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NEWSLETTER

of the Association of Chinese Political Studies

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Editor's Note

Returning to normalcy after nearly three years of the still ongoing Covid-19 pandemic has not been easy. But Association of Chinese Political Studies has been attempting to do so while keeping a close watch on developments on the public health front. On November 11-12, 2022, ACPS held its first "in-person" annual conference and international symposium since 2019 in Dallas, Texas and on March 16, 2023 will hold an in-person panel on the topic of China's changing role in global governance at the International Studies Association (ISA) annual conference in Montreal, Canada. Motivating the change has been a widespread sense that many people have been hardened against Covid-19 through vaccines or having contracted the disease and recovered, tiredness from lifestyle disruptions, and a desire to get economies back on track. That emerging sensibility follows a long period in which ACPS has embraced online formats for meetings – at its annual conference in 2020, which was held using Zoom, at its virtual roundtable at the German Association for Asian Studies Conference 2021 under the title "Current developments (and challenges ahead) in the fields of Chinese political science", at its online roundtable at the hybrid ISA annual conference in March 2022 in Nashville, Tennessee titled "China's New Role in World Affairs: Partner or Competitor?", and at events of the American

Political Science Association annual meetings of the past two years.

Leading ACPS over the next two years will be Nele Noesselt, who was elected president of the organization in November 2022. Other people elected to the Board of Directors are Xi Chen, who was voted to succeed Nele as ACPS president in 2024 and is well-equipped to do so having served as interim president, Yumin Sheng, James F. Paradise, and Dan Chen. Among the activities of the board will be monitoring conditions in China, whose strict Covid lockdowns during the pandemic have made organizing conferences there all but impossible for groups like ACPS. With a relaxation of domestic Covid regulations in China in late 2022, and an easing of requirements for travel to the mainland from early 2023, travel to China should become easier in a still challenging environment in which Covid cases in China have recently surged and international flights to China are far fewer than before the pandemic.

Details of ACPS activities can be found in this newsletter. Topics covered include the 2022 ACPS annual conference and the impressive accomplishments of ACPS's flagship journal, the *Journal of Chinese Political Science*. There is also a statement by ACPS's new president, a summary of recent events, information on ACPS board members, two scholar profiles, and a list of China-related publications, which is by no means comprehensive.

Moving ahead, one can only hope that the Covid crisis is brought under greater control (or, as one doctor puts it more ambitiously, living with Covid is replaced by living without Covid), the world becomes a more peaceful place, and environmental problems are dealt with more expeditiously. Playing a major role in accomplishing these objectives will be the United States, Europe and China. That will require not only independent actions but also greater cooperation. May present and future political and business leaders understand the big picture.

James F. Paradise
Newsletter Editor

Message from the President

I am very honored to serve as new president of the ACPS – a strong and vivid network of several generations of leading China scholars in the US (and beyond), dedicated to the in-depth theory-guided analysis of Chinese politics, and to observing and commenting on new developments at the pulse of time. The first ACPS meeting I attended was the annual conference in San Francisco (2012) – and, since then, the intense exchange with ACPS colleagues has deeply inspired and guided my research. Having served as ACPS research director since 2018, I had a chance to learn more about the association and to meet many of you in person at ACPS annual meetings and at the ACPS panels organized for the annual conventions of ISA and APSA. With the academic community (re-)turning to the “new normal” of in-person events, I am very confident that we will not only be able to organize more annual meetings but also launch innovative event formats.

The new ACPS Board of Directors will soon meet and start the preparations for the next annual conference. The recent ACPS 2022 conference at SMU (organized principally by Xi Chen) sets the bar high. It is indeed an extraordinary honor to be part of this outstanding academic network of ACPS scholars. Same as all previous ACPS presidents, I am committed to – jointly with all of you – advance the excellence of scholarship in the fields of political science research on China and to uphold the banner of academic freedom and free debate across the various academic communities in the fields of China studies.

Again, thank you for your dedicated support and trust along the way. We hope to see you soon (again) at our upcoming ACPS 2023 conference!

Very best wishes,

Nele Noesselt
President, Association of Chinese Political Studies

我非常荣幸出任中国政治研究学会(ACPS)新一届主席。ACPS 是一个充满活力有影响力的学术组织，是由在美国国内外几代杰出中国政治研究领域的学者一起透过由理论引导的中国政治研究、观察、还有评论构筑的一个活泼的学术平台。2012 年是我第一次参加 ACPS 在三藩市举办的会议。自此以来，与 ACPS 同事的广泛接触与深度交流很大程度上启发并引导了我个人的学术研究。自 2018 年入选 ACPS 董事会负责科研以来，我得以有更多的机会了解这个学术组织并透过 ACPS 年会及 ACPS 在 ISA、APSA 等国际会议上组织的专题小组会议上认识了你们当中许多人。在当前学术圈逐步转向（恢复）到实体会议的背景下，我对 ACPS 在未来两年不仅可以继续举办实体会议并会有许多创新形式的学术活动充满信心。

新一届的 ACPS 董事会很快就会开始筹备下一届年会。最近由 ACPS 代理主席暨当选主席陈茜在南方卫理公会大学(SMU)举办的 ACPS 2022 年会为以后的年会立下了高标尺。能成为 ACPS 这个优秀学术组织的一员无疑是一份特殊的荣誉。像所有的 ACPS 前任主席一样，我期待与你们一起，致力于推动中国政治研究的学术进步、中国研究领域的学术自由、与跨领域学术交流自由。

最后，感谢你们不懈的支持与信任！期待在即将到来的 2023 年会与大家会面！

奉上诚挚问候！

Nele Noesselt
中国政治研究学会主席

Summary of Recent Activities

Dear ACPS members,

It was an honor to serve as the interim president of the ACPS during the past 10 months.

The nomination of me for this position came at an unexpected time, to say the least. My decision to accept the nomination when the previous ACPS president resigned in February 2022 was made out of an obligated heart to serve, my confidence in the commitment of the ACPS Board of Directors filled with dedicated members, and my shared vision with all previous ACPS presidents to advance the excellence of scholarship in the field of Chinese Political Studies.

With the strong support from the ACPS board and many individuals and institutions, I am beyond delighted and proud to share that ACPS has organized various academic activities and successfully increased the impact of the organization and its *Journal of Chinese Political Science* through social media and other outreach efforts during the past 10 months. Specifically, we organized ACPS virtual panels and roundtables for APSA 2022 and ISA 2023, deployed ACPS and JCPS Twitter accounts, consolidated the ACPS public Facebook page, developed partnership with the Southern Methodist University (SMU) and co-hosted the first ACPS in-person conference since the beginning of the pandemic.

The 34th Annual Meeting of the Association of Chinese Political Studies was held at the SMU campus in Dallas, TX on November 11-12, 2022. While we celebrate the great success of this conference and international symposium, we extend our appreciation to the SMU-Tower Center, our conference co-host, for their wonderful partnership with us. We would also like to give our special thanks to our honored keynote speakers, Dr. Andrew G. Walder from Stanford University and Dr. Susan L. Shirk from the University of California, San Diego, for their inspiring and inspirational keynote talks delivered at this year's conference. Last, but not least, we would like to thank all conference participants for their commitment and efforts to travel to the conference to share their exciting research with us from institutions around the world. Thank you for being part of this exciting conference! We enjoyed your presence and contribution to this conference very much indeed.

Finally, I am excited to share that we elected the next ACPS president, president-elect, and other members of the board for the 2022-2024 term of office at the ACPS business meeting on November 12, 2022. Please join me in congratulating all members of the new ACPS Board of Directors and our new ACPS president, Nele Noesselt, for their election.

Dr. Noesselt has served on the ACPS board as the research director with remarkable record since 2018. She is currently professor at the Institute of Political Science and director of the Institute of East Asian Studies (IN-EAST) at the University of Duisburg-Essen (Germany). She was elected as president of the German Association for Asian Studies in 2021. Her research focuses on governance issues in China as well as China's role in world affairs. She is a frequent speaker at many academic events on China and Asian Studies in Europe and beyond. I am thrilled and honored to pass the baton to Dr. Noesselt and am confident that she will take ACPS to the next level. Your continued support for ACPS, and Dr. Noesselt's leadership in particular, is very much welcomed and appreciated!

Once again, it has been an extraordinary honor to serve as the interim president of the association for the past year. I look forward to meeting many of you at future ACPS events!

Warmest regards,

Xi Chen

President-Elect, Association of Chinese Political Studies

Report on 2022 ACPS Annual Meeting and International Symposium

The 34th ACPS Annual Meeting and International Symposium was held at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas on November 11th and 12th, 2022. Organized around the theme “Rethinking and Reassessing China’s Political Development: A Post-Pandemic Perspective,” the conference drew participants from academic institutions in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, the Czech Republic, Chile, South Korea, and China. Keynote speeches were given by Dr. Andrew G. Walder, Denise O’Leary and Kent Thiry Professor of Sociology in the School of Humanities and Sciences and Senior Fellow of the Freeman-Spogli Institute for International Studies at Stanford University, and Dr. Susan L. Shirk, Research Professor and Chair of the 21st Century China Center in the School of Global Policy and Strategy at University of California, San Diego. Walder talked about events that occurred in China in the summer of 1968 that are the subject of his forthcoming book *Civil War in Guangxi: The Cultural Revolution on China’s Southern Periphery*; Shirk spoke about the reasons for China’s foreign policy changes that are dealt with in her book – *Overreach: How China Derailed Its Peaceful Rise* – which was released in 2022. Paper presentations given by other conference participants were structured around seven panel themes: China’s Global Investment and Its Impacts; Statecraft and US-China Relations; Media, Public Opinion and Political Rhetoric/Signaling; China and Its Interactions with the World; Elite Politics and Authoritarian Cooptation; The Chinese State and Society; and China and Its Neighbors. The conference ended with a business meeting at which a new ACPS president and other members of the Board of Directors were elected. There was also an optional tour of the George W. Bush Presidential Center on the campus of SMU. Cohosting the conference were the John Goodwin Tower Center for Public Policy & International Affairs at SMU and ACPS. Special thanks should be given to Hiroki Takeuchi, Director of the Sun and Star Program on Japan and East Asia in the Tower Center and Associate Professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies of Political Science at SMU for enabling a successful conference to take place, and Xi Chen, interim president of ACPS at the time, who worked out the conference partnership with SMU on all details. (James F. Paradise)



Center: Andrew G. Walder; Clockwise from top right: Gregory J. Moore, Cathy Wu, Baogang Guo, Robert Hodge, Shan Huang, Stan Hok-Wui Wong, Gengsong Gao, Dan Chen



Center top: Susan L. Shirk; Clockwise from top right: He Li, Linan Jia, Xi Chen, Robert Hodge, Yumin Sheng, Mai Alfarhan, Shengqiao Lin, Hiroki Takeuchi



Center: ACPS logo; Clockwise from top right: Richard Turcsanyi, Baogang Guo, Gregory J. Moore, Zhihang Ruan, Yuanhao Tian, Francisco Urdinez, Wei Liang, and a scene from a presentation on 5G



Evening banquet in the beautiful Meadows Museum of SMU on the occasion of a keynote speech



Scenes from Day 2 of the conference, which included a luncheon, a keynote talk, and more panels

Board of Directors (2022-2024)

President and Research Director



Dr. Nele Noesselt (Ph.D., University of Vienna) is currently professor at the Institute of Political Science and director of the Institute of East Asian Studies (IN-EAST) at the University of Duisburg-Essen (Germany). She was elected as

president of the Germany Association of Asian Studies in 2021. Since 2017, she is the speaker of the recently opened AREA Graduate School on Transnational East Asian Studies. In 2018, she got appointed to the international advisory board of the book series Bristol Studies in East Asian International Relations (Bristol University Press). Her research focuses on governance issues in China as well as China's role in world affairs. Before joining the University of Duisburg-Essen, she worked as post-doc research fellow at the GIGA Institute of Asian Studies, where she also acted as speaker of the GIGA research team on Comparative Regionalism Studies.

President-Elect and Publicity Director



Dr. Xi Chen (Ph.D., Virginia Tech) was an associate professor in the Department of Political Science and Asian Studies Minor Program at the University of Texas, Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV). She specializes in International Politics with a focus on China. She obtained her Doctoral degree in Planning, Governance, and Globalization from Virginia Tech and M.A. in Applied Linguistics from China Foreign Affairs University. Dr. Chen's primary research and teaching interests include Asian Politics, Chinese Politics, Media and Politics, Global Security, and International Relations.

Treasurer



Dr. Yumin Sheng (Ph.D., Yale University, 2005) is an associate professor of political science at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan. His research interests are economic globalization and domestic politics, federalism and decentralization,

regional political representation and resource redistribution, and civil-military relations under authoritarianism, with a focus on contemporary China. He is the author of *Economic Openness and Territorial Politics in China* (2010) and articles in *British Journal of Political Science*, *China Quarterly*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Journal of Contemporary China*, and *Studies in Comparative International Development*.

Newsletter Editor



Dr. James F. Paradise (Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles) is Senior Fellow at Asia Research Center in the Republic of Korea. He specializes in international political economy, with particular reference to Northeast Asia.

Among his publications are: "China's Quest for Global Economic Governance Reform" (*Journal of Chinese Political Science*, 2019), "Power Through Participation: The Case of China and New Multilateral Development Banks" (*Korean Political Science Review*, 2017), "The New Intellectual Property Rights Environment in China: Impact of WTO Membership and China's 'Innovation Society' Makeover" (*Asian Journal of Social Science*, 2013) and "China and International Harmony: The Role of Confucius Institutes in Bolstering Beijing's Soft Power" (*Asian Survey*, 2009).

Membership Director



Dr. Dan Chen (Ph.D., University of Kansas) is an assistant professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of Richmond. Her research focuses on media politics, public opinion, local governance and cultural

politics in China. She is the author of *Convenient Criticism: Local Media and Governance in Urban China* (SUNY Press, 2020), in addition to articles published in *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *The China Quarterly*, *Modern China*, *Journal of East Asian Studies*, *Journal of Contemporary China*, and others. Dr. Chen is a Public Intellectuals Program (PIP) Fellow with the National Committee on United States-China Relations (NCUSCR). In 2018, she was a visiting fellow at the China Studies Centre, the University of Sydney.

Publications

Books:

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Li, He and Antonio Hsiang, eds. 2021. *Taiwan's Relations with Latin America: A Strategic Rivalry between the United States, Taiwan, and China in Latin America*. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books.

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Hasmath, Reza, Timothy Hildebrandt, Jessica C. Teets, Jennifer YJ Hsu, and Carolyn L. Hsu. 2022. "Citizens' Expectations for Crisis Management and the Involvement of Civil Society Organisations in China." *Journal of Current Chinese Affairs* 51 (2): 292-312.

Hsu, Carolyn L., Jessica C. Teets, Reza Hasmath, Jennifer YJ Hsu, and Timothy Hildebrandt. 2022. "The Construction and Performance of Citizenship in Contemporary China." *Journal of Contemporary China* 32 (138): 1-17.

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Scholar Profiles

Dr. Brantly Womack



The only silver lining to the Covid cloud has been Zoom, and long-time ACPS member (and JCPS author) Brantly Womack included top Asian scholars Wang Gungwu (Singapore), Wu Yu-Shan (Taipei), Qin Yaqing (Beijing and Qingdao), and Evelyn Goh (Canberra) as active participants in his current major project, *Recentering Pacific Asia: Regional China and World Order*. The project began with four lectures in the fall of 2021 at the University of Virginia that featured interactive virtual commentaries as well as a local audience. Womack then expanded the lectures into a book that includes the revised commentaries, and it is scheduled to be published by Cambridge in July 2023.

Having begun his study of China before U.S.-China normalization (1979), Womack appreciates the importance of academic connectivity, and the current risks to mutual understanding posed both by Covid and the deterioration of political relationships. While his first book was on the political thought of Mao Zedong during the rural revolution, throughout the era of “reform and openness” he has tried to understand the basic dynamics of Chinese domestic and external developments. His articles have touched on changes in China’s political economy, the diverse layers of China’s external relations, political reforms and their challenges, and China’s role in the larger picture of Pacific Asian political economy.

Womack was a member of the first U.S. academic delegation to Vietnam in 1985, and this began a new line of interests. Vietnam, a country “most similar, quite different” from China, is also one of China’s longest partners in foreign relations. Womack’s study of the relationship led first to a comprehensive analysis of its dynamics (*China and Vietnam: The Politics of Asymmetry* 2006), and then to a more general theory of asymmetric

international relationships (*Asymmetry and International Relationships* 2016).

But taking continuity seriously means working with China as well as researching China. Womack has participated in teaching and research especially at Jilin University, East China Normal University, and China Foreign Affairs University, and has visited every province. In 2011 he was the first social scientist to receive the China Friendship Award. He is currently the Boeing Visiting Professor of Foreign Affairs at Schwarzman College, Tsinghua University.

Shan Huang



Shan (Shanne) Huang is currently a fellow in management consultancy at United Nations Development Programme (Headquarters in New York, the USA). She is a Ph.D. candidate in Chinese Studies Research and Sociology at King’s College London. Shan completed her M.Sc. degree in Sociology at the University of Bristol. She is an experienced researcher with expertise in sociology, methodology and Chinese political economy. Shan has been invited to present her research at over ten international conferences in the UK, the USA, Japan, Norway and China. She is also the President of the British Postgraduate Network for Chinese Studies from 2019 to 2020. Among her scholarly work is *The Political Economy of Reforms and the Remaking of the Proletarian Class in China, 1980s-2010s*, which will be published by Palgrave Macmillan in 2023. The book demonstrates how the reforms of Deng Xiaoping have led to increased economic efficiency at the expense of economic equality through an extensive case study of a state-owned enterprise in Sichuan Province as well as wider discussions of the emergence of state capitalism on both a micro and macroeconomic level.

Journal of Chinese Political Science Ranks Q2 in Political Science and Q1 in China Area Studies



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Journal of Chinese Political Science (JCPS) ranks Q2 in Political Science and Q1 in China Area Studies in the release of Journal Citation Reports 2021, with Impact Factor **2.635**.

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Journal of Chinese Political Science (JCPS) is a rigorously peer refereed academic journal in political science that publishes theoretical and empirical research articles on Chinese politics across the whole spectrum of political science.

The journal editors welcome scholars in the field of Chinese politics to submit plans or proposals for special issues on any cutting-edge research agenda, hot topics or based on important conference panels. Those who intend to guest edit special issues or are calling for special issue proposals should contact Editor-in-Chief Professor Sujian Guo at sguo@sfsu.edu

JCPS has been indexed and abstracted: Social Science Citation Index, SCOPUS, Google Scholar, Academic OneFile, Bibliography of Asian Studies, CNKI, Current Abstracts, EBSCO Academic Search, EBSCO Advanced Placement Source, EBSCO Discovery Service, EBSCO Political Science Complete, EBSCO TOC Premier, Emerging Sources Citation Index, Gale, International Bibliography of the Social Sciences (IBSS), International Political Science Abstracts, OCLC, PAIS International, ProQuest Central, ProQuest Politics Collection, ProQuest Research Library, ProQuest Social Science Collection, SCImago, Summon by ProQuest, TD Net Discovery Service, UGC-CARE List (India), Wanfang.

Comments, suggestions or contributions to the ACPS newsletter can be directed to James F. Paradise, Newsletter Editor, at paradise@ucla.edu, or Nele Noesselt, ACPS President, at nnoesselt@gmail.com.