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Conference Abstracts

Fakhrul Alam, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Sylhet

Poverty reduction policies in Bangladesh: An analysis

Bangladesh is seen as an emerging economy in Asia. Despite its sustained economic growth and tremendous progress in socioeconomic indicators, around one-fifth of its population still live below the poverty line. Historically, the country has been treated as bottomless basket, disaster prone, politically unstable, and under resourced country. Fortunately, the country has gradually overcome the barriers of development through policy efforts. This paper is based on the qualitative evaluation of NGO innovations, microcredit and social protection policies in addressing poverty in Bangladesh. Over the time, NGOs have introduced multifarious poverty alleviation programs through PRA, RRA, Case study, and experimental research on microcredit, agriculture, fisheries, health and sanitation, and education, and changed the programs through evaluation research. For example, BRAC has successfully invented strategies of poverty reduction and income generation through IGVGD and other evidence-based research projects. Seeing the success of NGO-run microcredit programs, the government adopted the policies of extending microcredit programs across the country. Recent qualitative studies show that people without entrepreneurial skills are trapped with debt under microcredit program. Therefore, the government and NGOs introduced and operated training programs before disbursing loan under microcredit. In addition, the country has adopted a policy of conditional cash transfer program to promote education and introduced several social welfare programs for the poor, widow, elderly, socially excluded groups, vulnerable people, slum dwellers, and victims of climate change and river erosion etc. The continuous experimentation and impact evaluation of these programs help develop and implement effective strategies of poverty alleviation.

Apriwan Apriwan, University of Western Australia

Historical institutionalism and Indonesia's climate change policy (A case study of reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation-REDD+)

This paper examines the possible importance of 'path dependency' in Indonesia's climate change policy, particularly in the case of Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+). I employ a conceptual model based on historical institutionalism, which examines the role of institutional structures and processes and the possible role that 'critical junctures' may play in reshaping them. This study highlights and explains the slow progress in Indonesia's climate policy agenda by focusing on state capacity and the difficulty that the Indonesian government has had in transferring international policy ideas into domestic policy. I explain how specific historical events and practices shape institutions and their role in managing climate policy. This study examines the contingent political and economic forces that have shaped climate policy in Indonesian. The paper explains the factors that have stopped climate change policy from being implemented as effectively as many inside and outside Indonesia had hoped.

Katie Attwell, Glenn Savage, University of Western Australia

No jab, no play, which way?: Individual actors in Australian state-level vaccine mandates 2013-2019

Australia has been at the forefront of high income countries applying stringent consequences on vaccine refusers. Since 2016, the Federal Government has withdrawn welfare and childcare subsidies ("No Jab, No Pay.") However, some Australian states have exerted their own levers, limiting access to childcare ("No Jab, No Play"). The childcare exclusion policies have expanded to more states and become more restrictive over time. However, from the beginning, each emerged with distinct features and characteristics due to different historical and context-dependent 'conditions of possibility'. Policies are introduced, implemented and modified by actors with agency, informed by particular understandings of the problem they seek to solve and the tools with which they seek to do it. State "No Jab, No Play" policies are the product of elected officials and the senior technical experts in the public service, but they are also the product of civil society actors who lobbied to 'crack down' on vaccine refusers. This paper draws on semi-structured interviews with key actors from government, bureaucracy and civil society to consider the production of the different state policies and their variable features. It utilises a 'policy assemblage' methodology (Baker and McGuirk 2017; Savage 2019), considering the interplaying dynamics inherent to the method. It focuses specifically on individual actors importing, shifting and

shaping responses to a problem that – fanned by the flames of a media campaign – went to the heart of Australians’ social obligations to each other.

Azad Bali, Australian National University; Peter Waring, Murdoch University

The political economy of Singapore’s higher education reforms

In 2002 a high-level economic review committee recommended that Singapore position itself as a ‘global schoolhouse’. An ambitious target was set to attract 150,000 international students to Singapore by 2015 and to lift the education sector’s contribution to GDP from 1.9% to 5% in the same timeframe. The global schoolhouse was viewed as producing a number of policy complementarities including addressing population, labour market and economic priorities. This paper traces the political economy of the last two decades of Singapore’s global schoolhouse strategy. It examines the policy successes and setbacks, and presents statistical evidence of its performance. In particular, the article examines the development of both the public and private higher education sectors in Singapore, the growth of the tuition grant scheme in the public universities and the introduction of the Private Education Act of 2009 in the private sector. It is argued that the 2011 general election in Singapore has proved to be an historic watershed and exposed considerable tensions between local needs and global ambitions of Singapore (including in higher education). The paper shows how changing domestic political imperatives (i.e. increased electoral contestability, hostility towards the growing reliance on foreigners in the labour force, and a poor record on labour productivity) required the government to retrace its steps and stymied Singapore’s global ambitions in higher education. Current reform efforts are inwardly focused and centre on increasing the participation of domestic students in tertiary education and up-skilling mid-career professionals.

Azad Singh Bali, Australian National University; Michael Howlett, Simon Fraser University; M Ramesh, National University of Singapore

Re-visiting policy (de)composition and policy dynamics: Primary and secondary aspects of substantive and procedural policy tools

Policy design studies can only move forward based on (1) a shared conceptual understanding of the components of public policy change, which feeds into (2) a unified approach for measuring policy dynamics, thus allowing (3) a broader empirical knowledge of policy dynamics across policy fields to be gained than exists at present. Although much work exists in the policy sciences on these aspects of policy studies this work remains disjointed and has not generated a rich set of empirically-backed insights into policy dynamics. This paper examines and re-constructs current models of policy composition by unpacking the nature of the functions governments undertake in providing and regulating goods and service delivery. It argues that policies utilize a combination of substantive and procedural instruments to achieve their goals and examines several ways in which these combinations emerge and evolve. Re-examining how these activities and tools are combined, it is argued, provides purchase from which policy dynamics and policy success and failure can be better understood.

Daniel del Barrio Alvarez, University of Tokyo

How regional power connectivity became sustainable development: An analysis of the Greater Mekong Sub-region

Regional power connectivity has been a long time controversial issue between economic development and environmental protection. Traditionally, the main driver was the utilization of surplus hydropower resources to export to neighbouring countries, and/or the mutual support between hydro-based and thermal-based national electric systems. From a techno-economic perspective, the development of interconnections between electric systems is a rational choice, only prevented by the existence of political/national borders. On the other hand, on many occasions, these interconnections have been realized through independent projects, not from a supra-national regional optimization of resources (as it would be the case for national projects). This has resulted in the regional power connectivity initiatives with a strong focus on the development of very large-scale hydropower dams, triggering strong opposition from environmental groups concerned with the impacts on ecosystems and local livelihoods. This is currently at change. The rise in the utilization of variable renewable energy (solar and wind, both onshore and offshore) has led to the proposition of regional power connectivity to increase the

dispatchable renewable generation. Contrary to the case of large hydropower, this approach is gaining support from environmental groups. As a result, a shifting in the drivers for regional power connectivity can be perceived in the policy proposals towards an alignment with sustainable development national goals. This paper focuses on the Greater Mekong Subregion as a case to illustrate how this process has occurred over time. For that, it reviews the process based on the meeting notes of officials' meetings and the results of the different regional planning technical studies that have been conducted up to today.

Marie N. Bernal, Athar Mansoor, Victor Flores, Kira Matus, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Scientific evidence in risk and hazard management: Evidence from New Zealand's seismic policy

New Zealand, being severely earthquake-prone, has one of the earliest and most comprehensive seismic management governmental structures. There are several national acts and sub-national regulations that address earthquake management and relief provisions, as well as related activities such as construction, innovation, and insurance. However, in the last three decades logistical and response failures at regional and more local levels have received substantial attention, prompting not only a careful look at implementation bodies' procedures and organization, but also aggressive policy reform. The regulation of uncertain and potentially catastrophic risks for prevention, management, reliability, and resilience is an area of policy that requires a strong scientific basis. Considering the changing dynamics of expertise in policymaking, our paper explores 1) the alignment (if any) of science advice and seismic policy, 2) whether this alignment is reflected at national and subnational levels and 3) whether this advice is both feasible and salient in terms of response capacity and decision-making at regional and city levels. This has important implications for the management of risk and hazard and its approach to the use of scientific evidence in a multilevel structure with such a wide range of response and implementation capacities.

Gargi Bharadwaj, O.P. Jindal Global University

Policy of culture, culture in policy: Exploring evidence in/of (cultural) policy analysis in India

The managerial, evidence-based understanding of public policy supported and practiced by many state institutions and national policy frameworks across contexts increasingly utilises notions of 'culture' and cultural interventions in pursuit of policy goals, whether those goals are cultural or not. Underlying the argument of the inherent 'value' that resides in culture and its effectiveness to serve democratic and developmental ends specifically in postcolonial contexts like India is the very understanding of culture, its definitional usage and methodological and analytical concerns that accrue from attaching cultural policy to other policy sectors. Within the larger cultural policy arena, the fundamental question of 'evidence' has always been a somewhat delicate and a heavily contested one. The performing arts sub-sector offers interesting insights into the contradictory and competing claims of the evidence-based approach within policy making in culture as well as the noisy and unsubstantiated claims of the positive social impacts of the arts echoed in larger public policy discourse. The deployment of culture as a catch-all category and its increasing usage as a focus for state activity coupled with the renewed interest in rationalising public subsidy in arts despite the ever-shrinking public resources, offers the urgent context from where the critique of institutionalising agendas of culture in policy needs to be articulated. This paper offers a methodological appraisal of 'evidence' in policy actions both within the cultural sector, and in policies that deploy culture within other areas of public policy posing urgent questions about instrumentalization of culture, the problematics of evaluation/ assessment in culture policy making. The attempt is to elaborate the given understandings of evidence that public policy thinking could gain from, critically and analytically engaging with the specifically cultural.

Jacob Broom, University of Western Australia

Fast policy and social impact bonds in Australia

This paper examines the emergence of social impact bonds (SIBs) in Australia using the concept of 'fast policy' from policy mobilities studies. SIBs are an instrument of impact investing and social policy reform in which capital invested in social services projects earns returns based on the outcomes of those projects. Since the first SIB was launched in the United Kingdom in 2010, they have spread to 30

countries through 166 programs, including 13 in early-adopter Australia (Gustafsson-Wright and Boggild-Jones 2019). Existing explanations of the emergence of SIBs do not sufficiently problematise their swift, wide proliferation. This is despite burgeoning critical scholarship in policy mobilities studies investigating the 'social life' of travelling policies. I argue that examinations of the emergence of SIBs must contend with conditions of 'fast policy' theorised by policy mobilities scholars. 'Fast policy' describes the influence of transnational networks of expertise, linked by shared infrastructures of policy development and guided by a 'what works' mentality (Peck and Theodore 2015). Flowing through them are experimental, pragmatic policy models that spread quickly across jurisdictions, mutating as they go. I use this formulation to begin an explanation of how and why SIBs emerged in Australia. Employing evidence from an analysis of policy documents and media articles, I show that the shift toward SIBs was sought by networks of expertise in the global and Australian social impact spaces, who linked SIBs to depoliticised notions of the desirability of marketisation and third sector support.

Donella Caspersz, Renata Casado, University of Western Australia

The swings and shifts of temporary labour migration in the case of Australia

This paper uses Schmidt's (2008) theory of discursive institutionalism to map policy swings in the regulation of temporary labour migration (TLM) in Australia. Discursive institutionalism creates a framework for integrating structure and agency in policy drawing on two forms of discourse: coordinative discourse relates to the development of regulation in the policy sphere and policy construction. Communicative discourse, on the other hand, occurs in the political sphere. Individuals and groups involved in the presentation, deliberation, and legitimation of political ideas to the general public generate this. Drawing on this framework, it is argued that there were three major policy swings in the regulation of TLMs in Australia: Swing 1 (1996-2007), coordinative discourse conferred TLMs as a "Gap Filler". However, communicative discourse conceptualising TLMs as a "Cause Celebre" forced Swing 2 (2007-2015) where coordinative discourse introduced protective provisions regulating sponsors and employers of TLMs. Nonetheless, communicative discourse about migration influenced Swing 3 (2015 -) where now the entry of TLMs is regulated from a coordinated discourse of Border Protection. Drawing on this analysis, the paper argues that with the swings and shifts in coordinated and communicative discourse about TLMs in Australia, the policy regime progressively shifts TLMs towards an 'on-demand' status. This differs from a 'guest worker' status insofar as TLMs can still seek permanent residency. However, TLMs are essentially sought as a form of 'on-demand' labour to match the 'on-demand' nature of production processes.

Shevaun Drislane, University of Western Australia

How individual experience can lead to collective action for policy change: A case study of no fault compensation for vaccine injury

Expertise that provides evidence to and guides policy makers in developing policies is typically associated with formal and bureaucratic knowledge-generating settings. However, personal experience may well enable citizens to play the role of expert. By drawing upon and relaying their experiences, individuals can offering valuable insight and knowledge to influence policy agenda setting and decision making. My research examines no-fault compensation (NFC) for vaccine injury - a policy approach that offers financial redress and support to the small number of individuals who suffer serious adverse effects (injury) following vaccination. This proposed paper will outline how parents of vaccine injured children in the United Kingdom and United States formed social movement networks to influence policy makers in those countries to introduce NFC policies. Based on their personal experiences these parent groups presented themselves as experts who could i) voice the needs of vaccine-injury victims, ii) encourage the issue to be placed on the policy agenda, and iii) inform and guide government as to the policy mechanisms required. My discussion will also outline how policy makers responded to and engaged with these parents and the social movement tactics they employed. Finally, the paper will highlight Australia's failure, thus far, to implement a policy of NFC for vaccine injury. It will discuss factors that could enable or constrain this policy development in the Australian context, with reference to the potential for individual citizens to engage in collective action and identify themselves as 'experience-based experts' so as to influence policy makers.

Hang Thuy Duong, University of Western Australia

Why has HRM policy transfer happened in Vietnam's public sector? Assessing contextual changes and political motivations

After “doi moi” in 1986, Vietnam’s public HRM policy has undergone radical transformation from the Soviet-style centrally-planned personnel management to a model that shares similarities with the Western HRM model such as decentralization and meritocracy emphasis. This transformation can be explained by the policy transfer process, which shows that Vietnam has adopted HRM policies ideas and practices overseas. The arising question is why these policy transfers have occurred while features of a civil service under the single-ruling Communist Party regime and Vietnamese-distinctive culture remain unchanged? This paper argues that contextual conditions, actors’ motivations and critical junctures offer an array of reasons for the happening of public HRM policy transfer in Vietnam. Contextual conditions include major institutional changes, particularly the shift from a state of proletariat dictatorship to a socialist country based on the rule of law, from a command economy to a market economy, and from a close-door policy to an open-door policy with intensive international integration. In addition, the popularity of New Public Management and Good Governance serves as a stimulus for policy transfer. Actors’ motivations are featured by the demand to maintain the sole leadership and improve the reputation of the Communist Party; dissatisfaction with the weaknesses of the old public personnel system; the fear of lagging behind; and the need to legitimate issued conclusions. Especially, public HRM policy transfer in Vietnam happened through the country’s critical junctures – the five-year-term Communist Party Congresses, at which a new board of leaders initiates reforms and adoption of new HRM policies.

Kelly Gerard, University of Western Australia

Locating leverage in aid chains

The recent shift towards private sector-led development—where companies are designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating aid programs—has further driven the adoption of private sector logics and practices across the aid sector, profoundly impacting development policy. Studies of partnership among donors, governments and NGOs in aid chains have long highlighted the contested nature of these relationships, with the language of collaboration and the promotion of shared objectives masking power inequalities. This paper considers the functioning of partnerships in aid chains in light of recent trends. Examining a gender equality program implemented through a four-tier chain, the paper examines relationships among actors. The paper argues that while aid chains increasingly function as subcontracting relationships, thereby making partnership rhetoric appear misplaced, the case examined here highlights how partnership rhetoric provides less powerful actors with a persuasive tool to pressure donors.

Adam Graycar, University of Adelaide

Public administration and corruption: How integrity breaches undermine public value

Delivering good public policy is hard. It requires great analytical and conceptual skill and good public administration. When there are integrity breaches or elements of corruption in public administration then policy objectives are not met and public value is diminished. Even in low corruption environments, integrity breaches do occur and this paper explores a range of violations and types of maladministration and misconduct. Is there an underlying and common substratum of issues which give rise to corrupting environments? Drawing on contemporary research material it outlines instruments, processes and structures for the promulgation and maintenance of integrity and thus the enhancement of public value.

Adam Hannah, University of Western Australia; Jeremiah Brown, Brotherhood of St. Laurence

Feedback effects and the ‘hidden’ liberal welfare state

The concept of ‘policy feedback’ has been of ongoing concern for scholars of the welfare state. Initially presented as a mechanism underpinning a generalised, and unexpected, resilience of welfare policy, debate over the extent and causes of change and resilience has been ongoing. The existing literature has largely focused on the mobilisation of particular groups to protect arrangements that benefit them.

However, several recent cases have demonstrated that, even where there are widespread declarations of 'crisis', proposals for change may elicit opposition well beyond current or soon-to-be beneficiaries. This paper seeks to examine broader modes of policy feedback through an analysis of health care policy in the United States and housing policy in Australia. It argues that the more fragmented and 'hidden' welfare arrangements that characterise these welfare states have two key consequences. First, they create 'thin' structures that mitigate social risk, but place ultimate responsibility with the individual rather than the state. So, while in the United States tax arrangements encourage the provision of private health insurance by employers, little is done to guarantee the continuation of coverage when employment is lost. Second, they create linkages between social risks across policy areas, with precarity in one area potentially translating to others. For example, in Australia, home ownership and property investment have been closely linked with retirement security. The analysis suggests that proposals for change are left vulnerable to the perception of disruption of the path to security, even among those who may in fact benefit from reform.

Alex Jingwei He, Education University of Hong Kong

Policy feedback and the cognitive lock-in effect in China's social health insurance system

The policy feedback theory suggests that the way in which policies are designed and implemented and resources are provided shape the political preferences and behaviors of ordinary citizens (Mettler and Sorelle 2017). Similarly, institutional theories also argue that institutional structures and specific arrangements can be translated into people's attitudinal patterns (March and Olsen 1984). These feedback mechanisms are particularly common in the social policy field where citizens have direct contact with the state (Larsen 2008). Unfortunately, analytical attempts in the past two decades were frustrated by largely discouraging empirical results. In recent years, it has been recognized that contingent investigations in specific welfare sectors and better operationalization of institutional factors are the key to solve the analytical impasse (Jordan 2010, 2013). This study responds to this research agenda with an empirical study from the health policy domain in urban China. It seeks to explain how sub-national variation in health care systems leads varying degree of popular support for social health insurance. By analyzing data collected from an original survey in three provinces in 2017 through multiple regression and propensity score matching method, this study finds that city-level differences in health-system characteristics are indeed reflected in local people's cognitive endorsement of social health insurance institutions. This study discusses this policy feedback mechanism against the backdrop of China's endeavor towards universal health coverage.

Kanishka Jayasuriya, Murdoch University

Universities, Markets and rise of the authoritarian right and populism

This is a first cut at outlining a framework for the study of academic capitalism with a focus on the Asian and Latin American experience. We start with the pivotal work of Slaughter and Rhoades on academic capitalism and note its relevance to understanding some of the key reforms in Asia and Latin America. But we argue that this account does not take into account the political context through which different forms of academic capitalism have emerged and we place particular emphasis on the political context through which higher education systems are capitalised. Our emphasis is on understanding the varieties of academic capitalism in a both a national and transnational context. We place emphasis on the fact that varieties of academic capitalism are strongly transnational in character in that distinct forms of capitalism – particularly through student mobility and international campuses – reinforce particular 'national' forms of academic capitalism. This is meant as an outline for a large group project on academic capitalism in Asia and Latin America.

Donghun Kang, Moon Choi, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology

Factors associated with waste management behaviors: A focus on cohort differences in South Korea

Sustainability is the guiding paradigm in designing and implementing social policies in the 21st century. The United Nations emphasizes urgent actions needed to prevent over-extraction of resources and to improve waste management through Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 12. Previous research has enhanced our empirical understanding of waste management behaviors regarding to the SDG 12;

however, most of them were based on Western social and cultural contexts. This study aims to examine psychological and socioeconomic factors associated with waste management behaviors with a focus on cohort differences in South Korea. Data came from an online survey conducted by the Korea Environment Institute (N=1,071; age range=16-59). Waste management behaviors were assessed with questions about whether respondents were recycling and not using disposable items such as disposable plastic cups. The results of descriptive analysis showed that older cohorts were more likely to recycle and not use disposable items compared to younger ones. In addition, the results of multivariate logistic regression analysis showed that environmental attitudes as well as psychological factors—such as perceived level of convenience and efficacy related to their behaviors—were statistically significantly associated with waste management behaviors even after controlling for socioeconomic factors such as income and housing type. The findings imply that public policies and programs changing environmental attitudes and perceived convenience and efficacy would be effective in promoting recycling and waste reduction behaviors. Furthermore, older cohorts, in particular baby boomers, might play an important role as change agent in the community in terms of achieving the SDG 12.

Koichi Kawai, Kanazawa University; So Morikawa, University of Tokyo; Kiichiro Arai, Tokyo Metropolitan University; Tomohiro Seki, Prefectural University of Kumamoto; Yutaka Onishi, Kobe University

Organizational structures, member behaviors and public policy outcomes: Evidence from laboratory experiment

While any organizations are structured hierarchically more or less, weakness of hierarchical organizations has been pointed out and such a structure is criticized in administrative reforms after the 1990s worldwide. Hierarchical organizational structure is said to be too rigid and slow-working, inflexible, inefficient and fail to draw on the professional expertise inside the organization (Peters, 2001, 2014). One proposed solution to these defects is its realignment to flat organizational structure, which is adopted not only in private sectors but also in public sectors. Meanwhile, some argue that rationales for flattening the organizations do not always hold true for government organizations because public organizations were not always to be designed to maximize on flexibility but rather to ensure a uniform and precise implementation of the law. How does the difference in organizational structures affect activities of organizations in the context of public policy? We conducted laboratory experiments to examine effects of organizational structures (hierarchical or flat) on members' behaviors. Our samples (university students) are assigned randomly into the hierarchical group or the flat group, and work in group to prioritize road maintenance projects in a hypothetical local municipality. We also conducted field interviews to local governments to acquire details, aims, effects and lessons of historical realignment of their organizations. Our analysis revealed some differences between the groups which correspond to our field investigations: Flat groups yield more diversified portfolios of prioritized road maintenance projects than hierarchical ones, but workloads of administrative position managers are heavier in flat groups than hierarchical ones.

Ashraf S. Khan, Anik Tapader, BRAC University

The gendered decision & productivity nexus, breaking the glass ceiling: An empirical study of South Asian subcontinent

The main objective of this paper is to find the impact of female decision maker on a firm's productivity. To accomplish this objective, the paper utilizes World Bank Enterprise Surveys Data from a number of firms situated in the 7 countries of the South Asian sub-continental region, namely: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka; in order to determine the effect of employing a female manager and their role on the productivity of a firm on a country level. For the analysis, Ordinary Least Square (OLS) method is chosen. Return on Equity (ROE), Return on Assets (ROA) and Return on Sales (ROS) have been employed for measuring productivity. Therefore, three different models for each country has been crucially examined to verify the hypothesis. These approaches allow to see the results from different perspectives. The main variable of interest for this study is a dummy variable, which captures the presence or absence of a female manager in the top management position. As for the

control variables, the econometric models explores the following: firm size, education of workers, percentages of women working in the workforce, age of the firm, if situated at an Export Processing Zone (EPZ), firm's capacity utilization, business environment and obstacles. This study aspires to have a fresh take on this hypothesis and hopes to establish a unique perspective considering the patriarchal social structure of South-Asian Subcontinent.

Jeong Won Kim, National University of Singapore

A study on the diffusion of climate change policies among local governments in South Korea

Due to the diverse results of previous studies, there is no consensus as to why local governments establish climate change policies. So far, studies on climate change policy of local governments in South Korea have focused on the impact of strong political momentum of national government for the Low Carbon Green Growth Strategies in the late 2000s and early 2010s. However, this study analyzes the behaviors of all local governments in South Korea and suggests that the increase of local climate change policies can be explained by various horizontal policy diffusion mechanisms and political factors of each municipality in addition to the vertical coercive power. This study investigates what policies local governments in South Korea have established to tackle climate change and why they have adopted those policies. It uses an original dataset examining 227 local governments and five climate change policies (ordinances) from 2005 to 2017. A series of analyses – spatial analysis, panel regression and event history analysis – is conducted to identify the vertical and horizontal policy diffusion mechanisms of each ordinance among local governments. The analyses show the following results: First, coercion has partly succeeded in disseminating ordinances among local governments. Second, patterns of competition and emulation are found. Third, local governments seem to learn from the experiences of domestic and foreign cities and design climate change policies suitable to their own local contexts. Fourth, the internal conditions of local governments do not show a clear correlation with climate change policy adoption except with respect to mayoral leadership.

Abhirada Komoot, University of Western Australia

The future of the Phanom-Surin shipwreck in Thailand is in whose hands?

In the field of heritage management, communication and agreements among stakeholders are core. But in practice, the power of making decision most of the time has fallen into government's hand. The local community and the heritage are often alienated. This paper aims to raise awareness on the importance of shipwreck heritage in balancing of power and improving political climate in Thailand. It points out some effects of policy-making process to the well-being of the Phanom-Surin shipwreck site and the potentiality of the shipwreck research in reattaching local community to commit to the government's policy. The 9th century Phanom-Surin shipwreck resting in situ near Bangkok has characteristics of western Indian Ocean shipbuilding technology. This shipwreck study is in the business of creating knowledge and makes it understandable. It has potentials to enlarge knowledge on the root of nation and the long-distance connections with the other regions during early period. In the realm of complex concept of public policy, it can play a unique role to engage community with the government's projects. In achieving that, it needs a wide range of skills and knowledge and consistent support for research. The civil engagement to archaeology can also be resulted in the better enforcement of heritage law in Thailand and promotion of cultural equality in the society.

Upasana Mahanta, O.P. Jindal Global University

Public health policy and inequity in healthcare access: Examining the case of tribal health in India

Public health policy has far-reaching impact on health status and access to healthcare, particularly in the Indian context with its vast geographical and socio-demographic variation. According to the 2011 census, the tribal population in India is 104 million, constituting 8.6 per cent of country's population. Located in the margins of socio-economic development, the tribal population in India faces a number of structural inequities, the most significant amongst them being lack of access to healthcare. To explicate, according to the National Family Health Survey 4 (NFHS-4) (2015-2016), the under-5 mortality among the tribal population was 57.2 per 1000 live births compared to 38.5 among others, and the infant mortality rate (IMR) 44.4 per 1000 live births versus others of 32.1. However, there has been no serious public policy

engagement in India with the question of tribal health. Tribal healthcare in India is often merged within the framework of rural healthcare (such as the National Rural Health Mission) that fails to recognize the distinct healthcare needs of tribal people. This raises critical questions on what and whose lived experiences count as evidence in public health policy making in India. An Expert Committee on Tribal Health was constituted jointly by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW) and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA), Government of India, in the year 2013. However, many of the key recommendations made by the Committee have not been taken up for implementation. In this context, this paper seeks to explore public health policies in India focusing on the marginalization of tribal health concerns.

Greg McCarthy, University of Western Australia; Xianlin Song, University of Western Australia
Theorizing the governing of higher education mobility in Australia

The Australia higher education has been shaped by the mobility of students, academics and knowledge. The governance of that mobility is depicted through the theoretical frames of centralised State sovereignty and power at a distance via statutory authorities and universities themselves. Notably, the globalisation of Australian higher education in the 1990s coincided with the neoliberal turn in social governance, where social citizenship gave way to market citizenship and where the pervasive rationality of measuring activities, including learning was intensely marketized. Whilst the market veridiction of higher education via neoliberal rationalisation is a good starting point to understand how mobility is governed this theory, however, is notable for the absence of race theory. The paper will address this absence and explain how higher education mobility is racialized via modes of classifying, ordering, creating and destroying other cultures, in this case the Asian other. This paper argues that in Australia sovereignty is marked by a racial logic, where a social imaginary that privileges 'European man' is perceived unquestioningly as the apex of civilisation that Asians can but merely aspire to. The paper will address the theory of a raced market to explain the character of higher education in Australia and why race is a persistent force in higher education practice.

Joshua McDonnell, University of Western Australia
Size as a barrier of entry into local politics: A normative case for widespread office holding and the citizen-politician

Local government is often heralded as the ideal locus for participatory democracy. Certainly, the argument for local participation is persuasive: it facilitates personal development, provides a school for democracy, and enhances input legitimacy through greater political equality and procedural fairness. This salutary commitment to widespread and inclusive participation stops, however, when it reaches the chamber door, wherein the ideal of participatory democracy gives way to a starkly Schumpeterian conception of democracy. This is a democratic elitism that advocates for fewer councillors of higher social, moral and cognitive standing. It is a preference for higher barriers of entry into political office. The influence of democratic elitism is most clearly perceived in central governments' fixation with municipal amalgamation, where the reduction in the number of representatives is regularly proffered as a primary aim of reform. This paper examines the effects of such policies, finding extant and novel empirical evidence that size can indeed present as a barrier of entry, limiting the range of people willing to stand for office. Yet, under the prevailing paradigm of democratic elitism, such findings are moot. This paper, therefore, proposes an alternative perspective, offering a normative case for widespread officeholding. When the council chamber is viewed, it is argued, through the lens of participatory democracy, we begin to see it as an inclusive space for active citizenship and an adjunct to democratic innovation. When officeholding is viewed as an act of participation, we can start to question policies that erect barriers of entry, such as municipal amalgamation.

Tima T. Moldogaziev, Pennsylvania State University; Salvador Espinosa, San Diego State University; Christine R. Martell, University of Colorado at Denver
Governance reforms and information institutions in emerging subnational capital markets: Lessons from Bulgaria, Colombia, and South Korea

The paper presents an overview of instrument designs that local government often use to mitigate problems associated with information resolution, and discusses how these instruments may facilitate the debt policy function for cities. Given that the range of borrowing options and instruments depends upon the particularities of the institutional framework in a country, we conduct a comparative analysis of three representative countries—Bulgaria, Colombia, and South Korea. These three countries have adopted and implemented governance reforms in late 2000s, which seek to develop a broader set of regional and local government options for capital financing. The paper reviews governance institutions pre- and post-reforms during 2000-2018, focusing on specific measures to improve information resolution mechanisms in newly adopted laws. Borrowing instrument options and debt compositions of three key cities in each country—Sofia, Medellin, and Seoul—will serve as case studies for the impact of top-down reforms on local governments. A comparative assessment of reforms from three emerging subnational capital markets will shed light on policy alternatives that other countries could learn from.

Maitreyee Mukherjee, National University of Singapore

Water markets as potential drought response tool to facilitate economic use and water resource conservation? Examination of the US water market transaction data

This paper aims to examine the validity of the theoretical contention that water markets induce efficient use while reducing consumption through higher price mechanism and enhanced transaction costs (Ostrom, 1965; Howe et al. 1986; Howitt, 1994). To do this, empirical analysis of water market transaction data from the US between 2010-2020 is conducted to understand which factors (such as price, restrictions imposed, water scarcity etc.) affect water trading. The paper is based on two hypotheses- 1) Water trading might lead to efficient allocation (from low to high value users) but does not necessarily induce conservation behaviour among consumers. 2) Water resource conservation is a temporary phenomenon forced through institutional regulations and enforcement of compulsory water use restrictions in response to acute scarcity (as seen during the latest 2011-2015 California drought). A preliminary study shows that water transactions are not significantly affected by droughts; that is, while the pre-existing contracts are honoured, there is no significant increase or decrease of water transfer during droughts. A plausible reason might be that water availability is already constrained during droughts, resulting in fewer new transactions; thus, questioning the orthodoxy whether water markets are effective in facilitating efficient allocation and sustainable water use practises. The final paper would explore in depth on these arguments.

Maitreyee Mukherjee, Olivia Jensen, National University of Singapore

Governance innovations in the water sector: Efficiency and sustainability impacts of business sector water retail market in UK

The paper examines the impact of introducing market mechanisms in the water sector on economic efficiency and sustainable resource use. For this, we study a novel water retail market introduced in England & Wales in 2017, that allows non-domestic customers to choose their retail providers. The reform mirrors similar arrangements in electricity and household gas services. It was expected that market competition would motivate service improvement, enhance efficiency, reduce bills as well as incentivize resource conservation. Our research seeks to understand what benefits the market has delivered so far, which constraints have been encountered, is there any variations in market performance across different water supply regions and lastly, whether it would be possible and desirable to replicate the market in other geographies. The study engages analysis of 50-75 consumer interviews (survey ongoing), along with detailed examination of existing market documents, performance reports and company financial statements. Primary analysis of the first two years of market operation shows approximately 50% of the consumers are aware of the market development, while only a minority of them have switched service provider. Despite proliferation in market activity, administrative streamlining and service improvements for business clients, customer satisfaction has gone down surprisingly.

Masako Numata, Masahiro Sugiyama, Gento Mogi, University of Tokyo

Analysis of barriers for mini-grids in Myanmar using AHP: Broadening evidence base for electrification policy

The dearth of data and evidence (e.g., data on demands, supplies, prices, or usage) is a pervasive problem in developing countries, and energy policy is not an exception. In Myanmar, energy access is still a big challenge. As targeted in Sustainable Development Goal 7, the government of Myanmar set the goal of universal access by 2030. Though the government has put emphasis on national grid extensions, decentralized approaches with renewables should be considered more to accelerate electrification. Nevertheless, the spread of renewable energy based mini-grids is still slow. There is a limited but growing evidence base for analyzing various options for electrification policy, but such analyses are mostly technoeconomic and do not capture a wide range of factors that are relevant to rural electrification policy in a country with diverse social and ethnic backgrounds and complex histories. In this study, as a first step to widen evidence base, we developed typology of barriers to diffusion of renewable based mini grids, encompassing non-technical and non-economic aspects. We then analyzed barriers to their deployment and the prioritization of these barrier factors based on the questionnaire survey with stakeholders using the analytic hierarchy process (AHP). The results showed that the gap in many aspects were more focused among barrier factors; developers' education level, customers' lack of understanding about electricity, and interministerial enthusiasm. To overcome barriers, each gap should be filled with steady efforts.

Sanghee Park, Boise State University; M Jin Lee, Yonsei University

Minorities of minorities at the intersection of gender and race: An experimental approach

Diversity and representation research involved a wide range of empirical questions is increasingly popular. Demographic traits that define minority groups are multiple and often overlap: demographic characteristics, such as gender, race, religion, language, sexuality, and functional diversity in terms of skills, educations, political preference, and work experience. However, it is little known about how intersectional identity and identity share works and what that means for representation. The theory of representative bureaucracy assumes that passive representation, i.e., the extent to which bureaucrats resemble target populations they serve in terms of demographic characteristics, transfers to active representation but not always. Demographic congruence between citizens and bureaucrats, therefore, is a necessary but not sufficient condition to link passive representation with active representation. This research explores how citizen clients perceive government services differently and whether and how identity share with public officials affects their perception of government. We examine the compounded effect of intersectional identity in situations where the degree of representation differs in terms of gender and race. We expect that people in multiple minority groups may react differently to public services; and more specifically, the more people shares identity, the greater they accept government as legitimate and efficient. The three questions that this study aims to answer are: (1) How does intersectional identity work in perceptions of government performance? (2) How does a preferred diversity dimension change according to clients' demographic characteristics? As an attempt to further conceptual development, this study employs a series of vignette experiment survey. The link between demographic gaps and citizens' perception about the quality and legitimacy of government services is worthy of more attention for public policy and management scholarship. This is an especially pressing question in the context of public safety and law enforcement where discrimination based on clients' backgrounds stands out more often than others (Hong 2016; Meier and Nicholson-Crotty 2006). The mediating role of identity shares offers a partial answer to the "why" question that has been tested in previous research. We control the effect influenced by age, education, political preference, and employment status. Our study is designed to extend the literature by focusing on demographic gaps and intersectionality. We intend to recruit and collect data from participant representative of the general population of the US age above 20. Exploring how citizens perceive government legitimacy and effectiveness according to the demographic composition of public agencies will broaden our understanding of the representation mechanisms. Another contribution of this study is to provide public officials with the ground of diversity considerations in delivering public services that require close interaction with citizen clients.

Avery Poole, Australian National University; Pradeep Taneja, University of Melbourne
National security, higher education and 'foreign influence' in universities

Student mobility and international research collaborations are among the ranking criteria for higher education institutions that few universities can afford to ignore. As the opportunities expand for 'internationalising' the university experience and for raising significant fee revenue from international students, so too does concern in some quarters about 'foreign influence' – most often directed at China. This raises key questions at the nexus of national security policy and education policy: to what extent are concerns about 'foreign influence' grounded in sound evidence? What are the key interests and motivations underpinning these concerns and counterarguments? And how should universities and governments navigate this increasingly complex space? This paper explores the 'foreign influence' debate and the public policy responses. We explore the tensions between and among the imperatives of national security and the importance of international education as an export; the rigour of teaching and research in a financially constrained higher education sector; and the security concerns stoked by an increasingly powerful and assertive China. The paper then asks: What are the governmental and institutional responses to 'foreign influence' concerns in various countries? We will address this question primarily in relation to Australia, where the debate is particularly prominent, leading to the establishment of a University Foreign Interference Taskforce with representation from universities, the Department of Education and government security agencies. We will also examine institutional responses from other countries, including Canada and the United Kingdom, and draw on lessons from this comparative analysis. Finally, the paper recommends public policy initiatives that may help universities and governments navigate the dynamic realm of internationalising higher education.

M Ramesh, National University of Singapore; Azad Singh Bali, Australian National University
Managing the healthcare system in South Korea: Searching for technical solutions to political-economic contradictions

Nearly three decades after introducing universal health insurance, Koreans continue to pay large sums out-of-pocket. The paper enquires into the causes of this undesirable situation. It finds the underlying reasons in the limited range of policy tools available to the government in the absence of private dominance of provision of healthcare. On the financing side, the government is constrained by opposition to increase in contribution rates. The government has responded to the limitations by setting up elaborate decision-making processes involving different stakeholders for allocating the scarce resources. But these technical solutions are inadequate for adequately dealing with the problems rooted in private provision and low contribution rates.

Marco Rizzi, University of Western Australia; Katie Attwell, University of Western Australia; Jeannette Taylor, University of Western Australia; Pierluigi Lopalco, University of Pisa, Italy; Virginia Casiglian, University of Pisa, Italy; Filippo Quattrone, University of Pisa, Italy
Legitimising a 'Zombie idea': Childhood vaccines and autism: The unfortunate tale of two bad judgments and their impact on vaccine hesitancy in Italy

In June 2017 the Italian government established a mandatory childhood vaccination scheme. This controversial measure followed a drop in immunization rates registered across the country due to, according to the Italian Ministry of Health, insufficient awareness of the individual and collective benefits of vaccines, the diffusion of 'fake news' and scientifically unfounded correlations between vaccines and autism, and the corresponding traction of 'no-vax' theories and movements. This 'perfect storm' was punctuated by two judicial decisions, from the Tribunal of Rimini in 2012 and the Tribunal of Milan in 2014, in which the courts sanctioned the existence of a causal link between childhood vaccines and autism. Italian studies have shown a direct link between these decisions, parental internet searches about vaccine-autism and the popularity of 'no-vax' theories and corresponding drop in immunization rates. The appellate judgments that overturned the original decisions did not meet the same level of media attention. These quantitative correlations between court decisions and decrease in vaccination coverage prompt us to look at these judgments as focusing events. In this paper we provide an in-depth case study of both decisions, comprising document analysis supported by extensive empirical data from interviews with key informants in the Italian legal and public health system. We offer a thorough explanation of what happened in these decisions and why, considering various deficits in processes that allowed an unscientific and dangerous idea to be amplified and propagate. Accordingly, the paper

corroborates the role these decisions played in Italian vaccine hesitancy, situating them as focusing events in the adoption of mandatory vaccines. The paper is organised as follows. We first provide an overview of the institutional framework governing compensation for vaccine related injuries in Italy and a background on the original “vaccine-autism” scandal. We then illustrate the theoretical framework that underpins our analysis and discuss our methodology. In the third section we present our results in the form of a case analysis of the Rimini and Milan decisions, and an analysis of the qualitative interviews with key informants. We then discuss the results and conclude.

Andrew Rosser, University of Melbourne

The political economy of higher education policy in Indonesia under Jokowi

The quality of research and teaching in Indonesia’s higher education system—even at the country’s best institutions—is generally regarded as poor relative to both global standards and those of neighbouring countries in Asia. This is reflected in the country’s poor showing in global university league tables. This paper examines the Jokowi administration’s approach to higher education policy, the political dynamics that have shaped it, and its implications for the quality of Indonesia’s higher education system. It argues that the Jokowi’s administration’s higher education policies have been incoherent, lurching from measures aimed at promoting greater competition, international collaboration, and efficiency within the sector to protectionist, security-oriented, and even xenophobic measures. It explains this incoherence in terms of the contradictory pressures on the Jokowi government emanating from, on the one hand, structural economic imperatives (e.g. the need to enhance economic competitiveness and improve living standards) and nationalist ambitions to promote industrial upgrading and, on the other hand, the interests of predatory elites within the state apparatus, corporate sector, and the higher education system. While the former have compelled the government to adopt higher education policies that foster competition, international collaboration and improved efficiency, the latter have pushed the government in the opposite direction. The administration’s incoherent approach, it is argued, is unlikely to yield significant improvements in higher education quality and may even serve to reduce it.

Alka Sabharwal, University of Western Australia; Yogesh Suman, CSIR-National Institute of Science, Technology and Development Studies, India

Informality or involuntary exclusion: Re-considering the dualism of informal and formal economy in India

The term “informal” has been understood to brand a set of economic activities that were and would increasingly become marginal as economies developed in India. This is in relation to the influential exposition of the dualist paradigm concluding that the informal economy with its millions of enterprises has little to contribute to modern economies and should disappear with time. However, in Indian context, such empirical predictions of the dualist model may be analyzed in relations to the findings of national commission for enterprises in the Unorganized Sector (NCEUS 2008) that even as late as 2004-5, more than 86% of employment was in the informal sector and no less than 92% of all workers were as high as 80% (NCEUS 2008). With a focus to a sustainable and a more context-sensitive assessment of the prospects and challenges facing the workers in the informal economy, the paper, based on existing literature presents an understanding of the informal sector i.e. social and economic conditions which determine the incentives for every actor to participate either in the formal, or the informal economies. This can help to understand whether the workers in the informal economy took a voluntary choice or had to involuntarily opt-out from an institutional system. This connection between informality and involuntary exclusion can help us not only to understand the exponential growth of the informal economy but also the reasons behind the persistence of dualistic institutional framework activating the informal economic activities.

Kidjie Saguin, National University of Singapore

Policy goals as goal systems: A policy design approach to policy effectiveness in developing countries

The conventional thinking about policy effectiveness emphasizes the appropriateness of the solution to the policy problem. The focus on the efficacy of policy instruments has invariably led scholars and policymakers to conclude that policies in developing countries, despite good design, often do not work

because of bad implementation. Such view tends to ignore that policy goals and policy design, rather than the policy instrument and implementation, could be problematic when it is ill-conceived, ambiguous or self-defeating. Drawing an on-going dissertation project, this paper seeks to better unpack policy effectiveness through a conceptualization of policy goals as a goal system. Contrary to the thinking that there is a single policy goal, all policies are designed to pursue multiple types of goals: normative, substantive and procedural goals. Out of these three goals, one goal is chosen as a focal goal, depending on the most salient feature (technical, political or operational) of the design space. Viewed this way, policy instruments deployed by governments could be effective in achieving the focal goal but could also be costly and ineffective in achieving other goals. Two cases of development programs from the Philippines are used to illustrate the trilemma that exists in pursuing multiple policy goals.

Kidjie Saguin, National University of Singapore

The politics of higher education governance reform: Institutionalizing free state tertiary education in the Philippines

Grunnar Myrdal (1968) characterized the Philippines as a 'soft state' for being captured by private interests in how it governs the education sector. Many scholars today argue that this mode of governance remains true particularly in tertiary education. However, such perspective ignores the recent efforts of the state to better consolidate state power in the delivery of education services. This proposed paper seeks to unearth the underlying pattern of changes to the relationship between the state and private schools through a recent, radical case of education reform: provision of free and universal education in all public universities. Such reform serves as a critical juncture to the 'soft state' approach of Philippine education governance as it essentially crowds out the private sector. However, the issue is no longer about the willingness to adequately govern private schools but more about the capacity to meaningfully enforce the governance mechanisms.

Kidjie Saguin, National University of Singapore; Nihit Goyal, Yale-NUS College, Singapore

Which policy capacity to couple which streams? The adoption of conditional cash transfer in the Philippines

Although policy capacity – skills and resources of the actors involved in policymaking – influences policy processes and outcomes, it has not been conceptualized adequately in mainstream theories of policy change. Even studies on policy capacity have not systematically shed light on how different types of capacities – analytical, operational, and political – affect policymaking. We address this gap by integrating the typology for policy capacity with the multiple streams framework. Specifically, we propose that the problem stream requires analytical and political capacities, the policy stream requires analytical and operational capacities, and the politics stream requires operational and political capacities. Consequently, while analytical capacity is essential for coupling the problem and policy streams, operational capacity is essential for coupling the policy and politics streams, and political capacity is essential for coupling the politics and problem streams. We 'test' this proposition using process tracing to examine the case of Philippines' Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino program, the largest conditional cash transfer in Asia. Our findings show the saliency of the different types of policy capacity at the subsystem level. We conclude that synthesis of the notion of policy capacity within the multiple streams framework can help identify the Achilles' heel of the policy process during different policy 'stages' across policy areas in different policy settings.

Mary Lynn De Silva, University of Western Australia

Enabling resistance: Towards a policy toolkit for the de-securitization of asylum in Australia

In Australia, coercive policy tools have been used to securitize the issue of asylum and to legitimize punitive asylum policies. Whilst regulatory policy tools driven by exclusionary (communitarian) logics of identity have been used by the Australian government since 2001 to exert coercive power in securitizing the issue of asylum, the non-coercive tools deployed by civil society organizations such as pressure groups, voluntary associations, religious bodies, the mass media and academic institutions to de-securitize the issue remain undertheorized. What role does civil society play in disseminating a common moral language to uphold the human rights of asylum seekers? What would a theoretical framework

identifying non-coercive policy instruments look like? How can such tools be used to resist the hegemonic norms driving exclusionary and punitive asylum policies in Australia? This paper critically analyzes the utility of policy instruments prescribed by Hood (1983) to resist the securitization of Asylum in Australia. The paper undertakes a critical literature review of civil society's role in Australian asylum policymaking processes and proposes a sixth dimension to supplement Hood's toolkit: social policy tools. It is argued that social policy tools are used not only to influence public opinions and asylum policies within Australia's existing sociopolitical structures, but to alter these structures and the accompanying rules that govern them. In this paper, I outline a policy toolkit that is capable of analyzing forms of resistance to securitization, and map how these tools may exert transformative effect towards de-securitization through the use of moral authority, stigma and shaming.

Xianlin Song, University of Western Australia

Governing Asian international students: The policy and practice of essentialising 'critical thinking'

Migration flows have shaped Australian higher education since its inception in the colonial era. Within the last two decades, the movement of people into Australian universities has gone through a dramatic change, with much inbound flows of students and academics coming not from the West but from the East, notably China and India. While Asian mobility has literally changed the face of Australian campuses, paradoxically, government policies and university regulations have moved to reinforce a Western centric curriculum and pedagogy. This paper investigates this paradox by examining how Asian international students in Australia are governed by a homogenising educational process via the regulatory state, underpinned by both neoliberal and post-colonial ideologies. The market-driven educational policies treat Asian international students as neoliberal subjects combined with a developmentalist logic, relegating them to the position of an inferior Other. The paper argues that the mutual determinacy of neoliberalism and othering is most evident in educational policies and practices related to 'critical thinking', which is mandated as a primary attribute of university studies. In this determinacy, critical thinking acts both as a totem pole to attract Asian students and a governmental yardstick to measure their academic performance, mystifying and interpolating neoliberal subjectivity.

Francesco Stolfi, Macquarie University; Boonwara Sumano, Thailand Development Research Institute
The policy implications of democratic and authoritarian regimes: The liberalization of professions in Thailand, 2005-2020

Do democracies and non-democracies pursue different public policies? And specifically, do democratic and non-democratic regimes differ in the extent to which they favour the many or the few, the majority of citizens or special interests linked to the government? Because of its alternation between democratic and authoritarian regimes in the past twenty years, Thailand provides an excellent case for addressing these questions. We analyse the attempts to liberalize engineering in Thailand between the early 2000s and the present. Liberalization, namely the reduction or elimination of regulatory constraints to market access and market behaviour, implies conflict between the potential winners and losers of increased competition, and therefore is a key concern of the comparative political economy literature on the policy differences between democracies and authoritarian regimes. The paper makes two contributions. First, it applies to this literature the conceptual tools of public policy, and specifically the concepts of interest groups' access to policy makers and policy influence. Second, it focuses on an understudied aspect of liberalization, the liberalization of professions, which produces clear short-term benefits and costs and thus has greater political salience than other forms of liberalization, whose impact is often opaque and uncertain. Furthermore, professions are a key site of political conflict because the labour market is the key mechanism for the distribution of income and because professions are central to the construction of the identity of the middle classes, which in turn are key actors in the liberalization and democratization processes.

Masa Sugiyama, University of Tokyo; Jun Muto, University of Tokyo

Measuring policy analytical capacity in renewables policy: Japan-California-Germany comparison and implications for Japan's renewables policy

In Japan, the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and the associated nuclear disaster created impetus to accelerate expansion of renewables. The 2012 feed-in tariff (FIT) scheme greatly helped expand renewables (particularly solar). Unfortunately, however, the prices of renewables remain high in Japan compared to the rest of the world, which has led to an enormous economic burden. Considering the debate surrounding the cost differentials and the FIT design, we hypothesize that Japan has a weak policy analytical capacity in renewable energy policy, and that this has indirectly led to the current situation. To test this hypothesis, this paper attempts to quantify some of the indicators related to this concept, by comparing Japan, the United States (California state) and Germany. California and Germany were chosen since they are comparable in economic activities and Japan often looks to the two regions for new policy ideas. We operationalize policy analytical capacity by examining the share of analyses in the publications from stakeholders and the citations in the renewable special report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. The results suggest that policy analytical capacity in Japan is likely to be low. Further analysis is required to identify pathways to improve policy analytical capacity in the renewables field and beyond.

Janiscus Pieter Tanesab, David Oliver Kasdan, Sungkyunkwan University

Racial inclusion in education: Designing regional cooperation through policy dialogue for Papua-ethnics in Indonesia

Racist abuse through Surabaya incidents on Papua's students illustrated the confrontation of Indonesia's nationalism, integrity and equity. The riot was inextricably linked to the long history of social, cultural and political discrimination to Papuan ethnics of Indonesia. Marginalization, failures of development, human rights violation, history and political status of Papua become the fatal tensions have ever occurred. As a result, Papua people carry the trauma of long bitter memories. The study was particularly intended to address the issue of inclusive education in which Papua's incident of racial exclusion confronts the policy of inclusive education system in Indonesia. So, the study considers existing policies and practices at both regional and local level of government manifested in universities and schools that explore inclusive education. Through developing policy dialogue among governments and interests' groups, the study identifies factors contributing towards racism and discrimination in education. The findings raise social equity and moral concerns around how policies are implemented in different ways and in different contexts of different people. The results also addressed design of policy frameworks as strategic approaches at micro, meso and macro level to achieve comprehensive inclusive education. The study, then suggests opportunities to strengthen capacities to reexamining Indonesia's nationality against racism and broadly across Asia-Pacific and beyond.

Jeannette Taylor, University of Western Australia

Causes of performance data manipulation by government employees: The nexus between motivation and opportunity

Rather than using performance data to guide evidence-based decision-making, a significant proportion of public employees have responded to the implementation of performance management systems in their organizations by engaging in performance data manipulation or gaming behavior. Yet, while research on the dysfunctional uses of performance data is growing, we are still in search of theories that go beyond system-specific explanations and address performance gaming behavior at the level of the employee. Middle range theory may be a useful theory-building strategy for this purpose because of its emphasis on generating testable hypotheses, organizing knowledge about particular phenomena, and bridging gaps between empirical facts and theory. This paper presents a series of theoretical statements about the causes of gaming behavior by government employees, and reviews the extent to which these statements are supported by empirical evidence. By doing so, it identifies theoretical statements that are widely confirmed and others that need additional testing.

Jordan Soukias Tchilingirian, University of Western Australia

From network intellectuals to networked intellectuals: A social network analysis of British think-tanks 2006 – 2017

To be policy relevant think-tanks must produce knowledge that is amenable to multitude actors within the policy-knowledge nexus. This requires accessing and translating symbols and capitals from professions that span the fields of media, academia, business and politics. Though the intellectual hybridity of think-tanks well documented, there has been little research into the act of think-tank knowledge production. Instead, social and political scientists have sought define these organisations, chart the development of national 'think-tank traditions', or determine the role and impact of think-tanks on policy outcomes. When questions of knowledge production are asked, the think-tank is often presented as a 'network intellectual': a servant/ideologue of an established and narrow policy coalition. Privileging the goals of an elite clique erases the multitude of cross-professional alliances that must be engaged to produce policy-knowledge. In contrast, this paper presents a case study of British think-tanks that employs social network analysis and insights from the sociology of expertise to develop a novel community-wide procedure to study the variety of alliances and resources think-tanks mobilise within the knowledge-policy nexus. Focusing on emergent networks, this paper examines the relational structure of the space of British think-tanks; maps the distribution of financial and ideational resources that are enrolled from across the knowledge-policy nexus; and identifies valued and powerful actors who fund, advise, and coordinate think-tank activities. In sum, this paper argues the scholarship on policy-knowledge and think-tanks should pull back from the study of 'network intellectuals' and focus upon 'networked intellectuals'

Peter Thomsett, University of Western Australia

Complex coordination: 'Ideal' policy frameworks and domestic constraints in financial stability governance

Among the international trends in financial stability governance over the past ten years has been the proliferation of macroprudential policy (MPP) tools, along with an associated restructuring of regulatory institutions in response to changing mandates and responsibilities. The emergence of MPP has often been interpreted as a major shift in regulatory philosophy, having been described in the wake of the global financial crisis by the Bank of England's Andy Haldane as 'a new ideology'. However, more recent scholarship has suggested that the earlier expectations of MPP's transformative potential may have not been realised. As such, the ways in which MPP has been implemented across different jurisdictions are increasingly providing an opportunity to assess the structural, institutional or ideational impediments to new policy frameworks. Although having a longer history in some countries, MPP has presented itself as an expanding global policy space accompanied by a burgeoning research effort. This paper assesses the role of the international organisations, particularly the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and Financial Stability Board (FSB), in this effort to refine the ideal frameworks for MPP and guide implementation. Through the Financial System Assessment Programme (FSAP), peer reviews, institutional research, and a newly developed macroprudential policy database, these organisations contribute to evidence gathering and policy development. In analysing these processes, idealised frameworks for MPP as well as perceived domestic constraints, can be identified.

Richard M. Walker, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, Hong Kong; Yanto Chandra, Hong Kong Polytechnic University; Zhang Jiasheng, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, Hong Kong

The research-practice gap in public administration: A topic modelling approach

Simon (1947) famously described public administration (PA) as a design science solving complex, human-related, real-world problems. However, there are questions about the ways in which PA scholarship has developed resulting in the possible existence of a research-practice gap. In this paper we will address this longstanding debate in the field of public administration by examining the agendas of scholars and practitioners using the topic modeling technique of computational social science. This paper will build on our topic modeling content analysis of 35 identified topics in the Public Administration Review and PA Times (3,796 articles). This research showed that just over 50% of topics were common to both groups, indicating shared interests. There were, however, topics distinctly focused on by the two groups. Moreover, scholars and practitioners attached significant differences to the weights allocated to the prominent topics in their writing. Given that these findings indicate that topic modeling can shed new light on the research-practice gap in public administration we will extend our prior analysis over

additional journals and practitioner sources to explore the generalizability of the findings from Public Administration Review and PA Times.

Arisa Yasui, So. Morikawa, University of Tokyo; Noel Kikuchi, National Graduate Institute for Policies Studies

Does scientific evidence help to develop disaster-anticipation ability? A field study in Higashiura Town, Aichi, Japan

These days, intensive disasters have happened frequently and these have been often expressed as “beyond expectation.” Organizations such as local governments and private companies need to build disaster response system in order to reduce such unexpected disasters. Among the four abilities proposed in resilience engineering (response, monitor, anticipate, and learn), anticipation is thought to be an important ability being a base of other abilities (Hollnagel, 2014). Anticipation is to estimate the future events by deciding current situation. In other words, anticipation is to think future events through understanding uncertainty of scientific data. Although Japan is one of the most highly disaster-prone countries, the ability of disaster anticipation has not been considered well in current disaster countermeasures (Hatakeyama, 2014). In each of three steps in RPM process (recognition, prioritization, and mobilization), a proposed way to anticipate disasters by Watkins & Bazerman (2003), Japan still face many difficulties in their implementations. In this research, we set the following research question: What should we do in order for local governments and private companies to improve the ability of disaster anticipation? First, through interviews with local governments and private companies in Japan, we identify the current situation on the organizational ability of disaster anticipation. Next, based on the results, we propose a workshop to improve the organizational ability of anticipation by effectively showing scientific evidence of earthquake research. An online application is specially developed for our workshop. Finally, we evaluate the proposed workshop and discuss achieved changes in perceptions and/or behaviors of organization members.

Raymond Chun-fai Yiu, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Evidence of role of state in driving technological progress in China: A comparison across technological sector

China’s innovation system has made considerable strides during the recent two decades and two main trends were observed. First, the innovation productivity has improved significantly in China's leading technological sectors (such as computers, communication and other electronic equipment, electric machinery and apparatus, transport equipment) during the period 2006 and 2017 as measured by the relative performance in number of invention patents, sales revenue of new products and R&D expenditures. Second, with respect to R&D expenditures by sector, there is a tendency of diversification into emerging technological sectors. In 2006, the top 10 technological sectors by R&D expenditure accounted for 78.9% of the overall expenditure, whereas the ratio has declined to 72.6% of the overall expenditure in 2017. The most rapid rate of growth in R&D expenditure was observed in the second-tier technological sectors such as non-metallic mineral products, rubber and plastic products, and processing of food from agricultural products during the period 2006 to 2017. Increase in innovation productivity and diversification into emerging technological sectors are consistent with China's broader development objectives such as self-reliance and sustainability transitions. In this study, a comparative approach is adopted to analyze the policy instruments deployed by the Mainland China government across different technological sectors. Specifically, our attention will be focused on the industry-specific government policies, such as subsidies, regulations, special provisions in various development plans, involvement of state-sponsored corporations, which have exerted causal influence on the two trends identified. Keywords: innovation productivity, self-reliance, diversification, industry-specific government policies, innovation system

Chun Yuan, Zhixia Chen, Huazhong University of Science and Technology

How professionals become policy entrepreneurs: The case of Optic Valley in China

Professionals usually provide government decision-making advice as think tanks, while incarnating as policy entrepreneurs has rarely been studied. Under what conditions and how will professionals act as

policy entrepreneurs? Drawing on the case of proposal scholars with strong professional knowledge in Optics Valley of China and based on Multiple Streams Model and actor-network-theory, we suggest a framework for addressing this question. Though in-depth interviews and accessible archives supplemented by Web Crawler, we analysis the strategies Professor Huang adopts to increase influence on policy design and by proposing that the combination of new policy issues, resource mobilization and participation in substantive political discussions. An important aspect of Huang's approach was to align a number of important institutional networks to conjoin related problems. Our findings highlight how professionals act as policy entrepreneur not only opens policy windows but also yokes together actor network to make policy agendas happen. We contribute by clarifying the role of professionals in creating policy windows and the agenda-setting and decision-making system of triple interaction among government, professionals and the public.

Yibin Zhang, University of Western Australia

Reversing the brain-drain: Challenges and options for China's recruitment program for global experts

In order to reverse the brain-drain, an issue which has suffered China over the last three decades, the Chinese government has introduced the "Recruitment Program for Global Experts (RPGE)" in 2008. This policy utilizes economic incentives as the main instrument for encouraging skilled Overseas Chinese (OC) to return to and work in China. During the last 10 years, scholars of skilled migration have provided valuable insights into issues of the RPGE, including matching the design of incentives to OC's needs and interests, and how China's contextual factors (such as guanxi; and the efficiency of government agencies) affect the implementation of the RPGE. Few studies, however, have employed any knowledge in the field of public policy to understand the interaction between the RPGE and OC's mobility. As a result, this leads to a question that has the RPGE (its design and implementation) influenced OC's mobility? This paper aims to answer this question by combining knowledges in public policy and skilled migration. Based on reviewing the literature, this paper firstly examines the strengths and weaknesses of instruments utilized in the RPGE by analyzing studies in policy instrument classification and selection. Secondly, it investigates how China's contextual factors affects the implementation of the RPGE. Thirdly, this paper analyzes the relationship between the policy design, implementation, and OC's personal factors including their consideration of self-interests. This paper argues that the RPGE has influenced OC's mobility, but only in an indirect manner, because this influence from the RPGE is also affected by OC's personal factors.

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Gender mainstreaming in Australia: Are we doing enough to promote the rights of women and girls down under?

The United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing 1994, raises awareness to the need of bringing gender equality into the mainstream of societal political debate of countries worldwide. Gender mainstreaming highlights the need to prioritise gender equality in all areas of society, becoming part of our everyday lives. Australia is a country recognised in the world stage as a strong advocate for the rights of women and girls overseas, having developed a robust first National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (2012-2018). Australia's first National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security sets out Australia's commitment to promote the rights of women and rights both internationally and domestically. Paradoxically, it is argued that Australia is a country with a significant gender pay gap and particularly high levels of violence against women. It is argued that Australia's gender pay gap is still approximately 14 percent, and that levels of violence against women and girls are high, sitting in the 36 percent figure (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2016). The pressing question is: How effective is gender mainstreaming being in Australia? This presentation will argue firstly: The leading Australian policies aiming to raise societal awareness to women's rights and greater gender parity in Australian society, particularly policies to tackle violence against women; secondly: The way forward to deal with current challenges to implement gender parity and to protect women and girls from violence in Australia.