

China Geography Specialty Group, AAG

Spring 2009 Newsletter

May 20, 2009

中国地理学组通讯

Editor: Piper Gaubatz, Department of Geosciences, University of Massachusetts

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CHAIR'S LETTER

Dear Members of the CGSG:

It was delightful to see many of you at the AAG annual meeting in Las Vegas in March. Despite the long "commute" between our conference hotel and the main venue of many of our sessions, all of our 29 sessions were well attended with engaging discussion. As in past years, we formed a new executive team for the CGSG. Qihao and I have been joined by our colleague Piper Gaubatz from University of Massachusetts Amherst (Secretary), and Haifeng Qian from George Mason University (Student Representative). Wei Xu will continue overseeing the group's website, for which we are very grateful. Special thanks to Alana Boland, our former chair, who has done a fantastic and meticulous job of organizing every detail for our speciality group at this year's AAG. As I am taking on the new role of being the chair of the specialty group, I am mindful and grateful for the long line of dedicated previous chairs who have provided exemplary services and established guidelines for growing this exceptional group of scholars and students. I also want to thank Kin Ma who provided the crucial information for our dinner gathering in Las Vegas. We had a joyful occasion of leaving the Vegas Strip to enjoy authentic Chinese cuisine in one of America's newest Chinatowns. Over 60 people came to the dinner for our special evening.

As the financial crisis deepens, all of us are contending with difficult ramifications within our institutions. The only silver lining, however, is that world attention will increasingly turn to

China. This is to say that the wider communities will have a growing demand for knowledge and reflections on China. This does not mean, however, that people will wait for us to dispense our expertise and wisdom. Rather, various types of “experts” will come out to claim “China” to the public, whether or not they have in depth knowledge about the region or whether or not they are aware of their particular lens. It is really up to us as China geographers to assert our voices into the conversations on China in the hope to broaden and deepen the important debates. I believe that this is a good time to raise the profile of China studies in your local institutions and the discipline at large. One of the ways to do that is of course to raise the visibility of our work, but equally important is to promote collaborations with other non-China specialist scholars, and to forge networks with other speciality groups.

I am particularly pleased that we had many co-sponsored sessions this year which enjoyed active participation with non-China specialists. For example, we held the first joint panel with the Asian Geography Specialty Group on reflections on the “Asian Century.” We also organized two sessions with Economic Geography Specialty Group on “Capitalism, Chinese style?” These sessions were in addition to many other co-sponsored sessions with urban, population, political, remote sensing, recreation, tourism and sport, and Russian and central Eurasian, and east European specialty group. These academic networks are essential for the growth and the meaning of our China field. We hope that these efforts will continue at future AAG meetings. They help bring new perspectives into our discussions and integrate our voices in projects with greater theoretical and empirical implications.

We were pleased to honour a number of our members at the Las Vegas meetings for their service and scholarship. Professor Lawrence Ma, one of the founding members of this group received the prestige AAG Ronald F. Abler Honors for Distinguished Service Award. Professor Kam Wing Chan of the University of Washington received our CGSG Outstanding Service Award for his leadership and long-term commitment to our group, and his distinguished record of accomplishment in China studies. We would also like to congratulate Francine Yi at University of Hong Kong for being awarded Best Student Paper and for Peifei Li of Peking University and Jennifer Wilczak of the University of Toronto for receiving the travel awards.

As for our membership, the Developing Regions Membership Program has already had a successful starting year. We have a number of people joining us through this program. Please continue to encourage your Chinese colleagues to participate in AAG through this program. Details on the program are provided at the AAG website and the CGSG newsletter. Similarly, I would also like to encourage members to highlight the benefits of CGSG membership to students who are interested in China. Student membership represents the sustainability and future growth of our specialty group. Being members will help them to be informed about organized sessions in AAG which usually can generate better targeted audiences and the opportunities to meet with other geographers working on China-related topics.

Finally, as most of you know, next year’s AAG will be held in the national capital, Washington D.C., April 14-18, 2010. This will present an opportunity for us to engage with the global and national political establishments, think-tanks, mass media and other important constituencies in the D.C. area. Discussions are already underway to bring high-profiled speakers on China to the AAG meeting. Other suggestions are also welcome. We know that AAG is also considering new guidelines for participation in the annual meeting, which might involve imposing a limit on session participation. If this is the case, the new procedure may require us to start early in considering organized sessions or panels. Please take a look at the minutes of our business

meeting in Las Vegas for session ideas. But also feel free to propose new and innovative ideas of other sessions. We will be sending out an email announcement in the late summer regarding preparations for the Washington D.C. meetings and will be happy to circulate "Call for Papers" via email on your behalf.

Please feel free to contact any of us on the executive with ideas on how the CGSG can best serve the needs of all of its members. Best wishes to everyone for a productive and restful summer.

Yu Zhou
CGSG Chair, 2009-2010

2009-2010 OFFICERS

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AAG CGSG BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Las Vegas, March 25, 2009, 11:55 AM -12:55 PM

1. Chair Alana Boland welcomed foreign and domestic participants.
2. Approval of the minutes of the last business meeting.
3. Chair's Report:
 - 1) Membership update:
 - Total 230 (students: 87; Non-students: 143; Foreign 51).
 - Increased by 24 members over the same time of last year.
 - Alana Boland asked members to encourage more student participation.
 - Developing Regions Program allows participation of members from selected countries at a deep discounted rate with the benefit of e-journals and newsletter. Chinese language flyer was made by AAG. Special thanks to Larry Ma, Cindy Fan, George Lin, Qihao Weng and Yu Zhou for help with translating and creating the Chinese language flyer.
 - 2) AAG 2009 sessions:

We sponsored or co-sponsored 29 paper or panel sessions this year. More co-sponsoring sessions are encouraged to have more connections with other specialty groups.

3) News from the chairs meeting of AAG specialty groups:

- AAG will update its communication portal which may facilitate the communication. This may create problems reaching people who failed to renew their membership in time. Those members who participate in AAG through CAG or others also need to inform AAG that you are a member of our specialty group. Otherwise, communication through the AAG portal may not reach you.
- New rules are being considered to have any individual participant at the AAG limited to two sessions, though the details are not clear at this point.

4) CGSG group is delighted that one of our longest serving members, Larry Ma, was selected as the recipient of the prestige AAG Ronald F. Abler Honors for Distinguished service award. People are encouraged to participate in the award lunch.

4. Secretary's Report:

Qihao Weng thanked members who contributed to the newsletters, especially to Clifton Pannell, Kam Wing Chan, Tung Fung, George Lin and Qihao Weng for writing a long obituary for Dr. C.P. Lo.

5. Treasurer's Report:

Alana Boland reported on the budget.

Dues (April '08 to end of Feb '09): \$723

CGSG contribution for funds for printing of Development Region Pamphlet: \$230

Awards and dinner tickets (not include printing): \$610

Balance end of Feb '09: \$2,210.42

6. Award Presentation

The CGSG executive committee has selected our Outstanding Service Award for Prof. Kam Wing Chan, University of Washington.

Professor Chan's nomination was co-sponsored by his colleagues in recognition of his contributions to the group and advancement of the study of China's geography. The selection committee was also impressed by his record of accomplishment. Over the years, Professor Chan has organized many AAG sessions and served on countless panels. He served on the CGSG executive for two years and continues to take a leadership role in efforts to expand the membership and influence of the group. His efforts have helped tremendously to develop the CGSG into the dynamic specialty group that it has become. In addition, through his research and outreach, Professor Chan has also helped to advance the field of China Geography by enhancing the profile of geography outside the discipline, and similarly producing important research on China that speaks to audiences working on related issues elsewhere in the world.

* Best Student Paper Award: Ms. Francine Yi, University of Hong Kong, for a paper entitled: "Urban Land Development and Local Public Finance in China's Urbanization".

* Two Travel Awards: Mr. Peifei Li, Peking University, "Evolutionary Processes of Interactive Learning: Aluminum Profile Industry in Dali, Guangdong Province, China";

Ms. Jennifer Wilczak, University of Toronto, for her paper entitled: “Migrants Troubled by Lack of Sex: The Politics of Solicitude for Migrant Workers in Contemporary China”.

The members thanked Alana Boland for her contribution the specialty group

Yu Zhou chaired the remaining section of the meeting:

7. Election of new secretary and student representative

Piper Gaubatz was nominated as a candidate for the secretary. No other nominations were proposed. Piper Gaubatz was elected as the secretary for 2009 -2010.

Haifeng Qian (George Mason University) volunteered as a candidate for the student representative. No other nominations were proposed. Qian elected as the student representative for 2009 -2010.

8. The new chair introduced the new cabinet.

9. Planning for the 2010 AAG meeting in Washington DC. If AAG is going to implement the rule of limiting each participant for two sessions, the session organization may need to start earlier so people know about their commitment.

A number of themes were suggested:

- Pan-Asia development and planning;
- Urban transportation in Asian cities;
- Major international events such as shanghai world expo
- Urban Governance in China
- Rural development in China;
- Capitalism and China
- Impacts of economic crisis;
- Technology innovation
- Comparative geography in US and China;
- The capital cities in US and in China;
- Sustainability in China;
- Comparative panels of different countries
- Urbanization, environment, and sustainability

11. Other business:

1) Yu Zhou announced that the annual dinner will be held at Chinatown Plaza, Emperor’s Garden at 7:30pm. (A total of 63 people attended the dinner).

2) Announcements from the floor:

- Dr. Shuming Bao, University of Michigan, introduced the China Data Center.

- Yves Boquet announced *Population geography* special issue, please contact him yves.boquet@u-bourgogne.fr or boquet.yves@wanadoo.fr.
- Greg Veeck, Western Michigan University suggested that a new edition of the China Geography textbook is going to come out, and the authors would like to have comments and contributions.

MEMBERS' NEWS

Carolyn Cartier (currently USC) is leaving USC to join the staff of University of Technology Sydney's China Research Centre.

Kam-wing Chan (U of Washington): Of all the AAG meetings he has attended in the past quarter century, he enjoyed probably the most this year by not presenting a paper but taking part in the two very interesting panel discussions sponsored by the CGSG in Las Vegas. The exchanges on whether present China is socialist or capitalist and the uniqueness -- or lack thereof -- of China's urbanization model were most stimulating and productive. He takes pride in two of his recent publications addressing fundamental questions in China's spatial development: one is a broad analysis of the *hukou* system, linking it with industrialization and urbanization ("The Chinese *Hukou* System at 50", *EGE*, March 2009) and another one is on a seemingly trivial yet very basic question of studying Chinese cities ("Measuring the Urban Millions," *China Economic Quarterly*, March 2009). The latter was written for a general audience and the paper takes away some of the pains of having to wade through the morass of technical details to understand an important analytical issue. Apart from the mundane work of teaching and research, he also continues to do occasional consulting work for businesses, such as McKinsey.

Cindy Fan (UCLA) recently gave a keynote speech at the Conference "Pacific Worlds in Motion II" at the National University of Singapore. She was also invited to give talks by the Shanghai Forum at Fudan University, the Committee on Global Thought at Columbia University, the Centennial Colloquium Series at the Department of Geography of the Ohio State University, the University of Utah, and California State University-Northridge. She has several forthcoming publications, including "Flexible Work, Flexible Household: Labor Migration and Rural Families in China," in *Work and Organizations in China*, edited by Lisa A. Keister (Emerald Press); "西方国内人口迁移研究进展及趋势" (with Wenfei Winnie Wang) in a book on demography edited by Zai Liang (Renmin University Press); "Migrant workers," in *International Encyclopedia of Human Geography*, edited by Rob Kitchin and Nigel Thrift (Elsevier); and "Urbanization," "Migrant Workers" and "Jiangsu" in *Berkshire Encyclopedia of China*, edited by Linsun Cheng (Berkshire Publishing Group). Cindy continues her role as co-editor of *Regional Studies* and chair of AAG's Membership Committee. In the summer of 2009, Cindy will teach a five-week University of California Travel Study program in Beijing and she is very excited about that.

Ron Knapp (SUNY New Paltz) is finishing a new book, *Chinese Houses in Southeast Asia: Eclectic Architecture of Sojourners and Settlers*.

George Lin (University of Hong Kong): After a decade-long of research and writing (doesn't sound too efficient!), George has published a book titled *Developing China: Land, Politics, and Social Conditions* (London and New York: Routledge, 2009) (ISBN: 978-0-415-41322-0 US; 0-

415-41322-2 UK). http://geog.hku.hk/staff/lin/Developing_China.pdf; <http://www.routledge.com/9780415413220>; The book (334 pp.) reads rather provocative and informative containing 11 chapters, 34 tables, 33 figures, 22 photos, 612 footnotes, and an extensive bibliography. George will highly appreciate book reviews from members and will ask the publisher to send a free copy of the book to the book reviewer. Another article titled "Scaling-up regional development in globalizing China: Local capital accumulation, land-centered politics, and reproduction of space" has just appeared in *Regional Studies*, 43(3): 429-447, April 2009.

Kin Ma (Grand Valley State University) will receive tenure at the Department of Geography and Planning at Grand Valley State University in the Grand Rapids, Michigan area.

Dennis Yehua Wei (University of Utah) received Distinguished Service Awards from both Asian Geography SG and Regional Development and Planning SG. He is working on regional development models in China funded by Ford Foundation while finishing up a NSF project on the development of the ICT industry. His recent publications include the following: (1) Wei, Y.H.D., Y.Q. Lu, and W. Chen. Globalizing Regional Development in Sunan, China: Does Suzhou Industrial Park Fit a Neo-Marshallian District Model? *Regional Studies* 43(3): 409-427, 2009; (2) Luo, J. and Y.H.D. Wei. Modeling Spatial Variations of Urban Growth Patterns in Chinese Cities: The Case of Nanjing. *Landscape and Urban Planning* 91(2): 51-64, 2009; (3) Wei, Y.H.D and X.Y. Ye. Beyond Convergence: Space, Scale, and Regional Inequality in China. *Tijdschrift voor Economische en Sociale Geografie (Journal of Economic and Social Geography)* 100(1): 59-80, 2009; (4) Wei, Y.H.D., C.K. Leung W.M. Li, and R. Pan. Institutions, Location, and Network of Multinational Enterprises in China: A Case Study of Hangzhou. *Urban Geography* 29(7): 639-661, 2008; (5) He, C.F., Y.H.D. Wei and X.Z. Xie. Globalization, Institutional Change, and Industrial Location: Economic Transition and Industrial Concentration in China. *Regional Studies* 42(7): 923-945, 2008.

Qihao Weng (Indiana State University) is working at NASA this year as a senior research fellowship, where he spends most time in the studies of the climatic impacts of urbanization and public/environmental health applications of geospatial techniques and the scientific development of a new NASA sensor. He was recently promoted to full professor. His new book, entitled "Remote Sensing and GIS Integration: Theories, Methods, and Applications", is expected to publish in October by McGraw-Hill, New York. This book includes several case studies in China, examining urban and regional development issues by the synergies between remote sensing and GIS.

Fulong Wu (University of Cardiff) has, among many other projects, edited a special issue of *Built Environment* (together with Duanfang Lu) entitled *The Transition of Chinese Cities* (vol. 34, No. 4).

Emily Yeh (University of Colorado) has been awarded a National Science Foundation, Dynamics of Coupled Natural and Human Systems grant for "Collaborative Research: Determinants of grassland dynamics in the Tibetan highlands: livestock, wildlife, and the culture and political economy of pastoralism" as part of a research team including Richard Harris, Donald Bedunah, Andrew Smith and John Anderies.

Yu Zhou (Vassar College) became Chair of the department of Earth Science and Geography at Vassar College. Since her selection as a Public Intellectual Fellow by the National Committee of US-China Relations in 2008, she has been trying to write for a more general audience. Examples include articles for the popular blog site: the China Beat, “Huiyuan: My “nationalistic” juice,” March. 25 2009. <http://thechinabeat.blogspot.com/2009/03/huiyuan-my-nationalistic-juice.html>. and “Can China go high-tech when exports slump?” Mar. 12 2009.

<http://thechinabeat.blogspot.com/2009/03/can-china-go-high-tech-when-exports.html>

On the academic side, she published “Synchronizing export orientation with import substitution: creating competitive indigenous high-tech Companies in China,” *World Development*. Vol. 36, No. 11, Nov. 2008, 2353-2370. Her chapter “The migration of Chinese professionals: and the development of the Chinese ICT industry.” Is included in *Digital Diaspora: Spaces of identity, politics and technology*, edited by Andoni Alonso and Pedro J. Oiarzabal, University of Nevada Press. It will be published in 2010. She is also co-editing a special issue of Environment and Planning A on Technology upgrade in China and East Asia with Yehua Wei and Yifei Sun. In the summer of 2009, she will go with a National Committee Public Intellectual Fellow group to China and Taiwan

RECENT OR FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS BY CGSG MEMBERS

(This is by no means a complete list. If you would like your publications included in the Fall newsletter, please send the information to Piper Gaubatz at gaubatz@geo.umass.edu).

Boland, A. and J. Zhu. (2008) Boundaries and belonging in Guangzhou: Changing the nature of residential space in urban China. In *Building Urban Communities*, eds. A. Daniere and M. Douglass. New York: Routledge.

Chan, Kam Wing (2009) “The Chinese *Hukou* System at 50” *Eurasian Geography and Economics*, 50(2), pp. 192-221.

Chan, Kam Wing (2009) “Measuring the Urban Millions,” *China Economic Quarterly*, March 2009

Feng, Jian, Wu, Fulong and Logan, John. (2008) “From Homogenous to Heterogenous” the Transformation of Beijing’s Socio-Spatial Structure” *Built Environment* 34(4), pp. 482-498.

Gaubatz, Piper (2008) “New Public Space in Urban China: Fewer Walls, More Malls in Beijing, Shanghai and Xining” *China Perspectives*, 76(4): 72-83

Gaubatz, Piper (2008) “Les Nouveaux Espaces Publics en Chine Urbaine,” *Perspectives Chinoises*, 105(4): 78-90.

He, C.F., Y.H.D. Wei and X.Z. Xie. (2008) Globalization, Institutional Change, and Industrial Location: Economic Transition and Industrial Concentration in China. *Regional Studies* 42(7): 923-945.

Lin, George (2009) *Developing China: Land, Politics, and Social Conditions* (London and New York: Routledge) (ISBN: 978-0-415-41322-0 US; 0-415-41322-2 UK).

http://geog.hku.hk/staff/lin/Developing_China.pdf; <http://www.routledge.com/9780415413220>

- Lin, George (2009) "Scaling-up regional development in globalizing China: Local capital accumulation, land-centered politics, and reproduction of space" *Regional Studies*, 43(3): 429-447, April 2009.
- Liu, Lee (2008) "Urban Environmental Performance in China: a Sustainability Divide?" *Sustainable Development*, 17(1), pp. 1-18.
- Luo, J. and Y.H.D. Wei. (2009) Modeling Spatial Variations of Urban Growth Patterns in Chinese Cities: The Case of Nanjing. *Landscape and Urban Planning* 91(2): 51-64.
- Pannell, Clifton (2008) "China's Economic and Political Penetration in Africa" *Eurasian Geography and Economics*, 49(6), pp. 706-730.
- Veeck, Greg (2008). "China's Exports and Imports of Agricultural Products under the WTO" *Eurasian Geography and Economics*, 49(5): September-October 2008, pp. 569-585.
- Wei, Y.H.D and X.Y. Ye. (2009) Beyond Convergence: Space, Scale, and Regional Inequality in China. *Tijdschrift voor Economische en Sociale Geografie (Journal of Economic and Social Geography)* 100(1): 59-80
- Wei, Y.H.D., C.K. Leung W.M. Li, and R. Pan. (2008) Institutions, Location, and Network of Multinational Enterprises in China: A Case Study of Hangzhou. *Urban Geography* 29(7): 639-661
- Wei, Y.H.D., Y.Q. Lu, and W. Chen. (2009) Globalizing Regional Development in Sunan, China: Does Suzhou Industrial Park Fit a Neo-Marshallian District Model? *Regional Studies* 43(3): 409-427.
- Wu, Fulong and Lu, Duanfang (2008) "The Transition of Chinese Cities" *Built Environment*, 34(4), pp. 385-391.
- Wu, Fulong and Phelps, Nicholas (2008) "From Suburbia to Post Suburbia in China? Aspects of the Transformation of the Beijing and Shanghai Global City Regions" *Built Environment* 34(4), pp. 464-481.
- Wuttke, Christian (2009, forthcoming): The Global Financial Crisis and the Factory of the World. China's Pearl River Delta under Pressure. *Geographische Rundschau International Edition*, Vol. 4 (3)
- Yeh, Anthony G.O. and Xu, Jiang (2008) "Regional Cooperation in the Pan-Pearl River Delta: A Formulaic Aspiration or a New Imagination?" *Built Environment* 34(4), pp. 408-426.
- Yeh, Emily T. (2009). "From wasteland to wetland? Nature and nation in China's Tibet" *Environmental History* 14(1): 103-137
- Yeung, Yue-man, Lee, Joanna, and Kee, Gordon (2009) "China's Special Economic Zones at 30" *Eurasian Geography and Economics*, 50(2), pp. 222-240.

Zhou, Yu, (2008) "Synchronizing export orientation with import substitution: creating competitive indigenous high-tech Companies in China," *World Development*. Vol. 36, No. 11, Nov. 2008, 2353-2370.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

CHINA PLANNING NETWORK CHINA WEEK
BEIJING, CHINA, 15-20 JUNE 2009
<http://www.chinaplanningnetwork.org/english/index.htm>

23RD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY FOR CONSERVATION BIOLOGY
CONSERVATION: HARMONY FOR NATURE AND SOCIETY
BEIJING, 11-16 JULY, 2009
<http://scb2009.ioz.ac.cn/index.asp?CFID=2824463&CFTOKEN=47026888>

THREE DECADES OF REFORM AND OPENING UP: THE RETROSPECT AND
PROSPECTS OF WEST CHINA DEVELOPMENT
THE 7TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE CONSORTIUM FOR WESTERN CHINA
DEVELOPMENT STUDIES
LANZHOU, 23-24 JULY 2009
<http://chinadatacenter.org/westchina2009/>

WORKSHOP ON "THE IMPACT OF TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS ON
INNOVATION AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN CHINA" SHANGHAI, 13 AUGUST
2009
http://blog.sina.com.cn/s/blog_403721a90100d7pm.html

TENTH ASIAN URBANIZATION CONFERENCE
HONG KONG, 16-19 AUGUST 2009
<http://www.hku.hk/asia2009/>

SIXTEENTH INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON URBAN FORM
GUANGZHOU, 4-7 SEPTEMBER, 2009
<http://www.urbanform.org/sem/sem2009.html>

MIDWEST CONFERENCE ON ASIAN AFFAIRS
MIAMI UNIVERSITY, OXFORD, OHIO, 16-18 OCTOBER 2009
<http://montgomery.cas.muohio.edu/mcaa/>

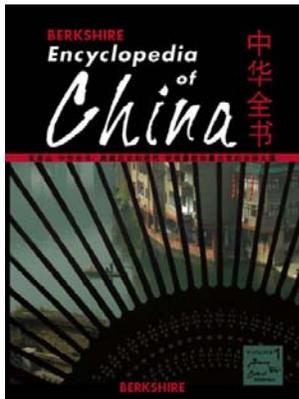
FIRST WORLD YOUNG EARTH SCIENTISTS CONGRESS 2009
BEIJING, 25-28 OCTOBER 2009
<http://www.yescongress2009.org/>

TRADE, URBANIZATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT
BEIJING, 28-30 OCTOBER 2009
<http://www.institut.veolia.org/en/activities/conferences-environmental-foresight/>

KNOWLEDGE CITIES SUMMIT
SHENZHEN, CHINA, 5-7 NOVEMBER 2009
<http://www.kcsummit2009.com/eng/index.html>

SECOND ANNUAL UNESCO-ICCROM ASIAN ACADEMY FOR HERITAGE
MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE
URBAN HERITAGE AND TOURISM: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES
MACAO, 1-3 DECEMBER 2009
<http://www.atlas-euro.org/>

BERKSHIRE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF CHINA



The *Berkshire Encyclopedia of China* was published on May 1, 2009. This five-volume, 2,800 page work includes contributions by nearly a dozen members of the China Geography Specialty Group, and includes one of our members, Greg Veeck, on its editorial board.

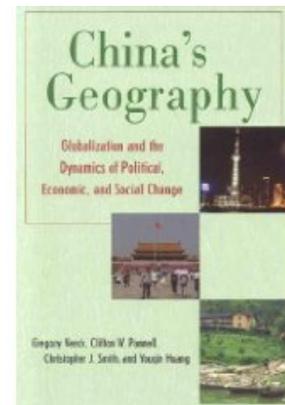
According to the publisher, “The *Berkshire Encyclopedia of China* offers authoritative articles from well-known scholars in China as well as in the West, and it has been compiled with strict rules about balance and objectivity by a publisher committed to providing truly global perspectives that will empower 21st-century students, global citizens, and leaders in business and government.”

It is possible to search inside the *Encyclopedia* and to view sample chapters at <http://www.berkshirepublishing.com/brw/product.asp?projID=65#>

CHINA'S GEOGRAPHY

Dear CGSG members:

Please do not consider this to be an advertisement, it is not intended in this way. Cliff Pannell, Youqin Huang, Chris Smith and I will update our China Geography text in the coming year. We hope to have all revisions done by July 2010 which means starting on them by the fall of 2009, after the summer field season. For those of you who have used the text, could you please help us improve the book by telling us what additions or improvements you would like to see in the text. We will really consider all suggestions.



Several people have suggested that we have review questions at the end of each chapter and we will do this. Others have found some problems with the content of the maps and we will revise virtually all maps to update the data depicted but also address some of these other concerns. In short, we would like the book to be as useful as possible, and your suggestions will help us achieve this goal.

Please send your concerns/comments to Greg Veeck at veeckg@wmich.edu. I will circulate

them to the other authors. If you have not yet seen the text, desk copies may be requested from Rowman and Littlefield IF you potentially will teach a class related to the text. I thank you in advance for your help with the revisions and wish you a pleasant summer.

-Greg Veeck

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Each year, the AAG offers numerous grants and awards to geographers, including students. Members of the CGSG are encouraged to apply. Unless otherwise noted, all deadlines are December 31, 2008. Please consult listing and full descriptions for these grants posted on the AAG website at: www.aag.org/grantsawards/index.cfm

CALL FOR PAPERS: WORKSHOP ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Workshop on “The Impact of Transnational Corporations on Innovation and Regional Development in China” Shanghai, China, August 13, 2009

China aims at changing its role in the globalizing world economy, moving from a low-tech manufacturer towards an innovative and technology-intensive producer. However, only few leading regions within China, namely parts of the Bohai Region, the Yangtze River Delta (YRD), and the Pearly River Delta, offer conditions suitable for the development of a high-tech industry. Drastically moving up the global value chains is not an easy task for China.

This workshop is designed to discuss concepts and to collect evidence concerning the impact of transnational corporations on innovation and regional economic development in China. In particular, the workshop will focus cooperation, R&D and knowledge transfer in the YRD. We welcome scholars in China and abroad to attend the workshop.

Date: August 13, 2009

Venue: East China Normal University, Shanghai, China

Themes:

1. Foreign direct investment and transnational corporations
2. Knowledge transfer and cooperation in R&D and innovation
3. Promotion of high-technology industry and economic development
4. Challenges, prospects, and planning issues

Sponsors:

East China Normal University

Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, Germany

Paper Submission and Acceptance:

1. The workshop seminar will combine paper presentations and a related discussion.
2. The deadline for abstract submission is July 01, 2009. A submitted abstract should include the title, a summary of the paper, keywords, and the authors' names, affiliations, and contact information. Abstracts should contain less than 500 words and be submitted in MS Word.
3. The deadline for full paper submission is July 15, 2009. A submitted paper should include the title, keywords, text, references, tables and figures if necessary, and the authors' names, affiliations, and contact information. Please send abstracts and full papers to

gzung@re.ecnu.edu.cn

4. The conference organization committee will review and select the abstracts and papers based on conference topics and quality of research. First (or corresponding, representative) authors of the accepted papers will be invited as official representatives.

5. The conference organization committee will edit the accepted papers before the conference. With the agreement of the authors, selected manuscripts will be published in a book.

6. Participants from outside of academia (e. g. from industry) are very welcome. They need not submit a paper.

7. The workshop language is English. If a talk is given in Chinese, please prepare the PPT materials in both Chinese and English.

Registration: July 15, 2009 (Early Registration: July 1, 2009)

Fees:

1. No registration fee for official representatives.

2. Participants should take care of their own travel expenses.

3. The hosts will cover accommodation and meals for the official representatives during the two-day conference.

Conference Organizing Committee Chairs:

Gang ZENG, Professor and Dean Director, School of Resources and Environmental Science, ECNU

Debin DU, Professor and Chair, Department of Human Geography, ECNU

Ingo LIEFNER, Professor and Chair, Department of Economic Geography, JLU Giessen

Yehua Dennis WEI, Professor, Institute of Public and International Affairs and Department of Geography, University of Utah, United States; Zijiang Chair Professor, Center for Modern Chinese City Studies, ECNU

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CHINA DATA CENTER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

The China Data Center at the University of Michigan is a new initiative to advance the study and understanding of China. A primary goal of the Center will be the integration of historical, social and natural science data in a geographic information system, where spatial and temporal references will be maintained through a relational database. This will facilitate comparative and interdisciplinary uses of the data, enable both non-specialists and China scholars to understand and utilize these data, and enhance knowledge of China. Its missions include: to support research in the human and natural components of local, regional and global change; to promote quantitative research on China studies; to promote collaborative research in spatial studies; and to promote the use and sharing of China data in teaching and research.

For more information, please visit: <http://chinadatabase.org/newcdc/>

CHINA GEOGRAPHY SPECIALTY GROUP WEBSITE

Be sure to visit our website at: http://people.uleth.ca/~wei.xu/AAG_China/cgsg.htm Past newsletters and the timeline are posted there.

OTHER WEB RESOURCES

The AAG has established a website to promote its new **Developing Regions Membership Program**: <http://www.aag.org/Developing/index.htm>. A Chinese language version of the program's pamphlet is now available there. The AAG has also set up a listing of geography departments and scholarly associations in the "Resources" section of the Asia page (<http://www.aag.org/Developing/Asia/index.htm>). The AAG invites members to provide additions and corrections to help ensure that these lists are up-to-date and comprehensive for every region. Suggestions should be emailed to: developingregions@aag.org