

Call for papers

International Conference on “Multiple Perspectives on the Meaning of Community and Citizenship”

*Organizer: Harvard-Yenching Institute
Peking University*

Dear Harvard-Yenching Alumni:

The International Conference on “Multiple Perspectives on the Meaning of Community and Citizenship” co-organized by Harvard-Yenching Institute and Peking University, will be held from October 31 to November 2, 2009 in Beijing. We cordially invite you to attend the conference and submit an academic paper.

We have held the biannual international conference in 2003, 2005 and 2007. The themes are “*East Asia’s View on World Culture*”, “*East Civilizations in the Process of Globalization*”, and “*Order, Fairness, Justice and Social Development in Human Civilizations*” respectively.

The Conference Proceedings of the first two conferences, “East Asia’s View on World Culture” and “East Civilizations in the Process of Globalization” have been published by the Peking University Press. Some of the theses have been cited in full text by top academic journals. In the Beijing Forum on August 22-25th, 2004, all of the 500 participants from 33 countries took a copy of the symposium “East Asia’s View on World Culture”.

These conferences won favorable acclaim from the academic world and drew a lot of media attention. CCTV-9, China’s only English News Channel, covered the conference in 2005 in its prime time news. Several other Chinese media such as *Modern Education*, *Journal of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences*, *International Business Daily*, *Journal of Peking University*, *Chinanews.com* and *Magazine of Beijing-Hong Kong Academic Exchange* also reported on these conferences. The conferences have made the voices and thoughts of mainland scholars heard and felt in the world.

Some of Harvard-Yenching alumni of Peking University put forward the idea for Peking University to host the Fourth International Academic Forum in October of 2009 at the Suzhou Symposium on *Economic Growth and Social Development: East Asia’s Cultural Perspectives* on August 24-27, 2008. The proposal was echoed by many alumni and won Professor Elizabeth J. Perry’s approval.

We are committed to host the fourth conference with “Multiple Perspectives on the Meaning of Community and Citizenship” as its theme, and as usual, we sincerely hope to get your generous support.

Theme and Purpose of the Conference

We chose **Multiple Perspectives on the Meaning of Community and Citizenship** as the theme of the 2009 academic conference because:

First of all, we plan to promote active discussions among scholars from universities and research institutes in East Asia on the topics of citizenship and community from multi-perspectives. The fast pace of economic and information globalization in the latter half of 20th century in the world has had great influence on human development. In China, after 1949, especially after the reform and opening-up policy was implemented in 1978, great changes have taken place in China's social development, with drastic changes in social structure as well. So, it is of significance to discuss citizenship and community from multiple and comparative perspectives. Social innovation could explain China's past development. Social innovation could also be regarded as the continual engine to improve the relationship between individuals and that between the individual and the nation. This conference will inspect China's social progress and development issues from the perspectives of community construction, citizenship, and civil society. At the same time, the conference will enhance international intelligentsia's understanding of China's situation with international comparison. In the conference, scholars will have further exploration on community and citizenship's development and evolution, discuss which of the human wisdoms in different civilizations could make contribution to the world peace, development and cooperation in 21st century.

Secondly, this theme may mobilize the participation from scholars in multiple disciplines. Currently, Harvard-Yenching alumni and Harvard alumni working in colleges and universities as well as research institutes in East Asia are involved in almost all humanities and sociological disciplines, including literature, history, philosophy, politics, economics, law, foreign languages and social sciences. We believe scholars of each discipline will have their unique approaches to community and citizenship.

Topics

Participants may write papers related to the theme “**Multiple Perspectives on the Meaning of Community and Citizenship**”, other sub-topics are as follows (for reference only):

1. Community and Citizenship in Oriental Wisdom and Human Civilization
2. Community and Citizenship and Harmonious Society
3. Community and Citizenship from the Perspective of anthropology and Education
4. Community and Citizenship from the Perspective of Sociology and Ethnology
5. Community, Citizenship and Law – tradition, Modern and Culture
6. Community and Citizenship in the Economic Globalization

7. Community and Citizenship from the Perspective of Political Science
8. Community and Citizenship in the Information Society
9. The Meaning of Chinese Civics: Historic Development and Comparative Research
10. The Evolvement of Membership in Social Development, Understanding and Respect for Diversity
11. Citizenship Education in China: Theory and Practice
12. Global Peace: Citizen's Multi-participation
13. Citizenship: Comparative Studies in China and West
14. Community and Citizenship in Cross-cultural Communication

Expected Goal

The main participants of the conference will be domestic Harvard-Yenching scholars and Harvard Alumni. We will also invite some other famous scholars from home and abroad. It is hoped that the conference will turned out to be a high-level international academic conference, with high quality papers.

The papers will be selected by an evaluation committee and published by the Peking University Press later. Some of the selected papers will be submitted to foreign journals for publication so that the influence of the conference will be felt both at home and aboard.

Organization and Time Schedule

Sponsors: Peking University and Harvard-Yenching Institute

Invitee: Representatives from Harvard-Yenching Institute, China's Harvard-Yenching Scholars, renowned domestic and foreign scholars and Harvard-Yenching Scholars in east Asian Countries.

Conference Committee:

Director: Professor Zhipan Wu, Executive Vice President of Peking University,
President of Harvard Alumni Association of PKU

Professor Elizabeth J. Perry, Director of Harvard-Yenching Institute

Deputy Director: Professor Dayong Niu, Professor Xiaoying Zheng, Professor Zeqi Qiu, Professor Qi Zhang, Professor Bingzhong Gao, Professor Guan Shijie

Secretary-General: Professor Guan Shijie

Scale of Conference: 70 people

Time of Conference: **Three days from** Oct. 31 (Saturday) to Nov. 2(Monday), 2009

Conference Venue: Peking University

Conference Format: **Key-note speeches, academic reports and** panel discussions

Other events: A tour of the Olympic venues (Bird's Nest, Water Cube) and Prince Gong's Mansion. Watch a performance at the National Grand Theater (depends on the performance arrangement details then)

Papers Format: For Chinese, the format should be the same as the symposium "East Asia's View on World Culture", published by the Peking University Press on August, 2004, MS-word, for the convenience of the editors.

English papers will be submitted in MLA format.

Words: 10,000 words or so.

Conference language: Chinese and English

Deadlines

May 30, 2009, first reply on intention to attend the conference

July 31, 2009, submit the abstract (300-500 words)

October 15, 2009, submit the final paper

Cost

According to the standards of international academic conference, the past experience of Harvard-Yenching Alumni conferences, and the principle of being economical, the cost will be covered by the conference organizers with the following details:

Formal invitees in Beijing: conference will cover round-trip taxi fees and accommodation during conference

Formal invitees in China: conference will cover round-trip train (soft sleeper) and accommodation during conference

Formal invitees from abroad (developing countries, Vietnam, Thailand): conference will cover round-trip economy flight, accommodation during conference, and taxi fee from airport to hotel.

Formal invitees from abroad (developed countries): conference will cover accommodation during conference, and taxi fee from airport to hotel.

For the sight seeing after conference, the committee will offer appropriate subsidy for participants.

Peking University, Harvard-Yenching Institute
“Multiple Perspectives on the Meaning of Community and Citizenship”
International Conference Committee

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Return Receipt

*International Conference on
“Multiple Perspectives on the Meaning of Community and Citizenship”*

*Organizer: Harvard-Yenching Institute
Peking University
April 15, 2009*

Name: _____

Institute or University: _____

Post Address: _____

Email address: _____

Attend or not: _____

Submit paper or not: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____ Cell phone _____