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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

FUDAN AND UC SCHOLARS' RESEARCH ON CHINA

Anthony Barbieri-Low,
UC Santa Barbara
Field: History

Source: On Human
Bondage: After Slavery
and Social Death (Book)
Date: December 2016

Becoming almost somebody: Manumission and its complications in the early Han empire (Chapter 6)

In December 1983, Chinese archaeologists excavated a vertical pit tomb dating to around 186 BCE at the site of Zhangjiashan, located 1.5 km west of the old walled city of Jingzhou in Hubei Province. The legal texts from Zhangjiashan tomb no. 247 provide an opportunity to look afresh at the problem of slavery and manumission in Han China, revealing the legal mechanisms of manumission, the boundaries of the status of freedman, and the legal complications of large-scale political manumission. Barbieri-Low analyzes the texts and translates them to show the findings.

More information:

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/9781119162544.ch6/summary>

Jiahua Che,
Fudan University
Field: Politics

Source: Journal of Public
Economics
Date: Dec. 2, 2016

Co-authors: Kim Sau-
Chuang and Yang K.Lu

Decentralization and political career concerns

Politicians' career paths often start at some subnational governments and end at the national one. Allocation of authorities among national and subnational governments affect temptations of taking national office and, in turn, the strength of bureaucrats' political career concerns. As an extension, this affects whether incentives generated by these political career concerns can be put into productive use at subnational governments. Using China as a case study, Che and co-authors illustrates this tradeoff in determining the optimal degree of decentralization. They also compare the equilibrium degree of decentralization in autocracy and in democracy.

More information:

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S004727271630202X>



Minghui Hu,
UC Santa Cruz
Field: History

Source: *Frontiers of History in China*, Vol. 11, Issue 3, Pages 339 – 375
Date: Oct. 28, 2016

The scholar's robe: Material culture and political power in early modern China

Hu explores the history of the scholar's robe as a nexus of material culture and political power. It focuses on the controversial garment, called ren. For hundreds of years there have been disagreements and changes concerning which specific term is identified with which part of the robe, especially with the use of ren in the scholar's robe. Hu's analysis deals with two scholars' monographs on the robe: Huang Zongxi's "Investigation of the Robe" and Jiang Yong's pointed rebuttal, "Mistakes in Investigation of the Robe." Both contrast two options of cultural identity: Chinese superiority versus cosmopolitan universalism.

More information:

<http://booksandjournals.brillonline.com/content/journals/10.3868/s020-005-016-0020-4>

Dazhong Cheng,
Fudan University
Field: Economics

Source: *The International Encyclopedia of Geography*
Date: March 2017

Co-author: Peter W. Daniels

Input-output analysis

Cheng explores input–output analysis as it describes the interdependence between industries in an economy. General equilibrium theory provides the theoretical foundation for input–output analysis, while the input–output table is a prerequisite for empirical input–output work. Advances in science and technology have made input–output analysis more comprehensive and practical. Among the most important developments in input–output analysis is the implementation of computable general equilibrium models and the ability to continually update and expand the tables. Input–output analysis is helpful for investigating the growth and involvement of producer services in an economy, Cheng posits.

More information:

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/9781118786352.wbieg0071/abstract>



Haifeng Huang,

UC Merced

Field: Political Science

Source: British Journal of
Political Science

Date: Nov. 14, 2016

Co-author: Yao-Yuan Yeh

Information from abroad: Foreign media, selective exposure and political support in China

Via a survey experiment with 1,200 internet users, Huang and Yeh find that Chinese citizens with higher pro-Western orientations and lower regime evaluations are more inclined to read content that is positive about foreign countries and/or negative about China. Reading relatively positive foreign media content about foreign countries can improve rather than worsen the domestic evaluations of citizens who self-select such content, the authors find. In turn, foreign media may have a corrective function and enhance regime stability in an authoritarian country by making regime critics less critical.

More information:

https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2604321

Huailu Li

Fudan University

Field: Economics

Source: The Economic Journal

Date: January 2017

Co-authors: Kevin Lang and
Kaiwen Leong

**Does competition eliminate discrimination?
Evidence from the commercial sex market in
Singapore**

The street sex worker market in Geylang, Singapore, is highly competitive. Clients can search legally at negligible cost, making it ideal for testing the hypothesis regarding search and monopoly pricing. As predicted, price discrimination survives in this market. Despite an excess supply of workers—but consistent with self-reported attitudes and beliefs—sex workers charge whites (Bangladeshis) more or less based on perceived willingness to pay, and are more or less likely to approach and reach an agreement with them. Consistent with taste discrimination, they avoid Indians, charge more and reach an agreement with them less frequently.

More information:

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/eoj.12476/full>



Winnie Wong,
UC Berkeley
Field: Rhetoric

Source: University of Chicago
Press
Date: Feb. 7, 2017

Co-editors: Mary Ann
O'Donnell and Jonathan Bach

**Learning from Shenzhen: China's post-Mao
experiment from special zone to model city (Book)**

Wong's book presents an account of China's contemporary transformation via one of its most important yet overlooked cities: Shenzhen, located just north of Hong Kong. In recent decades, Shenzhen has transformed from an experimental site for economic reform into a dominant city at the crossroads of the global economy. The first of China's special economic zones, Shenzhen is a UNESCO City of Design and the hub of China's emerging technology industries. Wong and co-authors explore how the post-Mao Chinese appropriation of capitalist logic led to a dramatic remodeling of the Chinese city and collective life in China today.

More information:

https://www.amazon.com/dp/022640112X/ref=cm_sw_su_dp

Wei Tang,
Fudan University
Field: Economics

Source: Economics and
Transitions
Date: February 2017

Co-author: Geoffrey J.D.
Hewings

**Do city–county mergers in China promote local
economic development?**

While most evaluations of municipal mergers have focused on the efficiency of local public goods provision, it is rare to explore how mergers promote economic growth in a developing country context. This research investigates the economic consequences of a policy experiment of city–county mergers (*che xian she qu*) in China from 2000–2004. Tang presents evidence that the merger significantly increases local economic development and the magnitude of the effect depends on local endowments related to agglomeration forces. Tang further verifies that improved transport infrastructure and urban agglomeration economies after merger are potential contributors to positive merger effects.

More information:

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/ecot.121>



Yiqin Xu,
UC San Diego
Field: Political Science

Source: Political Science and
Research Methods Vol. 5, No.
1, Pages 163-178
Date: January 2017

Co-author: Jidong Chen

Information manipulation and reform in authoritarian regimes

Xu and Chen develop a theory of how an authoritarian regime interactively uses information manipulation, such as propaganda or censorship, and policy improvement to maintain social stability. They show the government's ability of making policy concessions reduces its incentive to manipulate information and improves its credibility. Anticipating a higher chance of policy concessions and less information manipulation, citizens are more likely to believe the government-provided information and support the regime. The model alludes to the fact that reform coexists with selective information disclosure in authoritarian countries like China.

More information:

<https://tinyurl.com/hk37em4>

Shipping emissions and their impacts on air quality in China

Zhang's paper presents an overview of ship emissions in China and their atmospheric impacts, including topics of ship engine emissions and control, ship emission factors and their measurements, development of ship emission inventories, shipping and port emissions of the main shipping areas in China, and quantitative contribution of shipping emissions to the local and regional air pollution. This review identified some critical research gaps, filling of which is necessary for better control of ship emissions and for lowering impacts. In particular, there are few studies on inland ports and river ships, and there are few national scale ship emission inventories available for China.

More information:

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0048969716327851>

Yan Zhang
Fudan University
Field: Environment

Source: Science of the Total
Environment
Date: Jan. 4, 2017

Co-authors: Xin Yanga, Richard
Brownb, Liping Yangb, Lidia
Morawskac, Zoran Ristovskic,
Qingyan Fud and Cheng
Huangc



FUDAN AND UC SCHOLARS IN THE NEWS

Michael Berry,

UCLA

Field: East Asian

Languages and Cultures

Source: ChinaFile

Date: Feb. 23, 2017

Can China expand its beachhead in Hollywood?

Berry weighs in on if China can conquer Hollywood with Zhang Yimou's latest movie, "The Great Wall." The movie, starring Matt Damon, is the most expensive film China has ever created. China's been striking even more large movie deals, but it is still uncertain how well collaborations will be when faced with different cultures and censorship rules. Berry hopes it will lead to more innovative, bold and daring films.

More information:

<https://www.chinafile.com/conversation/can-china-expand-its-beachhead-hollywood>

Zhimin Chen,

Fudan University

Field: International

Cooperation

Source: Global Times

Date: Feb. 22, 2017

Will European Commission probe affect 'Belt and Road' railway project?

As the EU stipulates that public tenders must be held for large transport projects, the investigation is not groundless nor completely aimed at China. But the European Commission appears apathetic toward the rail project issue, Chen observes. Since Budapest needs to rebuild its railway and Beijing is willing to fund the project, such cooperation is mutually beneficial. It also is possible Brussels doesn't want a closer relationship between China and Central and Eastern European countries. China needs to consider the reality of European integration when advancing the "Belt and Road" initiative. As the policymaking is decentralized among member governments, China needs to coordinate with the governments of these countries at all levels, Chen explains.

More information:

<http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1034368.shtml>



Stephan Haggard,
UC San Diego
Field: Political Science

Source: Peterson Institute for
International Economics
Date: Feb. 19, 2017

The coal ban: Has China turned on North Korea?

Haggard states the recent Chinese coal ban on North Korea shows that the North Korean economy is more vulnerable to Chinese pressure than thought. The outcome of this episode will depend not only on whether China follows through, but on the politics of the move. If China is squeezing North Korea, it is for one purpose only: to offer a cooperative gesture to the Trump administration in return for an initiative on negotiations.

More information:

<https://piie.com/blogs/north-korea-witness-transformation/coal-ban-has-china-turned-north-korea>

Bin Ma,
Fudan University
Field: International Relations

Source: Global Times
Date: March 9, 2017

Sino-Russian relations require mutual trust

Eurasia is an area of geostrategic importance for China's One Belt, One Road (B&R) initiative, Ma outlines. Strengthened mutual trust between the countries is an important foundation for the promotion of the B&R initiative in the Eurasian region. A lack of mutual trust will not only make it difficult for China and Russia to maintain a high-level bilateral relationship, but will also impede cooperation between China and other Eurasian countries along the Silk Road. Moreover, at the current stage, both sides need to accept and recognize the various levels of cooperation, rather than seek cooperation in theory. At present, Sino-Russian relations are at a new juncture. The connection of the B&R and Eurasian Economic Union plans could become the driving force for the development of a bilateral relationship, or it could hinder and delay a warming of relations, Ma concludes.

More information:

<http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1036782.shtml>



Barry Naughton,
UC San Diego
Field: Economics

Source: The Street
Date: Feb. 23, 2017

Gauging Beijing's response to potential U.S. trade sanctions

There are various sanctions the Trump administration can threaten to impose on China to cause a response from Beijing and cause a trade war. Naughton states China's response will be slow and careful. He adds that China has done a good job to portray the U.S. as protectionist, despite the numbers showing China has many more areas off limits to U.S. investment. Chinese companies are looking for stable foreign investments, and negotiating is necessary, Naughton underscores.

More information:

<http://realmoney.thestreet.com/articles/02/23/2017/gauging-beijings-response-potential-u.s.-trade-sanctions>

Jian Sun,
Fudan University
Field: Economics

Source: China Global
Television Network
Date: March 22, 2017

Speculations in commodities raise concerns

When vice president of the China Securities Regulatory Commission, Fang Xinghai, said during a press conference that the futures market does not need such an artificially high volume of trading, experts responded that one source of speculation comes from investors who were previously speculating in the real estate market, but who were deterred by local government's recent home purchase restrictions. The speculators are coming from more than one source. Sun said, "I knew a lot of professional traders that actually diverged a lot of money from the stock market, as well as from the stock futures market to the commodities market."

More information

<http://business.sohu.com/20170322/n484271948.shtml>



Wing Thye Woo,
UC Davis
Field: Economics

Source: Project Syndicate
Date: Feb. 17, 2017

China's growth odyssey

China's steadily declining rate of economic growth is a problem for both China and the world economy. Weighing in on the prospect of U.S. President Donald Trump wreaking havoc on global stability, Woo's take is that Trump's presidency could pose a direct challenge to the growth model. China will need to properly diagnose the cause and formulate the right policy response, Woo notes.

More information:

<https://www.project-syndicate.org/onpoint/china-s-growth-odyssey-2017-02?barrier=accessreg>

Renhe Zhang
Fudan University
Field: Environment

Source: Shanghai Daily
Date: March 22, 2017

Climate change boosts deadly smog

Global warming has boosted the frequency and severity of deadly air pollution in northern China, according to a report in the Nature Climate Change journal. In the capital and other major northern cities, the number of days each year with weather tailor-made for extreme smog rose from 45 to 50 in the period 1982-2015, compared to the previous three decades—a 10 percent jump. The trend is set to worsen if warming continues unabated. The main danger, experts such as Zhang agree, is particle pollution, especially toxic, microscopic flecks smaller than 2.5 micrometers in diameter—about 40 times thinner than a human hair. A global effort to slow global warming is also urgently needed to decrease the risk of heavy air pollution in Beijing, Zhang posits.

More information:

http://www.china.org.cn/2017-03/22/content_40487663.htm



William Yu,
UCLA
Field: Economics

Source: The Epoch Times
Date: Feb. 23, 2017

Chinese influence over Hollywood to be tested in WTO negotiations

China's film market is one of the most restrictive in the world, though negotiations at the World Trade Organization (WTO) could open it up. Yu observes that there's a lot of confusion about the increase in Chinese investment on the U.S. film industry. Chinese companies are trying to diversify their portfolios because there are high risks in the domestic economy, Yu notes, adding that the Trump administration will be more concerned than previous administrations about the amount of Chinese investment.

More information:

<http://www.theepochtimes.com/n3/2219549-chinese-influence-over-hollywood-to-be-tested-in-wto-negotiations/>

Lixing Zhao,
Fudan University
Field: Law

Source: China Daily
Date: March 27, 2017

IT specialists ask Chinese law firms to upgrade systems

To brace for rising uncertainties and an increasingly complex regulatory environment abroad, IT specialists are telling Chinese legal services to upgrade their data and litigation management systems. More than ever before, Zhao explains, Chinese companies operating abroad will seek legal support from law firms with rich international experience. For those lawyers and law firms, this means there will be "a fresh round of learning" to adapt to the digital work environment, such as to understand the difference between physical evidence and digital evidence.

More information:

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2017-03/27/content_28688987.htm



FUDAN-UC CENTER EVENTS AND RESOURCES

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.

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