January 2017

The *Fudan-UC Dispatch* is a periodic publication by the Fudan-UC Center on Contemporary China, based at the University of California (UC) San Diego’s School of Global Policy and Strategy (GPS). It features current research publications on China in digest form as well as noteworthy commentaries on current affairs related to China by UC and Fudan University scholars. Its purpose is to enhance publicity for UC and Fudan scholars publishing in the China area and to familiarize these scholars with each other’s research interests so as to identify future collaborative opportunities. The *Fudan-UC Dispatch* sources its information in English only. It also includes a brief section on the Fudan-UC Center activities.

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About the Fudan-UC Center:

The Fudan-UC Center on Contemporary China creates opportunities for cooperation between Fudan University and all UC campuses on research, policy and educational initiatives, including academic conferences and community events. It is the first overseas research center established by a Chinese university at a North American university. Based at GPS, the center also works closely with the School’s 21st Century China Program. Learn more at fudan-uc.ucsd.edu.

Editor-in-chief: Xian Xu, Managing Associate Director, Fudan-UC Center
Editorial Board: Lei Guang, Sam Tsoi, Jana Hopkins, Qiang Xu, Xian Xu
Household-splitting of rural migrants in Beijing

Fan explores the active involvement and strategizing of the rural Chinese population to make the best of their options, by pursuing different forms of household arrangements and sending more family members to maximize income from migrant work. The newer forms of household arrangement do not seem to imply a transition from temporary migration to permanent migration. In that light, it is conceivable that despite hukou reforms the practice of translocality, straddling the city and the countryside, and circular migration will persist.

More information:
http://www.geog.ucla.edu/sites/default/files/users/fan/trialog_116_117_03_fan_color.pdf

Conscientiousness and everyday creativity among Chinese undergraduate students

This study examined how conscientiousness was related to everyday creativity among 202 Chinese university students. Participants in the study completed measures of personality and everyday creativity. Structural equation modeling revealed that conscientiousness had a medium effect on everyday creativity. It also showed that openness and extraversion were positively related to everyday creativity. Implications of the present findings are discussed.

More information:
Who wants to leave China?

Using experimental and survey data, this research finds Chinese citizens with more positive perceptions and overestimation of foreign socioeconomic conditions are more interested in going abroad. Huang discovers that correcting socioeconomic overestimation of foreign countries reduces their interest in leaving China. The relationship between international political knowledge and interest in exiting the country, on the other hand, is not significant or consistent, which suggests that Chinese citizens’ interest in going abroad is primarily socioeconomic rather than political in nature. These results contribute to the study of citizen misperception and misinformation, and they challenge a prevalent assumption in the international migration literature.


Formation, features and controlling strategies of severe haze-fog pollutions in China

With rapid industrialization and urbanization, China is facing a great challenge in regard to severe pollutions, which were characterized by high-fine particulate concentration level and visibility impairment. The control strategies for atmosphere pollutions in China were not only cutting-edge topics of atmospheric research, but also an urgent issue to be addressed by the Chinese government and the public. Focused on the core scientific issues of the haze and fog pollution, this paper reviews the main studies conducted in China after 2010, including formation mechanisms, evolution features, and factors contributing to the haze-fog pollutions.

Anning Hu, Fudan University
Field: Sociology
Source: Social Science Research
Date: Nov. 2, 2016

Changing perceived importance of religion in mainland China, 1990–2012: An age-period-cohort analysis

The comprehensive social reform and relaxation of religious regulation in mainland China have encouraged scholars to propose a revival thesis of religion, predicting a rising prevalence of religious adherence in the Reform Era. This study extends the revival thesis by focusing attention on people's subjective religiosity and investigates age, period and cohort effects on the transition in perceived importance of religion from 1990 to 2012.

More information:

Barry Naughton, UC San Diego
Field: Economics
Source: Research Policy
Date: December 2016
Pages 2,138-2,152

Co-authors: Ling Chen

An institutionalized policymaking mechanism: China’s return to techno-industrial policy

This article documents the shift to “techno-industrial policy” that involves direct government interventions to shape specific industrial sectors. Furthermore, it shows that it occurred through two successive waves of policy change, which explains a sharp increase in direct sectoral interventions and the use of a full spectrum of overlapping policy instruments. The article introduces a four-phase model that describes the structured policy process in China. In innovation policy, this structured policy process facilitated a shift to a substantially more interventionist policy. This gives bureaucrats discretion in choice of instruments.

More information:
Rescuing autocracy from itself: China’s anti-corruption campaign

Lu and Lorentzen explore Chinese President Xi Jinping’s ongoing anti-corruption campaign. In this article, the duo uses a dataset it created to identify accused officials and map their connections. Lu and Lorentzen’s evidence supports the party’s claim that the crackdown is primarily a sincere effort to cut down on the widespread corruption that was undermining its efforts to develop an effective meritocratic governing system.

More information:

An Internet-of-Things solution for food safety and quality control: A pilot project in China

Several food safety incidents in China show Chinese are facing a serious problem with food safety. It is very hard for the Chinese government to supervise these supplies’ businesses because food supplies are decentralized in many regions and agencies. Fortunately, with the help Internet-of-Things technologies, the food supplies can become more transparent and safer than before. This paper introduces a pilot project in China: “the Internet of Agricultural Things,” which integrates state-of-the-art technologies to provide a method to easily track and trace the supply processes of foods.

More information:
http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2452414X16300358#
Rise of Marxist classes: Bureaucratic classification and class formation in early Socialist China

U uses the works of Weber, Foucault and others—combined with a study of the emergence of a “petty bourgeoisie” in a Chinese school system—to highlight the bureaucratic struggle of the state to classify everyone with a Marxist schema of classes. He contends that official conversion of jobholders into different predefined class subjects, rendering any “class-in-itself” or “class-for-itself” virtually impossible. The conclusion suggests how further research on bureaucratic classification and Marxist classes can advance understanding of state-society relations comparatively under communism.

More information: https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/europe-an-journal-of-sociology-archives-europeennes-de-sociologie/article/rise-of-marxist-classes/456A673B58CB2CDF6ADA4C2075DC30BC

China's growth slowdown: Lessons from Japan's experience and the expected impact on Japan, the U.S. and Germany

China is switching from economic growth based on extremely rapid capital accumulation to economic growth based on structural reforms and accelerated total factor productivity growth. Meanwhile, China also faces a serious excess saving problem as capital accumulation slows. Yuan and his co-author estimate the economic impact of China’s growth slowdown and hypothetical economic transformation on Japan, the U.S. and Germany using the world input–output database.

Portraiture and early studio photography in China and Japan (Book)

This volume explores the early history of the photographic studio and portrait in China and Japan. Wue and Gartlan also look closely at the images that merged the new medium with traditional visual practices, as well as the portrait’s part in devising modern, gendered, nationalistic and public identities for its subject. They argue for the historical significance of the photographic studio as a specific and new space central to the formation of new identities and communities.


Housing prices raise wages: Estimating the unexpected effects of land supply regulation in China

Since 2003, the central government has increased the share of land-use quotas allocated to the central and western regions to support their development. As a result, the relative decline in land supply in the eastern regions has raised housing prices and consequently increased wages, damaging the competitiveness of the Chinese economy. Zhang found that land supply policies have led to the rapid growth of housing prices and increased wages in the cities where land supply has been restricted, mainly in eastern region. This study indicates that regardless of the geographical advantages of the east region, land-supply policies have had a negative impact on the efficiency and competitiveness of the Chinese economy.

**The politics of rights and the 1911 revolution in China (Book)**

Based on previously untapped Qing and Republican sources, Zheng’s manuscript is a nuanced and colorful chronicle of the revolution as it occurred in local and regional areas. Zheng explores the ideas that motivated the revolution, the popularization of those ideas and their animating impact on the Chinese people at large. The focus of the book is not on the success or failure of the revolution, but rather on the transformative effect that revolution has on people and what they learn from it.

More information: [http://www.sup.org/books/title/?id=25062](http://www.sup.org/books/title/?id=25062)

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**Uncovering the truth about Chinese urban unemployment rates: 2005–2012**

Using China urban household survey data from 2005 to 2012, this paper examines the changing pattern of China’s urban unemployment rates on an annual basis. Specifically, it shows these rates averaged approximately 8.5 percent, opposed to the official figure of approximately 4.1 percent. Despite the significant slowdown of GDP growth since 2008, the urban unemployment rates still exhibit a downward trend. This paper finds that continuous job creation in both the tertiary and the non-state sectors helps explain the decreasing trend in unemployment rates. Meanwhile, the downward trend of the unemployment rates could also be explained by the secondary industry and the state-owned sector having reduced jobs because of the execution of macroeconomic stimulus policies since 2008.

## FUDAN AND UC SCHOLARS IN THE NEWS

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<th>Author</th>
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<td>Jianmin Chen</td>
<td>Fudan University</td>
<td>Environmental Science</td>
<td>Global times</td>
<td>Dec. 5, 2016</td>
<td>Government needs to pay more attention to cleaner production</td>
<td>The huge quantities of emissions in the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region have directly led to the rise in average PM2.5 density—a key indicator of air quality—and average visibility has decreased by approximately 50 kilometers across the nation in the last few decades. Jianmin tells the Global Times it is very difficult to replace coal with new energy sources in a short period. The action plan to replace energy sources requires more consistent and effective government supervision at all levels. And supporting policies should be issued to relieve the financial burden brought by their emission reduction activities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ann Carlson and Alex Wang</td>
<td>UCLA</td>
<td>Law</td>
<td>ChinaFile</td>
<td>Nov. 22, 2016</td>
<td>Making China great again</td>
<td>Carlson and Wang discuss America’s retreat from global climate change and the ways in which it is ceding leadership to China, outlining how U.S. President-elect Donald Trump’s plan to withdraw the U.S. from the Paris Agreement on climate change will strengthen China economically and politically. China has multiple incentives to go on a low carbon future, aimed at strengthening its economic and political leadership at home and abroad, Carlson and Wang note. Climate change action offers China the perfect vehicle for demonstrating global leadership, they conclude, burnishing its reputation among nations and strengthening relations with allies old and new.</td>
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Lingtong Kong,
Fudan University
Field: International Relations
Source: Global Times
Date: Dec. 8, 2016

U.S.-Russia relations lack conditions to reset

With Donald Trump to be inaugurated as the next U.S. president, U.S.-Russia relations have become the focus of many scholars—this being the topic of Kong’s opine in Global Times. A number of scholars believe when dealing with U.S.-Russia relations, Trump may be less motivated by ideology and dispense with President Barack Obama’s diplomatic legacy, Kong writes. Thus, the U.S. is likely to cooperate with Russia in fields such as joint counterterrorism and the North Korean nuclear issue. However, U.S.-Russia relations may not be able to turn for the better in the future, Kong notes. The improvement of U.S.-Russian relations cannot depend on the personalities of the two countries' leaders, Kong underscores. The bilateral relationship lacks impetus in terms of national and economic interests and communication channels, hence has limited space and scale for improvement.

More information:
http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1022659.shtml

Barry Eichengreen,
UC Berkeley
Field: Economics
Source: Social Europe
Date: Nov. 22, 2016

Globalization’s last gasp

Does Donald Trump’s election as U.S. president mean globalization is dead, or are reports of the process’ demise greatly exaggerated? Eichengreen gives his take on the slowing world trade growth regardless of Trump’s election, referencing examples such as China’s slowing growth miracle. He posits that less stringent financial regulation may make for the recovery of international capital flows.

More information:
Can Chinese consumerism save the world? A talk by Karl Gerth

On Nov. 14, Gerth gave a talk at Portland State University and made his case for the question, “Can Chinese consumers rescue China and the world?” According to Gerth, this is a result of the effects of China’s development of a consumer-driven economy, which is the central driver for both the radical transformation of Chinese society domestically in recent years and the consequences arising from the international competition over Chinese consumer consciousness. All the while, environmental degradation is left in its wake.

Exampleing the automotive industry, Gerth described this as a window of opportunity for developing a domestic car industry to prevent China being permanently locked at the lower end of the value chain, out-produced and out-competed by firms such as General Motors or Toyota.


Professor emphasizes weight of China’s standardized tests

This article explores Jia’s research on China’s national college entrance exam, the Gaokao. While many students in the midst of the college application process worry about their standardized test scores, these measures of intelligence are weighted far less heavily in the U.S. than in China, according to Jia, who random surveyed 40,000 students over the course of six years and used a distribution of scores from different provinces across China to see how characteristics impacted first job outcomes.

**A magician of Chinese poetry**

Link talks to ChinaFile about the different translations of Tang poetry (618-907 CE). Translating is difficult work, Link notes, especially of poetry and especially between languages as different as Chinese and English. He states three main points: subjectlessness, numberlessness, and tenselessness that create variability in translation. Also, some beautiful lines are truly untranslatable, he notes.


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**Reform needed in how Chinese judges think**

Wrongful convictions often occur in China because the rights of defendants are frequently ignored by the political-legal system—the courts, the prosecutors and the police. New rules on judicial training and on criminal procedure have recently been announced but their impacts on the system remain to be seen. Lubman discusses the plan that appeared last year, intended to deepen and broaden the training of judges, and asks if training judges can improve their fundamental attitude.

**China’s great leap backward**

Weighing on The Atlantic December cover story, Shirk explains whether something basic has changed in the direction of China’s evolution and whether the U.S. needs to reconsider its China policy. She honed in on her hand in the Task Force on U.S. Policy Toward China, which she co-leads with Asia Society’s Orville Schell, and its new report comprising consensus findings and recommendations to help U.S. President-elect Donald Trump’s administration shape policy discourse on U.S.-China relations.

More information:


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**NYC's multibillion-dollar enigma**

Chinese expats are having a hard time finding affordable homes in New York City, Zhou attests. The housing market for Chinese immigrants in New York is now worth tens of billions of dollars, according to some industry estimates. Zhou gives insight on why owning a home is so important in the Chinese context—to the point where immigrants are willing to sacrifice their current leisure to achieve the status in Chinese society. According to Zhou, due to a culture of frugality, homeownership for Chinese immigrants is now more attainable than for most white New Yorkers of a similar pay grade.

More information:

http://therealdeal.com/issues_articles/nycs-multibillion-dollar-enigma/
FUDAN-UC CENTER EVENTS

China Research Workshop
The Fudan-UC Center sponsors this regular interdisciplinary workshop on China, featuring cutting-edge research by Chinese and American scholars and advanced graduate students at the dissertation-writing stage. For more information about the workshop series, visit fudan-uc.ucsd.edu/workshop.

Public Lectures
Distinguished researchers, practitioners and policy experts offer fresh and informative talks on issues of great importance about China and U.S.-China relations, shaping public views on China and the globe. For past and upcoming public talks with such friends of the center, visit fudan-uc.ucsd.edu/events.

Upcoming Events

“Strengthening helping hand and tightening grabbing hand”
Jan. 13, 2017, UC San Diego | Register
Presented by Yu Hao and Zhengcheng Liu of Peking University’s School of Economics, this China Research Workshop centers on the effective but short-lived rationalizing fiscal reform in 18th century China. To register, visit goo.gl/B7IGtH.

News Outlet
Missed an event? Visit our media center at fudan-uc.ucsd.edu/media-center/index.

Also, to follow special interviews, articles and podcasts from the Fudan-UC Center and 21st Century China Center, visit UC San Diego School of Global Policy and Strategy’s student-led blog, China Focus, at chinafocus.us.

eNews and Event Subscription Registration
Keep up-to-date with the latest news and upcoming events at the Fudan-UC Center and the School by checking out the links below!