

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 2012 to June 30th 2013

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 (and its alignments with 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. Currently, a strong network under the RGC Theme-based Research

Scheme (TRS) project has been built and active collaborative research work has been undertaken with Oxford University, City University of New York, and other HK and Mainland universities. 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

In the past academic year, the Centre had achieved substantial success and met my targets and missions set in terms of many high quality research outputs affiliated with the Centre published in first-tier academic journals, the Centre's members were invited to attend various high profile academic exchange, conference and research activities, and succeeded in winning strategic important research grant award. As the Director of the Centre, I am pleased to report that I am appointed as Deputy Convenor by the University Research Committee (URC) for HKU Strategic Research Areas and Themes **China Business and Economics** (housed in the Faculty of Business and Economics, with total funding of HK\$3 million including faculty matching fund). The Centre will be incorporated into the research networks funded by the SRT to undertake more cross-disciplinary and multi-faceted academic exchanges and knowledge transfer activities. In addition to strategic research funding awarded, research outputs affiliated with the Centre has been published in many well-recognized international journals on the subjects of Financial Centres Development, Geography of Finance, and climate change, such as the Journal of Contemporary China, Geoforum, Climate Research, Climate Change, and the like. All these research outputs are considered to have potential impact to the long-term development of Hong Kong, China and the globe. Over the past year, I was representing the Centre regularly to be invited by government ministries, including Ministry of Sports of Brazilian Government, PRC central and municipal governments and HKSAR, as a consultant, adviser and a keynote speaker at top national and international projects, forums and conferences, such as at International Workshop "The BRICS and Sports Mega-Events" organized by BRICS Policy Center, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and Seminar on the Development of Greater Guanghai Bay, organized by the Jiangmen Municipal Government, in Jiangmen. Some of the speeches and works have been widely publicized in public media (see below outputs listed). In particular, the Centre and the Hong Kong-Shanghai Youth Exchange Promotion Association

(HK-SHYEPA), endeavoring to lay out a framework for the successful implementation of cooperation between the two have reached a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on funding, scholarship and opportunities for academic research, training, exchange, and internship placement. The HK-SHYEPA donated HKD\$50,000 to ICCDS as the first-half installment for setting up a student prize for the Master of Arts in China Development Studies (MAChDS) program from academic year 2013-14 to the outstanding students recommended by the program and ICCDS, over a period of ten academic years. All told, 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

The Centre is now working full steam ahead on these two major research endeavors, namely RGC TRS project and HKU SRT, in conjunction with local and overseas co-PIs, Co-Is, and collaborators through the multi-disciplinary and cross-universities research network established under these projects. For the up-coming HKU SRT project, the Centre will establish together with other frontier research institutes a joint research program with Peking University, Fudan University, and HKU; namely the HKU-PKU-FudanU Joint Research Program on China's New Urbanization Studies. All these research endeavors signify notable advances in terms of high-quality and high-impact research. We expect that the findings will achieve world-class excellence in IFC studies and China's new urbanization studies.

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

a. Journals

Director, Dr. Simon Zhao

1. Zhao, X.B. (2013) "Information Exchange, Headquarters Economy and Financial Centers Development: Shanghai, Beijing, and Hong Kong", *Journal of Contemporary China*, 22:84, 1006–1027 (Routledge: London; New York). (ISI Citation 2012 Impact Factor 0.79, ranked 12/65 in Area Studies).
2. Zhao X.B., Lao, Q.H. and Chan, Y.M. (2013) "The Rise of China and Development of Financial Centres in Hong Kong, Beijing, Shanghai and Shenzhen", *Journal of Globalization Studies*, 4:1, 32-62 (Uchitel Publishing House: Volgograd, Russia).

Professional Journals

Director, Dr. Simon Zhao

1. Zhao, X. B. and Chan, Y.M. (2013) "The difficulties of economic transformation in Hong Kong towards cognitive economy (香港轉型知識經濟的困局)" in Chinese, *Bauhinia Tribune (紫荊論壇)*, 10:7-17.
2. Zhao, X. B. and Chan, Y.M. (2012) "The contribution and cost of Individual Visit Scheme and its threats and opportunities to Hong Kong (「自由行」的貢獻和成本與香港發展的機遇和挑戰)" in Chinese, *Bauhinia Tribune (紫荊論壇)*, 8:45-52.

Associate Director, Prof. George Lin

1. Sun, Y., Zhou, Y., Wei, Y.H.D., and Lin, G.C.S. (2013) "Subcontracting and supplier innovativeness: Evidence from China's Information and Communication Technology Industry", *Regional Studies*, in print, DOI: 10.1080/00343404.2011.632227 (Routledge: London, UK).
2. Hu, F.Z.Y. and Lin, G.C.S. (2013) "Beyond state-market connection: Regional institutional milieu and the transformation of state-owned enterprises in Northeast China", *Regional Studies*, 47:4, 563-579 (Routledge: London, UK).
3. Wang, C.C. and Lin, G.C.S. (2013) "Dynamics of innovation in globalizing China: regional environment, inter-firm relations and firm attributes", *Journal of Economic Geography*, 13:3, 397-418 (Oxford University Press: Oxford, UK).
4. Wang, C.C. and Lin, G.C.S. (2013) "Emerging geography of technological innovation in China's ICT industry: Region, inter-firm linkages and innovative performance in a transitional economy", *Asia Pacific Viewpoint*, 54:1, 33-48 (Blackwell: Oxford).
5. Lin, G.C.S., Yang, F.F. and Hu, F.Z.Y. (2012) "The new geography of information and consulting services in China: comparing Beijing and Guangzhou", *Habitat International*, 36:4, 481-492 (Elsevier: UK).

Associate Director, Prof. David Zhang

1. Pei, Q., Zhang, D.D., Li, G.D., and Lee, H. (2013) "Short- and long-term impacts of climate variations on the agrarian economy in pre-industrial Europe", *Climate Research*, 56:2, 169-180 (Inter-Research: Amelinghausen).
2. Lee, H.F., Zhang, D.D., Brecke, P., and Fei, J. (2013) "Positive correlation between the North Atlantic Oscillation and violent conflicts in Europe", *Climate Research*, 56:1, 1-10 (Inter-Research: Amelinghausen).
3. Lee, H.F. and Zhang, D.D. (2013) "A tale of two population crises in recent Chinese history", *Climatic Change*, 116:2, 285-308 (Springer: Netherlands).
4. Lee, H.F. and Zhang, D.D. (2012) "Temperature change and natural disasters in northwestern China", *Asian Geographer*, 29:2, 89-108 (Routledge: Abingdon, Oxfordshire).

Affiliated researcher

1. Kwong, K.H., Chung, V.W.K., and **Lee, H.F.** (2012) "The longitudinal assessment of preventive measures and policies for earthquake disasters in China", *Asian Geographer*, 29:2, 109-120 (Routledge: Abingdon, Oxfordshire).
2. Lee, E.K.S., Fok, L., and **Lee, H.F.** (2012) "An evaluation of Hong Kong's tropical cyclone warning system", *Asian Geographer*, 29:2, 131-144 (Routledge: Abingdon, Oxfordshire).

b. Books published or contracted

c. Book chapters

Director, Dr. Simon Zhao

1. Zhao, X.B., He, Y. and Lee, C. (forthcoming) "Beijing Olympics: Impact on Economic and Urban Development in China", *The BRICS and Sports Mega-Events*, published by BRICS Policy Center and Brazilian Sport Ministry, Brazil.

d. Conference papers

Director, Dr. Simon Zhao

1. Dr. Simon Zhao (2013) "Global off-shore centres and impacts to Asian service centre development: A Comparative Study of Hong Kong's Offshore Banking and Re-Exportation Industries", invited paper presentation, *International Workshop on creating and capturing value in the next wave of globalization: experiences in (offshore) services production from India, East Asia and Southeast Asia*, in Bangkok, Thailand.

e. Public or consultancy reports

Director, Dr. Simon Zhao

1. Zhao, X.B. and Song M.F. (2013) *Strategic Development Planning for Zhuhai – Hengqin: Financial Industry and Financial Sub-centre Development Report*, Project hosted by Zhuhai-Hengqin Municipal Government.
2. Zhao, X.B. (2013) *Strategic Development Planning for Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei National Capital Region Development*, Planning Project hosted by Beijing, Tianjin and Hebei provincial and municipal governments, and China Academy of Urban Planning and Design.

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

Public Media

1. Zhao, X.B. (2013) “The Government should exit from the monopolization of business at land primary market (政府應退出壟斷經營土地一級市場)” in Chinese, 21st Century Business Herald (21 世紀經濟報道), 1/10/2013.
<http://finance.takungpao.com.hk/q/2013/1001/1940013.html>
2. Zhao, X.B. (2013) “China’s macro-economic cycles and possibility for financial hard landings”, interviewed and aired on August 21st, 2013 by Swedish Radio:
<http://sverigesradio.se/sida/artikel.aspx?programid=83&artikel=5622691>
3. Zhao, X.B. (2013) “China’s population bonus and manufacturing competitiveness”, interviewed and aired on Feb 2, 2013 by Asia Biz Forecast, NHK World (Japanese National TV):
<https://www.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld/english/tv/asiabiz/archives201301310600.html>
4. Zhao, X.B. (2013) “PRD labour cost and manufacturing returning to HK” in Chinese, interviewed and aired by China Business Network TV 上海第一財經電視 on August 3, 2013: http://v.youku.com/v_show/id_XNTkxMicxMTc2.html
5. Zhao, X.B. (2013) “Urbanisation in China” interviewed and aired by China Radio International: <http://english.cri.cn/7146/2013/08/01/3381s779379.htm>

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

a. Consultancies

Dr. Simon Zhao, Director of ICCDS, was invited by Jiangmen Municipal Government to provide keynote presentation on “**New opportunities for second-time industrial upgrading and transfer in Pearl River Delta**” at Seminar on the Development of Greater Guanghai Bay, jointly organized by the Jiangmen Municipal Government and Guangdong Urban & Rural Planning And Design Institute, in Jiangmen, China.

Dr. Simon Zhao, Director of ICCDS, was invited to deliver a consultation talk on “**Strategic Development Planning for Zhuhai – Hengqin: Financial Industry and Financial Sub-centre Development**”, project hosted and funded by Hengqin New Zone Management Committee. This talk was attended by the Mayor of Zhuhai municipal government and Party Chief of Hengqin New Zone.

Dr. Simon Zhao, Director of ICCDS, was invited by Ministry of Sports of Brazilian Government to present a talk on “**Beijing Olympics – Impact on Economic and Urban Development**” at the International Workshop “The BRICS and Sports Mega-Events” organized by BRICS Policy Center, in 7th-9th Dec 2012, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

- b. Training
- c. Research projects

- i) List of all research projects

Project Title	Name of Project Holder	Project Start Date
Strategic Development and Planning of Financial Industry in Hengqin	Dr. Simon Zhao, Co-Principal Investigator.	10/2012
-	-	-

- 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 (Project Coordinator: Prof. Douglas Arner)	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

Invited Oxford scholar, Dr. Dariusz Wójcik, co-author with Prof. Gordon L. Clark, “The Geography of Finance”, to provide public lecture on “**Capitalist Tools in Socialist Hands? China Mobile in the Global Financial Network**”, 15/Mar/2013. The public 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 Theme-based Research Scheme Project on *Enhancing Hong Kong's Future as a Leading International Financial Centre*.

- e. Relationships formed with organizations

The Centre shares the same mission with The Hong Kong-Shanghai Youth Exchange Promotion Association (HK-SHYEPA) on youth leadership development, hoping to equip our young people so that they could contribute to

the community in the future. The Centre and the HK-SHYEPA, laid out a framework for the successful implementation of cooperation between the two parties and have reached a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on funding, scholarship and opportunities for academic research, training, exchange, and internship placement.

VI. Teaching (excluding that credited to departments)

- a. Undergraduate courses
- b. Taught Masters courses

GEOG7116 China Field Trip

(Credited to the Department of Geography, but actual operated by the Centre. The industrial visit request letters with the Centre's letterhead are commonly used.)

- c. Research students (including list of current students and completed)
 1. John Daniel, M.Phil, 2013-ongoing, HKU.
 2. Guo shu, M.Phil, 2013-ongoing, HKU.
 3. Chan Gabriel, PhD, 2010-ongoing, HKU.
 4. Lenzer James, PhD, 2007-ongoing, "Financial Innovation, Information Technology and Geographical Responsibility: Lessons from the US Sub-prime Mortgage Crisis", HKU.
 5. 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
 6. Lee Ka Shing, M.Phil, 2008-2011, "Hong Kong-Shenzhen Joint Development: World-class metropolis", HKU
 7. 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. University level (within HKU)

The Director of the Centre, Dr. Simon Zhao, cooperated with Director of the Centre for China Financial Research, Prof. Frank Song, to undertake a strategic study of development for financial service industry in Hengqin for Financial Affairs Bureau of Administrative Committee of Hengqin New Area, Zhuhai. This strategic study aims to investigate the major functions, roles, current state, capacity and formation mechanism of these financial sub-centres and financial

clusters nearby the international financial centers and summarize the development history and trajectory of these sub-centers and financial clusters. Besides, The Centre begun 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. A public lectured jointly organized by the 3 aforementioned research institutes at HKU through the established platform under the TRS project.

b. Community level

According to the MOU signed between the Centre and the Hong Kong-Shanghai Youth Exchange Promotion Association (HK-SHYEPA):

(1) The Centre will recommend members and postgraduate students in the related field to provide academic and research support for the members of Shanghai CPPCC or NPC in public affairs regarding the developments of Hong Kong and Mainland China;

(2) The HK-SHYEPA will make a total donation of HKD\$100,000 to ICCDS for a student prize for the Master of Arts in China Development Studies (MACHDS) program from academic year 2013-14 to the outstanding students recommended by the program and ICCDS, over a period of ten academic years. The student prize has been successfully setup and approved by the University, namely Van Shung Chong Prize in China Development Studies;

(3) The HK-SHYEPA will support to liaise and arrange company visits and CEO sharing for the MACHDS program's field trip to Shanghai and assist in inviting prominent guest speakers in Hong Kong to speak for the program's elite seminar series at HKU;

(4) The HK-SHYEPA will recommend 1-2 MACHDS graduates in every academic year to participating companies of "Hong Kong-Shanghai Future Leaders Internship Program" for them to consider as new recruits if the recommended students performed well in the internship.

c. Regional level

Under the HKU SRT project framework, the Centre will establish a joint research program together with other two frontier research institutes at the Mainland's Peking University, and Fudan University; namely the HKU-PKU-FudanU Joint Research Program on China's New Urbanization Studies. Two related to the program's conference had been organized on November and September in 2013 respectively: "China Regional Economic & Growing Enterprises Forum", organized by School of Economics, Peking

University, Beijing, and “Symposium on Regional Population and Development in China”, organized by Fudan University, and Shanghai Population Association, Shanghai. The Centre has cooperated and played important roles in these two high-level research conferences, either inviting guests to attend the conferences or deploying affiliated member of the Centre to provide presentation at the conferences.

d. International level

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. Currently, an international collaborative research work has been undertaking with famous scholars from Oxford University, City University of New York, and other HK and Mainland universities, on a spatial study of the International Financial Centres in the world. The findings will be incorporated into the major deliverables under the TRS project and will be submitted to the Financial Service Development Council for the members to consider the suggestions about financial development for Hong Kong. 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

Amended on October 4, 2013