

“The Environment: Issues & Strategies in China & the U.S.”

中美环境保护：问题与策略

**An International Conference Organized by
The Confucius Institute @ University of California, Santa Barbara
聖塔芭芭拉加州大學孔子學院**

**Co-Sponsored by the
Bren School of Environmental Sciences & Management
and UC Santa Barbara College of Letters & Sciences**

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**McCune Hall, 6th floor, HSSB
U.C. Santa Barbara campus**

The Confucius Institute at the University of California, Santa Barbara is organizing an international conference to bring together an interdisciplinary group of scholars and scientists to discuss issues and strategies of environmental protection in China and the U.S. China and the U.S. are two of the world's heaviest polluters, and both are struggling with environmental problems at home. Fortunately, both countries possess a dedicated corps of natural scientists, social scientists, humanistic scholars, legal experts, government officials, and environmental activists who are trying to address these issues.

On November 11, 2014, Presidents Barack Obama and Xi Jinping signed an historic U.S.-China Climate Change Accord that gave new impetus to the stalled global effort to confront climate change. On February 28, 2015, Chai Jing, a Chinese journalist who formerly worked for Central Chinese Television, made a path-breaking documentary called *Under the Dome*, about the causes of the terrible air pollution in China. Released on Chinese internet websites, it was accessed by over 200 million Chinese viewers, and spawned a lively internet discussion across China before it was closed down. The social impact of this documentary in China has been compared to the awakening of Americans to the problem of pesticides when Rachel Carson published her classic book *Silent Spring* in 1962. In the 2015 Paris Climate Talks, China played an important new role in the global effort to stem climate change.

The campus of UC Santa Barbara is an excellent place to hold such a conference, since it has been selected by the Princeton Review as the Number One Green Public University in the USA. It also has an impressive number of faculty members who conduct research on environmental issues across all disciplines on campus. Its Interdisciplinary Humanities Center has sponsored a year-long series of lectures, films, and public discussions called “The Anthropocene,” or the Age when human intervention in the natural environment has reached a tipping point on the planet to forever alter its formerly natural processes. U.C. Santa Barbara's Bren School of Environmental Science and Management, established only in 1991, has already become a major Environmental Studies professional school in the country,

offering M.A. and Ph.D. degrees. It is one of the few schools that integrate science, management, law, economics, and policy in an interdisciplinary approach to environmental problem-solving.

List of Conference Participants & Paper Abstracts

Buntaine, Mark

Bio: Prof. Mark Buntaine's research investigates the sources of effective environmental policy in developing countries, with an emphasis on the targeting and impact of foreign aid. Although many of the world's most significant environmental problems occur in developing countries, the implementation of environmental policies is often challenging because of inadequate resources and poor governance. Buntaine leads a range of international projects that deal with the allocation practices of aid donors, the participation of citizens in environmental policy-making, the relationship between public and private financing of environmental technologies, the processes that lead to effective government reform, and the evaluation of environmental projects, among other interests. Prior to arriving at the Bren School in 2013, he served on the faculty in the Government Department at the College of William & Mary. He has done fieldwork in many countries across Asia, Africa, and South America.

Will Chair a Panel.

Chen, Xia 陈霞

Bio: Prof. Xia Chen is a researcher in the Institute of Philosophy, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in Beijing. She received her Ph.D. from Sichuan University and has been a visiting scholar at the Harvard-Yenching Institute at Harvard University, University of London, and a Fulbright scholar in the U.S. She co-edited the book *Studies in Daoist Ecological Thought*, and wrote the book *A Study of Daoist Morality Books*. She is engaged in research on Daoist ecological thought.

Title: “Daoism and Environment Protection”

Abstract: As an indigenous religion with a history of over 1800 years in China, Daoism has had a great influence on various facets of the traditional culture of China and is now an inseparable part of it. Daoism contains, in its creeds, tenets, and practices, many ideas compatible with the concept of sustainable development. Sustainable development is a new concept, which has appeared as human beings face a series of global problems. Daoist teachings concerning nature, the environment, human life, society, and other issues, can contribute to our view of the future sustainable society. In the first part of this paper, the authors explore concepts of sustainability in Daoism. In the second part, the authors show how the integration of Daoism and sustainable development can transcend the weaknesses of both conceptual models – providing a spiritual basis to sustainable development, and a scientific and socially constructive basis to Daoism.

Cheng, Xiangzhan 程相占

Bio: Prof. Cheng studies traditional Chinese environmental aesthetics and ethics in the School of Literature and Communication at Shandong University and is a former visiting scholar at Harvard-Yenching Institute, Harvard University. He is deputy director of Shandong University Research Center for Ecoaesthetics and Ecocriticism, and executive editor of Newsletter on Ecoaesthetics and Ecocriticism. He has published *A Study of Environmental Aesthetics in China* (2009), and *Ecological Aesthetics & Ecological Assessment and Planning* (2013). He is the Chinese translator of Arnold Berleant's *Aesthetics and Environment: Variations on a Theme*, and Richard Shusterman's *Body Consciousness*. Besides Chinese journals, he has published in international journals such as *Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment*.

Title: "Ecosophy C as a Response to Healing the Earth Community"

Abstract: As a theory of philosophical ecology, Ecosophy C is an alternative of Arne Naess' Ecosophy T. It contains nine expressions with the capital C such as Chinese culture, Confucianism, Continuity of being, Creating life, Compassion, Cheng Hao, Community, Communicative rationality, and Cultural evils. Ecosophy C asserts that the philosophical root for today's global ecological crisis lies in the fundamental limit inherited in dominant modern philosophical framework represented by Kant's Copernican Revolution in philosophy, which overemphasizes the subjective side, and ignores the determinate impact of the environment on all life forms and their activities. From the perspective of Ecosophy C, the traditional Chinese philosophical notion of the trinity of Heaven, Earth and Humanity can be reinterpreted as the framework of "Organism-Environment System," within which the basic philosophical issues can be reflected and revised so as to heal the Earth Community.

Ellis, Corrie

Bio: Corrie Ellis is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Sociology with an Interdepartmental Emphasis in Environment and Society at the University of California Santa Barbara. Her research and teaching passions are climate and environmental justice, gender, social change and activism, labor, development, and qualitative feminist research methods. She holds a BA in Sociology from the University of Idaho and a MA in Sociology from the University of California, Santa Barbara. Her master's thesis analyzes women's childcare strategies and labor conditions on a Fairtrade rose farm in Ecuador. Her dissertation explores resistance to extreme energy extraction in three communities in Idaho and in Santa Barbara County, CA, with a focus on activist motivations, political cultures, and gender dynamics.

Title: "The Creation of Climate Justice Cultures in Santa Barbara, California"

Abstract: Since the early 2000s, the climate justice movement has been gaining momentum. Now, politicized young adults who have grown up in a changing climate are joining in and organizing their colleges and communities. Drawing on participant observation and in-depth interviews with 36 activists in Santa Barbara County, California, the birthplace of both the environmental movement and offshore oil drilling, this paper details the state of the climate movement in Santa Barbara County and analyzes the cultures of organizing that young people develop to resist extreme energy extraction and create climate justice. Youth activists practice and theorize horizontal, inclusive, and relationship-based organizing to work for change. These qualities are built on youth activists' dedication to "meeting

people where they're at" in terms of awareness and knowledge of climate change, recognizing their own privilege as current college students and recent alumni informed about global crises and intersectionality, and acting to change organizing and political cultures and structures. By "calling each other in" to conversations and relationships across difference, they develop the skills necessary to emerge as climate justice leaders, plant the seeds for a broad-based social movement, and build resilient social relationships for living in, and potentially emerging from, climate crisis.

Foran, John

Bio: John Foran is Professor of Sociology and Environmental Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara, teaches courses on climate change and climate justice, activism and movements for radical social change, and issues of development and globalization beyond capitalism. He is the author of *Fragile Resistance: Social Transformation in Iran from 1500 to the Revolution* (1993) and *Taking Power: On the Origins of Revolutions in the Third World* (2005). He has served as UCSB's Sustainability Champion, is part of the UC Carbon Neutrality 2025 effort, and is co-facilitator of this year's Critical Issues in America series - *Climate Futures: This Changes Everything*. His research and activism are now centered within the global climate justice movement, and can be found at the Climate Justice Project [www.climatejusticeproject.com] and the International Institute of Climate Action and Theory [www.iicat.org]. He is a member of 350.org, the Green Party of California, and System Change Not Climate Change.

Title: "After Paris: Building the Global Justice Movement of the Future"

Abstract: This paper takes as its starting point the complex outcome and balance sheet of the Paris Agreement that was negotiated at COP 21 in December 2015, in the context of an analysis of the actions of the global climate justice movement in and around Paris. It moves into a critical discussion of the actions and near-term plans of the movement since Paris. Finally, it asks the questions on many activists' lips: what is to be done about the complex of crises we call the climate crisis, and how do we do it?

Gautier, Catherine

Bio: Trained in Physics and Meteorology, Catherine Gautier is Professor Emerita in the Geography Department at UC Santa Barbara. She is the author of *Oil, Water and Climate: An Introduction* (2008) and *Les Gaz de Schistes: Nouvel Eldorado ou Impasse* (2013), and co-editor of *Facing climate change together* (2008) and *Comprendre le changement climatique* (2007). She has engaged in scientific research on global climate change, African dust storms, Arctic surface radiation, weather forecasting and greenhouse gases, and written on earth system science education.

Title: "After Paris COP21: The time to Act at all Levels"

Abstract: Even if everyone doesn't agree with the significance of the Paris meeting in December 2015, it represented a major political climate event at the international level and it is difficult to ignore its value as a turning point. Much happened there and not all was directly connected to the negotiations

around the agreement eventually signed. People from all stripes and opinions gathered outside the main venue to present their views and their experience of the situation and discuss where to go from here, from the most vulnerable to climate change, to the world cities mayors and the financial and business sector. I will be reviewing salient points of the incredibly rich and varied presentations that took place there and discussing where we need to go from here in light of the recent developments in the US and to a lesser extent in China.

Han, Hahrie 韩贺俐

Bio: Hahrie Han is the Anton Vonk Associate Professor of Environmental Politics in the Department of Political Science at U.C. Santa Barbara. From 2005-2015, she has taught at Wellesley College and was a Johnson Health Policy Scholar at Harvard University (2009-2011). She specializes in the politics of environmental and social policy, focusing on the role that civic associations play in mobilizing participation in politics and policy advocacy. Her recently published book, *How Organizations Develop Activists: Civic Associations and Leadership in the 21st Century* (Oxford University Press 2014) examines the strategies that civic associations use to engage activists and develop civic leaders in health and environmental politics. Another book, *Groundbreakers: How Obama's 2.1 Million Activists Transformed Field Campaigns in America* (co-authored with Elizabeth McKenna, Oxford Univ. Press 2014) describes the strategies the 2008 and 2012 Obama campaign used to engage so many grassroots activists in communities across America.

Title: “How Organizations Develop Activists: The Role of Civic Associations in Engaging Environmental Action in the U.S.”

Abstract: Environmental change depends not just on designing the right policy but also building the public will to enact that policy. Yet, how do we build that public will? From MoveOn.org to the National Rifle Association, Health Care for America Now to the Sierra Club, membership-based civic associations in America have long played an important role in our democracy in building public will and activism around different issues. But not all organizations are the same. Why are some environmental organizations better than others at getting--and keeping--people involved in activism? What makes some more effective than others? Using in-person observations, surveys, and field experiments, this project compares organizations with strong records of engaging people in health and environmental politics to those with weaker records. To build power, civic associations need quality and quantity (or depth and breadth) of activism. They need lots of people to take action and also a cadre of leaders to develop and execute that activity. Yet, models for how to develop activists and leaders are not necessarily transparent. This project examines models of engagement environmental associations use to build the power they want for environmental change. In particular, the project examines organizing, mobilizing, and lone wolf models of engagement and shows how highly active associations blend mobilizing and organizing to transform their members' motivations and capacities for involvement.

Jamieson, Dale (Keynote Speaker)

Bio: Professor Jamieson is Chair of the Environmental Studies Department, Founding Director of Environmental Studies and Animal Studies, and Professor of Philosophy at **New York University**. He is a prolific author, and has published *Ethics and the Environment* (2008); *Reason in a Dark Time: Why the Struggle Against Climate Change Failed -- and What It Means for Our Future* (2014); *Reflecting on Nature: Readings in Environmental Ethics and Philosophy* (2012), and [*Morality's Progress: Essays on Humans, Other Animals, and the Rest of Nature*](#) (2002). He is on the editorial boards of several leading journals, including *Environmental Humanities*, *Environmental Ethics*; *Science, Technology, and Human Values*; *Science and Engineering Ethics*; *Journal of Applied Animal Welfare Science*; *The Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics*.

Title: “Controversies in Recent Anglophone Environmental Ethics”

Abstract: This lecture will discuss recent controversies within the field of environmental ethics in the Anglophone world. These include the ontological status of nature, the objectivity of environmental values, the content of environmental values, and the trade-offs between environmental values and other values such as animal welfare and distributive justice.

Li, Junfeng 李俊峰

Bio: Master Li founded the International Sheng Zhen Society in 1995, which holds qigong classes in 25 countries in the world, including the Philippines and the U.S., where he has been especially active in Austin, Texas and Santa Barbara. Qigong is an ancient Chinese form of physical exercise practice that combines breathing, bodily movements, meditation, and ethical and cosmological discourse. Master Li started his career as a student in the Beijing Physical Education University’s Martial Arts (*wushu*) Department. He became the famous head coach of the Beijing Wushu Team (1974-1988), whose athletes won many national and international prizes. Among his many students was the young Jet Li. Master Li has also starred in Chinese martial arts films, such as *Wu Lin Zhi (Deadly Fury)* and he has served as film choreographer. His current qigong practice promotes physical health, ethical teaching, and consciousness of the movements of *qi* or the “primal breath” that runs through human bodies, the earth, and the cosmos. Master Li will lead our conference participants through some *qigong* exercise at the beginning and end of our conference, so that we engage not just our minds, but also our bodies in environmental concerns.

No paper, will lead Qigong Exercises

Liu, Jianguo “Jack” (Keynote Speaker)

Bio: Prof. Jianguo "Jack" Liu holds the Rachel Carson Chair in Sustainability, is a University Distinguished Professor, and serves as director of the Center for Systems Integration and Sustainability at Michigan State University. He takes a holistic approach to addressing complex global human-environmental challenges through systems integration, which means he integrates multiple disciplines such as ecology and social sciences. His work has been published in journals such as *Nature* and *Science*, and has been widely covered by the international news media. Liu has served on many

international and national committees, and is a guest professor at the Chinese Academy of Sciences and a reviewing editor for *Science Magazine*.

Title: “China, USA, and the Environment in a Telecoupled World”

Abstract: The world is increasingly telecoupled through socioeconomic and environmental interactions over distances, such as foreign direct investment, trade of goods and products, technology transfer, spread of pollutants and wastes, species invasion, and panda loans. Such distant interactions have profound impacts on the environment globally, including China and USA. While both nations have achieved remarkable successes amid enormous environmental challenges, transformative approaches are needed to achieve sustainability.

Meng, Kyle

Bio: Prof. Meng is an economist with training in engineering and atmospheric physics. He explores particular empirical settings selected to inform upon a world under anthropogenic climate change. Examples include examining the relationship between adverse local weather driven by the El Niño Southern Oscillation and the onset of civil wars in the tropics during recent decades; using betting markets to elicit beliefs over the cost of U.S. climate policy; and studying the development of 20th-century U.S. coal-fired electricity capacity to inform upon a future low-carbon energy transition. He has also conducted scientific research in China with Chinese colleagues.

Title: “Understanding Chinese Energy Use under Climate Change”

Abstract: Decoupling greenhouse gas emissions and economic growth is a central challenge for climate policy. This is particularly important for rapidly developing countries where recent years have seen unprecedented increases in income and emissions. Using Chinese household-level data covering almost 350,000 households over 24 years, we estimate how electricity use respond to extreme weather and how that response changes as incomes rise. We further discuss implications for future climate change and income inequality.

Pellow, David Naguib

Bio: Professor David Pellow is the Endowed Chair, Environmental Studies Department, U.C. Santa Barbara. A leading scholar/activist of environmental racism and the environmental justice movement. His books include *Total Liberation: The Power and Promise of Animal Rights and the Radical Earth Movement* (University of Minnesota Press, 2014), *The Slums of Aspen: Immigrants vs. the Environment in America’s Eden*, with Lisa Sun-Hee Park (New York University Press, 2011), *Resisting Global Toxics: Transnational Movements for Environmental Justice* (The MIT Press, 2007), *Power, Justice, and the Environment: A Critical Appraisal of the Environmental Justice Movement*, co-edited with Robert J. Brulle (The MIT Press, 2005), *The Silicon Valley of Dreams: Environmental Injustice, Immigrant Workers, and the High-Tech Global Economy*, with Lisa Sun-Hee Park (New York University Press, 2002), and *Garbage Wars: The Struggle for Environmental Justice in Chicago* (The MIT Press, 2002).

Title: “Charting New Directions in Environmental Justice Studies”

Abstract: Drawing from a growing group of scholars working to document and explore the expanding field and politics of environmental injustice, in this chapter I expand upon the recent use of the term “critical environmental justice studies” (Adamson 2011; Holifield 2010; Pellow and Brulle 2006). This concept is meant to capture more recent scholarship in EJ studies that questions assumptions and gaps in earlier work in the field, by embracing greater interdisciplinarity in terms of theory, methods, and epistemologies. While this direction in scholarship is still in its formative stages, I take this opportunity to offer some guidance for what critical EJ studies might look like in the coming years and what it might mean for theorizing environmental justice in the context of urban spaces. I do so by adopting a multi-disciplinary approach that draws on several bodies of literature, including critical race theory, political economy, political ecology, feminist theory, and anarchist theory. Critical EJ studies draws from each of the above literatures for the purpose of providing more robust, complex, and nuanced explanations for why environmental injustices exist, how human and nonhuman forces produce and are impacted by them, and for what environmental justice might look like in the city.

Seligsohn, Deborah

Title: Paris Agreement Compliance Prospects and Challenges for the United States and China

Abstract: The climate agreement between Presidents Obama and Xi in September 2015 was a critical element leading to the success of COP21 in Paris in December of last year. Ultimately it is US and Chinese emissions efforts that will lead to the success or imperil the Paris Agreement. The paper will examine both current and future prospects considering both political and economic prospects and risks. Economic conditions in both countries make current compliance relatively likely. The greater challenge is the long-term energy transformation needed in both.

Bio: Deborah Seligsohn is pursuing her Ph.D. in Political Science, focused on environmental governance, at the University of California at San Diego. From 2007 to 2012, she was based in Beijing as the Principal Advisor to the World Resources Institute’s China Energy and Environmental Program. She also had over 20 years’ experience in the United States Department of State, working on energy and environment issues in China, India, Nepal, and New Zealand. Her most recent position was as Environment, Science, Technology and Health Counselor on Beijing. She has a Master’s degree from Princeton University’s Woodrow Wilson School in Science, Technology and Environmental Policy, and her B.A. is from Harvard University in East Asian Studies. She has published numerous pieces for the World Resources on Chinese climate policy, climate technology, and carbon capture and storage, among others. She also blogs regularly at ChinaFAQs.org and has written for ChinaFile.com. Her most recent piece on China’s climate policy was published in the “New Scientist,” and on China’s 13th Five Year Plan at ChinaFile.com.

Steavu-Balint, Dominic

Bio: Prof. Dominic Steavu-Balint studies Chinese Buddhism and Daoism, and the interaction of religious discourses with scientific, medical, ritual, and bureaucratic discourses from the 4th to the 8th centuries C.E. He analyzes how the bio-spiritual disciplines known as “nourishing life” (*yangsheng*), mirror evolving sociopolitical contexts, scientific discoveries, and medical achievements. He also examines how modern Western Enlightenment and post-Enlightenment classificatory categories, anti-clericalism, and political theory have shaped modern representations of China, and the central role of religion in the formulation of Orientalist discourses and their subsequent re-appropriation by East Asian societies. He is currently writing a book that deals with the incorporation of elements from medicine, proto-chemistry, astronomy, cosmological sciences, but also bureaucratic and administrative strategies in religious currents in middle period China. His paper for this conference will address Daoist thought in ancient China and what it can say to our contemporary environmental challenges.

Title: “Daoist Degrowth: Ancient Solutions to a Contemporary Crisis”

Abstract: This presentation surveys classical Daoist (4th cent. BCE to 10th cent. CE) views of the relationship between humans and their environment. Particular attention is devoted to whether the concept of “nature” and policies of degrowth as articulated in Daoist utopias can be marshaled in the elaboration of contemporary approaches to sustainability.

Szuwalski, Cody

Bio: Prof. Cody Cszuwalski is a fisheries scientist who earned his BS in Environmental Science and an MA in Aquatic Ecology from the University of Kansas while researching the causes of the decline of an endangered minnow, the Topeka shiner. He moved to Seattle to study Fishery Science at the University of Washington, Seattle, where he completed his doctoral dissertation on the assessment and management of snow crab in the Bering Sea. At the Sustainable Fisheries Group, UCSB, Cody will be exploring practical ways to assess and manage data-limited fisheries and the strategies by which managers should increase the intensity of monitoring and management. Management strategies under uncertainty and climate change, improving stock assessment methodology, and decision analysis for fisheries management are other research avenues for Cody.

Title: “Engineering the East China Sea: Increasing Fishery Yields Despite Intense, Indiscriminate Fishing”

Abstract: China is the world’s largest producer and consumer of seafood, but the reporting and management of China’s wild-capture catch have been questioned. We explore explanations for the sustained high catches from China and the impacts of a range of fisheries management strategies within an ecosystem model of the East China Sea. Our model reproduced reported catch trends by accounting for trophic cascades, which resulted from high exploitation rates and unselective fishing. This would be the largest known example of marine ecosystem ‘engineering’ and suggests trade-offs between conservation and food production exist. We project that fishing practices can be modified to increase total catches, revenue, and biomass in the East China Sea, but single-species management would not increase the catches or revenue.

Tsui, Shu-Chin 崔淑琴

Bio: Shu-chin Tsui is Professor of Asian Studies and Cinema Studies at Bowdoin College. She is the author of *Women Through the Lens: Gender and Nation in a Century of Chinese Cinema*, 2003 and *Gendered Bodies: Toward Women's Visual Art in Contemporary China*, 2015. She has also authored many journal articles and book chapters on various topics in Chinese cinema. Her research and teaching interests include but are not limited to the interdisciplinary fields of cinema, gender, literature and culture studies.

Title: “Why Did Under the Dome, Chai Jing’s Documentary Film, Go Viral?”

Abstract: When Chai Jing’s documentary film *Under the Dome* was released online on February 28, 2015, it received 117 million views and 280 million posts within 24 hours before the imposition of official censorship. The question of why the film went viral drew immediate public and academic attention. I address the question by using a theoretical framework of eco-criticism and an analytical medium of the eco-documentary. The virality of the film depended on the popularity of social media and its enabling of a green public sphere. Multifaceted and transnational in nature, social media brought production and perception together on an internet platform, where numerous voices engendered different ecological discourses. The government’s initial support followed by sanctions indicated the continuing contradiction between the push for economic development and the need to protect the environment. Chinese netizens voiced support as well as challenges in a highly opinionated and contested green public sphere. As the media flow moved from domestic to international, the documentary exposure of China’s environmental crisis was seen through the lens of Western eco-criticism. Chai Jing’s film was viewed by some, for instance, as equivalent to Al Gore’s film *An Inconvenient Truth* or to Rachel Carson’s seminal book, *Silent Spring*. The virality of the film also owed to its documentary form and narrative articulation. Investigative and explanatory, the film generated eco-documentary rhetoric and engaged its audience through a variety of methods: a personal/maternal perspective, interviews, animation, illustrative data, and an on-site audience. The given narrative structure and visual articulation refine as well as challenge the notion of eco-documentary cinema as the film refuses to be defined in any single category.

Walker, Janet

Bio: Janet Walker is Professor and Chair of the Department of Film and Media Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where she is also affiliated with the Environmental Media Initiative of the Carsey-Wolf Center and the Environmental Humanities Initiative. A specialist in documentary film, trauma and memory, and media and environment, her books include *Trauma Cinema: Documenting Incest and the Holocaust* (University of California Press, 2005), *Documentary Testimonies: Global Archives of Suffering* (Routledge, 2010; with Bhaskar Sarkar) and, most recently, *Sustainable Media: Critical Approaches to Media and Environment* (Routledge, 2016; with Nicole Starosielski). Walker co-chairs the Media and the Environment Scholarly Interest Group of the Society for Cinema and Media Studies. Her current research concerns documentary and other geolocative technologies for the sensing and charting of alternative media ecologies.

Title: “Dwelling in the Coastal Zone: Land Subsidence, Climate Migration, and Media Ecologies of the Gulf Coast”

Abstract: Dead trees with leafless branches grey against the sky, flooded roads, houses raised up on stilts: such are the images of communities in peril in this time of climate-change induced environmental volatility. As Chief Albert Naquin explains in the documentary *Can't Stop the Water*, “The small Indian community of Isle de Jean Charles...is the first community in the lower forty-eight states to be forced to retreat due to coastal land loss.” From a perspective cognizant of media’s own imbrication in infrastructures of resource extraction, production, consumption, and wastage, this talk will explore how media may yet help us conceptualize what it means to dwell along Louisiana’s Gulf Coast—and what changes may be necessary to sustain life and community. Through the analysis of a range of media objects—from documentary films created in collaboration with local communities to tidal gauges and balloon mapping, among other sea-change sensing technologies—and with the benefit of fieldwork in Terrebonne Parish, this presentation will seek to demonstrate how media mark, measure, scan, model, fossilize, inhabit, and, in this way, co-constitute the environment they may seem only to record with their saccatic data vision.

Wang, Alex 王立德

Bio: Prof. Alex Wang is Acting Professor of Law, UCLA and former senior attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) Beijing office, which he helped to found in 2006. He is also the founding director of NRDC’s China Environmental Law & Governance Project. Alex Wang received his J.D. at New York University School of Law in 2000 and has been a visiting assistant professor at UC Berkeley School of Law. His primary research and teaching interests are in environmental law, Chinese law, comparative law, and torts. While he was with NRDC in Beijing, he worked with China’s government agencies, legal community, and environmental groups to improve environmental rule of law and strengthen the role of the public in environmental protection. He was a Fulbright Fellow to China from 2004-05.

Title: “The Promise and Peril of Environmental Information Disclosure in China”

Abstract: In recent years, China has adopted a range of measures for information disclosure or “open government information.” Why do China’s leaders embrace such mechanisms, and how do state and society actors respond? This Article examines in particular the emergence of environmental information disclosure in China. Disclosure has been a focal point of state and society advocacy, and catalyzed new channels for public supervision in environmental regulation. It has also provided a powerful rights-based way for government and citizen advocates to frame their actions. Yet for all its promise, information disclosure creates risks for all involved and reveals deep tensions in Chinese governance – between state and citizen interests, notions of security and performance, and efforts to navigate the formal and informal rules of the system – that limit disclosure in practice

Wang, Yamin 王亚民

Bio: Prof. Wang Yamin received his Ph.D. at the Institute of Marine Biology, Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing, China. He is a professor of Marine Biology at the Institute of Oceanic Studies, Shandong University in Weihai City, Shandong Province. He is also Deputy Secretary General, China

Fisheries Eco-Environmental Associates, a non-profit organization in Beijing. His research projects are on the protection and sustainable use of marine resources, fisheries & biodiversity, and on nature refuge areas and the conservation of endangered species in China and the world.

Title: “Overfishing and Marine Biodiversity Conservation in China: Crisis and Strategy”

Abstract: As No.1 Marine Fishing Country, China, China total marine reach fisheries catch 80.9 MT (Million Tonnes) in 2013, Reported Chinese catches increased exponentially from the mid-1980s to 1998, when the `zero-growth policy' was introduced. Overfishing become a key factor to affect marine ecosystem. As a more marine biodiversity country, with total about 16,196 animal species habitat in, as overfishing and other reason, more and more marine species become endanger species, endanger species from about 200 in 1988 increase to 600 during 20 years. Marine Crisis should be face and take action on policy and in site level by China.

Yang, Aimei 杨爱梅

Bio: Aimei Yang is Assistant Professor of Journalism at the Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism, University of Southern California. She received her B.A. and M.A. from Nankai University in China, and her Ph.D. in Mass Communication at University of Oklahoma. Her research areas include global civil society, NGO's; and their virtual transnational networks; social media and environmental NGO's in China; public relations for firms and nations; public diplomacy; changing media in China; and corporate environmental responsibility

Title: “The Digital Media Use of Environmental NGOs in China: Possibilities and Challenges”

Abstract: The current study examines the digital media use by Chinese environmental NGOs (ENGOS), and explore if ENGOS use digital media to facilitate relationship-building, affect the mass media agenda, and gather and disseminate information about civil society activities. The study applies content analysis to investigate ENGOS' WeChat accounts and also compare the results with previous research. Findings provide important information about ENGO development and social media use.

Yang, Mayfair 杨美惠

Bio: Prof. Mayfair Yang is Director of the UC Santa Barbara Confucius Institute, and Professor in the Department of Religious Studies, and Department of East Asian Studies. She received her Ph.D. in Anthropology at UC Berkeley, and is a cultural anthropologist of contemporary Chinese society, specializing in the study of contemporary Chinese religions, especially popular religion, Daoism, and Buddhism, and their relationship with the Chinese state. She has written on the importance of *guanxi* in China, or the social relationships of reciprocity, mutual favors and gift-giving. She has also published on gender relations, media development, post-coloniality, shamanism, nationalism, and the state, ancient and contemporary, in China.

No paper, will Chair panel

Young, Oran

Bio: Oran Young is a renowned Arctic expert and a world leader in the fields of international governance and environmental institutions. His scientific work encompasses both basic research focusing on collective choice and social institutions, and applied research dealing with issues pertaining to international environmental governance and the Arctic as an international region. Professor Young served for six years as vice-president of the International Arctic Science Committee and was the founding chair of the Committee on the Human Dimensions of Global Change within the National Academy of Sciences in the United States. He currently chairs the Scientific Committee of the International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change and the Steering Committee of the Arctic Governance Project. Among the more than 20 books he has authored are *The Institutional Dimensions of Environmental Change and Governance in World Affairs*. His forthcoming book is *Institutional Dynamics: Emergent Patterns in International Environmental Governance*. Professor Young taught a variety of classes on wide-ranging subjects that include environmental politics and policy, governance for sustainable development, environmental institutions, and the ecology of war.

No paper, will Chair a panel

Zhan, Jiang 展江

Bio: Jiang Zhan is professor in the Department of International Journalism and Communications, Beijing Foreign Studies University, and former Dean of the School of Journalism and Communications, China Youth University for Political Sciences. He was a reporter and weekend edition editor of *Yangzhou Daily News* (Yangzhou City, Jiangsu Province). He has been engaged in journalism reform work. He has published many books, including *Theories of Wartime Journalism, Journalism and Courage*, and *Watchdog Journalism and Global Democracy*, and “Environmental Journalism in China” in the volume *Changing Media, Changing China*, edited by Susan Shirk (2011).

Title: “China's Environmental Journalism: Problems, Issues and Conflicts”

Abstract: TBA

Zhang, Bing 张炳

Bio: Prof. Zhang is the Director of the Jiangsu Province Office of Environmental Protection, Governance, and Policy Research, and also Professor in the School of Environmental Studies at Nanjing University. He has been a visiting scholar at Hong Kong University and Rutgers University. His research is in the fields of environmental management and policy studies, and environmental economics.

Title: “Environmental regulation, pollution reduction and labor demand: Evidence from textile printing and dyeing industry in China”

Abstract: The loss of employment is an essential issue that looms large in policy debates on environmental regulation. In both the theoretical analysis and the empirical analysis, impact of pollution reduction on labor demand have no uniform answer. Compared to developed countries, developing countries are facing more severe situations that a variety of environmental problems erupted at the same time especially for such a populous country like China. Therefore, estimating the impact of environmental regulation on labor demand is vital to provide relative policy recommendations. In 2004, Jiangsu province issued a stricter wastewater discharge standard for all the textile printing and dyeing enterprises in Lake Tai, Jiangsu region, which provide us a good chance to estimate the effect of more stringent regulation on pollution emission and employment with DID model. By using textile printing and dyeing industry data from 2002 to 2007, we found that enterprises with tougher emission standard decreased the COD (chemical oxygen demand) discharge by about 17.6%-22.0% (as well as COD intensity by about 19.6%-25.8%) compared with non-treated enterprises in the same industry. Enterprises with tougher emission standard decreased labor demand by about 5.8%-7.2%. While the impacts show great heterogeneity on different types of enterprises. The more stringent discharge standard has particularly large negative effects on domestic private enterprises and dyeing enterprises. This finding is consistent with the prior literature that finds little or no significant employment effects associated with environmental regulation.

Zhang, Junjie 张俊杰

Bio: Prof. Junjie Zhang is an associate professor in the School of Global Policy and Strategy (GPS) at the University of California, San Diego. He is also a senior adviser at Asia Society. Zhang's research seeks empirical evidence for designing policies on air pollution, climate change, and natural resources. He employs an interdisciplinary approach to attack the complex sustainability problem. Specifically, he develops economic models to answer the real-world environmental policy questions with a focus on incorporating micro behavior into environmental management. He also uses emerging data and information—including big data and satellite images—to study environmental economics and policy. Zhang completed his PhD in environmental and resource economics at Duke University. He also hold a BA in environmental economics and management from Renmin University of China, a BS and a MS in environmental engineering from Tsinghua University.

Title: “Validating China's Output Data Using Satellite Observations”

Abstract: Chinese output data has long been cast under suspicion by economists. This paper proposes a novel autonomously measured signal of energy consumption -- satellite readings of nitrogen oxide emissions, a byproduct of combustion -- for the purpose of combined measure construction. We find that growth in several regions following the Global Financial Crisis of 2008-9 were statistically improbable.

Zhang, Peng 张鹏

Bio: Peng Zhang is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Economics at the University of California, Santa Barbara. He obtained a B.A. degree in economics and a B.A. degree in law from Shandong University in 2010. He then obtained a M.A. degree in economics from the University of California, Santa Barbara in 2011. His research interests include environmental and energy economics, development economics, and applied econometrics. His dissertation aims to empirically evaluate the cost of climate change on the Chinese economy, and contributes to a growing body of literature in the areas of environmental and energy economics and development economics by improving on existing methodologies as well by establishing micro-mechanisms and discovering new concepts. He will join the School of Accounting and Finance at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University as an Assistant Professor in Economics in August, 2016.

Title: “Temperature and Economic Growth: New Evidence from Total Factor Productivity”

Abstract: Understanding the relationship between temperature and economic growth is critical to the design of optimal climate policies. A large body of literature has estimated a negative relationship between these factors using aggregated data. However, the micro-mechanism behind this relationship remains unknown; thus, its usefulness in shaping adaptation policies is limited. By applying detailed firm-level production data derived from nearly two million observations of the Chinese manufacturing sector in the period of 1998-2007, this paper documents the relationship between daily temperature and four components in a standard Cobb-Douglas production function: output, total factor productivity (TFP), labor, and capital inputs. I detect an inverted U-shaped relationship between daily temperature and TFP; by contrast, the effects of temperature on labor and capital inputs are limited. Moreover, the response function between daily temperature and output is almost identical to that between temperature and TFP, thereby suggesting that the reduction in TFP in response to high temperatures is the primary driver behind output losses. In addition, temperature affects both labor and capital productivity. A medium-run climate prediction indicates that climate change will reduce TFP by 4.18%, and result in output losses of 5.71%. This loss corresponds to CNY 208.32 billion (USD 32.57 billion) in 2013 values. Given that TFP is invariant to the intensity of use of labor and capital inputs and reflects both labor and capital productivity, the Chinese manufacturing industry is unlikely to avoid climate damages simply by implementing factor allocation. Thus, new innovations that expand the technology frontier for all inputs should be developed to offset weather-driven TFP losses if other adaptation strategies are infeasible.

Zhou, Mujun 周沐君

Bio: Dr. Zhou is currently a postdoctoral scholar at the Center for Chinese Studies, University of California, in Berkeley, who received her Ph.D. in Sociology at Brown University. She is a sociologist of social movements, NGO’s, civil society, and socialist transition in contemporary China. She has conducted field research and social surveys on such topics as Homeowners’ Associations, citizens’ food safety movements, youth activists, environmentalist movement, and the equal education movement.

Title: “Tensions between Environmental NGOs and NIMBY Protests: An Inquiry into the Internal Structure of China’s Environmental Activisms”

Abstract: Liberal intellectuals used to applaud the emergence of NIMBY (not in my back yard) protests in China. These intellectuals believed that, although these activisms are fragmented, they would nonetheless broaden the channels in which citizens could talk to the state, and provide opportunities for the development of civil society organizations. However, the burgeoning NIMBY protests in China in the recent years tell a different story. Whereas participants in those NIMBYs have performed courageously in challenging local governments, the vast majority of environmental NGOs have remained silent. This project offers an approach for understanding how this has happened. Adopting analytical tools from relational sociology and the field theory, I demonstrate the tensions between two forms of civil society activisms, practices of NGOs and grassroots resistances. Based on a series of field trips in China, I elaborate the following three questions. First, how are the internal structure of environmental activisms structured by the state and the market? Second, what are the political consequences of the fact that NGOs and protests do not meet? Third, what kind of strategies have activists taken to overcome these constraints? This study calls for a perspective of “organizational pluralism” in thinking and examining the various forms of activisms in an authoritarian environment.