surveys in Brisbane, Australia, from two suburbs with contrasting socio-economic status. We compared the explanatory and predictive quality of the expanded model for park use with the general model of TPB and a model operationalizing the theory of reasoned action (TRA). Results from structural equation modelling (SEM) indicate that the expanded model with perceived accessibility has the best model fit and highest explanatory power, while also enhancing prediction of park use intentions. Moreover, our results indicate that perceived access is more important than geographic access or proximity in predicting park use. These findings suggest that physical park provision is a necessary, but insufficient condition to encourage greater park utilization. Park management should account for differentiated preferences and perceptions of park access to increase the collective benefits of urban parks.

### **Understanding urban design in contemporary China: A transnational perspective**

Fei Chen\* (University of Liverpool), James White (University of Glasgow)

China has entered a phase of slower growth allowing for some reflections about the role urban design plays in the city building process. In early 2016, the national State Council advocated for urban design to play a more prominent role in placemaking and, more broadly, cities across China have begun to engage in more sophisticated design governance. The aim of this paper is to investigate the relationship between urban design practice and the Chinese planning system and to understand the characteristics of design governance in Chinese cities. To do this, the paper will fuse two theoretical concepts: comparative planning cultures (Othengrafen 2012; Friedmann 1967) and urban policy mobility (McCann 2011; Healey 2013). The literature already tell us that China's relatively young planning system has learnt intensively from the West using concepts like 'new towns', 'green belt', and 'growth poles' (Li 2014; Yeh and Wu 1998) and, more recently, ideas about small blocks, dense street networks and open communities have been promoted widely by the central government. The fusion of comparative planning cultures and urban policy mobility provides a rigorous theoretical lens for analysing design governance in China. A policy mobility perspective will allow the research to reveal the origins, adaptation and mutations of planning policies and methods as they move from place to place, while a comparative planning cultures lens will shed light on the specific cultural characteristics of China's urban design and planning practice. The research will draw upon a document analysis of policies and plans and semi-structured interviews conducted in Nanjing, Shanghai and Shenzhen. The research will facilitate new understandings about the culture of Chinese urban design governance. It will stress the importance of context and comparison in the understanding of Chinese urban design and, more broadly, present a fresh conceptual framework for analysing its transnational diffusion.

## **6C Neighbourhoods in transition (Diploma Suite)**

Chair: Sun Sheng Han (The University of Melbourne)

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### **Urban transformation and the re-making of urban neighbourhoods in China**

Ya Ping Wang\* (University of Glasgow), Tao Sun (Nankai University)

Urban transformation has been a major research theme since the UN adopted the new global development agenda - Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. China is rapidly transforming from a rural based society to an urban society. Urbanisation, rural to urban migration and industrialisation in China have attracted the attention of researchers and policy makers around the world. ESRC, in collaboration with the Natural Science Foundation Council (NSFC) of China, has supported a series joint research projects on China's urban transformation. Research teams from University of Glasgow and Nankai have won a joint three-year research project on Re-making the Chinese urban Neighbourhood, with case studies in Tianjin, Chengdu and Hangzhou. This seminar will discuss the recent urban development and transformation strategies adopted by China and introduce this ESRC-NSFC funded project and report the progress made so far.

### **Neighborhood distribution in Chinese cities: A case study of Tianjin**

Chenguang Li\*, Xuan Sun, Tao Sun, (Nankai University), Ya Ping Wang (University of Glasgow)

Chinese cities grow very rapidly in the last three decades. New residential districts were continuously constructed in the suburban area, while the existing central areas saw large scale redevelopment. The old unitary urban social and economic landscape dominated by the socialist work units have been replaced by new forms of functional areas and residential differentiation and stratification. Existing research on Chinese cities tend to focus on the planning and development process, the new social and spatial structure is understudied. This research take a panoramic look at the outcomes of urban development, and seeks to reveal the spatial-temporal structure and typological characteristics of the existing urban residential space from the perspective of neighbourhood. We take Tianjin as a case study. Based on GIS and spatial analysis of neighbourhood data, we will establish the spatial distribution patterns of neighbourhood built at different times and the relationship between development model and urban residential structure in the city. The detailed features of the neighbourhood built during different periods will also be examined.

**The decline of danwei community from a multi-scale perspective: A case study of Honggangcheng community in Wuhan, China**

Yingzhi Qiu\* (Sun Yat-sen University), Zhigang Li (Wuhan University)

Facing the external and internal forces of globalization and transformation of China's institution, market and industrial structure, the collisions and frictions between spatial interests groups of different scales have intensified, which has resulted in profound changes in urban social space. Microcosmically, Danwei community as one kind of traditional communities in China is continuously disintegrating, reshaping the spatial structure and social network on the one hand and causing social problems on the other, which has always been a heat topic. Under the condition of supply-side structural reform and overcapacity reductions in iron steel industry, Wuhan Iron and Steel (Group) Company, one of the earliest and largest State-owned iron and steel enterprises in China, is going through a huge reform and restructuring, and its Danwei community "Honggangcheng" which has been declining during these years, is now facing a new wave of laid-offs. Through quantitative and qualitative analysis such as questionnaire, semi-structured interviews, this paper shows the manifestations of the decline of the Wuhan Iron and Steel Company and "Honggangcheng" community, and outlines a global - state - local - corporate four scale framework to analyze its causes. It can be concluded that the interaction between the strengthening of global production network, the structural transformation of the state, the entrepreneurship of the local government and the adventurous behavior of the enterprise in the process of globalization have led to the takeover of Wuhan Iron and Steel Company and the decline of "Honggangcheng" community.

**Beyond club theory: Rationalising new residential development in urban China**

Tingting Lu\* (University College London)

Gated communities are walled private neighbourhoods that emphasise private provisions and private governance. New residential development in urban China have been prevalently taking a gated form of since housing commodification. It provides an opportunity to understand how and why communities are privately provided and governed in the context of strong state's intervention in China. This study examines the development and governance of three empirical cases in the city of Wenzhou. It recognises a diversity of Chinese gated communities, i.e. market-led development, mixed development and state-led development, distinct from the experiences in Western countries. Furthermore, the privatisation of public goods and services provision in China is to reduce local governments' investments and administrative costs in the community level. Meanwhile, private community governance hardly represents homeowners' demand. As a result, gated residential development have attracted property buyers from the market, but failed to work as economic clubs that ensure residents to vote with their feet for choosing preferred provisions.

## **6D Migrant settlement decisions (Nobel Suite)**

Chair: Jie Chen (Shanghai University of Finance and Economics)

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### **Agent-based modeling of migrant workers residential dynamics within a mega-city region: The case of Pearl River Delta, China**

Juste Raimbault\* (Université Paris 7), Cinzia Losavio (UMR CNRS 8504 Géographie-cités)

Over the last three decades, rural-urban migrant-workers have been a driving force for China's economy, raising attention on associated socio-economical issues. However, the importance of their economic diversity and social mobility has been poorly considered in the analysis of urban development strategy. We use an agent-based model to simulate residential dynamics of migrants in Pearl River Delta (PRD) mega city region, taking into account the full range of migrants' socio-economical status and their evolution. Mega-city regions have become a new scale of Chinese State regulation, and PRD represent the most prosperous and dynamic one in term of migration waves, standing as an ideal unit of analysis. Our model unveils emergent patterns of dynamics, from micro behavior rules of discrete mobility choices. These choices are conditional to urban and economic environment, which evolution is controlled by meso-scale independent dynamics. The two scales are coupled through the dependence of discrete choice utilities to generalized accessibility that combines patch-level urban and economic context with a feedback of the dynamics themselves. This multi-scale aspect is crucial to distinguish endogenous from exogenous effects in regional migration patterns. We perform simulations to internally validate the model on synthetic data, by assessing statistical consistence and establishing phase diagrams across the parameter space. The application to the case study allows first to test how variation in socio-economic status yield more complex trajectories, and secondly to identify how the Party-State persist in controlling internal migration flows in a more sophisticated and strategically redefined way. Further work is directed towards a qualitative external validation of the model, by calibrating free parameters to reproduce meso-scale stylized facts, in order to guide interpretations of emergent outputs and potential policy applications.

### **Buying in or selling out? Development, identity politics, and the construction of enclave urbanism in post-riot Urumqi**

Lauren Hansen\* (Cornell University)

The rhythms of twenty-first century urbanization in Xinjiang make clear that development in the region is viewed as both an end in itself and, perhaps more importantly, a means of answering China's so-called 'ethnic question.' In other words, the state wagers that development can buy, if not a wholehearted embrace of Chinese governance, then at least material buy-in and, thus, its de facto acceptance of CCP rule among Uyghurs. The present academic focus on state-society relations in urban Xinjiang, however, has afforded scant consideration to the ways in which Chinese-style urban and economic development, with its particular system of constraints and rewards, reworks relations within Uyghur society. This paper makes use of fieldwork observations and semi-structured interviews conducted in Urumqi from 2013 to 2014 to more closely examine the evolution of class in contemporary Uyghur society and the impact of these changes on the city itself. I find that development has made (or perhaps made more obvious) a gulf between those Uyghurs who align with the state – at least insofar as they engage with institutions of the state in education, employment, and housing – and those who do not. Insofar as the rich and poor work Uyghurs in the private sector and have a differing degrees of cultural and religious autonomy, there is a qualitative tie that binds these groups in opposition to a Uyghur middle class composed largely of salaried public-sector employees. In this paper, I explore this both these emerging and mutually antagonistic ethnopolitical identities and their spatial expression within Tianshan District, a portion of the city often uncritically differentiated to outsiders only by its status as a Uyghur-majority area. I find that enclave urbanism in the Uyghur city is a both a product of and a response to an 'us-them' division based primarily not on a household's level of economic capital, but on whether that capital was obtained through public- or private-sector work.

### **Consumption structure of migrant worker families in China**

Guangzhong Cao\*, Kai Li, Tao Liu (Peking University)

This study draws on a survey of migrants in 12 cities across four major urbanizing areas in China and thoroughly investigates the urban–rural consumption structure of migrant worker families. Results show that the consumption structure of migrant worker families was dominated by survival consumption. These families tend to live frugally in cities while engaging in conspicuous consumption in their rural hometowns. The urban–rural consumption structure of migrant worker families is mainly shaped by their income stability and wealth levels rather than their current income level. Moreover, migrant worker families with high educational level and those who have intention to settle permanently in cities are likely to allocate substantial expenditure to status and hedonic consumption and upgrade their urban consumption structure

### **Economic incentive and settlement intentions of rural migrants: Counterfactual analysis approach for the case of China**

Jie Chen\*, Wei Wang (Shanghai University of Finance and Economics)

Rural migrants' permanent settlement in urban areas is central to China's social transformation from an agricultural society to a modern one. The emerging trend "Local Urbanization" of rural migrants' mobilization reminds us that driving forces of settlement intentions among China's rural migrants have been changing. Based on the nationwide micro-level data derived from the 2014 Dynamic Monitoring of Migrant Population, this paper attempts to enrich the existing literatures by employing counterfactual analysis method and investigating the effect of economic incentives on new-generation rural migrants' destination choice in the context of "Local Urbanization" trend. Binary logistic regression models found that economic incentive imposes a positive impact on the probability of rural migrants' urban settlement intentions with diminishing marginal effect. Furthermore, cohort differences in the marginal effect of economic incentive on rural migrants' settlement intentions are also identified, with respect to different stages of life, skill levels and forms of migration. And some valuable policy implications are drawn from the empirical analysis.

## 6E Rural and suburban development 2 (Jasmine Suite)

Chair: Nick Gallent (University College London)

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### **Urbanization, rescaling and transformation of village governance in China: A comparative case study of Beijing and Guangzhou**

Siu Wai Wong\*, (The Hong Kong Polytechnic University), Bo-sin Tang (The University of Hong Kong), Jinlong Liu (Renmin University of China)

Urbanization has increased the dependency of Chinese villagers on the income generated from their collectively owned assets. This trend underscores the importance of strengthening villagers' participation and capacity building to enable effective management of these assets and equitable distribution of their revenues. Based on intensive fieldwork, this study compares the evolution, processes and outcomes of shareholding and grassroots institutional reforms in two urbanizing villages in Beijing and Guangzhou. The comparison shows that the different approaches of shareholding reforms have resulted in the different outcome of power restructuring and rescaling between two levels of grassroots authority - Villagers' Committee and Villagers' Group (and their ancillary economic units). Such power restructuring and rescaling are critical in reshaping the institutional arenas for empowering villagers in the management of their collective wealth to defend their economic interests and welfare in rural-urban transition. Our findings shed new lights on how the collective regime has persisted in localities and explore its implications for ongoing property rights reforms and local governance restructuring in periurban China. Research findings of this presentation come from two studies funded by the Research Grants Council of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (Project No. F-PP29) and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (Project No. 4-ZZDY).

### **Transition narratives and fringes. The case of Hangzhou Zhejiang Future Sci-Tech City**

Valentina Anzoise\* (Ca' Foscari University of Venice)

The presentation focuses on the changes that Hangzhou, capital of Zhejiang Province and second largest metropolis in the Yangtze River Delta Region, has faced in the last 30 years due, on the one hand, to the implementation of different master plans and, on the other, to specific policies and regulations that favored also the presence of many non-state-owned industries.

In particular, the paper discusses the narrative(s) about Hangzhou urban development, modernization and "siliconization" embedded in the city planning – which intertwine also with other compelling discourses (i.e. sustainability, innovation and competitiveness) and national imperatives (e.g. New Urbanization Plan, Chinese Dream) – focusing on Yuhang district, annexed to the city in 2001 (together with another county, Xiaoshan) and now representing the city largest district. With this annexation the municipality solved the problem of land limitation to urban development and, as a matter of fact, the different rounds of administrative rescaling and adjustments have accelerated Hangzhou expansion and spatial restructuring and made it become a multi-nuclei city.

Presently, Yuhang district is experiencing a rapid development and in 2011 it was also awarded the national overseas high-level talents innovation base (demonstration zone together with Beijing, Tianjin, Wuhan) and it is now implementing the planning of Hangzhou Zhejiang Future Sci-Tech City (<http://www.zjfuture.gov.cn/english/>), which also host the Alibaba group headquarters. All over China, cities started to invest in the high-tech industry already in the late 90s but have intensified their efforts in recent years. Since then many development and high-tech zones have been planned but mainly as industrial zones with little consideration for services and quality of life. Indeed, Hangzhou Zhejiang Future Sci-Tech City presents a mix of residential, R&D and office uses, and lies on the city western fringe, in an area of great ecological value and relatively close to downtown. The paper, which is the result of one year of fieldwork conducted within the Europe Aid project MEDIUM ([mediumcities-china.org](http://mediumcities-china.org)), analyses the cascading effects - on landscape, environment, communities, etc. - triggered by such planning and discuss how these transformations are perceived and framed by the different stakeholders and populations coexisting in these dynamic (but also critical) social and geographical entities.

### **Weaving the fabric of urban-rural dichotomy: A revisit of suburb development in China**

Mingrui Shen\*, Jingxiang Zhang (Nanjing University)

Suburb is a long-standing but still contested arena, both in urban China studies and that of Anglo-American context. In Maoist China, suburb was designated as an administrative territory to support the urban-biased policies and moderate the institutional gap between urban and rural. During the early post-reform years, suburban area evolved as fringe of the ever-growing metropolis regions in coastal China, where McGee's desakota model applied. The new millennium witnessed a new era when new town construction characterized the suburbanization in China. By virtue of the deepening of land-related financialization, the urban-rural dichotomy was successfully manipulated by the municipal governments, by which they expanded the space of accumulation under strengthened fiscal and land controls and developed a metropolitan structure. Setting Yangzhou in Jiangsu Province as an example, this paper reviews the trajectory of suburb development of the city. It is asserted that suburb is a vibrant and ever-evolutionary cutting-edge amidst urban and rural China. The significance of suburb needs to be reconsidered from an urban-rural coordination perspective. As the metropolis region matures, more evidences that loaded the multi-faced values have been manifested in suburbia. Given that the urban-rural dichotomy still persists, suburbia weaves the associated fabric, and promotes the integration of the two.

### **China's national urbanization program: Party-state expansion and the end of the village**

Nick Smith\* (Yale-NUS College)

In March 2014, China's State Council released the National Plan for New-Type Urbanization, a groundbreaking policy document that articulated an explicit national policy to increase urbanization levels and decrease socio-spatial inequity. This paper addresses the potential consequences of this new policy program by investigating the implementation of its most important precursor—"urban-rural coordination" (chengxiang tongchou), many aspects of which have been incorporated into the national urbanization plan.

The paper investigates the municipality of Chongqing, one of the first, largest, and most important experiments in urban-rural coordination. Based on 18 months of ethnographic fieldwork, including interviews, document review, and participant observation, the paper explores the implementation of urban-rural coordination at a municipal level and its impact on the redevelopment of Hailong, an experimental village on the city's western edge.

Urban-rural coordination emerges as a project for the radical expansion of party-state power and an existential threat to China's villages. For decades, social justice in rural China has been based on the egalitarian redistribution of rights and resources within each village. The new urbanization program promises to rewrite this social contract, undermining existing village institutions and ensuring perpetual dependence on the redistributive justice of the party-state. Representing urbanization as a natural outcome of market reform, the party-state's policy programs depoliticize this urban expansion. But the reshuffling of urban-rural relations also creates openings for village actors to contest the party-state's hegemony. These actors advance alternative forms of urbanization rooted in their own visions for the just ordering of Chinese society.

Through this analysis, the paper also re-engages existing theories of urbanization through a Chinese lens, arguing that urbanization constitutes a process of institution-building. Rather than a by-product of reform-era marketization, China's rapid urbanization is inherently political and cannot be understood separate from the ideologies of its production.

**6F Urban shrinkage (Palm D'or Suite)**

Chair: Lachang Lyu (Capital Normal University)

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**Shrinking cities in urbanized China: The geographic diversity of state rescaling**

Yuanshuo Xu\* (Cornell University)

Shrinking cities has become one of the most critical challenges in urban societies. Despite of being extensively studied in Western countries, this issue is lack of being addressed in the developing world, especially in rapidly urbanized China. The “developing” tag is likely to covering the shrinking problem by diverting interests to the growing and mega cities. China’s urbanization model is different as it’s much state-led. As a strategic response to globalization, the state rescaling process in China is very active, constant, flexible and spatially selective. By repositioning cities and reconfiguring function of subnational government, this process has provided institutional driving forces in shaping divergent local development trajectories.

Many studies on the urban changes in China are largely in non-scalar languages. Rescaling studies also tend to focus on growing city-regions. Few have shed light on how it creates regional disparities and shrinking cities. The neighboring effects on urban transformation are also barely addressed. Other problems of shrinking city lie in the simplification of measurement (population) to fail convey other aspects of urban shrinkage, and the inadequacy of empirical technique to achieve regional context-specific explanations of mechanisms.

Therefore, this research measures shrinking cities in China and explore its spatially varied mechanisms from the perspective of state rescaling and inter-city interaction. Using remote sensing data, and the Census and city statistical data, we develop a comprehensive metrics from demographic, socioeconomic, geospatial, and urban morphological dimensions. A typology of urban shrinkage is created to identify problematic regions and regional problems. Spatial topology of shrinking clusters and “prey-predator” pattern is examined via the local spatial autocorrelation (LISA) analysis. Spatial regression models further show these neighboring effects statistically. Moreover, the spatially varied mechanisms with emphasis on state rescaling of urban shrinkage is modelled by Geographic Weighted Regression to unfold the mechanisms and regional patterns across spaces.

**A successful step from urban shrinkage to urban growth: A case study of Jiaozuo, one of the resource-exhausted cities in China**

Fengbao Liu\*, Xigang Zhu, Jianshu Li, Yang Zhou (Nanjing University)

Urban shrinkage has become one of the huge challenges faced with by resource-exhausted cities in the process of economic transformation and upgrade in China. How to solve urban shrinkage and accomplish urban growth has become a very practical project for resource-exhausted cities in China during transformation period. This paper takes Jiaozuo, ever a traditional industrial city based on coal resource, as an example and attempts to use a typical case to analyze how shrinking cities develop from prosperity to shrinkage and from shrinkage to growth, and accomplish urban regeneration. The study firstly shows that Jiaozuo has been caught in strong path dependence on coal resources type industry for a long time, therefore leading industry fades away, economic activity gradually declines, and population frequently outflows along with the exhaustion of coal resources, which, together with the aging population, result in urban shrinkage. In addition, the urban shrinkage of Jiaozuo doesn’t exist on its own independent of the urban growth, they, however, coexist in different urban development periods and municipal districts, and are actually in a unity of opposites. Furthermore, the endowment of natural and cultural resources, the injection of diversified capital, the control and guidance of urban planning, the active adjustment of urban development strategy and so on promote the transition from urban shrinkage to urban growth of Jiaozuo. Research suggests that most of the resource-exhausted cities face the shrinkage pressure in China, the process of which getting rid of urban shrinkage is actually a social transformation process of leading industry reengineering, ecological environment remodeling, land space restructuring, cultural restructuring and governance logic transforming. This paper hopes to provide other similar shrinking cities with certain reference by studying the successful step from urban shrinkage to urban growth in the end.

### **Shrinking cities and China's resource-based economy**

Sylvia He\* (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)

Resource-based cities play a crucial role in China's economic development. However, they are faced with the challenge of urban shrinkage due to the slowdown of economic growth in China, single industrial structure and the 'boom and bust' industrial cycle. To reverse the expected decline of these cities in the future, the Chinese Government has implemented active policies at national, provincial and municipal levels. This paper reviews the current planning policies and practices in resource-based cities in China from the macro perspective, and analyses how the Government engages with the pressing economic problems faced by resource-based cities, in particular, focussing on economic restructuring. To further analyse the policies from Central Government and the diversification of practices in local contexts, this paper presents two case studies, a petroleum mining city (Daqing City) and a coal mining city (Pingxiang City). Through discussion and an evaluation of general and place-based policies and practices for resource-based cities, this paper aims to enhance the understanding of shrinking cities in China and shed light on the policy-making of economic development for other resource-based cities in developing countries.

### **General growth and local shrinkage of urban agglomeration: Evidence from the urban agglomeration in the middle reaches of the Yangtze River, China**

Helin Liu\*, Yuping Dong, Huayuan Deng, Yidong Hu (Huazhong University of Science and Technology)

China has experienced rapid urbanisation since its reform and opening up policy and now it is stepping into an urbanisation stage with urban agglomeration as its core spatial embodiment. Thus, urban agglomerations in China are expected to act as the engines for growth and innovation, with ever-increasing population and GDP. Yet, underlying this general growth phenomenon there are stories of urban shrinkage if we zoom in and look into the development of cities within urban agglomerations. Taking the urban agglomeration in the Middle Reaches of the Yangtze River (Central Triangle of China) as the case, this paper finds that the central part of China has experienced population shrinkage while the west and the east regions have seen population expansion. This means that in the last 15 years the central part of China has in fact suffered from shrinkage in the perspective of population change. However, as the comparatively densely populated region in the middle part of China, the Central Triangle has sustained its population growth with most of the influx population concentrated in the three core metropolises, resulting in population shrinkage in the periphery cities. This finding indicates that the development of the Triangle of Central China now still features centralisation rather than dispersion. Different from this conclusion, if we go much closer and examine the three central metropolises, it shows a different development pattern. That is, the increase percentage of population in the very core districts of each metropolis is moderate and there are even some districts outside the core having slight population increase. It indicates the occurrence of the trickle-down effect within the boundary of the core metropolises.

