SG200: Understanding Singapore’s past and present, and preparing for her future

News
New faculty and achievements
SSS faculty conferred chair professorships
IIAS-Lien 2019 Conference

People
Asst Prof Akshar Saxena
Assoc Prof Jonathan Tan
Asst Prof Tan Chin Hong
Dear Colleagues, Students, Alumni and Friends,

I would like to wish Singapore and all Singaporeans a very Happy National Day. Not only does Singapore celebrate its 54th year of independence this year, it is also commemorating the 200th year of the founding of modern Singapore, based upon long historical heritages that existed prior to 1819. In this third issue of NEW HORIZONS, we are doing our own tribute to Singapore’s key milestones in its rich history and significant progresses. Our feature story looks at what SSS offers to our students in terms of enriching them with the knowledge of Singapore’s development from the past to present, and at some of our faculty’s research that impacts Singapore.

As we celebrate Singapore’s achievements, we also recognise the accomplishments of our faculty. Earlier in March, NTU President Professor Subra Suresh unveiled the creation of 50 new named faculty chair professorships to identify exceptional performers at early, mid-career and senior faculty levels. This initiative, first announced at the university town hall meeting in August 2018, is part of a plan to establish up to 100 new named professorships over the next five years to attract, nurture, and retain top-performing faculty at NTU. I am delighted to announce several of School of Social Sciences (SSS) faculty members are part of the 50 who have been conferred these professorships. And on the same note of recognising excellence, the School has also three new appointees to the roles of Associate Chair (Academic), Associate Chair (Graduate Education), and Head of Public Policy and Global Affairs. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate my colleagues on their new appointments and thank their respective predecessors for their dedication to the School and University.

In our continuous commitment to student-centric education and cutting-edge scholarship, SSS had the opportunity to assist the Nanyang Centre for Public Administration (NCPA) in co-organising the International Institute of Administrative (IIAS)-Lien 2019 Conference in June. It is the first time that the IIAS’ Annual Congress and NCPA’s biennial Lien International Conference on Good Governance were held together on a single platform to discuss what constitutes good governance, under the general framework of the United Nations’ 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We were privileged to have Mr Heng Swee Keat, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, as our guest-of-honour at the event, which attracted more than 550 participants from 55 countries. You can read more about the conference in this issue.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support, and I hope you will enjoy this issue of NEW HORIZONS!
**NEW FACULTY AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

A warm welcome to our new faculty to the School of Social Sciences, and our heartfelt congratulations for their outstanding contributions to the School!

**NEW FACULTY**

**Economics**
- Asst Prof Jonathan Tan
- Asst Prof Akshat Saxena

**ASSOC PROF MD SAIDUL ISLAM AT MIT**

Associate Professor Md Saidul Islam from Sociology spent the last Fall 2018 in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) as a Visiting Scholar in the Abdul Latif Jameel Water and Food Systems Lab (J-WAFS) at MIT.

Promotion to Associate Professor with Tenure
- Assoc Prof Laura Wu

**ASSOC PROF YOHANES EKO RIYANTO**

Associate Professor Yohanes Eko Riyanto has been appointed Associate Dean (Research) for the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (HASS) as of 1 May 2019. He hands over his previous role of School of Social Sciences’ Associate Chair (Academic) to Associate Professor Laura Wu, and his position of Acting Head of Public Policy and Global Affairs to Associate Professor Wang Jue.

**FACULTY PROMOTION AND TENURE**

**FACULTY APPOINTMENTS**

**NEW APPOINTMENT FOR ASSOC PROF YOHANES EKO RIYANTO**

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**NANYANG ASST PROF IAN MCGONIGLE RECOGNISED FOR DISSERTATION**

Congratulations to Nanyang Assistant Professor Ian McGonigle on receiving the Association for Middle East Anthropology Dissertation Award for his doctoral work at Harvard University. The prize is given to work that has provided the most significant and potentially influential contribution to Middle East anthropology. Dr McGonigle said the recognition is a “huge honour”, and that he is currently working on the manuscript for publication as a book.

**ASSOC PROF TEO YU EANN AWARDED FINALIST OF THE STRATIS TIMES SINGAPOREAN OF THE YEAR 2018**

Associate Professor Teo Yu Eann received an award as Finalist of The Straits Times Singaporean of the Year 2018 for her book Thia is What Inequality Looks Like. The award was conferred at a ceremony hosted by President Halimah Yacob at the Istana on 12 February 2019. The Straits Times Singaporean of the Year seeks to honour Singaporeans whose extraordinary acts of goodwill have improved their community and the lives of the others. The book, as Associate Professor Teo shared in an interview with publisher Ethos Books, is not just a textbook for students, but for everyone. “It has been written to give any reader—not just students, or sociologists—tools for looking at the lives we live, for understanding how we are connected to others around us, and for discussing public policy,” she said. She asserted that questions on public policy “should not be asked and answered only by a small elite” and that “all of us have a part for equality and change.”

**NEW APPOINTMENT**

**Assoc Chair (Academic)**
- Assoc Prof Laura Wu

**Assoc Chair (Graduate Education)**
- Assoc Prof Kamaludeen Mohamed Nasir

**Head of Public Policy and Global Affairs**
- Assoc Prof Wang Jue

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**“Urban food security in the age of vulnerability: The Singapore story”, and “Climate change and food security in the Asia-Pacific: Response and resilience”**

The lectures were attended by not only students and faculties of MIT and other neighbouring universities including Harvard, but also local NGOs, activists, and policy makers including individuals from the mayoral office in the City of Cambridge, Massachusetts. During his stay in MIT, Associate Professor Md Saidul presented papers in the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, University of Michigan, and in Toronto, Canada as well.

**Eko Riyanto has been appointed**

As a Visiting Scholar in the Abdul Latif Jameel Water and Food Systems Lab (J-WAFS) at MIT, Associate Professor Md Saidul worked on, among other projects and collaborations, two key strands of his research: (a) the limits and possibilities of aquaculture certification, and (b) climate change and urban food security in the Asia-Pacific. He gave a series of public lectures at MIT campus organised by J-WAFS, such as “Toward sustainable seafood: The limits and possibilities of aquaculture certification”, “Urban food security in the age of vulnerability: The Singapore story”, and “Climate change and food security in the Asia-Pacific: Response and resilience”.

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SSS FACULTY CONFERRED CHAIR PROFESSORSHIPS

NTU President Professor Subra Suresh announced the creation of 50 new named faculty chair professorships on 26 March 2019 at the university town hall. These professorships are part of a major effort to recognise outstanding achievements at early, mid-career and senior faculty levels.

The initiative was first announced at the university town hall meeting in August 2018, where the university planned to create up to 100 new term chair professorships over five years to attract, nurture and retain outstanding faculty at NTU.

Among the 50 named professorships, five of SSS faculty have been appointed, with their new appointments effective from 1 April 2019.

Professor Liu Hong, Chair of School of Social Sciences, is also the Tan Lark Sye Chair Professor of Public Policy and Global Affairs. The Professorship was established in 1998, through donations from Chinese groups and Nanyang University (Nantah) alumni, to honour Mr Tan Lark Sye's outstanding contributions to education. Mr Tan, entrepreneur and philanthropist, is most remembered for his leading role in promoting higher Chinese education and the founding of Nantah in 1953.

Professor Liu, who joined NTU in 2010, currently specialises in research concerning Asian governance, Sino-Southeast Asian relations, international migration, global flows of talents, and public diplomacy. He has authored/revised 15 books and about 100 academic articles, including in leading international journals such as World Politics, Journal of Asian Studies, Critical Asian Studies, Journal of Southeast Asian Studies, The China Quarterly, and Ethnic and Racial Studies. His publications also appear in the French, Dutch, Japanese, Chinese, Indonesian and Korean languages. He has served as Chair of School of Humanities and Social Sciences. And since January 2014, he has concurrently served as Director of the Nanyang Centre for Public Administration (NCPA).

Professor Euston Quah – Albert Winsemius Chair Professor

Professor Euston Quah has been appointed the third Albert Winsemius Chair Professor. Dr Albert Winsemius was a Dutch economist known as the founding father of the Dutch post-war industrialisation programme and advisor to the Singapore government from the 1960s to early 1980s. In honour of his contributions to the Singapore's growth, the Albert Winsemius Chair Professorship was established in 1997 from an endowment.

Dr Euston Quah, Professor and Head of Economics in NTU, had also chaired HSS from 2009 to 2017. He has chaired the Nanyang Award – Research (Young Investigator).

Professor Suzy Styles – Provost's Chair Professor

Dr Suzy Styles joined NTU in 2013 under the Nanyang Assistant Professor (NAP) programme, and is currently a director of the Brain Language and Intersensory Perception (BLIP) Lab. Her broad research areas include psycholinguistics and cognitive approaches to language acquisition while her research interests include lexical access and its neural and behavioural correlates in early language development, the role of linguistic stimuli in intersensory processing, the influence of different writing systems on language processing, and relationship between language and cognition.

She was awarded a $5.1 million grant from the National Research Foundation Science of Learning for her five-year research project, ‘How language mixes contribute to effective bilingualism and effective bility in Singapore’.

In recognition of achievements and contributions to NTU, Dr Styles also received the Nanyang Award – Research (Young Investigator).

Professor Euston Quah (Second row, second from left); Assoc Prof Teo You Yenn (Second row, first from right); and Nanyang Asst Prof Suzy Styles (Fourth row, first from left)
The Science, Society and Governance research cluster organised a workshop in February on Diffusion MRI with Dr Hiromasa Takeda as its speaker. Dr Takeda, a tenure-track researcher, is from Center for Information and Neural Networks (CiNet), National Institute of Information and Neural Network (NII), Osaka University. His research focuses on studies of human visual white matter pathways. His second talk, ‘Multi-Dimensional Approaches to Understand the Visual White Matter Pathways’, highlighted recent progress in elucidating the relationship between the properties of white matter tracts and visual function by combining dMRI with clinical, behavioral, functional or anatomical measurements. He described dMRI studies used to identify white matter pathways, and using functional MRI, discussed his recent approaches for interpreting the tissue properties of visual white matter pathways.

Assistant Professor Laavanya Kathiravelu, project ‘Does citizenship matter?’ from vision science, comparative neuroanatomy, functional neuroimaging and clinical vision. She gave two talks at the workshop, which was held on 12 February at the HSI Conference Room. In the first talk, ‘White Matter Imaging in Human Neuroscience Diffusion MRI and Its Applications’, Dr Takeda gave an overview on the methodologies of acquiring dMRI data and discussed several types of methods for modeling dMRI signals in a single voxel from a simpler diffusion tensor model up to complex multi-compartment models. He also introduced advances in modelling white matter tracts (tractography) from deterministic tractography to recent global methods, and subsequently spoke about the advantages and limitations of dMRI as a method in systems neuroscience or psychology.

In his welcome remarks, Professor Liu Hong—Tan Lark See Chair Professor of Public Policy and Global Affairs, and Chair of School of Social Sciences—said that the School and NDPRs have directed their attention to ‘policy-oriented research and leadership training that are strategically significant to both Singapore and the region’, in addition to a ‘student-centric education and cutting-edge scholarship’. He added the Lien Research Programme on the Belt and Road Initiative was set up in 2018 with an outlook to approach the BRI from the Singapore and maritime silk road’s perspectives. The four-day conference featured four tracks which included around 300 paper presenters from the IIAS and NDPRs, with Singapore and Qatar being the host countries. Singapore and Qatar are nation-states that experience extremely high rates of migration. Her research is at the intersection of three interrelated themes—migration, ethnicity and urban diversity.

The first cluster dealt with Good Governance, the fourth industrial revolution, and area studies. The second cluster was on Good Governance and the question of qualitative dichotomy in contemporary times, corruption, political-administration leadership in public organisations, and the impact of the more assertive stance adopted by China in global affairs. Dr Guanie Lim, he also questioned the impact of the more assertive stance adopted by China in global affairs. Dr Chen Chung-An, associate professor from IIAS’ Public Policy and Global Affairs, and Associate Professor Liu Bangchong from Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China, shared how civil servants trained abroad apply their skills learned back home.
SG200: UNDERSTANDING SINGAPORE’S PAST AND PRESENT, AND PREPARING FOR HER FUTURE

This year, Singapore is commemorating the 200th anniversary of Sir Stamford Raffles’ arrival with the Singapore Bicentennial. It is a year-long celebration that delves into Singapore’s history that goes back 500 years before 1819, and forward 200 years into 2019.

Many of us only know Singapore as a thriving cosmopolitan city-state and a modern economic powerhouse with one of the busiest seaports in the world. We have enjoyed decades of economic stability despite going through several tough economic downturns, and decades of social harmony among our people from different backgrounds, ethnicities, and citizenships.

But even though Singapore is a young nation with 54 years of independence, there is still much to learn about it.

Education on Singapore’s economic, political and social history

As a university that has always been a part in the Singapore Story, NTU’s offering of Singapore-centric courses is one of the value-added features of a holistic education for our students. At the School of Social Sciences, our students have the opportunity to examine the evolution of Singapore’s economy, policies and society, giving them in-depth knowledge of our nation’s narrative. Courses offered, at both the undergraduate and postgraduate level, also help students to gain insights to Singapore’s place in the region and beyond.

For example, non-Economics undergraduates keen to develop a deeper understanding of Singapore’s economy could take up ‘The Singapore Economy’, which provides them with a broad introduction to Singapore’s economic structure, development experiences, and economic policies. It also covers the government’s approaches to microeconomic and macroeconomic management, which includes the handling of market failures, and management of Singapore’s fiscal, monetary and security policies. Graduate students from the Master of Science in Applied Economics will attend a seminar on the study of Singapore’s economic policies—their rationale, design and what they have achieved—as part of the curriculum. Some topics that would be discussed include economic development, privatisation and liberalisation, and manpower and labour market, among others.

Students whose interests lie in Singapore’s policies and political history, could consider several courses under the Public Policy and Global Affairs programme. In ‘Politics of Singapore’, students are familiarised with Singapore’s politics and government, and will critically analyse various theoretical approaches to understand Singapore’s political system—from its structure, functions and process of the government to the development of the Constitution and functions of the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary.

To expand their knowledge of Singapore’s society, undergraduates could study several courses offered by the Sociology programme. Courses such as ‘Contemporary Singapore Society’ and ‘Society in Transition’ provides a sociological perspective on various aspects of Singapore society, and encourages students to develop a comprehensive analysis of the fundamentals of Singapore as a society.

Courses offered at the postgraduate level, such as the Master of Science in Applied Gerontology programme, places the study of Singapore through the field of gerontology in a wider and regional context. For example, the ‘Ageing Asia: Interdisciplinary Perspectives’ course presents students an overview of the field of ageing from psychological and sociological perspectives, and examine the demographic, social, and economic trends of global ageing, paying attention to particularly greying Asian societies - Singapore included.

Helping Singapore progress through research

The School of Social Sciences’ faculty members produce compelling and meaningful research which traverses across disciplines, with many projects contributing to the progress of Singapore and beyond. Our faculty have also been awarded prestigious and generous grants for their work—some of which have generated much buzz among academia and public alike.

Investigating infanth sleeping arrangements and mother-infant well-being in Singapore

Assistant Professor Setoh Pei Pei and Nanyang Assistant Professor Gianluca Esposito aim to trace the beginnings of sleep development in Singapore through their research project, ‘Infant sleeping arrangements and mother infant well-being in Singapore’. They examine the earliest choices Singaporean parents make about sleeping arrangements of...
Learning about our past plays a big part in forming our own national identity. But what is equally important is how this knowledge contours our understanding of our present and impact our ideas for the future.

“Keeping up with the changes Singapore faces, both in terms of technology and its society, becomes crucial because just as no one owes Singapore a living, no one owes Singapore the knowledge of itself.”

– Muhammad Iylia, second-year psychology student.

Parents and infants as well as the physiological and behavioural consequences of such decisions. Their project is based on the premise of sleep in childhood being influenced by parent-infant characteristics and influenced by multiple factors—cultural, ecological and pragmatic concerns and processes. In particular, they aim to examine babies’ physiological, calming responses to different sleeping arrangements, the different caregiving practices on sleeping arrangement in Singaporean families, and how these practices are mediated by the influence of cultural beliefs and parenting styles and parents’ work-life balance.

Promoting dynamic governance through transnational knowledge transfer
Professor Liu Hong’s research, “Transnational Knowledge Transfer and Dynamic Governance in Comparative Perspective”, which was funded with an MOE Tier-2 grant in 2017, aims to contribute to the process of transnational knowledge transfer with a theory of knowledge transfer that draws attention to tacit knowledge, or ‘software’ transfer, as a necessary complement to the ‘hardware’ transfer of policies, administrative arrangements, institutions, and best practices across countries.

Set within the context of the rise of the Global South for the formation and fostering of “dynamic governance”, focusing on Singapore, China, Southeast Asia and Africa, it seeks to compare and clarify the commonalities and differences in the mechanisms, dynamics, and outcomes of transnational knowledge transfer among selected countries in the Global South.

Illuminating inequality in Singapore
Associate Professor Teo You Yenn’s latest book, This Is What Inequality Looks Like, ignited a national conversation about inequality in Singapore. Ideas for the book were born from her research project, “Everyday lives of the low-income in Singapore”, which began in 2013.

Through the essays, which have been arranged to be read as a totality and in sequence, she peeks into the systems of Singapore’s education, labour, care and welfare, and demonstrates how class inequalities are entrenched in them. The book has sold more than 25,000 copies since it was launched in February 2018; a second edition and an e-book version was released in May 2019.

Further to her work on inequality, Associate Professor Teo was also involved in a study that addressed the question of how much older people needed to achieve a basic standard of living in Singapore. Ideas for the book were born from her research project, “Everyday lives of the low-income in Singapore”, which began in 2013.

The “What older people need in Singapore: A household budget study” was conducted with Assistant Professor Ng Kok Hoe from Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy and his colleagues from National University of Singapore. Similar to her book on inequality, this research garnered much discussion due to findings which revealed the sum and items included in the budget.

Why learn and understand Singapore’s past?
While Singapore is a young nation, our history is no less storied. We have survived and grown from the war-torn years in the 1940s, the tumultuous years of riots and social unrest in the 1950s, and separated from the Malaysia Federation in 1963. We ploughed through the oil shock in the 1970s and saw our economy soar in the decades thereafter. It can be said that Singapore is the only country so far that has made the great leap from Third World poverty to First World affluence within decades.

“To understand where we are, we have to know how we got here,” Dr Walid Jumblatt Abdullah, assistant professor of Public Policy and Global Affairs, shares. “Studying our past is imperative towards comprehending and appreciating the nuances of our current politics.”

Learning about our past plays a big part in forming our own national identity. But what is equally important is how this knowledge contours our understanding of our present and impact our ideas for the future. In view of this, courses at SSS often reference historical events and situations to contextualise current affairs and contemporary concerns, as well as to understand how these situations have contributed to the nation’s future.

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DEDICATED TO IMPROVING HEALTH THROUGH ECONOMICS

By Ms Violet Koh

In his travels, Assistant Professor Akshar Saxena collects matchbox covers as a hobby. Today, he has a collection of 700 covers, and the pastime stems from an interest in health economics – in this case, to observe how smoking trends have changed.

Born into a family of doctors, Assistant Professor Saxena found himself developing an interest in health since young. Combined with a curiosity of how money makes the world go around, he began his journey in the field of health economics. The Assistant Professor read Economics at the undergraduate level and attained a Master’s in Public Policy at the National University of Singapore (NUS). Thereafter, he worked for the Ministry of Health (MOH) where he was involved in the development and implementation of the Community Health Assist Scheme (CHAS), as well as the expansion of the Chronic Disease Management Programme (CDMP) to mental health conditions. He has also been a consultant to various organisations including the World Bank and United States Agency for International Development (USAID). However, it was during his time in MOH that he chanced upon the field of Economics.

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The economics professor’s decision to return to Singapore from Harvard was one of “coming home to contribute to improving the health landscape”. He looks forward to working with working with the Ministry of Health and the Health Promotion Board on several projects.

Turning to his contributions to economics and econometrics with a focus on health, and public economics. Currently, his research looks at two main areas: consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages and smoking, and non-communicable diseases where he studies aging and fiscal policies pertaining to retirement.

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Turning to his contributions to society, the Assistant Professor was previously a volunteer with the Singapore Indian Development Association (SINDA) where he taught and read to children. He shares the experience of watching students progress and being able to read as one that is highly rewarding and eye-opening.

Last semester, he taught a PhD course in development and economics and will be teaching ‘Public Economics’ and ‘Health Economics’ undergraduate courses next.

CHANCED ENCOUNTER WITH ECONOMICS TURNED LIFELONG CAREER

By Ms Violet Koh

“Everything goes back to my childhood”, Associate Professor Jonathan Tan says. He recalls watching old drama serials such as ‘Murder She Wrote’ and ‘Remington Steele’ as a child and questioning why the characters did what they did, as well as attempting to predict their behaviour. However, it was only in Junior College that he chanced upon the field of Economics.

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Assistant Professor Tan’s research involves the use of multimodal neuroimaging data and genetics which pertains mainly to the study of Alzheimer’s, dementia and neurodegenerative diseases in general.

Fascinated with the self and wanting to understand why people are the way they are, Assistant Professor Tan Hong set out to study Psychology in the National University of Singapore (NUS). With the guidance of a mentor during his undergraduate days in NUS, he was exposed to research assistance work within the field and began to develop a strong interest in Psychology. Dr Tan then went on to complete his PhD in Psychology and a Postdoctoral Scholar (Cognitive Neuroscience) from Stanford University, Hong before joining NTU in late 2018. His research involves the use of multimodal neuroimaging data (MRI, PET, DOT) and genetics which pertains mainly to the study of Alzheimer’s, dementia and neurodegenerative diseases in general. He aims to understand the earliest risk markers of neurodegenerative diseases and how that risk can be modified through lifestyle factors. He also studies the influence of polygenic risk and cerebrovascular health on cognitive decline and progression to clinical dementia. Last semester, the Assistant Professor taught ‘Cognitive Neuroplasticity’ next.}

Those with a family history of Alzheimer’s and are worried about their children as well as finances - in relation to his research and publications. These enquires clearly indicate that his work is reaching out to the people who need it. Presently, he is working on two publications where the first investigates sex differences in genetic risk for Alzheimer’s. The other publication looks at neurodegeneration along with vascular measure whilst taking into account factors including but not limited to race, genetics and lifestyle.

By Ms Violet Koh

DERIVING MEANING FROM THE STUDY OF ALZHEIMER’S

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Fascinated with the self and wanting to understand why people are the way they are, Assistant Professor Tan Hong set out to study Psychology in the National University of Singapore (NUS). With the guidance of a mentor during his undergraduate days in NUS, he was exposed to research assistance work within the field and began to develop a strong interest in Psychology. Dr Tan then went on to complete his PhD in Psychology and a Postdoctoral Scholar (Cognitive Neuroscience) from Stanford University, Hong before joining NTU in late 2018. His research involves the use of multimodal neuroimaging data (MRI, PET, DOT) and genetics which pertains mainly to the study of Alzheimer’s, dementia and neurodegenerative diseases in general. He aims to understand the earliest risk markers of neurodegenerative diseases and how that risk can be modified through lifestyle factors. He also studies the influence of polygenic risk and cerebrovascular health on cognitive decline and progression to clinical dementia. Last semester, the Assistant Professor taught ‘Cognitive Neuroplasticity’ next.

Those with a family history of Alzheimer’s and are worried about their children as well as finances - in relation to his research and publications. These enquires clearly indicate that his work is reaching out to the people who need it. Presently, he is working on two publications where the first investigates sex differences in genetic risk for Alzheimer’s. The other publication looks at neurodegeneration along with vascular measure whilst taking into account factors including but not limited to race, genetics and lifestyle.

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BOOKS


Asst Prof Zhan Shusha (Sociology).

This book interrogates the inevitability and practicability of full-scale, land-intensive capitalist agriculture in China, whilst analyzing the labor-intensive industrious revolution as an alternative rural development path. It presents a critical account of the recent rise of agrarian capitalism as a force that would undermine hundreds of millions of people’s livelihoods in the populous country. The Land Question in China traces the roots of the industrious revolution in China back to the eighteenth century, drawing comparisons between contemporary rural development and economic prosperity in the mid-Qing dynasty.


Long Fangjie and Prof Liu Hong (Public Policy and Global Affairs), eds.

This book examines the dynamics, characteristics, challenges and future prospects of global Chinese entrepreneurship from a historical, sociological, economic, and management perspectives. It is also concerned with the roles of Chinese business people in the diasporic societies and in the hostlands. Most of the contributors to this book are leading scholars of Chinese origin who now reside in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, Japan, Singapore, and China.

New Chinese Capitalism and ASEAN Economic Community

Prof Lu Hong (Public Policy and Global Affairs) and Yuli Zhou.


This book presents a critical account of the recent rise of capitalist agriculture in China, whilst analyzing the labor-intensive industrious revolution as an alternative rural development path. It presents a critical account of the recent rise of agrarian capitalism as a force that would undermine hundreds of millions of people’s livelihoods in the populous country. The Land Question in China traces the roots of the industrious revolution in China back to the eighteenth century, drawing comparisons between contemporary rural development and economic prosperity in the mid-Qing dynasty.

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Asst Prof Sabrina Ching Yuen Luk (Public Policy and Global Affairs).


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Asst Prof Sabrina Ching Yuen Luk (Public Policy and Global Affairs).


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Tze Xiu Y. Bekins & Assoc Prof Muhammad Saidul Islam (Sociology). 2019. Societies, 9(9).

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