

ONG, Lynette Hui-Ling

Assistant Professor (tenure-track), jointly appointed by the Dept of Political Science & Munk Center for Global Affairs (Asian Institute), the **University of Toronto** (July 2007 – present).

An Wang Postdoctoral Fellow, Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, **Harvard University** (2008-09).

FIELDS OF INTEREST

Theoretical interests: Comparative Politics, Political Economy of Development, Fiscal Federalism, Climate Change & Environmental Politics

Regional interests: China (primary), East and Southeast Asia (secondary).

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Political Science, Australian National University, 2007.

Dissertation: The Political Economy of Credit in Rural China.

Committee members: Andrew MacIntyre (chair), Jonathan Unger, Ben Kerkvliet, Ligang Song

Masters in Development Economics (Highest Distinction), the University of Sussex, 1998.

Bachelors of Commerce (First Class Honours), the University of Auckland, 1996.

OTHER TRAINING

International Consortium for Political & Science Research (ICPSR), University of Michigan, Summer 2009

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

“Prosper or Perish: The Political Economy of Credit and Fiscal Systems in Rural China”, book contract offered by *Cornell University Press* in February 2011.

“Between Developmental and Clientelist Local States: Explaining Rural Industrialization in China”, *Comparative Politics*, forthcoming. (Accepted October 2010).

“Fiscal Federalism and Soft Budget Constraint: The Case of China”, *International Political Science Review*, forthcoming. (Accepted May 2011).

“Greasing the Wheels of Development: Rural Credit in China” in *Politics and Markets in Rural China*, Bjorn Alpermann ed., 2011, (London: Routledge).

“The Communist Party and Financial Institutions: Institutional Design of Post-Reform Rural Credit Cooperatives”, *Pacific Affairs*, Vol. 82, No. 2, Summer 2009.

“The Political Economy of Township Government Debt, Township Enterprises, and Rural Financial Institutions in China”, *The China Quarterly*, Vol. 186, June 2006.

“Multiple Principals and Collective Action: China’s Rural Credit Cooperatives and Poor Households’ Access to Credit”, *The Journal of East Asian Studies*, Vol. 6, No.2, May-August 2006.

WORK-IN-PROGRESS

“The Apparent ‘Paradox’ in China’s Climate Policies: Weak International Commitment on Emission Reduction and Aggressive Renewable Energy Policy”. Article under review.

“Review Article: The Nexus between Taxation and Local Governance in China”.

LANGUAGES

Fluent in Mandarin Chinese, Malay, Fujianese, Fuzhou, and Cantonese. Elementary proficiency in French.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Contemporary Politics of China (undergraduate course at UofT)
Politics and Transformation in the Asia-Pacific (undergraduate course at UofT)
Politics and Society of Contemporary China (graduate seminar at UofT)
Issues in Asia-Pacific Studies (graduate seminar at UofT)
Politics of Contemporary China (undergraduate course at ANU)
Political Institutions and Policy Processes (TA, graduate course at ANU)
Economics for Government (TA, graduate course at ANU)

METHODOLOGICAL TRAINING & EXPERIENCE

Competency in Statistical Packages: Stata, EViews, SPSS, R (basic)

Quantitative Survey: designed and conducted household credit surveys in Sichuan, Hebei, and Shandong provinces in China in 2004 and 2005. Investigated 300 households’ perceptions of credit institutions’ accountability and decision-making processes; and households’ uses of credit.

Case studies and in-depth interviews: conducted about 200 in-depth interviews with credit institutions and local government officials across rural China.

HONORS & AWARDS

International Center for Taxation and Development (\$6,000)
 University of Toronto, SIG Funding (\$1,250); 2010-11
 University of Toronto, SIG Funding (\$1,250); 2009-10.
 Harvard University, An Wang Postdoctoral Fellowship (\$45,000); 2008-09.
 University of Toronto, Asian Institute Conference Funding (\$500): 2008-09.
 University of Toronto, SIG Funding (\$500); 2008-09.
 University of Toronto, SIG Conference Funding (\$1,600); 2007-08.
 University of Toronto, Connaught Committee Start-up Grant (\$10,000); 2007-08.
 Australian National University Ph.D. Scholarship; 2003-07.
 Australian National University Graduate School Scholarship; 2003-07.
 ANU Asia-Pacific School of Economics and Government, Policy & Governance Program Conference Grant 2006.
 The Sir Roland Wilson Scholarship 2005. Awarded to the best PhD student in the Policy & Governance Program.
 ANU Asia-Pacific School of Economics and Government Director Fieldwork Travel Grant 2005.
 ANU National Institute for Social Sciences and Law Fieldwork Travel Award 2005.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

Freelance Writer, in Politics and Economics (ongoing since 2000). Have written for the *Far Eastern Economic Review*, *China Economic Quarterly*, *Asia Times Online*, among other publications.

Economic Intelligence Analyst at Michelin Asia-Pacific headquartered in Singapore (2001-2003). *Conducted research on tire markets and related industries. Advised top management on business implications of research findings.*

Economist at the Economic Development Board of Singapore (EDB) (1999-2001). *Analyzed Singapore's competitive advantages and made policy recommendations. Contributed to the government's strategic plan to transform Singapore into a knowledge-based economy.*

OP-ED & OTHER SELECTED PUBLICATIONS (URL links provided)

- [“What’s really at stake with rising local government debt in China?”](#), *East Asia Forum*, 5 July 2010.
- [“Gold in China’s Rural Hills”](#), *Far Eastern Economic Review*, Vol. 172, No.1, January 2009.
- [“Local Government Debt: Another Bail-Out Job”](#), *China Economic Quarterly*, Quarter 1, 2006.
- [“China’s Village Voices Clamor for Democracy”](#), *Far Eastern Economic Review*, Vol. 169, No.2, March 2006.
- “Why are China’s Financial and Fiscal Sector Reforms so Intertwined and Arduous?” *Asian Analysis*, May 2006.
- [“Land Reforms in China – A Monumental Task”](#), *Asian Analysis*, December 2005.
- [“Reform of China’s Largest State-Owned Bank”](#), *Asian Analysis*, July 2005.
- [“Is China Embracing the Market in its Monetary Policy?”](#), *Asian Analysis*, March 2005.
- [“Where has Billions of Subsidized Agricultural Household Credit Gone?”](#), *Asian Analysis*, August 2004.
- [“Modern Mask Hides Conditions in Rural China”](#), *Asia Times Online*, 23 September 2004.
- [“China Anti-Poverty Loans Go to Favored Businesses”](#), *Asia Times Online*, 4 August 2004.

- “How Will the Fiscal System Evolve to Appease Oppressed Peasants?”, *Asian Analysis*, March 2004.
- “Is China's Currency Peg the Culprit Behind US Economic Woes?”, *Asian Analysis*, February 2004.
- “China, India: Difference in the Details”, *Asia Times Online*, 5 May 2004.
- “China's Banking System a Ticking Time Bomb”, *Asia Times Online*, 13 January 2004.
- “Flexible Rates Boost Bank Reform in China”, *Asia Times Online*, 8 January 2004.
- “Corporate Malaysia: Falling from Grace”, *Asia Times Online*, 21 December 2001.
- “Singapore's Search for Creativity”, *Asia Times Online*, 15 November 2001.
- “Singapore: the Writing is on the Wall”, *Asia Times Online*, 14 November 2001.
- “Singapore Learns to Compete”, *Asia-Inc*, October 2001.
- “A Car of One's Own”, *Asia-Inc*, August 2001.
- “Investment Singapore Style”, *Asia Times Online*, 19 July 2001.
- “Malaysia's Quotas Proving Costly”, *Asiawise*, 1 June 2001.
- “Singapore's GLC Debate”, *Asiawise*, 19 April 2001.

NON-REFEREED WORKS & BOOK REVIEWS

Review of “Factions and Finance in China: Elite Politics and Inflation”, by Victor Shih, (New York, NY: Cambridge University Press, 2008), the *China Journal*, Issue 65, January 2011.

“Rural Development Since 1978: Agricultural Policy”, *The Encyclopaedia of Modern China*, Vol. 3, Gale Modern China series, Detroit, MI: Charles Scribner's Sons, 2009.

“Rural Development Since 1978: Agricultural Banking”, *The Encyclopaedia of Modern China*, Vol. 3, Gale Modern China series, Detroit, MI: Charles Scribner's Sons, 2009.

Review of “Rural Democracy in China: The Role of Village Elections”, by Baogang He, (Basingstoke, Hampshire: Palgrave MacMillan, 2007), the *China Journal*, Issue 62, July 2009.

Review of “A Chinese Economic Revolution: Rural Entrepreneurship in the Twentieth Century”, by Linda Grove, (Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2006), the *China Journal*, Issue 60, July 2008.

Review of “Engaging the Law in China: State, Society, and Possibilities for Justice”, edited by Neil J. Diamant, Stanley B. Lubman, and Kevin J. O'Brien, (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2005), the *Journal of East Asian Studies*, Issue 8, 2008.

Review of “Financial Sector Reform in China”, edited by Yasheng Huang, Tony Saich, and Edward Steinfeld (Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Asia Centre, 2005), the *China Journal*, Issue 56, July 2006.

Review of “Taxation Without Representation in Contemporary Rural China”, by Thomas P. Bernstein and Xiaobo Lü (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003), the *China Journal*, Issue 51, January 2004.

Review of “The Heart of Economic Reform: China's Banking Reform and State Enterprise Restructuring”, by Donald D. Tong, (Hampshire, UK: Ashgate, 2002), the *China Journal*, Issue 51, January 2004.

Review of “China’s Developmental Miracle: Origins, Transformations, and Challenges”, edited by Alvin So (Armonk: M.E. Sharpe, 2003), the *China Journal*, Issue 50, July 2003.

CONFERENCE PAPERS & PRESENTATIONS

Invited Speaking Engagement:

Sussex University (Institute of Development Studies) (06/11);
 China Agricultural University (06/11);
 Renmin University (03/11);
 McGill University (02/10);
 Harvard University (02/09, 04/09);
 University of Toronto (12/07);
 American University (12/07);
 Chinese University of Hong Kong (11/07).

“The Political Economy of China’s Economic Stimulus”, *University of Toronto China Conference 2010*, Toronto, March 2010.

“Fiscal Federalism and Soft Budget Constraints: The Case of China”, Institute for the Study of International Development, McGill University, February 2010.

“Fiscal Federalism and Soft Budget Constraints: The Case of China”, paper presented at the American Political Science Association (APSA), Toronto, September 2010.

“The Communist Party and Financial Institutions: Institutional Design of Post-Reform Rural Credit Cooperatives”, *Political Change in China Conference*, York University-University of Toronto, 31 August 2009.

“The Communist Party and Financial Institutions: Institutional Design of Post-Reform Rural Credit Cooperatives”, *Fairbank Center Director’s Series*, Harvard University, April 2009.

“The Communist Party and Financial Institutions: Institutional Design of Post-Reform Rural Credit Cooperatives”, paper presented at the *Association of Asian Studies (AAS)*, Chicago, April 2009.

“Melamine in Milk Scandal in China”, *Contemporary China Series*, Harvard University, November 2008.

“Between Developmental and Clientelist States: Explaining Rural Industrialization in China”, *Political Change in China Conference*, York-University-University of Toronto, April 2008.

“Between Developmental and Clientelist States: Explaining Rural Industrialization in China”, paper presented at the *Association of Asian Studies (AAS)*, Atlanta, GA, April 2008.

“Fiscal Federalism and Soft Budget Constraints: The Case of China”, paper presented at the *Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)*, Chicago, April 2006.

“The Political Economy of the Rural Credit Cooperatives’ Institutional Design”, paper presented at the *Association of Asian Studies (AAS)*, San Francisco, April 2006.

“The Political Economy of the Rural Credit Cooperatives’ Institutional Design”, paper presented at the *Association of Chinese Political Science (ACPS)*, Louisville, Kentucky, March 2006.

“The Nexus between Township Government Debt, Township Enterprises, and Rural Financial Institutions in China”, paper presented at the *International Conference on Asian Studies (ICAS)*, Shanghai, August 2005.

“An Institutional Analysis of China’s Rural Credit Cooperatives Using the Principal-Agent Framework”, paper presented at the inaugural Graduate Seminar on Chinese Studies, University Services Centre, *the Chinese University of Hong Kong*, January 2005.

“The Politics of Finance in Rural China”, paper presented at the Chinese Studies Graduate Summer School Workshop, *the Australian National University*, February 2004.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Anonymous Reviewer for:

Comparative Politics
Contemporary Economic Policy
International Political Science Review
The China Quarterly
The China Journal
Modern China
Pacific Affairs
The Journal of East Asian Studies
China Information

Guest Interview, *FairChild TV*, Canada, *Migrant Workers in China*, October 2010.

Guest Commentator, *The Straits Times*, “Cash Cows in the Countryside: Banking Giants Set Out to Meet the Needs of Millions of Villagers for Small Business Loans”, by Grace Ng, 1 April 2009.

Guest Commentator, *Dow Jones Newswire*, “Informal Credit Creates Risks For China's Economy”, by Denis McMahon, 23 July 2008.

Guest Commentator, *the Los Angeles Times*, “In China, protests flare over quake aid”, by Don Lee, 29 May 2008.

Guest Commentator, *Dow Jones Newswire*, “Local Government Debt in China”, by Owen Brown, 25 September 2004.

Guest Interview, *Lemond.Fr*, [Le Système Bancaire Chinois est une Bombe à Retardement](#)”, 26 January 2004.

RESEARCH AFFILIATIONS

An Wang Postdoctoral Fellow, Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, Harvard University, 2008-09
 Visiting Research Scholar, *University Services Centre, the Chinese University of Hong Kong*, December 2005; July 2008
 Visiting Research Scholar, *Shandong Academy of Social Science*, Winter 2005
 Visiting Research Scholar, *Peking University*, Beijing, Summer 2003; Winter 2005
 Visiting Research Scholar, *Sichuan Academy of Social Science*, Summer 2003

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS & ACTIVITIES

American Political Science Association (APSA)
Association for Asian Studies (AAS)
Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)
Association of Chinese Political Science, US
Asian Studies Association of Australia
Chinese Studies Association of Australia

GRADUATE STUDENT SUPERVISION

Kim Christiane Larsen, "Migrant Workers in China", MA Political Science/Asia-Pacific Studies
Completed in July 2008.

Adam Liu Yao, "Chinese Nationalism and Student Politics", MA Political Science/Asia-Pacific
Studies. Completed in August 2010.

Faith Pang, "Understanding China's Social Inequity through Films", MA Political Science/Asia-
Pacific Studies. Completed in August 2010.

ACADEMIC REFEREES

Available upon request. (Last updated: 5 July 2011)