



March 2016

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, Jiawei Hai, Ann Listerud, Xian Xu

Shuo Chen,
Fudan University
Field: Economics

Source: Applied Economics
Letters, 2015, 22(2).
Co-author: Xiaobo He

Road to success? The effects of road toll on economic growth in China

Chen, along with He, uses his study to examine the relationship between road tolls and economic growth in China. While road tolls create revenue by financing the maintenance of transportation infrastructure, they also seems to slightly reduce local GDP growth. By examining these results, Chen tries to weigh the costs and benefits imposed by tolls.

More information:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/13504851.2014.931913>

Ching Kwan Lee,
UC Los Angeles
Field: Sociology

Source: New Left
Review, 2014, 89.

The spectre of global China

In an effort to examine China's presence in African industries, Lee conducted visits and interviews over the course of five years. Through her findings and observations, she put together an ethnographic study comparing Chinese and non-Chinese multinational copper and construction operations in Zambia, Africa.

The root of her study focuses on two key, oft-overlooked issues. Her first focus is Chinese investors' capability to carry out interests and intentions. The second is how China's endeavors in Africa interact with past neoliberal reforms imposed by the West.

More information:

http://www.sociology.ucla.edu/sites/default/files/u281/nlr_2014_no._89.pdf

Hui Li, Fudan University
Field: Political Science

Source: Social Indicators
Research, 2016, 125(3).
Co-authors: Ting Gong and
Hanyu Xiao

The perception of anticorruption efficacy in China: An empirical analysis

Li along with Gong and Xiao, worked together to research public trust in anticorruption campaigns in Shanghai. By randomly surveying 1,600 residents in 2008, they found that the extent to which people expect their government to fight corruption is directly tied to people's economic and political satisfaction. With income disparity comes higher popular expectations for anticorruption campaigns. Expectation in fighting corruption also increases in the event of government intervention in the private sector, which provides larger opportunities for corruption.

Between these two, the team clearly finds that the more dissatisfied constituents result in constituents showing more interest in effectively fighting corruption.

More information:

<http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11205-015-0859-z>

**Weichun Ma, Ligu Zhou,
Hao Zhang, Yan Zhang and
Xiaoyan Dai,**

Fudan University
Field: Environmental

Sciences and Engineering
Source: Frontiers of Earth
Science, 2016, 10(1).

Air temperature field distribution estimations over a Chinese mega-city using MODIS land surface temperature data: The case of Shanghai

This team from Fudan University's Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering studied air temperature distribution over Shanghai, using Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) satellite readings. While not the first study of urban-area temperatures, this is one of the first to utilize MODIS Land Surface Temperature data. The study of air temperature over urban land has a number of environmental applications, including understanding urban pollution and carbon emissions. The team explores changes in Shanghai's temperature throughout the year and provides a promising basis for future MODIS data use.

More information:

<http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11707-015-0510-y>

Xiaoling Shu and Yifei Zhu,

UC Davis

Field: Sociology

Source: Journal of Family Issues, 2013, 34(7).

Co-author: Zhanxin Zhang

Patriarchy, resources and specialization: Marital decision-making power in urban China

Studies of power dynamics within marriage tend to focus on three dimensions: each partner's resources and revenue, decision-making power and household labor. In urban Chinese households, wives share close to equal income and household decision-making power as their husbands, yet housework is divided highly asymmetrically. This paper seeks to answer why this is, and whether partners with more housework hold greater or less marital power than their partners.

More information:

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/236888156_Patriarchy_Resources_and_Specialization_Marital_Decision-Making_Power_in_Urban_China

Benjamin van Rooij,

UC Irvine;

Rachel E. Stern,

UC Berkeley

Field: Law

Source: Regulation & Governance, 2014.

Co-author: Kathinka Fürst

The authoritarian logic of regulatory pluralism: Understanding China's new environmental actors

The authors examine the existing literature and case studies to understand the emerging roles of nontraditional actors in China's environmental regulatory theater. Until relatively recently, the only actors involved in environmental regulation enforcement were bureaucratic agencies. Today, environmental watchdogs include not only government agencies, but also nonprofits, citizens and prosecutors. Rooij, Stern and Fürst analyze the entry effects of these new actors, and look at what role they play in China's environmental regulation landscape.

More information:

<https://uconsortiumssl.files.wordpress.com/2015/08/van-rooij-ssrn-id2413872-2.pdf>

Shiping Tang,

Fudan University
Field: International
Relations

Source: Sociological
Theory, 2015, 33(3).

The onset of ethnic war: A general theory

Tang developed a general theory to explain the onset of ethnic wars. To do so, he identified and integrated existing literature on factors such as the security dilemma and spiral model. Additionally, Tang created a model allowing him to discover additional factors that increase the likelihood of civil war. His research points the way to new directions for ethnic conflict research and understanding the nature of ethnic wars.

More information:

<http://stx.sagepub.com/content/33/3/256.short>

Xian Xu and Jingbing Feng,

Fudan University
Field: Economics

Source: Disaster
Prevention and
Management, 2016, 25(1).

Earthquake disasters, marriage and divorce: Evidence from China, 2000-2011

In examining the effect of earthquakes on marriage rates in China, Xu and Feng find, surprisingly, that not only do marriages increase after earthquakes by nearly two percent, but divorces increase as well by about six percent. They hypothesize this may be due to family structure instability in the wake of earthquake destruction. They also show that these shocks dissipate about three years after an earthquake's occurrence.

In light of the cost imposed on society by instable family relationships, these findings point to a need to provide relief to families after earthquake disasters.

More information:

<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/doi/abs/10.1108/DPM-05-2015-0096>

Mayfair Yang,
UC Santa Barbara
Field: Anthropology

Source: Review of Religion and Chinese Society, 2015, 2(1).

Shamanism and spirit possession in Chinese modernity: Some preliminary reflections on a gendered religiosity of the body

Using both a long-term and short-term historic view, as well as interviews and observations, Yang explores the growing phenomena of female shamans in Wenzhou. Yang provides background for shamanism as a whole—placing Chinese shamanism in the context of Chinese spirituality among competing historic religions—and emphasizes regional differences by comparing Wenzhou’s female shamans to the better known, more violent male shamans in Taiwan and Fujian. Taken together, Yang poses the question of why shamanism, especially Wenzhou’s female shamans, remain on the fringes of modern Chinese culture.

More information:

[http://www.academia.edu/12515757/Shamanism_and Spirit Possession in Chinese Modernity Some Preliminary Reflections on a Gendered Religiosity of the Body in Review of Religion and Chinese Society 2015 vol. 2](http://www.academia.edu/12515757/Shamanism_and_Spirit_Possession_in_Chinese_Modernity_Some_Preliminary_Reflections_on_a_Gendered_Religiosity_of_the_Body_in_Review_of_Religion_and_Chinese_Society_2015_vol._2)

Zhiyuan Yu,
Fudan University
Field: Sociology

Source: VOLUNTAS: International Journal of Voluntary and Nonprofit Organizations, 2016.

The effects of resources, political opportunities and organizational ecology on the growth trajectories of AIDS NGOs in China

Yu integrates collective action and social movement theories in this study to understand China’s nonprofits, especially China’s AIDS organizations.

She finds that nonprofit growth is highly varied between grassroots organizations, government-organized nonprofits and international nonprofits—and that the factors affecting each are very different. Her paper details these differences and factors attributing to nonprofit growth.

More information:

<http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11266-016-9686-3>

FUDAN AND UC SCHOLARS IN THE NEWS

Zhimin Chen,

Fudan University

Field: International Politics

Source: Sciences Po

Date: Jan. 22, 2016.

China in international order: From a rule-taker to a rule-shaper

In his talk at the Paris Institute of Political Studies on the topic, "China in international order: From a rule-taker to a rule-shaper," Chen points out that in the liberal international order since the end of the Cold War, China has been adapting and adopting a wide range of prevailing norms and rules. With its economic and political rise, China is showing a new willingness and capacity to proactively engage in reshaping international rules, Chen explains.

More information: <http://www.sciencespo.fr/affaires-europeennes/en/content/china-international-order-rule-taker-rule-shaper>

Haifeng Huang,

UC Merced

Field: Political Science

Source: Los Angeles Times

Date: Nov. 22, 2015.

China prepares to rank its citizens on 'social credit'

The Chinese government's social credit system uses data mining to monitor and award points based on citizens' moral actions. The system tracks activities ranging from school plagiarism to use of birth control. Huang talks about how, though such a system is needed to hold individuals and companies accountable for their actions, the system proposed may create counteractive results. Spontaneous altruistic behavior could easily become supplanted by credit-seeking behavior and monitoring necessitated by system could enhance community distrust.

More information: <http://www.latimes.com/world/asia/la-fg-china-credit-system-20151122-story.html>

Barry Naughton,

UC San Diego

Field: Economics

Source: Bloomberg
Business

Date: Jan. 7, 2016.

China reserves post first yearly drop since 1992 amid Yuan slide

In dealing with the yuan's declining value, China's foreign reserves shrank for the first time since 1992. As China's growth begins to slow and the stock market becomes more volatile, it is likely reserves will shrink even further in an effort to stabilize the yuan. Providing greater context, Naughton discusses the current shift from government- to private-purchasing of foreign currencies.

More information:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-01-07/china-reserves-post-first-yearly-drop-since-1992-amid-yuan-slide>

Shixiong Ni,

Fudan University

Field: International
Politics

Source: China-US Focus

Date: Jan. 26, 2016.

China's new concept of security

Ni discusses the new security concept that international relations should be viewed not as a zero-sum game, but rather through mutual cooperation. The security of one country can be sustained by ensuring the security of other countries, thus avoiding the security dilemma. Furthermore, Ni asserts that China-U.S. cooperation is the decisive factor for peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region. Maintaining Asian-Pacific security is in the common interest and common responsibility of China and the U.S., he advocates, and encourages that both sides engage in more dialogues to reduce misunderstandings and misjudgments.

More information:

<http://m.chinausfocus.com/article/4268.html>

Paul G. Pickowicz,

UC San Diego

Field: History

Source: UC San Diego
News Center

Date: Jan. 6, 2016.

UC San Diego historian honored by German government

Pickowicz was honored with the 2016 Humboldt Research Award from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation in Bonn, Germany. Winners are invited to work with fellow specialists in Germany. In Pickowicz's case, he will be researching the early years of China's film industry at the Institute of Sinology at the University of Heidelberg. Like his other work, Pickowicz will examine the intersection of art, history and politics in early 20th century China.

More information:

http://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/pressrelease/uc_san_diego_historian_honored_by_german_government1

Dingli Shen,

Fudan University

Field: International Politics

Source: The New York
Times

Date: Feb. 14, 2016

North Korea's rocket launch frays ties between South Korea and China

In the wake of North Korean leader Kim Jong-un's relentless pursuit of nuclear weapons, South Korea is embracing what China had been trying to prevent—an American antimissile defense system that will be deployed on China's doorstep. Shen points out that China's concern over the proposed defense system's radar range of more than 2,000 kilometers is wide enough to penetrate Chinese territory.

More information: <http://cn.nytimes.com/asia-pacific/20160214/c14china/dual/>

Victor Shih, UC San Diego

Field: Economics

Source: Financial Times

Date: Dec. 7, 2015.

Transparency under threat after China's SDR entry

Shih writes about the significance of the RMB entering the International Monetary Fund's special drawing rights. As the world's first developing nation's currency to do so, inclusion may mark a shift to a more global financial system. However, this move makes China's financial transparency more important than ever. Shih provides his expertise to explain troubling discrepancies that the People's Bank of China needs to explain or correct.

More information: <http://blogs.ft.com/beyond-brics/2015/12/07/transparency-under-threat-after-chinas-sdr-entry/>

Susan Shirk, UC San Diego

Field: Political science

Source: Today

Date: Jan. 13, 2016.

ASEAN must step up to promote rule of law in region, experts say

Shirk discusses increased U.S. policy to counteract China through engagement with Southeast Asia. She points out global concerns with the gap between Beijing's peaceful rhetoric and maritime activities, as well as the key role Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) must play in shaping China's actions and integrating China into the global arena.

More information: <http://www.todayonline.com/world/asia/asean-must-step-promote-rule-law-region-experts-say?singlepage=true>

Dorothy Solinger,
UC Irvine
Field: Political science

Source: The Guardian
Date: Nov. 14, 2015.

Why China's super-rich are now eager to invest in philanthropy

This last year has seen an increasing number of wealthy Chinese citizens donating to museums, education and other charities. But recent wealth-sharing may be motivated by image concerns. Solinger says donations are happening beneath a backdrop of extreme income disparity, with poverty levels rising in cities while development programs remain focused entirely on rural areas. The result is a growing, unsatisfied urban poor upset by once popular conspicuous consumption. Philanthropy may be a means to show off wealth without igniting public anger in response.

More information:

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/nov/15/china-super-rich-philanthropy-corruption>

Jun Zhang,
Fudan University
Field: Economics

Source: Project Syndicate
Date: Feb. 10, 2016.

China's crisis of miscommunication

Zhang discusses the external and internal reasons for recent devaluation of the RMB. He advises investors to note that despite pressure from external speculators, the People's Bank of China remains committed to simultaneously stabilizing the exchange rate while advancing its market-oriented goals. He emphasizes that while China's leaders have plenty of challenges ahead, improved communication with markets could help overcome them. Fortunately, it seems that China's leaders recognize this imperative and are working to meet it.

More information: <https://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/china-transparency-official-communication-by-zhang-jun-2016-02>

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

1) Young Scholars Conference May 20-21, 2016, UC San Diego

The Young Scholars Conference is an annual event sponsored by the Fudan-UC Center that brings Chinese and U.S. scholars together so they can exchange ideas and share research findings. It presents an opportunity for the participants to build new synergies and develop future collaborative projects. The theme for the 2016 conference will be “Social Sciences and China Studies.”

Interested young scholars—Ph.D. candidates up to associate professors throughout universities and research institutions in China and North America—may submit paper abstracts no later than April 10. For more information about the conference and to submit an abstract, visit fudan-uc.ucsd.edu/events/young-scholars-conference.html

2) Think Tank Dialogue on U.S.-China Relations June 23-24, 2016, Fudan University

GPS’s 21st Century China Program is collaborating with Fudan University’s Center for American Studies to launch an inaugural university-based think tank dialogue on U.S.-China relations.

