

China Geography Specialty Group, AAG

Newsletter

中国地理学组2022秋季通讯

Fall
2022



CHAIR
Jun Zhang



VICE CHAIR
Anthony Howell



SECRETARY
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CHAIR'S LETTER

Dear colleagues and friends,

Greetings from Toronto! This is another colorful fall season here as usual, but of course things are not quite as usual as we know it. The city of Toronto has regained its vigor and vitality, and our teaching at U of T is back to in-person only. Travels of all sorts have resumed, and even wearing a mask indoor has become optional. But I know that such liberty is not to be taken for granted, and not yet enjoyed everywhere. Particularly important to all of us, it is still a daunting task either going into or out of mainland China.

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For three years, in-person AAG meetings were made nearly impossible. Fortunately, this time it is different, and I do hope many of us can get together physically in Denver next March, even some barriers would remain and virtual attendance can still be an option. Whichever the case, the Executive Committee of CGSG is committed to assist our members to organize sessions and present their insights.

Now every year is a kind of a 'new normal', but we don't quite know anymore what is normal. We are certainly in a troubled world, with an ongoing Russia-Ukraine war, enduring threat from a pandemic, rising global conflicts, and faltering economies everywhere. But we all know that in Chinese a crisis (危机) means both a challenge and an opportunity. This may not be a good time for a peaceful and routinized life, but certainly an exciting historical juncture for impactful scholarly work, especially on China related ones. China and the world have been forever transformed. And all the changes and challenges have made geography more salient than ever before, although virtual interactions have become more widespread.

I'm not sure what is going to happen in China down the road. But I am pretty sure that, whatever happens, future China and future world will be even more interdependent, rather than the contrary. Whatever important to China would be important to the world. Meanwhile, geographies of health, geographies of work, geographies of production, geographies of the digital economy, geographies of climate change, geographies of migration and immigration, geographic political economy, geopolitics, and so on, all with China playing a crucial role in the global system, would become more imperative research topics than ever before. It is thus a unique opportunity to our CGSG members to make our contributions to change the world for better.

On behalf of the CGSG's Executive Committee (myself, Anthony Howell, Ding Fei, and Xiaofeng Liu), I wish everyone stay healthy and productive. Hope we can stand together as a community to face the challenges, to make our voices heard, to advance the study of the geography of China, and to bridge the West and the East.

Yours sincerely,

Jun

CONGRATULATIONS TO CGSG AWARD WINNERS

CGSG Outstanding Service Awards

CGSG is very pleased to announce **Prof. Fulong Wu** (University College London) and **Prof. Carolyn Cartier** (University of Technology Sydney) as two recipients of CGSG Outstanding Service Awards during 2022 Annual AAG Meetings.

Professor Wu's scholarship is world-class and he has significantly advanced the visibility of China research within and far beyond the geography discipline. Prof. Cartier, an early chair of CGSG, is an excellent author of high-impact books and articles on China. Their scholarly achievements and service contributions have helped make China geography an enduring academic topic and the CGSG a stronger organization with broader reach.

Thank you, Fulong and Carolyn!



CGSG Annual Student Paper Awards

The Best Student Paper Award went to **Mengdi Wu**, The University of Hong Kong, for the paper entitled "Blending the state-market binary: Uneven growth and spatiality of China's public-private partnerships under soft budget constraints".

The Best Paper Runner-ups went to the following two students:

- **Guanchi Zhang**, Harvard Law School, for his paper entitled "The territorial foundation of China's market transition"
- **Guannan Zou**, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, for his paper entitled "The return of the proactive state? State roles in relation to firms in local development driven by innovative industries"

A big congratulations to all award winners!

CGSG STUDENT PAPER AWARDS FOR AAG 2023

The China Geography Specialty Group sponsors an annual award to recognize excellent student research and paper presentation in a CGSG-sponsored session at the annual AAG conference in Denver, Colorado on March 23-27, 2023.

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 Denver, March 23 to 27, 2023.

Award:

A \$250 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 \$100 each will go to the First and Second Runner-up. A committee of faculty from the China Geography 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 Geography Specialty Group in Denver in March 2023, 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, 2023**. 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 1st, 2023**.

Please send your submission and questions to the CGSG chair at zhang@geog.utoronto.ca.

AAG 2023 SESSION SPONSORSHIP

The annual meeting of AAG will be held in Denver, Colorado between March 23 and 27 in 2023. As you prepare to organize sessions at the 2023 AAG Annual Meeting, please be aware that CGSG enthusiastically invites your sponsorship requests for relevant sessions, virtual and in-person. Sponsored sessions will be promoted and listed in a daily CGSG mail-out during the conference, and help to build interest and community within the CGSG and beyond.

Theme of AAG 2023: Toward More Just Geographies

In recognition of the urgency, centrality, and interdependence of equity, inclusion, diversity, and justice within our discipline and in the world, AAG invites abstracts, panels, posters, and discussions that examine the spatial dimensions, scope, and scale of racial and social justice, as well as obstacles to its realization. We welcome presentations and sessions that will confront injustice in its many forms, offer ways to embrace and support diversity, and contribute to a welcoming environment for all. In recognition that these concepts extend beyond the human realm and across the breadth of geographical study, we welcome presentations that examine ecologies and habitats through the lens of inclusiveness, equity, diversity, and justice.

Key dates for AAG 2023

- November 10: Abstract Submission deadline
- December 1: Session Organizing deadline
- January 5: Program Released
- February 9: Abstract/Session Editing deadline
- February 23: Program Finalized
- March 23 – 27: Annual Meeting

If you're interested in CGSG sponsoring your session, please email Anthony Howell: Anthony.Howell@asu.edu or Jun Zhang: zhang@geog.utoronto.ca before the **Dec. 1 2022** deadline for organized sessions. Once we've been in touch to confirm sponsorship, you'll need to select CGSG from the appropriate drop-down menu when you register your session with the AAG.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions!

MEMBER NEWS



Guo Chen (Michigan State University) has edited a Focus Section for *The Professional Geographer*, titled "Hidden Geographies: Migration, Intersectionality, and Social Justice in a Global Contemporaneous Space", forthcoming in 2022. This Focus Section features a number of research articles from a diverse group of transnational scholars (women and POC) on topics from rural-urban migrants, domestic worker migrants in Asia, women's mobilities between Africa and China, Africans in Asia, Asian immigrants in the U.K., Asian American entrepreneurs, and ethnic/immigrant spaces in the U.S., before and during COVID-19.

Guo is thankful to the peer community (colleagues, contributors, and reviewers) who made the FS possible. Papers of this FS were presented earlier at an AAG panel and an opinion article was written by Guo as inaugural article for the AAG's new Perspective column in 2021.

Guo also is recently named a university Lilly Fellow in 2022 for faculty leadership and teaching excellence and innovation. Guo was featured in an AAG webinar on Women in Geography in March 2022, which kick-started the AAG professional series.

In the past year or two, in addition to actively engaging in teaching and research projects, Guo has been actively involved in Asian Studies, Asian Pacific American Studies, Supporting Women in Geography, MSU Geography Department DEI work, and Disability issues on campus at MSU, serving in a number of committee leadership roles. Guo is currently editing a special issue on social and environmental justice and also co-editing a volume on DEI in Geography, for which she welcomes contributions from colleagues.

In summer 2022, Guo as faculty overseeing the CGSG website initiated an overhaul and redesign of the SG website (hosted at MSU since 2015) including adding new features, and with support from the new CGSG webmaster and current CGSG executive board, the site is expected to be steadily enriched with visuals to better represent the historical and current scholarship of the SG and its contribution to the AAG, since the Committee on Chinese Geography (CCG) was established within the AAG in 1973. Guo (MSU) and current webmaster May Yang (University of Michigan) welcome suggestions and submissions of historical visuals relevant to the CGSG, and depending on community interests, a link for submission will be provided in Spring.

MEMBER NEWS



Cindy Fan (UCLA) published “Intergenerational Gendered Livelihoods: Marriage, Matching and Rural-Urban Migration in China” in *Transactions in Planning and Urban Research* and “Rural-Urban Migration” in *Oxford Bibliographies in Urban Studies*. She has also given ten conference presentations and invited talks across the US, Europe, and Asia.



Kean Fan Lim (Newcastle University) received the International Geographical Union (IGU) Early Career Award 2022 for “sustained research excellence in economic geography, unique ability to establish cross-disciplinary engagements, and dedication to serving his research community”. This award evaluates research performance in the first 10 years post-PhD and was presented at the IGU Centennial Conference in Paris, July 2022.



Anthony Howell (Arizona State University) was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure this year. He will soon be appointed as editor of *Progress in Economic Geography* and the Watt's public policy ambassador to the Global Futures Laboratory.



Fulong Wu (University College London) has a forthcoming book, *Creating Chinese Urbanism: Urban Revolution and Governance Change*. The book describes the landscape of urbanization in China, revealing the profound impacts of marketization on Chinese society and the consequential governance changes at the grass-roots level. The book is free to download from UCL Press website by the end of Oct 2022.

MEMBER NEWS



Tim Oakes (University of Colorado, Boulder) gave a number of keynotes in 2022. One was in February, titled “Cities just beyond reach: infrastructures of post-urbanism in China” at the Finnish Society for Development Research Annual Meetings, in Helsinki (<https://youtu.be/C4fENQrAxyg>). Another one was in Montreal in May, titled “Suspension cities: infrastructures of post-urbanism in China” at the McGill New Cities Conference: Concrete Futures? The (Im)material Lives of New Cities Built from Scratch. In December 2022, Tim will give another keynote at the [10th East Asian Regional Conference in Alternative Geography](#) (EARCAG 2022) in Taipei. The theme is *New Geopolitics in East Asia*.

In Helsinki, Tim was also interviewed on China’s infrastructure development for the EXALT podcast. Recording can be found on [Spotify](#) and on [Apple](#).

As PI on the [ChinaMade project](#), Tim organized and hosted the [4th ChinaMade workshop](#), titled “From ‘China Model’ to Global China”, in May at the University of Toronto’s Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy. This was the final workshop of the ChinaMade project and featured an all-star cast of scholars from the US, UK, Canada, Switzerland, Germany, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Sweden.

As a result of a workshop Tim co-organized in Switzerland last year, ChinaMade has co-published a couple of policy-oriented factsheets on Chinese export development, which can be found at <https://chinadevelopmentmodel.roadworkasia.com/> and <https://bri.roadworkasia.com/>.

As PI on the [Tale of Two Asias project](#), Tim also organized a workshop in the April of 2021 in Boulder on “China’s Nuclear Belt & Road: Socio-technical Perspectives on China’s Export Nuclear Infrastructures.” The workshop featured presentations by scholars from the US, Canada, Australia and India. The details of the workshop can be found [here](#).

MEMBER RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Burning Issues in Urban China: The New Age Floating Population and Housing

The subject of talent workers in urban China is little more than 10 years old. There is a growing recognition of the importance of talent migrants alongside the better known contingent of internal rural migrants.

According to the Japan Times (“China: Shanghai ranked No.1 city for attracting talent”), Beijing and Shanghai both experienced greater talent inflow than population increase over the ten year period ending in 2020. These talent migrants and their families have encountered rising housing challenges in their destination cities.

Inspired by the growing importance of talent workers, their family migration, and urban housing, Prof. **Yue Gong** (Peking University Shenzhen Graduate School) and Prof. **Ian MacLachlan** (Peking University Shenzhen Graduate School) have published two articles in 2022 and another in 2021. Please see member publications for details.



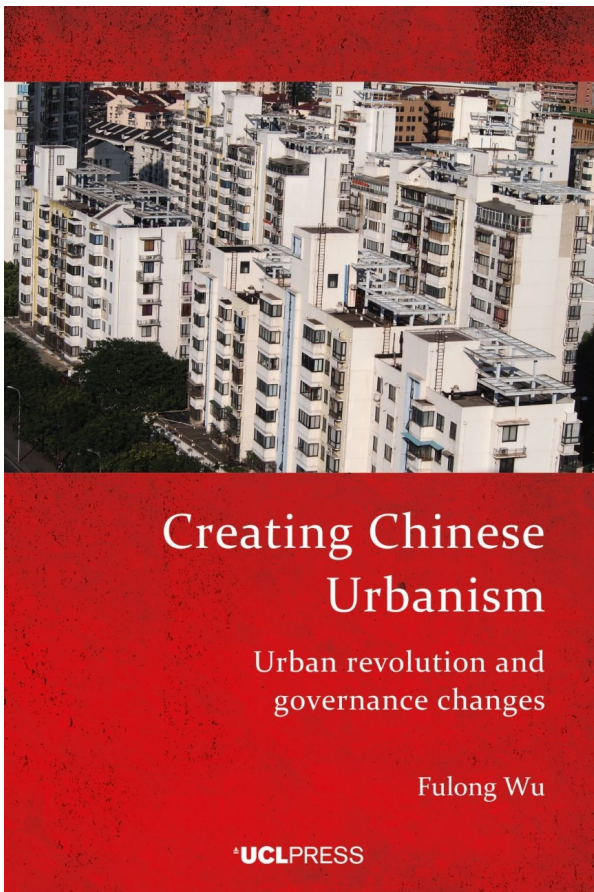
MEMBER'S RECENT/FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

- An, Y., Y.D. **Wei**, F. Yuan and W. Chen. (2022). Impacts of high-speed rails on urban networks and regional development: A study of the Yangtze River Delta. *International Journal of Sustainable Transportation*, 16(6): 483-495.
- Caldarulo, M., Mossberger, K., & **Howell**, A. (2022). Community-wide broadband adoption and student academic achievement. *Telecommunications Policy*, 102445.
- **Chan, K.W.** (2022). Rural-urban Dichotomy and Citizenships in China, in Marisol Garcia and Thomas Faist (eds.), *Encyclopedia of Citizenship Studies*, Edward Elgar (in press).
- **Chan, K.W.** (in press). A China Geographer's View of the World's Largest Cities, in *Our Geographical Worlds*, University of Toronto Association of Geography Alumni.
- **Chen, G.** (2022). Hidden Geographies: Migration, Intersectionality, and Social Justice in a Global Contemporaneous Space. *The Professional Geographer*. DOI:10.1080/00330124.2022.2134152
- **Chen, G.**, Feng, J., and L. Chen. 2022. Dharavi in Beijing ? A Hidden Geography of Waste and Migrant Exclusion. *The Professional Geographer*. DOI:10.1080/00330124.2022.2112965
- **Fan, C. C.** (2022). Intergenerational Gendered Livelihoods: Marriage, Matchmaking and Rural-Urban Migration in China. *Transactions in Planning and Urban Research*, 27541223221109358.
- **Fan, C. C.** (2022). Rural-Urban Migration. In *Oxford Bibliographies in Urban Studies*. Oxford University Press.
- Feng, J. and **G. Chen**. (2022). Henancun in Beijing: A Parallel Society in the Making. In *Displacement, Belonging, and Migrant Agency in the Face of Power*, edited by Mayer and Tran, Routledge.
- **Fei, D.** (2022). Chinese in Africa: expatriation regime and lived experience. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*: 1–22. DOI: 10.1080/1369183X.2022.2029373.
- **Fei, D.** (2022). Assembling Chinese health engagement in Africa: structures, strategies and emerging patterns. *Third World Quarterly*, 1-22.
- **Howell, A.** (2022). Impact of a guaranteed minimum income program on rural–urban migration in China. *Journal of Economic Geography*, lbac004.
- **Howell, A.** (2022). Socio-economic impacts of scaling back a massive payments for ecosystem services programme in China. *Nature Human Behaviour*, 6(9), 1218-1225.

MEMBER'S RECENT/FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

- **Lim, K. F., & Su, X.** (2022). Making markets 'decisive': a firm-level evaluation of state-led development in the China–Myanmar border region. *Journal of Economic Geography*. Early view online: <https://doi.org/10.1093/jeg/lbac022>
- **Lou, L. I. T.** (2022). The art of unnoticing: Risk perception and contrived ignorance in China. *American Ethnologist*, 49(4), pp.1-15.
- Ma, H., **Wei, Y.D.**, Huang, X. & Xu, X. (2022). The innovation networks of large enterprises in urban China. *Environment and Planning A*, 54(7): 1432-1449.
- Qin, X., **Wei, Y. D.**, Yu, Z., & Xiong, N. (2022). Urbanization, Suburbanization, and Population Redistribution in Urban China: A Case Study of Nanjing. *Journal of Urban Planning and Development*, 148(4), 05022034.
- **Su, X., & Lim, K.F.** (2022). What is 'new' in new state capitalism? Perspectives from geo-economic engagement between China and Myanmar, *Environment and Planning A*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0308518X221093643>
- Tian, G., Miao, J., Miao, C., **Wei, Y.D.**, & Yang, D. (2022). Interplay of environmental regulation and local protectionism: Evidence from China. *International Journal of Earth Research and Public Health*, 19, 6351.
- Wang, Y., **Wei, Y. D.**, & Sun, B. (2022). New economy and national city size distribution. *Habitat International*, 127, 102632.
- Zhang, W., Wang, B., Wu, Q., & **Wei, Y.D.** (2022). How does industrial agglomeration affect urban land use efficiency? A spatial analysis of Chinese cities. *Land Use Policy*, 119: 106178.

NEW BOOKS & JOURNALS



An urban village, Zhucun (Pearl Village) in Guangzhou. The photo shows how new self-built rental housing maximizes the use of space within individual housing plots. The communal area is under-maintained. Taken in 2012

Source: *Creating Chinese Urbanism*, p.34

While the imperial and socialist periods of Chinese history were marked by a union of society and state, the rapid urbanization of China has dismantled the territorial foundation of an “earth-bound” or rural society. Through this urban revolution, the Chinese state has become a visible factor in the construction of urban life, with State-led rebuilding of residential communities hastening the demise of traditionalism and giving birth to a new China with greater urbanism and state-centered governance.

In *Creating Chinese Urbanism*, **Fulong Wu** describes the landscape of urbanization in China, revealing the profound impacts of marketization on Chinese society and the consequential governance changes at the grassroots level. Taking the vantage point of concrete residential neighborhoods, this book offers a cutting-edge analysis of how China is becoming urban and conceptualizes the changes in state governance through the process of urbanization.

The book is free to download from [UCL Press website](#) by the end of Oct 2022.

NEW BOOKS & JOURNALS



Managing Editors

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Li Zhigang Wuhan University, China

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Hong Kong SAR

Transactions in Planning and Urban Research

China's massively accelerated urbanization presents a laboratory for researchers to observe economic, social, and governance changes in the contemporary world. To understand Chinese urbanization requires both contextual and comparative research. Known as "Urban China Research" in Planning and Urban Studies, this research field is growing rapidly. It is situated in the conjuncture of China Studies oriented towards historical, cultural, and political contexts and Planning and Urban Studies treating Chinese urbanization as part of political, economic, and social changes in the globalizing world.

Transactions in Planning and Urban Research will make an original contribution to academic and policy debate related to the phenomenal urban development of China. In addition to investigating historical and geographical processes of Chinese development, the journal explores urban China in the wider global context and seeks meaningful connection between interpretative analysis and planning policy development. The journal publishes peer-reviewed academic papers of around 8,000 words that affect Chinese urban and regional development. The journal will focus on recent developments in China, and their policy implications, while situating the research in comparative perspectives within wider processes as appropriate. For further information and on-line articles, please see <https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/tupa/o/o>.

CGSG WEBSITE AND LISTSERV

CGSG Website

Check out the newly designed CGSG website (<http://cgsg.geo.msu.edu/>). Thanks to May Yang (University of Michigan) and Guo Chen (Michigan State University) for maintaining and updating the website.



CGSG Mailing List

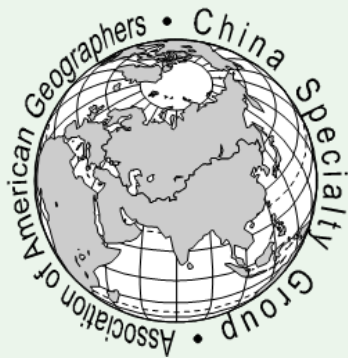
Please consider subscribing to the CGSG mailing list: <http://listserv.uleth.ca/mailman/listinfo/cgsg-l>.

AAG Knowledge Communities – China

Please consider sending call for papers to the AAG knowledge communities: <http://community.aag.org/AAG/Communities/ViewCommunities/GroupDetails/?CommunityKey=4136occ8-dodc-4e17-9dd2-df94bc859fd2>

CGSG MISSION

CGSG is a specialty group of the American Association of Geographers. The **mission** of CGSG is to promote the study of the geography of China, including Taiwan, and to serve as a clearinghouse of information for persons interested in Chinese geography. To increase contacts with Chinese geographers and encourage professional activities, including the development of research projects.



CGSG OFFICERS 2022-2023

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