

School of Economics

# China in a Dynamic Changing World

## Symposium

The University of Queensland, St Lucia

Friday 3 May 2019

# Program

9-9.15am	Registration
9.15-9.30am	<b>Official Welcome</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Associate Professor Renuka Mahadevan, Symposium Chair</li><li>• Professor Doune Macdonald, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Teaching and Learning)</li><li>• Professor Daniel Zizzo, Academic Dean and Head of School of Economics</li></ul>
9.30-10am	<b>The Chinese Economy at a Glance</b> John Humphreys, School of Economics, UQ
10-10.30am	<b>Negotiating with the Chinese</b> Yunxia Zhu, UQ Business School
10.30-11.15am	Cultural Performance and morning tea
11.15-11.45am	<b>Made in China 2025: Opportunities for Australia</b> David Du, School of Economics, UQ
11.45am-12.15pm	<b>Energy and Carbon Emissions in China's Industries</b> Ya Chen, School of Economics, Hefei University of Technology, China
12.15-12.45pm	<b>China's Water Crisis: What Can Australia Learn?</b> Yongping Wei, School of Earth and Environmental Science, UQ
12.45-1.30pm	Lunch
1.30-2pm	<b>China's Foreign Policy Making</b> Sarah Teitt, School of Political Science & International Studies, UQ
2-2.30pm	<b>China's Counter-Terrorism Law</b> Enshen Li, UQ Law School
2.30-3pm	<b>Agriculture Innovation for a Green-Clean China</b> Susanne Schmidt, School of Agriculture and Food Science, UQ
3-3.30pm	Afternoon tea
3.30-4pm	<b>China's Tourism Market under the Super App Era</b> Beile Zhang, UQ Business School
4-4.30pm	<b>Examining the Well-being of the Chinese</b> Vanessa Sha Fan, School of Economics, UQ
4.30pm	<b>Closing remarks</b> Renuka Mahadevan

# Presentations and speakers

## The Chinese Economy at a Glance

The economic rise of China has been one of the most amazing and important developments in recent history, bringing over half a billion people out of absolute poverty, and fundamentally reshaping the global economy. These unprecedented changes (and the hectic rate of change) have created unprecedented challenges, as the Chinese government attempts to simultaneously deal with slowing economic growth, capital misallocation and high corporate debt. The consequences will be fascinating to observe, but are nearly impossible to predict.

**Dr. John Humphreys** currently teaches about the Chinese economy and has written two books. He is an adjunct scholar at the Australian Centre for Independent Studies and has worked previously for the Australian Treasury and done consulting work in Asia for the World Bank. He has run an education charity in Cambodia for the last ten years, for which he was recently awarded the Knight Grand Cross in the Royal Order of Monisaraphon.

## Negotiating with the Chinese

China has been one of the most appealing markets for Western firms for the last few decades. However, doing business with China is considered difficult, mainly because negotiating with Chinese counterparts is quite challenging. This presentation provides information about the complex sociocultural and political context for negotiating with the Chinese and the appropriate tactics useful for Sino-Western business collaboration and alliances.

**Associate Professor Yunxia Zhu** has an honorary adjunct professorship with five major universities in China and is currently leading two major research programs funded by the Chinese Humanities and Social Science Foundation. She has extensive consulting experience and has completed ten commissioned reports. She also has co-authored a four book series on internationalisation and the One-Belt-One-Road initiative which were adopted by policy makers and corporations in these areas.

## Made in China 2025: Opportunities for Australia

Products from China are popular due to their cheaper price. However, some people believe that the cheaper products from China lure industries in other economies to outsource jobs to China and are thereby considered a threat to other economies. Although China wishes to integrate into the global value chain, a trade war has been triggered with the U.S. The presentation provides information regarding the reasons behind the conflicts and comments on the opportunities for the Australian economy.

**Dr. David Kai Du** is a UQ Development Fellow with a research focus on the Chinese economy, and economic growth. He is currently involved in research funded by the National Social Science Fund of China to compare the economic growth of China with other countries.

## Energy and Carbon Emission in China's Industries

China emits the most carbon dioxide in the world and faces global pressure to reduce carbon emissions. This talk describes the energy consumption and carbon emissions in China's industries and explains the factors that affect this phenomenon.

**Associate Professor Ya Chen** is a visiting fellow from China's Hefei University of Technology and his research focus is on efficiency and productivity analysis in China's manufacturing industries and structural adjustment in China's iron and steel industry.

## China's Water Crisis: What Can Australia Learn?

China's water situation is at a crisis and faces many future challenges. This presentation will discuss this impending crisis from the perspectives of the national goal of societal development, engineering-driven water management philosophy, and fragmented government policies.

**Associate Professor Yongping Wei** is an ARC Future Fellow who initiated the Australian China Joint Research on River Basin Management funded by the federal government in Australia and the Ministry of Science and Technology in China. She developed the course on "International River Basin Management" which won the first class award of Innovative Teaching in Tsinghua University, a top Chinese university. In the last decade, she has been successfully awarded over \$5 million worth of collaborative projects with China.

## China's Foreign Policy Making

Chinese foreign policy decision-making is often perceived to be opaque and largely determined by China's top leadership, which shapes how outsiders understand and interpret Chinese actions on the world stage. This presentation examines the key actors, institutions and ideas shaping contemporary Chinese foreign policy making. It demonstrates how despite the consolidation of power under Xi Jinping, Chinese foreign policy making is both more fragmented and diverse than commonly presumed.

**Dr Sarah Teitt** is an ARC DECRA Senior Research Fellow and the Deputy Director of The University of Queensland's Asia Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect. Her research focuses on China's growing role in international peace-building. In 2014, Sarah established and has since administered the annual China-Australia Dialogue on the Responsibility to Protect, a forum for Chinese and Australian experts and policymakers to discuss measures pertaining to protection populations affected by armed conflict and mass atrocity crimes.

## China's Counter-Terrorism Law

In the aftermath of the September 11 attacks, China has not been immune to the global trend of destructive terrorism. In this talk, I seek to explore the cause, source and impact of terrorist threats in China, known as the "Three Evils"—terrorism, extremism, and separatism. I will also discuss China's legal framework for combating the "Three Evils" to explore the cultural characteristics of the government's approach against these rising threats.

**Dr. Enshen Li** has been working on a project related to the sentencing system of China. The project explores the recent developments in sentencing policies, rationales and practices in relation to a number of specific crimes, including terrorism, national security offences and corruption.

## Agriculture Innovation for a Green-Clean China

China's agriculture is considered globally as one of the most unsustainable. Following devastating famine in the early 60s, farms were modernised and the transformation of China's agriculture over the following 50 years has relied heavily on agrichemicals. Today, China struggles with degraded and contaminated soils, wastes and large scale pollution. China's middle class preferentially consumes food produced elsewhere, while China's farmers migrate to cities when opportunity arises. These problems are now being addressed, and this presentation discusses how a clean and green China may emerge.

**Professor Susanne Schmidt** is an agri-ecologist working across natural ecosystems and agriculture. She is a member of the ARC College of Experts, the Ecosystem Science Council of Australia, and a Fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt Society. Her research aims to find solutions to today's agriculture in support of the bioeconomy and a world without waste and pollution. Collaborations across Europe, China and the Americas connect her team to international initiatives on sustainable agriculture.

## Chinese Tourism Market under the Super App Era

The increasing popularity of Chinese online social media apps (the Super App era) such as Wechat, Weibo and Alipay has significantly changed the tourism industry and tourists' behaviour in China. The convenience of app usage and the credibility of the information are important factors in tourists' final choice of tourism products. This presentation summarizes the impacts of Chinese online social media apps on the Chinese tourism market from both the supply and demand perspectives and the implications of future challenges.

**Beile Zhang** is currently a final year PhD candidate in tourism with the UQ Business School. His research interests cover tourists' behaviours, online communication strategies, airline carbon offsettings and quantitative marketing research methods. His first degree is from Sun Yat-Sen University, a top ranking Chinese university.

## Examining the Well-Being of the Chinese

Ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all ages is one of the 2015 Sustainable Development Goals. This presentation sheds light on the mental health of the Chinese elderly who are a vulnerable group in society. The factors affecting their mental health are discussed and the particular importance of social capital for the well-being of the elderly is highlighted as an important social policy for China.

**Vanessa Sha Fan** will be submitting her PhD in Economics this month. She received a scholarship from the China Scholarship Council to do her PhD at The University of Queensland. In July, she will take up a postdoctoral position at the Australian National University. Her research areas cover well-being, income inequality, poverty alleviation, ageing and social capital. She previously

# Understanding China

(ECON3820/7820)



## Enrol in the new multidisciplinary course

This course is designed for anyone who has an interest in the Chinese economy and wants to learn about a wide range of issues from a holistic perspective.

The course is taught by experts who work on China from various disciplines across the University. Having a broad understanding from an array of disciplines enables students to acquire critical thinking skills, diverse knowledge and unique employability skills that can be applied in any industry.

There are no prerequisites for this course and no background knowledge on China is required.

## Assessment

There will be no final exam at the end of the semester. Instead students will be assessed based on written assignments and class tests.

## Enrolment

You can enrol via mySI-net for the course's first offering in Semester 2, 2019. For any queries, please contact Megan Sandaver, Manager - Coursework, Students and Programs at the School of Economics.

Email: [m.sandaver@uq.edu.au](mailto:m.sandaver@uq.edu.au), phone: 3365 6595.

Course coordinator: Associate Professor Renuka Mahadevan



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CREATE CHANGE