



China Geography Specialty Group, AAG

Spring 2006 Newsletter

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中国地理学组通讯

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CHAIR'S LETTER

Dear CGSG members:

It is a great honor for me to serve you! I am humbled by your trust, and I will do my best. I am also grateful for the wonderful team that I will be working with in the coming year: George Lin (Vice-Chair), Alana Boland (Secretary), Yifei Sun (Treasurer), Wei Xu (Webmaster) and Zhiling Liu (Student Representative). We are here to serve you! So please let us know your suggestions and opinions to help us fulfill CGSG's missions.

Because of personal reasons, I was not able to go to the AAG annual meeting in Chicago. But I have been told by several members that our sponsored sessions were extremely successful with high quality papers and large attendance. Thanks to every one of you for organizing sessions, presenting papers, attending sessions, and participating in discussions. I especially want to thank Shuguang Wang and George Lin for organizing 16 wonderful sessions, including two high-profile panels entitled Research on China Geography. A couple years ago, we decided we need to connect China geography with the mainstream geography. By co-sponsoring sessions with other specialty groups, and by promoting achievements and identifying opportunities and challenges in research on China geography, I believe we have made an important step toward that goal. We will continue this effort in the next AAG annual meeting.

For those who were not at the CGSG business meeting in Chicago, a wide range of interesting topics have been suggested for the next AAG annual meeting that will be held in San Francisco. It is never too early to think about what you want to do. Suggested topics include: Asian community in the US; high-tech industry and industrial clusters; financial centers; small cities and towns; rural and agricultural development; teaching China geography; Olympics and urban transformation; the internet; social inequality; border and trans-border mobility; changing environment; tourism; China in the Asian context; global urbanization and Chinese urbanization; Hong Kong ten years after the hand-over; Taiwan 2008 general election; Sino-American dialogue on the study of China geography. As you can see, we are going to have many sessions in both broad and specific issues. Let us know if you are interested in organizing sessions. I look forward to another successful meeting.

I am also glad to report that our membership has increased from 233 in 2005 to 260 (149 student and 111 non-student members), a 12% increase in one year! I am impressed by the large number of student members, who are our next generation of China scholars. I would like to encourage everyone to spread the word and bring your friends/collaborators/colleagues who are interested in China into CGSG.

Finally, thanks to Yifei Sun and George Lin for compiling the timeline, and thanks to many of you who took the time to review our timeline and suggest additions, we have an updated timeline. We all should be proud of the achievements CGSG members have made in the past decades! Please continue to send us your accomplishments and suggestions for additions/corrections. We will keep it up to date.

Enjoy the rest of the semester, and have a wonderful summer!

Youqin

2006-2007 OFFICERS

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BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

A. 2005 CGSG Business Meeting Minutes:

The CGSG Business Meeting was held in Denver on April 6, 2005 in conjunction with the AAG Annual Meeting. Yifei Sun (as Chair) called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Approximately 30 members were in attendance.

The publisher of *Eurasian Geography and Economics* spoke to the members and appealed to members to not only contribute papers but also ask their university libraries to subscribe the journal.

Yifei Sun (as Treasurer) delivered the Finance and Membership Reports.

Yifei Sun (as Chair) presented a proposal to extend the terms of the CGSG officers from one year to two years. The proposal was briefly discussed by the members. It was decided that more discussion is needed in the future.

The results of the CGSG awards were announced by Yifei Sun. The Outstanding Service Award was presented to **Chor-Pang Lo**, Professor of Geography at the University of Georgia (announced through e-mail after the AAG meeting). The Best Student Paper Award was presented to **Wenfei Wang** of University of California-Los Angeles. The Travel Award was presented to **Jianping Zhou** of University of Illinois at Chicago.

New officers were announced and elected: with **Shuguang Wang** becoming Chair; **Youqin Huang** and **George Lin** elected Vice Chair and Secretary, respectively, and **Youfeng Wang** elected Student Representative.

The business meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm, followed by a group dinner in a local restaurant.

B. 2006 CGSG Business Meeting Minutes (Draft subject to future endorsement)

Date/Time: March 9, 2006/11:50 am-12:50 pm
Location: Room Salon 8, Palmer House Hilton, Chicago
Attendance: 40

Agenda

1. Welcome foreign participants and other guests
2. Approval of last year's meeting minutes

3. Chair's report
4. Secretary's report
5. Treasurer's report
6. Award Presentation
 - Outstanding Service Award
 - Best Student Paper Award
 - Travel Award
7. Election of Secretary and Student Rep
8. Planning for the 2007 meeting
9. Any other businesses

Minutes:

Shuguang Wang (Chair) called the meeting to order at 11:50 am.

Shuguang extended a warm welcome to foreign participants and other guests for attending the business meeting and sent regret on behalf of Youqin Huang (Vice-Chair) who was on maternity leave.

Members approved the minutes of the 2005 business meeting.

Chair reported on the increase of the number of membership from 233 to 262.

Members approved the proposed change in publication dates for CGSG Newsletter to one in late April or early May and the other in late October or early November.

Noted that CGSG has organized and sponsored 16 sessions for the Chicago meeting: 10 paper sessions and 6 panel discussions, including two high-profile panels entitled *Research on China Geography*.

Noted that the hand-over of CGSG account to the AAG general office for management has been a good approach and that it would be carried on in the future.

Yifei Sun (Treasurer) presented the 2005 financial report. Total income in the 2005 fiscal year was \$554.6 and total spending was \$454, leaving a new balance of \$2567.92. It was proposed and agreed that, for the purpose of continuity, Yifei Sun continue to serve as Treasurer. Members thank Yifei for the hard work and agreement.

Chair announced and presented:

- Outstanding Service Award to Jack Williams nominated by George Lin and Dennis Wei;
- Best Student Paper Award to Jun Zhang, Ph.D. candidate from the University of Minnesota; and
- Student Travel Award to both Mingjie Sun (UCLA) and Paul Hammond (University of Missouri)

New officers were named and elected. **Youqin Huang** (SUNY Albany) became the new chair; **George C.S. Lin** (University of Hong Kong) became Vice-Chair; **Alana Boland** (University of Toronto) was elected the new Secretary/Newsletter editor; **Zhilin Liu** (Cornell University) was elected the new Student Representative; **Wei Xu** (University of Lethbridge) was re-elected the Webmaster.

Shuguang Wang announced completion of his term. All members thanked Shuguang for his hard work and great accomplishments.

George Lin thanked Shuguang for setting an excellent role model as chair and sent apology on behalf of **Youqin Huang** (Chair) who was unable to attend the meeting because of maternity leave.

Members were invited to suggest possible themes/topics for the next AAG meeting in San Francisco in mid-April 2007. The following topics were suggested:

Asian community in the US; high-tech industry and industrial clusters; financial centers; small cities and towns; rural and agricultural development; teaching China geography; Olympics and urban transformation; the internet; social inequality; border and trans-border mobility; changing environment; tourism; China in the Asian context; global urbanization and Chinese urbanization; Hong Kong ten years after the hand-over; Taiwan 2008 general election; Sino-American dialogue on the study of China geography.

C.P. Lo welcomed **Richard Edmonds**, former Editor of *China Quarterly*, and an expert on China's environmental changes and the history of Macao.

George Lin announced two upcoming conferences, one in Hong Kong Baptist University during June 1-3 2006 and the other on Western China development to be held in Sichuan; and called for manuscript submission to *The Canadian Geographer*, flagship journal of the CAG, and *Eurasian Geography and Economics*.

Clif Pannell called for paper submission to the journal *Eurasian Geography and Economics*.

The traditional dinner was announced and it was in Ben Pao Restaurant at 7:00pm. A total of 46 people joined the dinner.

The meeting adjourned at 12:50 pm.

Recorded by George Lin, CGSG Secretary.

2006 CGSG AWARD WINNERS

Outstanding Service Award recipient: **Jack Williams** (Michigan State University)

Professor Williams is one of the most respected senior scholars who have made outstanding contributions not only to the study of China geography but also to the growth of the China Geography Specialty Group. Prof. Williams was one of the earliest researchers who took the initiative to undertake field research in both Taiwan and Mainland China. He visited Taiwan and conducted extensive fieldwork there. His pioneer geographic study of Taiwan is now a classic in the field. He was also among the first to visit mainland China and initiated not only research but also scholarly exchange with Chinese geographers. Through his decades-long research, Prof. Williams has contributed great knowledge to our understanding of China geography and forged extensive Sino-American scholarly linkages. His recent publication entitled "Geographers and China" that appeared in *Issues & Studies* along with other China studies publications have been widely cited and are another testimony of the authoritative contribution that he has made to our field of study. In addition to research, Prof. Williams has made exceptional contribution to the growth of the China Geography Specialty Group. He served as chair of CGSG twice, first in 1984-86 and then in 1987-89. During his term of services, CGSG experienced significant growth in membership and scholarly activities.

(nominated by George Lin and Yehua Dennis Wei)

Best Student Paper: **Jun Zhang** (University of Minnesota) for his paper titled "Self-organization and Political-construction: A Comparison of Internet Cluster Development in Beijing and Shanghai."

Student Travel Award: **Mingjie Sun** (UCLA) for her paper titled "Regional Inequality in Post-Reform China: Changing Spatial Disparity and Its Determinants" and **Paul Hammond** (University of Missouri) for his paper titled "Community Eclipse in Shanghai's Lilong."

NEWS FROM MEMBERS

Alana Boland (University of Toronto) has a chapter titled "From provision to exchange: Legalizing the market in China's urban water supply" appearing in M. Dong and J. Goldstein (eds.) *Everyday Modernity in China* (2006, University of Washington Press).

Guangqing Chi (University of Wisconsin-Madison) has the following two publications: Voss, Paul R. and Guangqing Chi. 2006. "Highways and Population Change." *Rural Sociology* 71(1):33-58; Chi, Guangqing and Brian Stone, Jr. 2005. "Sustainable Transport Planning: Estimating the Ecological Footprint of Vehicle Travel in Future Years." *Journal of Urban Planning and Development* 131(3):170-180.

Cindy Fan (UCLA) has recently been appointed to AAG's International Research and Scholarly Exchange Committee for a 3-year term beginning on July 1, 2006 and running through June 30, 2009. More information about this committee can be found in the November 2005 issue of the AAG newsletter.

Si-ming Li (Hong Kong Baptist University) has just been promoted to Chair Professor of Geography. Si-ming delivered his Chair Professorship inaugural lecture on March 24. Congratulations to Si-ming!

George Lin (University of Hong Kong) has several new publications: George C.S. Lin (2006) "Peri-urbanism in Globalizing China" *Eurasian Geography and Economics* 47 (1): 28-53; George C.S. Lin and Samuel P.S. Ho (2005) "The state, land system, and land development processes in contemporary China." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 95(2):411-436; and George C.S. Lin and Pauline H.M. Tse (2005) "Flexible sojourning in the era of globalization: cross-border population mobility in the Hong Kong-Guangdong border region." *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*. 29(4):867-894. He was asked to encourage subscription and paper submissions from members to The Canadian Geographers (flagship journal of the CAG published by Blackwell), *Eurasian Geography and Economics*, and *Asian Geographer* (<http://geog.hku.hk/ag>). George will be responsible for the organization of paper sessions for the next AAG meeting in San Francisco. He would like to urge members to get in touch with him for the organization of paper sessions and/or panels.

Laurence Ma (University of Akron) will serve as a consultant to a UN project in China on human resources development, April 2006.

After the Chicago AAG's, **Darrin McGee** (University of Washington) was invited to be resident scholar on US-China Lancang River Kayaking and Rafting Trip, March 31-April 7, 2006 (Baoshan, Yunnan). He also has recent publication: Magee, D. (2006) "Powershed Politics: Hydropower and Interprovincial Relations Under Great Western Development" *The China Quarterly* (185), 23-41.

Tim Oakes (University of Colorado, Boulder) recently co-edited two books: *Translocal China: Linkages, Identities, and the Reimagining of Space* (Routledge, 2006), and *Travels in Paradox: Remapping Tourism* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2006). He is currently in the final stages of another edited collection: 屯堡重塑：贵州的文化旅游与社会变迁（贵阳：贵州人民出版社）。And another recent publication of potential interest to China geographers: Oakes, T. 2006. Cultural strategies of development: implications for village governance in China. *Pacific Review* 19(1): 13-37. Tim recently organized a panel at the AAS meetings in San Francisco titled "Faith on Display: Tourism, Religion, and the State in Contemporary China" which featured an excellent paper by geographer Aloe Yu Luo Rioux on Red Tourism in Jingangshan. Tim wishes that more China geographers would put the AAS meetings on their agendas, since other Asianists are doing a lot of good (and not so good) geography.

Katharine E. Peters (SUNY Geneseo) has been awarded a Summer Research Fellowship Grant. She will be working on a project titled "The Effect of Industrialization and Globalization on the Economy and Culture in Rural Villages on Hainan Island, China." This will entail a month-long trip to Hainan Island to work closely with a small, rural community of 90 households and also to Beijing and Shanghai to compare the impact of globalization in urban settings. Numerous articles and texts pertaining to China's development will also be annotated. Katharine hopes to report her research results in numerous conferences upon her completion of this project.

Following the publication by **Karl Ryavec** (University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point) in 2004 of an article critiquing the China Historical GIS, *Inner Asia* published replies from Bol and Ryavec in 2005: Ryavec, Karl. E. 2004. Manchu Empire or China Historical GIS? Remapping the China/Inner Asia Frontier in the Qing Period CHGIS. *Inner Asia* 6:179-195; Bol, Peter. 2005. Historical Geography or a Spatially-enabled Historiography: Reply to Ryavec. *Inner Asia* 7:249-256; Ryavec, Karl E. 2005. New Geographical History: A Reply to Bol. *Inner Asia* 7:257-260. Karl is also working on an Historical Atlas of Tibet, and this year received a grant for \$5,000 from the Shelley and Donald Rubin Foundation in New York for several student internships in cartography/GIS and cultural/historical geography in his department to work on mapping sites in western China.

Xiaoping Shen (Central Connecticut State University) was promoted to Professor in August 2005. She also recently coauthored a paper with Laurence Ma that was published in December 2005: Shen, Xiaoping and Laurence J.C. Ma. 2005. Privatization of rural industry and small town development in Southern Jiangsu. *Geoforum* 36(6):761-777.

Yifei Sun (California State University Northridge) was promoted to Associate Professor in summer 2005. He has been working with Yu Zhou on a special issue on China's Science and Technology Development for the journal *China Review*, and the Special Issue will be published soon. In that special issue, he co-authored an article with Debin Du and Li Hung, entitled "Foreign R&D in Developing Countries: Empirical Evidence from Shanghai, China" (*China Review*, 6 (1): 67-91). He is also co-editing a special issue with Denis Fred Simon and Max von Zedtwitz on Global R&D in China for the journal *Asia Pacific Business Review*. A few articles authored or co-authored by him have been accepted, including "Where Economic Status Changes: An Application of Slope in the Urban Environment." *Geographical Information Sciences*; "A Spatial Strategy for High-Quality Labor in Rural Development: A Case Study of Jiangsu, China." *Chinese Geographical Science* (with Hongyang Wang); "Imitative Behaviors and Multination Corporation R&D Site Locations in China (in Chinese) 模仿行为与跨国公司在华研发机构的区位选择". *Studies in Science of Science* (科学学研究) (with Wen KE); "The Barriers for Multinational R&D in

China and the Implications for Policy Making(从研发经理的视角看跨国公司在华R&D本土化进程中的问题及启示).” *China Soft Science* (中国软科学) (With Wen Ke and Lin Zefu). He is helping organize a conference on Capacity Building and Performance Management, host by the Institute of Policy and Management of CAS. The conference will be held from June 26-27 in Beijing, China. Detailed information about the information can be found at the website: <http://www.casipm.ac.cn/cascbpm/CASCbpm.htm>.

Sin Yih Teo (University of British Columbia) was a second place winner in the 2006 AAG Ethnic Geography Specialty Group Ph.D. Dissertation Proposal Competition based on her proposal, entitled “Where is Home?: ‘Return’ Migration and the Negotiation of Citizenship Amongst Recent People’s Republic of China Immigrants to Canada”. Sin Yih has since completed her fieldwork in China and Canada, which was funded by the Vancouver Centre of the Metropolis Project. She has recently been invited to be a plenary speaker at a conference on ‘Immigration Futures’ in Prato, Italy where she will present a paper on “Geographies of Home and ‘Return’: Tracing Circular Migration Between China and Canada”. Her publications include: “Dreaming Inside a Walled City: Imagination, Gender and the Roots of Immigration”, *Asian and Pacific Migration Journal* (2003) Vol. 12(4): 411-438; and “Imagining Canada: The Cultural Logics of Migration Amongst PRC Immigrants”, RIIM Working Paper (2003) #03-16 (Award for Best Graduate Student Paper), <http://www.riim.metropolis.net>.

Stanley Toops (Miami University) is CO-PI of a Group Fulbright Hays award for a study trip along the Silk Road. Fifteen faculty members from Miami will be visiting China, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, and Turkey May 21-July 2. Titled "Exploring the Silk Road: the Power of Travel, Exploration and Boundary Crossing as a Device for Promoting and Creating Interdisciplinary, Interregional and International Studies," this Silk Road project will promote curricular development and research on Central Eurasia. Faculty are in Geography, Geology, History, Religion, Classics, Political Science, Russian, Italian, Architecture and Library Science. We will develop courses integrating Eurasian, Russian, East Asian, and Middle Eastern Studies, and we will make academic contacts in the region.

Wei Tu (Georgia Southern University) has a new publication: “Urban Environmental Management in Shanghai: Achievements, Problems, and Prospects” *Environmental Management* Vol. 37, No. 3, pp. 307-321.

Gregory Veeck, Clifton Pannell, Christopher J. Smith and Youqin Huang have just completed a book titled *China's Geography: Globalization and the Dynamics of Political, Economic, and Social Change*. Boulder, CO: Roman & Littlefield Publishers. This book will be available in Fall 2006 and it should be of interest to those CGSG members who teach China geography courses.

Fahui Wang (Northern Illinois University) has a new book out: Wang, F. 2006. *Quantitative Methods and Applications in GIS*. London: CRC Press-A Member of Taylor & Francis Group.

Lu Wang (Queen’s University) was awarded a CERIS RFP (Joint Centre of Excellence for Research on Immigration and Settlement). The title of the project is "Ethnicity, Spatial equity and Utilization of Primary Care Physicians - A Case Study with Mainland Chinese Immigrants in the Toronto CMA."

Yehua Dennis Wei (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee) has been elected Vice Chair of AAG's Regional Development & Planning Specialty Group (RDPSG) and Chair of Asian Geography Specialty Group. He has also received the 2006 Distinguished Scholar Award from RDPSG. He hopes more China geographers get involved with these specialty groups.

Anthony Gar-On Yeh (University of Hong Kong) has a number of publications to report: "City Repositioning and Competitiveness Building in Regional Development: New Development Strategies in Guangzhou, China" (2005), *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, Vol. 29, No. 2, pp. 283-308 (Jiang Xu and A.G.O. Yeh); *Developing a Competitive Pearl River Delta in South China Under One Country-Two Systems* (2006), Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 567 pp. (edited by Anthony Gar-On Yeh, Victor Fung-Shuen Sit, Guanghan Chen, Yunyuan Zhou); "Turning of the Dragon Head: Changing Role of Hong Kong in the Regional Development of the Pearl River Delta" (2006), in Anthony Gar-On Yeh, Victor Fung-Shuen Sit, Guanghan Chen, Yunyuan Zhou (eds.), *Developing a Competitive Pearl River Delta in South China Under One Country-Two Systems*, Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, pp. 63-95 (Anthony Gar-On Yeh and Jiang Xu); and "Hong Kong's Producer Services Linkages with the Pearl River Delta" (2006), in Anthony Gar-On Yeh, Victor Fung-Shuen Sit, Guanghan Chen, Yunyuan Zhou (eds.), *Developing a Competitive Pearl River Delta in South China Under One Country-Two Systems*, Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, pp. 111-129.

Emily Yeh (University of Colorado) has a chapter titled “An open Lhasa welcomes you!; Disciplining the researcher in Tibet” that will appear in *Doing Fieldwork in China* (edited by M. Heimer and S. Thogersen, Univ of Hawaii /

NIAS Press, pp. 96-109). The book, which may be of interest to members of CGSG, also includes chapters written by Dorothy Solinger and Kevin O'Brien. This year Emily has been conducting research for a project "Contesting state development: migration, markets and the transformation of Tibetan landscapes and livelihoods", funded by a John D and Catherine MacArthur Foundation Research and Writing Grant (\$75,000 over 18 months, 2005-2006).

Haifeng Zhang (University of South Carolina) received the 2006 AAG Dissertation Research Grant. The title of his dissertation is "The Geographic Analysis of School Performance and Parental Choice in South Carolina."

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Each year, the AAG offers numerous grants and awards to geographers. The list that follows serves to remind you and your colleagues about the opportunities available for recognition or grant support. Unless otherwise noted, all deadlines are December 31, 2006. Please consult full descriptions posted on the AAG website at www.aag.org/grantsawards/index.cfm.

Meredith F. Burrill Award: To stimulate and reward talented individuals and groups who have completed work of exceptional merit and quality that lies at or near the intersection of basic research and practical applications or local, national, or international policy implications. www.aag.org/Grantsawards/burrill.htm

George and Viola Hoffman Award: To support student research toward a master's thesis or doctoral dissertation on a geographical subject in Eastern Europe. www.aag.org/Grantsawards/Hoffmanfund.html

Glenda Laws Award: To recognize outstanding contributions to geographic research on social issues. www.aag.org/Grantsawards/glendalawsaward.htm

Anne U. White Fund: To support field research conducted by a member of the AAG jointly with her or his spouse, regardless of any formal training in geography. www.aag.org/Grantsawards/Annwhitefund.htm

AAG Research Grants: To support direct expenses of research or fieldwork that address questions of major import to the discipline (excluding master's or doctoral dissertation research). www.aag.org/Grantsawards/Generalresearch.html

AAG Dissertation Research Grants: To support direct expenses of master's or doctoral dissertation research to eligible individuals. www.aag.org/Grantsawards/Dissertationresearch.html

AAG International Geographic Information Fund: To support full-time students who are currently registered in an undergraduate or graduate degree program within the United States, and who are working in any area of spatial analysis or geographic information science or systems, through Student Travel Grants, Graduate Research Awards, and Student Paper Awards. www.aag.org/Grantsawards/IGIF.cfm.

Anderson Medal: To recognize distinguished contributions to the profession of geography in one or more areas of industry, government, literature, education, research, service to the profession, or public service. NOTE: Deadline is December 1, 2005. <http://garnet.acns.fsu.edu/~jjd1571/> or http://www.aag.org/Grantsawards/anderson_medal.cfm

For further information, please contact: Dr. Patricia Solis, Director of Research and Outreach, Association of American Geographers, 1710 Sixteenth Street NW, Washington, DC 20009-3198, Telephone 202-234-1450 ext. 32, Direct Line 202-558-7491, Fax 202-234-2744, psolis@aag.org

CHINA GEOGRAPHY SPECIALTY GROUP WEBSITE

Be sure to visit our excellent website at: http://people.uleth.ca/~wei.xu/AAG_China/cgsg.htm

THE CHINA GEOGRAPHY SPECIALTY GROUP TIMELINE

The Timeline was prepared in response to a request from the AAG Central Office. The purpose is to present a record of the activities that CGSG initiated and the contributions that members have made in promoting the study of China

geography since the group's inception. We thank those of our members who have provided us with valuable information for the Timeline. There are still many gaps in the record, and so we hope members will continue to send us information from the past, as well as keep us updated on recent achievements and contributions. For publications, please send information only for books, monographs and special issues of journals, but not articles (as there would be too many of them to include). A copy of the latest version of the Timeline can be accessed through the CGSG webpage at http://people.uleth.ca/~wei.xu/AAG_China/news/AAG_CGSG_Timeline_May06.pdf
Please review and send information on additions or changes to boland@geog.utoronto.ca.

CHINA-RELATED WEBSITES

These web sites were suggested by CGSG members.

China Study Group. <http://www.chinastudygroup.org/>

Asia Tourism Research. <http://www.geog.nau.edu/igust/asiatour/>

The site was developed by Alan Lew (Northern Arizona University) and contains links to resources for research on tourism, an archived email list, a membership directory, and a list of tourism conferences in Asia.

CONFERENCES

International Conference on **Changing Geography in a Diversified World: In Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of Hong Kong Baptist University**, June 1-3, 2006, Department of Geography and the Centre for China Urban and Regional Studies, Hong Kong Baptist University. Details please kindly visit the website: <http://www.hkbu.edu.hk/~curs/2006Conference.htm>

Second Global Conference on Economic Geography 25-28 June 2007, Beijing, China, co-organized by the Chinese Geographic Society and the Department of Geography, National University of Singapore. For details, please visit the website: <http://courses.nus.edu.sg/course/geoywc/conference/econgeog.html>

Sichuan University and Chengdu Municipal Government will co-host the **International Conference on Anti-Poverty and Regional Cooperation & The 3rd Annual Conference of the Consortium for Western China Development Studies** on August 22-23, 2006 in Chengdu, Sichuan, China.

The Consortium for Western China Development Studies was established in Chengdu on December 11, 2003 by a number of universities and research institutions located in Western China with the support of the Office for Western China Development in the State Council of China. The Consortium is a non-governmental organization dedicated to fostering research cooperation among universities, research institutions, and government agencies to promote sustainable development in the western provinces. The goals of this conference are to share international experiences in poverty alleviation, enhance regional cooperation, and promote harmonious development of west China.

The organizers expect more than 200-300 participants from universities, research institutions, government agencies and business sectors within and outside of China to attend this conference. Many well-known economists from China, the U.S., Canada and other countries have been invited to participate. The conference is expected (1) to sign a Chengdu Statement for Enhancing International Anti-Poverty Cooperation; (2) to submit a proposal on Strengthening Regional Anti-Poverty Cooperation and Promoting Harmonious Development of West China; and (3) to publish a conference proceedings from selected papers presented at the conference.

Further information available at <http://chinadatacenter.org/westchina2006/>. Contacts are:

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The 9th Asian Urbanization Conference will be held at Kangwon National University, Chuncheon City, Korea, from August 18 to August 23, 2007. Chuncheon City is approximately 80 kilometres from Seoul.

Conference Themes: Theoretical or empirical studies on urban form and process, urban population change including migration, urban systems, quality of life, sustainable development, city marketing & economic development, social justice, urban governance, applications related to GIS, comparative urbanization, and environmental conditions in Asian cities. Other papers which contribute to an understanding of Asian urbanization are welcomed.

Registration Information: March 31, 2007 is the deadline for both registration and abstracts. Registration forms and abstracts are accepted via e-mail or by regular post. Include your abstract at time of registration. The general registration fee is \$125 US for participants. Registration fees are \$60 for participants residing in developing countries and for companions. There is a student registration fee of \$60 US. Abstracts should be no more than 200 words should be prepared in Microsoft Word, WordPerfect, or compatible format. Submission of complete papers is strongly encouraged.

This conference is organized under the auspices of the Asian Urbanization Research Association (AURA). The very successful 8th Asian Urbanization Conference was hosted by the University of Marketing and Distribution Sciences, Kobe, Japan in August 2005 and ably organized by Shii Okuno. The 10th Asian Urbanization Conference (2009) will be hosted by the University of Hong Kong and in Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, People's Republic of China. The lead organizer is Anthony Yeh, Center for Urban and Environmental Studies, University of Hong Kong (hdugoy@hkucc.hku.hk).

For more information contact the Principal Organizer, Nakhun Song, or the George Pomeroy (AURA Secretary). Information will also be available soon at www.ship.edu/~aura.

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