Expanding Social Policy in China
Conference Program

Date and Time: March 21, 2018, 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM
Location: World Room, Pulitzer Hall, Columbia University

Opening Remarks
9:00 am – 9:20 am
Qin Gao, Director, China Center for Social Policy, Columbia University
Irwin Garfinkel, Interim Dean, Columbia School of Social Work
Xiaobo Lü, Acting Director, Weatherhead East Asian Institute, Columbia University

Session 1
9:20 am – 10:50 am
Expanding Public Services in China: Recent Trends and Developments
Chair: Xiaobo Lü (Columbia University)

Feng Wang (UC-Irvine)
Expansion of Public Transfers in China: Who are the Beneficiaries?

Xian Huang (Rutgers University)
When Top-Down Meets Bottom-Up: Local Adoption of Social Policy Reform in China

Qin Gao (Columbia University)
China’s War on Poverty: Will It Succeed?

Discussant: Mark Frazier (New School University)

10:50 am – 11:10 am  Coffee/Tea Break
Session 2  Poverty, Inequality & Public Policies
11:10 am – 12:50 pm
Chair: George Hong (Fordham University)

Juan Yang (Beijing Normal University)
The Impact of Education Expansion on Wage Inequality in China

Quheng Deng (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences)
Educational Assortative Mating and Income Inequality in Urban China

Sui Yang (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences)
The Effects of Rural Dibao on Poverty Reduction

Yanxia Zhang (China Agricultural University)
Aging Challenge and Care Crisis in Rural China

Discussant: Chris Wimer (Columbia University)

12:50 pm – 2:00 pm  Lunch Break

Session 3  Child Development and Well-being
2:00 pm – 3:40 pm
Chair: Sarah Jessup (Children of China Pediatrics Foundation)

Emily Hannum (University of Pennsylvania)
Estimating the Effects of Educational System Contraction:
The Case of China’s Rural School Merger Initiative.

Yao Lu (Columbia University)
Migration and Children’s Psychological and Cognitive Development in China: New Evidence from a National Survey

Karen Fisher (University of New South Wales, Sydney)
Changes to State Child Welfare Institutions in Response to Mixed Welfare Expectations
Jillian Popkins (UNICEF China)  
*Essential Basic Services for Early Child Development: Challenges and Opportunities*

Discussant: Bruce Bradbury (University of New South Wales, Sydney)

**3:40 pm – 4:00 pm**  
**Coffee/Tea Break**

**Session 4**  
**Roundtable on the Future of Chinese Social Policy and Public Services**

**4:00 pm – 5:40 pm**  
Chair: Andrew Nathan (Columbia University)

Chuliang Luo (Beijing Normal University)  
*Public Policies to Address Inequality in China: What’s Expected to Happen?*

Dorothy Solinger (UC-Irvine)  
*Fighting Urban Poverty: Extrapolating the Future from Chinese Politics and Views of the Indigent*

Jinyu Liu (Columbia University)  
*Expanding Elder Care Services in China*

Bin Xu (Emory University)  
*Civil Society and Civic Engagement: Reflections and Policy Implications*

Tobias ten Brink (Jacobs University Bremen, Germany)  
*Global Social Policy Dynamics and China: A Research Agenda*

Discussant: Carl Riskin (Columbia University and CUNY Queens College)

**Concluding Remarks**  
**Qin Gao, Director, China Center for Social Policy**

**5:40 pm – 6:00 pm**