

China Geography Special Group, AAG Fall 2016 Newsletter

中国地理学组通讯
November, 2016

Editor: Xinyue Ye, Department of Geography, Kent State University

Chair's Letter



Chair:
Enru Wang



Vice Chair:
Xiaobo Su



Secretary:
Xinyue Ye

Dear China Geographers,

Greetings from the still-somewhat-sunny state of North Dakota! I hope you are enjoying the beautiful season and fall color! In this column I would provide some updated information about our Specialty Group and the upcoming AAG annual meeting in Boston.

Our group continued to expand. As of the end of the year 2015, our membership reached a historic high of 513! China Specialty Group is probably one of the fastest growing specialty groups in the AAG. Thanks to all of you, we are among the largest country or region-based specialty groups in the AAG (please see the chart attached). While our specialty group is growing bigger, I hope that we have your continued support to make it stronger. Let us all make effort to promote CGSG and make it more visible within the AAG. There are several things that we can do together before and at the AAG annual meeting.

First, if you are organizing session and/or panel that is on or related to China, please consider seeking sponsorship from China Specialty Group.

Second, students please consider participating in competitions that CGSG organizes, including best student paper award, student travel awards, best illustrated paper/poster award. Given that our group are in a good financial position, the Executive Committee has increased (yes, slightly) the amount of money awarded to each categories at the 2017 meeting in Boston. For details and submission deadlines, please check the announcements sent through the AAG Knowledge Community and our China Geography Listserve (cgsg-l@uleth.ca). Faculty colleagues, please encourage your students to participate.

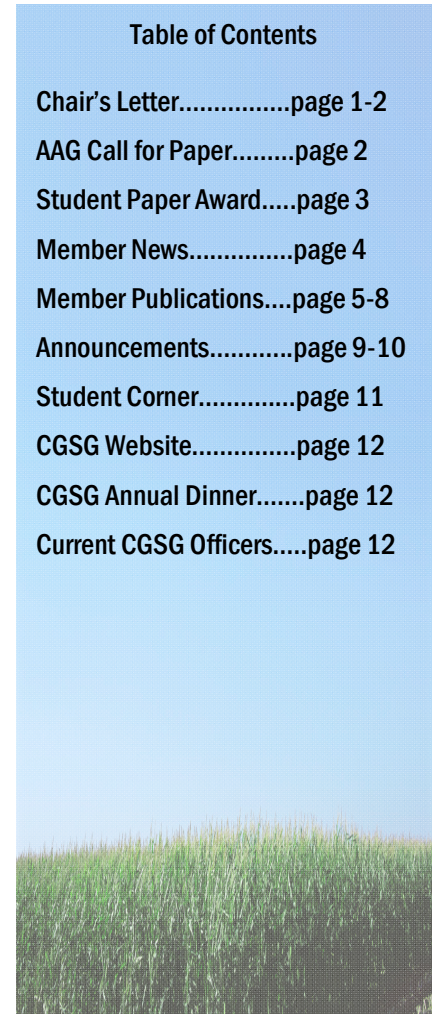
Third, please plan to attend the CGSG Plenary Session. At the 2017 meeting in Boston, Professor Peter Bol, Carswell Professor of East Asian Languages Civilization and Vice Provost for Advances in Learning, Harvard University, will present "Towards a Spatial Analysis of China: Present and Past".

Lastly, I would also strongly encourage you to plan to attend other important CGSG events, including Business Meeting and annual group banquet, as well as China sessions.

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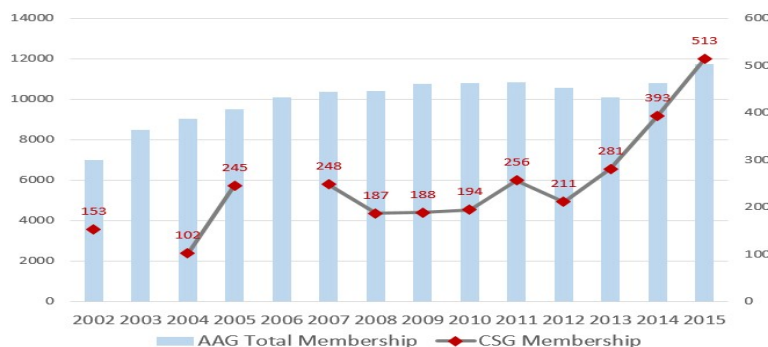
(Continued on page 2)



Currently, our group's website (<http://cgsg.geo.msu.edu/>) is hosted at Michigan State University and maintained by Jia Feng. We will try to update the website on regular basis, though most announcements will continue to be sent through the AAG Knowledge Community and to the listserv. Stay tuned for more information and updates to come this year!

Wish you all a pleasant and successful Fall term!

Enru Wang
On behalf of the CGSG officers



AAG and China Specialty Group Memberships Over Time

Source: Membership data supplied by the AAG, also published in the Guide to Programs (numbers are as of Dec. 31 of each year, missing data some years)

AAG Meeting Boston, Massachusetts, April 5-9, 2017

Call for Sessions and Papers

Dear China Geographers,

Please note that the deadline for submitting abstracts and organized sessions is **November 17th**. As usual, your participation is key to our success in organizing China Geography sponsored sessions in Boston.

We encourage everyone to use the China Geography listserv (cgsg-l@uleth.ca) to circulate ideas and session calls. Below is a list of suggested session ideas for the Boston meeting. This is not a complete list. I am sure there are a sea of ideas to be proposed for the Boston meeting along the lines of social, political, economic, cultural, spatial, and environmental changes in China, a comparative context, and beyond. We can also help you find sessions if you have a paper that you want to make sure gets organized into a China Geography sponsored session.

- Cultural Geography (Food and Music)
- China and Africa Cooperation
- China's One Belt One Road strategy
- Housing in China
- Immigrants in Chinese Cities
- Inequality in China
- New and Open Data in China
- Smart Cities and Human Mobility in China
- Rural China

If you are interested in joining a session sponsored or co-sponsored by CGSG, organizing a CGSG-sponsored session, or simply seeking co-sponsorship from CGSG for your session, please contact the CGSG (enru.wang@email.und.edu). We will work to ensure minimal scheduling conflicts and adequate room assignments for our sessions. We look forward to meeting you all in Boston in 2017!

Enru Wang
CGSG Chair

CGSG Annual Student Paper Awards

The China Geography Specialty Group sponsors an annual award to recognize distinguished student research and paper presentation in a CGSG-sponsored session at the annual AAG conference. At the CGSG Business Meeting of the 2016 AAG Conference, the followings awards were presented:

- The Outstanding Paper Awards were presented to Yicong Yang (Cornell University) for her paper “Understanding informal spaces in a Chinese megacity” and Yifei Wu (The University of Hong Kong) for her paper “Reproducing urban space with over-drafted capital: mega-events, local debts, and spectacular urbanism in China”. Travel awards were presented to Luyi Tong (China University of Geosciences) and Ningning Chen (National University of Singapore).
- Illustrated Paper Award was presented to Yahan Teng (Texas State University).



AAG Business Meeting, San Francisco, April 2016



David Edgington (CGSG Chair 2015-16) with Student Paper Award winners

Call for Submissions to the 2017 Conference in Boston

Eligibility:

- Student members of the CGSG at all academic levels (undergraduates or graduate students) are qualified.
- The student must be the sole author and presenter of the paper.
- Multiple submission to more than one specialty groups for Student Paper Award is NOT allowed. Papers being considered by other AAG Specialty Group for student Paper Award are not qualified for the CGSG Student Paper Award.
- Participants must have submitted the abstract and appropriate program participation fee to the AAG for participation at the AAG Annual Meeting in Boston, April 5 - 9, 2017.

Award:

A \$300 prize will be awarded for the best paper, in addition to an award certificate and prepaid lunch at the AAG Awards Banquet. Two Travel Awards of \$150 each will go to the First and Second Runner-up. A committee of faculty from the China Specialty Group will evaluate the papers. Evaluation criteria for the award include the originality of the research, the soundness and creativity of the research design and methodology; the validity of conclusions; and quality of the presentation. The award will be announced at the Business Meeting of the China Specialty Group in Boston in April 2017, and published in the CGSG and AAG newsletters..

Guidelines for Submission: To be considered for the competition, authors should e-mail a copy of the paper's title and abstract to the CGSG Chair by January 1st, 2017. Please include author's name, academic level (undergraduate, master's or doctoral), academic institution, department or program, current address, phone number, and E-MAIL. An electronic version of the paper, in Word format, must reach the Chair no later than February 15, 2017.

Please send your submission and questions to the CGSG chair at enru.wang@und.edu by January 1st, 2017.

Member News

Kam Wing Chan (University of Washington) did his latest annual September trip to China, visiting Xian again under a distinguished scholar program at Xian Jiaotong University. He gave a talk on hukou reforms and participated in a research project on migrant family and children. He also continued to speak to the public media on China's urbanization and hukou reform, and served as Associate Editor for Eurasian Geography and Economics. Please visit his site at <http://faculty.washington.edu/kwchan>

Cindy Fan (UCLA) recently gave a keynote at Peking University and invited talks at Qinghai University and at a Strategic Research Conference in Berkeley. She was a feature speaker on the Pacific Council's "Getting a Grip on China's Economy" program, a guest on Hong Kong TVB's 望子成才美國篇, and a panelist on China Radio International's show on China's urbanization. Her papers in *Trialog: A Journal for Planning and Building in a Global Context*, *The China Review*, and *Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy & Society* have been published and she has a forthcoming paper in *Papers in Regional Science*. Since May of 2016 she has led UCLA delegations to Qatar, Japan, Hong Kong, Philippines, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, and China.

Youqin Huang (SUNY-Albany) received two grants: one from Peking University – Lincoln Institute Center for Urban Development and Land Policies (PLC), to study inclusionary housing policy in Beijing (2016-2018), the other one from National Social Science Funds of China (NSSFC) to study the Impact of population aging and population Policy Change on Real Estate in China (2016-2018). She serves as Co-PI for both grants.

Do Yeon Lim (Seoul National University, Korea) used Evolutionary Economic Geography to analyze whether regional co-evolution is happening in Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, China in the thesis "Knowledge Transfer and Regional Evolution: A case study of the wine industry in the Eastern Foot of Helan Mountain region, Ningxia, China".

Lucas Reyes (California State University, Long Beach) was awarded the Project HOGAR (Hispanic Opportunities for Graduate Access and Retention) Student Recruitment Scholarship and continues to promote China geography on campus and within the California Geographical Society (CGS).

Xiaoping Shen (Central Connecticut State University) coauthored a paper on elderly dining services in Beijing in the *Professional Geographer*. She also presented two papers. One is on senior housing facilities at 33rd International Geographical Congress in Beijing in August 2016 and another is on lung cancer mortality and area factors at Conference on Geospatial Approaches to Cancer Control and Population Sciences in September 2016 on NIH Campus in Bethesda MD. She is Interim Director of International Studies Program - an interdisciplinary program with over 100 majors and grad students in six specialty areas.

Xiaobo Su (University of Oregon) spent seven months on his sabbatical leave in China. During this period, he coorganized two academic conferences in South China Normal University and Shaanxi Normal University respectively. He also did fieldwork in the border areas between Yunnan province and Myanmar to investigate transnational agricultural trade and cross-border mobilities.

Yehua Dennis Wei (University of Utah) has edited two special issues lately. A special issue titled *Urban Land and Sustainable Development* has been published in *Sustainability* and will be published as a book in 2017. His special issue on *Geography of Inequality in Asia* in *Geographical Review* has been online and will be published in 2017.

Max Woodworth (Ohio State University) is working on a research project with Shih-shen Chien (National Taiwan University) titled "Modular Urbanism: Policy Isomorphism and Spatial-Temporal Irregularity in Contemporary China" funded by Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation. He also has a research project underway funded by Asia Foundation titled "Mapping China's New Energy Frontiers."

Xinyue Ye (Kent State University) received two National Science Foundation grants: "Support Community-Scale Intervention Initiatives by Visually Mining Social Media Trajectory Data" and "A Cloud-based Visual Analytics Software System to Advance Transportation Studies Using Emerging Urban Trajectory Data". He co-edited four journal special issues: *Integrating Big Social Data, Computing, and Modeling for Spatial Social Science*, *Cartography and Geographic Information Science*; *Human Dynamics in the Mobile and Big Data Era*, *International Journal of Geographical Information Science*; *The New Data Landscape for Regional and Urban Analysis*, *GeoJournal*; *Behavior-Driven Agent-Based Models of Spatial Systems*, *Annals of Regional Science*.

Yu Zhou (Vassar College) co-led a group of 27 students and 11 faculty and staff members from Vassar College visiting Shanghai, Wuhan, Yichang, Enshi in Hubei province and Beijing to study various environmental issues in China from urban water problem to agricultural changes in March 2016, funded partly by the Exploratory Stage grant of Luce Initiative on Asia and Environment. The trip brought several environmental science scholars to China for the first time and promised to establish long-term relationship with Chinese universities on Environmental Studies. She also co-edited *China as an Innovation Nation* with William Lazonick, and Yifei Sun, published in Oxford University Press. She co-authored the introduction of the book, and one chapter on the evolution of state policy on innovation. The book tracks technological development in 10 major technological sectors in China, written by leading experts in these sectors. Collectively, it represents the most in depth knowledge and academic analysis about the past and potential for Chinese technological innovation in recent decades.

Members Recent or Forthcoming Publications

Journal articles and book chapters

Chan, Kam Wing (forthcoming). "The Emerging Transformation of China's Economic Geography," in Dariusz Wójcik, Maryann P. Feldman, Gordon Clark, and Meric Gertler (eds.), *New Oxford Handbook of Economic Geography*, Oxford University Press.

Chan, Kam Wing, 2016. "Migration, and Development Strategies in Post-1949 China," in Florence Padovani (ed.), *Indian and Chinese Forced Migration: A Comparison*, Rowman and Littlefield, USA.

Chan, Kam Wing and Alana Boland, 2016. "Cities of East Asia," in Stanley Brunn, Maureen Hays-Mitchell, Donald Zeigler and Jessica Graybill (eds.), *Cities of the World: World Regional Urban Development*, 6th ed., Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield, pp.456-500.

Chen G., Glasmeier, A.K., Zhang, M., and Shao, Y. (2016) "Urbanization and income inequality in post-reform China: A causal analysis based on time series data" *PLoS ONE* 11(7): e0158826. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0158826

Chen, J., J. Gao, F. Yuan and Y.D. Wei (2016) Spatial determinants of urban land expansion in globalizing Nanjing, China. *Sustainability*, 868; doi:10.3390/su8090868.

Gaughan A., Stevens F., Huang Z., Nieves J., Sorichetta A., Lai S., Ye, X, Linard C, Hornby G, Hay S., Yu H., & Tatem A. (2016) Spatiotemporal patterns of population in mainland China, 1990 to 2010. *Nature: Scientific Data* 3. <http://www.nature.com/articles/sdata20165>

Huang, C., Ye, X, Deng, C., Zhang, Z., & Wan, Z. (2016) Mapping above-ground biomass by integrating optical and SAR imagery: A case study of Xixi National Wetland Park, China. *Remote Sensing*. doi:10.3390/rs8080647

Huang, H. and Y.H.D. Wei (2016) Spatial Inequality of Foreign Direct Investment in China: Institutional Change, Agglomeration Economies, and Market Access. *Applied Geography* 69: 99-111.

Huang, Youqin, Qian Song, Ran Tao, and Zai Liang, 2016. Migration, Family Arrangement and Children's Health in China, *Child Development*. Accepted.

Huang, Youqin and Ran Tao, 2015. Housing Migrants in Chinese Cities: Current Status and Policy Design, *Environment and Planning C: Government and Policy*. Vol. 33, No. 3: 640-660 (Advance online publication in 2014, doi:10.1068/c12120)

Huang, Youqin and Chengdong Yi, 2015. "Invisible Migrant Enclaves in Chinese Cities: Underground Living in Beijing, China", *Urban Studies*, 52(15): 2948-2973. Published online first in December, 2014. DOI: 10.1177/0042098014564535

Huang, Z., C. He and Y.H.D. Wei (2016) A Comparative Study of Land Efficiency of Electronics Firms Located Within and Outside Development Zones in Shanghai. *Habitat International* 56: 63-73.

Li, H., Y.D. Wei, Z. Yu and G. Tian (2016) Amenity, Accessibility and Housing Values in Metropolitan USA: A Study of Salt Lake County, Utah. *Cities* 59: 113-125.

Li, H., Y.H.D. Wei and Y Ning (2016) Spatial and Temporal Evolution of Urban Systems in China during Rapid Urbanization. *Sustainability* 8, 651; doi:/10.3390/su8070651.

Li, Si-ming, Shenjing He and Kam Wing Chan (eds.), (in press). *Changing China: Migration, Communities and Governance in Cities*, Taylor & Francis.

- Li, S., Ye, X., Lee, J., Gong, J., & Qin, C. (2016) Spatiotemporal analysis of housing prices in China: a big data perspective. *Applied Spatial Analysis and Policy*. doi: 10.1007/s12061-016-9185-3
- Pomeroy, Jennifer Y. and Agnes Ragone. "Charcoal Making and Deforestation in Gros Mangle, Haiti: Exploring Sustainability at Local Scale." *The Pennsylvania Geographer* 53(Fall/Winter, 2015): 48-57.
- Qiao, J., Lee, J., & Ye, X. (2016). Spatiotemporal Evolution of Specialized Villages and Rural Development: A Case Study of Henan Province, China. *Annals of the American Association of Geographers*, 106(1), 57-75.
- Shaw, S., Tsou, M., & Ye, X. (2016) Human Dynamics in the Mobile and Big Data Era, *International Journal of Geographical Information Science*, 30 (9): 1687-1693.
- Su, Xiaobo and Chen, Zhigang (in press) Embeddedness and Migrant Tourism Entrepreneurs: A Polanyian Perspective, *Environment and Planning A*.
- Su, Xiaobo (2016) Repositioning Yunnan: security and China's geoeconomic engagement with Myanmar, *Area Development and Policy*, 1 (2): 178-194.
- Su, Xiaobo (2016) Development Intervention and Transnational Narcotics Control in Northern Myanmar, *Geoforum*, 68:10-20.
- Toops, S. 2016. "Reflections on China's Belt and Road Initiative". *Area Development and Policy*, 1-9.
- Veeck, G., Clifton W. Pannell, Youqin Huang and Shuming Bao, 2015. *China's Geography: Globalization and the Dynamics of Political, Economic and Social Change*. Boulder, CO: Roman & Littlefield Publishers.
- Wang, L., Young, S.S., Wang, W., Ren, G.P., Xiao, W., Long, Y.C., Li, J.S., Zhu, J.G., 2016. Conservation priorities of forest ecosystems with evaluations of connectivity and future threats: Implications in the Eastern Himalaya of China. *Biological Conservation*. 195: 128-135.
- Wang, M., F.H. Liao, J. Lin, L. Huang, C. Gu and Y.H.D. Wei (2016) The making of a Sustainable Wireless City? Mapping Public Wi-Fi Access in Shanghai. *Sustainability* 8(2), 111; doi: 10.3390/su8020111.
- Wang, Z. & Ye, X., (2016) Reexamining Environmental Kuznets Curve for China's City-level Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) Emissions. *Spatial Statistics* doi: 10.1016/j.spasta.2016.09.005
- Weaver, John M. and Jennifer Y. Pomeroy. 2016. *Intelligence Analysis: Unclassified Area and Point Estimates (and other Intelligence Related Topics)*. New York: NOVA Science Publishers, Inc. 239 pages. ISBN: 978-1-53610-106-5
- Wei, Y. and Chen, G. "Municipal solid waste and environmental equity in urban and rural China—A case study in South Anhui Province," In *Confronting the Challenges of Urbanization in China*, Liang, Z. et al. eds., pp. 39–55. New York: Routledge
- Wei, Y.H.D. (2016) Towards equitable and sustainable urban space. *Sustainability* 8(8), 804; doi: 10.3390/su8080804.
- Wei, Y.H.D., X. Bi and Y. Ning (2016) Globalization, Economic Restructuring and Locational Trajectories of Software Firms in Shanghai. *Professional Geographer* 68(2): 211-226.
- Woodworth, Max D. and Michael Ulfstjerne, *Taking Part: The Social Experience of Informal Finance in Ordos, Inner Mongolia*. *Journal of Asian Studies*.
- Woodworth, Max D., *Disposable Ordos: The Making of an Energy Resource Frontier in Western China*.

Wu, C., Ye, X., Ren, F. Wan, Y., Ning, P., Du, Q. (2016) Spatial and social media data analytics of housing prices in Shenzhen, China, PLOS ONE doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0164553

Ye, X., Huang, Q., and Li, W. (2016) Integrating Big Social Data, Computing, and Modeling for Spatial Social Science, Cartography and Geographic Information Science, doi: 10.1080/15230406.2016.1212302

Ye, X. (2016) Spatial econometrics, The Wiley-AAG International Encyclopedia of Geography.

Ye, X, Li, S., Yang, X, & Qin, C. (2016) Use of Social Media for Detection and Analysis of Infectious Disease in China. ISPRS International Journal of Geo-Information doi:10.3390/ijgi5090156

Ye, X. and He, C. (2016) The New Data Landscape for Regional and Urban Analysis, GeoJournal doi: 10.1007/s10708-016-9737-8

Ye, X. & Lee, J. (2016) Integrating geographic activity space and social network space to promote healthy lifestyles. ACMSIGSPATIAL Health GIS, Newsletter 8(1) 24-33.

Zai, Liang, Steve F. Messner, Youqin Huang and Cheng Chen and (ed.), 2016. Confronting the Challenges of Urbanization in China: Insights from Social Science Perspectives, New York: Routledge.

Zhao, P., Qin, K., Ye, X., Wang, Y, & Chen, Y. (2016) A Trajectory Clustering Approach Based on Decision Graph and Data Field for Detecting Hotspots. International Journal of Geographical Information Science doi: 10.1080/13658816.2016.1213845

Zhou, Shangyi, Xiaoping Shen, and Wei Jiang. 2016. "Spatial Accessibility and Supply-Demand Analysis of Elderly Dining Services in Beijing." The Professional Geographer no. 68 (4):674-685.

Zhou, Yu 2015 "Mixed Market and crisis mitigation: lessons from the performance of China's ICT hardware industry before and after the 2008 crisis. Eurasian Geography and Economics 56:2: 193-219

Zhou, Yu (2015) State Power and environmental initiatives in China: analyzing China's green building program through an ecological modernization perspective. Geoforum 61: 1-12.

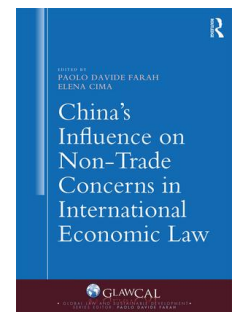
Zhou, Yu, Yifan Cai (2014), 打造中国绿色建筑推广的合力 (Creating "crowd-sourcing" for China's Green Building promotion program) 现代城市研究 (Modern Urban Research). Vol. 6: 89-96 (in Chinese)

Books

China's Influence on Non-Trade Concerns in International Economic Law.

Paolo Davide Farah & Elena Cima

ISBN 978-1-4094-4848-8. 2016, pp. 1 - 584



This volume examines the range of Non-Trade Concerns (NTCs) that may conflict with international economic rules and proposes ways to protect them within international law and international economic law. Focusing on China, the book shows the current trends of Chinese law and policy towards international standards. The authors argue that China can play a leading role in this context: not only has China adopted several reforms and new regulations to address NTCs; but it has started to play a very relevant role in international negotiations on NTCs such as climate change, energy, and culture, among others. While China is still considered a developing country, in particular from the NTCs' point of view, it promises to be a key actor in international law in general and, more specifically, in international economic law in this respect.

China's Geography: Globalization and the Dynamics of Political, Economic, and Social Change

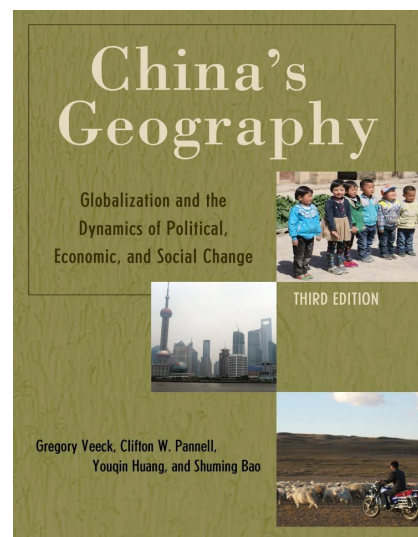
Gregory Veeck, Clifton Pannell, Youqin Huang and Shuming Bao

It is safe to say that in 2015 China is stage center in terms of global trade, economics and politics. Never before has understanding China been more important, and yet comprehensive accessible summaries of this great and ancient nation are actually limited in number. The authors would like to announce the third edition of China's Geography, but given the substantive differences from the last edition, readers and adopters might well consider it to be a new book. In contrast to many recent books on China, the volume takes a balanced view from a historical-geographic perspective focusing on important variations in conditions and resources across China's diverse provinces and regions through time. Foundational chapters cover China's physical, historical, political and economic geography, but a significant amount of new material has been added including three new chapters on social equality, environmental issues, and trade and transportation. The book incorporated more than 140 maps, figures, tables and photographs. Informed by decades of research and hundreds of trips throughout China, the fourteen chapters, including special chapters for Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macao, offer reasoned and comprehensive assessments of many aspects of contemporary China. In addition to ten chapters co-written by Veeck and Pannell, Shuming Bao of the China Data Center of the University of Michigan has joined the project and Youqin Huang (Geography and the Center for Social and Demographic Analysis (CSDA) at State University of New York, Albany) has taken on an expanded role. The book will soon have an associated website at the China Data center of the University of Michigan.



sustainability

Special Issue Book "Urban Land and Sustainable Development"



Urban Land and Sustainable Development

Edited by Yehua Dennis Wei

ISBN 978-3-03842-260-0 (print) • ISBN 978-3-03842-261-7 (electronic)

Release Date: January 2017

This book is based on a Special Issue published in Sustainability, and examines patterns, structure, and dynamics of urban land development and sustainability from multiple perspectives, in various contexts and at multiple dimensions (economic, social, political, developmental, and environmental, etc.). The research articles examine urban land development and sustainability arising from globalization, urbanization and institutional change. We have drawn papers from both developed and developing countries, with a focus on China due to the rapid rate of urbanization and change there. This book includes 14 articles, with various research emphases, methodologies and study areas, reflecting the inter-disciplinarity that characterizes urban and land use studies. The book has examined patterns and processes of urban land expansion and sprawl, and also studies new dimensions of urban space, including social media. These papers can provide us insights into the underlying structure and mechanisms of urban land expansion, and open new frontiers on the effects of urban land development on both the natural and human environments. We hope that this book will contribute to the understanding of urban land use patterns and processes, and their implications for sustainable development.

Announcements

Western Michigan University Department of Geography The Milton and Ruth Scherer Fellowship in Geography

The Department of Geography at Western Michigan University (www.wmich.edu/geography) is pleased to invite prospective applicants for its Milton and Ruth Scherer Fellowship in Geography for **fall 2017**. The Scherer Fellowship is a two-year award for students pursuing master's degree program in Geography with a research focus on Asia in the Department of Geography at Western Michigan University. The department has a strong research focus on China and East Asia. Applicants must demonstrate outstanding academic achievements and shall exemplify the values of the Milton and Ruth Scherer Endowment Fund by demonstrating a strong commitment to completing Master's research in Asia (Southwest, South, Southeast, and East Asia).

Application Procedure:

Scherer Fellowship applicants must (1) visit <http://www.wmich.edu/geography/academics/apply> and follow the instructions for application for admission to the master's program in Geography. (2) They must also write a letter directly to the Departmental Chair, Prof. Ben Ofori-Amoah, (Geography, Mail Stop 5424, 3219 WOOD Hall) noting you are applying specifically for the Milton and Ruth Scherer Fellowship, and detailing your academic interests and potential areas of research. (3) Finally, a complete application **MUST** have three letters of support from faculty, employers, etc. The application deadline is **February 15, 2017**.

Eligibility:

Scherer Fellowships are awarded only to students who have been admitted to the Geography master's program and only to applicants who are embarking on an **initial** master's degree. Applications must have a tentative thesis research plan that includes in-country research in Asia. At the time of accepting a Scherer Fellowship, a student may not have completed more than **9 non-geography** credit hours toward a graduate degree at WMU. No fellowship will be awarded if there is lack of qualified applicants.

Award:

The fellowship is valued over \$70,000 including

- A salary plus 40 credit hours of tuition (up to nine credits in the fall and spring semesters for two years, and up to four credits during intervening summer sessions).
- One round trip ticket to Asia for in-country research during the summer following the Fellow's first academic year in the program.
- Travel to one national conference to present thesis research.
- Fellows will work 10 hours weekly as a graduate assistant in teaching, research, or service as a required component of their degree.

A GPA of 3.5 and completion of a thesis research proposal by the end of the first year, and regular participation in the academic activities of the department and the university will be required for continuation of funding.

In Memoriam: Joe Whitney 1928-2016

Chair's Note: Professor Joseph Whitney passed away in Toronto on September 2, 2016. Joe was an active member of the CGSG during the group's formative years in the 1980s. He later served as CGSG Chair in 1991-93. He also co-founded with Shiu-hung Luk a China geography translation quarterly journal, The Chinese Geography and Development (published by M.E. Sharpe), to disseminate geographic research done in China. This was important in promoting exchange of geographical research between China and the outside world. The journal evolved later into Chinese Environment and Development, a regular journal for original geographical research (until 1996). Below are an adapted brief about Joe's life, from the obituary prepared by Department of Geography, University of Toronto, and a personal tribute by Kam Wing.

Energetic, well loved, full of projects and stories, optimistic, fun loving and a scholar, Joe will be sorely missed by many. He was born in England and educated at Cambridge University and the University of Chicago. Before starting his academic career at the University of Toronto in 1969, he taught at Queen's College in Hong Kong, a top (public) high school in the city, where he lived for 12 years in his twenties. He finished at U of T as Chair of the Department of Geography from 1988 to 1993. Based on field research in China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and the Sudan, he wrote widely on the environment, most notably about soil erosion, waste management and rural energy use. After retirement, he served as Professor and Coordinator of Urban Environmental Management at the Asian Institute of Technology in Bangkok, Thailand from 1993-94. Through his influence and teaching he inspired many U of T students to work in Southeast Asia and China. Always on the go, even after retirement Joe was engaged in academic projects and travel. He was a kind, humble and gentle man who was well liked for his humor and ability to relate to everyone. A precious memory is of him mounting his bicycle at age 87 and heading off to the university wearing his pink helmet.



Remembering My Laoban

Kam Wing Chan

Almost all Chinese students (mainly from Hong Kong) in those Toronto days called their doctoral supervisors laoban when we spoke in our native language. Laoban was an affectionate address. I first met Joe, my future laoban, in Hong Kong in 1983 and last in Seattle in 2015. In between, I had five good years (1983-88) under Joe's close mentorship in Toronto.

Joe is better known for his research on the environment in many developing countries in Asia and Africa, but he was also a China specialist with a deep understanding of the country and its culture. He spent 12 years in Hong Kong in the 1950s and the early 1960s working as an education officer, and he was also proficient in Chinese, including spoken Cantonese. His dissertation on China's spatial administrative hierarchy, focusing on the traditional era, is a pioneer work, which is still a must-read today for students in this important, perhaps under-appreciated, area.

His mentorship went far beyond guiding my doctoral project. There are too many anecdotes to recall but one is really important to me. In my second year in Toronto, when an opportunity for me to publish in a major journal came up, he supported whole-heartedly my pursuit, spending many hours reading and marking up meticulously multiple versions of my manuscript. This was one of my most useful learning experiences and that publication was later my career springboard.

Joe was always generous in giving his time to support many other aspects of my career too, and sharing his wisdom and experience in times of need. In the critical months of job search and applications towards the end of my doctoral career, Joe was there for me when I needed personal advice or guidance. His care and mentorship were far beyond the call of duty of any laoban. I will miss him dearly.

Student Corner

Special Session at the 2017 AAG Annual Meeting Boston, MA April 5 – April 9, 2017:

China Specialty Group (CGSG) Illustrated Paper (Poster) Session

Organizers:

Enru Wang, Department of Geography & Geographic Information Science, University of North Dakota, enru.wang@und.edu (CGSG Chair)

Lucas Reyes, Department of Geography, California State University, Long Beach, lucas.reyes@student.csulb.edu (CGSG Student Representative)

Jia Feng, Department of Geography, Michigan State University, fengjia@msu.edu (CGSG webmaster)

We invited CGSG student members to present their research on China to the AAG meeting in Boston in April 2017 in the form of an illustrated paper (poster). This could be taken from:

- recently completed research or course project
- recent field work in China
- posters on research methodology as long as it relates to China are also welcome.

Format: An 'illustrated paper' is a short (3- to 5-minute) oral summary of a poster that sets out a particular problem, data, method, and findings, followed by a one-on-one or small group discussion with interested listeners at the poster. The summaries each poster (8 to 12 in this session) will be given by all presenters at the beginning before participants and the audience disperse to the poster boards around the room. Presenters will post their posters (illustrations and other relevant materials) on a 4' x 8' poster board supplied by the AAG.

Prize: A \$150 prize and certificate will be given to the participant judged as having the 'best poster', e.g. an engaging topic, eye-catching and clear layout, presenter willing to answer questions and so on.

Instructions will be given to you in advance of the session beginning on where (i.e. Room name) and when you can post your poster: 3- to 5-minute oral presentation followed by discussion at individual posters;
8 to 12 presentations per session; AV consists of 4' x 8' poster boards only.

Submission Procedure: Please submit your participation/registration fee and abstract online through the AAG's website (www.aag.org). We would appreciate if you would send us a copy of your Title and Abstract to any of the three organizers as soon as possible, and your PIN by October 26, 2016.

If you have any questions, please contact the organizers:

Enru Wang, enru.wang@und.edu (CGSG Chair)

Lucas Reyes, lucas.reyes@student.csulb.edu (CGSG Student Representative)

Jia Feng, fengjia@msu.edu (CGSG webmaster)

Our Website and Listserv

Past newsletters, CGSG timeline and some other information can be found on our website

<http://cgsgeo.msu.edu/>

Please consider subscribing to the CGSG mailing list: <http://listserv.uleth.ca/mailman/listinfo/cgsgeo-l>.

AAG Knowledge Communities – China:

<http://community.aag.org/AAG/Communities/ViewCommunities/GroupDetails/?CommunityKey=41360cc8-d0dc-4e17-9dd2-df94bc859fd2>

CGSG Annual Dinner

It's a tradition for the China Geography Specialty Group to host a group dinner at a local Chinese restaurant at the annual AAG meeting. The CGSG Executive Committee is working to find a restaurant for our gathering in Boston in April 2017. We are looking forward to seeing many, if not all, of our members at the business meeting and at the annual dinner. More information about dinner will be sent to members via email and included in the Spring 2017 Newsletter.

CGSG Officers 2016-2017

Chair:

Enru Wang

Department of Geography
and Geographic Information Science
University of North Dakota
enru.wang@email.und.edu

Vice chair:

Xiaobo Su

Department of Geography
University of Oregon
xiaobo@uoregon.edu

Secretary:

Xinyue Ye

Department of Geography and
Computational Social Science Lab
Kent State University
xye5@kent.edu

Student Representatives:

Lucas Reyes

Department of Geography
California State University, Long Beach
lyr6@humboldt.edu

Web Master:

Jia Feng

Department of Geography,
Environment and Spatial Sciences
Michigan State University
fengjia@msu.edu