



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**SYDNEY**

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+61 2 9114 0837

**China Studies Centre**  
悉尼大学中国研究中心

2019 Year in Review

# RESEARCH ON THE GLOBAL ISSUES IN CHINA





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**China Studies Centre**  
**悉尼大学中国研究中心**  
**2019 Year in Review**

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## Message from the Vice Chancellor

Our relationship with China is deep and longstanding. The University of Sydney's connection to the country extends back to 1923, when we welcomed our first Chinese exchange student. Since then, our relationship has grown and strengthened.

One consistency throughout this long and fruitful relationship has been the critical role of the University as a bridge between the nations, through our students and our research collaborations. Of all Australian universities, we have the highest number of joint research publications with China.

The China Studies Centre plays an important role in our engagement by fostering expertise and deeper understanding through multidisciplinary research, education and partnerships with government, industry and community organisations.

The centre's extensive community has a remarkable breadth and depth of expertise, including more than 350 academics across 19 disciplines and more than 300 student members. This expertise positions it to connect with scholars around the globe – through the Sydney China Visiting Fellows program – and conduct research that addresses pressing issues.

**“The China Studies Centre plays an important role in our engagement by fostering expertise and deeper understanding through multidisciplinary research, education and partnerships with government, industry and community organisations.”**

The China Studies Centre continues to expand its scope of research, adding 'Environment' to its six existing research clusters in 2019. To support the University's strategic priority of increasing China engagement and understanding, the centre ran more than 50 public events, professionalisation seminars and Sydney-wide Chinese studies postgraduate workshops during 2019.

Meanwhile, partnerships with the University of Sydney Centre in China (in Suzhou) and Shanghai Jiao Tong University provide students with invaluable opportunities to attend field schools, and to complete study abroad and exchanges in China.

I am deeply grateful for the leadership of Professor Luigi Tomba, Dr Olivier Krischer and every colleague who has contributed to the 2019 achievements highlighted in this publication. I look forward to seeing the centre add to its impressive track record in 2020.

As we face increasingly uncertain times, the China Studies Centre will continue to be a crucial contributor to our relationship with China, for the benefit and prosperity of Australia and China and our region.

**Dr Michael Spence AC**  
Vice-Chancellor and Principal  
University of Sydney

## 校长致辞

悉尼大学与中国的关系源远流长。我们在1923年迎来了第一位来自中国的交换生，从此双边关系得以发展。

通过学生交流和与中国研究伙伴的合作，悉尼大学为两国关系发展发挥了关键的作用。在澳大利亚所有大学中，我们与中国的联合研究出版物数量最多。

中国研究中心通过多学科研究、教育以及与政府、产业和社区组织的合作，让我们加深了对中国的了解。

中心成员包括来自悉尼大学19个学科的350多名学术成员和300多名学生成员，这样建立起来的学术圈子延伸了对中国研究的深度与广度。其“悉尼中国研究访问学者计划”让本校的学者可以与全球学者联系，开展对解决当前紧迫问题的研究。

2019年该中心继续扩大其研究范围，在现有的六个专业研究小组基础上增加环境科学组。为了支持悉尼大学与中国深化发展，该中心举办了50多场公共活动、专业研讨会和在悉尼地区的、关于中国研究的硕士讲习班。

该中心与悉尼大学 位于苏州的中国中心和上海交通大学的伙伴合作关系为学生提供了宝贵的在地实习机会，让学生们有机会访问中国进行学习交流。

我非常感谢邓利杰 (Luigi Tomba) 教授、柯惟 (Olivier Krischer) 博士的领导，和每一位同事的贡献，透过年报让我们有机会回顾中心2019年取得的成就。我期待着看到该中心在2020年取得长足发展。

面对更加多变的全球局面，中国研究中心将继续为我们与中国的双边关系添砖加瓦，为澳大利亚、中国和我们所在的地区带来积极的影响。

中国研究中心通过多学科研究、教育以及与政府、产业和社区组织的合作，让我们加深了对中国的了解。



施迈克博士  
悉尼大学校长



## Message from the Acting Director

The China Studies Centre supports a diverse community of more than 340 academic members as well as students and associates working across 20 disciplines. Yet, we are most clearly defined by our collaborations beyond the centre.

In 2019, our focus was on strengthening existing relationships and forging new ones, to better foster multidisciplinary research, support new learning experiences, actively engage industry, and raise the level of public debate.

In January, for example, our inaugural 'China in the Urban Age' graduate workshop, on the theme of eco-civilisation, actively sought to connect Sydney with an international cohort of emerging scholars challenging disciplinary divisions to foster new approaches to the pressing urban issues affecting China and much of the world.

The global issues faced by China are not just shared challenges; they are also shared opportunities. This belief has led us to transform our engagement with business and government into a new series of industry seminars focused on connecting university expertise and innovation with key issues for Australian and Chinese industry partners, in sectors such as smart transport, artificial intelligence, big data, and smart agriculture.

China has seldom been far from the news in 2019, either because of the country's close and complex bilateral relationship with Australia, scenes of protest in Hong Kong, scrutiny of the alleged vocational centres in Xinjiang, or indeed the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

Whatever the current news headlines, a deeper and sustained understanding of China underlies our activity, and such education takes many forms. This year we have supported field trips to China and China literacy projects, as well as public forums and even film screenings, to foster a suitably multifaceted, nuanced discussion of China today.



**Dr Olivier Krischer**  
Acting Director, China Studies Centre

**“Whatever the current news headlines, a deeper and sustained understanding of China underlies our activity, and such education takes many forms.”**

## Our membership and research clusters

The China Studies Centre supports more than 340 academic members working on China-related research, in addition to a smaller number of student and associate members.

Until recently, the centre had six research clusters:

- Business and Economics
- History
- Language, Literature, Culture and Education
- Politics and Law
- Science and Technology
- Wellbeing

In late 2019, 'Environment' was added. This cluster fosters research on the built and natural environments of China, the shaping of rural and urban spheres, as well as the international impact of China on a range of environments, from water and sea ways to property markets and infrastructures.

The research clusters support academic members from diverse disciplines to identify with broad research areas, fostering multidisciplinary networks and research collaborations. The graph opposite shows the disciplinary diversity of the research clusters in March 2020.

### Research grants

Academic members can apply to the China Studies Centre's annual research grants scheme for a range of grants seeding new research, facilitating collaborations and international networking. Grants favour early career researchers and multidisciplinary projects.

The centre also offers other competitive funding to facilitate cross-disciplinary events and projects.

### Cluster-funded projects

#### History

- Borderlands in Chinese History and Archaeology Seminar Series
- Early Chinese Urbanism Workshop

#### Politics and Law, Science and Technology

- China and New Data Technologies: Cooperation and Cross-fertilization among Law, Media and Science

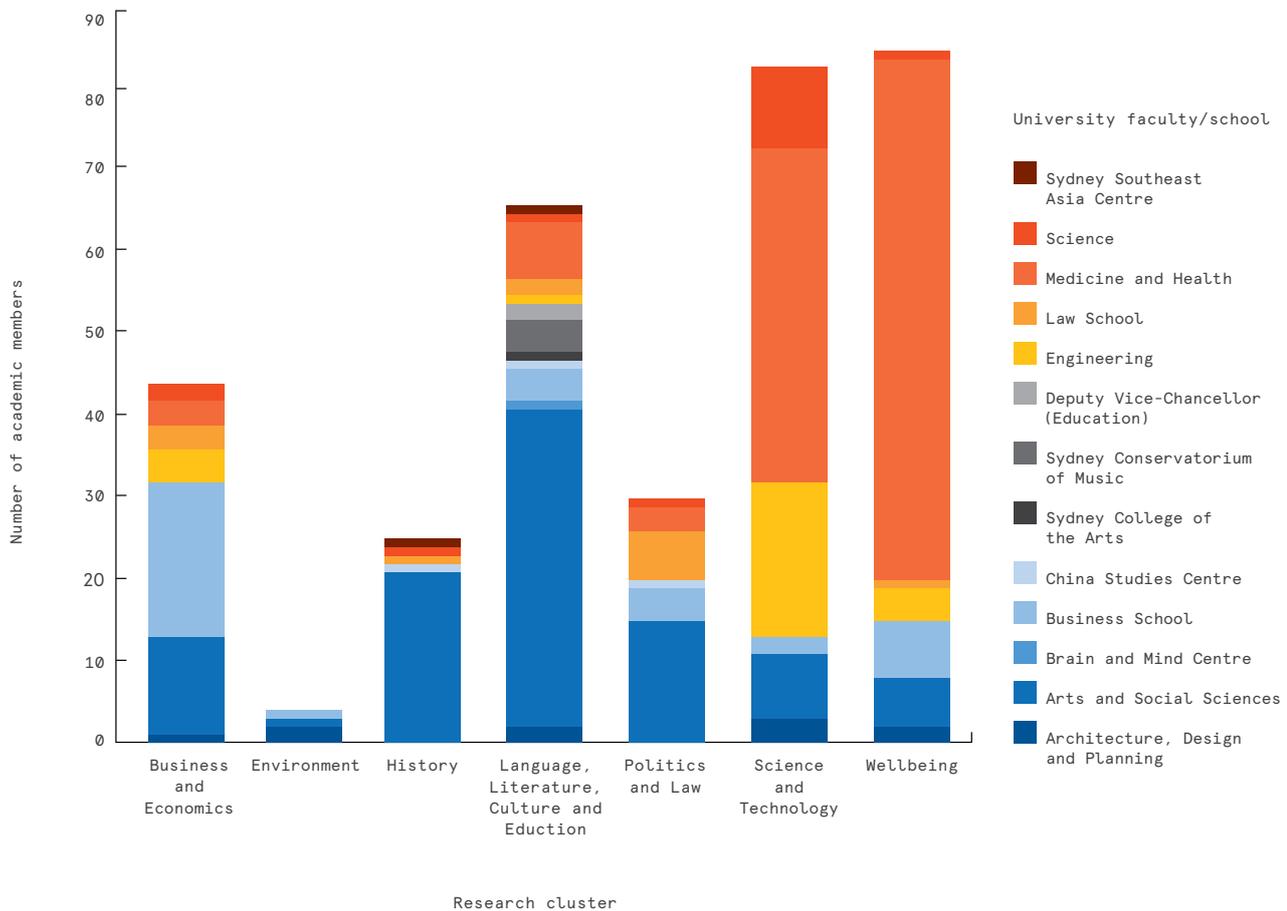
#### Language, Literature, Culture and Education

- Virtual Experiential Language Learning Environment for Chinese Language Education
- Reading and Writing the Chinese Dream (Sydney group)

## Research clusters



## Cluster members faculty spread



# Connecting with industry in China and Australia

By Susan Saretzki

In 2019, the China Studies Centre co-hosted a series of industry seminars to connect informed experts and industry partners in China and Australia. This new initiative creates a bridge between academia and the corporate sector to showcase the University's expertise, develop our networks, and set foundations for further collaboration. Our seminars in 2019 answered questions such as:

- What is the hype and reality in Chinese AI?
- What does it take to overcome electric vehicle range anxiety?
- What's a Chinese perspective on successfully growing a start-up?
- What is a sound patent strategy when doing business in China?

- What is the solution to the challenge of feeding China, and what opportunities does it present for Australian industries?

We received tremendously positive feedback from the participants, who reported that these industry seminars enhanced their knowledge of issues of global relevance in China, helped them build stronger networks, and provided access to market opportunities. Many attendees met potential business and research partners at our events. We acknowledge and thank all of our event partners for their valuable contribution and support.

**Susan Saretzki is Director, Business Development & Government Relations at the China Studies Centre.**

## Industry engagement seminars, 2019

Event	Speakers	Partner	Date
<b>A Chinese approach to artificial intelligence and big data</b> More than 80 business executives, entrepreneurs, industry association representatives and researchers attended this seminar to hear about recent advances and limitations of this technology in China.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Professor Sally Cripps, Co-Director of the University of Sydney Centre for Translational Data Science</li> <li>- Raymond Ma, general manager for Alibaba Cloud in Australia and New Zealand</li> </ul>	BDO, the world's fifth largest professional service provider	19 June
<b>Smart Transport: Opportunities and challenges for Australian businesses</b> University of Sydney and industry experts in transport and urban design discussed opportunities and challenges for Australian businesses in China's burgeoning electric vehicle sector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Luke Todd, principal advisor (Asia-Pacific region) at Shenzhen-based firm BYD (the world's largest electric vehicle producer)</li> <li>- Professor Robyn Dowling, Head and Dean of the University of Sydney School of Architecture, Design and Planning</li> </ul>	The City of Sydney, as part of the 2019 Future Asia Business Summit	24 July
<b>Start-up briefing: How to grow your start-up and protect your IP in China</b> This discussion offered practical advice on how to grow start-up into international businesses, register trademarks and protect IP when working in China.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Justin Gong, co-founder of XAG, one of the world's largest agritech companies</li> <li>- Daniel Cheng, patent attorney, Cheng &amp; Peng IP Law Office, Beijing</li> </ul>	Sydney Knowledge Hub	4 November
<b>Smart Agriculture: The present, the future and the opportunities</b> The speakers shared their experiences in smart agriculture in China and worldwide, and discussed gaps and research opportunities in meat and livestock, intelligent systems in precision farming, and future development of unmanned aerial vehicles (see page 9).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Greg Earl (facilitator), former national affairs editor and Asia Pacific editor of <i>The Australian Financial Review</i></li> <li>- Justin Gong, XAG</li> <li>- Christian Ruberg, Program Manager, Value Chain Technology, Meat &amp; Livestock Australia</li> <li>- Professor Salah Sukkarieh, Professor of Robotics and Intelligent Systems, University of Sydney</li> </ul>	Australian Native Products, the world's largest lemon myrtle producer	4 November

# The new faces of farming: robots, drones and x-ray machines

By Greg Earl

When Justin Gong left the University of Sydney in 2009, the young filmmaker's interest in aerial drones was driven by his desire to capture some unusual images of the natural environment. When he returned to the China Studies Centre in November 2019, he had more aerial images of the landscape than most filmmakers could even dream of. His challenge now is to put the images to use revolutionising farming in China and other countries, including Australia.

Gong was a keynote speaker at an industry panel on smart agriculture (see page 8) which explored the way new technology is being deployed to deal with age-old issues like Malthusian fears of food shortages, and existential new challenges like sustainability.

The panel also included Salah Sukkarieh, Professor of Robotics and Intelligent Systems at the University of Sydney; and Christian Ruberg, Program Manager, Value Chain Technology at Meat & Livestock Australia. The panel was an opportunity for these speakers to share their expertise on three different approaches to digital technology in agriculture.

Gong heads global strategy and globalisation at XAG, one of the world's largest agricultural technology companies, specialising in unmanned aerial systems for horticulture. With XAG having expanded from China into Japan in the past two years, Gong is now set to lead the company into Australia in 2020, with an initial focus on using drones to manage vineyards, then moving into broad acre crops from cotton to wheat. He hopes to have training centres in all states within five years – following a model rolled out in China – enabling many Australian farmers to use the company's drones.

The seminar underlined the growing need to produce food more sustainably (with fewer chemicals), more productively (with ageing farmer labour forces), and more organically (to meet new consumer tastes). These factors have triggered a technology shift from other sectors into agriculture. XAG drones were once targeted at a range of recreational and industrial uses but are now focussed on crop protection. Meat & Livestock Australia is working with Nuctech, a Chinese company which specialises in airport baggage screening, to apply its x-ray technology in meat processing to reduce wastage and produce finer cuts of meat.

Meanwhile, Sukkarieh has moved from an early career focus on robotic transport technology and drones, back down to earth, with the development of robots to use on farms for both livestock and horticulture management. He has also shifted his attention to commercialisation of the technology from the Faculty of Engineering's Australian Centre for Field Robotics, via an agritech start-up company, Agerris.

With China using 30 percent of the world's pesticides on seven percent of the world's arable land, Gong says XAG drones have proven popular with farmers in China because they both cut waste pesticide pollution as much as 70 percent and reduce farmers' input costs. This enables small farms to become more competitive with corporate producers in supplying the specialist, traceable food that consumers want.





Justin Gong (left), director of Shenzhen-based agritech business XAG, and Salah Sukkarieh (right), Professor of Robotics and Intelligent Systems at the University of Sydney, speaking at the Smart Agriculture seminar on 4 November 2019.

In Australia, as Ruberg points out, well-run family farms were often the beneficiaries of experimental new technology because they were more open to new ideas than some larger corporate farms. However, a recent Federal Parliament committee report on agricultural technology raised concerns about whether Australia had sufficient communications infrastructure to make full use of new digital technology on farms.

Gong says about 40 percent of Chinese farms have high quality digital connectivity which allows XAG drones to send and receive data to provide crop-protection services. He is interested to see whether Australia's communications infrastructure is as good as China's, but he believes Australian farmers will be more familiar with using new technology.

Sukkarieh is less optimistic. He recalls when he trialed his farm robots in Indonesia, Fiji and Samoa, and was surprised to find the connectivity better than in parts of rural Australia. Fortunately, his robots are designed to operate to a significant extent off-grid, so connectivity is not such a restraint on their deployment in less well-connected areas.

"In order to make the bots run in real time, you don't want constant connectivity," he says. Farm robots are also larger than unmanned aerial vehicles which means they can carry a larger power supply and other equipment on board; this makes them more independent than drones.

Ruberg says connectivity back to farms from meat processing plants is very important to Meat & Livestock Australia because the organisation is committed to getting information back to its members about how to improve their livestock management.

Despite being strong advocates of the potential for technology to lift the productivity and quality of farm output, the panellists all say they operate under risk-management models which force them to prove that technology is adding value to farming.

Gong has data showing that farm yields improved by 17-20 percent after drones were used for crop management in China. Ruberg says Meat & Livestock Australia's deployment of various x-ray technology for meat processing could cost \$150 million but has the potential, if fully adopted, to boost output by \$170 million a year, although the more likely value boost in the short term would be closer to \$60 million.

**Greg Earl is an editor and writer; he was formerly the deputy editor of *The Australian Financial Review*. In 2019, he chaired two China Studies Centre industry seminars, on smart transport and smart agriculture.**

## Sydney China Visiting Fellows

In collaboration with the Department of Chinese Studies, the Sydney China Visitors program offers two types of fellowships:

- The **Sydney China Distinguished Fellowship**, run by the Department of Chinese Studies, hosts senior scholars specialising in modern and contemporary Chinese literature, culture or translation studies
- The China Studies Centre's **Sydney China Fellowship** hosts scholars at any stage of their career, specialising in any field related to China or the Chinese world.

Fellows typically spend four to six weeks in Sydney, giving public talks, academic presentations and student seminars, in addition to working on their research.

“The stream of activities I was exposed to as a Visiting Fellow included giving talks on my own research and participating in the University’s public events program, Sydney Ideas, where I was on an expert panel for an audience of more than 300 people and broadcast on Australian television and radio.”

**Professor David G Atwill**  
2019 Sydney China Fellow

### 2019 Visiting Fellows



**Professor David G Atwill**  
*Professor of History,  
Pennsylvania State University*

While in Sydney, Professor Atwill completed his biography of Lin Zexu and developed his next monograph, on High Asia, tentatively titled *The Ascendancy of High Asia: Chinese Warlordism, Ethno-territoriality, and Inter-Asian Hegemony, 1900–1950*.



**Dr Corey Byrnes**  
*Assistant Professor of Chinese  
Culture, Northwestern University*

During his stay in Sydney, Dr Byrnes worked on his second book project, on the relationship between environmentally conscious cultural production in China and the global rhetoric of threat that so often defines China in contemporary discourse.



**Dr Hao Chen**  
*Assistant Professor, Renmin  
University of China, Beijing*

While in Sydney, Dr Chen developed a chapter of his book, *Writing Chinese Medical History in A Global Context (1914–1948)*, revealing how ‘modern’ medicine and the ‘modern’ historiography of medicine integrated into each other historically in Republican China.

# Rising seas and the extended nation

By Corey Byrnes

What are the limits of a nation? How might its territory expand in a post- or neo-colonial moment and what does this new territory look and feel like? What does it mean for one nation to create territory at the ocean's margin when low-lying island nations are being swamped by sea level rise? Might the geological and ecological features of endangered coral islands provide a conceptual alternative to a geopolitic still defined by the death drive of petrocapiatalism?

These are some of the question that preoccupied me during my time at the China Studies Centre, where I carried out research related to a new project that examines the relationship between China and a global environmental imaginary in which it is increasingly treated as an existential threat. Threat is an especially useful category for writing about a 'rising' China, which is often imagined as both a site of localised ecological ruination that prefigures imminent global collapse and also as a source of environmental peril that exceeds national boundaries. Particularly in the global north, China has become a focal point for ambient eco-anxieties that are inevitably shadowed by longer histories of perceived racial, cultural, and economic threat.

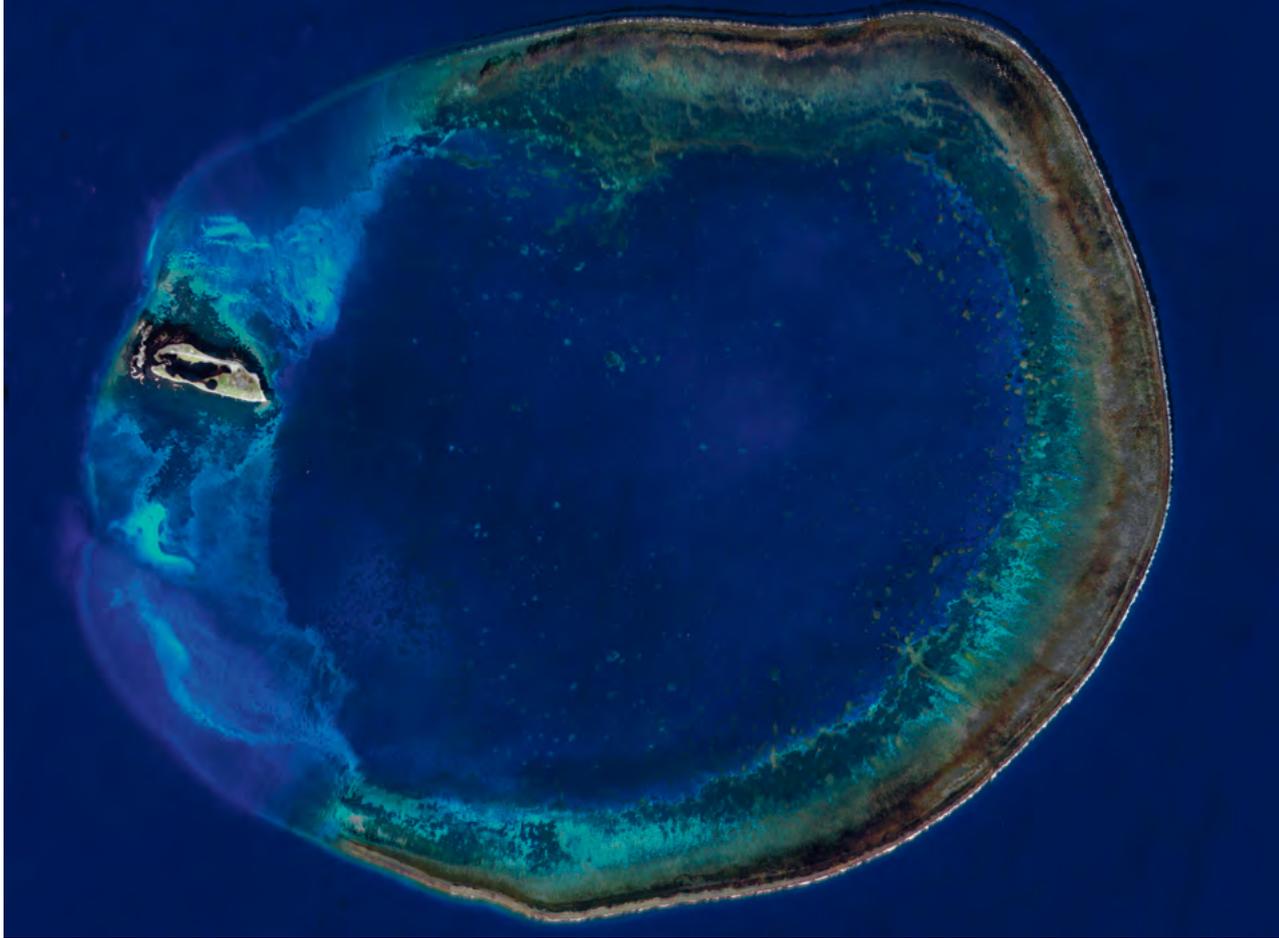
While in Sydney, I focused my energies on the South China Sea, a geopolitical hotspot in which regional and global discourses of China as threat converge. In 2009, the Chinese government submitted a brief diplomatic note to the UN-Secretary General, declaring "indisputable sovereignty over the islands in the South China Sea and the adjacent waters" in addition to "sovereign rights and jurisdiction over the relevant waters as well as the seabed and subsoil thereof (see attached map)." On this now famous "attached map," China's border with Vietnam is represented by a dot and dash line that appears to end at the Gulf of Tonkin. The border reappears, however, as a solid dash midway off the coast of central Vietnam.

Eight additional segments form a tongue-like outline that demarcates a border almost coextensive with the South China Sea. Inside this dashed line are four groups of scattered islands, reefs, and other marine features, some visible as small dots, others outlined by dotted

**“Since 2013, China has embarked on an enormous infrastructural project within the nine-dash line, transforming submerged reefs, islands, and sandbars into fortified military outposts. The result of these activities is an almost instant, and still growing, border infrastructure – what some have taken to calling a Great Wall of Sand.”**

lines. Neither the map nor the accompanying note indicate whether the dashes simply enclose islands owned by China or mark its possession of the entirety of the South China Sea and its seabed.

Since 2013, China has embarked on an enormous infrastructural project within the nine-dash line, transforming submerged reefs, islands, and sandbars into fortified military outposts. The result of these activities is an almost instant, and still growing, border infrastructure – what some have taken to calling a Great Wall of Sand – that intensifies territorial disputes with neighbouring countries, challenges American power in the region, and secures access to potential mineral, gas, and oil reserves as well as important fishing grounds.



China's island building is about more than geopolitics, however. It is an aesthetic project that not only constitutes the making real of the spatial imaginary represented in the 2009 nine-dash line, but also offers an additional medium for the representation of what I call the 'extended nation'.

In the many satellite images produced by and for China's competitors in the region, island bases are depicted from the air and at a great distance, a composition that intentionally flattens infrastructure, creating a readable map of strategic sites. Images provided by the Chinese government, by contrast, depict islands from the ground, as sites of infrastructural normalcy, complete with schools, shops, hospitals, government buildings, and palm-tree-lined roads. By depicting an everyday infrastructure that one might find in any developed Chinese town or city, it shows that the promises made by the nine-dash line have been fulfilled; these islands are now integrally Chinese, parts of the extended nation.

While the geopolitical implications of China's activities have received significant media attention, relatively little has been written about their environmental impact. The Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs has gone so far as to deem this a 'green project' with limited environmental impact. In reality, the dredging of massive quantities of sand and the expansion of existing islands has caused widespread damage to coral reefs and the rich ecosystems they support.

By juxtaposing the slowly accretive colonial work of the tiny invertebrates that construct coral reefs with the spatial imaginary of the nine-dash map and the rapid island-building program carried out by the Chinese government, my work explores the often violent encounter between animal life and forms of nation building that impose a fixed cartographic imaginary on living ecosystems.

Ultimately, the great irony of China's territorial expansion in the South China Sea is that it is unfolding as sea levels rise and low-lying islands and coastal areas around the world confront existential threats. We tend to think of climate change primarily in terms of loss – loss of territory, loss of human life, loss of species, loss of lifeways. What this project asks, however, is how the political and economic forces that drive climate change will combine to produce new territories and contested sovereignties on the wreckage of old ecosystems.

It is only by tracking such ruinous gains alongside the many losses we will continue to experience until climate action becomes a reality that we might prepare ourselves to really fight for the survival of our world.

**Dr Corey Byrnes is Assistant Professor of Modern Chinese Culture at Northwestern University. He is the author of *Fixing Landscape: A Techno-poetic History of China's Three Gorges* (Columbia University Press, 2018), and was a Sydney China Fellow at the China Studies Centre from 24 April to 5 June 2019.**

## International graduate workshop on China's eco-civilisation (生态文明)

Held at the University of Sydney between 14 and 18 January 2019, in collaboration with the Planetary Health Platform, the first 'China in the Urban Age' graduate workshop united emerging scholars from the sciences, humanities and social sciences in a discussion on the theme 'China's Environmental Challenge and Eco-Civilisation: a Multidisciplinary Approach to the Anthropocene'.

With an overwhelming response – more than 400 applications – the workshop brought together international postgraduate students and early career researchers for five days of keynote presentations and discussion led by leading local and international experts. Forum panels were organised around a set of global questions such as the ethical and material implications of the technological futures (real and imagined) that are emerging in China and elsewhere; the potential for a multi-species approach to the world; reconsidering justice in the city; issues of resilience and lifestyle changes; and the role of Indigenous knowledge.

We were fortunate to be joined by a multidisciplinary group of keynote speakers, including Professor Peng Gong (Tsinghua University), Professor Anna Lora-Wainwright (University of Oxford), Professor Emily Yeh (University of Colorado), Professor Pierre Landry (Chinese University of Hong Kong), Dr Selina Lo (*The Lancet*) and Dr Zheng Bo (City University of Hong Kong). See page 16 for a full list of speakers.

Here are excerpts from post-workshop reflections by some of the participants.

### What room for an ecological spirituality?

**Tuukka Kaikkonen, Australian National University**

The revival of spiritual practices in China in recent decades indicates there are needs and desires that economic development alone cannot fulfil.

To what extent does the discourse about “beautiful China” and “clear waters and green mountains” acknowledge the need for deeper connections between people and their surroundings? And, if the government were serious about such needs, to what extent would it be prepared to allow people of various ethnicities and backgrounds to practise their beliefs and ways of life in pursuit of spiritual, social, and emotional fulfilment? What, if any, room is there in an ecological civilisation for an ecological spirituality?

### Reclaiming the crisis: what is an ecological narrative of radical possibility?

**Sam Kay, Ohio State University**

Beijing's authorities have relentlessly pushed a narrative that ecological civilisation will make Beijing green and therefore modern and cosmopolitan. Those of us consuming this message are asked to leave the 'how' of that transition to the experts.

We are asked to think of ecological civilisation in technocratic terms. We are told that “the city” will experience environmental improvements; that “the city” will benefit from cleaner water and more trees; that “the city” will enjoy better ecosystem services. Framed collectively under this umbrella, there is an implication that our fate is shared; that we will sink or swim together.

However, while tens of thousands of acres of forest are being planted around the city, hundreds of thousands of migrant workers – who are often blamed by authorities for various urban ‘sicknesses’ – are being pushed out through a large-scale campaign of demolitions.

**The aesthetics of a good Anthropocene:  
queer and feminist reflections**

**Annie Malcolm, University of California Berkeley**

Aesthetics are important in the consideration of both the Anthropocene epoch, in which our senses may be exposed to a new range of stimuli; and art, the affective power of which relies on an experience we can sensorially perceive. These concepts specifically speak to the relation between art and climate change.

Climate change is perceptible, but never in its entirety, and it is differently perceptible in different places. For artists, abstraction, aestheticisation and playing with time are modes of approaching climate change, the 'hyper-object' (Morton 2013) – everywhere, affecting everything, and yet not knowable as such.

**In the shadow of sustainability**

**Jamie Wang, University of Sydney**

In the era of the Anthropocene, many of us, in particular the socially, economically and/or geographically disadvantaged, are losing control in everyday life, having to face unprecedented extreme weather events, water pollution, toxic air and more.

Meanwhile, the sustainable urban narrative dominated by technocratic and capital/energy-intensive approaches (such as seawater desalination) continues to render an illusion of the capacity to persist without serious engagement with the current emergencies of the Anthropocene.

In the shadow of sustainability is the disregard for the ecological impacts many urban solutions may carry, a heavily disciplined environment narrowly centring on enhancing human activities, the dispossession of habitats and humans' disconnection from ourselves and other non-human kin.

From top: Rice terrace in Ping'an Village, Longsheng County, Guangxi Province, photo by Fulltimegipsy, Shutterstock; share bikes in Shanghai, photo by Zapp2Photo, Shutterstock; presenters and participants from the graduate workshop on a tour of the Royal Botanic Garden, Sydney, January 2019.



## 'China in the Urban Age' graduate workshop, 14-18 January 2019

Talk	Speaker
Finding a New Language: the challenges of eco-civilization	- Professor Luigi Tomba, Director, China Studies Centre*
Planetary Health and Urbanisation	- Professor Tony Capon, Professor of Planetary Health*
Forum – Lifestyles: what has changed, what needs to change?	- Dr Gil Hizi, Teaching Fellow, Department of Anthropology* - Julia Harten, PhD candidate (public policy), University of Southern California - Weijie Hu, PhD candidate (architecture and urbanism)* - Edwin Schmitt, Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Oslo - Annie Malcolm, PhD candidate (anthropology), UC Berkeley
Design for Healthy Cities	- Professor Peng Gong, Department of Earth System Science, Tsinghua University
Shifting challenges and opportunities, and the role of civil society	- Professor Anna Lora-Wainwright, School of Geography and Environment, University of Oxford
Forum – Sustainable and resilient: how and for whom?	- Ying Jia Tan, Assistant Professor of History, Wesleyan University - Kai Yang, Postdoctoral Fellow, Peking University - Dr Christopher K Tong, Assistant Professor, University of Maryland - Simon Yin, lecturer, Hefei University of Technology - Julia Teebken, PhD candidate (environmental policy), Freie University Berlin - Han Lin, tutor, Flinders University
Vulnerability to and knowledge of climate change among pastoralists in Tibet	- Professor Emily Yeh, Professor of Geography, University of Colorado
Forum – Taking indigeneity seriously?	- Ting Wang, PhD candidate (architecture), University of Hong Kong - Wen-Yao Lee, PhD student (anthropology), University of Kansas - Brendan Galipeau, Postdoctoral Fellow, Chao Center for Asian Studies, Rice University - Ettore Santi, PhD candidate (architecture), UC Berkeley - Tomonori Sugimoto, PhD candidate (anthropology), Stanford University
The impact of urbanization on land sales in China 2000-2018	- Professor Pierre Landry, Professor of Government and Public Administration, Director of the University Service Centre, Chinese University of Hong Kong
Global Health: Implications for China's Ecocivilisation Aspirations	- Dr Selina Lo, Senior Research Fellow, School of Public Health*, Consulting editor, <i>The Lancet</i>
Dao is in Weeds / Sex with Ferns	- Dr Zheng Bo, School of Creative Media, City University of Hong Kong
Forum – A multi species world?	- Tuukka Kaikkonen, PhD candidate (archaeology), Australian National University - Jamie Wang, PhD candidate (gender and cultural studies)* - Hua Shao, PhD candidate (Law), Minzu University of China and CSIRO, Australia - Sam Kay, PhD candidate (geography), Ohio State University
Chinese art in the 1990s and the spectre of urban citizenship	- Dr Olivier Krischer, Acting Director, China Studies Centre*
Forum – Back to a techno future?	- Oscar Galeev, Yenching Scholar, Peking University - Danqi Xing, PhD candidate (urban ecology), Tsinghua University - Grete Schönebeck, PhD candidate (Sinology), Goethe-University Frankfurt - Yujing Tan, PhD candidate (Chinese studies), Leiden University
Forum – What is a just city?	- Xiang Li, PhD candidate (urban planning), University of Melbourne - Jesse Rodenbiker, PhD candidate (Geography), UC Berkeley - Ka Ling Cheung, PhD candidate (architecture), University of Melbourne - Hao Yin, Postdoctoral Researcher, Center for Earth System Science, Tsinghua University - Georgina Andre, PhD candidate (geography and urban planning), Universite Paris 1 Pantheon-Sorbonne and Wuhan University

\* From the University of Sydney



Entrance to a Chinese temple; photo by kamonche, Shutterstock

# History cluster series: Borderlands in Chinese History and Archaeology

By David Brophy and Andres Rodriguez

The history cluster seminar series was held in collaboration with the Department of History and the China Studies Centre. It highlighted the University's expertise in the study of China's frontier regions, as well as hosting a number of international guests. The theme of borderlands served to widen the focus of discussion on China from its more commonly studied coastal regions to its less well-known continental periphery, providing insights into China's ongoing relationship with its Eurasian neighbours today.

Many of the talks engaged this region's modern history, but the series stretched back as far as the prehistoric past, with Professor Allison Betts (University of Sydney) providing an update on her work on the origins of Silk Road exchange.

The series began with a presentation from Professor David G Atwill (Pennsylvania State University) on the Cold War politics surrounding Tibet, and the history of Tibet's little-known Muslim population. Cross-border mobility in a time of political transition was also a theme for the talk by Associate Professor Niccolò Pianciola (Lingnan University), looking at the illicit opium trade and migration into Russia from late-Qing Manchuria.

Several talks looked at different legal frameworks that were applied to these frontier zones and emerged from them. Dr Scott Relyea (Appalachian State University) discussed how local Chinese officials on the fringes of Tibet assimilated a new discourse of international law and state sovereignty at the end of the 19th century. Dr Eric Vanden Bussche (University of Tokyo) examined hybrid legal practices on the Sino-Burmese frontier in the early 20th century. These evolved through negotiations between British and Chinese officials, both grappling with border-crossing crime and the status of local indigenous institutions.

The administrative and intellectual challenges posed by 'creole' populations in the Sino-Tibetan borderlands was discussed by Professor Yudru Tsomu (Sichuan University), based on her new project which looks at mixed Han-Tibetan populations of Kham during the Republican period. Dr Andres Rodriguez (University of Sydney) presented the initial findings from his new project on post-war Asia, examining how frameworks of decolonisation and reconstruction for this period shaped border policies and political movements for China and Burma.

China's ties to the world of Islam were another important theme. Dr Dror Weil (Max Planck Institute for the History of Science) provided a wide-ranging look at the reception and translation of Islamic science in late imperial China, drawing on his work among rare manuscripts in collections across China. Dr David Brophy (University of Sydney) also presented new research on Muslims from Xinjiang who lived in the imperial capital of Beijing during the Qing dynasty. Combining official Qing sources with Islamic texts by and about members of this community, his talk shed light on the place of Islam at the Qing court.

**Dr David Brophy, Senior Lecturer of Modern Chinese History at the University of Sydney, studies the social and political history of China's northwest, particularly the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, and its connections with the Islamic and Russian/Soviet worlds.**

**Dr Andres Rodriguez, Lecturer of Modern Chinese History at the University of Sydney, has focused on ethnic identities and state-building in China's southwest through the lens of fieldwork during China's Republican period.**



Above: The Dalai Lama, Nehru and Zhou Enlai in 1956 in India (Wikimedia Commons)  
 Right: Portrait of Khojasi Beg, a Muslim aristocrat from Xinjiang in 18th century Beijing, produced for the Qianlong Emperor by the Imperial Painting Academy and the Jesuit artist Ignatius Sichelbart, c.1775

### Borderlands in Chinese History and Archaeology series, 2019

Talk	Speaker	Date
Cold War Asia and Tibet's Himalayan Past: Tibetan Muslims, Nepalese Rebels and the Bandung Dilemma, 1951-1961	Professor David G Atwill, Professor of History, Pennsylvania State University	5 March
Opium Trade and Migrations in the Russian/ Chinese Borderlands from Manchuria to Central Asia, 1870s-1930s	Associate Professor Niccolò Pianciola, Associate Professor of History, Lingnan University, Hong Kong	26 March
Translating the Natural World: the circulation of Arabo-Persian knowledge in Late Imperial China	Dr Dror Weil, Post-Doctoral Fellow, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Germany	15 April
Indigenising international law in the early 20th century Sino-Tibetan borderlands	Dr Scott Relyea, Assistant Professor of Asian History, Appalachian State University	9 May
Inner Asia Exchanges: the inevitable necessity of nomads before the Silk Roads	Professor Alison Betts, Professor of Silk Road Studies, University of Sydney	28 May
Inner Asian Islam in 18th century Beijing	Dr David Brophy, Senior Lecturer of Modern Chinese History, University of Sydney	8 August
The Sino-British Frontier Meetings: Law, Colonial Rivalry, and Ethnic Identity in the Sino-Burmese Borderlands, 1902-1940s	Dr Eric Vanden Bussche, Assistant Professor, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Tokyo	9 September
Discourses on Mixed Han-Tibetan Populations of Kham in Republican China	Professor Yudru Tsomu, Center for Tibetan Studies, Sichuan University	3 October
Dilemmas of Early Postwar Reconstruction: Decolonizing the Sino-Burmese Borderlands (1945-1948)*	Dr Andres Rodriguez, Lecturer of Modern Chinese History, University of Sydney	31 October

\* Co-presented with the Sydney Southeast Asia Centre

# Chinese Private International Law and Online Data Protection

By Jeanne Huang

My research focuses on legal issues in digital trade and e-commerce, especially jurisdiction and applicable law in cross-border data protection and data regulation issues in free trade agreements. In 2019, two China Studies Centre grants facilitated my comparative study on how the United States (US), the European Union (EU) and China regulate internet intermediaries.

‘Internet intermediary’ refers to online services that do not produce nor own online content, such as Facebook and WeChat. Recent years have witnessed the adoption of starkly different laws by the US, the EU and China to regulate what civil liability an internet intermediary should bear for online content created or owned by third parties.

In 2018, based on Section 230 of the *Communications Decency Act* (CDA), the US convinced Canada and Mexico to sign the US-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). This agreement provides that internet intermediaries should not be held civilly liable for the contents produced by a third party (namely ‘Internet Immunity’).

Unlike Section 230 of the CDA, the EU E-commerce Directive divides intermediaries into three categories (mere conduit, caching and hosting) and applies restricted immunity to intermediaries (namely ‘Restricted Internet Immunity’). The restriction was expanded with the Court of Justice of the EU decision in the *Google Spain* case and most recently the General Data Protection Regulation effective in 2018. Both impose a high requirement for data protection and privacy in the processing of personal data within the European Economic Area and any enterprise (including internet intermediaries) that processes the personal information of data subjects within the EU.

The US and the EU are competing in shaping global digital trade law, including the establishment of global e-commerce rules at the World Trade Organization. Other countries find themselves caught in a global law-making battle in which the US demands internet immunity, while the EU restricts it. In this battle, where does China stand?

Unlike the US law that grants broad civil immunity to internet intermediaries, the EU and China restrict civil immunity to intermediaries, but in different ways. In China, all intermediaries are subject to the notice-and-take-down mechanism, but even after this directive is properly followed, the intermediary may still be subject to civil liability under Chinese Consumer Law.

Furthermore, the law’s policy priority for internet intermediaries varies fundamentally in the three jurisdictions. The US liability law focuses on protecting freedom of speech under the 1st and 14th Amendments of the US Constitution. The EU emphasises the protection of personal information as a fundamental human right. By contrast, Chinese policy priority is unclear.

Though consumer protection has boomed in public popularity and increasingly attracted the attentions of the legislature and judiciary in China, it is doubtful that consumer protection can provide a prevailing policy support for Chinese law in the same way that freedom of speech and the protection of personal information does under the laws of the US and EU.

**Associate Professor Jeanne Huang teaches and researches in the fields of law for digital trade, private international law, international investment law, international litigation and arbitration and underwater cultural heritage protection, at the University of Sydney Law School. Her talk on Chinese Private International Law and Online Data Protection was co-presented by the China Studies Centre and the Law School on 20 August 2019.**

# Employability of Chinese and Australian business students

By Bing Wu Berberich and Rachael Hains-Wesson

Employability research with Chinese and Australian business students is highlighting innovative ways to collaborate and create future-facing global outlooks for university graduates.

On entering a 'VUCA' global job market (marked by volatility, uncertainty, complexity and ambiguity), graduates require both technical and transferable skills such as problem solving, critical thinking, analysis, the ability to learn new knowledge and operate across diverse knowledge landscapes.

During Associate Professor Bing Wu Berberich's visit to the University of Sydney, she gave a talk on university graduate employment situations in China. Overall, there were several major challenges that she highlighted, including greater competition within the job market, increased demand for graduates with diverse skills, and a massive misalignment between conventional university teaching approaches and social and economic development in China.

One of our research projects is a multidisciplinary study of students from the University of Sydney Business School and the International Business School Suzhou (IBSS) South Campus at Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University, who took part in industry-based placements, projects or internships. Within these activities, we evaluated and measured the factors which best enhance future graduate employability. The project also aims to identify how the attitudes and behaviours of students, academics and managers impact perceptions of employability, and why.

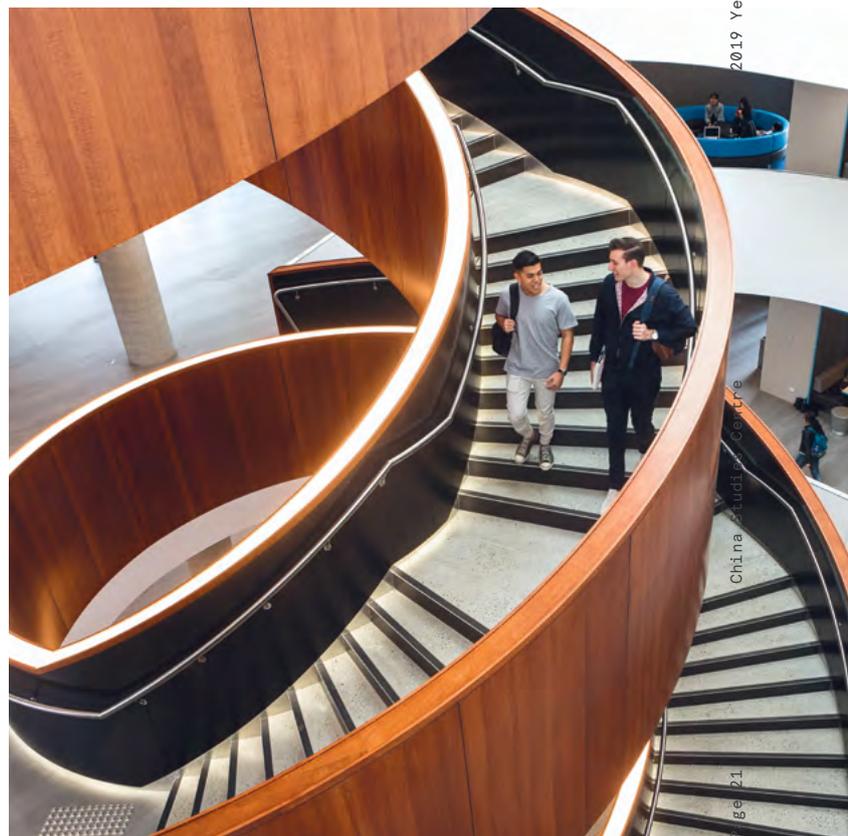
An initial review of the data revealed that overall, there are more similarities than differences between Chinese and Australian business students, with a few exceptions. Australian business students tend to present as having more 'confidence' when articulating their employability skills.

Chinese students are keen to attend workshops and training on career development but show a tendency towards learning how to 'job search' effectively rather than on continuous development of employability skills as part of a lifelong plan.

Following further analysis of the results, we hope to begin providing practical advice and information to higher education institutions in Australia and China to support curriculum-based improvements and strategies to enhance employability development of students in both countries.

**Associate Professor Bing Wu Berberich is Associate Dean of Learning and Teaching at the International Business School, Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University, Suzhou.**

**Associate Professor Rachael Hains-Wesson is Director of Work-Integrated Learning at the University of Sydney Business School.**



# China Industrial Ecology Virtual Laboratory Conference

This conference was part of an ongoing project led by Dr Arunima Malik from the University of Sydney; her co-investigator is Associate Professor Ying Zhang, from the School of Public Health. Supported by the China Studies Centre through a Centre in China conference grant, the event brought together experts from business, economics, science, public health, accounting and other relevant disciplines to develop novel research projects in the China context.

Held at the University of Sydney's Centre in China, Suzhou, the conference included collaborators from Beijing Normal University, Zhejiang University of Agricultural Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Dongguan University of Technology, Chongqing Normal University, and Nanjing Normal University.

The conference included a workshop on putting the China Industrial Ecology Virtual Laboratory into practice for multidisciplinary research, in particular, using nested trade models.

Participants identified food systems, healthcare and emissions as core research themes for further exploration, then discussed a range of potential projects during breakout sessions.

To cite an example from each core area:

- **Food systems:** A project will be initiated to address the environmental consequences of food production and consumption, considering dietary requirements and economic interactions between food and non-food sectors. Methodologies will be developed for evaluating diet-related nutrition and health issues.
- **Healthcare:** This project will produce an analysis of climate change-related impacts on a global scale and at city levels, involving datasets relating to carbon emissions, environmental pollution, health outcomes and economics. It is crucial to address emissions resulting from healthcare provision, as this has direct impacts on human wellbeing.
- **Emissions:** A project will be set up to provide an analysis of the sources of heavy metal pollution in China, and the associated risk factors. Assessments will be undertaken at various scales to quantify the risk in crucial drinking water reservoirs.

Dr Malik also reported that publications resulting from ongoing collaborations with academics in China have helped develop research ideas that have resulted in two grants:

- Centre for Translational Data Science's Research Incubator Funding Scheme, 2018-2019
- Massey University International Visiting Academic Scheme, 2019

**Dr Arunima Malik is a lecturer in the Integrated Sustainability Analysis group at the School of Physics and in the Discipline of Accounting, Business School. She coordinates and teaches postgraduate units for the Master of Sustainability program.**

**Co-investigator, Associate Professor Ying Zhang is an epidemiologist whose research focuses on climate and health, particularly affecting community resilience in the Asia-Pacific region. She is a senior lecturer at the University of Sydney School of Public Health.**



Dr Arunima Malik (centre) presenting to collaborators at the University of Sydney Centre in China, Suzhou.

# Early Chinese Urbanism symposium and workshop

By Roland Fletcher and Peter Jia

The international symposium on *Trajectories of Early Chinese Urbanism* was held at the University of Sydney on 12–13 September 2019, bringing together a research group of scholars from the University of Sydney, Southeast University (Nanjing), Nanjing University, the Institute of Archaeology (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences) and the Shaanxi Academy of Museology and Archaeology.

A key address was given by Professor Roland Fletcher on the implications of the Interaction–Communication model for the formation of dispersed, open settlements and long-term trajectories in urban growth. The focus of the regional papers was on the development of urbanism in China in the 2nd and 1st millennia BCE. Speakers and topics included:

- Professor Jigen Tang on Shang Dynasty urbanism
- Professor Jiangning Song on the early Zhou Dynasty capitals
- Professor Liangren Zhang on the defended cities of the later Zhou Dynasty
- Professor Weihong Xu on current work at Xianyang, the first imperial capital in China
- Professor Wei Dong on the later, walled capitals of China.

The key outcome of the symposium was to further develop a concept discussed in 2015 at a symposium at the University of Sydney Centre in China, Suzhou. Namely, that after an initial compact phase of development of walled cities in the first half of the

2nd millennium BCE, Chinese urbanism moved towards a more dispersed, open urban pattern which continued from the late 2nd millennium Shang capital into the early 1st millennium Zhou dynasty capitals. This was followed by a period of interstate warfare in which compact walled cities predominated in the Spring and Autumn and Warring States periods.

When China was unified under the Qin in the 3rd century BCE, a new capital was established at Xianyang, near modern Xi'an. It now appears that this city used the much older, dispersed open urban pattern – an issue which the research group intends to pursue further.

Another conference has since been held at the Southeast University in China in late 2019, organised by the members of the research team in China. The information from this symposium will be incorporated into a course on the history of urbanism in University of Sydney's new Urban Studies major.

With thanks to the Department of Archaeology at the University of Sydney for funding support and to Rosemary Whitecross for her assistance.

**Professor Roland Fletcher is Professor of Theoretical and World Archaeology, Department of Archaeology, University of Sydney.**

**Dr Peter Jia is a Senior Research Associate, Department of Archaeology, University of Sydney.**



Left to right: Professor Liangren Zhang, Professor Weihong Xu, Professor Jiangning Song, Dr Xihui Wang, Professor Jigen Tang, Professor Wei Dong, Professor Xiaodi Zhou

# National Library of Australia Research Grant

By Shensi Yi

I had a great experience with the China Studies Centre's National Library of Australia (NLA) Research Grant, which supported my work in the NLA's Asian Collections from 1 to 14 May 2019.

My PhD project investigates the historical role the Shanghai Communists played during the early period of Chinese communism. Facing the presence of both warlord governance and foreign powers' spheres of influence in cosmopolitan Shanghai, and with the intervention of Soviet Russia, the local communist organisation underwent a dramatic rise and fall in the 1920s. My project focuses on two interconnected questions: what were the close images of everyday life communists were experiencing in an international context? And, how did the revolutionaries deal with internal affairs and external forces?

I had two main aims in this research period at the NLA. Firstly, to revise and improve two articles previously presented at conferences. Both are parts of my thesis, but I needed to use sources I could not access in Sydney. The Asian Collections at the NLA offered convenient access to materials, either directly from the stacks or from the staff, who directed me to other relevant works and sources.

My second goal was to consult sources regarding economic figures, current social investigations, official reports, and contemporary newspapers and journals in Republican Shanghai to complete another chapter of my thesis. This chapter focuses on the communists, the workers, and the strikes in Japanese-owned cotton mills in mid-1920s Shanghai.

Thanks to the rich holdings at the NLA, I was able to collate, read and analyse these materials in one place. The sources I accessed at the Asian Collections also made it possible for me to expand the primary source base of my project, which will without doubt be of great significance in ensuring the success of my research.

**Shensi Yi is a PhD candidate in the Department of History at the University of Sydney. His thesis is a cultural and social history of everyday life of the Shanghai communists in the international context before 1949.**



The site of the First National Congress of the Chinese Communist Party, Shanghai. Photo by Wallpaper101, iStock.

# New perspectives on Chinese minority musical culture and research

By Catherine Ingram

When I first began researching Kam (in Chinese, *Dong* 侗) minority songs in southwestern China, more than 15 years ago, my new Kam teachers – the well-known *sang-ga* (song experts) Wu Meifang, Wu Pinxian and Wu Xuegui – decided that if I was to research their Kam songs, I needed to learn to sing them. For my first, they selected a song from the repertoire of their home village of Sheeam (or Sanlong, in Liping county, Guizhou province), choosing one from the choral Kam ‘big song’ genre that in 2009 was recognised by UNESCO as World Intangible Cultural Heritage.

To begin, they taught me the words of the song. At the time I assumed they used this teaching method because I was not a native Kam speaker, and I needed to learn and understand the words before I could sing them. Indeed, then I could barely speak any Kam at all, and almost all our communication was in Chinese. But in fact, this is the way Kam songs are almost always taught: the words are chanted, and repeated over and over; it is only after they are memorised that they are sung to an appropriate variation of one of the local melodies.

Quite some time into my research, and once I had become fluent in Kam (a Tai-Kadai family language with no widely used written form), I learnt that these song lyrics are referred to in Kam as *lak ga*: the “bones of songs”. As their name suggests, they are fundamental to Kam concepts of musical heritage, and their educational content, complex rhyming patterns and use of metaphor are three of the most important ways in which the aesthetic value of songs is assessed.

Although the sounds of the songs are important, the lyrics are what really matter to many of the middle-aged and older Kam singers that I know. Often, the lyrics are what determines the notes that are sung, through a complicated system which requires the melody’s contours to respond in certain ways to the tonal pitch-based contours of the spoken language.

As an ethnomusicologist, I employ musical ethnographic techniques such as participant observation – in this case, learning to sing – to study music as an integral part of culture and society. This technique is one of the most helpful ways in which I am able to deepen my understanding of how cultural custodians perceive and understand their own musical culture, on their own terms. The technique seems simple, even obvious, yet little of the very limited in-depth research on Kam music has adopted this method.

Not surprisingly, I have never read any mention of the “bones of songs” in work published to date. While it is a Kam perspective that certainly has a very long history, this is an interesting example of how contemporary research that adopts well-considered and collaborative approaches offers the potential for new perspectives on Chinese minority music – here, a new perspective on Kam minority singing, and a model that might be applicable to the music of other minorities as well.

**Dr Catherine Ingram is a lecturer in ethnomusicology at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, and a member of the CSC Executive Committee. In 2019, she was the invited speaker for the co-hosted China Studies Centre and China Cultural Centre 2019 Lunar New Year Lecture: ‘The bones of songs, and China’s cultural heritage: why Chinese minority songs matter’. She has also been a guest speaker at the panel events ‘China: How to do fieldwork’ and ‘China: How to capitalise on your non-traditional research outputs’. In 2019, she was supported by a China Studies Centre conference grant to present with Kam singers at the CHIME conference in Beijing.**

# Co-hosted events on emerging Indo-Pacific and China issues

By Jingdong Yuan

2019 marks a year of intensifying geopolitical and geo-economic transformation at both the global and regional level. Indo-Pacific has emerged as the centre of these transformative changes and attracts growing attention from governments, academia, and the general public. This series of talks brought together renowned scholars and experienced diplomats to focus their expertise on the rise of China and its increasingly confident diplomatic activism, its major-power relationships, and the evolving Indo-Pacific geostrategic landscape.

China's emergence as a major power on the global stage and with significant influence over a range of issues has dominated both academic research and policy analysis. Dr Courtney Fung (University of Hong Kong) spoke on the dilemma that Beijing faces with regard to the sensitive issue of humanitarian intervention, and how Chinese perspectives and actions to some extent are a reflection of how the country seeks to reconcile its newly acquired status and its continued wariness of the potential risks and precedents that interventions can create.

Another manifestation of China's rise is amply demonstrated in Beijing's ambitious Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and with it, China's growing presence in the world. Professor Xuetang Guo (Shanghai Jiao Tong University) discussed both the benefits and challenges that the BRI presents to the region and its key players such as India and Australia, as well as to China itself. Given that many countries harbor ambivalent rather than dismissive attitudes toward the geo-economics of infrastructure investments, opportunities exist for all concerned to explore the possibility of cooperation.

The rise of Indo-Pacific as the focal point of 21st century geostrategic competition was the subject of several speakers, who surveyed and analysed great-power relations between China and India, and

in the Sino-US context. Professor Ji You (University of Macau) discussed the military dimension of the new US Indo-Pacific Strategy (IPS), in particular, the revival of the so-called QUAD (the quadrilateral arrangement among Australia, India, Japan, and the United States), and analysed its function as a new informal security arrangement as a potential instrument for implementing IPS. While not a formal military alliance, it is likely to trigger responses from China as Beijing assesses its security environment and options.

How great powers manage their relationships will have a significant impact on both global and regional competition and stability. Ambassador Sujan R Chinoy (Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses), addressed the China-India relationship, walking the audience through thousands of years of cooperation and competition. He then stressed the importance of the top leadership in both countries seeking to manage their differences in order to maintain their key priorities: economic development and social stability at home, and the realisation of great-power aspiration on the global stage.

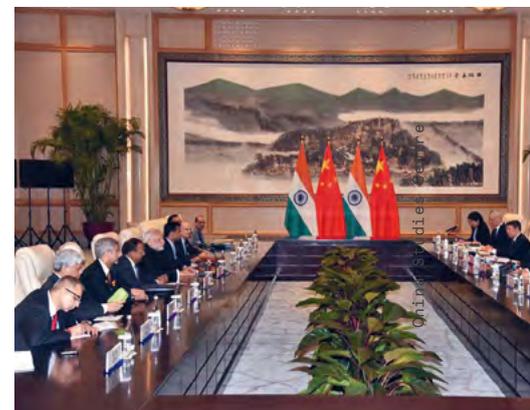
In his talk, Professor Steve Chan (University of Colorado) rejected the prevailing thesis that the US and China will inevitably move toward great-power conflict as captured in the so-called Thucydides' Trap. Subjecting the thesis to empirical evidence, Professor Chan argued that structural factors alone cannot explain great-power wars. As a result, the Thucydides' Trap is a poor and possibly misleading indicator to anticipate the future of US-China relations.

**Associate Professor Jingdong Yuan lectures in the University of Sydney's Department of Government and International Relations. He specialises in Asia-Pacific security, Chinese defence and foreign policy, and global and regional arms control and non-proliferation issues.**

### Co-hosted events with the Department of Government and International Relations, 2019

Event	Co-presented by	Speaker	Date
The Indo-Pacific Strategy: the Shaper of the Future Military Landscape in the Region	CSC, GIR	Professor Ji You, Professor of International Relations in the Department of Government and Public Administration at the University of Macau	25 June
India-China Relations	CSC, GIR, SUPRA	Ambassador Sujan R Chinoy, Director General of the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, New Delhi; and former diplomat with more than 25 years of experience in China, including postings to Hong Kong and Beijing, and as Consul General in Shanghai	16 September
The BRI and China's Foreign Policy: Challenges in the Indian Ocean	CSC, GIR, Law School	Professor Xuetang Guo, Professor of International Relations, Law School, Shanghai University of International Business and Economics; Director of the Center for South Asian and Indian Ocean Studies; manager of the Institute of International Strategy and Policy Analysis	5 November
Appraising Thucydides' Trap: Sino-American relations	CSC, GIR	Professor Steve Chan, College Professor of Distinction at the University of Colorado, Boulder	19 November
Book talk: <i>China and Intervention at the UN Security Council</i> (2019)	CSC, GIR	Dr Courtney J Fung, Assistant Professor of International Relations at the University of Hong Kong; associate-in-research at the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, Harvard University	11 December

CSC = China Studies Centre  
 GIR = Department of Government and International Relations  
 SUPRA = Sydney University Postgraduate Representative Association (SUPRA)  
 Law School = The University of Sydney Law School



Left to right: Prime ministerial candidate Narendra Modi, 9 April 2014, Vadodara, Gujarat. Photo by nisargmediaproductions, Shutterstock; President Xi Jinping at the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting, January 2017. Photo by Drop of Light, Shutterstock; Prime Minister Narendra Modi discussing India-China ties with President Xi Jinping, 4 September 2016, Wikimedia Commons.

# China Studies Centre Members Research Forum

27-28 November 2019

This forum is a new annual opportunity to share some of the current research and expertise from across our multidisciplinary community.

The inaugural forum, 27-28 November 2019, attracted academics from across the University of Sydney, students, industry partners and the general public. Keynote speeches were given by Duoqi Xu, Professor of Law at Fudan Law School, and Jae Ho Chung, Professor of Political Science and International Relations, and Director of the Program on US-China Relations at Seoul National University.

Professor Xu discussed the issue of datafication in China: its risks and benefits to the individual and society. Her talk focused on the regulatory framework required to maintain a balance between public interest and commercial advantage for the financial industry and others that rely on data analysis.

Professor Chung spoke about what he considers are five hurdles that China must negotiate on its path towards becoming a competitive and “responsible great power”: sustainable economic growth, stable and peaceful relations with the United States, sufficient resources for public goods for the international community, soft power, and loyal allies.

Talks were also given by local and China-based experts from the fields of health, education, economics, technology, business, law, political science and music. In addition, there were panel discussions on recent projects and areas of emerging interest. A selection of the forum talks, including the keynote presentations and the panel ‘China at 70’, is available on our website:

– [sydney.edu.au/china-studies-centre/events/2019-research-forum.html](https://sydney.edu.au/china-studies-centre/events/2019-research-forum.html)



China Studies Centre staff and members from the forum

## China Studies Centre Members Research Forum, 2019

Title	Speaker
Virtual Experiential Language Learning Environment for Chinese Language Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Professor Michael Jacobson, School of Education and Social Work</li> <li>- Dr Hongzhi (Veronica) Yang, School of Education and Social Work</li> </ul>
Panel: Introducing the University of Sydney Iteration of the "Reading and Writing the Chinese Dream" Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dr Gil Hizi, Department of Anthropology</li> <li>- Sophia Chen, PhD candidate, Department of Chinese Studies</li> <li>- Dr Minerva Inwald, casual tutor</li> </ul>
Socioeconomic dimensions to the study of music in/from China: three brief reflections from ongoing graduate student projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dr Catherine Ingram, Sydney Conservatorium of Music</li> <li>- John Ling, master's candidate, Sydney Conservatorium of Music</li> <li>- Jean Jia Jia Wong, PhD candidate, Sydney Conservatorium of Music</li> <li>- Yunjie (Lisa) Hu, PhD candidate, Department of Chinese Studies</li> </ul>
The Global South and the Concept <i>Shi</i> 勢: a <i>Dili</i> 地理 Perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dr Michael Paton, School of Economics</li> </ul>
Wellbeing Cluster Session	Facilitated by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Professor Mu Li, Sydney School of Public Health</li> <li>- Associate Professor Simon Poon, School of Computer Science</li> </ul>
Integrative Medicine and Brain Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Associate Professor Alex Lau, Department of Medicine &amp; Therapeutics, Chinese University of Hong Kong</li> </ul>
The role of the University of Sydney in the clinical rehabilitation of breast cancer in China	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dan Chen, Fudan University</li> </ul>
The condition and strategies of endogenous endophthalmitis in Chinese population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dr Jiawen Fan, Fudan University</li> </ul>
Chinese breast cancer survivors: Cognitive and psychosocial issues and their impact on quality of life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Professor Lynette Mackenzie, Faculty of Health Sciences</li> <li>- Dr Zakia Hossain, Faculty of Health Sciences</li> </ul>
Technology, social networks and loneliness in older Chinese migrants in Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dr Fiona Stanaway, School of Public Health</li> </ul>
Establishing collaborative ties with China to jointly advance regenerative medicine research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dr Jiao Jiao Li, Northern Clinical School – Kolling Institute</li> </ul>
History Panel: China in the Classroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dr Andres Rodriguez, lecturer, Department of History</li> <li>- Dr Sophie Loy-Wilson, lecturer, Department of History</li> <li>- Dr Minerva Inwald, tutor, Department of History</li> </ul>
Business and Economics Cluster session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Facilitated by Professor Hans Hendrichske, Business School</li> </ul>
Effects of the US China Trade War	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Associate Professor Dilip Dutta, School of Economics</li> </ul>
Outbound Direct Investment: CSR practices of Chinese companies in developed economies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dr Wei Li, University of Sydney Business School</li> </ul>
The Belt and Road Initiative in continental Asia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dr Sandra Alday, University of Sydney Business School</li> </ul>
Keynote: Data Protection in China	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Professor Duoqi Xu, Fudan University</li> </ul>
Applicable Law to Transnational Personal Data: Trends and Dynamics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Associate Professor Jeanne Huang, Sydney Law School</li> </ul>
Panel: China at 70: Opportunities and challenges in Beijing's Periphery Diplomacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Associate Professor Jingdong Yuan, Department of Government and International Relations</li> <li>- Dr Yi Wang, Griffith University</li> <li>- Mr Minran Liu, PhD candidate, Department of Government and International Relations</li> <li>- Mohid Iftikhar, Chinese University of Hong Kong</li> </ul>
Keynote: Homework for Beijing: Five Hurdles in China's Path to a "Responsible Great Power"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Professor Jae Ho Chung, Department of Political Science &amp; International Relations, Seoul National University</li> </ul>

Note: Unless otherwise specified, speakers are from the University of Sydney.

## ‘China: How to ...’ series

Our ‘China: How to ...’ events are panel talks designed to enrich research experience and graduate attributes, especially for postgraduate students and early career researchers.

These skill-sharing talks include practical tips from a diverse range of experts from universities, industry and the public sector, on subjects such as identifying China-related research funding, finding resources on China, or conducting fieldwork in China or with Chinese subjects. The talks are also an opportunity to network with peers who may have similar questions.

### ‘China: How to ...’ talks, 2019

Talk	Speaker	Date
How to talk to the media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Linda Jaivin, author, essayist, cultural commentator and journalist</li> <li>- Richard McGregor, journalist and author</li> <li>- Professor Luigi Tomba, China Studies Centre</li> <li>- Sally Sitou, Media and Public Relations</li> </ul>	7 March
How to find China-related resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Elizabeth Baillie, Acting Director, Overseas Collections and Metadata Management Branch, National Library of Australia</li> <li>- Anne Goodfellow, University of Sydney Library</li> <li>- Dr Minerva Inwald, tutor, Department of History</li> <li>- Di Pin Ouyang, Manager, Asian Collections, National Library of Australia</li> <li>- Professor Luigi Tomba, China Studies Centre</li> </ul>	10 April
How to maximise your job opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sara Cheng, Head of International Business, Australian Business Solutions Group/Australian Business Chamber</li> <li>- Associate Professor Melody Ding, School of Public Health</li> <li>- Dr Xing Dong, Digital Producer and Radio Anchor, SBS Australia</li> <li>- Dr Olivier Krischer, China Studies Centre</li> </ul>	20 May
How to write for the general public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Linda Jaivin, author, essayist, cultural commentator and journalist</li> <li>- Dr Olivier Krischer, China Studies Centre</li> </ul>	6 June
How to do fieldwork	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dr Catherine Ingram, Sydney Conservatorium of Music</li> <li>- Dr Olivier Krischer, China Studies Centre</li> <li>- Dr Fiona Stanaway, Sydney School of Public Health</li> <li>- Dr Wei Wang, Department of Chinese Studies</li> </ul>	22 August
How to fund your research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dr Alexandra Grey, Law School</li> <li>- Dr Yixiang Gan, School of Civil Engineering</li> <li>- Dr Christine Ji, Department of Chinese Studies</li> </ul>	24 October
How to capitalise on your non-traditional research outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dr Luke Hespanhol, School of Architecture, Design and Planning</li> <li>- Dr Catherine Ingram, Sydney Conservatorium of Music</li> <li>- Leanne Mumford, Research Portfolio</li> </ul>	19 November

Note: Unless otherwise specified, speakers are from the University of Sydney.

## Doing business between China and Australia: interview with Sara Cheng

For our May event 'China: How to maximise your job opportunities', we were fortunate to welcome as a speaker Sara Cheng, a China-Australia business sector expert who is Head of International Business at Business Australia. We spoke with her later to learn more about her background and tips for job seekers.

### What is your professional background?

I spent eight years as an international trader and business consultant in China before migrating to Australia to complete my MBA, 19 years ago. I planned my career path by examining my strengths, work experience and passions, and decided to focus on China-related business consulting. I joined Australian Business Solutions Group (now known as Business Australia) 16 years ago, starting as a trade advisor.

### Can you describe your typical day?

I usually start a day exercising in a local gym and finish it reading in bed. The time in between is filled with meetings, strategy development and reports, staff development and email. I prefer to work effectively and efficiently rather than putting in long hours. I usually manage to leave the office a bit after 5pm but quite often do a teleconference with my Shanghai office on my way home.

### What advice would you give students seeking job opportunities in China-related fields, such as business and government?

China is Australia's number one trading partner and education export market. The Australia China Free Trade Agreement further boosted the bilateral trade and investment. There are plenty of opportunities for China specialists in trade, investment, cultural exchange, research and development and diplomatic relations.

That said, employers do prefer those who have China work experience and connections; just being fluent in Mandarin isn't enough. Those with knowledge beyond one specialised area and who are good at self-presenting also have a better chance of being employed. I recommend seeking training in presentation, writing and/or public speaking, and talking to people in the industry to better understand the skills required.

### You assist Australian businesses to expand in the global market, especially Asia. What are the most challenging and rewarding parts of this job?

The most challenging part of the job is also fun – ongoing learning. The global market is a moving target with ever-changing regulations, unpredictable bilateral or multilateral trade and economic relationships, fast-evolving business models and increasingly diverse consumer behaviours. I view business consultants as business 'doctors'. The most rewarding part of my job is helping clients fulfil their business potential in the global market, especially China.

**“Those with knowledge beyond one specialised area and who are good at self-presenting also have a better chance of being employed. I recommend seeking training in presentation, writing and/or public speaking, and talking to people in the industry to better understand the skills required.”**

## Suzhou–Shanghai Field School

This year marked our third mobility unit of study (Arts/Asian Studies), supported by the Australian Government’s New Colombo Plan.

In 2019, following a day of preparatory lectures in Sydney, we took 17 students on a three-week field school in Suzhou and Shanghai.

The trip began with six days in historic Suzhou at the University of Sydney’s Centre in China, where the students combined Chinese language classes with visits to cultural sites such as Suzhou Museum, businesses like tourism giant Tongcheng and GCL Energy Center (one of China’s largest solar panel manufacturers), as well as traditional opera in the UNESCO heritage-listed Master of the Nets gardens.

The group then headed to Hangzhou to sip tea and discuss Buddhism with the generous monks at Lingyin Temple, visit a high-profile e-commerce company, NetEase, and enjoy stunning views around the historic West Lake.

Travelling by high-speed train to Shanghai, the students undertook a five-day program with the School of International Affairs at Shanghai Jiao Tong University. We also made many site visits to get a better sense of the full spectrum of contemporary Chinese business and culture in Shanghai, as well as a look into the China–Australia bilateral relationship. The site visits included Austrade, the Australian Consulate, Rio Tinto, Baowu Steel Group, e-commerce innovators Meituan-Dianping, MWE Lawyers, Baldwin Boyle Group, and the new O2O charity store Buy 42.

The group also met with an Australian journalist and a long-term expat restaurateur, to hear personal informed perspectives; as well as catching up with the new face of Shanghai along the West Bund arts precinct and in the thriving business district of Liujiazui.

Here are some of the students’ reflections on their field school experience.

### Tiffany Yan

**Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws (International Relations)**

The Shanghai–Suzhou field school enabled me to grasp the extraordinary history, present and future of a nation that endures.

We started in Suzhou where the group either began their Chinese language journey or built upon pre-existing knowledge. Travelling to Hangzhou with our newfound Chinese skills, we explored the gorgeous lakeside city that is the subject of many poems and artworks, for good reason!

In Shanghai, we attended lectures on Chinese history, politics, and culture at Jiao Tong University. The classroom lessons supplemented our real world learning perfectly. We were able to contextualise our visits to cultural sites, understand the role of the government in Chinese and foreign companies, and learn more about Australia’s relationship with China during our visit to the Australian Embassy.

The cultural activities were an absolute highlight, from visits to art galleries to dining in a Michelin star restaurant. Our fan-painting skills even managed to make their way into a local Chinese newspaper.





Above: On the high-speed train from Hangzhou to Shanghai  
 Right: A visit with the abbot of Yongfu Temple in the Lingyin Temple complex, Hangzhou  
 Left: Farewell dinner in Shanghai



**Toby Warden**

**Bachelor of International and Global Studies**

It was a late afternoon in Suzhou. I was mesmerised by the historic canals, where boats lazily cruised its turbid, slow-moving waters. It was a brief moment of tranquillity before I was quickly swept back up into the roaring energy of the street markets where the movement of tourists was constant, and the voice of shopkeepers amplified on crackly microphones. The scene was a total contrast to the industrial zones we had toured earlier in the day, for example the facility where we learned how Tongcheng Tourism is harnessing machine-learning technologies to manage the travel itineraries of up to three million customers at any one time.

In Hangzhou, we had the opportunity to learn about China from a social perspective. For example, at Lingyin Temple we met with Buddhist monks and discussed how the tradition of Chan Buddhism is being affected by the forces of rapid change. It was intriguing to see the pragmatic way in which the spiritual leaders are accepting and responding to their religious site's popularisation among tourists. Likewise, at the major internet technology company, NetEase, I was fascinated to discover how e-commerce was transforming social life, through a discussion with web designers about the effects that e-commerce expansion is having on rural China.

After Suzhou and Hangzhou, Shanghai felt like a rupture – a buzzing vortex of shiny, modern and unapologetic consumerism. It appeared familiar in many ways: the Manhattan-esque city was aesthetically Western; the streetscape of Jiao Tong University was recognisably modern; and the commercial sightseeing we undertook was all comprehensible.

But there were definitely some common threads that connected Shanghai to the cities we visited earlier, such as the mini revolutions sweeping most spheres of activity. At the state-owned enterprise, Baowu Steel Group, established in the Deng Xiaoping era, I was intrigued to learn how the steel-producing giant was now gradually nudging its capital towards the start-up and innovation realms.

Overall, the field school offered a new lens for understanding China, challenging stereotypes and popular imaginations. This undoubtedly made it one of the most important experiences of my undergraduate education.

**Emily Bakker**

**Bachelor of International and Global Studies (History)**

They often say that you do not really learn until you are out of your comfort zone. That was certainly the case for me with the Suzhou-Shanghai Field School. The field trip was challenging but also one of the most rewarding units of study I have done. Here is an assortment of fond memories:

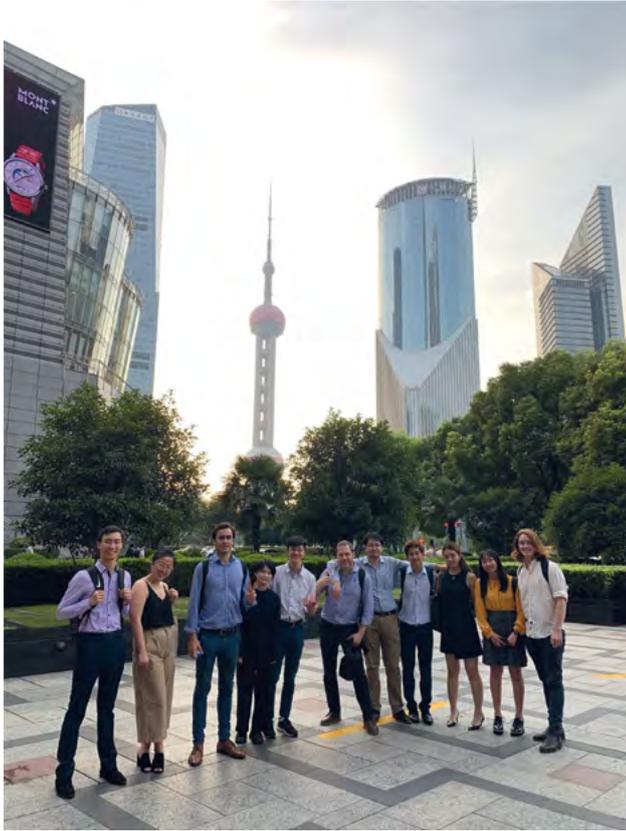
- Strolling around the Bund area in Shanghai on two balmy summer nights, when all the colonial buildings and modern architecture across the water were lit up with colourful lights. Truly beautiful!
- Putting my rudimentary Mandarin into practice while ordering food at various places and picking up new phrases from locals.
- An entertaining and captivating lecture from a British political history professor in Suzhou about contemporary Chinese political history.

- Visiting Buddhist temples. Lingyin Temple in Hangzhou was so fun to explore – it was nestled in leafy mountains, with Buddhist statues semi-hidden everywhere. The temple was fascinating and the Buddhist monks’ talk with us was so informative.
- Talks from a journalist, a chef and a diplomat, among many others. I enjoyed hearing how they deal with differences between Chinese and Australian cultures, and their opinions on Chinese politics.

Being thoroughly immersed in China for three weeks was an unparalleled learning experience. I would highly recommend the field trip if you are craving some adventure and/or high-quality bubble tea! I want to acknowledge the University of Sydney and the generous New Colombo Plan scholarships that made this experience possible.



Top left: Suzhou Museum, designed by architect IM Pei  
Top right: Graduating from the short course at Shanghai Jiao Tong University  
Left: Learning to make dumplings in Shanghai



Above: Visiting Liujiazui business district in Shanghai  
 Top right: Learning calligraphy at Jiao Tong University  
 Right: Visiting Rio Tinto in Shanghai



### Caleb The-Tjoean

#### Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Advanced Studies (Mathematics, Ancient Greek)

I consider myself privileged to have been a part of the 2019 New Colombo Plan Suzhou-Shanghai Field School, which was, without a doubt, the best trip I have ever been on. As a combination of rigorous academic study and free exploration of Suzhou, Hangzhou and Shanghai, it could not have been more fulfilling.

Our stay in Suzhou Industrial Park began with three days of intensive Chinese language lessons. This was a great way for advanced speakers to pick up new skills (including mahjong!) and for beginner speakers to be introduced to the language. Our *lǎoshī* (teacher) was so friendly and willing to share her knowledge. This was a priceless opportunity to start learning the language and practise what we would later use on a daily basis.

The other learning component were the lectures (three before the field school and 13 during) given by several professors and postdoctoral researchers, mostly at Shanghai Jiao Tong University. Our minds were challenged and we were encouraged to question and discuss pertinent issues, such as the relationship between China and Taiwan.

We visited many sites of cultural, governmental and commercial significance, including Soochow University, GCL Energy Centre, Alibaba, China National Tea Museum, MWE China Law Offices, DFAT, Austrade, Tongli Town, West Lake, Lion Grove Garden and Lingyin Temple. We also participated in a variety of cultural activities: fan-painting, calligraphy and dumpling-making.

A significant part of the field school was free time. We ate out at restaurants (Xinjiang noodles!), walked countless streets, shopped, and visited FamilyMart too many times. Some memorable things were the taxi conversations, karaoke in Shanghai and nightlife on the Bund.

I found the field school so immersive and eye-opening that I decided to change one of my majors to Chinese Studies. I also loved making great friends along the way. Fēicháng gǎn xiè!



# Sydney Chinese Studies Postgraduate Seminars

By Josh Stenberg and Olivier Krischer

In 2019, the China Studies Centre and the Department of Chinese Studies held two Sydney Chinese Studies Postgraduate Seminars, an initiative jointly established in 2018. At these half-day events, research students working on any aspect of Chinese studies can present their work in a relaxed yet conference-like setting.

Connecting our students with their peers from across the Sydney region, the seminars are open to any relevant graduate student. Paper submissions are convened into thematic panels and receive feedback from relevant scholars in the field from both the University of Sydney and major universities across Sydney, and even Sydney China Fellows.

The seminars also allow graduate researchers to network with peers while practising the skills necessary for confidently sharing research at academic conferences, job talks and internal presentations.

In 2019, a total of 18 presentations were given across the two seminars, on topics ranging from the political economy of live streaming, to Chinese soft power at the United Nations, to the English translation of Mo Yan's fiction. Presentations were given by University of Sydney students in gender and cultural studies, Chinese studies, media and communication, medicine and health sciences, and government and international relations.

For the first time this year, papers were presented by students from all five major public universities in Sydney, as well as two interstate participants and one visiting research student from Germany.

These events produce fruitful conversations across disciplines and institutions, foster interdisciplinarity, and help prevent institutional blind spots. The seminars contribute to positioning the University as a hub for Chinese studies in Sydney, and Australia, working to strengthen the future of China-related research in this country.

Although only in its second year, the program has swiftly become a fixture in the China Studies Centre calendar, and part of our multifaceted collaboration with the Department of Chinese Studies.

**Dr Josh Stenberg, Senior Lecturer in Chinese Studies; and Dr Olivier Krischer, Acting Director of the China Studies Centre, are founding co-convenors of the Sydney Chinese Studies Postgraduate Seminars, held twice a year in April and October.**

## Graduate student research support grants

China Studies Centre student grants facilitate the dissemination of doctoral research at conferences, encourage academic networking, and support archival research at the National Library of Australia. On the following pages, some recent recipients report on the conferences and workshops they attended with the support of these grants.

### **14th European Sociological Association Conference** **22 August 2019, Manchester, United Kingdom** **By Qiuxian Cheng**

The current Chinese healthcare system is characterised by a pendulum-like movement from a centrally planned system to a market-oriented one, with the introduction of public-private-partnerships (PPPs) in recent decades. I was curious to explore two questions relating to this trend: firstly, what produces such a pendulum-like movement in China's health policy; and secondly, what brings up the introduction of PPPs in China's health field?

With support from the China Studies Centre, I presented on these questions at the 14th European Sociological Association (ESA) Conference in Manchester. My presentation stimulated discussion among sociologists and other scholars on topics including the main conflicts underpinning the use of PPPs in China's health field; how sociological theories apply to China's health policy evolution; the influence of globalisation in the introduction of these PPPs; and the challenges China encounters in developing PPPs.

Overall, my attendance at the conference enabled me to take a deeper look at China's healthcare system in a global context.

**Qiuxian Cheng is a PhD candidate in the Department of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Sydney.**

### **79th Academy of Management Conference** **9–13 August 2019, Boston, United States** **By Liang Wen**

With funding from the Graduate Research Students Support Grant, I presented my research at the 79th Annual Meeting of the Academy of Management (AOM). This is an association of scholars dedicated to researching management and organisations, and its annual conference is one of the leading events in the management field.

My paper, 'Does FDI Presence Make Domestic Firms Greener in an Emerging Economy? The Effect of Media Attention' was accepted for oral presentation in a Divisional Paper session, as well as being nominated for the GW-CIBER best paper award, a great honour. I theorise that foreign direct investment (FDI) in a host country with an emerging economy enhances the host country's media attention on environmental protections.

My research and data analysis particularly focuses on the big emerging economy, China, from 2010 to 2015. Though public attention to environmental problems has been growing exponentially in China, such growth tends to occur at different rates across regions. FDI presence is heterogeneous across cities in China, and such heterogeneity tends to induce different levels of public attention to the environment.

**Liang Wen is a PhD candidate in International Business at the University of Sydney Business School.**



## 2019 Association of Chinese and Comparative Literature Biennial Conference

17-19 July 2019, Changsha, China

By Ruttapond Swanpitak

In July, I participated in the 2019 Association of Chinese and Comparative Literature (ACCL) Biennial Conference, hosted by Hunan Normal University in Changsha.

The ACCL is one of the biggest international conferences on Chinese and comparative literature in the world, this year inviting scholars to reflect on the theme 'Airing the States', which focused on an array of topics relating to Chinese and world literature, including gender and culture in contemporary China.

My paper, titled 'Private Desires and Political History: Regional Culture, Memory and Women's Experiences in Tie Ning's Fiction', investigates notions of female subjectivity, sexuality and identity by focusing on the themes of desire, family conflict and repentance in Tie Ning's novels. It discusses how the protagonist discovers her self-consciousness, and how the author challenges patriarchal culture and dominant narrative conventions with her feminist writing strategies or through alternative representational practices. The paper aims to offer insights into the development of Chinese feminist writing and contemporary Chinese culture during the Cultural Revolution to the 1990s.

The conference was a crucial step in refining my arguments and so was beneficial to completing my doctoral thesis and developing future research. Moreover, it was a significant way not only to exchange knowledge but also to build international networks of Chinese studies scholarship. I gained invaluable experience, constructive advice and insights from professionals and scholars working on literary, gender and cultural studies.

**Ruttapond Swanpitak is a PhD candidate in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and a China Studies Centre student member.**



## 12th International Crossroads in Cultural Studies Conference 12-15 August 2018, Shanghai, China

By Daren Shi-chi Leung

Thanks to the China Studies Centre, I participated in the 12th International Crossroads in Cultural Studies Conference, where I organised an interdisciplinary panel titled 'Re-marking the rural-urban conjuncture in South China' to discuss emerging social and ecological practices shaping urban-rural relations in contemporary China. Concern over the transformation of modern China often relates to agriculture, civil participation and sustainable development; these are issues I also discern in emerging food activism and politics, which I am exploring in my thesis.

Although I was born in a farming village in Guangdong, I grew up in Hong Kong and was trained in a very different academic environment from that in mainland China. To understand the popular debates on China's modernity, there is nothing better than meeting scholars and hearing about their research. For example, I met Professor Pan Jiaen, a leading scholar on the New Rural Reconstruction movement in China.

My conference paper 'Eating into the Future: A Visceral Question on Youth Eco-food Association and Food Crisis in South China', was based on my recent ethnographic work in Guangzhou. The case of Cheng-xiang-hui (城鄉匯), a food association founded in 2010, illustrated the recent development of food and agriculture education. By showing how young food activists re-articulate with the food crisis, urban-rural exchange, small-scale farming and food literacy, I argued that this new eco-food practice shows a new food politics on health, rural communities and the environment rather than a trend of urban consumerism.

**Daren Shi-chi Leung is a PhD candidate in the Department of Gender and Cultural Studies at the University of Sydney. His conference travel was funded retrospectively.**

## UK-China Media and Cultural Studies Association 3rd Biennial Conference 16 January 2019, Leicester, United Kingdom

By Rose Ruosi Lan

In January, filled with excitement and high expectations, I travelled to the third conference of the UK-China Media and Cultural Studies Association (UCMeCSA), at the University of Leicester. This year's theme was 'Digital China: Media and Social Change'. It was my first time presenting at a conference, and my first time visiting the United Kingdom.

On the morning of the conference, I arrived early and chatted with other attendees, including Tianyang Zhou, president of the UCMeCSA, who has been paying tremendous attention to Chinese digital media in the context of globalisation, and expressed interest in my work. Once the conference began, Professor Cara Wallis and China studies scholar Manya Koetse gave fascinating keynote talks. I was especially impressed by Manya Koetse's work; she is a China social trend watcher and the editor-in-chief of *What's on Weibo*, a website providing social, cultural and historical insights into an ever-changing China.

My presentation was titled 'Beyond a Pirate of Twitter: Media Professionals' Attempts on Sina Weibo'. However, I began by explaining that I was from the University of Sydney, where there is a China Studies Centre supporting many Australia-based scholars to study China. I received a very warm reaction in the Q&A, with lots of positive comments.

Giving a presentation at an international conference was undoubtedly beneficial to my academic experience; yet the feeling of promoting Australia-based China studies gave me an even greater sense of accomplishment. It was the first time I realised that I was not only representing myself, but many other scholars who shared a similar background to me.

**Rose Ruosi Lan is working on a Master of Arts (Research) at the University of Sydney on the subject of China's press media in the 1980s.**



Works from the Chinese Text Project (ctext.org)

**ANU Digital Humanities workshop**  
**6-7 December 2019, Canberra, Australia**  
 By Esther Sunkyung Klein

In late 2019, Dr Michael Schimmelpfennig from ANU organised a two-day Digital Humanities (DH) workshop on 'Digital Text Analysis in Traditional Chinese Studies', likely "the first of its kind in Australia". With support from the China Studies Centre, two PhD students in Chinese Studies were able to attend.

One highlight was the presentation by Dr Paul Vierthaler (William & Mary University, United States), who explained how he used stylometry to analyse the flow of information among genres in a broad-based late-imperial corpus. Using the notoriously murderous head of secret police Wei Zhongxian (1568-1627) as a case study, Vierthaler showed how automated searches of digital corpora can trace the flow of source material among genres, through time, and across the cultural imagination. Vierthaler generously shared his methods, code, and other resources, guiding the audience through the steps necessary to carry out similar projects.

Dr Donald Sturgeon (Durham University), creator of the widely used Chinese Text Project (ctext.org), shared his vision for the site, which in its current incarnation is primarily a platform for channelling the power of crowd-sourcing. In collaboration with Harvard-Yenching and other libraries, Sturgeon has assembled a vast digital library of photo-reproductions with variable-quality OCR text versions that users can easily correct through a wiki-style interface.

His target is the 'long tail' of texts that are useful for scholars but not culturally prestigious enough to attract funded digitisation.

Other presentations included an exposition by Professor Christian Wittern (Kyoto University) on the structure and conception behind the Kanseki Repository; a description by Dr Jieh Hsiang (National Taiwan University) of his work on the DocuSky environment, and Schimmelpfennig's own research on Qu Yuan and the *Songs of the South* exegetical tradition, tracing its impact on later scholarship.

Two common threads ran through the workshop. First, at present the biggest challenge is not primarily technical but rather conceptual: the questions that DH methods can answer are often not the questions that scholars of pre-modern Chinese texts want to ask.

Second and relatedly, the longevity of many digital tools and corpora is uncertain. Retirement and institutional change threaten to consign to the scrap heap resources that are extraordinarily useful to a few but have too small a user-base to attract stable funding for upkeep and hosting.

**Dr Esther Sunkyung Klein is a lecturer in Chinese Studies in the School of Languages and Cultures at the University of Sydney. She has published a book on the history of *Shiji* interpretation as it relates to perceptions of Sima Qian as an author. Her current research focuses on pre-modern Chinese historiography and philosophy, with particular attention to epistemic issues in the evaluation of information sources.**

# Sydney Ideas: The Xinjiang crackdown

20 February 2019, Sydney

By David Brophy

Since they were first reported on in 2018, the Chinese government's harsh new security policies in Xinjiang have been among the most alarming and widely discussed China topics of recent times. Justified in the name of counter terrorism and de-radicalisation, a network of 're-education' camps has been built to detain possibly more than a million members of Muslim minority groups – most of them Uyghur.

This crackdown has had a devastating effect not only on Xinjiang society but on family members living overseas, including in Australia. In late February, the China Studies Centre and Sydney Ideas co-hosted a public forum on the Xinjiang crackdown, to discuss the origins and objectives of China's policies in Xinjiang, and how those outside China might best respond.

To open the discussion, a Uyghur perspective was provided by Dr Erkin Siddick, a Uyghur scientist from NASA and an active figure in the North American Uyghur diaspora. He was followed by Professor David G Atwill (Pennsylvania State University), who spoke on the evolution of China's official thinking towards Islam and its Muslim minorities.

Finally, Dr Ruth Gamble (La Trobe University) offered her perspective on the issue as a scholar of Tibet, which for a long time has overshadowed Xinjiang as an international human rights cause. As a historian of Xinjiang, and a frequent media commentator on the crisis, I moderated the panel.

The forum was a rare opportunity for members of the Uyghur community to engage with the wider Australian public, including Chinese Australians. Given the sensitive nature of the issue, the ensuing Q&A session was passionate at times, but always respectful, setting an example for how to host an informed discussion on a controversial topic involving China. An edited podcast is available online:

– [sydney.edu.au/sydney-ideas](http://sydney.edu.au/sydney-ideas)

**Dr David Brophy is a Senior Lecturer in Modern Chinese History at the University of Sydney. He studies the social and political history of China's northwest, particularly the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, and its connections with the Islamic and Russian/Soviet worlds.**



"Stability is a blessing, Instability is a calamity", Yarkand, Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, China, 2012. Photo by Eric Lafforgue/Art in All of Us/Corbis via Getty Images.

# Sydney Ideas: A century of student activism in China

7 May 2019, Sydney

By Fabio Lanza

The discussion of a century of student activism in China was, in many ways, a rare occasion. Five scholars of modern and contemporary China, from different disciplines and diverse perspectives, had the chance to reflect together on the long history and continuing legacy of student activism, in front of a large, engaged audience.

Anniversaries force us to rethink and reassess, but it is uncommon for so many commemorations to occur within one year – 2019 marked 100 years from the May Fourth movement of 1919, 70 years from the founding of the People's Republic of China, and 30 years since the 1989 Tiananmen Square protests on 4 June 1989.

At the event, co-hosted with Sydney Ideas, we had a chance not only to take the long view, exploring connections and contradictions, but also to confront our own gaze with that of other specialists, who looked at this century from different and often complementary angles: Professor Timothy Cheek (University of British Columbia) and I from history, Professor Ruth Hayhoe (University of Toronto) from education, and Professor Sun Wanning (University of Technology Sydney) from digital media/cultural studies, with Dr David Brophy (University of Sydney) as our expert guide.

I was particularly impressed by the active and thoughtful participation of the (impressively large) audience: people asked questions, linking that long history with the present, and many stayed afterwards, wanting to continue the discussion. I went away feeling the renewed importance and continuing relevance of that history.

This event was co-presented by the University of Sydney's China Studies Centre, Department of History and School of Education and Social Work. The podcast is now available online:

- [soundcloud.com/sydney-ideas/a-century-of-student-activism-in-china](https://soundcloud.com/sydney-ideas/a-century-of-student-activism-in-china)



From left: David Brophy, Fabio Lanza, Ruth Hayhoe, Timothy Cheek, Sun Wanning

**Fabio Lanza is Professor of Modern Chinese History in the Departments of History and East Asian Studies of the University of Arizona. He is the author of *Behind the Gate: Inventing Students in Beijing* (Columbia University Press, 2010) and *The End of Concern: Maoist China, Activism, and Asian Studies* (Duke University Press, 2017).**

# Sydney Asian Art Series: Art and Urban Culture

By Olivier Krischer

The Sydney Asian Art Series is co-presented by the China Studies Centre and the University of Sydney's Power Institute, with the generous support of VisAsia and in partnership with the Art Gallery of New South Wales (AGNSW). Each year, we invite four leading international scholars and curators of Asian art from around the world to present from their recent work around a broad theme, holding one event at the University and one at the AGNSW.

In 2019, the series theme was Art and Urban Culture. From Isfahan to Edo, Kaifeng to Kolkata – cities have been major subjects, patrons and audiences for all fields of art. Indeed, the arts are part of the very fabric of urban Asian life and history. Our speakers this year explored the theme through the intersection of art, film and architecture in a range of Asian cities, historical and contemporary, considering urban spaces as sites of taste-making and sensorial plenty, as models for imagined futures, as vessels for us to recognise shared pasts, and as stages for the formation of political identities.

In March, Professor Sussan Babaie (the Courtauld Institute of Art, University of London) presented a talk, 'Seeing Taste: Art, Cuisine and Urbanity in Safavid Persia/Iran', in which, from the context of Isfahan, the capital city of the Safavid dynasty, she examined the intersection of visual and gustatory experience as a self-aware obsession with 'taste', evidenced by works of art and historical cookery. Professor Babaie also led an object seminar at the AGNSW, based on a selection of Persian ceramics from the gallery's collection.

In May, Associate Professor Malini Guha (Carleton University, Canada) in her paper 'Kolkata 'Rising': The Politics of Place in Recent Bengali Cinema' revealed how location shooting in recent films set in Kolkata goes beyond documentation to actively shape and embody aspirations, desires and anxieties concerning the city's urban expansion and global future. Associate Professor Guha also introduced a rare screening of *The Interview* (1970), by the late Bengali filmmaker Mrinal Sen.

For his lecture at the AGNSW in August, 'A History of Japanese Photography: Images of the City after Disaster', Dr Yasufumi Nakamori (Tate Modern, London) introduced little-known aspects of Japanese photography history, namely, images and visual culture surrounding large-scale earthquakes, from the Nohbi Earthquake in 1891 to the 2011 Tohoku Earthquake. He explored issues such as technologies, circulation, and the impact of the images, and examined their relationship to collective memory and imaginary projections of a city. At the University of Sydney, Dr Nakamori also presented a curatorial seminar in the Department of Art History, for Master of Art Curating students and colleagues.

Rounding out the series in September was a talk by Associate Professor Cole Roskam (University of Hong Kong). In his lecture at the University of Sydney, titled 'Displaying Reform: Exhibitionary Architecture and the Early Reform Era in the People's Republic of China', he revealed how a history of exhibition architecture that starts in the 1970s in China and abroad contributed to the Chinese Communist Party's efforts to reposition itself relative to the world at large, through the redefinition of aesthetic and urban spaces.

The 2019 series wrapped up with a public roundtable on 'Museums and Cultural Districts in Asia and Australia', at the AGNSW, featuring Dr Roskam alongside University of Sydney scholars Professor Duanfang Lu (Professor of Architecture and Urbanism), and Dr Anna Lawrenson (Scholarly Teaching Fellow in Museum and Heritage Studies), moderated by myself.

**Dr Olivier Krischer, Acting Director of the China Studies Centre, is an honorary associate in the Department of Art History and convener of the Sydney Asian Art Series.**





Kay Khusrau, Farangis and Giv cross the River Jihun  
Folio from the Shahnameh (Book of Kings) c.1590

Gouache and gold leaf on paper, 23.5x17.5cm  
Art Gallery of New South Wales  
Bequest of Miss G Griffith 1968  
Photo: Diana Panuccio, AGNSW  
EP2.1968

# Solidarity amidst radicalization in Hong Kong

By Francis LF Lee

The Anti-Extradition Bill Movement (Anti-ELAB movement) constituted the single most important news story from Hong Kong in 2019. The size, scale, vitality, complexity and intensity of the movement surprised local and international observers. At the time of writing, in early February 2020, the movement can be considered as ‘suspended’ by the coronavirus crisis, but it is by no means ended.

In the talk I gave at the University of Sydney on 12 November 2019, I tried to provide an overview of the movement up to that time by discussing the basis of its public support, its mode of organisation, the role of central communication platforms, and the process of constrained radicalisation and solidarity maintenance.

Since then, I have further developed the arguments on radicalisation and solidarity maintenance – two intertwined phenomena – in a couple of research articles. Radicalisation refers to the fact that the tactics and actions employed by the protesters have become more and more violent over time, while solidarity maintenance refers to the mutual support exhibited by the moderate and radical flanks of the movement.

These have been among the most conspicuous characteristics of the Anti-ELAB movement. It is intriguing, considering the generally conservative protest culture in Hong Kong and the severity of conflicts between the moderates and the radicals during the Umbrella Movement in 2014. Specifically, international observers may wonder why the movement continued to receive strong public support in spite of the undeniable presence of protest violence.

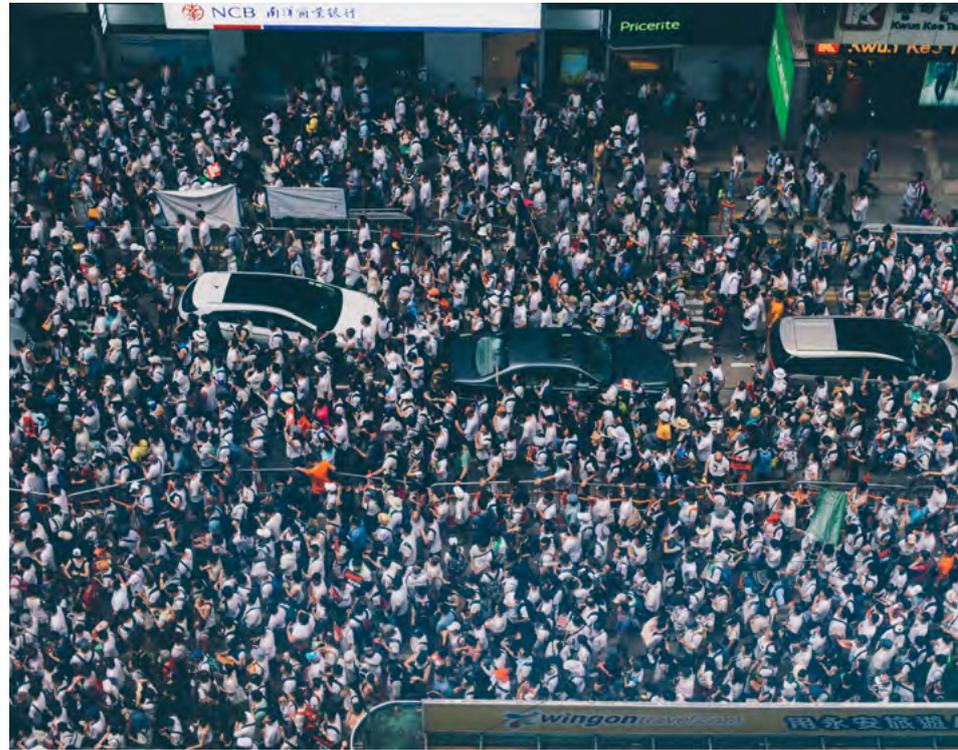
I tried to explain the solidarity between the moderate and the radical flanks in a piece published by *Critical Asian Studies*, entitled ‘Solidarity in the Anti-Extradition Bill Movement in Hong Kong’.\*

I suggested there was an already existing trend toward reconciliation between the moderate and radical flanks of the pro-democracy movement – arguably a consequence of the state suppression suffered by both – before the Anti-ELAB protests began.

After the current wave of protests started, intra-movement solidarity was further enhanced by the arrival of new movement participants uninvolved in past conflicts, as well as common experiences of police violence in protest events.

In addition, there was the articulation of an ethics of solidarity through the use of three types of discursive devices: solidarity slogans, hate speech, and disciplinary tropes. Digital media served as the platform through which the ethics were generated and negotiated. The ethics of solidarity was repeatedly invoked to regulate and manage intra-movement debates. Nevertheless, I argued that the ethics of solidarity can at times be hegemonic.

In a separate article that has just been completed, I and my collaborators explicated the processes and mechanisms that explain not only the trend of tactical radicalisation but also the substantial degree of public acceptance of radicalism. Drawing upon the relational approach in social movement research, tactical radicalisation was explained in terms of the dynamics in four ‘arenas of interaction’.



Both photos (above and right) by Joseph Chan from Unsplash.

- Regarding how the movement responded to the larger sociopolitical environment, radicalisation was driven by the way movement supporters interpreted the opportunities and threats faced by the movement, which constructed the efficacy of radical tactics.
- Regarding the interaction between the movement and security forces, radicalisation was driven by a cycle of violence outbidding as both sides escalated their actions in response to the other.
- Regarding the interaction between the movement and counter-movement, radicalisation was enhanced by the delegitimisation of the counter-movement because of how the latter became linked to gangsters.
- Regarding intra-movement interactions, radicalisation was enhanced by the aforementioned capability of the movement to maintain solidarity between the moderate and radical flanks.

Nevertheless, while the relational perspective is useful for explaining tactical radicalisation, public acceptance of radical protest tactics needs to be explained by how the movement succeeded in exercising collective restraints. That is, a large portion of the general public found the protest tactics acceptable or at least tolerable because of the protesters' capability and willingness to articulate the rationale, norms, and limits of specific radical tactics. The movement also exhibited

the ability to adjust and repair when specific actions were perceived as "having gone too far". Radicalisation in the Anti-ELAB movement has been a gradual, stepwise, and restrained process.

Radicalisation has been a controversial aspect of the Anti-ELAB movement. Some observers have criticized the international media and some local commentators for seemingly ignoring protester violence. Whether and to what extent the protest violence in the Anti-ELAB movement was normatively justifiable is a question beyond the analysis introduced above. But when a large portion of the Hong Kong public found the protest violence acceptable or at least tolerable, there is a need to offer an explanation of the phenomenon. And it is our belief that sensible judgments about the Anti-ELAB movement would be impossible without proper understandings of the movement's core characteristics derived from solid empirical research. It is such research that our team and many Hong Kong researchers are now busily working on.

**Francis LF Lee is Director and Professor, School of Journalism and Communication at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. He works mainly in the areas of journalism studies, political communication, public opinion research, and media and social movements. His publications include *Media and Protest Logics in the Digital Era: The Umbrella Movement in Hong Kong* (Oxford University Press, 2018).**

\* Lee, Francis (2019), Solidarity in the anti-extradition bill movement in Hong Kong. *Critical Asian Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14672715.2020.1700629>

## Special projects

### Premiere screening: *Waltzing the Dragon with Benjamin Law*

On 23 July, the China Studies Centre (CSC) co-hosted the première of a two-part documentary on Chinese–Australian history, *Waltzing the Dragon with Benjamin Law*, produced by Headland Media Group and WildBear Entertainment. The two parts of the documentary later screened on ABC TV.

Told on a (frequently hilarious) road-trip with his parents, Ben Law’s film is both a revealing immigration story of the Chinese in Australia and a thought-provoking look into how Australia might manage its complex relationship with China today.

The documentary also features comments from the University of Sydney’s Dr Sophie Loy-Wilson and Associate Professor Eric Knight.

### Conference and discussion panel: World Literatures and the Global South

In August, CSC sponsored an international conference, co-convened by the University’s School of Languages and Cultures, with Peking University Australian Studies Centre and the World Literature Association, exploring literary production on and from the Global South.

On 24 August, CSC and the Department of Chinese Studies, co-organised a Chinese-language panel discussion on ‘China’s Place in World Literature’, moderated by Dr Xing Dong (SBS Mandarin) and featuring acclaimed Chinese writers Liu Shusen, Zhao Baisheng, Tieliu, Chen Qiwen, and Di An; Australian-Chinese author and translator Dr Han Jing (Western Sydney University); and Australian author and former cultural attaché to Beijing, Professor Nicholas Jose (University of Adelaide). This is available online at SBS:

– [www.sbs.com.au/language/english/audio/\\_2739](http://www.sbs.com.au/language/english/audio/_2739)

### Antenna Documentary Film Festival and panel discussion

In October, CSC sponsored two films for the 9th Antenna Documentary Film Festival. In its Sydney première, *Chinese Portrait* (2018), directed by Wang Xiaoshuai, presented a meditation on urbanisation and social change, which took the well-known director a decade to complete.

*Confucian Dream* (2019), directed by Li Mijie, is an award-winning first feature, following a young university-educated mother who recites Confucian classics with her young son, to gain the moral learning she feels is lacking in contemporary China.

With CSC support, director Li Mijie travelled to Sydney to take part in a panel discussion at Verona Cinemas with Acting Director, Dr Olivier Krischer; and CSC members, PhD candidate and theatre producer Lu Shiya; and Dr Gil Hizi, whose recent PhD thesis explores self-help practices in China.



# 2019 China Studies Centre events calendar

Type	Title	Speakers	Partners
<b>Building community</b>			
Annual events	Graduate Workshop on China in the Urban Age: China's Environmental Challenge and Eco-Civilisation: a Multidisciplinary Approach to the Anthropocene (see page 14)	See page 16	Planetary Health Platform*
	China Studies Centre Members Research Forum (see page 28)	See page 29	
Special projects	Sydney Lunar Festival Public Lecture: 'The bones of songs, and China's cultural heritage: why Chinese minority songs matter (see page 25)	Dr Catherine Ingram*	City of Sydney, China Cultural Centre
	University of Sydney Alumni Lunar New Year Celebration	Multiple	Division of Alumni and Development*
	The Road of Sonic Voyage: Liu Lu with special guest Zhang Qiang (in concert)	Liu Lu, performer, Sydney Conservatorium of Music*	
Industry engagement seminars (see page 8)	A Chinese approach to artificial intelligence and big data	Professor Sally Cripps, Centre for Translational Data Science*; Raymond Ma, Alibaba Cloud, Australia and NZ	BDO
	Smart Transport: Opportunities and challenges for Australian businesses	Luke Todd, BYD; Professor Robyn Dowling, School of Architecture, Design and Planning*	City of Sydney
	Start-up briefing: How to grow your start-up and protect your IP in China	Justin Gong, XAG; Daniel Cheng, Cheng & Peng IP Law Office, Beijing	Sydney Knowledge Hub*
	Smart Agriculture: The present, the future and the opportunities	Justin Gong, XAG; Christian Ruberg (Meat & Livestock Australia; Professor Salah Sukkarieh, Australian Centre for Field Robotics*; Greg Earl (facilitator, formerly <i>Australian Financial Review</i> )	Australian Native Products
Sydney China Visitors program presentations (see page 11)	Cold War Asia and Tibet's Himalayan Past: 1951-1961	Professor David G Atwill, Pennsylvania State University	Department of History*
	Visualizing Oceanic Infrastructure: a workshop on the aesthetics of island building	Dr Corey Byrnes, Northwestern University	
	Coral Colonies and Colonial Infrastructure: Filling in the 'nine dash line' in a rising South China Sea	Dr Corey Byrnes, Northwestern University	Department of History*
	Translating Diseases in 19-20th century East Asia	Dr Hao Chen, Renmin University of China	
	The Transnational Context of the Emergence of Modern Chinese Medical History	Dr Hao Chen, Renmin University of China	
<b>Enabling research</b>			
History cluster series: Borderlands in Chinese History and Archaeology (see page 18)	Cold War Asia and Tibet's Himalayan Past: 1951-1961	Professor David G Atwill, Pennsylvania State University	Department of History*
	Opium Trade and Migrations in the Russian/Chinese Borderlands from Manchuria to Central Asia, 1870s-1930s	Associate Professor Niccolò Pianciola, Lingnan University, Hong Kong	Department of History*
	Translating the Natural World: the circulation of Arabo-Persian knowledge in Late Imperial China	Dr Dror Weil, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Germany	Department of History*
	Indigenising international law in the early 20th century Sino-Tibetan borderlands	Dr Scott Relyea, Appalachian State University	Department of History*
	Inner Asia Exchanges: the inevitable necessity of nomads before the Silk Roads	Professor Alison Betts, Department of Archaeology*	Department of History*
	Inner Asian Islam in 18th century Beijing	Dr David Brophy, Department of History*	Department of History*

Type	Title	Speakers	Partners
<i>History cluster series: Borderlands (continued)</i>	The Sino-British Frontier Meetings: Law, Colonial Rivalry, and Ethnic Identity in the Sino-Burmese Borderlands, 1902-1940s	Dr Eric Vanden Bussche, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Tokyo	Department of History*
	Discourses on Mixed Han-Tibetan Populations of Kham in Republican China	Professor Yudru Tsomu, Sichuan University	Department of History*
	Dilemmas of Early Postwar Reconstruction: Decolonizing the Sino-Burmese Borderlands (1945-1948)	Dr Andres Rodriguez, Department of History*; Dr Susan Banki, Department of Sociology and Social Policy*	Department of History*, Sydney Southeast Asia Centre*
<b>Monthly seminars</b>	Observation Society: gallery and independent art spaces in China	Anthony Yung, Asia Art Archive, Hong Kong	
	The fascist aesthetics of Chinese wartime nationalism: Wang Jingwei's 'New Citizens Movement', 1942-44	Associate Professor Jeremy E Taylor, University of Nottingham	Department of Chinese Studies*
	How tea changed China and how China changed tea	Professor George van Driem, University of Berne	Department of Linguistics*
	Translating and Localising Sustainability: Why Translation Studies Matters to Sustainable Development	Associate Professor Christine Ji, Department of Chinese Studies*	
	Chinese Private International Law and Online Data Protection (see page 20)	Associate Professor Jeanne Huang, Sydney Law School*	Law School*
	Xiongtang Shouyi: A Woman Artist Living in Wartime Occupied Beijing, 1937-1945	Dr Lin Qi, Kyoto University	
	Mapping the Sino-Burmese Borderlands	Dr Eric Vanden Bussche, University of Tokyo	Department of History*, Sydney Southeast Asia Centre*
	Tackling early language delay and disorders in children from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds	Associate Professor Natalie Munro, Faculty of Medicine and Health*	
	Art in Hong Kong: Towards a Mythical Reality	Michelle Wong, Asia Art Archive, Hong Kong	
	The fiscal crisis of China's local government: in perspective of bankruptcy of local government	Professor Shitao Wang, Dalian Maritime University Law School	Law School*
	Exploring the current landscape for graduate employment in China – implications of transforming higher education	Associate Professor Bing Wu Berberich, Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University, Suzhou	Business School*
	Fintech, Consumer Right, and Cross-Border Regulations in China and Australia	Professor Xu Duoqi, Fudan Law School; Alec Christie, Mills Oakley; Associate Professor Jeanne Huang, Law School*; Dr Eva Huang, Business School*; David Marcus, State Street	Law School*, Business School*
	Literacy in contact – Reading and writing in multiliterate speakers along the Silk Road	Professor Brendan Weekes, University of Hong Kong	Department of Linguistics*
	Patriots or Proxy: Diasporic Politics and Performance of the Chinese in Modern Indonesia	Dr Taomo Zhou, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore	Sydney Southeast Asia Centre*
	Intertwined Economies, Flexible Frontier: Bao'an County and Hong Kong, 1961-1966	Dr Taomo Zhou, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore	Sydney Southeast Asia Centre*
Cosmopolitan printing in a hybrid language: The Sino-Malay literary tradition (1870-1949)	Dr Tom Hoogervorst, Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies	Sydney Southeast Asia Centre*	
Book talk: <i>The End of Concern</i> (2017)	Professor Fabio Lanza, University of Arizona		
Understanding the Power of the Anti-Extradition Bill Movement in Hong Kong	Professor Francis LF Lee, University of Hong Kong		

Type	Title	Speakers	Partners
<b>Co-hosted events with the Department of Government and International Relations*</b> (see page 26)	The Indo-Pacific Strategy: the Shaper of the Future Military Landscape in the Region	Professor Ji You, University of Macau	Department of Government and International Relations*
	India-China Relations	Ambassador Sujan R Chinoy, Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, New Delhi	Department of Government and International Relations*, SUPRA*
	The BRI and China's Foreign Policy: Challenges in the Indian Ocean	Professor Xuetang Guo, Law School, Shanghai University of International Business and Economics	Law School*, Department of Government and International Relations*
	Appraising Thucydides' Trap: Sino-American relations	Professor Steve Chan, University of Colorado, Boulder	Department of Government and International Relations*
	Book talk: <i>China and Intervention at the UN Security Council</i> (2019)	Dr Courtney J Fung, University of Hong Kong	Department of Government and International Relations*
<b>Supporting education</b>			
<b>'China: How to ...' series</b> (see page 30)	How to talk to the media	See page 30	
	How to find China-related resources		
	How to maximise your job opportunities		
	How to write for the general public		
	How to do fieldwork		
	How to fund your research		
<b>Postgraduate seminars</b> (see page 37)	2nd and 3rd Sydney Chinese Studies Postgraduate Seminar	Multiple	Department of Chinese Studies*
	<b>Engaging public debate</b>		
<b>Sydney Ideas</b>	The Xinjiang crackdown: Understanding nationalities policy and Islam in China today (see page 42)	Dr David Brophy, Department of History*; Dr Erkin Sidick, NASA; Professor David G Atwill (Pennsylvania State University; Dr Ruth Gamble, La Trobe University	Sydney Ideas*, Department of History*
	A century of student activism in China (see page 43)	Professor Fabio Lanza, University of Arizona; Professor Timothy Cheek, University of British Columbia; Professor Ruth Hayhoe, University of Toronto; Dr David Brophy, Department of History*	Sydney Ideas*, Department of History*, School of Education and Social Work*
<b>Sydney Asian Art Series</b> (see page 44)	Seeing Taste: Art, Cuisine and Urbanity in Safavid Persia/Iran	Professor Sussan Babaie, the Courtauld Institute of Art, University of London	Art Gallery of NSW, VisAsia, Power Institute*
	Object seminar	Professor Sussan Babaie, the Courtauld Institute of Art, University of London	Art Gallery of NSW, VisAsia, Power Institute*
	Kolkata 'Rising': The Politics of Place in Recent Bengali Cinema	Associate Professor Malini Guha, Carleton University, Canada	Art Gallery of NSW, VisAsia, Power Institute*

Type	Title	Speakers	Partners
<i>Sydney Asian Art Series</i> (continued)	Film screening: <i>Interview</i> (1970) by Mrinal Sen	Associate Professor Malini Guha, Carleton University, Canada	Art Gallery of NSW, VisAsia, Power Institute*
	A History of Japanese Photography: Images of the City after Disaster	Dr Yasufumi Nakamori, Tate Modern, London	Art Gallery of NSW, VisAsia, Power Institute*
	Student seminar (curatorship)	Dr Yasufumi Nakamori, Tate Modern, London	Art Gallery of NSW, VisAsia, Power Institute*
	Displaying Reform: Exhibitionary Architecture and the Early Reform Era in the People's Republic of China	Associate Professor Cole Roskam, University of Hong Kong	Art Gallery of NSW, VisAsia, Power Institute*
	Roundtable: Museums and Cultural Districts in Asia and Australia	Associate Professor Cole Roskam, University of Hong Kong; Professor Duanfang Lu, School of Architecture, Design and Planning*; Chiara O'Reilly, Department of Art History*; Dr Anna Lawrenson, Department of Art History and Film Studies*; Dr Olivier Krischer, China Studies Centre*	Art Gallery of NSW, VisAsia, Power Institute*
<b>Special projects</b>	Panel discussion: China's Power: Hard, Soft and Sharp	Multiple	Australian National University, PwC Australia
	Premiere screening of <i>Waltzing the Dragon with Benjamin Law</i> (see page 48)		Headland Media Group, WildBear Entertainment
	Antenna Documentary Film Festival screenings: <i>Chinese Portrait</i> (2018) and <i>Confucian Dream</i> (2019) (see page 48)		Antenna Documentary Film Festival
	Antenna Documentary Film Festival panel discussion (see page 48)	Li Mijie, director of <i>Confucian Dream</i> ; Lu Shiya, theatre producer; Dr Gil Hizi, Department of Anthropology*; Dr Olivier Krischer, China Studies Centre*	Antenna Documentary Film Festival
	World Literatures and the Global South conference (see page 48)	Refer to the program at <a href="http://sydney.edu.au/wlgs-conference">sydney.edu.au/wlgs-conference</a>	School of Languages and Cultures*, Australian Studies Centre at Peking University, World Literature Association
	Discussion panel on China's Place in World Literature (presented in Mandarin) – part of World Literatures and the Global South 2019	See page 48	School of Languages and Cultures*, Department of Chinese Studies*, Peking University
	Early Chinese Urbanisation symposium and workshop (see page 23)	Professor Roland Fletcher, Department of Archaeology*; Dr Peter Jia, Department of Archaeology*; Professor Jigen Tang, Shenzhen University; Professor Jiangning Song, Institute of Archaeology, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences; Professor Liangren Zhang, Nanjing University; Professor Weihong Xu, Shaanxi Provincial Institute of Archaeology, Xi'an; Professor Wei Dong, Southeast University, Nanjing	Department of Archaeology*, Southeast University (Nanjing), Nanjing University, Institute of Archaeology (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences), Shaanxi Academy of Museology and Archaeology
	Dissertation Masterclass with Professor Ruth Hayhoe	Professor Ruth Hayhoe, University of Toronto	SSSHARC*, Department of Education

\* From the University of Sydney



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**The University of Sydney**  
**China Studies Centre**  
悉尼大学中国研究中心

Email: [chinastudies.centre@sydney.edu.au](mailto:chinastudies.centre@sydney.edu.au)  
Phone: +61 2 9114 0837

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