CHINA PROGRAM AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY
Celebrating the First Ten Years
MISSION

The China Program is a university-wide initiative to facilitate multidisciplinary, social science-oriented research on contemporary China, with a dual emphasis on basic and policy-relevant research. The program recognizes the singular importance of training new generations of Stanford students for broader and deeper interactions with China.

The China Program spearheaded the creation of the Stanford Center at Peking University (SCPKU), a unique platform in China for all of Stanford’s seven schools. As a core program at SCPKU, the China Program thereby leverages new opportunities toward its goal to establish Stanford as the leading U.S. center for the study of contemporary China.
The China Program was established in 2007 to spearhead Stanford's new China Initiative. The goals of the university were to strengthen its contemporary China offerings on campus and expand its research and educational opportunities in China. Stanford wanted to be the leader in the study of contemporary China.

The China Program was tasked with building at Stanford and with leading the establishment of what would later become the Stanford Center at Peking University (SCPKU), where all Stanford faculty and students across the seven schools could convene, teach or learn, and do research in China. The China Program, drawing on resources at Stanford and using SCPKU as Stanford’s “bridge across the Pacific” — offers faculty and students unparalleled opportunities on the home campus and in China.

I was honored but daunted when asked to head the China Program and to build a Stanford presence in China. While I had a vision for the China Program and what we could accomplish in China, my vision would never have been realized without the steady support of Chip Blacker, then head of the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies (FSI), and Ann Arvin, Stanford’s Dean of Research. We owe them an immense debt of gratitude for allowing us to push our China agenda. I also want to thank James Chen for his generous support that has allowed us to develop programming for the China Program. Thanks also goes to the David Chan family whose support has enabled the China Program to undertake joint conferences with Peking University on a diverse range of topics.

The China Program’s mission is to facilitate multidisciplinary, social science-oriented research on contemporary China, with a dual emphasis on basic and policy-relevant research and teaching. Our faculty, which includes some of the most prominent authorities in their fields, are heavily involved in research and in training the next generation of scholars. Our faculty work closely with their students to impart skills that will allow them to become leaders within their own disciplines while ensuring that they have in-depth knowledge of China. Using the unrivaled opportunities and resources anchored at SCPKU, we teach our students research methods in-country, including archival work, and train them in interview skills during fieldwork. China Program faculty can teach classes in real time, with half the students and co-faculty on either side of the Pacific. SCPKU also makes the China Program a natural partner for Peking University and other institutions in China for joint research and programming. China Program faculty take part in unique opportunities, such as the “People to People Forum” when Secretary of State John Kerry visited China in 2016.

Our superb faculty includes leading academics, prominent policymakers and others who have served in key diplomatic and governmental positions around the world. This unique combination creates an ideal environment where research and policy unite to provide complex and rich perspectives on world affairs, especially as it relates to China and Asia more broadly.

The accomplishments of the China Program in its first ten years are sizeable but much more can and needs to be done. The mission of the China Program is all the more important in the current political context where there are increasing tensions in U.S.-China relations, especially when nationalism appears ascendant in a popular backlash against globalization. In these fractious times of increasing uncertainty in international relations, unpredictability in politics, and a “new normal” in economics, we must continue to produce the highest quality research on China. We must further share that knowledge with the broader community, including, especially, with policymakers and our students, as a powerful means to foster better understanding among the two most consequential countries in the 21st century. We look forward to your participation and support as we strive to achieve these important goals.

Jean C. Oi
William Haas Professor of Chinese Politics
Director, China Program
China’s rapid development has captured the world’s attention. When Deng Xiaoping’s opening and reform began in 1978, China’s GDP was less than US$150 billion. After a decade of successful economic reforms, China became the third largest economy by 1992; and by 2011, China had overtaken Japan to become the world’s second largest economy. Its GDP as of 2016 was US$11.2 trillion.

As China increasingly took center stage in the world arena, the importance of developing a multidisciplinary, policy-oriented program devoted to the study of contemporary China grew in importance. The Stanford China Program — later to be renamed the China Program — was formally established within Walter H. Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center (Shorenstein APARC) in 2007. The China Program rapidly became an integral part of the Center, establishing its reputation as a premier research program on present-day China.

Stanford University was one of the first to realize the importance of also developing a stronger presence in China to allow its faculty and students the opportunity to gain hands-on, real-time knowledge of the country. The China Program’s director, Jean Oi, with the help of Andrew Walder and strong support from the then-FSI director Chip Blacker and Dean of Research Ann Arvin, led the initiative to also create Stanford’s first university-wide center in Beijing, SCPKU, even while making significant strides in building the China Program at Shorenstein APARC.

Shorenstein APARC is a core program at SCPKU, with a dedicated office, and the China Program regularly collaborates with SCPKU to hold international conferences and meetings. Ever cognizant of its academic mission, the China Program is proud to have played a key role in creating a home away from home for Stanford students to gain a hands-on understanding of China — the kind of training you cannot get from reading a book.

With a “bridge across the Pacific” the China Program examines current political, economic, and social transformations and explores the implications of China’s rise for the global community through workshops, conferences, and jointly taught classes that take place in real time at Stanford and SCPKU. Unlike programs that operate within a single social science discipline or an exclusive national-area focus, the China Program promotes interdisciplinary research.

At Stanford and in China, the China Program organizes cutting-edge conferences, intellectual exchanges with Chinese scholars, public events highlighting Greater China, in situ educational opportunities for Stanford students, and educational programs for government officials and top-tier professionals.
People define the unique character of China Program’s research, publishing, and outreach activities. Interdisciplinary from the very beginning, the Program began with a small, dedicated nucleus of China scholars that has now grown into a larger team of faculty and experts who hold joint appointments and affiliations with departments and schools across the university, including sociology, anthropology, political science and economics, and many who have taken part at the highest levels of policymaking in Washington, D.C.

**Director**

Jean C. Oi, the William Haas Professor of Chinese Politics, a faculty in the Political Science Department and former director of Stanford’s Center for East Asian Studies (1998-2005), was appointed a senior fellow of FSI in 2006. She became the founding director of the China Program in 2007 and in 2012 became the founding Lee Shau Kee Director of SCPKU. Her research focuses on China’s political economy and the process of reform in transitional systems, including the politics of corporate restructuring, fiscal politics and local governance in China.

Most recently, Oi has been studying challenges in China’s rapid urbanization, including the re-organization of rural communities and the provision of public goods, especially affordable housing. In that work as well as others, she continues her focus on fiscal politics, including the growth of local government debt.


**Associate Director**

Jennifer Choo joined the Program as its Associate Director in 2016. Prior to taking this position, she served as the Director of Programs at Asia Society Northern California in San Francisco. She graduated with a Ph.D. from U.C. Berkeley’s Sociology Department where her dissertation focused on the emergence of the real estate sector in post-1978 reform China. She also holds a Juris Doctor from Stanford Law School. Prior to beginning her doctorate, she worked at The China Law Center (now the Paul Tsai China Center) of Yale Law School helping to collaborate on rule of law issues with various Chinese institutions. She also received a Ford Foundation individual grant to work on various rule of law initiatives. Prior to this, she worked briefly as an attorney in the corporate department of Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton in its Hong Kong office and in its New York headquarters. She is the recipient of the National Science Foundation Fellowship and the Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Program. She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts from Harvard University.

**Program Coordinator**

Patrick Laboon has an M.A. in Asian Studies from University of California, Santa Barbara, and his research focused on the history of Maoist internationalism and Sino-African relations. He joined the Program in 2017 to support its activities as its Program Coordinator. He previously worked in administration for the University of California, Davis.

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Core Faculty and Affiliates

Karen Eggleston joined Shorenstein APARC in the summer of 2007 to lead the Center’s Asia Health Policy Program. She is also the deputy director of Shorenstein APARC; a fellow at Stanford’s Center for Health Policy/Primary Care and Outcomes Research; and a Faculty Research Fellow of the National Bureau of Economic Research. Her research focuses on comparative healthcare systems and health reform in Asia, especially China; government and market roles in the health sector; payment incentives; healthcare productivity; and economics of the demographic transition. Eggleston teaches through Stanford’s East Asian studies program and is also affiliated with Stanford’s public policy program. Her articles have appeared in journals such as The Lancet Infectious Diseases, Journal of Asian Studies, Journal of Economic Perspectives, Journal of Health Economics, and Journal of Institutional Economics. Eggleston’s most recent edited volumes also include Challenges in the Process of China’s Urbanization, with Jean Oi and Yiming Wang (2017); Policy Challenges from Demographic Change in China and India (2016); Aging Asia: Economic and Social Implications of Rapid Demographic Change in China, Japan, and South Korea, with Shripad Tuljapurkar (2011); and Prescribing Cultures and Pharmaceutical Policy in the Asia-Pacific (2009). She is also the author with János Kornai of the book Welfare, Choice and Solidarity in Transition: Reforming the Health Sector in Eastern Europe (2001).

Karl Eikenberry is the Oksenberg-Rohlen Fellow and director of the U.S.-Asia Security Initiative at Shorenstein APARC, and a Stanford University Professor of Practice. He served as the U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan from May 2009 until July 2011 and had a 35-year career in the United States Army, retiring with the rank of lieutenant general. His military assignments included postings with mechanized, light, airborne, and ranger infantry units in the continental United States, Hawaii, Korea, Italy, and Afghanistan as the Commander of the American-led Coalition forces from 2005–2007. Ambassador Eikenberry is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and is also a board member of The Asia Foundation and council member of the International Institute for Strategic Studies. His articles and essays on U.S. and international security issues have appeared in Foreign Affairs, Washington Quarterly, American Foreign Policy Interests, American

**Thomas Fingar** is a Shorenstein APARC Fellow and was the inaugural Oksenberg-Rohlen Fellow at FSI. He was the Payne Distinguished Lecturer at Stanford during January to December 2009. From May 2005 through December 2008, he served as the first deputy director of national intelligence for analysis and, concurrently, as chairman of the National Intelligence Council. He served previously as assistant secretary of the State Department’s Bureau of Intelligence and Research (2004–2005), principal deputy assistant secretary (2001–2003), deputy assistant secretary for analysis (1994–2000), director of the Office of Analysis for East Asia and the Pacific (1989–1994), and chief of the China Division (1986–1989). Between 1975 and 1986, he held a number of positions at Stanford University, including that of senior research associate at the Center for International Security and Arms Control. His most recent books include Uneasy Partnerships: China’s Engagement with Japan, the Koreas, and Russia in the Era of Reform (2017); The New Great Game: China and South and Central Asia in the Era of Reform (2016); and Reducing Uncertainty: Intelligence Analysis and National Security (2011).

**Matthew Kohrman** joined the Stanford faculty in 1999 and is associate professor of anthropology at Stanford University and senior fellow, by courtesy, at FSI. His research and writing bring multiple methods to bear on the ways health, culture, and politics are interrelated. Focusing on the People’s Republic of China, he engages various intellectual terrains such as governmentality, gender theory, political economy, critical science studies, and embodiment. His first monograph, Bodies of Difference: Experiences of Disability and Institutional Advocacy in the Making of Modern China, examines links between the emergence of a state-sponsored disability-advocacy organization and the lives of Chinese men who have trouble walking. In recent years, Kohrman has been conducting research projects aimed at analyzing and intervening in the biopolitics of cigarette smoking and production. These projects expand upon analytical themes of Kohrman’s disability research and engage in novel ways the techniques of public health, political philosophy, and spatial history.

**Scott Rozelle** is the Helen F. Farnsworth Senior Fellow and the co-director of the Rural Education Action Program at FSI. Previously, Rozelle was a professor at the University of California, Davis and an assistant professor in Stanford’s Food Research Institute and department of economics. His research focuses almost exclusively on China and is concerned with: agricultural policy; the emergence and evolution of markets and other economic institutions in the transition process; and the economics of poverty and inequality, with an emphasis on rural education, health and nutrition. Rozelle’s papers have been published in top academic journals, including Science, Nature, American Economic Review, and the Journal of Economic Literature. He is the chair of the International Advisory Board of the Center for Chinese Agricultural Policy; a co-director of the University of California’s Agricultural Issues Center; and a member of Stanford’s Center on Food Security and the Environment. In recognition of his outstanding achievements, Rozelle has received numerous honors and awards, including the Friendship Award in 2008, the highest award given to a non-Chinese by the Premier of the P.R.C.; and the National Science and Technology Collaboration Award in 2009 for scientific achievement in collaborative research.

**Andrew G. Walder**, is the Denise O’Leary and Kent Thiry Professor in the School of Humanities and Sciences at Stanford University. He joined Stanford in 1997 as a senior fellow in FSI with a joint appointment in the Department of Sociology. Soon thereafter, he became chair of the

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Sociology Department (1999-2002; 2010-2012) as well as director of Shorenstein APARC (2000-2005). He has previously taught at Columbia, Harvard, and Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. Walder has published widely on political economy, social structure, inequality, social mobility, and political conflict under state socialism and afterwards, with a special emphasis on contemporary China. He has also long focused on Mao era politics and post-Mao organization of Chinese society and economy. Walder is an elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, former fellow of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral and Social Sciences, and a past recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship. His most recent books are *Fractured Rebellion:* The Beijing Red Guard Movement (2009), and *China Under Mao: A Revolution Derailed* (2015). He currently heads the publication series “Studies of the Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center” for Shorenstein APARC with the Stanford University Press.

**Xueguang Zhou** is the Kwoh-Ting Li Professor in Economic Development, a professor of sociology, and a senior fellow at FSI. His main area of research is on institutional changes in contemporary Chinese society, focusing on Chinese organizations and management, social inequality, and state-society relationships. One of Zhou's current research projects is a study of the rise of the bureaucratic state in China. He also studies patterns of career mobility and personnel flow among different government offices to understand intra-organizational relationships in the Chinese bureaucracy.

His recent publications examine the role of bureaucracy in public goods provision in rural China (*Modern China*, 2011); interactions among peasants, markets, and capital (*China Quarterly*, 2011); access to financial resources in Chinese enterprises (*Chinese Sociological Review*, 2011, with Lulu Li); multiple logics in village elections (*Social Sciences in China*, 2010, with Ai Yun); and collusion among local governments in policy implementation (*Research in the Sociology of Organizations*, 2011, with Ai Yun and Lian Hong; and *Modern China*, 2010). Before joining Stanford in 2006, Zhou taught at Cornell University, Duke University, and Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. He is a guest professor at Peking University, Tsinghua University, and the People’s University of China.
Academic Offerings

Bringing together both research and teaching, the China Program convenes the China Social Science Workshop, which has become an in-house forum for faculty and their doctoral students, as well as invited outside scholars, to present their works-in-progress. Scholars and students have come together to provide critical analysis and feedback essential to turn research into cutting-edge publications. In addition, faculty take students to China to teach them how to do research. Jean Oi took her doctoral students to Zouping County in 2011 to given them a first hand experience of a Chinese county and to teach them how to do interviews. In 2014, Jean Oi and Xueguang Zhou teamed up to do a special summer seminar on “Conducting Fieldwork Research in China,” that included students from Stanford as well as Peking University. Andrew Walder is teaching graduate students how to use archival materials in a special 2017 summer seminar at SCPKU entitled “Methods of Historical Social Science” with a former visiting scholar at Shorenstein APARC, Yan Fei, who is now a professor at Tsinghua University.

Teaching Across the Pacific

Karl Eikenberry co-teaches a course with Peking University Professor Fan Shiming on “The United States, China, and Global Security.” Organized under the auspices of U.S.-Asia Security Initiative, which Eikenberry leads at Shorenstain APARC, Stanford and Peking University jointly teach and bring together students and scholars in China and the United States for face-to-face interactions, using high-defini-tion video teleconference facilities — known as Highly Immersive Classrooms — located on the Stanford University campus and at SCPKU in Beijing. Participants at Stanford and in Beijing jointly listen, critique and raise questions in real time of eminent experts who lead discussions around security challenges involving China.

Visiting Scholars

The China Program attracts an impressive array of scholars, government officials and professionals from such premier institutions in China as the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences; National Development and Reform Commission (Academy of Macro-Economic Research); Peking University; State Council of the P.R.C. (Development Research Center); and Tsinghua University, among others. Visiting scholars have conducted research on such topics as U.S.-China relations; public finance and tax; sustainable business tactics of Chinese businesses; local governance; Chinese Communist Party adaptation and elite training; environmental regulation; higher education and fiscal reform.
China Program faculty have done cutting-edge research on a wide range of issues facing China: fiscal shortfalls and local governance, property rights reform and corporate restructuring, social inequality and mobility, food security, markets, education and poverty alleviation, environmental pollution and public health, and political participation and popular protests. Research is a vital part of the China Program, and has resulted in several acclaimed books, journal articles and edited volumes (See p. 14-15 for examples of recent publications). The Program has also played an integral role in bringing top-tier visiting scholars from around the world to Stanford for a valuable cross-pollination of research and knowledge on China.

**Chinese Local Bureaucracy**

Sociologist Xueguang Zhou, Kwoh-Ting Li Professor in Economic Development, senior fellow and a core member of the China Program at FSI, leads a Stanford research team doing groundbreaking analysis on the personnel flow of local officials from 1990 to 2010 across offices at major levels of the Chinese bureaucracy in Jiangsu Province, China. The dataset which they have collected over multiple years covers close to 40,000 bureaucrats and over 350,000 person-year records and enables Zhou and his team to analyze bureaucratic personnel flows in Jiangsu; patterns of mobility; interrelationships among government agencies and the resulting implications for Chinese governance.

**Maoist Era Historical Research**

Faculty at the China Program have also pursued rigorous historical research that is relevant for helping us understand how events under Mao still impact current society. Andrew Walder, Denise O’Leary & Kent Thiry Professor and FSI senior fellow, has analyzed afresh the leadership of Mao Zedong in *China Under Mao: A Revolution Derailed*, published by Harvard University Press in 2015. Walder argues that Mao maintained a simplistic understanding of Stalinist ideology and moved through a series of crises throughout his tenure, causing upheavals with ripple effects that still exist within social structures and mobility patterns today. Walder’s work has attracted considerable media attention, including a Q&A in *The New York Times* with Ian Johnson. Walder has also authored *Fractured Rebellion: The Beijing Red Guard Movements* (Harvard University Press, 2009) about student radicalism during the Cultural Revolution of 1966–68.

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The book traced the origins and motivations for the factional struggles within the Red Guard movement and challenges mainstream social science models of collective action which assume groups with previously formed identities and interests that capitalize on political opportunities.

Collaborations with China’s National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC)

The China Program has actively pursued research collaborations with leading organizations in China. The Program has, for example, engaged in multiyear collaborative projects with the Academy of Macro-Economic Research (AMR) of China’s NDRC, formerly China’s State Planning Commission. Such projects included fieldwork in China and in the United States as well as annual workshops at Stanford or in Beijing on such varied topics as the challenges of urbanization; the global economic crisis of 2008 and its aftermath; as well as climate change and governance reforms. The workshop held in Beijing at SCPKU examining China’s rapid urbanization, organized in partnership with Eggelston’s Asia Health Policy Program, has resulted in a joint volume edited by Stanford’s Karen Eggelston and Jean Oi and the former head of AMR at the NDRC, Wang Yiming. The volume includes articles by Stanford and NDRC scholars and is entitled Challenges in the Process of China’s Urbanization (Brookings Institution Press, 2017).
China and the World

Examining China’s regional and international policy, Thomas Fingar, Shorenstein APARC Fellow and core member of the China Program, led a major research project entitled “China and the World,” which looked sequentially and systematically at China’s interactions with countries in various regions and across many issue areas. The project sought to clarify China’s objectives and the policies it pursues to achieve them. But it also looked at China through the lens of its neighbors, trying to understand how they see the opportunities and perils that come with China’s greater activism on the world stage. The first project phase examined China’s engagement with Japan, the Republic of Korea, and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea. The second phase focused on China’s interactions with its Southeast Asian neighbors; and the third phase analyzed China’s increasing intersection with its South and Central Asian neighbors. A series of publications have resulted from this multiyear project, including Uneasy Partnerships: China’s Engagement with Japan, the Koreas, and Russia in the Era of Reform (Stanford University Press, 2017); and The New Great Game: China and South and Central Asia in the Era of Reform (Stanford University Press, 2016).

Growing Pains

The launch of the China Program in 2007 was appropriately heralded with an international conference, jointly sponsored with Stanford’s Center for East Asian Studies, which resulted in an acclaimed edited volume titled Growing Pains: Tensions and Opportunities in China’s Transformation (Shorenstein APARC, 2010). The conference examined a series of problems that challenged China’s internal stability and future development in the mid-2000’s. The proceedings were published as part of Shorenstein APARC’s joint series with the Brookings Institution Press.

Zouping County

Research conducted in Zouping County, Shandong Province, has yielded many publications over the past two decades on the development of rural China, encompassing works by political scientists, sociologists, anthropologists, and those in many other fields. In 2008, with generous funding from the Smith Richardson Foundation, the China Program convened a workshop titled “Zouping Past and Present: The Next Generation of Research.” The workshop continued a collaborative research effort in tribute to the late Michel Oksenberg – long-time faculty member of Shorenstein APARC and senior fellow at FSI – who established a pioneering rural research site for American scholars in Zouping County in the early 1980’s. Andrew Walder brought together the first phase of Zouping research in an edited volume, Zouping in Transition: The Process of Reform in Rural North China (Harvard University Press, 1998). Jean Oi, who was Oksenberg’s student at University of Michigan, and later, his colleague at Stanford, along with Steven Goldstein — long-time friend of Michel Oksenberg, noted China scholar, and visitor to Shorenstein APARC — have edited the most recent iteration of research on Zouping in a forthcoming volume from Stanford University Press, entitled, Zouping Revisited: Adaptive Governance in a Chinese County.
China Program’s research efforts are complemented by public lectures, seminars, and panel discussions featuring global leaders, policymakers and noted scholars. This enables the Stanford community and the general public to partake in the rich intellectual environment nurtured by the China Program both on the Stanford home campus and in China. Events are offered free and give those who attend the opportunity to hear, firsthand, today’s thought leaders offering perspectives on key China-related issues.

For instance, in 2016, Fu Ying, Chairperson of China’s Foreign Affairs Committee of the National People’s Congress and former P.R.C. Ambassador to the Philippines, Australia and the U.K., engaged in a lively discussion with Thomas Fingar of the China Program regarding the geopolitical implications of China’s rise. The Program also co-sponsored with Shorenstein APARC’s U.S.-Asia Security Initiative a talk by the former Ambassador of the P.R.C. He Yafei on U.S.-China bilateral relations and global security.

In addition to individual presentations and seminar series, the Program organizes two longstanding annual speaker series – the Oksenberg Lecture series, which the China Program co-sponsors with Shorenstein APARC, and the Winter Colloquia series.

**Oksenberg Lecture / Panel**

The China Program annually partners with Shorenstein APARC to organize the Oksenberg Lecture, held since 2002 to honor the legacy of Professor Michel Oksenberg (1938-2001). A senior fellow at Shorenstein APARC and FSI, a pioneering scholar in Chinese politics, and a key member of the National Security Council when the United States normalized relations with China, Oksenberg consistently urged that the United States engage with Asia in a more considered manner. In tribute, the Oksenberg Lecture recognizes distinguished individuals who have helped to advance understanding between the United States and the nations of the Asia-Pacific. Oksenberg Lectures have illuminated key issues, such as the modernization of China’s military, constraints on China’s foreign policy, and areas of friction in U.S.-China relations. Past speakers invited to give the Oksenberg Lecture have included such luminaries as former president Jimmy Carter, former secretary of state George Shultz, former national security advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski, and former national security advisor Brent Scowcroft. Since the China Program was established in 2007, the honor has been given to the following individuals: James Steinberg, former deputy secretary of state (2016); Kenneth Lieberthal, The Brookings Institution (2014); Thomas Fingar, Stanford University (2013); Karl Eikenberry, Stanford University (2012); Thomas Christensen, former deputy assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific Affairs (2011); Jeffrey Bader, special assistant to the President and senior director for East Asian Affairs at the National Security Council (2010); and David M. Lampton, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (2008).

In 2009, the China Program and Shorenstein APARC commemorated the sixtieth anniversary of the PRC by co-hosting a special Oksenberg workshop titled “China’s New Role in a Turbulent World.” Leading experts in the academic, business, and policy worlds — including Barry Naughton, Carl Walter, Lyric Hughes Hale, David Hale, Susan Shirk, Tom Christensen, and

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China in the 1950s: Nationalizing the Revolution, Revolutionizing the Nation

China in the 1960s: Into the Maelstrom

China in the 1970s: Repression, Uncertainty, and a New Beginning

China in the 1980s: Tumultuous Transition

China in the 1990s: Turning the Corner

China in the 2000s: Reshaping the Party

January 14

February 11

March 9

April 7

April 22

May 6

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JANUARY 14

FEBRUARY 11

MARCH 9

APRIL 7

APRIL 22

MAY 6

2010 / Poster publicizing the seminars held to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the founding of the P.R.C. Credit: Stephanie Lee

Ambassador J. Stapleton Roy — came together for the event.

Winter Colloquia

The China Program regularly organizes an array of seminar series, conferences, and workshops to foster discussion of domestic or regional challenges involving China. Of these, the Winter Colloquia is an annual, quarter-long series that brings together leading scholars and policymakers to provide their perspectives on a timely topic related to China.

In 2016, for instance, China Program’s headline colloquium titled “China: Going Global” brought leading experts to explore the drivers and motivators of China’s international trade, investment and finance initiatives — in particular, the “One Belt, One Road” initiative — as well as the implications of China’s increasing activism on the world stage.

Since China’s President Xi Jinping’s accession in 2012, the China Program has invited leading scholars to shed insights into Beijing’s new leadership in colloquia series such as “China’s New Normal” (2016); “China’s Conflicting Policy Direction” (2015); “China Under Xi Jinping” (2014); and “China Under New Management” (2013). Leading thinkers have spoken incisively about behind-the-scenes elite politics, progress and challenges and consequences of the various initiatives that Xi Jinping has undertaken in both the domestic and international arenas.

In 2010, in partnership with Stanford University’s Center for East Asian Studies, the China Program also hosted a series of seminars to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the founding of the People’s Republic of China. Ezra Vogel assessed Deng Xiaoping’s legacy as defined by his policy of reform and opening. Mary Gallagher examined the political and economic impact of foreign investments in China. Bruce Dickson analyzed the growth of the private sector in China over the past thirty years. David Shambaugh concluded the series by examining how and why the Chinese Communist Party has managed to remain in and even grow in power through these remarkable decades of reform and opening.
As a university-wide initiative established to facilitate multidisciplinary research on contemporary China, the China Program occupies a unique position among its peers in the U.S. In addition to a rich array of programming on the home campus, the China Program, using facilities at SCPKU, has organized dynamic conferences, high-level public events and intellectual exchanges with its counterparts in China.

The below images capture some of the highlights from China Program’s collaborations with other institutions in China and SCPKU. In conjunction with the Seventh China-U.S. High-Level Consultation on People-to-People Exchange, for instance, Peking University and Stanford University organized a joint forum in 2016 on “A Changing Global and Political Order” during which Vice Premier Liu Yandong of China and U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry met with the Forum participants. In addition, at the joint Peking University-Stanford Forum on “Building World-Class Universities” leading scholars joined together to explore the institutional elements of building leading research universities.
Key publications undertaken by the China Program’s faculty and affiliates are distributed through Stanford University Press, the Brookings Institution Press, peer-reviewed journals, and other university presses. Scholars, researchers and collaborators affiliated with the China Program have delved into wide-ranging issues confronting China, including China’s rapid urbanization process; its geopolitical and global economic strategies; reform conundrums; ideology of China’s past leader Mao Zedong and Red Guard factionalism during China’s Cultural Revolution. The list below features just the highlights of China Program’s many scholarly outputs.

Zouping Revisited: Adaptive Governance in a Chinese County
Jean C. Oi and Steven Goldstein, eds.
Stanford University Press, forthcoming 2018

Challenges in the Process of China’s Urbanization
Karen Eggleston, Jean C. Oi, Yiming Wang, eds.
Brookings Institution Press, 2017

Uneasy Partnerships: China’s Engagement with Japan, the Koreas, and Russia in the Era of Reform
Thomas Fingar, ed.
Stanford University Press, 2017

The New Great Game: China and South and Central Asia in the Era of Reform
Thomas Fingar, ed.
Stanford University Press, 2016

Policy Challenges from Demographic Change in China and India
Karen Eggleston, ed.
Brookings Institution Press, 2016
High-flying success or trapped in transition? Evidence—not exaggeration—is the key to assessing China’s great transformation.

China is transforming itself, and the world is adapting in response. Profound forces have reshaped the country’s socioeconomic and political landscapes, but they have also brought challenges—growing pains—that China must face if it is to continue its upward trajectory.

Despite its successes, China is experiencing sharp growing pains. Rising levels of protest have accompanied the country’s wrenching structural transformation. Corruption has prompted some observers to claim that the Chinese government in nothing short of a “predatory state.” Legal reform continues to languish. Given that such challenges remain, can it be said that China’s structural changes have succeeded? Or is the country trapped in transition?

Growing Pains contains new analytical and empirical research from preeminent scholars working on contemporary China. These scholars identify which of the many problems thought to threaten China’s reforms are not as serious as some interpreters claim, as well as those that have already been solved. Further, they point to other high-profile challenges, some of which truly are serious and loom on the horizon. With thoughtful, nuanced analysis, the contributors tackle thorny issues in China’s ongoing reforms—employment, land policy, village elections, family planning, health care, social inequality, and environmental degradation—and use rich survey data and on-the-ground observation to assess the severity of the problems and the likelihood of near-term solutions.

Moving beyond the hype and hysteria that often characterize conversations about contemporary China, Growing Pains seeks to present not an optimistic or pessimistic perspective but rather an objective, empirically based view of the country’s transition.

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