CHINA Transactions & transformations

ABSTRACTS AND PRESENTERS

Airaksinen, Tiina H.: "Transforming past into modernity in Shanghai"
Creation of Shanghai city has been over centennial project . At times uncontrollable city planning has contested the ideas of public and private space. The presentation discusses on various urban places that have been created in Shanghai, and thus, the idea is to identify the ways public urban space has been conceptualised and located in China. Moreover, this presentation addresses some preconditions for these concepts as it is obvious that political orientations have inspired definitions of public space.

Berzina, Una Aleksandra: "Internpretive Policy Analysis in China's Context"
When dealing with political discourse, it is essential to focus at the strenghts of Critical discourse analysis (CDA): discovering implicit meanings, stressing the linguistic component, explaining power relations and providing active involvement, i.d. the critique. Usually CDA is performed on Western material searching for hidden ideology. It is a challenge to verify the applicability of CDA to the contemporary Chinese political texts. More precisely – not the whole corpus of texts, but specific parts of them imbued with historical allusions. Analyzing this particular aspect of Chinese political texts with the help of CDA one can disclose discursive methods (history-based arguments, linguistic games, Chinese philosophy inputs) used by Chinese politicians to legitimize the existing power. *(Participation cancelled)*

Blichfeldt, Nikolaj Vendelbo: "Citizen and civil society responses to low-carbon initiatives in a Chinese city"
 In China a green civil society has emerged in the shape of environmentalist NGOs and citizen groups promoting environmental awareness and public participation. Municipal governments have put forward low-carbon initiatives to mitigate climate change. I focus on local interactions in Hangzhou to examine specific cases of civil society responses to municipal low-carbon initiatives. The main question in my research is: What impact has the rise to prominence of climate change as a global issue had on public participation in environmental protection in China? I analyze specific manifestations of the interactions between municipal and societal actors (the work of a local environmentalist NGO, a "climate friendly neighborhood" initiative, a low-carbon museum) and the ways in which these interactions are mediated by climate change discourses. A main aim of the project is to identify norms and interests and the way civil society and citizen stakeholders conduct themselves in debates as well as in the actions they carry out to further those interests. A common Chinese perspective on climate change is the perceived conflict between growing affluence and the supposed asceticism of a low-carbon lifestyle, which

is construed as incompatible with the rising standards of living for substantial parts of the Chinese population. On the one hand, Chinese citizens may consider low-carbon initiatives a threat to the sustainability of their newly growing prosperity. And on the other hand, the low-carbon concept may become a crucial form of symbolic capital for the Chinese elite and middle class. I examine how these dilemmas are addressed in debates about low-carbon lifestyle to identify the strategies employed by the various stakeholders in the field of environmentalism in China in a time of changing value.

Boyce, Carolena Adonnere: "Women's Entrepreneurship in China: Success Stories and Facades"
There are several assumptions that provide clarity as to why 11 of the world's top 20 self made women billionaires are from the People's Republic of China. First, for centuries women in China were expected to work outside of the home. Furthermore, Mao Zedong's famous quote "women hold up half the sky" reinforced female participation under China's planned economy into and beyond the reform period. Secondly, the "One Child Policy", while criticized for infringing on human rights and in particular women's rights to reproduce, it can be argued that it has relieved Chinese women of the burden of years of child weaning and rearing. Thirdly, literature indicates that mothers in China have more access to cheap or free childcare options than their Western counterparts because often times there are four grandparents to care for one child. While these Chinese women are remarkable examples of zeal and ambition statistics reveal that only 11 percent of China's rich are women. Moreover, the combined wealth of the top 50 richest women in China is equaled to only one-third of the combined wealth of China's richest men. Such figures suggest that while the media focuses on success stories the experience of the female entrepreneur in China might be misrepresented on different levels. The purpose of this research is to gain greater understanding of the experiences of successful women business owners in China. In conjuction with a thorough literature review I have conducted extensive interviewing in Shanghai, China with women entrepreneurs. Theory will be generated to explain China's important differences has that has made it possible for women to achieve success in China's private sector. Furthermore, I will draw conclusions based on this data to offer an explanation as to why 11 of the 20 self-made women billionaires in the world are from the People's Republic of China.

Brady, Anne-Marie: The Velvet Fist in the Velvet Glove: Political and Social Control in Contemporary China.
Focusing on the years since 1989 and up to the present day, this paper examines some of the new forms of political and social control in China that underpin the CCP's strengthened capacity to govern and have helped to buttress its legitimacy.
This study concludes that rather than being unique, China's political order in 2009 has a lot more in common with other modern developed industrialized countries than many would like to believe.

Brandtstädter, Susanne: "(In)Justice and the Emergence of Peasant Rights Activism in "Rule of Law" China"

China has in the last thirty years constructed an entirely new legal system in order (1) to replace the politicized forms of control and adjudication that characterized the Maoist era, (2) to attract international investments and regulate the new market economy, (3) to create law-abiding new citizens, and (4) to implement standardized practices of conflict solution across the country. The new doctrine of the "rule of law" has created an enormous interest in legal issues among ordinary citizens, who increasingly view "the law as a weapon" (a slogan promoted by the Party) to protect their rights in conflicts involving property, family relations, breach of contract, defamation or bodily harm. In recent years, China has also seen the emergence of peasant rights activism around so-called peasant or "barefoot" lawyers, individuals without a formal law degree, who "specialize" in suing local governments and despise formal lawyers who will not take on such cases. In my paper, I argue that the particular "peasant" condition in contemporary China and its widely experienced injustices shape the way peasant law activists understand the law, claim new peasant rights and attribute wider political meaning to court cases.

Bøckman, Harald: "The Orientalists' Holiday: The Eigth Congress of Orientalists in Stockhom and Christiania in 1889"

According to a dispatch in the New York Times in June, 1889, the most interesting convention of learned bodies in Europe that year seemed to be the Eight International Congress of Orientalists, which would take place in Stockholm and Christiania from 2 September to 13 September.The International Congress of Orientalists was founded in 1873 in Paris. The former congresses had taken place in various European capitals, and this was the first time such an international scholarly event would take place in the Nordic region. The Congress was hosted by the Swedish king, Oscar II, who took actively part in some of the sessions. There were altogether 530 participants from 28 countries, which made the congress the biggest so far. Of the participants, 144 were Swedish and 66 Norwegian. It was clearly a deliberate policy by the Swedish king to divide the congress in two sessions, the first one in Stockholm, and the second one in Christiania, which Oslo was called at the time. Norway and Sweden were united under one king, but the political tensions were escalating in the years leading up to Norway's secession in 1905. The congress was clearly not just a meeting place for scholars, but a good occasion for partying. The proceedings from the congress, published by Brill 1891/92//93, give interesting insights into the orientalists' world at the time. The programme organized by the Swedish and Norwegian hosts also give interesting clues to the agendas of the political and academic elites of the time.

Yuzhun Cen: "The New Features of 被-Sentence in Chinese"

This paper aims to examine the new type of 被-Sentence, such as "被自杀了"，that appeared more and more in the newspapers and Internet over past a few years, conducting a statistics on the types and the numbers of this kind of sentence and

analysing them. We found that in this new type of 被-Sentence, there are following features:
1. The agent usually doesn't appear in the sentence;
2. The predicate word are mainly disyllabic word;
3. The part of speeches of the predicate words are various: mainly are verbs (intransitive verbs and the Verb-Object structure verbs) , adjectives, and also a small amount of nouns;
4. There are common semantic features in this type of sentence.
We compared this new type of 被-Sentence with the traditional 被-Sentence.

Charbonneau, Philippe-A: "Tangshan 35 years after the earthquake: Public memory and commemorations at a crossroad"

Thirty-five years after the massive earthquake that shook the city on July 28, 1976, Tangshan residents still live with the souvenir of the losses and injuries that were suffered. In 2008, another earthquake struck China in Sichuan and residents of Tangshan were deeply moved by it. This case study is about possible recent changes to commemorations and public memory in Tangshan. Firstly, it will examine how the Tangshan earthquake is viewed, constructed and presented in middle schools. Secondly, it will look at how the collective memory and Tangshan heritage is represented at the Tangshan memorial museum. Thirdly, I seek to establish a relation between the movie Aftershock, which was based on the 1976 tragedy, and subsequent discussions about the earthquake in Tangshan. I attempt to find out how both the Sichuan earthquake and the movie influenced discourses in contemporary Tangshan's discussions around the 1976 earthquake. Fieldwork will be done in Tangshan in March 2011, including interviews held with teachers at middle schools and at the remembrance museum as well as visits to heritage sites.

Chen, Bo: "Urbanization on the county level in the PRC"

County (xian), is the most important administrative division in the People's Republic of China, which covers 70% territory and 50% population (mainly rural population) of China, while few scholars both in China and other countries pay attention to it. From 1980s on, many county people's government had become the County-level city(xianjishi),directly under the jurisdiction of Prefecture city(dijishi), or district(qu), under the jurisdiction of large cities, due to the State Council's(guowuyuan, i.e., Central People's Government of the PRC) Policy on standards of setting up city on the county level by revoking county(chexian jianshi). However,there are a lot problems occuring during this process of urbanization on the county level in China in the past 30 years. This paper will give a general picture of this pehnomenon,examine the background of this popular trend of urbaniztion on the county level, analyze the distortion of the State Council's Policy by the county people's government and its leader, from both the legal and political perspective. Then will this paper analyze the problems(e.g. peasants lost their land without job, county government's requisiting and using of rural Land(zhengshou zhengyong nongcun tudi) with lower or even little money, which caused much social unstabilty and low economic growth on the county level) and

serious outcome, which increasingly cause the concern from the central government in China.

Chen, Maiping: "The Literature of memory and the Memory of Literature: a case study of Zhang Xinxin's latest autobiographical novel Wo (Me)"
Among the different types of literary creations in China today, the literature of memory has become the type that is the most interesting and prosperous. Examples: Zhang Yihe and her memorial books, Xu Xiao's Ban Sheng Wei Ren (Half Life as Human Being), Yu Hua's Shi Ge Si de Zhongguo (Ten Words on China), etc.
Definition:
The literature of memory is a literary expression of a writer's personal memory about his/her own experience in his/her earlier life. In most of the cases, "I" is the narrator. Literary memory is based on personal feelings and inclinations and belongs also to a psychological category, therefore it is not exactly history itself. Often, it gives a picture of the writer him/herself at the present rather than a picture of the history. Or, as a memory, it takes the reader to the writer now, rather than into the past. As in Zhang Xinxin's case of her latest novel Me, it is the "I" in present that describes "me" in the past. The subject "I" has become at the same time an object in her narration and thus a distance is created between "I" and "me", not only in space and time but also in an aesthetic sense.

Cho, Jenny Juhyung: "Poverty alleviation through eco-tourism (sustainable tourism) in Three Parallel Rivers World heritage sites (TPR), Yunnan China"
Based on the materials from two-months fieldwork, this paper explores the relations between eco-tourism and poverty alleviation in the villages within TPR, northwest Yunnan, China. The purpose of this research is to examine the dynamics of collaboration among local residents, the state and international NGOs, and the challenges associated with this collaboration regarding poverty alleviation through eco-tourism . When it comes to conceptualize ecotourism in the Chinese context, it is indispensable to understand state-led New Socialist Countryside Construction (shehuizhuyi xinnongcun jianshe, hereafter NSCC) which was inspired by the Saemaul movement (1971-79) led by a dictator Park Chung-Hee in South Korea. In this regards, this paper provides a brief comparisons between NSCC and the Saemaul movement . Through a case study of Yubeng village, this paper examines the collaborative mechanisms of managing local residents' innovation tour program – horseback riding in the unpaved road, and explores the functions of the self-organized rotating system to secure their livelihoods and improve their standard of living based on sociological analysis. As a result of environmental degradation generated by horses, the horseback riding business has been criticized, and indeed threaten due to governmental decision to expand infrastructure – i.e road construction, and collaborative and market-oriented interventions. Another case based on the representative collaborative and market-oriented model – illustrated by Pudacuo national park, which has been mainly operated by an alliance of stakeholders from both governmental agencies and tourism industry, will be analyzed based on

impacts on local residents. Finally, in order to play an active role in securing and improving their standards of living, it is worthwhile to examine how the Chinese peasants have received loans, especially from the microfinance programs, which are designed for the rural poor. This will be depicted by the last case addressed in this research – Nongjiale(农家乐)* in the villages at Bingzhongluo county , which explores the mechanism of microfinance program, and examines to what extent such microfinance program facilitates rural tourism. The similar and different features of local villages at Hayongdu-ri under Saemaul movement in comparison with nongjiale villages at Bingzhongluo will be discussed in the light of governmental financial aids.

Dombernowsky, Laura Møller: "Shaping journalists in China"
Chinese journalists and bloggers are challenging the limits of the Chinese media system, but what type of journalism is awarded with the official Chinese award for good journalism, the Chinese Journalism Prize" (中国新闻奖)?In this paper I wish to identify the attributes of journalistic excellences as seen by the experts in the evaluation panel of the Chinese national award for journalism. I interpret news awards as a recognition of journalists' accomplishment(s) in the field and thus a way to express respect for the awarded journalist(s). In the same time the awards articulate current journalistic attributes: Attributes that can be interpreted as a model for other journalists to follow. In semi-structured interviews, students of journalism in some of China's most prestegious universities in Beijing and Shanghai have elaborated on their perceptions of the Chinese media system, their views on the societal role of the journalist in China and their assessments of freedom of the Chinese press. I argue that the values of the students of journalism on the one hand are shaped by the professional standards represented by educators during their education as well as by role models within the Chinese media. On the other hand their journalistic values are also influenced by the overall political interests within the Chinese media system. The interviews reveal that the students make clear distinctions between their own perceptions of ideal professional standards and the attributes of journalism articulated in the national Chinese award for good journalism. It is this distinction that they have to balance in their future jobs as professional media workers.

Flatø, Hedda: "Access to healthcare services in an earthquake affected village"
This presentation is based on a qualitative study of how the Sichuan earthquake in 2008 affected villagers' opportunity to obtain needed healthcare services during the emergency rescue phase as well as in a longer-term perspective. The study indicates that the government's emergency policies succeeded in ensuring access to healthcare services for a considerable number of people. The health system in the area was under immense pressure immediately after the disaster, yet villagers did not consider this to seriously inhibit their opportunity to obtain healthcare services. In fact, some found their access to the healthcare system to have improved during the first few months after the quake, because many services were provided free-of-charge. Despite simple and

crowded conditions and a basic level of the services rendered, villagers were very satisfied with the free services, illustrating the importance of financial barriers for users' perceptions of service provision. However, free service provision did not necessarily benefit those who needed it the most, and improvements in access were limited in time: after the healthcare system had normalized one year after the earthquake, serious barriers to access remained the same as before. It is suggested that structural, systemic adjustment beyond free service provision is needed in order to ensure equitable, effective and efficient access in the long term.

Gao, Mingming: "Challenges of teaching Chinese Language Overseas"
Most students who go to China to study Chinese are usually motivated and have clear study plans. Dropouts from Chinese courses are in small number. While to study Chinese overseas (outside China, in Finland particularly) students are more likely to choose to quit courses when they lose interest for various reasons. To keep students motivated and interested so as to help them complete Chinese language courses can be an uneasy task. The essay presents a few aspects, which need to be considered in a general teaching plan. *(Participation cancelled)*

Greatrex, Roger: "'A Brand You Can Trust In': Trademarks and the Sino-Japanese Trust Deficit"
This paper deals with one aspect of the Sino-Japanese trust deficit, namely unfair competition practices, and more specifically trademark infringement cases. As Chinese manufacturers gain an increasingly important position in the global market in a wide range of sectors, there exist concerns that Chinese companies transgress international norms, with the result that violations of the TRIPS regime occur. In the western press, there are not infrequent reports of violations of the trademarks of leading brands, for example, Louis Vuitton, Gucci, and Prada, through the production in China and often export to other countries of fake products bearing the names of these leading brands. As significant as these infringements may be, Chinese infringements of the products of leading Japanese manufacturers, among them Panasonic, Honda, and Sony to name but three, are even more repeated and costly to the Japanese companies. The inability of the Chinese legal system to curb these violations has lead to an exacerbated climate between the second and third largest economies in the world, in much the same way that the US and China continue to experience massive problems regarding defining unfair competition practices and trade secrets, and the legal redresses available to those whose interests are damaged. For example, most recently Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer denounced China's ability to curtail the use of pirated software, and highlighted the shortfall in revenue obtained by the company in China (May 27, 2011). Rather than going over readily available information on the topic concerning US and European companies, the paper provides a background to the Sino-Japanese situation and then presents and briefly analyses five cases of the infringement of the trademarks of Japanese manufacturers in non-high tech products — among them Arita ceramics,

Aomori apples, and Akita Japanese cedar — by Chinese producers, drawing a few initial conclusions.

Hansen, Mette Halskov: "Visions of the learned individual: Hesse, Confucius and pep-rallies in the Chinese rural high school"
The moral landscape of China is changing, and it has almost become a truism that the generation born after the mid-1980s is more selfish, individualistic, and materialistic than older generations. An important task of public moral education is therefore to correct this behaviour and generate compassion beyond the family, to strengthen national sentiment, and feelings of obligation towards a larger community. One of the Chinese government's most central arenas for doing this is the school. Based on fieldwork within a rural high school, this paper shows how official visions of 'the learned individual', expressed for instance in textbooks, collide with a more powerful ideology of individualism that is implicitly promoted through different activities within the school. While studying texts about how learning creates responsible human beings, other school experiences of rural middle school students implicitly support individualized utilitarianism and selfish behaviour. *(Participation cancelled)*

Haugen, Heidi Østbø: "A second state of immobility: Nigerian migrants in China"
China's rapid economic development has been accompanied by new forms of immigration. Investors and professionals from developed countries are increasingly joined by a diverse group of immigrants from around the world. While there is a large body of academic literature on Chinese emigration, China's new role as a country of immigration has received less scholarly attention. This article addresses the dynamics of South-South migration to China through a study of Nigerians in Guangzhou, a major international trading hub. The analysis is based on qualitative interviews and participant observation among African traders and migrants in Guangzhou. The article contends that Nigerian immigration to China epitomizes global migration trends towards a diversification of migration flows, commercialization of the migration process, and increased policing of foreigners within national borders. China was rarely the preferred destination of this study's Nigerian informants, but rather a palatable alternative as their aspirations to enter Europe and North America were curtailed by restrictive immigration regimes. They escaped a situation of involuntary immobility in Nigeria through short-term visas obtained with the help of migration brokers. However, opportunities for visa renewals are scant under the current Chinese immigration policy. Undocumented migrants find their mobility severely inhibited: They must carefully assess how, when, and with whom they move about in order to avoid police interception. This is a business impediment, as well as a source of personal distress for migrants who engage in trade and the provision of trade-related services. The situation can be described as a "second state of immobility": The migrants have succeeded in the difficult project of emigration, but find themselves spatially entrapped in new ways in their destination country.

Hiim, Henrik Stålhane: "The Logic of Restraint: the Evolution of China's Arms Control Policies"

This paper examines China's changing nuclear policies, and why China has become increasingly willing to join international arms control and non-proliferation treaties since the 1980s. It is suggested that the shifts in nuclear preferences are largely the result of the Chinese regime's focus on integration into the global economy. This integration has given China strong incentives to improve its international image and its relations with key trading partners, which has further required the adoption of more constructive nuclear policies. To test this argument, two case studies are analyzed; namely China's decision to join the Nonproliferation Treaty and its decision to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. It is argued that China's willingness to support both of these treaties can be explained by its economic priorities.

Jiang, Junxin: "Public Interest Litigation: An Approach to awaken the Awareness of Citizens' Rights in China"

Over the past sixteen years, a series of lawsuits known as Public Interest Litigation (PIL) that are different from traditional litigation aiming merely at vindicating individual interest have made their presence in China. Although based on infringed individual interest due to the current limitation on standing, this sort of litigation focuses more on public interest, social justice and policy change. Consequently, its impact on the people and the society is far beyond previously traditional litigation and gradually become a significant social phenomenon that attracts wide attention from media, public and academia. This dissertation offers an empirical study of public interest litigation in China by collecting data from 100 PIL cases happened in a variety of regions. The hypothesis of this research is that the achievement of PIL at legal level is limited, but great in awakening the awareness of citizens' rights in China.
were contacted through the fieldwork.

Jiao, Fangke: "Screening Nation: Rewriting the Chinese 'main melody film'"

2009 can be interpreted as a dual-meaning time point in the history of People's Republic of China. A visible clue is the 60th anniversary of new China; the other hidden one is the 20th anniversary of the Tian'anmen Incident, which has been "erased" in both written history and audiovisual art by the government.

All through the year, there are a number of cultural products, including songs, TV series& films released in the theme of commemorating the 60th anniversary of China. A total of 50 films are present to celebrate the achievement of new China, of which The Founding of a Republic (2009) & The Message (2009) are two blockbusters that get special recommendation. Despite their differences in many aspects of production, they share a common name— "main melody film". As a unique type of film in China, "main melody film" plays an important role in constructing Chinese national identity and socialist ideology.

If looking at contemporary Chinese cinema, 3 major types of films can be divided: first, the internationally famous art cinema; second, the commercial entertainment films;

third, the political main melody films. The academic researchers pay special attention to the first type of cinema; the ordinary mass audience shows great interests in the second type; while the third type has become a neglected "blind area" in the eyesight of academics and general public.

What are the new features of this type of movie? What are the reasons behind the big commercial success of main melody film? Does this indicate a new model of "main melody film"? In this paper, I will use the two films mentioned above and statistical data of Chinese movie box-office to analyze from the perspectives of film production& distribution, audience reception & governmental cultural policy.

Johnson, Eirik Espolin: "Weak or Smart? A Smart power analysis of Taiwan's Elbowroom"

"Smart power" is usually defined as "combining hard and soft power into a winning strategy". Popularized by US Foreign Secretary Hillary Clinton in her confirmation hearing, the term remains ambiguous and under-researched. This paper applies a smart power framework to analyze what it has labeled "Taiwan's elbowroom"; that is, the total scope of Taiwan's leverage in terms of influencing – or even determining – its own future. While China's rise and the changing nature of Sino-US relations present obvious challenges for Taiwan, this paper argues that Taiwan – through the interplay of hard and soft power (smart power) – still possesses considerable leverage vis-à-vis both China and the US.

Juntunen, Riika-Leena: "The Benefit of Chaos, Natural Disasters and the Economic Terms of Christian Community"

In 1909 the Lizhou area (澧州) in North West Hunan was hit by waters that came rushing down the mountains and over the embankments of Chang Jiang River. The result was a huge lake of about one hundred kilometres in diameter. The crops were destroyed, homes were washed away, and many of the survivors were left with nothing. People's initial instinct to help soon dried out in the face of the sheer number of those in need. The commerce of the area stopped and government help was nowhere to be seen.

In Jinshi (津市) town in the middle of the destruction there was a relatively new missionary station, standing in the elevated land like an island in a lake. This article will look at the effects of flooding from the point of view of a Christian community of Xiangxibei Xinyihui (湘西北信义会). The main interest falls on the economic terms of Xinyihui membership. Unlike what might be expected, the Christian association did not engage in large-scale charity. Instead it closed the previously open doors and concentrated on individual needs inside the walls. With this the members adjusted the association in line with a long tradition of secret brotherhoods and in some ways the destruction opened new working possibilities for the community.

Liu, Suyu: "Social and Economic Statuses, Students' on-campus Performance and Inequalities in Their First Job Salaries: the evidence from the Chinese labour market"

This paper analyzes the relationship between students' social and economic status (SES) and their on-campus performance (OCP), and then examines the relationship between their OCP and first job salaries after graduated. Through that way, we hope to establish a two-step link between students SES and their first job salaries, with their OCP as the intermediary variable. This extends the existing studies which over concentrate on the direct link between students' SES and their job incomes. Using the data from the School of Computer Sciences in a Chinese university in Xiamen, we conduct statistical analysis and qualitative interviews in order to examine the two-step link. We find that students' SES has significant impacts on their OCP, and some aspects of their OCP are significantly correlated to their first job salaries. However some other aspects of students' OCP are not significantly associated to their first job salaries. This fact is somewhat out of the expectations of labour economists and sociologists of education. We provide possible explanations to our findings, and discuss our contribution to both the theory in 'school/university-work' transition and the on-going reform in Chinese higher education. Finally we explain the shortcomings of this study and point out some possible ways for future research.

Luova, Outi: "Governance of Eco-cities in China"

China's urban environment faces huge challenges as the country's urban population is estimated to grow with 350 million between 2010 and 2025. Aware of the challenges, the state leadership has placed the concept of sustainable cities on its agenda and promotes the development of so-called eco-cities to find new solutions for the construction of liveable cities. Several eco-city projects have been launched in China, but many of the projects have faced severe problems, even to the point that they have been interrupted. One of the main reasons for the failures has been the lack of attention to the requirements determined by local conditions, governance practices and social structures. The paper presents the research propositions of a new project which aims at strengthening the social science approach in international eco-city projects located in China. The goal is to specify and analyze local-level social and administrative mechanisms that impact on the capabilities of eco-cities to function according to the city-specific ecological principles and to reach the defined ecological standards. The focus of inquiry is on the district and sub-district levels of urban administration which are the keys for the implementation of any activity plans in the Chinese urban society. These levels can be considered to form the crucial transmission zone between eco-city planners, civil servants, residents and other stakeholders such as non-profit organizations.

Löthman, Helena: "A world of one's own? Changed employment patterns and transformed views on work among Chinese women since 1900"

The great majority of Chinese women have all through their lives worked and

contributed to the family economy. Before the Communist revolution the Confucian ideal stated that women should be secluded in the realm of the family, though this was only possible for women in well-off families. Women that participated in paid labour outside their home often met with prejudice, something that changed in the 1950's when it became everybody's right and duty to participate in paid employment (see for instance Rofel, 1999). Women then found pride and a new identity in being workers, very much in tune with the demand of the CCP.

As a consequence of the competitive labour market brought on by the economic reforms many female workers have been laid-off, dismissed and/or have problems finding employment. Many in the generations that was brought up to first and foremost be good workers found this new situation more than challenging. The younger generations of women that have recently entered the labour market seem to have yet another view on employment, not seeing work and being workers as their sole identity, but as the means to support themselves economically and have a fulfilling life elsewhere.

With this paper I want to give examples of changes women have met at the labour market and how views on the meaning of paid employment have been transformed since early 1900, mainly by introducing to you some of my informants, born 1945-1985, but also by giving examples from secondary sources concerning women born in earlier years.

Mattlin, Mikael: "China's changing roles in global economic governance"

China has long contended in global contexts that it is still a developing country and therefore cannot be expected to shoulder the same burden as wealthy, developed countries, e.g. in tackling climate change. Consequently, the best thing that China can do for the global economy, so Beijing's argument goes, is to see to it that China's own house is in order. However, to the outside world, China often appears as a serious contender for global leadership, especially so in the field of economic governance. This paper asks how China's roles in the institutions of global economic governance have been portrayed in the domestic policy debate during the global economic crisis, by analysing an extensive set of Chinese-language media and scholarly articles. Previous research on China's participation in global multilateral institutions has tended to examine either the country's integration into and acceptance of multilateral economic governance structures, or the impact of these organizations on China. Less attention has been paid to how the Chinese government itself and influential voices within Chinese policy circles regard and portray their country's roles within these institutions. This research project proceeds from an assumption that Beijing juggles with conflicting global interests that are complicated by growing role expectations and demands on China, both international and domestic. In terms of theoretical approach we apply role theory, focusing especially on the relationship between role expectations, role conceptions and role conflicts. (Note: this paper is a joint paper written together with my colleague at FIIA, Dr Matti Nojonen).

Mäkinen, Suvi: "International Higher Education Markets-Comparative Study of Finland and China in the 21st century"

Internationalisation of higher education is not a new phenomenon (Teichler 2004) and for a long time higher education has been considered public good. Recently the shift from a public good to a private good has become an issue of interest. Tilak (2008) has argued that the shift has some serious implications. For instance, the government´s commitment to higher education may weaken and the inequalities of access, within and between the nations, may increase due to marketisation. In this presentation, I will present my early phase research for PhD. The aim of the study is to examine international higher education markets in Finland and in China from the marketisation point of view. The focus is on the policy of attracting international students. The levels of the study are supranational, national and institutional. The supranational level is studied to form an international framework for the study. In addition, the national level documents are studied to get an idea of the national policies related to international higher education. Finally, the institutional level is studied by conducting interviews in the universities both in Finland and in China. Both Finland and China have made reforms in higher education policies which highlights the importance of the study.

Møller, Henrik Kloppenborg: "Transforming markets, housing and identities in contemporary Shanghai"

Based on anthropological fieldwork between 2005 and 2009, this paper explores the current transformation of two types of market, and housing structures in Shanghai, analytically interlinking subject identities with Shanghai's urban development. Throughout Shanghai's history, huangniu黄牛 ("yellow bull") has been a negative label for middle-men in grey economic zones, while in contemporary Shanghai, huangniu is the self-identification employed by male rural-to-urban migrants working as guides and vendors of "fake" branded Western commodities at the Xiangyang market-bazaar. Like Shanghais traditional longtang neighborhood structure, the Xiangyang outdoor bazaar-type market was seen as a chaotic, uncivilized place. By extension, the huangniu are constructed as noisy, uncivilized urban outsiders in opposition to a civilized middle-class subject-identity increasingly defined in terms of associations with "authentic" Western lifestyle, consumption and commodities in Shanghai's new gated residential community and modern shopping centre. For instance; while social capital is conferred upon middle-class shop assistants in Shanghai's modern shopping-centre by the "real" Western branded commodities, they sell, the huangniu are further stigmatized as vendors of "fakes".
 I present two types of huangniu: The older married huangniu, who cultivated long-term customer-relations and accumulated capital, and the young, single huangniu, who employed short-sighted business tactics and burned money on conspicuous consumption within the masculine huangniu peer group. While the first type duplicated the cultural styles of a stereotyped "real" businessman, the latter often emphasized violent and sexual aspects of their masculine identities.
When the Xiangyang market was closed down in 2006 - officially to curb Intellectual

Property Rights violations - four new indoor "fake" markets immediately opened, which did not allow huangniu inside. Like the replacement of longtang residential structures by gated residential communities, the market's close-down was part of a pervasive transformation of "traditional", horizontal Chinese zones for residency, trade and consumption into "modern", vertical Western-type zones. More effectively exploiting expensive city soil, these new zones also streamline Shanghais image as a socially harmonious commercial "oasis", while filtering out or transforming "uncivilized" characters like the huangniu. By 2008, the first type of huangniu had successfully navigated this condition by opening his own indoor shop, which facilitated his self-perception as a "real" businessman, while the second type operated more like a "hustler" in Shanghai's underground "fake" shops, brothels and gambling dens.

Sagli, Gry: "Disability and poverty in the PRC: the introduction of the New Rural Cooperative Medical System and the role of the China Disabled Persons' Federation"
This paper deals with the interconnectedness of poverty and disability in the People's Republic of China. It discusses some of the measures taken by the Party-State to target what is commonly known as a 'vicious circle', and analyses in particular the role of the China Disabled Persons Federation (CDPF) in the introduction and development of the new health insurance scheme (the New Rural Cooperative Medical System, *xinnonghe* 新农合). Although the ways in which the interconnectedness between disability and poverty manifest in China share some common ground with how such interrelatedness appears in other places, this paper seeks to explore features unique to China. Part of the on-going research project entitled "Poverty, disability and access to social welfare in the People's Republic of China", I present material to from one of the project's field sites, in Chifeng City Prefecture (Chifeng shi 赤峰市), south-east of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. I argue that in order to understand poverty-disability relations in rural China today, these three interrelated factors are crucial to take into account: the introduction of the *xinnonghe*, the role of the CDPD and the importance of the household.

Schlæger, Jesper: "E-government in Chengdu: Examining the role of technology in administrative reform"
This paper analyses the role of information and communication technologies in reforms of administrative approval in Chengdu. Through a fieldwork based case study it documents the creation of government affairs service centres. These centres incorporate a new Internet based management system which has facilitated reduction of "running around" between government offices to acquire business licences and importantly also a reduction in "over-the-counter corruption". This has been achieved through a "virtual panopticon" which allows real time monitoring of government employees and produces a "red alert" if time commitments for case processing are exceeded. The centres at the same time function as surveillance mechanisms directed towards the bureaucracy and as "linkage institutions" keeping clients at arms length from the core bureaucracy. Consequently, the reforms can be seen as reinforcing the interests of provincial and central level state actors. *(Participation cancelled).*

Schweiger, Irmy: "Hunting Ghosts; The literary re-appearance of traumatic experiences in 20th Century China"

Official historiography gives us no account of any traumatic experience in Chinese history. Up until recently students were instructed to look at 20th century's China with pride and optimism. Textsbooks made the point clear that only under the leadership of the CCP China could be "saved", made as rich and strong as those countries which had humiliated China in the 19th century. This master narrative, which was either a success story for the CCP's claim for power or a story of national humiliation, was however dull and boring, without "real" heroes or victims, with no details for what "really" happend. In my paper I will read exemplary texts showing different concepts of dealing with a traumatic past in twenthies-century China. We will see that some writers, having first-hand experience often display a "traditional" self-conception that is connected to the trope of the upright official remonstrating against an undutiful emperor who has lost sight of people's welfare. The underlying motive of their writing, as will be shown, is basically driven by the urge to testify, to add the true story of the people to official history. History becomes no longer a faceless progressing of time but is plastered with individual experiences of horrific brutality and great human tragedies. Others, often younger writers and mostly without first-hand experience, are no longer driven by the motive to testify a traumatic past. For them the position of the author as well as the possibility of representing historical events are under scrunity. Their works allegorically refer to the void, to gaps in one's memory, what has been forgotten or repressed by previous generations.

Skraastad, Mette: " Disability and poverty in the PRC: the introduction of the New Rural Cooperative Medical System and the role of the China Disabled Persons' Federation"

This paper deals with the interconnectedness of poverty and disability in the People's Republic of China. It discusses some of the measures taken by the Party-State to target what is commonly known as a 'vicious circle', and analyses in particular the role of the China Disabled Persons Federation (CDPF) in the introduction and development of the new health insurance scheme (the New Rural Cooperative Medical System, *xinnonghe* 新农合). Although the ways in which the interconnectedness between disability and poverty manifest in China share some common ground with how such interrelatedness appears in other places, this paper seeks to explore features unique to China. Part of the on-going research project entitled "Poverty, disability and access to social welfare in the People's Republic of China", I present material to from one of the project's field sites, in Chifeng City Prefecture (Chifeng shi 赤峰市), south-east of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. I argue that in order to understand poverty-disability relations in rural China today, these three interrelated factors are crucial to take into account: the introduction of the *xinnonghe*, the role of the CDPD and the importance of the household.

Spira, Ivo: "The Language of Jasyr Shivaza and Iskhar Shisyr's Poetry. Some Reflections on Dungan Language and Literature"

This paper looks into how elements from different languages and literary traditions come into play in the poetry of two important Dungan poets, Jasyr Dzhumazovich Shivaza (1966-1988) and Iskhar Suvazovich Shisyr (born 1954) — both from Kyrgyzstan. Questions asked include the following: What are their linguistic and stylistic devices? Does their poetry reflect the complex linguistic and cultural environment of Central Asia? How Chinese, how Russian is their poetry? The Dungan people of Central Asia are a minority living in Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan. They are descendants of Muslim Chinese refugees fleeing from imperial Chinese punitive expeditions against local Muslim uprisings in Northwest China in the 19th century. The Dungans speak what is basically a variety of Northern Chinese which has developed into an independent language in the Central Asian environment. Their language is currently endangered. Studying Dungan language and culture can teach us much about Chinese language and culture, not only because of traits preserved through the isolation from China, but also by looking at how it develops in a new environment.

Svarverud, Rune: "Handmade in China; Appropriation and transmission of technical knowledge in Chinese history"

This paper will present some preliminary ideas on how I intend to approach a study of apprenticeship as an institution and a culture of learning in a Chinese historical perspective. Transmission of technical and practical knowledge has never enjoyed elite status in China. Subsequently, Chinese historians have omitted technical and practical knowledge when studying and describing the transmission of knowledge in China. It is, however, my claim the technical knowledge has always been essential in the Chinese knowledge community. To understand processes of learning and knowledge transfer in China we need to understand the dynamics of learning and processes of identity formations in this community of practical learning. I intend to be able to contribute to understanding of how this community of learning technical skills emerged and has changed over time and how such communities adapt to change, and how learning of these skills maintain tradition and at the same time contribute to innovation. This project will focus on the following historical elements:

1.Technical knowledge and social formations in early Chinese philosophy (sources: pre-Buddhist philosophical and historical texts)
2.Chasm between elite and technical knowledge created by Confucianism (sources: Confucian discourse)
3.Appropriation and transmission of technical knowledge in Medieval China – guilds (sources: local historical sources and guild regulations)
4.Technical knowledge through translation and the appropriation of "alien" knowledge (sources: Jesuit & late imperial texts and studies of institutions)
5.The adaptation of technical knowledge in modern society and its entry into the curriculum of modern schooling (sources: local sources – Nanjing area)

Thelle, Hatla : "Work is glorious: Songs and poems of the New Workers"
Migrant workers are often portrayed as poor victims of oppression, living unprotected under horrible conditions, and they often are aptly described as in the presentation of this panel: '...migrant workers lack the capabilities to claim their rights and seek remedies for violations and abuses and they rarely have the social networks and organisational capacities to support them in claiming their rights and advocate for their interests as a group.' But a new consciousness and pride is growing among them and for some the above description is not fitting at all and even not appreciated as being very respectful. The paper will challenge the understanding from the panel presentation by analyzing poems and songs of migrant workers' groups. Young migrants are increasingly organizing themselves in some cases using the tools of art and culture to enlarge their space of manoeuvre and create the identity and pride necessary for claiming their rights. The basic message is captured in the slogan of one important migrant organization, 'Work is Glorious' and in the name of themselves as New Workers (xin gongren). Not peasant-workers (nongmingong), not manual workers (dagongzhe), not workers (gongren), but the term New Worker is chosen as the fitting name for the man or woman coming to the cities from the countryside serving as construction workers or housemaids. Work is glorious and the New Workers should be honoured and not looked down upon and discriminated against. Awareness of their contributions to the Chinese modernization project as such leads to greater strength and confidence in daily dealings with landlords, factory bosses, 'snake heads' or whoever else they are confronted with. Through organizing, writing songs, playing theatre and researching their own history the young migrants create themselves as a dynamic social force with their own values and life styles distinct from the 'main-stream' urban population. The paper will discuss the attitude and thinking underlying these cultural expressions and show how they enable this otherwise vulnerable group to create awareness about their rights and stand up for them.

Thorborg, Marina: "China and Africa Migrants, Markets, and Mutual Mingling"
Against a background of China´s different policies on development in Africa including the latest reversals following recent events in North Africa this paper is focused on Africa in China. Not only is official policy touched upon, but also the largely unplanned results of China´s own opening up to Africa and Africans because of the reciprocity in the official agreements, deals and letters of understanding between African countries and China.
Particular attention will be paid to the rapid development of the African community in Guangzhou, and local policies on this group of Africans over time.

Tunsjø, Øystein: "Security and Profit: China hedging against oil dependency"
 This paper examines how China adapts to its increasing dependency on imported petroleum and the strategies that China has developed to strengthen energy security by reducing its exposure to potential supply disruptions and sudden price rise. It is argued that hedging is a central feature of China's energy security policy. A new framework for

analysing China's energy security policy that is based on hedging and risk management is developed. This framework enables the analysis to explore the balance and tension between traditional 'market' and 'strategic' approaches and the interrelationship between profit and security in accounting for China's energy security policy. A hedging framework captures how the government concern with security of supply and the energy companies search for profit are linked. The potential disruption of oil supplies to China will remain a risk that China manages through hedging. Consequently, China's energy security cannot be 'secured', but it can be 'insured' by decision-makers continued ability to process and manage risks through hedging policies and prevent threats through hedging strategies.

Valjakka, Minna: "Negotiating the representation of public space through graffiti images"
Since the mid-1990s, a vigorous graffiti scene has been developing in the largest Chinese cities as a form of urban art among young Chinese writers. Based primarily on my fieldwork and using the previous studies of western graffiti as a comparative framework, this paper analyses how these Chinese writers interact with European writers in Shanghai and in Beijing. By creating contemporary graffiti in public spaces, such as art areas, alleys, demolition sites and even in bars and in art galleries, I suggest that these young writers are creating a transcultural public space in order to negotiate the meaning of the space for the younger generation. Consequently, contemporary graffiti as an artistic activity has become one new method for the Chinese youth to express themselves. To analyze these works, I have found Henri Lefebvre's (1991) definition of space as an ongoing process to be the most useful. Furthermore, his differentiation of three aspects of space, spatial practices, representations of space and representational spaces, provide a meaningful framework for further analysis. The site, content, format, style, and nationality of the writer are essential features for the interpretation of graffiti. In the West, graffiti is still often easily considered as a sign of degeneration interconnected with criminality among youth gangs. Although these perceptions are valid, for example, in the U.S., it is essential to remember that despite contemporary graffiti is global, it is not a homogenous phenomenon: the motivations, aims and ideals vary among writers depending on the socio-cultural and political context.

Vuori, Juha A.: "Dealing with Danger: China's Approaches to Calamities on Local and Global Levels"
The paper introduces a new post-doc research programme coordinated at the University of Turku in Finland. The general project is divided into three sub-projects that investigate the issues of natural disasters, financial crises, and global security discourses. The project is multidisciplinary in nature, combining International Politics approaches with those of International Political Economy and Contemporary History. The theory of securitization and the governance perspective in the context of the global economy are among the theoretical frameworks applied in the project. Engagement with

China through such a perspective allows us to investigate the interfaces of domestic and international politics in the case of China, which has gained in internaitonal importance for several decades.

Wang, Rui: "Post-disaster Reconstruction in the Qiang Ethnic Group Rural Communities, Mao County, Sichuan Province, China"

This thesis is about the post-earthquake reconstruction in the Qiang(羌) ethnic group rural communities of Mao County, Sichuan Province, South-western China, which suffered an 8.0 magnitude 2008 Sichuan earthquake in May, 2008. The 2008 Sichuan earthquake was a deadly earthquake that measured at 8.0 Ms and 7.9 Mw occurred at 14:28:01.42 CST (02:28:01.42 EDT) on May 12, 2008 in Sichuan province of China, which has killed at least 80,000 people. The Qiang ethnic Group is one of fifty-five officially Chinese minorities located in Aba Tibet and Qiang Ethnic Group Autonomous Prefecture of Sichuan Province. It is located around Minshan Mountain, a particularly outstanding landscape on the eastern side of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau in Southwestern China. The disaster area of the Wenchuan earthquake on 12th May 2008 and the Qiang people's dwelling district are very similar. The core questions of this thesis include: (1) How do community-based organizations, in rural areas of China particularly, which are mainly in the form of villager groups, play the active role in the post-disaster processes of self-relief and reconstruction, and in the general disaster management mechanism? (2)How can they efficiently coordinate with local governments and NGOs to make good use of resources available for their reconstruction? Additionally, there is the question of (3) whether the traditional disaster and risk prevention and reduction mechanisms in local communities are efficient enough nowadays. The fieldwork was conducted between July and September 2010 in China. Six Qiang ethnic group villages and related government departments at county, township and village level were visited; two academic institutes and seven NGOs concerning rehabilitation and reconstruction of Qiang ethnic group disaster-hit rural communities.

Wang, Xinghong: "The Function and Non-function of law: A Case Study on Implementation of Open Environmental Information Laws in China"

This article is a case study concerning recent implementation of laws relating to access to environmental information in China. The study is mainly based on the author's fieldwork conducted in China in the summer of 2010. This case study aims to find out what caused the function and non-function of law during the process of environmental information disclosure upon request occurred between Greenpeace and Zhuzhou EPB from late 2009 till mid-2010. The study shows that an effective implementation of laws concerning open environmental information is difficult to be realized in China due to both legal and extra-legal reasons. One major problem is that local government departments are not taking seriously public access to government information, one of the important elements of public participation in realizing environmental governance. The case study also reveals the existence of 'fragmented authoritarianism' and lacking of

democratic politics with respect to the implementation of laws concerning environmental information disclosure.

Wang, Yi: "Women's situation in China during the social transition"
Women's situation in current China is a complicated picture with positive development as well as discriminatory attitudes and policies. Although the official position is that women in China enjoys equal rights with men, the reality is that women's participation in the society is far from satisfactory and the gender gap has not been closed. To understand the persistence of gender inequality in the social transition period and point out the barriers that hold women back from enjoying same rights as men, this paper illuminates women's situation in the areas of political and economic participation, as well as gender-based domestic violence. Desk review, interview and field investigation have been used to explore women's situation in China. The main finding is that traditional saying of "women are subjected to men remains deeply in rooted in the Chinese society, and this has led to a negative and unequal personal identity of women as well as limited women's development in political, economical and social life. Politically, women have failed to gain any further ground at higher decision-making level since the 1970s. Economically, women still often remain trapped in insecure, low-paid positions and have to retire earlier. In rural areas, women's land rights have often been infringed without much intervention from the government, and women are still the victim of domestic violence. The main obstacles for women's equal rights include gender stereotypes, fixed parental gender roles, gender biased laws and policies, lack of special measures on par with international standards to protect women's political, economic and social participation, and the poor legal remedy caused by a non-independent judicial system. China needs to call for more comprehensive policies based on gender equality and more awareness rising against discriminatory cultural framework in order to fully realize gender equality.

Yin, Tao: "Birth planning policy and folk performance: mapping the gap"
The implementation of birth planning policy in China has caused severe disjuncture and conflict between the government and rural villagers. Through a government-organized Peasant Folk Performance Competition at Zhongyue temple festival in Dengfeng City, Henan Province, the local government tried to map the inside gap or awkward conflict caused by modern civilizing process in China's rural area.However, the apparent uniformity does not eclipse deep differences. Through the description and analysis of a performance on stage by a village cultural association, I tried to show its multivocality or ambiguity. By the method of "cultural intimacy," the government endeavors to map the inside conflict in modernity project in rural China; for association performers, through performance, they wanted to get "face" or reputation through contact with the "outside world"; for common audience or villagers, they enjoyed it as a part of renao, or socially hot during the temple festival.

Zhang, Baoqi: "Analysis of aspects attached to native-speaking English teachers in China"

This paper analyzes some positive and negative aspects of foreign native-speaking English teachers in China in terms of their attitudes, teaching practices, motivations and it also presents the Survey of Students' responses, as well as giving some suggestions in the conclusion. Through both the survey study of 87 students from 3 different grades and interviews with 12 foreign teachers in Xingjian College, China, the author found some of these foreign teachers do activate Chinese students' interests for learning English by their novel, vivid, humorous and democratic classroom environment. However, because native-speaking English teachers are coming from different countries with different cultural backgrounds and different personalities and experiences, the Chinese college administrations are also facing problems in administering such a mixed team. This research aims at potential English teachers in China and other non-western countries who plan to teach outside their home-country, and also aims at Chinese administrators as well to take corresponding measures to prevent and solve these problems in order to hire the most suitable foreign teachers and improve the standard of English teaching in China.

Zhang, Chun: "Balancing the dual functions of peer assessment and teacher assessment in the foreign language proficiency"

This article focuses on the potential benefits of incorporating peer assessment and teacher assessment into Chinese language learning. Undergraduate Danish students of Chinese at one Danish university were asked to assess the Chinese oral proficiency of their peers with assessment criteria in terms of content, delivery and language – as exhibited in the oral proficiency as an integrated conversation session. Drawing upon student questionnaires and teachers survey data, the article aims to raise the awareness of both teachers and students of a range of assessment issues and the integrated balance of the dual functions. The article ends with a discussion on whether peer assessment and teacher assessment would prefer to go about learning tasks in general; and how the integrated teaching and assessment benefit students' oral proficiency in learning Chinese as a foreign language (FL) in particular.