

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Centre Annual Report

Name of Centre / Institute: **International Centre for China Development Studies**

Period (July 1st to June 30th): **July 1st 2010 to June 30th 2011**

I. Mission

The International Centre for China Development Studies (ICCDs) was established in June 2002. It was jointly set up by two renowned institutions; HKU and the Chinese Academy of Science. The Center aims to promote international collaborative research and training on the broad issues of China's rapid development in the current era of globalization with the following mission objectives:

1. to function as a global multidisciplinary platform and influential institution for academic research, training and consultancy on China development and globalization issues;
2. to undertake high-impact and quality collaborative research and consultant work for international development organizations, governments, and Multi-National Corporations;
3. to organize high-profile international conferences, networking, information clearing and training programs among the participating institutions, particularly in conjunction with the MA in China Development Studies Program at HKU;
4. to explore external funding sources in support of research programmes in the Faculty; and to serve as a junction of the Faculty and outside organizations.

II. Strategy (with links to the Faculty strategy and Centre mission)

One of the core strategies of the Faculty is to establish tripartite research collaboration focused on policy and management challenges in Hong Kong, London and New York with a view to extending the frontiers of academic research and enabling policy learning to take place across the three cities. It will reach out from the academic realm to embrace policymakers and thereby build a platform for information exchange across three world cities, and for high-level academic research and evidence-based policymaking. The establishment of the collaborative research network with local and mainland scholars and the international research task force with UK scholars is not only to function as a multi-disciplinary and international institution and network for academic research, training and consultancy, the centre also serves as a platform to facilitate high-caliber academic exchanges between overseas and mainland scholars on China development and

globalization issues. We are confident that the Center would emerge as a major global player and influential niche for China development and globalization issues.

III. Director's Reflection (1/2 page)

a. Performance in the last academic year

As a director of HKU International centre for China Development Studies, Dr. Simon Zhao was very busy engaging with many high profile events (national level and global level keynotes, workshops, lectures, and exchange activities). He was re-appointed as Member of Central Policy Unit of HKSAR Government for another year from 2011 and newly appointed as editorial board member of Chinese Geographical Science (a citation journal) and Bauhinia Forum Journal.

For the general development of the Centres, particularly in the project/grant biddings and collaborations and networking with top universities and research institutions in the world, Dr. Zhao was a key member of a group scholars and experts from Hong Kong and overseas universities and took the role of project coordinator to submit a proposal namely "Enhancing Hong Kong's Future as a Leading International Financial Centre (IFC)", bidding the first round of Theme-based Research Scheme in march of 2011. This new funding scheme is a part of RGC's new effort to introduce a strategic funding mechanism, for promoting substantial research on "grand and challenging" topics that are huge in terms of funding support and scale - hundreds of million dollars, involving multi-disciplinary and inter-universities collaboration. In the first round exercise, around 500 white papers, 89 preliminary proposals were received and 22 of them were shortlisted for submission of full proposals. Among them, 15 proposals, including our proposal, were invited for selection interviews. Finally, six of them were awarded for funding. Although our proposal finally was not funded, we had got very positive feedbacks. After serious discussions with the research team members, a revised preliminary proposal has been submitted to the University for bidding the Second Round of the TBRS.

In addition to regular research activities, the Centre organized a Public Forum on China's Spatial Strategic Planning and Development in the National 12th Five-year Plan with the Department of Geography, and jointly organized a Workshop on China's Changing Regional Development: Trends, Strategies and Challenges in the 12th Five Year Plan Period with the Department of Politics and Public Administrative, and the HKU Strategic Research Theme, at the University, in April of 2011. Both activities were very successful, and facilitated high-caliber academic exchanges between Hong Kong and mainland scholars on China development and globalization issues.

b. Way forward

The Centre will continue to function as a multi-disciplinary and international institution and network for academic and applied research, training and consultancy, and facilitate high-caliber academic exchanges between overseas and Mainland scholars on China development and globalization issues. Over the next year, the Centre will build on the platform of the strengths and past achievements to enhance exchange activities with Oxford University (Dr. D. Wojcik and Prof. G. Clark) and other leading institutions in the world for global financial center studies in regards to the post-global financial crisis. The Centre will join together with the Mainland's scholars and experts to explore the opportunities and challenges arising from 12th Five-Year Plan. Two special issues will be published for the paper presented on the above mentioned Forum and Workshop.

IV. Output (at least one author must include Centre affiliation in paper and only those research outputs affiliated with the Centre/Programme should be listed, must not repeat publications referenced in earlier reports)

a. Journals

Dr. Simon X. B. Zhao, Director

1. Zhao, X.B., Chan, T.W., (forthcoming) "Producer Services Industries in Hong Kong and Shenzhen: Integration or Territorization", accepted for a special issue in *Asian Pacific Viewpoint* (Oxford, U.K.: Blackwell Publishers).
2. Ramón-Berjano, C.B., Zhao, X.B. and Chan, Y.M. (2011) "Hong Kong's Transformation into a Service Hub: Regional Development within 'One Country Two Systems'", *Asian Survey*, 51:4, 584-609 (Sage: London).
3. Zhao, X. B. and Chan, Y. M. (2011) "Development of Qianhai Modern Service Industry Zone and its opportunity to Hong Kong (發展前海現代服務業合作區與香港的機遇及思考)", *Bauhinia Forum* (紫荊論壇), 1:1-13, Jul 2011 (in Chinese).

Prof. George C. S. Lin, Associate Director

1. Lin, G.C.S. (2011) "Urban China in transformation: Hybrid economy, juxtaposed space, and new testing ground for geographical enquiries." *The Chinese Geographical Science*, 21 (1): 1-16. Beijing: Science Press & Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg.
2. Lin, G.C.S. and Yi, Francine (2011) "Urbanization of Capital or Capitalization on Urban Land? Land Development and Municipal Finance in Urbanizing China." *Urban Geography*, 32 (1): 50-79. Columbia, USA: Bellwether.
3. Zhou, Y., Sun, Y., Wei, Y.H., and Lin, G.C.S. (2011) "De-centering spatial-fix-Patterns of territorialization and regional technological dynamism of ICT hubs in China.", *Journal of Economic Geography*, 11 (1):119-150. Oxford: Oxford

University Press (**No. 1 journal in the geography discipline with the highest citation impact factor in 2010**).

4. Lin, George C.S. (2011) “A Review of *The great urban transformation: Politics of land and property in China.*” *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 101 (2): 445-447.
5. Lin, George C.S. (2010) “A Review of *Capitalism with Chinese characteristics: Entrepreneurship and the state.*” *Pacific Affairs*, 83 (3): 572-573.

- b. Book contracts and published
- c. Book chapters

1. Zhao, X.B., Zhang, L. and Christopher, S. (2011) “China’s emerging financial centers: Shanghai, Beijing and Hong Kong”, *Gateways to Globalization: Asia’s International Trading and Financial Centres*, edited by Francois Gipouloux (Routledge).

- d. Conference papers

1. Zhao X.B. (2011) “The nature of IFC studies and Hong Kong endeavors – Studies for global IFC development and their shifting trend”, Conference paper proceedings, *Third Global Conference on Economic Geography 2011*, in Seoul, South Korea

- e. Public reports

1. Zhao, X. B. (2011) “Jointly Development of Qianhai for Hong Kong and Shenzhen’s future (挺進前海 共建未來)” in Chinese, *Mingpao Daily (明報)*, 7/6/2011.
2. Zhao, X.B. (2011) “The Development of Qianhai would not menace to the merits of Hong Kong’s Central (發展前海不會威脅中環價值)” in Chinese, *Shenzhen Special Zone Daily (深圳特區報)*, 25/1/2011.

- f. Other intellectual property (including software, training materials, etc.)

V. Activities (must be active during year, each project should highlight link to strategy)

- a. Consultancies

Dr. Simon X. B. Zhao, Director

Jul 2011, Paper Presentation on “The nature of IFC studies and Hong Kong endeavors – Studies for global IFC development and their shifting trend” in *Third Global Conference on Economic Geography 2011*, organized by Institute of Space & Economy, Seoul National University and the Economic

Geographical Society of Korea, in Seoul, South Korea

Jun 2011, Project Coordinator for the proposal of “Enhancing Hong Kong’s Future as a Leading International Financial Centre (IFC)” in the **Final Selection Interview of Theme-based Research Scheme – First Round**, hosted by Research Grants Committee, Hong Kong.

Apr 2011, Paper Presentation on “Producer Services Industries in Hong Kong and Shenzhen: Integration or Territorization” in *Workshop on China’s Changing Regional Development: Trends, Strategies and Challenges in the 12th Five Year Plan Period*, jointly organized by the Department of Politics and Public Administration and Strategic Research Theme on Contemporary China Studies, at the University of Hong Kong.

Apr 2011, Invited Presentation on “Competitions of Global Financial Centres: Determinants and the Rise of Financial Centres in China and Hong Kong” in *China Studies Research Seminar Series*, organized by the HKU Strategic Research Theme, at the University of Hong Kong

Jan 2011, Invited presentation on “The Prospect and Opportunity of Qianhai Modern Service Industries Cooperation Zone for Hong Kong” in *Qianhai Development Forum*, jointly organized by the Shenzhen Special Zone Daily and Hong Kong Commercial Daily, in Hong Kong.

July 2010, Invited Guest Speaker for “Mode of Hong Kong-Shenzhen Cooperation: joint development of Innovation Park in Lok Ma Chau Loop” in *Hong Kong-Shenzhen Cooperation Conference*, jointly organized by Central Policy Unit of the Hong Kong Government and the Municipal Government of Shenzhen, in Hong Kong Government Secretariat.

b. Training

c. Research projects

i) List of all contract research projects

Project Title	Name of Project Holder	Project Start Date

ii) List of all collaborative projects

Project Title	Name of Project Holder	Name of Collaborator	Project Start Date
Enhancing Hong Kong’s Competitiveness – Development and Construction of a New Global City Power Index	Simon X.B. Zhao	Kubo Takayuki	01/09/2011

iii) List of all pro-bono projects

Period	Project Title	Nature (i.e. research or consultancy)

d. Conferences organized

1. ***Public Forum on China's Spatial Strategic Planning and Development in the National 12th Five-year Plan***, jointly organized by International Centre for China Development Studies, HKU Strategic Research Area on China Studies Program, Department of Geography, at the University of Hong Kong
2. ***Workshop on China's Changing Regional Development: Trends, Strategies and Challenges in the 12th Five Year Plan Period***, jointly organized by the Department of Politics and Public Administration and Strategic Research Theme on Contemporary China Studies, at the University of Hong Kong.

e. Formal relationships with organizations

VI. Teaching (excluding that credited to departments)

- a. Undergraduate courses
- b. Taught Masters courses

GEOG7102 Geography of Foreign Investment and Trade in China

GEOG7116 China Field Trip

- c. Research students (including list of current students and completions)

Chan Gabriel, PhD, 2010-ongoing, HKU.

Lao Qionghua, M.Phil, 2009 – 2011, HKU.

Lenzer James, PhD, 2007-ongoing, “Financial Innovation, Information Technology and Geographical Responsibility: Lessons from the US Sub-prime Mortgage Crisis”, HKU.

Lee Ka Shing, M.Phil, 2008-ongoing, “Hong Kong-Shenzhen Joint Development: World-class metropolis”, HKU

Wang H.J., M.Phil, 2007-2009, “Financial Market Integration, Capital Follow, and Cooperation between HK and Shanghai and Shengzhen Financial Markets”, HKU.

VII. Collaborations

a. Local

The Centre established a HKU in-house collaborative research network with the Centre for China Financial Research (Prof. Frank Song) and Asian Institute of International Financial Law (Prof. Douglas Arner) aims at studying the global financial centres development and conducting related cross-disciplines researches, bidding for large scale research funding and the latest Theme-based Research Scheme. The network operates since mid of 2010. The major achievement of the network is gathered a group of multi-disciplines scholars and experts from Hong Kong and overseas universities to submit a proposal namely “Enhancing Hong Kong’s Future as a Leading International Financial Centre (IFC)”, bidding the first round of Theme-based Research Scheme in march of 2011. The proposal was qualified for presenting on the final selection interviews to the RGC vetting committee.

b. Regional

c. International

With the platform of the centre, we have the luxury to gather high-caliber academic talents to form a high quality international consortium for a large-scale and multi-dimension collaborative research project, namely, International Collaborative Research for Studies on Developing Global Financial Centres Network. We have teamed up renowned scholars from world class institutions such as the University of Oxford, New York University and Peking University among others. Particularly, Dr. Dariusz Wojcik of Oxford University, who is the foremost scholar of Geography of Finance and created the Global Financial Centres Index (GFCI) for the City of London Corporation, which arguably is the most significant semi-annual study regarding financial centres. Also Prof. Neil Brenner of New York University is a world famous theorist on global-local state and urban governance and metropolitan studies. It is one of the Centre’s activities to follow the Faculty’s major international endeavor with the King’s College London, New York University.

July 29, 2011