

**THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG**  
**FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

Centre Annual Report

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

**Period (July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>):** **July 1st 2011 to June 30th 2012**

**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:

1. to function as an international multi-disciplinary collaborative research platform 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)**

The Faculty identified China studies as one of three strategic priority areas for research, teaching and learning, and knowledge exchange in the medium to long term for matching up the Faculty endeavor to promote innovative, socially relevant, high-impact teaching and research within and across social science disciplines. The Centre aligns with the Faculty strategy to function as an international multidisciplinary collaborative research platform for information exchange across Hong Kong, China and the world, and for high-level academic research and policymaking, training and consultancy on China development and globalization issues. The Centre's research achievements will reach out and influence from the academic realm to embrace Government and the political sector in important policies. The recently establishment of the international collaborative research network with local, global leading scholars and recognized experts from economics,

finance, law and international relations for the RGC Theme-based Research Scheme (TRS) project, that is a multi-disciplinary research platform and large-scale program for academic research, training and consultancy on the theme entitled “Enhancing Hong Kong’s Future as a Leading IFC” for a long-term nature and strategically beneficial to the development of Hong Kong. The Centre, as a founding and leading role in the research network, fully utilizes the network to facilitate high-caliber academic exchanges and knowledge transfer activities for overseas and the mainland’s scholars, and outstanding practitioners in the local community including on, but not limited to, China and global finance and overall development issues. We are confident that the Centre would emerge as a global major and influential research institute in China development and globalization issues.

### **III. Director’s Reflection (1/2 page)**

#### **a. Performance in the last academic year**

From an operations point of view, July 2011 to June 2012 was another fruitful academic year marked by a number of research grants awarded. Director, **Dr. Simon Zhao**, as a core Co-Principal Investigator, has successfully won the grant of **\$15 million HKD** of the second round of Theme-based Research Scheme (TRS) funded by the Research Grants Committee (RGC) and the Government of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. The grant winning project entitles “Enhancing Hong Kong’s Future as a Leading International Financial Centre” and it is the second largest grant in all social sciences, including social sciences, arts and humanities, law and business, in Hong Kong history. It is the highest level and most competitive grant in Hong Kong as it went through HK-wide 46 preliminary proposals and 17 full proposals and reached the last 12 proposals shortlisted for final selection interviews and only 5 (the sole proposal in Social Science subjects) out of 12 finalists were funded. The members of the Centre also did very well in securing research grant awards. Associate Director, **Prof. David D. Zhang**, was awarded **\$0.76 million HKD** under the newly setup Prestigious Fellowship Scheme under the Humanities and Social Sciences Panel (HSSPFS) by the RGC, for the project entitled “Wavelet analysis on the time-series of climate change and social crises in history”. In addition to excellence in research grant awards in Hong Kong, Associate Director, **Prof. George C.S. Lin** won the National Science Foundation of China (NSFC) grant of **¥0.8 million RMB** for the project entitled “The redevelopment of state-owned enterprise occupied land and urban spatial restructuring: A comparative study of Beijing, Shenyang and Guangzhou”. Apart from academic excellence, all these projects are considered to have potential impact to the long-term development of Hong Kong and the Mainland China.

In addition to regular research activities, the Centre jointly organized a public lecture given by Oxford scholar Dr. Dariusz WOJCIK on “The Global Stock Market: Issuers, Investors, and Intermediaries in an Uneven World” and a distinguished seminar provided by editor of Journal of Contemporary China, Prof. ZHAO Suisheng on “President Obama’s Pivot to Asia-Pacific and US-China Relations” with Department of Law, Centre for China Financial Research, Asian Institute of International Financial Law and the HKU Strategic Research Theme, at the University, in March and May of 2012. Both activities were very successful, and facilitated high-caliber academic exchanges between Hong Kong, overseas and the mainland’s scholars on China development and globalization issues. The participants in these two activities included the TRS project team members and many other related subjects scholars, experts and students. Important thing is that all the activities have promoted the University's reputation, and revealed the Centre’s good effort and dedication to knowledge transfer and exchange activities.

b. Way forward

Goals and aspirations for the next year. The Centre will start to undertake the research activities and tasks listed in the TRS project proposal in conjunction with Centre for China Financial Research, Asian Institute of International Financial Law of the University, and local and overseas co-PIs, Co-I, and collaborators named in the research proposal through the multi-disciplinary and cross-universities research collaboration network so as to attain world-class excellence in studies on Hong Kong’s role in China’s ongoing financial liberalization and economic development in order to reinforce the University's reputation and further promote the Centre’s identity in the field of China studies. Over the next year, the Centre will continue to engage in multi-disciplinary academic and applied researches, training programs, consultant services, and facilitate knowledge transfer activities for the public and high-caliber academic exchanges for local, overseas and the Mainland’s scholars on China development and globalization issues. The Centre will partake in building up a website for the TRS project, which will serve as a platform for knowledge dissemination and media activities for public education.

**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

Academic Journals

**Director, Dr. Simon Zhao**

1. **Zhao, X.B.**, Chan, R.C.K. and Chan, Y.M. (2012) “Spatial Polarization and Sectoral Distribution of Foreign Direct Investment in China 1990-2009”, *Geoforum*, 43:4, 836-850 (Pergamon: Great Britain). (70%, ISI Citation 2010 Impact Factor 1.88, ranked 12/67 in Geography).
2. Chan, T.W. and **Zhao, X.B.** (2012) “Producer Services Industries in Hong Kong and Shenzhen: Struggling for Integration”, *Asian Pacific Viewpoint*, 53:1, 69-84. (Oxford, U.K.: Wiley-Blackwell). (60%, ISI Citation 2010 Impact Factor 0.5, ranked 23/60 in Area Studies).
3. **Zhao, X.B.**, Chan, Y.M. and Ramón-Berjano, C.B. (2012) “Structural changes and polarizing development of HK industries under the One Country, Two Systems framework”, *Chinese Geographical Sciences*, 22:3, 302-318(Springer: New York). (70%, ISI Journal, SCI 2010 impact factor 0.65).
4. Lenzer, J.H. and **Zhao, X.B.** (2012) “The US Sub-prime Mortgage Crisis: a Painful Lesson from a Geography of Finance Perspective”, *Chinese Geographical Sciences*, 22:3, 343-355 (Springer: New York). (60%, ISI Journal, SCI 2010 impact factor 0.65).
5. Lee, K.S. and **Zhao, X.B.** (2012) “Command and Control Cities in the Global Space-Economy before and after the 2008 Geo-economic Transition”, *Chinese Geographical Sciences*, 22:3, 334-342 (Springer: New York). (60%, ISI Journal, SCI 2010 Impact Factor 0.65).
6. Wang, T., **Zhao, X.B.**, Gu, F.F. and Chen, W.Y. (2011) “Power or Market? Location Determinants of Multinational Headquarters in China”, *Environment and Planning A*, 43:10, 2364-2383 (Pion: London). (40%, ISI Citation 2010 Impact Factor 2.07, ranked 7/67 in Geography).
7. Wang, D. Zhang, L., Zhang Z. and **Zhao, X.B.** (2011) “Urban infrastructure financing in reform-era China”, *Urban Studies*, 48:14, 2975-2998. (30%), (Carfax: London), ISI Citation 2010 Impact Factor 1.51, ranked 6/36 in Urban Studies).

**Associate Director, Prof. David Zhang**

1. Harry F. Lee and **David D. Zhang** (2013) “A tale of two population crises in recent Chinese history”, *Climatic Change*, 116, 285–308 (Springer: New York).
2. Qing Pei, Lanlan Liu and **David D. Zhang** (2013) “Carbon emission right as a new property right: rescue CDM developers in China from 2012”, accepted published for *International Environmental Agreements: Politics, Law and Economics*, DOI 10.1007/s10784-012-9191-0 (Springer: New York).
3. Harry F. Lee and **David D. Zhang** (2013) “Temperature change and natural disasters in northwestern China”, *Asian Geographer*, 29:2, 89-108 (Routledge: London).
4. **David D. Zhang**, Harry F. Lee, Cong Wang, Baosheng Li, Qing Pei, Jane

Zhang, and Yulun An. (2011) “The causality analysis of climate change and large-scale human crisis”, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*, retrieved from doi:10.1073/pnas.1104268108/-/DCSupplemental.

#### **Affiliated researcher**

1. Kim-hung Kwong, Vicky W.K. Chung and **Harry F. Lee** (2012) “The longitudinal assessment of preventive measures and policies for earthquake disasters in China”, *Asian Geographer*, 29:2, 109–120 (Routledge: London).
2. Ernest K.S. Lee, Lincoln Fok and **Harry F. Lee** (2012) “An Evaluation of Hong Kong's Tropical Cyclone Warning System”, *Asian Geographer*, 29:2, 131-144 (Routledge: London).

#### Professional Journals

1. Zhao, X. B. and Chan, Y.M. (2012) “Structural changes of Hong Kong industries under the One Country, Two Systems and Propositions to the new-term Government (香港產業結構的轉變與「一國兩制」及對新一屆政府的建議)” *in Chinese*, Bauhinia Tribune (紫荊論壇), 6, 41-51.
2. Zhao, X. B. and Chan, Y.M. (2012) “The rise and fall of International Financial Centers and its implication to Hong Kong and China (國際金融中心的興衰與啟示)” *in Chinese*, Bauhinia Tribune (紫荊論壇), 4, 2-12.
3. Zhao, X. B. and Chan, Y.M. (2012) “Direction of China’ s economic transformation: reference from the world experience (世界經驗與中國經濟轉型的路向)” *in Chinese*, Bauhinia Tribune (紫荊論壇), 3, 22-39.
4. Zhao, X. B. and Chan, Y.M. (2011) “China’ s urbanization and Hong Kong’ s role in the national 12th Five-Year Plan (「十二五」中國城市化新路向及香港的角色)” *in Chinese*, Bauhinia Tribune (紫荊論壇), 2, 2-9.

#### b. Book contracts and published

#### c. Book chapters

#### d. Conference papers

1. Zhao X.B. (2012) “Where is the Global Transaction Centre of RMB: Shanghai, Hong Kong or perhaps London?”, Conference paper proceedings, RSA Global Conference 2012, in Beijing, China.
2. Zhao X.B. (2012) “Competitions of Global Financial Centres and the Rise of Financial Centres in China and Hong Kong”, Conference paper proceedings, Fifth Global Studies Conference 2012, in Moscow, Russia.

#### e. Public reports

1. Zhao, X.B. (2013) Consulting research report on strategic planning for Beijing and peripheral region, Planning Project hosted by Beijing, Tianjin and Hebei

provincial and municipal governments, and China Academy of Urban Planning and Design.

2. Dr. Zhao is also working on a few consulting researches on strategic planning and feasibility studies for various municipalities in China, but unable to disclose any information of the researches under the confidentiality clause until the final report was published.

- 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
- 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 Future as a Leading International Financial Centre – IFC Competitiveness Theme	Dr. Simon Zhao, Co-Principal Investigator	Dr. Dariusz Wojcik, Co-Principal Investigator & number of Co-Investigators	1 Sept, 2012

- iii) List of all pro-bono projects

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

- d. Conferences organized

1. Former Dutch Minister of Justice Visit: Requested by the Consulate General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Hong Kong for a closed-door meeting with former Dutch Minister of Justice, Prof. Ernst Hirsch Ballin, and Consul-General, Mr. Robert Schuddeboom, hosted by the Centre, on ***Migration and Urbanization Process in the Context of Human and Citizen Rights in China.***

2. Invited guest speaker, Prof. Suisheng Zhao, founding editor of the Journal of Contemporary China, to provide distinguished seminar on *President Obama's Pivot to Asia-Pacific and US-China Relations*. The event jointly organized by HKU ICCDS, Centre for China Financial Research and Asian Institute of International Financial Law, at the University of Hong Kong.
  3. Invited Oxford scholar, Dr. Dariusz Wójcik, co-author with Prof. Gordon L. Clark, "The Geography of Finance", to provide public lecture on *The Global Stock Market: Issuers, Investors, and Intermediaries in an Uneven World*. The lecture was jointly organized by HKU ICCDS, Centre for China Financial Research and Asian Institute of International Financial Law, at the University of Hong Kong, and funded by HKU seed funding for proposal for Theme-based Research Scheme.
- e. Formal relationships with organizations

## **VI. Teaching (excluding that credited to departments)**

- a. Undergraduate courses
- b. Taught Masters courses
- c. Research students (including list of current students and completions)
  1. Chan Gabriel, PhD, 2010-ongoing, HKU.
  2. Lenzer James, PhD, 2007-ongoing, "Financial Innovation, Information Technology and Geographical Responsibility: Lessons from the US Sub-prime Mortgage Crisis", HKU.
  3. Lao Qionghua, M.Phil, 2009–2012, "Financial Centre Competition and Cooperation in China: A Comparative Study of Hong Kong, Beijing, Shanghai and Shenzhen HKU", The University of Hong Kong
  4. Lee Ka Shing, M.Phil, 2008-2011, "Hong Kong-Shenzhen Joint Development: World-class metropolis", HKU
  5. 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, Director) and Asian Institute of International Financial Law (Prof. Douglas Arner, Founding Director) for studying the global financial centers development, conducting related cross-disciplines researches, and bidding large scale research funding. The network operates since mid of 2010. The major achievement of the network is gathered a group of multi-disciplines and cross-universities 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 for the Theme-based Research Scheme (TRS) in march of 2012. The proposal was awarded \$15 million HKD research grant in the second round of the TRS by the Research Grants Committee (RGC) of the Government of HKSAR.

- b. Regional
- c. International

As the establishment of the international collaborative research network for the RGC TRS project, the Centre has the luxury to cooperate with high-caliber academic talents in the world to form a high quality international consortium for a large-scale and multi-disciplinary and dimension collaborative research project on enhancing Hong Kong’s future as a leading International Financial Centre. We have teamed up renowned scholars from world class institutions such as the University of Oxford, Columbia University and Fudan University among others. Particularly, Dr. Dariusz Wojcik and Prof. Gordon Clark of Oxford University, who are the foremost scholars of Geography of Finance and jointly 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. In addition to the TRS project, the Centre has regular cooperation with overseas renowned scholars in various research activities. In the past academic year, Director, Dr. Simon, X.B. Zhao co-operated with Prof. Andrew Jones, Dept. of Geography, Environment & Development Studies, Birkbeck College of University of London, to submit a proposal entitled “China and Professional Service: Both Opportunity and Threat” bidding for the International Partnership and Networking Scheme 2011, provided by Economic and Social Research Council, UK. In last year, Associate Director, Prof. David Zhang has given seminars, keynote speeches in the name of the Centre at Fudan University, University of New South Wales. Prof. Zhang has also have several research collaborations with Chinese Academy of Sciences, Fudan University, Guizhou Normal University, Southwest University of China, South China Normal University and Lanzhou University on climate change and its environmental impact in China. The Centre and all affiliated member will continue to promote international and national collaborations in academic and applied research with their respective specialties for new academic year.

July 29, 2011