

Center for Chinese Research 2021-2023 Events Report

Introduction:

Over the past two years, the Center for Chinese Research (CCR) has hosted and sponsored a menagerie of events in various formats. This report will highlight some of these past events and provide a vignette of the CCR's capabilities.

Events:

Online Symposium:

From November 2021 to March 2022, the CCR hosted four online symposiums on topics related to Chinese politics and history. All of them were moderated by Dr. Timothy Cheek, the co-director of the CCR, and joined by experts on the subject matter. These four symposiums are:

ONLINE SYMPOSIUM WITH CCR

Seeing Like an Empire: Chinese Political Thought and Practice in Changing Times

Please join CCR for our first event in our symposium that will take a look at Chinese political thought through the lens of New Sinology.

FEATURING DR. TIMOTHY BROOK, UBC DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

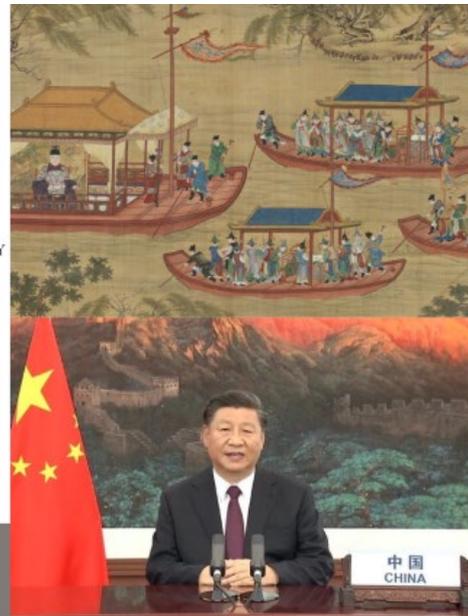
DISCUSSANT: DR. LEIGH JENCO (LSE, GOVERNMENT)

MODERATED BY DR. TIMOTHY CHEEK (UBC HISTORY)

November 17, 2021, 10:00 AM [PST]

November 17, 2021, 6PM [GMT]

Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/3xzz5h33>



Dr. Vivienne Shue: *'Like spring drizzle falling without a sound': Xi Jinping and the Political Aesthetics of Empire*

Join us for the next event in our symposium Seeing Like an Empire: Chinese Political Thought and Practice in Changing Times for a lecture by Dr. Vivienne Shue, FBA of Oxford University

With Commentator Dr. Shoufu Yin, University of British Columbia

Moderated by Dr. Timothy Cheek, University of British Columbia

February 12th 2022 at 9:30 AM PST

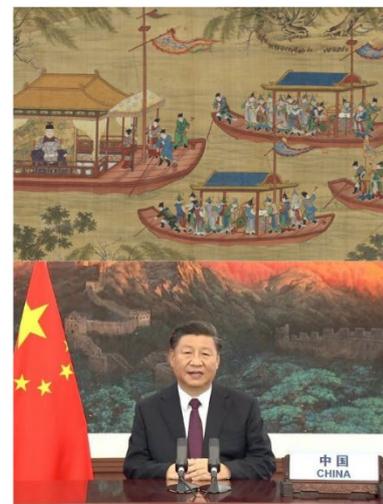
February 12th 2022 at 5:30 PM GMT

February 12th 2022 at 12:30 PM EST

Register at: <https://ccr.sites.olt.ubc.ca/?p=6314>



Symposium 2021-2022: Seeing Like an Empire: Chinese Political Thought and Practice in Changing Times.



Dr. Yuhua Wang: *'The Rise and Fall of Imperial China: The Social Origins of State Development'*

In the next instalment of our symposium, Seeing Like an Empire: Chinese Political Thought and Practice in Changing Times, we welcome Dr. Yuhua Wang, Harvard University

With Commentator Dr. Kerry Brown, Kings College London

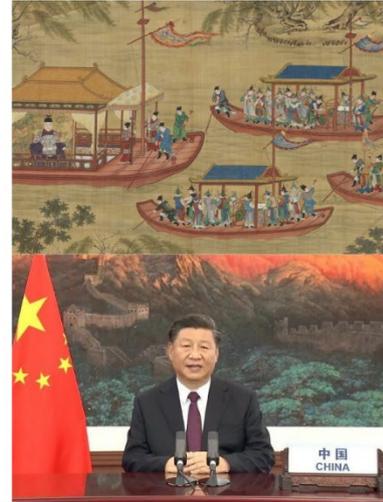
Moderated by Dr. Timothy Cheek, University of British Columbia

February 25th 2022 at 9:30 AM PST

February 25th 2022 at 5:30 PM GMT

February 25th 2022 at 12:30 PM EST

Register at: <https://ccr.sites.olt.ubc.ca/?p=6325>



Symposium 2021-2022: Seeing Like an Empire: Chinese Political Thought and Practice in Changing Times.

Dr. Susanne Weigelin-Schwiedrzik: *How to overcome diversity and create homogeneity- the CCP's current minority policies in historical and international perspectives*

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Susanne Weigelin-Schwiedrzik, University of Vienna, for the final session of our 2021-2022 symposium

With Commentator Dr. Guldana Salimjan, Simon Fraser University

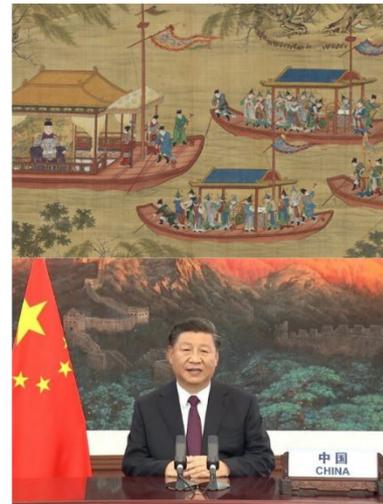
Moderated by Dr. Timothy Cheek, University of British Columbia

March 18th 2022 at 9:30 AM PST

March 18th 2022 at 6:30 PM CET

Mrch 18th 2022 at 12:30 PM EST

Register at: <https://ccr.sites.olt.ubc.ca/?p=6333>



Symposium 2021-2022: Seeing Like an Empire: Chinese Political Thought and Practice in Changing Times.

Recordings of these symposiums are also available online and can be accessed by the public on YouTube. You can find the links below:

[Seeing Like an Empire](#)

[Like Spring Drizzle Falling Without a Sound](#)

[The Rise and Fall of Imperial China](#)

[How to Overcome Diversity and Create Homogeneity](#)

International Conference:

Between September 9 and 11th, 2022, an international conference, “How is China Governed? From Ming Statecraft to Xi’s New Era,” was held in honour of professor emeritus Timothy Brook’s work and his retirement from full-time teaching.

Panellists, mainly historians and political scientists, presented topics related to Chinese governance during the Ming dynasty (1368-1644), the Ming in the world of its day, and Ming legacies up to the present. Commentators of different backgrounds—including an early modern Europeanist, two South Asia specialists, and a sociologist—provided insightful questions to stimulate the conversations further. UBC graduate students in History and Asian Studies served both as panel moderators facilitating the panels and as volunteers supporting the logistics of the event.

The conference concerned itself with four themes: Geography, Theories, Experiences, and Technologies of Statecraft. Using mainly a historical approach, panellists and commentators engaged with each other on late-Imperial Chinese statecraft, its perception by contemporary European counterparts, and its continuing influence in modern Chinese statecraft, to better understand the history and practices of Chinese governance. As part of the conference, Dr. Brook offered his insights in a public lecture held on September 9, “By What Right Does the Emperor Rule: Statecraft Technology and the Problem of Monarchy”.

By What Right Does the Emperor Rule? Statecraft Technology and the Problem of Monarchy

Public lecture by Dr. Timothy Brook (UBC)

Time: Friday, September 9, 2022

- Reception 17:00-18:00
- Lecture 18:00-19:30

Venue: Asian Centre Auditorium, UBC

Required registration at:

<https://forms.gle/U539Ah7q5i9PDyW8>

Sponsored by

The Center of Chinese Research, Republic of China Chair, and HSBC Chair

Department of History

Department of Asian Studies



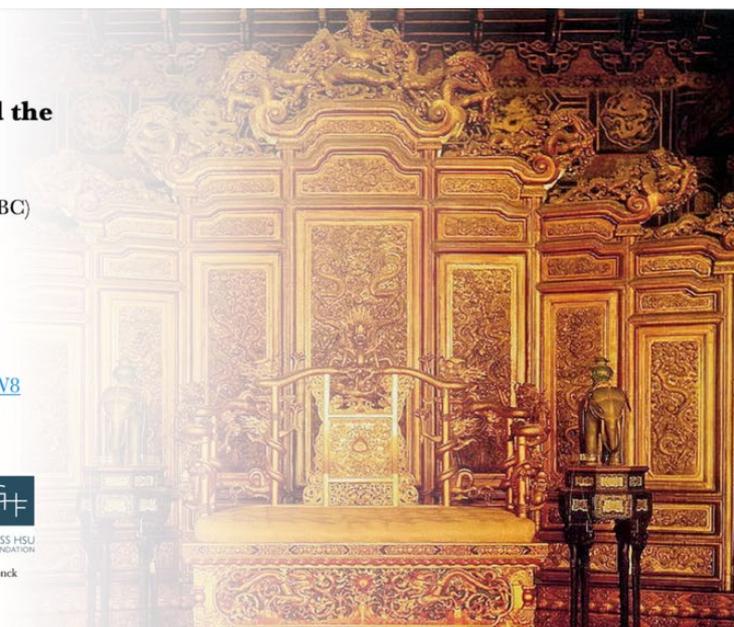
With the generous support of

The James P. Geiss & Margaret Y. Hsu Foundation

Rosalie and Willem Stronck



GEISS HSU FOUNDATION



More than forty scholars from around the world gathered in the Room of Many Trees at the Liu Institute for Global Issues—most attending in person, with a half-dozen joining via Zoom.



Standing: Quinton Huang, King Kwong Wong, Aydin Quach, Timothy Tan, Justin Chun Yin Cheng, Jerry Yang, Dr. Iza Ding, Dr. Luca Gabbiani, Lucy Warrington, Dr. Yves Tiberghien, Sze Sze Yap, Dr. Nam-Lin Hur, Dr. William A. Callahan, Calvin Lin, Dr. Bruce Rusk, Dr. Shoufu Yin, Niping Yan, Dr. Paul Evans, Dr. Pierre-Etienne Will, Dr. Maura Dykstra, Dr. Haun Saussy, Dr. Alison C. Bailey, Dr. Leo K. Shin, Dr. Jack Hayes, Dr. Dustin Harris, Dr. Mara Yue Du, Dr. Alyssa Brochu, Dr. Zhaokun Xin, Haoyue Li, Rui Ding, Yuqing Liu, Dr. Mark C. Elliott

Sitting: Dr. Lianbin Dai, Dr. Jun Fang, Dr. Michael Szonyi, Dr. Desmond Cheung, Aaron Throness, Aaron Molnar, Dr. Julia Strauss, Dr. Timothy Brook, Dr. R. Bin Wong, Dr. R. Kent Guy, Dr. Jérôme Bourgon, Dr. Ann Waltner, Dr. Gregory Blue, Dr. David Luesink, Dr. Timothy Cheek

Not in photo: Dr. Peter C. Perdue, Dr. Abishek Kaicker, Dr. John Christopoulos, Dr. Leigh Jenco, Dr. Susanne Weigelin-Schwiedrzik, Dr. Irene Pang, Dr. Pengsheng Chiu, Dr. Hung-lam Chu, Dr. Hasan Siddiqui, Dr. Zoudan Ma, Dr. Rui Hua, Fay Sims, Dalia Jung Xu, Willem Stronck, Rosalie Stronck

Photographer: Fiona Li (Photo taken in the courtyard of Liu Institute for Global Issues, September 11, 2022)

This conference was also hosted by the Republic of China Chair, and the HSBC Chair at the Institute of Asian Research in the School of Public Policy and Global Affairs, and co-sponsored by the Departments of History and Department of Asian Studies, with the generous support of the James P. Geiss & Margaret Y. Hsu Foundation and of Rosalie and Willem Stronck.

Green College Series:

From October 2022 to March 2023, the CCR also collaborated with UBC's Green College to provide a series of public lectures centred around the rise of China and the nature of Chinese power. Titled China Power, this series brought together leading experts from a diverse range of fields to illuminate how power operates internally within Chinese society, and externally in its relations with the rest of the world. The series has explored how social relations (or *guanxi*) operate in Chinese society today, the role of cultural practices in reproducing and contesting state power in authoritarian China, the impact of a rising China on the established global order, and the projection of China's soft power overseas.

CHINA POWER
A Centre for Chinese Research and Green College Public Lecture Series

Oct 12	Yanjie Bian, University of Minnesota Macro-Institutional Change and <i>Guanxi</i> Dynamics in China
Nov 30	Juliet Lu, University of British Columbia Partner or Predator? China and the Global Land Grab
Feb 01	Maria Repnikova, Georgia State University Chinese Soft Power in Africa: Opportunities and Frictions
Mar 21	Lena Henningsen, Freiburg University Text in Motion: Unofficial Handwritten Entertainment from the Chinese Cultural Revolution

Logos for UBC Centre for Chinese Research and Green College UBC are visible at the bottom right.

Collaboration with other UBC organizations:

CCR also works with other like-minded UBC organizations and departments to facilitate constructive conversation and scholarly exchange on topics of interest. It has been a long-time partner with UBC's Hong Kong Studies Initiative and is also involved with the student-run "HUA Dialogue" program, a platform for discussions of social, cultural, and political issues related to the overseas Chinese communities.

“Information Overload”
A Conversation about News
Consumption through Social Media

“資訊爆炸”中的我們
談談社群媒體上的時事討論

Thursday 6:00 pm,
April 7 @CK Choi 120

Logos: Centre for Chinese Research, Dialogue



Webinar

Late Colonialism: “Hong Kong People” and the Popular Re-imagining of an Instituting Imaginary

Friday, 29 October 2021, 12:00–13:30 PDT

Prof. Gregory Lee
University of St. Andrews

via Zoom
Details: hksi.ubc.ca

Source: The official programme cover of the Hong Kong Week (1967), The University of Hong Kong Libraries, Accession No. Y_01147

2023-2024 Events:

Several events are currently in the preliminary stages of preparation. Green College will continue to host a public lecture series on China. This year's theme is "China Logics" and aims to convene a group of experts and unpack their understanding of how China operates across time, space, and interactions. Professor Juliet Lu, who sits on the CCR Management Committee, is also planning an international conference on China's global presence in March 2024.