

**The David C. Lam Institute for East-West Studies (LEWI)
Hong Kong Baptist University**

LEWI e-Newsletter

LEWI e-Newsletter is published quarterly by David C. Lam Institute for East-West Studies for circulation among its member institutions. Contributions are most welcome.

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LEWI e-Newsletter (Issue No. 41, Autumn 2014)

In this Issue:

LEWI Seminar Series

- Seminars held from September to November 2014

Visiting Scholar Programme

- Ms. Yvonne Liao
- Ms. Iris Guo

Outputs of Research Staff

- Publications
- Presentations
- Grants secured

Others

Dr. George Mak's article won the Barwis-Holliday Award for Far Eastern Studies

LEWI Seminar Series

Floating or Settling Down: The Effect of Rural Landholdings on the Settlement Intention of Rural Migrants in Urban China (6 November 2014)

Speaker: Dr. Pu Hao, Research Assistant Professor, David Lam Institute for East-West Studies, HKBU

Abstract:

The industrialization and urban development in China have driven a huge portion of the rural population to its urban areas. While discriminating institutions engendered by the hukou system exclude most rural migrants from urban rights and benefits, the option of converting hukou has become increasingly available. Nevertheless, few rural migrants have chosen to settle down in cities by obtaining an urban hukou, which contradicts a common perception that rural migrants desire an urban hukou. Based on a recent migrant survey in Jiangsu Province, this talk explores rural migrants' intention of hukou conversion with respect to the availability, type, and quantity of rural landholdings in their home countryside, as well as their socioeconomic attributes. The results of regression analyses indicate that both the possession of farmland and housing land in rural areas significantly influences the intention of rural migrants to obtain permanent urban residency in their destination cities. Moreover, different intentions are found between the post-1980 generation and their older counterparts. Systematic variances in settlement intention are also evident between migrants from the more and less affluent regions. The findings suggest that the decision of hukou conversion incorporates varied purposes and concerns among rural migrants.



Dr. Hao speaking on the settlement intention of rural migrants in urban China

Between Mobility and Immobility: Undocumented African Migrants Living in the Shadow of the Chinese State (23 October 2014)

Speaker: Dr. Shanshan Lan, Research Assistant Professor, David Lam Institute for East-West Studies, HKBU

Abstract:

With China's accession to the World Trade Organization in 2001 and the enormous growth of Sino-African trade, Guangzhou, a mega city in South China, has become the Promised Land for many African migrants seeking wealth and fortune in the global economy. Differing from previous generation of Africans who were mainly from elite background and traveled to China for higher educational purposes, this recent wave of African migrants are mainly from grassroots origins. Many of them are petty entrepreneurs who have small capital and tend to operate their businesses in the informal economy. On July 15th, 2009 an undocumented African migrant was severely injured after jumping from a trade mall in order to evade passport check by the Chinese police. Later that day, more than 100 African traders launched a protest outside a local police station. The event has drawn world-wide attention to the presence of undocumented African migrants in China. Based on ethnographic fieldwork within the African communities in Guangzhou, this paper examines the structural constraints faced by undocumented Africans in urban China and their various coping strategies. Specifically, it focuses on illegal residence as a business strategy in maintaining vital transnational trade networks between China and Africa. For many African migrants, illegal residence in Guangzhou is just one special phase of their life for the purpose of capital accumulation. It enables them to maintain a transnational advantage over traders in Africa. By voluntarily choosing a life style of circumscribed mobility in Guangzhou, undocumented African migrants have been playing an important role in facilitating transnational trade activities between China and their home countries.



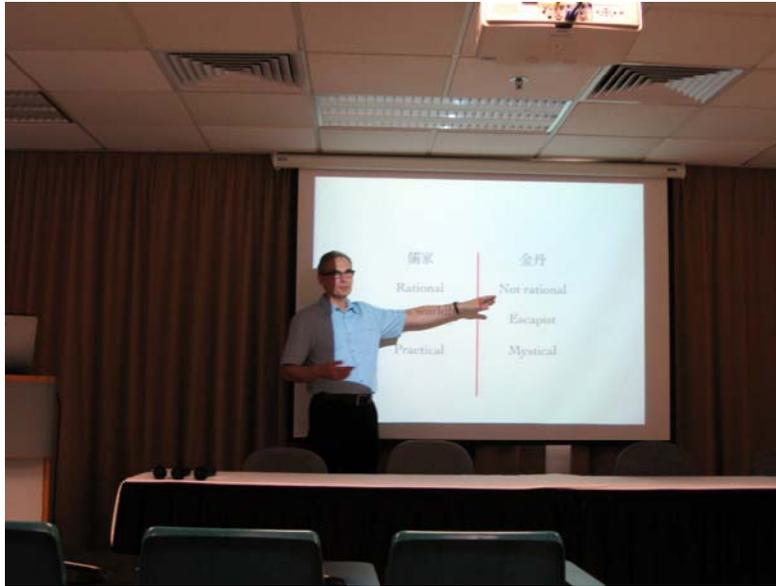
Dr. Shanshan Lan's seminar attracted a large audience

Dao Learning 道學 and the Golden Elixir 金丹: Shared Paths to Perfection (6 October 2014)

Speaker: Dr. Paul Crowe, Associate professor, Department of Humanities, Simon Fraser University

Abstract:

This presentation, based on a recent article, considers the nature of continuity between Ru 儒 (literati) dao xue 道學 (learning of the Way) and jindan 金丹 (golden elixir) ways of cultivation. There has long been a tendency to perceive the two through a bifurcating lens such that the former is rational, practical and concerned with moral cultivation while the latter is mystical, other-worldly and preoccupied with immortality and transcendence. This difference in characterisation has tended to be reflected in modern academic institutions such that one is studied by academics interested in philosophy while the other tends to be the province of religious studies specialists. This presentation will make the case that their respective understandings of the human predicament, praxis and soteriology share sufficient profound continuities to warrant more frequent visits with each other in our respective departments.



Dr. Paul Crowe explaining the difference between Ru 儒 and jindan 金丹

Visiting Scholar Programme

- Ms. Yvonne Liao, LEWI Visiting Scholar from October to December 2014

Yvonne Liao is a Ph.D. Candidate in Music Research at King's College London. In Autumn 2014, she is a Part-Time Lecturer in the Department of Music and a Scholar-in-Residence in the David C. Lam Institute for East-West Studies, Hong Kong Baptist University (collaborator: Professor Helan Yang, Department of Music). Liao's current work revolves around 'music and control' as an axis, and examines practices of optional live music in public parks, eating and drinking establishments, and skating rinks in 1930s and 1940s Shanghai. Her thematic interests include: music and place; music and jurisdiction; music and war; 'noise' and auditory politics. Courses that Liao has taught/will teach: 'Issues and Topics in Medieval and Baroque Music'; 'Arts in Context and Music Advocacy'; 'Jazz on Film'. Awards to date include the David Sanjek Memorial Graduate Student Paper Prize, given at the US Annual Conference of the International Association for the Study of Popular Music. Prior to doctoral research, Liao was Project Manager and Marketing Manager at Naxos and Universal Music Hong Kong respectively. She holds degrees from Oxford (2002, First Class Honours); SOAS, University of London (2003); and Columbia (2010).



- Ms. Iris Guo, LEWI Visiting Scholar from October to December 2014

Ms. Guo Wei is a lecturer from the Academy of Arts and Law, Wuhan Donghu University. She received her master's degree in Communication from Wuhan University. Ms. Guo's research interests include: cross-cultural studies, new media and communication theory. Currently she is working on a research project on the Construction and Reflection of Journalistic Professionalism in the Context of New Media.



Outputs of Research Staff

Publications

Chan, K., Ng, Y.L., and Prendergast, G. (2014). Should Different Marketing Communication Strategies be used to Promote Healthy Eating among Male and Female Adolescents? *Health Marketing Quarterly*, 31(4), 339-352.

Chan, K., Ng, Y.L., and Liu, J. (2014). How Chinese Young Consumers Respond to Gendered Advertisements. *Young Consumers*, 15(4), 353-364.

Chu, C.Y.Y. (2014) (Ed.) *Catholicism in China, 1900-Present: The Development of the Chinese Church*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Yang, Z., **Hao, P.** & Cai, J. (2014). Economic Clusters: A Bridge between Economic and Spatial Policies with a Case of Beijing. *Cities*, 42(2) 171-185.

Hao, P. (2014 forthcoming, in Chinese). Analyzing the Land Development Intensity of Urban Villages Based on the Bid-rent Theory: A Case Study of Shenzhen. *City Planning Review*.

Johansson, P. (2014). The Libidinal Economy of 'China'. In Doll, M. & Kohns, O. (Eds.), *Figurationen des Politischen I und II*, Wilhelm Fink Verlag, Munich.

Lan, S. (2014). The Catholic Church's Role in the African Diaspora in Guangzhou, China. In Chu, C.Y.Y. (Ed.), *Catholicism in China, 1900 to Present: The Development of The Chinese Church*, p.219-236. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Mak, K.W. (2014). "The Colportage of the Protestant Bible in Late Qing China: The Example of the British and Foreign Bible Society". In Clart, P. (Ed.), *Religious Publishing and Print Culture in Modern China, 1800-2012*, pp. 17-49. Boston and Berlin: De Gruyter.

Mak, K.W. (2014). An Overview of Catholic Bible Translation in Twentieth-Century China" (co-authored with Daniel K. T. Choi). In Chu, C.Y.Y. (Ed.), *Catholicism in China, 1900 to Present: The Development of The Chinese Church*, pp. 105-123. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

麥金華 (2014 forthcoming)。「傳統與證據之爭：《和合本》新約希臘文底本問題初探」[A Preliminary Study of the Greek Textual Basis of the Chinese Union Versions]

《聖經年刊》 [Biblical Review] 3 ◦

Siu J.Y.M. (2014). Coping with Future Epidemics: *Tai Chi* Practice as an Overcoming Strategy used by Survivors of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) in Post-SARS Hong Kong. *Health Expectations*. doi: 10.1111/hex.12270.

Presentations

By Dr. Dong Dong, Research Assistant Professor, Environment, Health and Sustainability Working Group

(with Chan, K.) (2014). Legitimizing Acupuncture in Hong Kong's Newspapers. A paper presented at the National Communication Association 100th Annual Convention, Chicago, Illinois, USA, 20-23 November 2014.

By Dr. Pu Hao, Research Assistant Professor, Urbanization and Mobility Working Group

Rural-Urban Migration in Post-reform China: A Trade-off between Rural Land and Urban Residency. A paper presented at The 2014 International Conference on Asia-Pacific Studies, Kaohsiung, Taiwan, 13-15 November 2014.

Bid-rent and Land Development in China's Urban Villages. A paper presented at The 8th Cross-Strait Land Conference, Taipei, Taiwan, 20-21 September 2014.

By Dr. Perry Johansson, Research Assistant Professor, Cross-Cultural Studies Working Group

On the Value of Cultural Heritage in Republican China. A paper presented at the People, Things and Practices in Consumer Culture conference, Gakushuin University, Tokyo, 4-6 September 2014.

Grants Secured

Project title: The location choice and spatial organization patterns of urban informal economies in big cities

Principle Investigator: Dr. Pu Hao, LEWI RAP

Source of Funding: National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC)

Grant amount: RMB230,000

Description: Informal economic activities are those commercial or service businesses that are not officially recorded in any national accounts for purposes of taxation or social security contributions. These activities consist of not only informal businesses located in fixed premises in rural-urban interface areas and specific urban sections such as urban villages, but also unlicensed street vendors roaming in the city core. These businesses are usually opposed by authorities because they often lead to violations of urban planning and management regulations, tax evasion, inferior products, and safety concerns. However, informal or unregulated economic developments are entrepreneurial endeavors for individuals or collectives who cannot afford fixed premises and are sources of income for those who lack access to formal jobs. They also provide affordable goods and services for the marginal groups. In order to mitigate the negative impact of informal economic activities on urban growth, this research aims at exploring the development of various types of informal economic activities in big cities in China and analyzing the location choice and spatial organization patterns of these informal activities. With case studies in Shenzhen and Nanjing, the determinants of the location choice of informal economic developments will be uncovered using spatial analysis and spatial econometric models. Based on the research findings on the location choice and spatial organization patterns of informal economic developments, optimizing strategies and methodologies for urban planning and governance will be devised. The findings of this research will contribute to urban planning and policy making in coping with the current state and future development of informal urban development, and help in the effective allocation of commercial establishments, especially those businesses at the lower end of the economic spectrum.

Project title: Promoting healthy eating to adolescents in Hong Kong: A school-based health intervention

Principle Investigators: Dr. Siu J.Y.M. (LEWIRAP) & Chan K., Lee A.

Source of funding: Quality Education Fund, Education Bureau, HKSAR

Grant amount: HK\$194,800

Brief Introduction:

Healthy and balanced eating is particularly important to adolescents in order to ensure their growth. However, because of the influence of the mass media, peer pressure, as well as the self-image awareness since puberty, secondary school students tend to have a higher incidence to suffer from eating disorders (Lee & Lee, 2000). In school years, it is important for students to learn establishing a healthy eating habit and know how to choose their food intelligently. This can enable them to lead a healthy life till adulthood. To help students establishing a healthy eating habit, the Department of

Health has launched the "EatSmart@school.hk" campaign with the support of Education Bureau in 2006-2007. Although the needs of primary school students have been catered, similar campaigns targeted at secondary school students have been lacking, though they are at a higher risk to suffer from eating disorders (Farrow & Fox, 2011). In view of this, this one-year project aims at promoting a healthy eating culture among students from one co-educational secondary school by addressing the individual, interpersonal (peers), and environmental (schools and families) factors that they are encountering in an interesting and interactive way.

Project title: Early 20th century archeology and the hypothesis of a western origin of China

Principal Investigator: Dr. Perry Johansson, LEWI RAP

Source of Funding: Faculty Research Grant, HKBU

Grant amount: HKD30,000

Others

Dr. George Mak's article won the Barwis-Holliday Award for Far Eastern Studies

Dr. George Kam-wah Mak, Research Assistant Professor of LEWI, has won the Barwis-Holliday Award for Far Eastern Studies of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland (RAS) for his research article "To add or not to add? The British and Foreign Bible Society's Defence of the "Without Note or Comment" Principle in Late Qing China". Founded in London in 1823, the RAS is United Kingdom's senior learned society in the field of Asian Studies. The Barwis-Holliday Award for Far Eastern Studies is an award of the RAS for an outstanding paper on the anthropology, art, history, literature, or religion of Japan, China, or Korea. Previous winners include W. South Coblin (Professor of Classical Chinese at the University of Iowa), James H. Grayson (Professor Emeritus of Modern Korean Studies at the University of Sheffield), and Richard John Lynn (Professor Emeritus of Chinese Thought and Literature at the University of Toronto). Dr. Mak is elected a Fellow of the RAS in June 2014 and his award-winning article will be published in the Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society soon.