



JESUS COLLEGE
CAMBRIDGE

China Forum Annual Report

Study the
past to
understand
the present

鑒古知今

October 2021 – December 2022

1. CONTEXT AND AIMS OF THE CHINA FORUM

The China Forum, Jesus College, was formed from the restructured former China Centre, Jesus College. The restructure included the change of name of the Centre and a change in its funding model.

The restructure aimed to:

- remove confusion about the Centre’s purpose and activities
- make the Centre’s aims and funding fully transparent
- enhance the Centre’s governance

(Further details are included in Section 3 of this report.)

The decision to establish the China Centre was taken while Professor Ian White was Master of Jesus College. The decision was supported by the University. The context for establishing the China Centre was the dramatic change in China’s role in the world during the era of Reform and Opening-up, which greatly changed the global economic, technological and political environment.

In October 2019, Sonita Alleyne OBE became Master of Jesus College and began a review looking at all College activities and historic collaborations. In June 2021 College Council commissioned a detailed review of the China Centre by a panel of College academics. The Review was subsequently considered by Council and the recommendations were accepted.

The China Forum aims to deepen mutual understanding between China and the West by ‘studying the past to understand the present, 鉴古知今’ (jian gu zhi jin). The Forum organises and hosts interdisciplinary academic seminars involving scholars, policy makers and business people. The seminar programme represents a wide array of views in order to contribute to mutual understanding between China and the West. The target audience for the China Forum seminars is the academic community within both the College and the wider University.

The China Forum does not undertake research or executive education.

The China Forum is committed to maintaining academic freedom, including freedom of speech and expression.

Global challenges confronting humanity include health pandemics, species extinction, global warming, inequality of income and wealth, concentration of global business power, and instability of the global financial system. Both developed and developing countries are searching for non-ideological and pragmatic governance of the global political economy in order to meet the common interests of humanity, present and future.

Appreciating the history of China’s philosophy, politics, economy, society and culture enables a greater understanding of China today, and can contribute to harmonious global governance at this crossroads in human civilisation.

2. PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

This report provides a detailed account of each of the seminars hosted by the China Forum during the period covered by the report. It also includes a list of seminars hosted prior to this period, as well as details of the marketing of the seminar series.

The report includes markers relating to the China Centre Review – both matters already addressed, matters in-hand and matters still to be addressed.

This report also outlines the Governance, Personnel and Finance arrangements of the China Forum.

It is hoped that this report will provide useful feedback to Society, the wider College community, the University community and the public on the work of the China Forum. This report will be published on the China Forum webpage, which is publicly accessible.

3. CHINA CENTRE REVIEW

A review of the China Centre was undertaken by the College in 2021-22. The recommendations of the China Centre Review were accepted and approved in full by College Council in 2022. College Council agreed a remit for the China Forum to continue operating until the end of the 2026-27 academic year in the first instance. A further working party has been agreed by College Council to consider the long-term future of the China Forum.

The following changes have been made in relation to the structure, governance and funding of the China Centre/Forum:

- Professor Hans van de Ven was appointed as Deputy Director in July 2022.
- From 1 August 2022, the China Centre was renamed the China Forum and the China Centre Advisory Committee was expanded and renamed the China Forum Committee (CFC). A more even gender balance was achieved in the Committee membership. Further appointments to the CFC could be made within the existing Terms of Reference, if deemed beneficial. The CFC Management Group was formed, comprising the Director, the Deputy Director, and one College Fellow (Dr Howlett). It first met in April 2023.
- An agreed structure is in place for seminar topic and speaker suggestions to be put to the Director of the China Forum. The Director and the CFC continue to discuss the circulation of seminar invitations and the possibility of hosting further Fellows' China Days. Seminars are not recorded and as far as possible offer a safe academic environment for people to share their views and ask questions. The gender balance of seminar speakers is now more even and continues to be reviewed, and more Cambridge academics have been invited to speak in the seminar series.
- From the start of the 2022-23 academic year, the China Forum has been funded direct by Jesus College and all funding from the Cambridge China Development Trust (CCDT) ceased. At the same point CCDT vacated the two offices in West Court that had been leased from the College.
- The China Forum webpage was updated in line with the suggestions of the China Centre Review.

4. GOVERNANCE: CHINA FORUM COMMITTEE AND CHINA FORUM MANAGEMENT GROUP

The governance of the China Forum falls under the remit of the College's China Forum Committee, which is composed of representatives from the fellowship, the student body, the wider University, and external members. Towards the end of the 2021/22 academic year, following College Council's acceptance of the recommendations of the China Centre Review, the China Centre Advisory Committee was renamed the China Forum Committee, and the Committee's Terms of Reference were updated and its Membership broadened to additionally include:

- the Deputy Director of the China Forum (ex officio);
- up to five Fellows (formerly three);
- up to three persons appointed by Council for their special expertise (*at present Dr Paul Aiello [1987] and Professor Huaichuan Rui serve in this capacity*)
- up to three distinguished China scholars from the University, appointed by Council (*at present Dr Heather Inwood serves in this capacity*).

The China Forum Management Group was set up at the end of the 2021/22 academic year. It currently comprises the Director and Deputy Director of the China Forum and one Fellow.

5. CHINA FORUM PERSONNEL

College Council appointed Professor Peter Nolan CBE to be the first Director of the China Centre, now the China Forum. Professor Nolan held the Sinyi Chair in Chinese Management in the Judge Business School, and holds the University's Chong Hua Chair in Chinese Development (emeritus). He was the Founding Director of the University's Centre of Development Studies. He has been a Fellow of Jesus College since 1979 and was Director of Studies in Economics in Jesus College from 1980-97.

In 2022 College Council appointed Professor Hans van de Ven to be Deputy Director of the China Forum. Professor van de Ven is a Deputy Vice Chancellor and Professor of Modern Chinese History in the University, and Fellow and Director of Studies at St Catharine's College. He is also Visiting Chair Professor in the Department of History at Peking University.

The China Forum has one Senior Research Associate, Tim Clissold (1979). Mr Clissold graduated in Physics and Theoretical Physics from Jesus College.

The posts of Director, Deputy Director and Senior Research Associate in the China Forum are non-stipendiary. The China Forum has a part-time administrator, Denise Hayles.

6. CHINA FORUM SEMINAR SERIES

The members of the China Forum Committee put forward suggestions for seminar speakers and topics at each meeting. In addition, suggestions for speakers and topics are invited from Society in each seminar invitation and from the College's student body, research associates and staff via the (usually twice termly) mailings in which the China Forum (usually) half-term cards are circulated. A number of colleagues from within the College and the wider University have also made suggestions for seminar speakers and topics direct to the Director of the China Forum.

The following virtual China Forum seminars have taken place in the period October 2021 – December 2022. (Seminars from Lent Term 2023 onwards will be included in the next China Forum Report.)

MICHAELMAS TERM 2021

Challenges to sustaining China's economic growth

Professor Dwight H. Perkins

Wednesday 13 October 2021, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar



The China Centre lecture on Wednesday 13 October 2021 was delivered by **Professor Dwight H. Perkins**, Harold Hitchings Burbank Research Professor of Political Economy, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University.

Professor Perkins' lecture addressed the economic challenges that face China. He emphasised that China has essentially resolved its housing and transport challenges. He focussed on two key issues. Firstly, he examined the human resources challenge. In Professor Perkins' view, ageing is not the main human resource problem facing China. China has a low retirement age and raising the retirement age would do much to avert an ageing crisis. Instead, he considers that education is the principle human resource challenge. China has achieved a rapid increase in the share of the population in tertiary education. However, a large share of the working population has only achieved lower middle school education level. As labour demand shifts towards more knowledge-intensive employment, a large uplift in the general education level will be necessary.

The second issue he examined was the ecological and environmental challenge. He emphasised that China has made enormous progress in expanding solar, wind, and nuclear generating capacity, as well as upgrading the grid system and developing electric vehicles. However, he emphasised that even though the share of coal in China's electricity production is falling, the absolute level of coal production is still high. Professor Perkins explored a range of possibilities for the contribution of coal to China's electricity production and the challenges these would pose for China's carbon neutrality goal. He stressed that the rate of technical progress across the energy value chain is a key element of unpredictability in calculations about the future role of coal in China's energy structure.

A range of issues was explored in the Q&A session. These included the implications of a shift towards the service sector in China's economic structure; the role of competition policy in China; the significance of China's 'common prosperity' policy; the nature and extent of wealth distribution in China; and the comparison between public goods provision in China and the USA.

Dwight H. Perkins is the Harold Hitchings Burbank Research Professor of Political Economy of Harvard University, where he joined the faculty in 1963. Previous positions at Harvard include Harold Hitchings Burbank Professor of Political Economy, 1963-2006; Associate Director of the East Asian (now Fairbank) Research Center, 1973-1977; Chairman of the Department of Economics, 1977-1980; Director of the Harvard Institute for International Development (HIID), the University's former multi-disciplinary institute for

research, teaching, and technical assistance on development policy, 1980-1995; and Director of the Harvard University Asia Center, 2002-2005.

Professor Perkins has authored or edited twenty-five books and over one hundred articles on economic history and economic development, with special references to the economies of China, Korea, Vietnam and the other nations of east and southeast Asia. Topics include the transition from central planning to the market, long-term agricultural development, industrial policy, the underlying sources of growth in East Asia, and the role of economic and legal institutions in East Asian growth.

He has served as an advisor or consultant on economic policy and reform to the governments of Korea, China, Malaysia, Vietnam, Indonesia, and Papua New Guinea. He has also been a long-term consultant to the World Bank, the Ford Foundation, various private corporations, and agencies of the U.S. government, including the U.S. Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations (then chaired by Senator Henry M. Jackson). He has been a Visiting Professor or Scholar at Hitotsubashi University in Tokyo, the University of Washington, and Fudan University in Shanghai. He also served as a Phi Beta Kappa Lecturer at eight colleges and universities around the U.S. in 1993-94. In 1997 he taught for a semester at the Fulbright Economic Training Program in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, and has continued to teach in that program for several weeks each year since 1997. He has given individual lectures to numerous audiences in the U.S., Asia, Europe and elsewhere.

Dwight Perkins served in the U.S. Navy (active duty 1956-58), received his BA from Cornell University in Far Eastern Studies in 1956, and his MA and PhD in economics from Harvard University in 1961 and 1964. He is a member of the American Philosophical Society and of various professional organizations in the fields of economics and Asian Studies.

US Grand Strategy and intellectual and political exchange among the US, China and Europe

Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs

Wednesday 20 October 2021, 4.30 – 5.15pm, virtual seminar

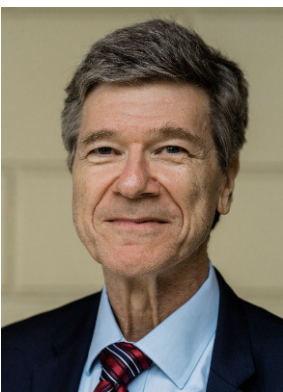


Photo credit: Gabriella C. Marino

The China Centre lecture on Wednesday 20 October 2021 was given by **Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs**, University Professor and Director, Center for Sustainable Development in the Earth Institute, Columbia University; SDG Advocate for UN Secretary-General António Guterres on the Sustainable Development Goals; and President of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network.

Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs' lecture addressed the relationship between China and the USA. In Professor Sachs' view, China is not a 'hegemonic aspirant' but it has the capabilities necessary to re-assume the place in the world that it formerly occupied. Jeffrey Sachs observed that China's escape from poverty is a major development achievement, while Huawei's 5G capability has the potential to make a valuable contribution to upgrading the world's telecommunications system. China has no wish to take over the world, but the USA is reluctant to relinquish its own hegemonic position. Professor Sachs expressed concern that the USA is tipping the world into a New Cold War. A consensus has developed across the American political spectrum in which China is regarded as an adversary. Jeffrey Sachs expressed concern at the negative attitude towards China adopted by NATO, which was established with the purpose of containing the USSR. He cautioned that US policy on Taiwan risked provoking confrontation with China. Repeated reference to the possibility of a 'Peloponnesian War' risked contributing to that very outcome. Professor Sachs emphasised that dialogue with China was essential to the resolution of common challenges such as climate change.

A wide array of issues was raised in the Q&A session. These included: the role of the CPC in relation to human rights and individual freedom in China; the significance of increased business activity by Western financial firms in China; the choices facing China in response to the rise of Western hostility; the role that UN-based institutions can play in achieving a cooperative outcome for the relationship between China and the West; the lessons that can be learned from the Cuban missile crisis for US-China relations; the positive role that cooperation can play in international relations; the dangers posed by informational asymmetry and misunderstanding of intentions in China and the USA; and the role of Confucian and Aristotelian philosophy in the UN Declaration of Human Rights.

Jeffrey D. Sachs is a world-renowned economics professor, bestselling author, innovative educator, and global leader in sustainable development. He is widely recognized for bold and effective strategies to address complex challenges including debt crises, hyperinflations, the transition from central planning to market economies, the control of AIDS, malaria and other diseases, the escape from extreme poverty, and the battle against human-induced climate change.

Professor Sachs serves as the Director of the Center for Sustainable Development at Columbia University, where he holds the rank of University Professor, the university's highest academic rank. Sachs held the position of Director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University from 2002 to 2016. He is President of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network, a commissioner of the UN Broadband Commission for Development, and an SDG Advocate for UN Secretary General António Guterres. From 2001-18, Sachs served as Special Advisor to UN Secretaries-General Kofi Annan (2001-7), Ban Ki-moon (2008-16), and António Guterres (2017-18).

Jeffrey Sachs has authored and edited numerous books, including three *New York Times* bestsellers: *The End of Poverty* (2005), *Common Wealth: Economics for a Crowded Planet* (2008), and *The Price of Civilization* (2011). Other books include *To Move the World: JFK's Quest for Peace* (2013), *The Age of Sustainable Development* (2015), *Building the New American Economy: Smart, Fair & Sustainable* (2017), *A New Foreign Policy: Beyond American Exceptionalism* (2018), and most recently, *The Ages of Globalization: Geography, Technology, and Institutions* (2020).

Professor Sachs was the co-recipient of the 2015 Blue Planet Prize, the leading global prize for environmental leadership. He was twice named among *Time* magazine's 100 most influential world leaders and has received 35 honorary degrees. The *New York Times* called Sachs "probably the most important economist in the world," and *Time* magazine called him "the world's best-known economist." A survey by *The Economist* ranked Sachs as among the three most influential living economists.

Prior to joining Columbia, Professor Sachs spent over twenty years as a professor at Harvard University, most recently as the Galen L. Stone Professor of International Trade. A native of Detroit, Michigan, Jeffrey Sachs received his BA, MA, and PhD degrees at Harvard.

Carbon neutrality: how fast can China go?

Professor Pan Jiahua

Thursday 21 October 2021, 10 – 11.30am, virtual seminar



The China Centre lecture on Thursday 21 October 2021 was delivered by **Professor Pan Jiahua**, Member of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and Professor of Economics and Director, Institute of Ecocivilization Studies, Beijing University of Technology.

Professor Pan Jiahua's lecture took place shortly before the COP 26 meeting in Glasgow. He located China's policies towards climate change within the context of

global efforts to combat climate change in recent decades, including the formation of the IPCC, the Kyoto Protocol, the Copenhagen Accord and the Paris Agreement. Professor Pan traced the evolution of global climate change targets, culminating in the target of 'net zero' included in the Paris Agreement, with 'common but differentiated responsibilities'. Ensuring equitable access to electricity for the population of developing countries has been a key issue throughout, involving a complex relationship between the interests of rich and poor nations.

Professor Pan stressed the tremendous technical progress in energy technologies, which has accelerated in recent years. These technologies have played a central role in China's efforts to combat climate change. The high-speed expansion of solar and wind power in China has been accompanied by a relentless decline in the cost of renewable power and an increase in its competitiveness compared to fossil fuels. Professor Pan analysed the progress in China's thermal generation technologies, but emphasised that it is impossible to reach net zero by relying on thermal power. China's leaders have made clear that a technological revolution in both energy supply and demand is necessary for China to achieve its net zero goal. Professor Pan stressed the tremendous opportunities that exist for innovation in technologies necessary to achieve net zero. He noted that China's increased reliance on renewable energy sources has significant security implications, by reducing its dependence on fossil fuel imports.

A number of issues were addressed during the Q&A session. These included: the role of public transport in meeting China's net zero goal; the impact of China's net zero goal upon urban planning; the role of consumer choice, building technologies, new battery technologies and hydrogen-based technologies in achieving China's climate change goals; and the impact of China's climate goals upon the location of industry and urban centres of population.

Professor Pan Jiahua received his PhD in Environmental Economics from the University of Cambridge. He is currently a Member of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and Director of the Institute of Eco-civilization Studies, Beijing University of Technology. He is President of the Chinese Society of Urban Economics, Vice President of the Chinese Association for Research & Promotion of Eco-civilization, Vice Chair, National Expert Panel on Climate Change in China, IGS (Independent Group of Scientists, appointed by UN Secretary-General for drafting GSDR2023) member, and lead author, IPCC Working Group III on Mitigation. He was formerly Director-General of the Institute of Eco-civilization Studies, Chinese Academy of Social Science, member of Foreign Policy Advisory Group, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Senior Economist, IPCC Working Group III, and Senior Programme Officer, UNDP Beijing Office.

Professor Pan Jiahua's areas of research include sustainable urbanization, energy and climate policy, and new ecological economics. He was awarded first and second prizes for best research work, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (2002, 2004 and 2013), Sun Yefang Award of Economic Sciences (2011), China Green Person of the Year 2010/2011 and China Environment Prize (2016).

Xinjiang: Pivot of Asia

Professor Michael Dillon

Associate Professor Ildikó Bellér-Hann

Tim Clissold

Wednesday 27 October 2021, 4 – 6pm, virtual seminar

The China Centre seminar on Wednesday 27 October 2021 took the form of a set of three short lectures on the topic Xinjiang: Pivot of Asia, followed by an extended Q&A discussion. The three speakers were **Dr Ildikó Bellér-Hann** (Associate Professor, Department of Cross-Cultural and Regional Studies, University of Copenhagen), **Professor Michael Dillon** (Professor, of History and Affiliate of the Lau China Institute,

King's College London), and **Tim Clissold** (Senior Research Associate, China Centre Jesus College, and author of three books on China, including *Mr China*).



Dr Bellér-Hann analysed the way in which the classification of ethnic groups in China has changed over time. She argued that the popular representations of the Uighurs are over-simplified. In fact, there is wide diversity of identities among the Uighurs, which is obscured by the blanket term 'Muslim Uighurs'. The period since 2000 has seen the development of new attitudes towards religiosity among the Uighurs, which involve the spread of personal piety, 'reforming the self' and 'Islamic clothing', most notably in the practice of veiling. Dr Bellér-Hann explored the links between Islamic fundamentalism in Xinjiang and the process of Islamic renewal across the Muslim world. She examined the links between Western Islamophobia post 9/11 and the growth of a movement for an 'Independent Islamic State' in Xinjiang. Finally, she explored the contradictions of rapid modernisation of Xinjiang, which has been sustained by a high rate of investment from both state and private entities.

Professor Dillon analysed the historical origins of the conflict in Xinjiang. He drew attention to the impact that the collapse of the Soviet Union has had upon Xinjiang, due to the tremendous changes this brought for the vast territories in Soviet Central Asia, which have large Muslim populations. He presented a detailed account of the physical transformation of cities in Xinjiang, with systematic reconstruction of old buildings, which has taken place also across the rest of China. Urban reconstruction has included residential buildings, markets and mosques, which have produced a radical transformation of the urban landscape in cities such as Kashgar, Khotan and Urumqi.



Tim Clissold approached the situation in Xinjiang from the perspective of conflict resolution. This approach involves (1) understanding how the current situation has been arrived at; (2) the 'red lines' for each side in a conflict; and (3) the 'fuzzy area for manoeuvre'. In the case of Xinjiang this requires understanding the complex history of Xinjiang and the region's relationship with the rest of China over the course of 2000 years; recognition of the complex setting of Xinjiang with multiple borders with surrounding countries; recognition of the reality of serious violence over many years in Xinjiang; recognition of the Uighurs' rights to maintain their customs and religious freedom; and understanding that since the Zhou Dynasty, the pursuit of national unity and political stability has been central to Chinese political philosophy.

A wide range of issues was addressed during the Q&A session. These included the following: nationalism and the construction of the nation state in 19th century Europe; the significance of the situation in Xinjiang for the relationship of the University of Cambridge with China; comparison of the situation in Xinjiang with that in Kashmir; the views of Han Chinese about Xinjiang; the potential role of business to contribute to harmonious development of Xinjiang; the role of state and private business in Xinjiang's economy; the role of Uighur students in Western universities; the occupational differences and power relations within the Uighur community in Xinjiang; and the consequences for Sino-Western relations that arise from the use of the word 'genocide'.

Dr Ildikó Bellér-Hann is Associate Professor of Central Asian/Turkish Studies at the University of Copenhagen. After studying Turkish, Archaeology, and English at the Lórand Eötvös University in Budapest, she received her PhD from the University of Cambridge, UK (in Turkish) and her habilitation degree from the Humboldt University, Berlin (in Central Asian Studies). She has held positions at Newnham College, Cambridge, the University of Kent at Canterbury and the Martin Luther University in Halle, Germany. Her main interests span

the histories and societies, historical anthropology, social support networks, kinship, and oral and literate traditions of the Turkic-speaking peoples of Xinjiang, Turkey, and Central Asia. View a full list of Dr Bellér-Hann's publications.

Professor Michael Dillon is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society and the Royal Asiatic Society and a member of the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House) and the Mongolia Society. He was founding Director of the Centre for Contemporary Chinese Studies at the University of Durham. He was a Visiting Professor at Tsinghua University in Beijing in 2009. Between 1988 and 2010 he carried out field research in Xinjiang and other Muslim regions of northwest China on many occasions, both independently and in conjunction with regional branches of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. Additional academic visits included Kazakhstan, Mongolia and Taiwan.

His most recent publications on Xinjiang include *Xinjiang in the Twenty-first Century: Islam, Ethnicity and Resistance*, Routledge, 2018 and 'Religion, repression and traditional Uyghur culture in southern Xinjiang: Kashgar and Khotan' *Central Asian Affairs* 2 (2015) 246-263. He is currently preparing a study of religion in Xinjiang for Routledge. See a list of Professor Dillon's recent publications and current projects.

Tim Clissold graduated in Physics and Theoretical Physics from Jesus College, Cambridge, in 1982. He has lived and worked in China for nearly thirty years and published three books on Chinese business, society, history and classical poetry. He is fluent in written and spoken Chinese and has travelled extensively into remote regions of China, including multiple trips to Xinjiang beginning in 1988. His most recent book, *Cloud Chamber*, will be published this year by the Commercial Press of China, China's oldest publisher. For many years, he has specialised in cross cultural dispute resolution, developing and implementing practical solutions to intractable conflicts that have occurred between Western and Chinese organisations. View details of Tim Clissold's books.

The lure of China: writers from Marco Polo to J.G. Ballard

Dr Frances Wood

Wednesday 3 November 2021, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar

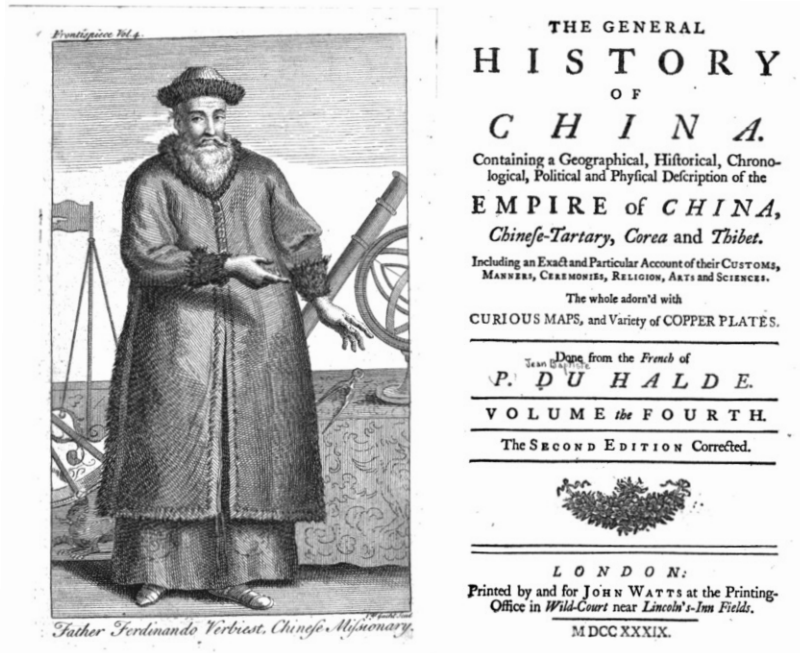


The China Centre lecture on Wednesday 3 November 2021 was delivered by **Dr Frances Wood**, former Curator of Chinese collections, the British Library, and member of the steering committee of the International Dunhuang Project.

Dr Frances Wood's lecture examined a range of western literature that has taken China as its subject matter. China has fascinated western writers since the publication of Marco Polo's famous *Travels*. Dr Wood presented an array of evidence which suggests that Marco Polo did not in fact travel to China, including the absence of references to tea, chopsticks or the Great Wall, as well as the lack of reference to Marco Polo in Chinese sources. She proceeded to analyse the work of Jesuits writing on China, of which the most famous is Fr. du Halde's voluminous account of the country. The Jesuits had a deep influence on European perceptions of China during the Enlightenment.

There followed detailed consideration by Dr Wood of the writings associated with the McCartney Mission to China in 1792-4. Dr Wood analysed perceptions of late eighteenth century China contained in McCartney's diaries as well as those of McCartney's valet, Aeneas Anderson. The later set of diaries recorded detailed accounts of daily life in China.

Dr Wood turned next to consider the writings of 19th century English diplomats, who 'treated China as an extension of England', 'shot every animal in sight' and 'ravaged the Chinese countryside like a group of drunken louts'. She summarised the extensive western travel and scientific exploration literature on China written in the 1920s and 1930s, including Sven Hedin, Aurel Stein, Mildred Cable and Francesca French. She provided a detailed



analysis of western novels and short stories set in inter-war China, including Somerset Maugham and Andre Malraux. Dr Wood next discussed the extensive genre of twentieth century novels set in China, by female authors including Ann Bridge, Stella Benson and Nora Waln. She concluded her survey with an examination of J.G. Ballard's novel, *Empire of the Sun*, which was set in Shanghai under Japanese occupation.

The Q&A included the following issues: Bertrand Russell's writings on China; the socio-economic background of western writers in China; the capabilities of different writers to convey an authentic feel for Chinese reality; the contrast between western fiction and non-fiction writing on China; and the reasons for the dearth of western novels on China written during the era of 'reform and opening-up'.

Dr Frances Wood studied Chinese at Cambridge, graduating in 1971, spent a year as a worker-peasant-soldier student in Peking (1975-6) and wrote a PhD on traditional domestic architecture of Peking (University of London). She was curator of the Chinese collections in the British Library and amongst her books are *Chinese Illustration* (1986), *Did Marco Polo go to China?* (1996), *The Blue Guide to China* (2002), *The Silk Road* (2003), *No Dogs and Not Many Chinese: Treaty Port life in China 1843-1943* (1998), *Hand Grenade Practice in Peking* (2000) and *Betrayed Ally: China in the Great War* (2016).

Politics and governance in China: the Party in control?

Professor Kjeld Erik Brødsgaard

Thursday 11 November 2021, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar



The China Centre lecture on Thursday 11 November 2021 was delivered by **Professor Kjeld Erik Brødsgaard**, Professor of Chinese Studies, Department of International Economics, Government and Business, and former Director of the Asia Research Centre, Copenhagen Business School.

Professor Brødsgaard's lecture addressed the 'China puzzle'. International measures of governance often give China a low score, yet China's development record has been outstandingly successful. In Professor Brødsgaard's view, in order to answer this puzzle, it is necessary to analyse the reasons for the resilience of the Communist Party of China (CPC). This requires an appreciation of the large number of

regulations that govern the way in which the CPC operates, and the process through which these regulations are updated and revised in the light of changing conditions. Professor Brødsgaard noted that the composition of the Party has altered greatly over the long-term, moving away from being composed primarily of peasants and industrial workers into one that is far more socially diverse. He pointed out that demand for Party membership is around ten times greater than the supply of places available. It has become almost impossible to move to the highest levels in the Party without a high level of education. Professor Brødsgaard analysed the process of regular interchange of positions between leaders of state-owned enterprises and senior government officials. He termed this system of political economy as 'ambidextrous', in that it is able to achieve business and political goals simultaneously.

A wide range of issues was addressed in the Q&A session. They included: comparison of the nomenklatura system in China and the Soviet Union; comparison of the role of large firms in national policy-making in China and the USA; the significance of presidential term limits in political systems; the role of President Xi Jinping within Chinese national decision-making; the relationship between the centre and the localities in government decision-making; the contrast between political decision-making in China and India; changes in the degree of centralisation in political decision-making in China; and the wide range of issues beyond political democracy involved in the concept of 'human rights'.

Professor Kjeld Erik Brødsgaard 柏思德, PhD, is Professor at the Department of International Economics, Government and Business and former Director of the Asia Research Centre (2003-2016) at the Copenhagen Business School. From 1990-2003 he was Associate Professor in China Studies at the Department of Asian Studies at the University of Copenhagen. His most recent books include *The Communist Party Since 1949: Organization, Ideology and Prospect for Change* (with Chen Gang) (Brill, 2019); *Critical Readings on the Chinese Communist Party*, 4 vols. (Brill, 2017); *From Accelerated Accumulation to Socialist Market Economy in China: Economic Discourse and Development from 1953 to the Present* (Brill 2017); and *Chinese Politics as Fragmented Authoritarianism: Earthquakes, Energy and Environment* (Routledge, 2016). His articles have appeared in such leading scholarly journals as *The China Quarterly*, *Asian Survey*, *Modern China*, *Governance and Public Policy in China*, and *China: An International Journal*.

Professor Brødsgaard has held visiting research appointments in China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan and the USA. He is a member of the International Advisory Board of the East Asian Institute, National University of Singapore; Honorary Research Fellow, Peking University; Non-resident Senior Research Fellow, Nordic Institute of Asian Studies; and a trustee of Cambridge China Development Trust. He is also on the faculty of the Sino-Danish Center for Education and Research, Beijing. His current research covers state-Party-business relations in China; the nomenklatura system and cadre management; governance and reform of Chinese state-owned enterprises.

Reflections on the afterlives of Mao era posters

Professor Harriet Evans

Thursday 18 November 2021, 5 – 6.30pm



The China Centre lecture on Thursday 18 November 2021 was delivered by **Professor Harriet Evans**, Professor Emerita and former head of Chinese section, University of Westminster; Chair of Trustees to The Rights Practice (NG); Visiting Professor of Anthropology, LSE; and former President, the British Association for Chinese Studies.

Professor Evans' lecture focussed on Chinese posters from the era of 1956-76. She began her lecture by analysing the transition from the poster style of the early 1950s to the style after 1955. The transition included not only the range of topics

chosen but also the colours used in posters. The transformation after 1955 was not only due to the political context, including the Great Leap Forward and the Cultural Revolution, but also to the shortage of artistic materials available.

Mao Zedong formed the most important subject of Chinese posters between 1956-76. Images of Mao Zedong were not only important within China, but were also widely used in the West, including the famous images produced by Andy Warhol and Gerhard Richter. Images of Mao Zedong helped to shape perceptions of China in the West.

Professor Evans drew attention to the wide diversity of Chinese posters in this era, beyond the images of Mao Zedong. A large array of Chinese poster art in this era was far removed from propaganda and adulation of Mao Zedong. These included the extremely popular forms of local village art, such as the Huxian Peasant Painters, as well as a wide variety of posters connected with economic and social life.

The Q&A session included the following: the market for Chinese art in the West; the use of colour in different eras in Chinese poster art; the role of landscape art in China; the role of availability of materials in the nature of artistic works in China; the boundaries between photography and posters; the role of political posters in China today; the comparison of poster art in China with poster art in the West; the role of cheap posters in domestic decoration before China's reform and opening up.

Harriet Evans is Professor Emerita of Chinese Cultural Studies (University of Westminster) and Visiting Professor of Anthropology (LSE). She founded the Contemporary China Centre at the University of Westminster in 2009, and was President of the British Association for Chinese Studies (2002-2005). She has written extensively on the politics of gender and sexuality in China, and on political posters and visual culture of the Mao era.

Her main publications are *Women and Sexuality in China: Dominant Discourses of Female Sexuality and Gender since 1949* (1997), *Picturing Power in the People's Republic of China: Posters of the Cultural Revolution* (co-edited with Stephanie Hemelryk Donald, 1999), and *The Subject of Gender: Daughters and Mothers in Urban China* (2008). Her *Beijing from Below: Stories of Marginal Lives in the Capital's Center* (Duke University Press) was published in May 2020. A new volume, titled *Grassroot Values: Local Cultural Heritage in China* (co-edited with Michael Rowlands) based on a three-year research project, funded by the Leverhulme Trust, has just been published by Lexington Books.

Professor Evans is currently working on a new multi-disciplinary project on the cultural history of Chinese migration to Latin America since the 19th century.

China's pursuit of semiconductor independence: opportunities and constraints

Dr Ming-chin Monique Chu

Wednesday 24 November 2021, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar



The China Centre lecture on Wednesday 24 November 2021 was delivered by **Dr Ming-chin Monique Chu**, Lecturer in Chinese Politics in the Department of Economic, Social and Political Sciences, University of Southampton.

Dr Chu's lecture addressed a key issue in national development and international relations. Her lecture analysed the role of semi-conductors as the 'brains of electronic systems' and their significance for China's national development. The industry's value chain includes IC (Integrated Circuit) design, semi-conductor machines and semi-conductor manufacture, and the industry is closely connected with software. The sector is highly R&D intensive and has achieved tremendous technical progress. Production of the most advanced technologies is controlled by a small number of firms.

Semi-conductors occupy a vital place in the global business system and play a key role in national security, including a central role in military technologies. Semi-conductors form a key part of the complex relationship between the US and China. Despite great efforts to catch up, China remains heavily reliant upon semi-conductors and equipment supplied by firms in the USA, East Asia and the EU. However, the Chinese market is extremely important for international semi-conductor companies.

Issues raised in the Q&A session included: technological challenges in the production of ultra-violet semi-conductor equipment; the role of Japanese, Korean and Taiwanese companies in the Chinese semi-conductor market; the US government's request for East Asian semi-conductor companies to hand over data; the contribution of semi-conductors to combatting climate change; the role of semi-conductors in China's military technologies, including hypersonic missiles; and the central role of semi-conductors as an 'enabling technology' across the entire structure of the modern business system.

Dr Ming-chin Monique Chu is lecturer in Chinese politics at the University of Southampton. Her research sits within the areas of international political economy and security of international relations. Her specific research interests include the impact of globalization on security with reference to semiconductors, and the concept and practice of sovereignty.

Dr Chu has undertaken research on security-globalization nexus with reference to semiconductors since her PhD studies at Cambridge, which has laid a solid foundation for her continuous research interest in the linkages between technologies, security and great power competition.

In 2016, the U.S. based Semiconductor Industry Association cited her thesis-turned research monograph, entitled *The East Asian Computer Chip War*, as the authoritative work on the topic in its annual report. Her other scholarly research has been published in *The China Quarterly* and *China Perspectives*.

Aside from her academic outputs, Dr Chu has given talks about semiconductors at think tanks in England, Europe, the U.S. and India. In March 2018, she was invited to give oral evidence on China's capabilities in the field of emerging technologies in front of the House of Lords International Relations Committee. She has been interviewed by the BBC World News, BBC World Service, Fuji Television Network, Radio France International, Deutsche Welle, and South China Morning Post on issues pertaining to semiconductors, Chinese politics, Chinese foreign policy and Cross-Strait relations.

Dr Chu obtained MPhil and PhD degrees in international relations from the University of Cambridge.

A drop in the ocean: The (in)visibility of Chinese literature in translation

Nicky Harman

Tuesday 30 November 2021, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar



Photo credit: Alex Hofford

The China Centre lecture on Tuesday 30 November 2021 was delivered by **Nicky Harman**, prize-winning literary translator (Chinese to English) and former co-Chair of the Translators Association, The Society of Authors.

Nicky Harman's lecture located translated literature from Chinese into English within the wider context of literary translation. She pointed out that China has a tremendously vibrant literary scene, with a significant number of works published on a wide variety of topics. However, translations of works of literature from Chinese into English constitute just 3% of the total amount of literature translated from foreign languages. A large amount of China's rich output of literature is unknown to Western readers. Moreover, among the works that are translated from Chinese, there is a preponderance of works on science fiction and a growing volume on martial arts. Chinese translated literary

works are almost invisible in the international literary prizes. In contrast to the dearth of works translated from Chinese into English, there is a huge number of works translated from English into Chinese.

Nicky Harman emphasised that part of the reason for the dearth of Chinese translations into English is the wide cultural difference between China and the West: 'Chinese fiction is different'. For example, Chinese novelists are happy to tell the reader the end of the story at the beginning, which is hard for Western readers to accept. However, part of the reason also is the vast gap between the Chinese and English languages. Nicky Harman concluded that the most effective translation from Chinese into English typically involves close collaboration between a Chinese and a Western translator.

The Q&A session included: the gap in aesthetics between China and the West; the difficulty of translating long 'signature works' from Chinese into English; resistance from Western publishers to works translated from Chinese; the dearth of native English speakers with the level of language skills necessary to translate Chinese literature; the role of 'fan-led' initiatives in translation; the challenge posed for translators by the complexity of Chinese personal names; and the contrast between translating Chinese poetry and Chinese fiction into English.

Nicky Harman lectured in translation at Imperial College London 2000-2010. She now works as a freelance literary translator from Chinese. When not translating, she works on Paper-Republic.org, a non-profit website promoting Chinese literature in translation, and actively promotes translations through blogs and other social media, talks and author-translator events. She organizes translation-focused events, mentors new translators, teaches translation summer schools and judges translation competitions. She was co-Chair of the Translators Association (Society of Authors, UK) from 2014 to 2017. She is an Advisor to The Leeds Centre for New Chinese Writing, based at the University of Leeds.

LENT TERM 2022

China's good war: how World War II is shaping a new nationalism

Professor Rana Mitter OBE

Tuesday 18 January 2022, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar



The China Centre lecture on Tuesday 18 January 2022 was delivered by **Professor Rana Mitter OBE**, Professor of the History and Politics of Modern China, University of Oxford and Vice-President (Public Engagement) of the British Academy.

Professor Rana Mitter's lecture addressed the issue of how the Second World War is analysed within China today. He compared the way in which interpretations of the war have changed in China and the USA in recent years. In Professor Mitter's view, the war established the foundation of the modern world order. The USA's presence in East Asia has been continuous throughout the period since the war in East Asia began. The Western perception regards China as a victim in the war, whereas the Chinese perception is that the CPC-led anti-Japanese War was centrally important to the defeat of Japan. Professor Mitter linked his examination of the respective narratives about the Second World War to the current state of US-China relations. He used the example of recent films to illustrate the difference of perceptions in the USA and China.

The issues raised in the Q&A session included the following: the meaning of the phrase 'good war'; the role of wars in shaping national identity; the British re-colonisation of Hong Kong in 1945; a comparison of the role of the anti-Japanese war in Chinese national consciousness with the role of the Second World War in Russian national consciousness.

Rana Mitter OBE FBA is Professor of the History and Politics of Modern China, and a Fellow of St Cross College at the University of Oxford. He is the author of several books, including *China's War with Japan: The Struggle for Survival, 1937-1945* (Penguin, 2013), [US title: *Forgotten Ally*] which won the 2014 RUSI/Duke of Westminster's Medal for Military Literature, and was named a Book of the Year in the *Financial Times* and *Economist*. His latest book is *China's Good War: How World War II is Shaping a New Nationalism* (Harvard, 2020). His writing on contemporary China has appeared recently in *Foreign Affairs*, *the Harvard Business Review*, *The Spectator*, *The Critic* and *The Guardian*.

Matters of science: sound and silk in 17th Century China

Professor Dr Dagmar Schäfer

Tuesday 1 February 2022, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar



The China Centre lecture on Tuesday 1 February 2022 was given by **Professor Dr Dagmar Schäfer**, Managing Director and Director of Department III (Artifacts, Action, Knowledge), The Max Planck Institute for the History of Science.

Professor Schäfer's lecture examined the intellectual background of Song Yingxing, the author of the famous Chinese text *Tian Gong Kai Wu* (*The Works of Heaven and the Inception of Things*), which was published in 1637. Song Yingxing failed the Imperial Exams six times, but fulfilled his duties as a scholar by becoming a school teacher. His book includes 123 illustrations, which provide a rich insight into Chinese technology in the seventeenth century. The numerous machines included in the *Tian Gong Kai Wu* demonstrate the skill of Chinese craftsmen, but, in Song Yingxing's view, the craftsmen do not understand the 'inner logic' of the machines that they make. They understand the physical functioning of the objects they produce, but not their deeper significance within the functioning of the material world. Professor Schäfer used the example of silk, including the raw materials, the nature of the weaving process and the sound of silk, to illustrate Song's view that the material world contains an intrinsic harmony governed by the force of 'qi' ('breath'), the essential life-force of the universe.

The Q&A session included discussion of the following topics: the relationship between physics and alchemy in seventeenth century China; the role of 'qi' in Chinese thought; the practical usefulness of the illustrations in the *Tian Gong Kai Wu* in both China and Japan; the place of Song Yongxing within the intellectual milieu of seventeenth century China; the relationship of *Tian Gong Kai Wu* to other Chinese compendia; the influence of western astronomy upon Song Yingxing; the relationship of the Western concept of 'pneuma' to the Eastern concept of 'qi'; and the need to re-orient the history of science away from 'science heroes' towards the contribution of craftsmen to scientific progress.

The current Managing Director of the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Dagmar Schäfer is Director of Department III, Artifacts, Action, Knowledge. She is Honorary Professor in History of Technology at Technische Universität, Berlin; Adjunct Professor at the Institute of Sinology, Freie Universität, Berlin; and Guest Professor at Tianjin University (2018–2021). She received her doctorate and habilitation from the University of Würzburg and has worked and studied at Zhejiang University, Peking University, National Tsing Hua University, the University of Pennsylvania, and the University of Manchester, among others. She was previously a Guest Professor at the School of History and Culture of Science, Shanghai Jiao Tong University.

Dagmar Schäfer's interest is the history and sociology of technology of China, focusing on the paradigms configuring the discourse on technological development, past and present. She has published widely on the Premodern history of China (Song-Ming) and technology, materiality, the processes and structures that lead to varying knowledge systems, and the changing role of artifacts – texts, objects, and spaces – in the creation,

diffusion, and use of scientific and technological knowledge. Her current research focus is the historical dynamics of concept formation, situations, and experiences of action through which actors have explored, handled and explained their physical, social, and individual worlds.

Her monograph *The Crafting of the 10,000 Things* (University of Chicago Press, 2011) won the History of Science Society: Pfizer Award in 2012 and the Association for Asian Studies: Joseph Levenson Prize (Pre-1900) in 2013. Dagmar Schäfer was awarded the Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize 2020, the most prestigious research award in Germany, which is given to “exceptional scientists and academics for their outstanding achievements in the field of research”.

Metals, nomads and the foundations of the Silk Roads

Dr Miljana Radivojević

Wednesday 9 February 2022, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar

The China Centre lecture on Wednesday 9 February 2022 was given by **Dr Miljana Radivojević** Lecturer in Archaeomaterials, UCL Institute of Archaeology, London.

Dr Radivojević’s seminar addressed the topic of trade and technology along the Ancient Silk Road during the Bronze Age. Radivojević’s field of research is archaeometallurgy and the focus of her lecture was on the huge mining complexes in central Asia that supplied large quantities of tin and copper to extensive trade networks across Asia, which Dr Radivojević terms the ‘Bronze Road’. Her research makes use of materials that are ‘forgotten by archaeologists’, consisting of deposits of the slag that remains after the production of metals in furnaces. Laboratory analysis of slag reveals a great deal about technological processes and technical progress in the metallurgical industry during the Bronze Age. Dr Radivojević and her colleagues have identified a number of sites where large-scale copper production took place in the second millennium BC, supplying the basic materials for bronze production across a wide territory.

The Q&A session included the following topics: the mechanics of transporting materials along the Bronze Road; estimates of the volume of copper production from the Central Asian copper mines; the relationship between copper production and the supply of fuel; reasons for the collapse of copper production in ancient Central Asia; the significance of China as a source of demand for Central Asian copper production during the Shang and Zhou dynasties; the direction of travel in the spread of metallurgical knowledge across the Bronze Road; the extent to which China’s sophisticated Bronze Age technology was indigenous as opposed to travelling to China along the Bronze Road; the role of water supply in the washing process in Central Asian copper mines; the social organisation and property rights in Central Asian copper mines; the evidence of increased CO₂ production associated with Ancient Central Asian copper production; methods of communication among copper merchants along the Bronze Road; the relationship of Central Asian copper production to money supply in the ancient world; the technologies involved in constructing mine shafts in the Central Asian copper mines; the role of prospecting in the ancient Central Asian copper mines; and the role of copper in the construction of bronze bells in Ancient China and the connection with music.



Dr Radivojević holds a Lectureship in Archaeomaterials at the UCL Institute of Archaeology, UK, where she acquired her PhD in Archaeometallurgy. During her previous studies and research posts at the Universities of Belgrade, Cambridge and UCL she developed a strong research profile in both fieldwork excavations and laboratory analysis of material culture, specifically technology of early metal making. She specialised in the emergence of early copper making in the Balkans before expanding research collaborations across Europe and northern Eurasia, with emphasis on central and southeast Europe, Anatolia, Russian Federation, China, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.

Dr Radivojević has published in high impact journals on the origins of metallurgy in the Balkans and southwest Asia, the relationship of metallurgy and pottery technologies, the invention of tin bronze metallurgy, the innovation and transmission of copper metallurgy across southeast Europe, the use and circulations of Bronze Age metals in Europe, experimental archaeometallurgy and the aesthetics of ancient metal objects, as well as co-developed a novel method of re-assessing archaeological phenomena using complex networks analysis of metal supply systems in the Balkans.

Her other research projects include the prehistory of the Silk Roads, linking Central Asia, the Eurasian Steppe and most of Europe during the 4th – 1st millennium BC, and more broadly addressing the pre-modern globalisation of the Eurasian continent by looking at the (technological) knowledge economy at the time.

British Chinese – the invisible community

Dr George Chak Man Lee

Wednesday 16 February 2022, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar



The China Centre lecture on Wednesday 16 February 2022 was given by **Dr George Chak Man Lee**, former London Metropolitan Police Chief Inspector and first Chinese police officer in the UK, first Chinese Conservative Party Parliamentary Candidate (GE 2015), and Liberal Democrat Party Parliamentary Candidate (GE 2019).

Dr Lee's lecture addressed the position of the Chinese community in Britain. Dr Lee described them as an 'invisible community', due to their under-representation in leading positions in boardrooms, media, government and academia. He used an array of statistics to demonstrate the contrast between the educational and business success of the Chinese community and the community's low level of representation in leading socio-economic and government positions. He argued that a key factor in the educational and business success of the Chinese community is the distinctive characteristics of the Chinese family and kinship networks. However, the same factors may also help to explain the under-representation of Chinese people in leading positions, as they lead to relative isolation of Chinese people from the wider community. Dr Lee explored the role of racial prejudice, from the late nineteenth century through to the present day, in explaining the under-representation of Chinese people in leading positions. He examined also the vicious circle of under-representation leading to shortage of role models to motivate young Chinese people to aspire to leading socio-economic and government positions.

Questions addressed in the Q&A session included: the size of the Chinese community in Britain compared with other groups, notably South Asians; the role of the British Empire and the British Army in influencing the social position of different migrant groups within Britain; the role of language in influencing the role of the Chinese community in Britain; the influence of regional origin within China in determining the social position of migrants in Britain; and the influence of the British "public" school system upon the socio-economic success of different migrant communities.

Dr Lee was born in a Hong Kong shanty town pig shed, worked in a toy factory aged 5, came to the UK aged 10 unable to speak any English where he lived and worked in his family's take away shop in Portsmouth. He attended a local comprehensive school on a council estate where 90% of his peers entered the local dockyard as manual workers.

George was the first British Chinese to join the MoD and the UK police. He was selected for the fast track and won a staff college scholarship to study for his undergraduate degree on full pay at Trinity College, University of Cambridge where he founded ABACUS (a student association promoting racial integration). In the Met Police,

he served in Vice, Drugs, Murder, Organised Crime, and Riot Squads; Instructor at Hendon Police College and Bramshill Staff College; seconded to MI6, Hong Kong, and China. He was promoted to Chief Inspector and founded the Black Police Association to tackle racism within the criminal justice system.

He left the Metropolitan Police in 1998 and entered the corporate world where he helped launch egg (first internet bank), Trainline.com, and VodafoneLive – the first mobile multi-media proposition that has changed the way we live our lives and ushered in the digital age. He was Senior Vice President of T-Mobile International, Managing Partner at Mercer and Oliver Wyman, Managing Director at Logica, Senior Partner at Wipro, and Head of Government Sector at Chaucer.

George was the first Chinese to stand as Conservative Parliamentary Candidate in 2010 and he stood as the LibDem Westminster North Parliamentary Candidate in the 2019 general election.

George obtained his Development Studies PhD from Trinity College, University of Cambridge in 2018 and authored two books: *Police Corruption in Comparative Perspectives – Building trust in the police in India and China* (Routledge 2019) and *The Cause and Consequences of Chinese Organized Crime and the Triads, Chapter 9 – Organized Crime: Causes and Consequences*, Robert M. Lombardo (Ed) (Nova 2019).

Dr Lee currently holds Non-Executive Director positions at WayLink Invest, Wailian, and 48 Group. He has sat on the board of many organisations that seek to address social mobility and race relations.

China's ancient poems for the modern era

Tim Clissold

Tuesday 22 February 2022, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar

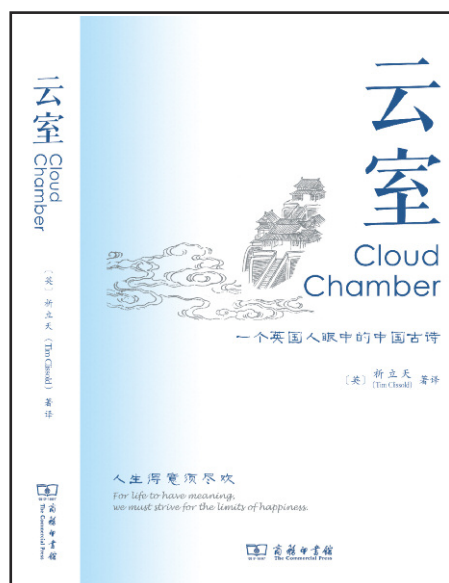


The China Centre lecture on Tuesday 22 February 2022 was given by **Tim Clissold**, Senior Research Associate of the China Centre, Jesus College, and author of three books on China, including *Mr China*.

Tim Clissold's lecture addressed the nature and depth of cross-cultural knowledge in China and the West. He argued that the depth of interest and knowledge of Western culture in China greatly exceeds that of the Western interest in and knowledge of Chinese culture. He suggested that there may be a competitive advantage for China in 'knowing more about us than we know about them'.

He argued that the distinctive features of the Chinese written language have been a powerful unifying force within Chinese culture since the Ancient World. It has formed the cement that has linked together the scholar-official class for over 2000 years.

Tim Clissold argued that poetry constitutes a key aspect of the Chinese literary tradition, reaching its zenith in the Tang Dynasty (AD 618-907). He emphasised that in China 'poetry is everywhere', including in public spaces and in the speeches of government officials. He used examples from Tang and Song (AD 960-1279)



Dynasty poets to illustrate the universality of the issues that they addressed, including the plight of war refugees, homelessness, poverty, tax evasion, de-forestation, substance abuse and the end of life.

He read a group of Chinese Tang and Song Dynasty poems organised in line with the principles of quantum physics, which named the six smaller particles (quarks) as: up, down, strangeness, charm, beauty and truth.

The Q&A session included discussion of the following: the role of Chinese poetry during the Cultural Revolution; the relationship between calligraphy and Chinese poetry; Mao Zedong's poetry and calligraphy; the impact upon Chinese culture of the difficulty of writing Chinese characters; the commonalities between Chinese and Western culture as revealed in Tim Clissold's discussion of quarks and poetry; the significance of the slogans for the 2008 Olympics ('One world, One dream') and the 2022 Winter Olympics ('Go forward to face the

future together'); the impenetrability of national cultures, including both British and Chinese; the significance of the fact that historically over 95% of Chinese people were illiterate; and the importance of writing Chinese characters for understanding Chinese culture.

Tim Clissold graduated in Physics and Theoretical Physics from Jesus College, Cambridge, in 1982. He has lived and worked in China for nearly thirty years and published three books on Chinese business, society, history and classical poetry. He is fluent in written and spoken Chinese and has travelled extensively into remote regions of China. His most recent book, *Cloud Chamber*, will be published in 2022 by the Commercial Press of China, China's oldest publisher. For many years, Tim Clissold has specialised in cross cultural dispute resolution, developing and implementing practical solutions to intractable conflicts that have occurred between Western and Chinese organisations.

China through media

Professor Hugo de Burgh

Thursday 3 March 2022, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar



The China Centre lecture on Thursday 3 March 2022 was delivered by **Professor Hugo de Burgh**, Director of the China Media Centre, London, and Walt Disney Chair in Global Media and Communications, Schwarzman College, Tsinghua University.

Professor Hugo de Burgh's lecture presented an overview of the Chinese media. He began by noting that there over 900 million internet users in China and over three-fifths of TV viewing is watched on-line: 'China has seized the internet with enthusiasm. It is a realm of debate, complaint and gossip'.

Professor de Burgh grouped his analysis under three categories: social media, legacy media and screen media. He used video clips from a wide array of TV broadcasts to illustrate the dynamic nature of Chinese media activity, including 'fly-on-the wall documentaries', environmental programmes, investigative journalism in local TV stations, and youth chat shows. He played video clips from a wide array of films about topics that included historical dramas, relationship dramas, science fiction, emigration, fighting covid, and escaping from poverty. He presented excerpts from documentary broadcasts on topics including the pandemic in Wuhan, the daily life of government officials, and family life.

The Q&A session included discussion of the following issues: the reliability of TV broadcasts about the pandemic in Wuhan; government policy towards 'effeminate fan culture'; the reception of Chinese film dramas among Western audiences; Chinese news reporting of the Russian invasion of Ukraine; the extent and nature of broadcasting censorship; the role of investigative journalism in China and the West; training of Chinese media officials in the West; the nature and extent of the 'dark web' in China.

Hugo de Burgh is Walt Disney Professor of Media and Communications at Schwarzman College, Tsinghua University. He is also Founder Chairman of Kensington Wade Dual Language Chinese English School and Director of the China Media Centre which he set up in London in 2005.

He started professional life in Scotland, where he established Castlecliff Workshops, a further education college. His campaigning journalism, focussing on poverty, undereducation and employability, led to full-time journalism and then TV. He worked for Scottish Television (politics and investigations), BBC (business and documentaries) and (the UK's) Channel 4 (*C4 Dispatches*, *C4 News and Documentaries*). In 1995 he returned to higher education.

He has held academic posts at Edinburgh, London, Nottingham Trent and Westminster universities.

Among his many publications are the 3rd edition of *Investigative Journalism* (Routledge 2021); the 2nd edition of *China's Media in the Emerging World Order* (UBP 2020); *China's Environment and Chinese Environment Journalists* (Intellect 2013); *China and Britain: the potential impact of China's development* (Smith Institute 2007) and (with Boris Johnson, Alison Wolf et al) *Can the Prizes Still Glitter? The Future of British Universities in a Changing World* (UBP 2007).

Lord Millet in Alibaba's cave: the resurrection of an iconic Chinese food

Professor Francesca Bray

Wednesday 9 March 2022, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar

The China Centre lecture on Thursday 3 March 2022 was given by **Professor Francesca Bray**, Professor Emerita of Social Anthropology at the University of Edinburgh, and former President of the Society for the History of Technology (SHOT).

Professor Bray's lecture examined the changing role of millet within China's agricultural and dietary structure. Millet was the most important food grain in Ancient China. Over the long-term it was gradually displaced by 'superior', higher-yielding grains. By the Song Dynasty (960-1279 AD) rice and wheat had become the dominant food grains. Although millet retained symbolic importance as the grain that was used in the



Emperor's sacrifices, it came to be regarded as 'famine food', grown mainly by poor farmers in northern China.

In recent years, millet has experienced a remarkable revival. It has become associated with sustainable agriculture, that uses 'traditional' farming technologies, with ploughs pulled by donkeys, soil fertilised by donkey manure in a 'circular' economy, and traditional sickles used to harvest the crop. The farming techniques are based on ancient Chinese agricultural treatises. In addition, millet is considered to have special dietary and health advantages compared with 'superior' grains. Millet has become a 'lifestyle' food choice for China's middle-class consumers and its price has increased greatly compared with other food grains.

Professor Bray examined the way in which millet-growing has helped to increase incomes in impoverished areas, including 'eco-tourism' to millet-growing villages.

The issues raised in the Q&A session included: the scientific validity of claims that millet has health benefits compared to other grains; a comparison of the role of millet in Chinese and Indian agriculture; the potentialities of 'organic' farming technologies to solve China's food needs; the role of commercialisation and marketing in generating consumer demand for millet and millet-derived products; the role of eco-tourism in poverty-alleviation; the advantages and disadvantages of traditional millet varieties compared with genetically modified grains; and the water requirements for growing millet compared with other grain crops.

Francesca Bray, Emerita Professor of Social Anthropology at the University of Edinburgh, is a historian of science, technology and medicine in East Asia, specialising in gender and technology, the politics of historiography, and the history of agriculture and food. Her first publications included the volume on *Agriculture* (1984, vol. V1.2 in Joseph Needham's series *Science and Civilisation in China*) and *The Rice Economies: Technology and Development in Asian Societies* (1986). Recent books include *Technology, Gender and History in Imperial China* (Routledge 2013), *Rice: Global Networks and New Histories* (CUP 2015), and a co-authored book, *Moving Crops and the Scales of History* (in press).

Homo Arborealis: the intermeshing of regimes of tree-mindedness

Professor Adam Yuet Chau

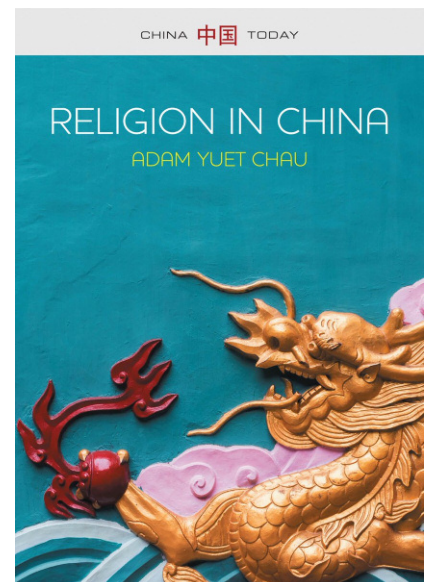
Thursday 17 March 2022, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar



The China Centre lecture on Thursday 3 March 2022 was given by **Professor Adam Yuet Chau**, Professor of the Anthropology of China, Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, University of Cambridge, and Fellow and Director of Studies at St John's College, Cambridge.

Professor Chau's lecture addressed the issue of 'tree-mindedness' in China today. He traced the lineage of tree-mindedness in China, stretching back to the recommendation made by Sun Yatsen in 1915, that March 12 should be set aside each year for national tree-planting. It has remained the day on which across China

the mass of the Chinese population participates in tree-planting. Alongside the mass of the population, China's leaders, from Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai and Deng Xiaoping, to Xi Jinping and Li Keqiang, have all participated in the national tree-planting day. Planting 'friendship trees' has also played a role in China's international relations. Professor Chau examined the way in which production units have



mobilised huge numbers of people to participate in tree-planting, involving complex logistical arrangements for people, saplings and equipment.

Professor Chau explained the role that tree-planting has played in a single county in north-central China, where he conducted fieldwork. His objective in the research was to understand the community's sense of compulsion to plant trees and protect them. The local temple was the cornerstone of the massive re-forestation efforts in the county. Donations to the temple were used to support the tree-planting operation, which has a spiritual purpose through its contribution to the construction of an 'ecological civilisation'.

The Q&A session discussed the following issues: Joseph Needham's involvement in tree planting in Inner Mongolia in 1958; the role of trees in western culture; the relationship of trees to human beings' attitudes to death, including yew trees in churchyards in the West; the way in which large-scale tree-planting is organised in China today; the possibilities for tree-planting to be linked with the huge aquifer under the Taklamakan Desert in Xinjiang province; the linkage between 'tree-mindedness' in China and global cosmopolitan tree-mindedness; and the significance of the term of 'homo arborealus', which Prof Chau used in his lecture.

Adam Yuet Chau is Professor of the Anthropology of China teaching in the Department of East Asian Studies, University of Cambridge, and is a Fellow at St John's College. He is the author of *Miraculous Response: Doing Popular Religion in Contemporary China* (Stanford University Press 2006) and *Religion in China: Ties That Bind* (Polity 2019), and edited *Religion in Contemporary China: Revitalization and Innovation* (Routledge 2011). He is interested in developing better ways of conceptualising Chinese religious culture. One of his out-reach ambitions is to stop people from asking the question 'How many religions are there in China?' He is currently working on other book projects investigating the idiom of hosting (*zuo*zhu) and forms of powerful writing ('text acts') in Chinese political and religious culture. He is also editing a volume entitled *Chinese Religious Culture in 100 Objects*, with more than 100 contributors from all over the world.

EASTER TERM 2022

Public goods provision and Chinese economic development

Professor Lawrence J. Lau

Thursday 5 May 2022, 10 – 11.30am, virtual seminar



The China Centre lecture on Thursday 5 May 2022 was delivered by **Professor Lawrence J. Lau**, Ralph and Claire Landau Professor of Economics, Lau Chor Tak Institute of Global Economics and Finance, and former Vice Chancellor, The Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Professor Lawrence J. Lau's lecture addressed the role of public goods in China's development. He examined the theoretical arguments concerning the role of public goods in economic and social development, including the distinction between rivalrous public goods, such as seats on public transport, and non-rivalrous public goods, such as air quality.

The main body of Professor Lau's lecture analysed the role of public goods in China's development over the long-run since 1949 to the present day. These include little-studied areas of public goods provision, such as the introduction of simplified Chinese in the 1950s, which accelerated the spread of mass literacy. Professor Lau devoted special attention to the role of public goods in the era of Reform and Opening-up since 1978. He emphasised the contribution that public goods provision has made to the welfare of the mass of the Chinese population during this era. This includes provision of education, health, transport, telecommunications infrastructure, water supply, renewable energy, and re-forestation.

Professor Lau drew attention to the great reduction in the extent of absolute poverty in China since the late 1970s, which he considered to be a 'clear public good'. He emphasised that the social and economic benefits of public goods provision constitute 'positive externalities', which bring benefits to the users of public goods that are not reflected in the price charged in order to access them. The 'invisible hand' cannot capture these benefits: 'only the visible hand can lose money'.

The issues addressed in the Q&A session included the following: the role of housing in public goods provision in China; comparison of public goods provision in China and India; the impact of the Chinese government's RMB 4 trillion infrastructure package during the global financial crisis; the significance of public goods provision in relation to the measurement of the rate of investment and consumption; how to measure the contribution of public goods provision to mass welfare in China; the theoretical and practical significance of 'distribution in kind' through public goods provision; the significance and purpose of China's 'dual circulation' policy; the methods of financing public goods; the role of public goods provision within China's 'common prosperity' policy; the prospects for China's GDP growth rate over the long-term; the role of public goods in influencing social mobility; the role of public goods provision within China's 'Belt and Road' strategy; the relationship between the 'visible hand' and the 'invisible hand' in economic and social development; and the role of information provision within public goods.

Born in 1944, Professor Lau graduated with a BS (with Great Distinction) in Physics from Stanford University in 1964, and received his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Economics from the University of California at Berkeley in 1966 and 1969 respectively. He joined the faculty of the Department of Economics at Stanford University in 1966, becoming Professor of Economics in 1976, the first Kwoh-Ting Li Professor in Economic Development in 1992, and Kwoh-Ting Li Professor in Economic Development, Emeritus in 2006. From 2004 to 2010, Professor Lau served as the Vice-chancellor (President) of The Chinese University of Hong Kong. From 2010 to 2014, Professor Lau served as Chairman of CIC International (Hong Kong) Co., Limited. He currently serves as the Ralph and Claire Landau Professor of Economics at the Lau Chor Tak Institute of Global Economics and Finance, the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Professor Lau has been elected an Academician of Academia Sinica and a Fellow of the Econometric Society. From March 2008 to February 2018, Professor Lau served as a member of the 11th and 12th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (and a Vice Chairman of its Economics Subcommittee).

Professor Lau specialises in economic development, economic growth, and the economies of East Asia, including that of China. He has authored, co-authored, or edited sixteen books, including *The China-U.S. Trade War and Future Economic Relations*, and *The COVID-19 Epidemic in China*, and published more than 210 articles and notes in professional journals.

Is China still playing our game? Institutional outsourcing in the era of Xi Jinping

Professor Edward S. Steinfeld

Wednesday 11 May 2022, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar

The China Centre lecture on Wednesday 11 May 2022 was delivered by

Professor Edward S. Steinfeld, Director of the Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs and Professor of Political Science, Brown University.

Professor Edward S. Steinfeld lectured on the transformation in China's political economy since the publication of his book *Playing our Game*. In his 2010 book Professor Steinfeld analysed the ways in which China was increasingly integrating with the international business system and global regulatory structures, such as the WTO and the IMF. Integration with the international economy had a deep impact, including large-scale



lay-offs in the state-owned sector and a rapid increase in private enterprises. Professor Steinfeld's lecture examined the way in which China's institutional reforms in this era incorporated features from the advanced capitalist economies ('playing our game'), including enterprise corporate governance, labour market organisation, treatment of intellectual property and changes in the system of higher education. Professor Steinfeld also examined the changes that took place within the Chinese government system, including opening the CPC to entrepreneurs and professionalisation of the bureaucracy. In hindsight, Professor Steinfeld considers that in his 2010 study he should have paid more attention to issues such as socio-economic inequality and the rise of conspicuous consumption. In his lecture, he argued that the Chinese economy and society have changed greatly in the past decade, including increased income and wealth inequality, the dramatic impact of social media and labour-displacing technologies. These are taking place in the context of growing US-China tension and an adversarial relationship between the two countries. Professor Steinfeld concluded by exploring ways in which the relationship between China and the USA might move in a cooperative direction.

The Q&A session addressed the following issues: China's role within global technological progress; the underlying causes of US-China hostility; the impact of listing on global capital markets upon corporate governance of China's large firms; the role of Hong Kong in China's corporate governance; evaluation of the significance of China's 'common prosperity' policy; the role of the West in shaping the context within which China 'Plays our Game'; the relationship between wealth and power in China and the West; the impact upon US-China relations of the 'Tilt to the Pacific' policy under President Obama; and the possibility for two 'games', one Western and one Chinese, to be played simultaneously and harmoniously, without conflict.

Edward S. Steinfeld is Professor of Political Science, the Dean's Chair in China Studies, and the Director of the Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs at Brown University in the United States. Professor Steinfeld's expertise focuses on contemporary China's political, economic, and commercial rise, with a particular focus on industrial development and business-government relations. He received his PhD, MA and BA in Political Science from Harvard University. Edward S. Steinfeld previously served as a faculty member in MIT's Sloan School of Management and Department of Political Science. He is the author of *Playing Our Game* (Oxford University Press, 2010) and *Forging Reform in China* (Cambridge University Press, 1998), as well as numerous articles in academic and media outlets.

Twelfth-century life in the Song capital: Zhang Zeduan's 'Spring Festival on the River'

Professor Roderick Whitfield

Tuesday 17 May 2022, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar

The China Centre seminar on Tuesday 17 May 2022 was given by **Professor Roderick Whitfield**, Percival David Professor, Emeritus, SOAS, University of London.

Professor Whitfield's lecture examined the twelfth century Chinese scroll painting, 'Spring Festival on the River' (Qingming shanghe tu, literally: Going up the River on the Qingming Festival) painted by Zhang Zeduan. The painting is 26 cm wide and 525 cm in length. Professor Whitfield explained the cultural context of Chinese scroll paintings, both horizontal and vertical, as well as the technology behind the production of the silk cloth that was the physical foundation for scroll paintings. The main body of Professor Whitfield's lecture was devoted to a detailed examination of the scenes depicted in the painting. The painting portrays life in the city of Bianjing (present day Kaifeng), the capital city of the Northern Song Dynasty. The scenes begin with a stark, desolate landscape, with poor people in front of simple, thatched dwellings. As the painting progresses



*Detail from the handscroll, Spring Festival on the River, by Zhang Zeduan.
Northern Song dynasty, early 12th century. Palace Museum, Beijing*

into the centre of the city, the activity becomes progressively more intense. The core of the painting is full of bustling commercial activity, with a multitude of boats on the Bian canal, which was the artery for trade between north and central China. The picture provides detailed views of life on board the boats as well as along the bustling streets and within buildings. Professor Whitfield directed the viewers' attention to a multitude of details, such as the swirling patterns in the water and the great variety of business activities on display, including grain traders, restaurants, butchers' shops, wine shops, textile shops, incense sellers, fortune tellers, night soil collectors, and medical practitioners. Professor Whitfield noted that the painting contains detailed portraits of over 800 human beings.

The Q&A segment of the seminar included discussion of the following issues: the role of portrait painting versus architectural and landscape in Chinese painting; the understanding of perspective in Chinese painting; the source of Zhang Zeduan's detailed knowledge of boat technologies; the structural composition of the *Qingming shanghe tu*; the role of willow trees in the painting; the significance of the painting in relation to flourishing trade during the Song Dynasty; and the significance of the painting as a commentary on the downfall of Emperor Hui Zong (1082-1135).

Roderick Whitfield, Percival David Professor, Emeritus, was educated at home and King Edward's School, Birmingham. From 1955 to 1957 he studied modern Chinese at the School of Oriental and African Studies, then classical Chinese at Cambridge University with Denis Twitchett and Cheng Te-k'un, graduating in 1960. From 1960 to 1965 he studied Chinese Art and Archaeology at Princeton University with Professor Wen Fong and Professor Shimada Shujirō. His dissertation topic was Zhang Zeduan's *Spring Festival on the River*, the subject of this lecture.

After a further year at Princeton as Lecturer and assistant to Peter Swann in setting up the Asian Gallery of the rebuilt Princeton Art Museum, Roderick Whitfield returned to St John's College, Cambridge as Research Fellow. In 1968 he was appointed Assistant Keeper in the Department of Oriental Antiquities (now Department of Asia) at the British Museum, leaving in 1984 to be Head of the Percival David Foundation and Professor of Chinese and East Asian art.

A Visiting Research Fellow at the Dunhuang Academy and the Palace Museum, Beijing, Professor Whitfield's research interests and publications include Chinese traditional painting, Buddhist art from Dunhuang and other cave-temple sites, Korean art and the conservation of East Asian paintings.

The perils of interpreting: the extraordinary story of two translators between Qing China and the British Empire

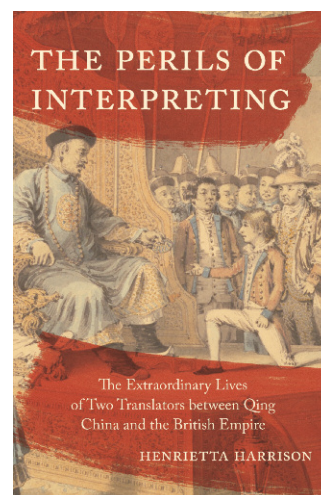
Professor Henrietta Harrison

Thursday 19 May 2022, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar



The China Centre lecture on Thursday 19 May 2022 was delivered by **Professor Henrietta Harrison**, Professor of Modern Chinese Studies, University of Oxford China Centre, and Stanley Ho Tutorial Fellow, Pembroke College, Oxford.

Professor Harrison's lecture examined the role of interpreters in international relations through an analysis of the interpreters involved in the Macartney Embassy to China in 1793. The two interpreters were George Thomas Staunton and Li Zibiao. Staunton was a twelve year old boy, who in fact translated only a few sentences in the exchange between Lord Macartney and the Chinese Emperor. Staunton's father was the secretary to the British Embassy to China. He believed in the cultivation of his son as a 'new man fit for the Age of Enlightenment'. At the age of five his son received three hours of instruction daily in the Chinese language. He continued his study of Chinese throughout his childhood. After the Macartney Mission, he became famous for his translation of the Qing Legal Code, which represented a tremendous scholarly achievement. In fact, the main burden of translation during the Macartney Embassy was the responsibility of Li Zibiao. At the age of twelve he was sent from China to study at the Catholic training college in Naples. He lived for twenty years in Europe and had a high level of proficiency in Latin, as well as Italian and other European languages. Professor Harrison explored the difficulties facing Li Zibiao in interpreting the exchanges between the two sides. To what extent does the interpreter choose a literal translation of complex phrases, as opposed to one that departs from the literal meaning, but helps to smooth the encounter between the two sides? Professor Harrison explained the challenges that confront an interpreter such as Li Zibiao, who may be perceived as 'knowing too much about the other side' and be considered as 'too sympathetic to them'.



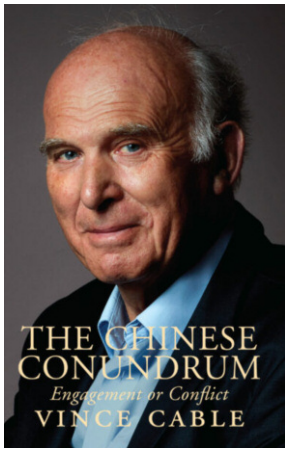
The Q&A discussion included the following issues: the heavy responsibility placed upon the interpreter as the only person involved in diplomatic exchanges who knows both languages; the challenges facing interpreters in diplomatic negotiations between China and the West today; the challenges facing scholars who are deeply knowledgeable of the other side during the current tensions between China and the West; the transformation in Western attitudes towards China in the years between the Macartney Embassy and the Opium Wars; the degree to which Li Zibiao continued to have roots in Chinese culture following his twenty years living in Italy; the impact upon Chinese views of the West as a result of Britain's increasing control over South Asia during the nineteenth century; the role of written sources versus non-written sources in shaping the views that different national cultures hold of each other; the transformation in British perceptions of the rest of the world following the Industrial Revolution; the extent of knowledge of each other's language and culture in Britain and China today; and the role of misunderstandings due to language as opposed to differences of ideology in today's tense Sino-Western relations.

Henrietta Harrison is Professor of Modern Chinese Studies at the University of Oxford and a fellow of Pembroke College. Before Oxford she taught at the University of Leeds and then at Harvard. Her books include *The Man Awakened from Dreams: One Man's Life in a North China Village 1857-1942* (Stanford University Press, 2005), *The Missionary's Curse and Other Tales from a Chinese Catholic Village* (University of California Press, 2013) and *The Perils of Interpreting: The Extraordinary Lives of Two Translators between Qing China and the British Empire* (Princeton University Press, 2021).

The Chinese Conundrum

Rt Hon Sir Vince Cable

Thursday 26 May 2022, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar



The China Centre seminar on Thursday 26 May 2022 was delivered by the **Rt Hon Sir Vince Cable**, former leader of the Liberal Democrat party, former MP for Twickenham, former Secretary of State for Business Innovation and Skills and President of the Board of Trade. Sir Vince Cable's lecture was based on his recently published book *The Chinese Conundrum*.

Sir Vince Cable addressed the reality of a New Cold War between the West and China. The theme of his lecture was the challenge of engagement between different systems of political economy in the face of common existential threats to the human species. He emphasised China's economic development success since the 1970s. He noted that China's GDP, measured in PPP dollars, is now beyond the level of the US, which marks an important point in world history. In Sir Vince Cable's view, by 2050 it is likely that China's GDP will be double that of the USA. He cautioned that this reality has not been fully absorbed in the West. He addressed a number of challenges that China faces, including its demographic transformation, the high level of debt, the need to increase productivity and the low share of consumption in GDP. In Sir Vince's view, the West's perception has shifted from regarding China as a 'business El Dorado' for the West during the 'Golden Era', to viewing it as an economic threat to the West in recent years. He noted the contrast between the West's 'technology war' with China alongside a rapid increase in the role of western financial service companies in China. He emphasised that, despite the rising tension, the economic relationship between China and the West remains deep.

The Q&A session included the following issues: the respective roles that China and the West might make to cooperation and mutual understanding; the role that academics can play in assisting mutual understanding; the role that Britain, as a former global hegemon, might play in East-West cooperation; the contribution that Britain might make to East-West cooperation through its expertise in climate change technologies and the key role of the City of London within global finance; the role that ethnic relations in China's resource-rich regions, including Xinjiang, Tibet and Inner Mongolia, play in China's development; the view of countries in the 'global south' on the war in Ukraine; the role of succession policy in the CPC; the impact of human rights issues upon western businesses operating in China; the role of nuclear power generation in UK-China relations; an evaluation of the possibility of military conflict between the West and China; and the contradiction between increased political tension between Japan and China alongside a deepening economic relationship.

The Rt Hon Sir Vince Cable was Secretary of State for Business Innovation and Skills and President of the Board of Trade (2010-2015). He served as Member of Parliament for Twickenham 1997-2015, leader of the Liberal Democrats 2017-2019, deputy leader of the Liberal Democrats 2007-2010, and shadow chancellor 2003-2010.

Vince Cable read Natural Sciences and Economics at Cambridge University, where he was President of the Union, followed by a PhD at Glasgow University.

From 1966 to 1968 he was Treasury Finance Officer for the Kenya Government. After lecturing at Glasgow University in economics he worked for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office as a first secretary in the Diplomatic Service (1974-76). He was then appointed Deputy Director of the Overseas Development Institute, which included a period working for the then Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, John Smith, as a special advisor. From 1983 to 1990, Vince Cable worked as special advisor on Economic Affairs for the Commonwealth Secretary General, Sir Sonny Ramphal.

In 1990 he joined Shell International taking up the post of Chief Economist in 1995. He has also been head of the economics programme at Chatham House and is a former fellow of Nuffield College Oxford and the LSE.

Vince Cable served as a Labour councillor in Glasgow between 1971 and 1974, before joining the Social Democrat party.

Sir Vince Cable is currently a Professor in Practice at the LSE (London School of Economics, attached to the Institute of Global Affairs). He is also a visiting Professor at Nottingham University Economics Department. He has worked on a collaborative project with Future Learn to develop a MOOC (on-line course). As well as being a Visiting Professor at St Mary University in Twickenham he has worked on the course development within its business school.

The rise and fall of communalism in modern Chinese and Israeli literature

Professor Yaron Peleg

Dr Huiruo Li

Tuesday 31 May 2022, 12 – 1.30pm, virtual seminar

(This seminar considered four novels, details of which were circulated in advance of the seminar.)

The China Centre seminar on Tuesday 31 May 2022 was given by **Professor Yaron Peleg** (Kennedy-Leigh Professor of Modern Hebrew Studies, University of Cambridge; and Fellow and Director of Studies in Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, Jesus College) and **Dr Huiruo Li** (PhD graduate, Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, University of Cambridge).

At their peak in the twentieth century around one-quarter of the world population lived in collective farms. The seminar presented by Dr Huiruo Li and Professor Yaron Peleg provided a vivid insight into the rise and decline of rural collective institutions. Their seminar explored the history of collective institutions in China and



Chinese rural communes and Israeli kibbutzim (Chinese photographs, 1970s, courtesy of Professor Peter Nolan)

Israel through the lens of literary works produced in both countries – two each from China (Zhao Shuli and Mo Yan) and Israel (S.Yizhar and Amos Oz). Dr Li's presentation outlined the contrasting historical context within which the four literary works had been composed. The works selected reflected the changing sentiments within each country about collective institutions and the challenges presented by collective ownership, work and income distribution, and communal life. Despite the contrast in historical circumstances the construction of rural collective institutions in both countries reflected an optimistic view about the possibilities for human beings to live collectively.

Dr Li's presentation was followed by a dialogue with Professor Peleg. The dialogue explored the reasons for Dr Li's personal interest in this topic; the conflicting views within Israel and China today about rural collective institutions; the influence of levels of literacy in the two countries upon the operation of collective institutions; and the wider context of literature about collective institutions within the two countries.

The Q&A discussion included the following topics: the influence of the Soviet collective farm experience upon the Israeli kibbutz movement; Chinese people's perceptions of the award of the Nobel Prize for literature to Mo Yan; Israel's pre-independence Zionist tradition of anti-capitalism and romantic nationalism; the role of women in Mo Yan's story '*The Transparent Radish*'; gender relations in Israeli kibbutzim; the role of collective farms in Soviet literature; the role of the peasantry in Karl Marx's writings; the contrast between collective farms in China and the Soviet Union; the influence of the Israeli kibbutz movement upon China in the 1950s; and the psychological impact of collective farms on their members.

Dr Huiruo Li is a recent graduate from the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, University of Cambridge. She read her BA of Hebrew language in Peking University, China, and then pursued her MPhil (Queens') and PhD (Lucy Cavendish) in Cambridge, focusing on the ideological evolution in modern Hebrew literature. She has learned in Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel and worked in Middlebury College of the United States.

Yaron Peleg is Kennedy-Leigh Professor of Modern Hebrew Studies at the University of Cambridge. He published numerous monographs and edited volumes on modern Hebrew literary history, Israeli cinema and Israeli culture more generally, primarily the creation and legacy of a native Hebrew culture in Palestine/Israel at the beginning of the twentieth century. Professor Peleg is also editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Modern Jewish Studies*.

Accidental conflict: America, China, and the clash of false narratives

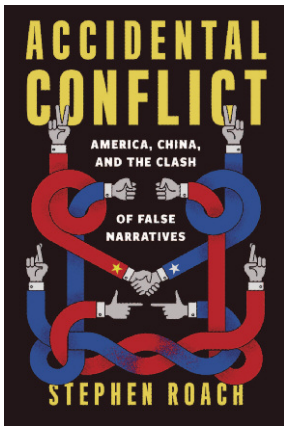
Dr Stephen Roach

Tuesday 7 June 2022, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar



The China Centre lecture on Tuesday 7 June 2022 was delivered by **Dr Stephen Roach**, Senior Fellow, Yale Jackson Institute for Global Affairs, and former Chairman of Morgan Stanley Asia.

Dr Stephen Roach's seminar addressed the possibilities for conflict, including military conflict, between the USA and China. He distinguished three phases in the US-China relationship in recent decades. Phase I covered the period 1972-1989. Dr Roach characterised this period as a 'marriage of convenience', in which both economies encountered serious difficulties. Phase II covered the period 1990-2008. During this period there was a relentlessly deepening co-dependency between the American and Chinese economies, 'turbo-charged' by China's entry to the WTO, with great mutual benefit. Phase III began with the global financial crisis of 2008/9, lasting to the present-day. This phase has been characterised by increasing conflict, including the emergence of



Cold War rhetoric. In Dr Roach's view the conflict is based on false narratives on both sides: the USA blames China for its own domestic failings, including the 'savings shortfall', the 'innovation shortfall' and 'hegemonic over-stretch', while China's difficulties arise mainly from the failure of the economy to 're-balance' away from investment towards consumption. Dr Roach argued that the rise of social media, has helped to foster 'false narratives' in both the USA and China. He concluded that the USA and China need to find a way to shift their relationship from an 'unhealthy' to a 'healthy' inter-dependence. This requires rebuilding trust through policies that remove the impediments to sustainable growth in both economies.

The Q&A session included the following topics: the USA's capability to adjust peacefully to the end of the era of US hegemony; the role of the state and private

sectors in China's development; the reasons for the wide extent of hostility towards China across the whole spectrum of US politics; the contrast between the Cold War with the Soviet Union and the Cold War with China; the relative competence of high-level government officials in the USA and China; the extent and location of American overseas military bases compared with those of China; and the dangers of a new arms race.

Dr Stephen Roach has been a senior fellow at Yale University since 2010 where he developed new courses on Asia – notably 'The Next China' and 'The Lessons of Japan'.

Prior to moving to academia, Stephen Roach spent thirty years at Morgan Stanley where for the bulk of his career he served as the firm's chief economist, heading up a highly regarded team of economists around the world. From 2007 to 2010 he was the Hong Kong-based Chairman of Morgan Stanley Asia with broad oversight for client relationships in the region.

His recent research has focused on the conflict-prone US-China relationship, which was featured in his 2014 book, *Unbalanced: The Codependency of America and China* and in his 2022 book, *Accidental Conflict: America, China, and the Clash of False Narratives*.

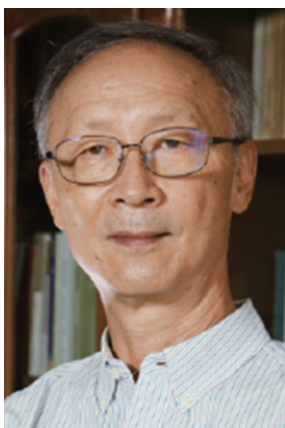
Prior to joining Morgan Stanley in 1982, he worked in senior capacities at Morgan Guaranty Trust Company and the Federal Reserve Board in Washington D.C.

Stephen Roach holds a PhD in Economics from New York University and was a Research Fellow at the Brookings Institution. He lives in New Canaan, Connecticut.

From the "Great Divergence" to the "Great Convergence": The modern transformation of the Yangzi Delta's economy in a new perspective

Professor Li Bozhong

Wednesday 15 June 2022, 9 – 10.30am, virtual seminar



The China Centre lecture on Wednesday 15 June 2022 was delivered by **Professor Li Bozhong**, Chair Professor of Humanities, Peking University, and Professor Emeritus, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST).

Professor Li Bozhong's lecture addressed the debate surrounding 'The Great Divergence' between China and the West, which has been under way since the publication in 2000 of Kenneth Pomerantz's book using this title. Pomerantz's book was heavily indebted to research over many decades by generations of economic historians in China. That research demonstrated that China was the world's most vibrant and technologically advanced part of the world economy up until the British Industrial Revolution.

Li Bozhong examined the remarkable transformation in world economic power between 1800 and 1978, which ‘turned the world upside down’. By the late 1970s China had shrunk into a minor part of the world economy, with a GDP per person roughly the same as India’s. Since 1978 another remarkable transformation has taken place and China has regained its place as the ‘workshop of the world’. Professor Li analysed the ‘Great Convergence’ since 1978 through an analysis of the economic history of the Jiangnan region, which is located in the Yangzi Delta, with Shanghai at its core. He examined the way in which Jiangnan’s remarkable development since 1978 has been rooted in the region’s long-run economic and social development, including the complex institutions that underpin economic progress. Li Bozhong has pioneered the study of Jiangnan’s economy through the analysis of a single micro-region, for which he has constructed an estimate of GDP in 1823-1829.

His pathbreaking research reveals the high level of traditional economic and social development in the region, in which industry and services contributed 70% of GDP, external trade accounted for 29% of GDP and the level of urbanisation was 40%. In the 1820s the level of GDP per person and its structure in Jiangnan were similar to Western Europe on the eve of the Industrial Revolution.

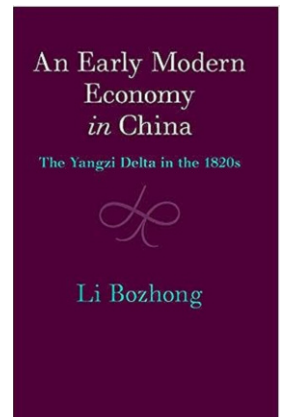
The Q&A session addressed the following issues: the role of finance in the pre-modern economy of Jiangnan and the Netherlands; the treatment of environmental pollution in Jiangnan; the role of path dependence in Jiangnan’s economic development; famine alleviation in traditional Jiangnan; the role of the bureaucracy in Jiangnan’s long-run development; the theory of ‘growth poles’ and its relevance to the study of Jiangnan’s economic development; and the importance of non-economic factors in the analysis of economic systems.

Li Bozhong is a University Chair Professor of Humanities and Social Sciences, Peking University and Chair Professor Emeritus, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.

Li received his PhD degree in 1985 and was the first person who earned their PhD degree in pre-modern Chinese History in the PRC after 1949. He finished his postdoctoral research at University of Michigan in 1992-1993.

Before he joined the faculty of Peking University in 2017, Li Bozhong had worked in different academic institutions, including Tsinghua University (Beijing), Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (Beijing), Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (Hong Kong), University of Michigan (Ann Arbor), University of California (Los Angeles), California Institute of Technology (Pasadena), Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Cambridge), Harvard University (Cambridge, MA), The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (Washington DC), The National Humanities Center (Research Triangle Park), University of Cambridge (Cambridge UK), London School of Economics and Political Science (London), L’Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (Paris), University of Tokyo (Tokyo), Keio University (Tokyo) and Academia Sinica (Taipei), etc.

Professor Li Bozhong has published eleven books since 1974 and more than ninety articles in mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, USA, UK, Japan and South Korea. The books include *Agricultural Development in Jiangnan, 1620-1850* (Macmillan, London & New York, 1998) and *An Early Modern Economy in China: The Yangzi Delta in the 1820s* (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2021).



MICHAELMAS TERM 2022

China biodiversity and conservation: status, challenges and opportunities

Professor Zhiyun Ouyang

Wednesday 12 October 2022, 12 – 1.30pm, virtual seminar



The China Forum lecture on Wednesday 12 October 2022 was delivered by **Professor Zhiyun Ouyang**, Professor and Director at the Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Professor Ouyang's lecture examined four issues. First, he analysed the extent of biodiversity in China, noting China's important role within global ecology. China is one of the world's mega-countries in terms of its biodiversity. Second, he examined China's policies for species conservation, including analysis of hotspots for species conservation, the changing composition of China's eco-system services and the development of protected areas. Third, he analysed the main challenges facing conservation in China, including identification of the species in danger of extinction, and the impact of habitat loss and fragmentation, low eco-system quality, and climate change. Finally, Professor Ouyang examined the integration of biodiversity into government policy innovation, including the Gross Ecosystem Product (GEP) accounting framework, which provides a quantitative measure of progress in biodiversity conservation efforts.

The Q&A session addressed the following issues: the role of NGOs in China's biodiversity policies and practices; the role of scientists and young people in shaping China's biodiversity policies; the relationship between GEP and other quantitative measures of development, including GDP (Gross Domestic Product) and HDI (Human Development Index), in the evaluation of government officials at both the central and local level; the role of China's National Academy of Sciences in the provision of data used to evaluate environmental performance; the relative importance of 'inputs' and 'outputs' in quantitative measures of environmental performance; the role of national parks in China's biodiversity landscape; China's communication with the rest of the world about its environmental policies and practice; the relationship between environmental scientists in China and those in the rest of the world; and the role of insects and aquaculture within China's biodiversity policies and practice.

Dr Zhiyun Ouyang is the director and professor of the Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences, the President of the Ecological Society of China, and international member of the National Academy of Sciences of the USA.

Dr Zhiyun Ouyang is an ecologist recognised for his work on biodiversity, ecosystem services, and natural capital, and for advancing pioneering, science-based policies for sustainable development. He led the National Ecosystem Assessment and Ecosystem Services Mapping in China, identifying the critical regions for biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services at the national scale. His work has underpinned innovation in China's ecological protection policies, including key ecological function conservation areas (EFCAs) of the country; ecological protection red line planning; and new systems of national parks.

His work is a key basis for investments in improving both natural capital and human well-being, such as through ecological financial transfer payments (ETPs), which have benefited hundreds of millions of rural people living in ecologically important areas.

He has pioneered a new metric, Gross Ecosystem Product (GEP), to evaluate nature's contributions to people, and to track the performance of policies designed to secure people and nature. GEP is now widely used in China, has been adopted as an accounting indicator for valuation of ecosystem asset and services by the United Nations Statistical Commission.

China and India: development achievements and challenges

Professor Shailaja Fennell

Professor Jayati Ghosh

Professor Huaichuan Rui

Assistant Professor Isabella Weber

Thursday 3 November 2022, 3-5pm, virtual seminar

The China Forum seminar on Wednesday 3 November 2022 took the form of a roundtable event, with four leading international scholars, **Professor Shailaja Fennell**, **Professor Jayati Ghosh**, **Professor Huaichuan Rui** and **Assistant Professor Isabella Weber**.



Jayati Ghosh argued that India's development achievements are mainly reflected in its relatively rapid GDP growth without major financial crises, broadly diversified economy with industrial and software capability, huge potential to use new technology to embark on a new strategy on industrialisation, and above all, being a democratic country. However, she also highlighted some key failures in India's development, including the absence of significant structural changes, the lack of employment generation and more than 90 per cent of the employment, particularly of women, remaining informal and vulnerable, and poor human development indicators in various categories including health and education.

Huaichuan Rui firstly analysed China's development achievements and challenges in each of the three stages, i.e. 1980s-1990s, 2000-2015, and 2016 – the present. She then summarised the overall achievements in poverty alleviation and social welfare improvement, industrialisation, and complete supply chain integration, while highlighting the overall challenges as inequality, environmental sustainability, lack of original innovation, geopolitical isolation and high-tech bottleneck. She concluded with an analysis of the causes for both achievements and challenges.



Shailaja Fennell focused her talk on climate change scenarios and Indian agriculture. She firstly examined the Green Revolution lessons for sustainable agriculture, including the neglect of marginal crops such as millets. She then analysed the importance of millets for sustainable agriculture, and further moving towards sustainable entrepreneurial solutions. Finally, Professor Fennell proposed that intervention and knowledge exchange between researchers, governments and farmer institutions could be the way forward.

Isabella Weber focused her talk on state-market relations in China in the face of multiple overlapping crises, including climate change, the pandemic and geopolitical instability. The poly-crisis is triggering fierce supply-side shocks that are shaking global energy and food markets. She highlighted the role of the state in China as both participant and regulator of markets for essential goods, including basic consumption commodities, industrial inputs and finance. Through these actions the state attempts to stabilise relative prices and the economy as a whole. Isabella Weber then analysed how the Chinese government continuously monitors and fine-tunes the sector-level institutional infrastructure, which provides the micro foundation for macro stability. She concluded with the lessons that can be learned from the Chinese approach to tackling the multiple overlapping crises.



The Q&A session addressed the following issues: the role of digital development in India's development; whether India should follow the traditional industrialisation path or follow a service-focused path; the degree to which India's political system constrains the development of an independent and sustainable food supply chain; India's efforts in software technology development; exchange of ideas between China and India regarding development of millet production; geopolitical isolation and constraints upon high technology exports to China; vulnerability of global supply chains amidst global instability; and the role of state capacity in India's development.

Shailaja Fennell is Professor of Regional Transformation and Economic Security, Department of Land Economy, University of Cambridge. She was awarded her degrees of BA, MA and MPhil in Economics from the University of Delhi, and then went on to read for her MPhil and PhD at the Faculty of Economics and Politics, University of Cambridge. Her doctoral research was on long term agricultural trends in India and China. Her research addresses the relationship between regional transformation and institutional reform processes. Her work has focussed on rural-urban transitions and sustainability challenges; gendered labour markets and youth employment; and the case for the provision of public goods through development policy. Professor Fennell has led research projects in Asian and African countries for past fifteen years: on the impact of rural-urban transitions on education and employment, on gendered impacts of food insecurity and inequality, on the challenge of collective action to achieve gender equality, and on investment in education, health, and infrastructure to ensure regional transformation. She has also been a consultant on gender, inequality and national development with international agencies such as the World Bank and Oxfam, as well as with policy think tanks in Asia. She is currently a co-I on the NERC funded Regenerating Landscapes programme (2022-27) that is examining sustainable land use policies in the UK, awarded to the University of Cambridge. She was previously a co-I on the successful GCRF funded Transforming India's Green Revolution by Research and Empowerment for Sustainable food Supplies (TIGR2ESS), led by the University of Cambridge (2017-22). On that programme, she led the flagship project on Impacting the Well-Being of Urban and Rural Communities-through interventions in education, empowerment and entrepreneurship to ensure improved health and nutrition. She also led the academic team that produced the ASEAN Development Outlook on Inclusion and Sustainability launched at the end of 2021.

Jayati Ghosh taught economics at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi for nearly 35 years, and since January 2021 is Professor of Economics at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA. She has authored and/or edited 20 books and more than 200 scholarly articles. Recent books include the forthcoming co-authored book *Earth For All: A survival guide for humanity*; *The making of a catastrophe: Covid-19 and the Indian economy*, Aleph Books 2022; *When governments fail: Covid-19 and the economy*, Tulika Books and Columbia University Press 2021 (co-edited); and *Women workers in the informal economy*, Routledge 2021 (edited). Jayati Ghosh has advised governments in India and other countries, including as Chairperson of the Andhra Pradesh Commission on Farmers' Welfare in 2004, and Member of the National Knowledge Commission of India (2005-09). She is currently a Member of the UN Advisory Board on Economic and Social Affairs, the WHO Council on the Economics of Health for All and the UN Secretary General's High-Level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism, mandated to provide a vision for international cooperation to deal with current and future challenges.

Huaichuan Rui received her PhD from Judge Business School, University of Cambridge and is currently Professor of International Business at the School of Business and Management, Royal Holloway, University of London. She has been researching on China's developmental strategy since her PhD study. Based on case studies of China's coal industry, she concluded that China faced three parallel challenges of development, transition and globalization, which determined that China's reform since the 1980s must be handled cautiously, experimentally, innovatively, and in a balanced way. Rui then became a pioneering researcher on Chinese multinational enterprises and their global developmental impact. She has been leading the project

of “China’s Outward Investment and Multinational Enterprises” since 2005 and conducting extensive fieldworks including over 1,000 interviews in over 30 countries across the five continents. Since 2015, Professor Rui has been collaborating on an ERC Advanced Grant project, examining the impact of small commodity trade on the development both in China and the countries importing from China. Rui has earned her reputation through exploring and theorising multiple themes, for which she has been invited to many organizations to present her study on China and Africa’s development strategy; trade, investment and development; Belt and Road Initiatives; geopolitical power and China’s position in the world, among others.

Isabella M. Weber is a political economist working on China, global trade, and the history of economic thought. She is an Assistant Professor of Economics at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and the Research Leader for China at the Political Economy Research Institute, as well as an Associate in Research at the Fairbank Center at Harvard University. She is the author of the award-winning book *How China Escaped Shock Therapy* (2021). Isabella Weber holds a PhD in Economics from the New School for Social Research and a PhD in Development Studies from the University of Cambridge, and was a visiting researcher at Tsinghua University.

How Covid has affected China’s local government debt

Professor Jean C. Oi

Thursday 10 November 2022, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar



The China Forum lecture on Thursday 10 November 2022 was delivered by **Professor Jean C. Oi**, William Haas Professor of Chinese Politics, Stanford University; Director of Stanford China Programme, Walter H. Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center at Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies (FSI), Stanford University; and Lee Shau Kee Director of Stanford Center at Peking University.

In order to understand the impact of COVID upon China’s local government debt, Professor Oi provided an overview of the genesis of local government debt, noting that it is a long-standing issue, rooted in the 1994 tax-assignment reform (fenshuizhi). The reform created a grand bargain in the fiscal system between central and local governments, including the development of local government financing vehicles (LGFVs) to enable local borrowing and generate land revenue. Professor Oi explained that before the onset of COVID in 2019 the central government had begun to tighten risk control and increased fiscal discipline. However, three years later most local governments suffered serious fiscal deficits. In Professor Oi’s view the fiscal crisis had its origins in actions by the central government taken during COVID. She argued that the central government’s success in containing COVID during the first stage of the pandemic (12/2019 - 06/2020) led it to be overconfident and in the second stage of the COVID crisis it resumed efforts to crackdown on local government debt (07/2020 – 07/2022). However, in the third stage of the pandemic (08/2022-) the Omicron variant arrived, while a zero COVID and lockdown policy were adopted. Consequently, local governments suffered a double blow: their spending increased in order to deal with COVID in the context of diminished revenue due to enhanced risk control. Professor Oi concluded that it was the central government’s actions that pushed local government debt into freefall.

The Q&A session addressed the following issues: the capacity of the current fiscal system to manage local government debt; the reasons why Shanghai was the only local government which did not run fiscal deficit in 2022; historical lessons that might assist in devising policies to deal with the current fiscal relationship between central and local governments; causes of the transition from successful control of COVID and local government debt in the first stage of the pandemic to failure during the second stage; comparison of the fiscal

relationship between central and local governments in the UK, US and China; the extent to which alternative policies might have avoided the fiscal crisis; the contribution that local governments' increased involvement in financial activities, including investing in the high-tech sector, might make to resolving local government debt; the composition of local debts; and how to deal with the 'soft budget constraint' in China.

Jean C. Oi, a University of Michigan Ph.D. in political science, is the William Haas Professor of Chinese Politics in the Department of Political Science and a Senior Fellow of the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies (FSI) at Stanford University. She directs the China Program at the Walter H. Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center at FSI and is the founding Lee Shau Kee Director of the Stanford Center at Peking University. In March 2022, she was elected Vice President and President-Elect of the Association for Asian Studies.

Professor Oi has published extensively on political economy and reform in China. Recent publications include *Fateful Decisions: Choices that will Shape China's Future*, co-edited with Tom Fingar (2020), *Firms as Revenue Safety Net: Political Connections and Returns to the Chinese State*, co-authored (The China Quarterly 2022), and *China's Local Government Debt: The Grand Bargain*, co-authored (The China Journal 2022). Her new research focuses on China's Belt and Road Initiative.

The Chinese Roots of Linear Algebra

Dr Roger Hart

Wednesday 16 November 2022, 3 – 4.30pm, virtual seminar



The China Forum seminar on Wednesday 16 November 2022 was given by **Dr Roger Hart**, Professor of Chinese History and Director of the China Institute at Texas Southern University, and was based on his book *The Chinese Roots of Linear Algebra*.

Dr Hart's lecture addressed the development of linear algebra in ancient China. He explained that linear algebra can provide solutions to n -terms in n simultaneous linear equations. Traditional accounts assert that linear algebra is exclusively Western in origin and attribute the solution of simultaneous linear equations to Leibniz (1646-1716), using the determinant method, and Gauss (1777-1855) using eliminations. However, Dr Hart demonstrated that solutions to sets of linear equations had been described in the *Nine Chapters on Mathematical Methods* (九章算術), which date from the first century CE, and that commentaries were made on this text by Liu Hui (263CE), Jia Xian (c1025), Yang Hui (1261), Dai Zhen (1774) and others. These texts show that the essentials of the methods used today in 'Western' linear algebra – augmented matrices, elimination and determinant-style calculations – were known by the first century in imperial China.

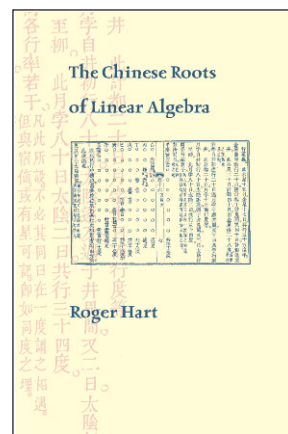
The main body of Dr Hart's lecture explained the solutions set out in the *Nine Chapters* to complex sets of linear equations using 方程 or number arrays, which are similar in appearance to the matrix formulation developed centuries later by Heisenberg and Jordan for quantum mechanics. The solutions use cross multiplication, elimination and back substitution. One example shown, called 'Problem 18', solved the prices of hemp, wheat, legumes, millet and beans from a posited relationship between these five variables. Dr Hart emphasised the visual nature of the solution, which was performed using counting rods on square arrays and relies on motor-learning of repetitive operations, similar to those used with an abacus. He also explained the 'Well Problem,' which concerns five families with various lengths of rope measuring the depth of a well. The nature of the problem is so unlikely ever to occur in practice that Dr Hart concluded that the array solutions were designed to address purely pretextual puzzles where the solution was known and the author worked back to the problem. Dr Hart also noted that 5 out of the 18 problems in the *Nine Chapters* have such a

distinctive pattern that their occurrence in the later work of the Italian mathematician Fibonacci (c1170-1250) seems like a 'fingerprint' that could not have developed separately.

Thus Dr Hart's research shows that linear algebra came to Europe in the late Middle Ages having been first developed in imperial China.

The issues addressed in the Q&A session included the following: whether or not the ancient Chinese used linear algebra to solve practical problems in such areas as production planning, logistics or astronomy; what may have motivated the ancient Chinese to perform these calculations; what type of numerals were used in the solution to the linear problems; when linear algebra came to be applied to practical problem solving in Europe; whether there is a link between the back substitution methods used by the ancient Chinese and the determinant-model developed by the Europeans much later; whether or not the ancient Chinese might have been aware of the contributions to algebra and 'algorithms' by the Islamic civilisation; how Dr Hart came to study ancient Chinese history having started out with mathematics; and to what extent Chinese mathematics may be more advanced than the rest of the world and what advantages that might provide in current developments in the second quantum revolution.

Dr Roger Hart is a leading scholar of science and technology in China. His current research focus is contemporary (twenty-first century) China and the Second Quantum Revolution, especially the quantum internet, an area in which China has surpassed the U.S. He is a Professor of Chinese history and Director of the China Institute at Texas Southern University. His previous appointments include the Wilson Center, Seoul National University, University of Texas at Austin, University of Chicago, Institute for Advanced Study, Stanford, University of California at Berkeley, and Harvard. His previous awards include Fulbright U.S. Scholar, American Council of Learned Societies, National Endowment for the Humanities, and Andrew W. Mellon. His publications include two research monographs published by Johns Hopkins University Press. He earned his BS in mathematics from MIT and MS. in mathematics from Stanford, and his PhD in Chinese history and history of science from UCLA. He has lived in China for six years; his modern Chinese is near-native and his classical Chinese is excellent. He has spent the last three years studying the newly developed field of quantum information science. His website is www.rhart.org



Exotic, marginal, and 'invisible' aspects of Early Modern China and the Maritime Silk Road

Professor Dr Angela Schottenhammer

Tuesday 29 November 2022, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar



The China Forum seminar on Tuesday 29 November 2022 was given by **Professor Dr Angela Schottenhammer**, Professor of Chinese Middle Period and Early Modern World History, KU Leuven; Director of the Crossroads Research Centre; Selected Senior Researcher, School of Economics, Shanghai University; and research affiliate, Geography Department, UGent.

Professor Angela Schottenhammer's lecture analysed four aspects related to the Trans-Pacific trade in the early modern era. First, what the Trans-Pacific routes were. Second, what the Chinese knew about Peru and other countries along the routes at this period. Third, the commodity composition of the trade. It included: balsam and chocolate, which reached China from Spanish America; Chinese ceramic jars and cups shipped to Spanish America; and ivory pieces re-exported from China to the Philippines and carved there. Fourth, the extent of migration along the trade routes.

Professor Schottenhammer concluded that there were manifold exchanges across the Pacific at this time. Mainland Chinese, not only from Fujian but also from Guangdong and Zhejiang, were very active in these exchanges. Although Kangxi prohibited Chinese ships from sailing to Southeast Asia in 1717, individuals, especially from Fujian, continued to support a flourishing exchange across the Pacific. They built a well organised network of merchants, who were either directly or indirectly involved in trade with Spanish America.



The Q&A session addressed the following issues: trans-Pacific trade and its impact on Chinese agriculture, population and society; the scale and geographical extent of the trade in maize, sweet potato, chilli and other goods; different forms of documentation and other communications that Professor Schottenhammer and her team are investigating; details of things that did not travel, in contrast to those that did travel, such as chocolate; whether there was an official diplomatic relationship at that time between the Spanish Empire and Manchu China; the degree to which these influenced diplomatic relations in subsequent periods, including, even, contemporary international relations; additional trade hubs other than Manila that might have connected East Asia to the New World; sources of the balsam that reached China; the journey time taken by ships across the Pacific; the different roles of the Chinese, Spanish and other nationalities in trans-Pacific trade; and the extent to which scholars other than Professor Schottenhammer and her team are studying these issues.

Angela Schottenhammer (蕭婷) is full professor of Chinese Middle Period & Early Modern World History at KU Leuven, Belgium, Selected Senior Researcher at the School of Economics at Shanghai University (经济学院, 上海大学), and research affiliate at the Geography Department, UGent. From 2009 to 2020 she has also been research director and adjunct professor at the Indian Ocean World Centre (IOWC), McGill University, Canada.

Angela Schottenhammer obtained her Ph.D. in 1993 from Würzburg University with a thesis on “Song Period Tomb inscriptions” (MA 1989 on Liao Mosha and the Cultural Revolution) and her Habilitation degree 2000 from LMU Munich University, with a thesis on the port city of Quanzhou during the Song period (960-1279).

Professor Schottenhammer is director of the Crossroads Research Centre, chief editor of the academic journal *Crossroads* and PI of the ERC AdG TRANSPACIFIC (grant ID 833143). Her research focuses on Chinese history, archaeology, science and technology, and on China’s and Asia’s global interaction and inter-connectivity, through both maritime and overland routes (with a main focus on the period between 650 to 1800).

Refashioning the East Asian Order

Ambassador Chas W. Freeman

Wednesday 30 November 2022, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar



The China Forum lecture on Wednesday 30 November 2022 was delivered by **Ambassador Chas W. Freeman**, Visiting Scholar, Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs, Brown University; former U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense; former U.S. Ambassador to Saudi Arabia; and Principal American interpreter during President Nixon’s visit to Beijing in 1972.

Ambassador Freeman’s lecture began by providing a historical overview of the East Asian order. He examined the way in which the USA filled the power vacuum in the region after Japan’s defeat in World War II. He then analysed the changes that have

taken place in the region: there is no longer a power vacuum; most East Asian states are now prosperous and have developed robust self-defence capabilities; the USA no longer leads the region's economy; and there are doubts in the region about the USA's reliability as a strategic partner. These changes mean that the US needs to shift its policy towards the region. Freeman analysed the multiple factors driving Sino-American hostility. Among these factors, Taiwan is the only one that could lead to a mutually devastating nuclear exchange between the USA and China. He argued that American policy towards the region fails to consider the capabilities of the region's independent states and their need to coexist with a reinvigorated China. American policy excludes China from any significant role in managing the affairs within its own region and relies on military means to accomplish its objectives. In Freeman's view, American policy towards the region increases the danger of war. He proposed



that the USA and its allies need a grand strategy that links diplomacy, economic policy and military structures into a framework of assurances and constraints that overcome the threats to the region's peace and prosperity. Ambassador Freeman concluded that reasoning about China by analogy with Germany, Japan or the USSR misinterprets the nature of the challenges to the existing order that China presents. The Asia-Pacific region is much readier for a self-reliant security architecture than current American policies assume. The region would prefer a stable order rather than confrontation between the USA and China.

The Q&A session addressed the following issues: the contributions that political, diplomatic, economic and commercial relationships can make to improving the US-China relationship; China's relationship with Taiwan; comparison of the China-Taiwan relationship with the US-Puerto Rico relationship; the impact of America's military-industrial complex upon the China-US relationship; an enquiry about the details of Freeman's proposed 'grand strategy' for the USA and its allies to link diplomacy, economic policy and military structures in order to overcome threats to the region's peace and prosperity; the extent to which the US government has an official policy to maintain its global hegemonic position.

Chas W. Freeman, Jr. is a Visiting Scholar at Brown University's Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs. He is the former Assistant Secretary of Defense for international security affairs (1993-1994), Ambassador to Saudi Arabia (1989-1992), Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for African affairs (1986-1989), and Chargé d'Affaires at Bangkok (1984-1986) and Beijing (1981-1984). He served as Vice Chair of the Atlantic Council (1996-2008); co-Chair of the United States China Policy Foundation (1996-2009); President of the Middle East Policy Council (1997-2009), and Chair of the Committee for the Republic (2003-2020).

He was the principal American interpreter during President Nixon's path-breaking 1972 visit to Beijing, the editor of the Encyclopedia Britannica article on diplomacy, and the author of *America's Continuing Misadventures in the Middle East*; *Interesting Times: China, America, and the Shifting Balance of Prestige*; *the Diplomat's Dictionary*; and *Arts of Power: Statecraft and Diplomacy*.

Chas W. Freeman is a graduate of Yale University and the Harvard Law School who studied at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México and the 國立臺中教育大學. A compendium of his speeches is available at chasfreeman.net.

SEMINARS AND EVENTS WHICH TOOK PLACE PRIOR TO THE PERIOD DETAILED IN THIS REPORT ARE LISTED BELOW:

Detailed accounts of these events can be found on the [China Forum past events webpage](#). From February 2019 – March 2020 all events were in person; from November 2020 onwards all events were virtual:

Liangzhu and the origins of complex society in China

Professor Lord Renfrew

Emeritus Fellow and former Master of Jesus College, Cambridge; Senior Fellow and Founding Director of the McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, University of Cambridge

Thursday 21 February 2019, 5.30 – 7pm, Webb Library

Painting in China today: the art of Liu Dahong

Professor Shane McCausland Percival David Professor of Art, SOAS

Johnson Chang Expert in East Asian Art

Professor Liu Dahong Contemporary artist and supervisor of graduate art students in the College of Fine Art, Shanghai Normal University

Wednesday 27 February 2019, 3 – 7pm, Frankopan Hall

China in the World

WPP – China Centre round table seminar

Panel session chaired by **Professor Peter Nolan CBE**, the panellists being:

Professor Kerry Brown Professor of Chinese Politics and Director of the Lau China Institute, King's College, London

Lord Stephen Green Chair, Asia House and former Group Chairman and CEO, HSBC

Lord Jim O'Neill Chair, Chatham House and former Chief Economist, Goldman Sachs

Mr Stephen Perry Chair, The 48 Group Club

Dr Jin Zhang SRA and Deputy Director, China Centre, Jesus College

Tuesday 30 April 2019, 1.30 – 5.30pm, Frankopan Hall

Why is the world's transition to renewable energy moving so quickly?

Professor Peter Littlewood

Professor of Physics, University of Chicago; Founding Executive Chair of the Faraday Institution; former Director of Argonne National Laboratory, USA; former Professor of Physics and Head of the Cavendish Laboratory, University of Cambridge.

Thursday 30 May 2019, 5.30 – 7 pm, Webb Library

A turning point? Branding Jingdezhen blue-and-white porcelain in the fourteenth century with special reference to the Islamic Market

Professor Shih Chingfei

Professor at the Graduate Institute of Art History, National Taiwan University; Former Jing Brand Fellow, Needham Research Institute and visiting Fellow, Murray Edwards College, Cambridge.

Monday 3 June 2019, 5.30 – 7pm, Bawden Room

Earth and environment in East Asia: risks and opportunities

Professor Simon Redfern

Head of Department of Earth Sciences and Professor of Mineral Physics, University of Cambridge; Fellow, Jesus College, Cambridge; Dean elect of the College of Science and President's Chair elect in Earth Sciences, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore.

Wednesday 5 June 2019, 5.30 – 7pm, Bawden Room

Understanding modern China: where does it come from and where is it going?

Professor Zhang Weiwei

Professor of International Relations at Fudan University; Senior Research Fellow at the Chunqiu Institute; author of *The China Wave: Rise of a Civilizational State*

Tuesday 15 October 2019, 10.30am – 12pm, Webb Library

China's Belt and Road Initiative – understanding its potential impact

Sir Douglas Flint CBE

Chairman, Standard Life Aberdeen; HM Treasury Envoy, Belt and Road Initiative; former Chairman, HSBC

Thursday 24 October 2019, 5.30 – 7pm, Webb Library

China's multi-layered state capacity in the context of central-local relations

Professor Zhu Tianbiao

Director, Institute of Political Economy, Zhejiang University, China

Monday 4 November 2019, 5.30 – 7pm, Webb Library

Iron and steel in Chinese history

Dr Donald B. Wagner

Senior Research Fellow (Emeritus), Nordic Institute of Asian Studies, University of Copenhagen; expert on the history of science and technology in China and author of *Needham's Science & Civilisation in China, vol.V: technology and metallurgy*

Tuesday 26 November 2019, 5.30 – 7pm, Webb Library

Canada and China: challenges and opportunities

Dr John McCallum

Senior Strategic Advisor, McMillan LLP; former Canadian Ambassador to China

Wednesday 22 January 2020, 5.30 – 7pm, Frankopan Hall

Institutions, infrastructure and geopolitics in Eurasian connectivity: a global trade hub Yiwu

Joint Seminar with Cambridge Central Asia Forum, University of Sussex Asia Centre and Royal Holloway, University of London

Professor Magnus Marsden Professor of Social Anthropology and Director of the Asia Centre, University of Sussex

Professor Huaichuan Rui Professor of International Business, School of Business and Management, Royal Holloway, University of London

Dr Paul Anderson Senior Lecturer in Middle Eastern Studies, University of Cambridge

Chaired by **Professor Peter Nolan** (Director, China Centre, Jesus College)

and **Dr Siddharth Saxena** (Chair, Cambridge Central Asia Forum)

Monday 27 January 2020, 3 – 6.30pm, Webb Library

East, West and the search for universal values: China's century?

Lord Stephen Green

Chairman, Asia House; Chairman, Natural History Museum; former UK Minister of State for Trade and Investment, HMG; former Group Chairman and CEO, HSBC

Tuesday 4 February 2020, 5.30 – 7pm, Webb Library

The China Pakistan economic corridor: progress, opportunities and perils

Joint Seminar with Cambridge Central Asia Forum

Dr Tayyab Safdar

Post Doctoral Researcher, Centre of Development Studies, University of Cambridge

Friday 7 February 2020, 5.30 – 7pm, Webb Library

New silk roads and new citadels: the dragon, the crescent and the mosedeer

Tan Sri Dato' Azman Mokhtar

Distinguished Visiting Fellow, Centre of Development Studies, University of Cambridge; Former CEO, Khazanah Nasional Berhad

Thursday 12 March 2020, 5.30 – 7pm, Webb Library

Interacting with China in a complex world

WPP – China Centre round table seminar

Panel session chaired by **Professor Peter Nolan CBE**, including discussion of audience questions, the panellists being:

Rt Hon Sir Oliver Letwin Director, Project for Peaceful Competition Ltd; former Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and former Minister for Government Policy, HMG

Professor Peter Littlewood Founding Executive Chair, The Faraday Institution; Former Director, Argonne National Laboratory; Professor of Physics, University of Chicago

Lord Jim O'Neill Chair, Chatham House; Vice Chair, The Northern Powerhouse Partnership; former Commercial Secretary to the Treasury, HMG

Lord Adair Turner Chair, Energy Transitions Committee; Senior Fellow and former Chair, Institute for New Economic Thinking; former Chair, UK Financial Services Authority

Dr Jin Zhang Deputy Director, China Centre, Jesus College; Senior Research Fellow, CCDT

Tuesday 17 November 2020, 3.30 – 5.30pm, virtual seminar

The children of China's great migration (CUP, 2020)

Professor Rachel Murphy

Professor of Chinese Development and Society, University of Oxford; President, British Association for Chinese Studies

Wednesday 27 January 2021, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar

Ceramics and society in the Song dynasty

Dr Rose Kerr

Honorary Associate, Needham Research Institute, Cambridge; Former Keeper of the Far Eastern Department, Victoria and Albert Museum

Thursday 25 February 2021, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar

A fresh look at climate change: climate risks and COP26

Professor Sir David King

Honorary Executive Chairman, Centre for Climate Repair at Cambridge; Former Chief Scientific Adviser, HMG; Emeritus Professor, Department of Chemistry, University of Cambridge

Wednesday 3 March 2021, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar

Can we avoid war with China?

Rt Hon Sir Oliver Letwin

Visiting Professor, Policy Institute, King's College London; Visiting Professor, Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Reading; former Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and former Minister for Government Policy, HMG

Tuesday 9 March 2021, 5 – 7pm, virtual seminar

China in the 1980s: lessons for today

John Gittings

Research Associate, China Institute, SOAS, University of London; Associate Editor, Oxford International Encyclopaedia of Peace; Former Assistant Foreign Editor and Chief Foreign Leader-Writer, *The Guardian* (UK)

Tuesday 16 March 2021, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar

China re-connects: joining a deep-rooted past to a new world order

Professor Wang Gungwu CBE

Former Vice Chancellor, University of Hong Kong; Former Director & former Chairman of East Asia Institute, Singapore

Friday 19 March 2021, 10 – 11.30am, virtual seminar

China's inner Asian border with Russia: what does it reveal about relations between the two countries?

Professor Dame Caroline Humphrey DBE

Sigrid Rausing Professor of Collaborative Anthropology (Emeritus); Founder and Research Director, MIASU (Mongolia and Inner Asia Studies Unit), University of Cambridge

Thursday 6 May 2021, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar

Whither Socialism with Chinese Characteristics?

Dr David Lane

Emeritus Reader in Sociology and Emeritus Fellow of Emmanuel College, University of Cambridge; former Professor of Sociology, University of Birmingham

Thursday 13 May 2021, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar

The history of China's high-speed trains

Professor Huaichuan Rui

Professor of International Business, School of Business and Management, Royal Holloway, University of London

Thursday 20 May 2021, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar

The future of Hong Kong

Professor Ian Grenville Cross SC

Former Director of Public Prosecutions of Hong Kong (1997-2009); Honorary Professor of Law, University of Hong Kong; Visiting Professor of Law, Chinese University of Hong Kong

Isabel Hilton OBE

Founder and Editor *China Dialogue*; Columnist for *The Guardian*; former presenter of BBC The World Tonight; Research Associate, Centre of International Studies and Diplomacy, SOAS, University of London

Ronny Tong SC

Non-official Member of the Executive Council of Hong Kong; Convenor of the Path of Democracy think tank

Professor David Zweig

Professor Emeritus, Division of Social Sciences, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology; Director, Transnational China Consulting Ltd; Vice President, Centre for China & Globalization

Tuesday 25 May 2021, 10.30am – 12.30pm, virtual seminar

The other half billion: rural development in China

Professor Robert Ash

Emeritus Professor with reference to China and Taiwan, Founder and Professorial Research Associate, Centre of Taiwan Studies, Emeritus Professor, SOAS China Institute, SOAS, University of London

Thursday 3 June 2021, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar

How China escaped shock therapy: the market reform debate (Routledge, 2021)

Assistant Professor Isabella Weber

Assistant Professor of Economics and the Research Leader for China, Political Economy Research Institute, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Book talk and seminar

Commentators:

Professor Barry Naughton

Sokwanlok Chair of Chinese International Affairs, School of Global Policy and Strategy, UC San Diego

Professor Dwight H. Perkins

Harold Hitchens Burbank Research Professor of Political Economy, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University

Wednesday 9 June 2021, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar

The Sino-Western détente

Lord Jim O'Neill

Chair, Chatham House; former Commercial Secretary to the Treasury, HMG

Wednesday 16 June 2021, 5 – 6.30pm, virtual seminar

7. MARKETING OF SEMINARS

Invitations to the China Forum seminars are circulated within the College, widely within the University community and in a more limited way externally. The China Centre Review identified that the seminar programme should be for the benefit of the academic community in Cambridge. Seminar invitations are circulated to the following groups:

- Jesus College Society;
- Jesus College undergraduates, postgraduates, research associates and staff (via half term cards);
- Jesus College alumni who have expressed an interest in the College’s China-related activities;
- Cambridge Central Asia Forum;
- Various University of Cambridge Faculties, Departments and Centres (up to about 25 Faculties, Departments and Centres, depending on the seminar topic);
- Cambridge University Chinese Society (CUCS); the Chinese Students & Scholars Association, Cambridge (CSSA-Cam); the Cambridge Association of British and Chinese University Students (Cambridge ABACUS);
- Approximately 40 external academics and business people with a particular interest in ‘understanding China’, at the invitation of the Director of the China Forum;
- the China Forum mailing list, currently numbering approximately 125 (individuals who have requested to be on the events mailing list);
- any individuals who a particular speaker wishes to invite to the seminar at which they are speaking.

8. NEXT STEPS AND CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS

The China Forum Committee and China Forum personnel will continue to work to implement the remaining recommendations of the China Centre Review.

A concern of the Committee has been that the China Forum should work towards achieving a more even balance in the gender of speakers in the seminar programme. This has largely been achieved in 2022/23 and the China Forum will continue to review this and work to keep a more even gender balance in its speakers.

Additionally, the China Forum hopes to find ways to enhance the engagement of the fellowship and student body within College, and the academic community of the University more widely, to increase participation amongst those groups in the China Forum seminars.

9. DETAILED NOTES ON FUNDING

CAMBRIDGE CHINA DEVELOPMENT TRUST (CCDT)

The CCDT is an external charity registered in England (registration no. 1111605). The Director of the China Forum is a trustee. None of the other trustees are connected to Jesus College, although a number have links to the University.

The CCDT paid the College an annual sum of £13,000 for rent of two offices in West Court. The rent was set based on advice from Bidwells. CCDT occupied the offices from March 2018.

The CCDT provided part-time administrative support from two offices in West Court. The staff based in West Court are allowed to use the College facilities, such as the Roost, for which they pay.

In addition, the CCDT has paid for:

- very small sums to additional individuals for very occasional administrative and event support for the China Forum;
- the external costs of China Forum events, mostly seminars, hosted by the College;
- direct to the suppliers some other costs relating to China Forum events (e.g. printing, design work).

CCDT FUNDING FOR THE CHINA FORUM

The CCDT provided support to the China Forum at a cost of £26,570. The period of the CCDT expenditure covers their financial year (Aug 2021 – July 2022), as reported in their financial accounts. These costs related to administrative and other costs to facilitate the China Forum seminars. This is separate from the rent paid to the College, which was accounted as income by the College and by CCDT as a general overhead. The rental agreement and the provision of administration and other support by the CCDT ended on 31 August 2022.

COLLEGE FUNDING

Since 1 September 2022, the China Forum has been funded directly by the College. The long term funding of the China Forum will be considered by College Council.

Administrative support is provided through a freelance contract. The costs for the period September-December 2022 were £9,315. Other costs were £1,397 relating to the China Forum seminars and signage.

The role of Director of the China Forum is non-stipendiary.