



香港教育大學
The Education University
of Hong Kong



Lingnan 嶺南大學
University



華南理工大學
South China University of Technology

The Fourth International Conference on Social Policy and Governance Innovation: Innovation in Social Service Delivery

November 24 and 25, 2016

HONG KONG

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Department of Asian and Policy Studies of the Education University of Hong Kong (previously known as the Hong Kong Institute of Education), the Asia Pacific Institute of Ageing Studies of Lingnan University, and the School of Public Administration of South China University of Technology are convening a two-day conference on social policy and governance innovation to be held on November 24 and 25, 2016 in Hong Kong. As a continuation of the conference series held in Hong Kong and Guangzhou in rotation, this fourth conference aims to provide a venue for academic discussion and scholarly exchange on social policy and governance in Asia and beyond.

In light of the economic volatility in Asia due to China's economic slowdown and the possibility of retrenchment, there are growing needs for innovative methods to improve the efficiency and quality of social service delivery, to meet the rising expectations of the citizenry. The applications of public-private-partnerships, co-production and Internet technologies in long-term care, health care, public housing and social work have been vigorously changing the conventional perceptions on how social services should be delivered. Recent years have seen the emergence of many similar new initiatives in Asia.

Themed as innovation in social service delivery, this conference is particularly interested in fresh studies that examine the use of innovative methods in social service delivery. We welcome papers of both empirical as well as theoretical approaches. Comparative and quantitative analyses are particularly encouraged.

The *Journal of Asian Public Policy* is the supporting journal of this conference and will select high-quality papers for a special issue which will also be published as a book by Routledge in London. Please refer to the annex for a separate call for papers of the special issue.

Keynote speakers include:

David Levi-Faur, Head, the Federmann School of Public Policy, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem; Founding editor, *Regulation & Governance*

Hellmut Wollmann, Professor Emeritus, Institute of Social Science, Humboldt University, Berlin

Ki Nam Jin, Professor, Department of Health Administration, Yonsei University

There will be special panels dedicated for doctoral students who are at the stage of dissertation-writing. Senior scholars will be invited to serve as discussants to help improve their research.

The conference will be held on the serene Tai Po campus of the Education University of Hong Kong on the first day and Lingnan University on the second day, with conference dinner held at Lingnan Club in the Hong Kong Island. Participants will get the opportunity to experience both the outskirts and centre of Hong Kong. The organizers will provide free hotel accommodation for non-local participants of up to three nights as well as meals. No registration fees will be charged.

Those wishing to present in the conference should submit a 250-300 word abstract to aps@eduhk.hk by **September 30, 2016**. Information enclosed with your abstract should include: title of paper, author name(s); institutional affiliation and email address. Selection results will be announced by October 15, 2016.

Should you have any queries, please contact the workshop secretariat at +852-2948-7460 or aps@eduhk.hk.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Special Issue at Journal of Asian Public Policy

Guest editors

Prof. Dr. Hellmut Wollmann, Humboldt University Berlin
Dr He Jingwei Alex, the Education University of Hong Kong



The special issue of the *Journal of Asian Public Policy* (JAPP), which is expected to be reprinted as a Routledge book after its publication in the Journal, is meant to comprise selected high quality papers presented at the International Conference as well as articles whose authors might not be able to attend the Conference. In line with the Conference “call for papers”, the articles shall address “innovative” practices and approaches in the field of social services provision (long-term care, social work, public housing, health care, etc.).

In many countries, social services provision has seen major developments and shifts during the past three or four decades. Since the 1980s, following the advances of neo-liberal policies and New Public Management concepts, common trends can be observed in various dimensions: decentralization of pertinent tasks and responsibilities, “marketization” and “privatization”. In the more recent development, in the reaction to the economic downturn, retrenchment and financial austerity measures, different, in part conflicting, developments have taken shape, including stepped-up “privatization”, “remunicipalization” and (re-)emergence of “civil society” type actor involvement.

In addressing these developments, the special issue of JAPP will preferably select article which, instead of limiting themselves to single-country accounts, would seek an explicitly *comparative* perspective. This might be realized by “comparing” *more than one Asian* country. In a conceptually more ambitious outreach such called for articles might “compare” countries in a still wider regional, for instance, “European/Asian” dimension. We are aware that either of the comparative approaches poses great challenges, but going beyond single-country analyses would turn the envisaged special issue of JAPP into a truly *innovative* publication.

Should you be interested in this publication scheme, please contact Prof. Dr. Hellmut Wollmann, Humboldt University Berlin at hellmut.wollmann@rz.hu-berlin.de and Dr He Jingwei Alex, the Education University of Hong Kong at jwhe@eduhk.hk. Preliminary draft of full paper should be submitted by **December 20 2016**.