

International Symposium: Confucianism, Governance and the Emerging Economic Order

Centre for East-West Relations, Beijing Foreign Studies University &
Centre for East-West Cultural and Economic Studies, Bond University
October 7-10, 2016

Call for proposals

In November 2013, China's President Xi Jinping spoke in Confucius' hometown of Qufu in Shandong Province, confirming the positive role the tradition of thought initiated by the sage can play in China's modern development. In the two years since then, China has overtaken the U.S. to become the largest economy in the world by purchasing power parity, a significant moment in the shift in global economic power towards Asia beginning with Japan, South Korea and the 'bamboo network' countries of Southeast Asia in the 1960s-1990s. To what extent has this shift been affected by East Asia's Confucian cultural heritage? Has a distinctive Confucian model of modern economic management and governance now appeared? What insights can Confucianism provide into the future of the emerging global economic order?

How to understand the relationship between Confucianism and business has been a growing topic for academic research ever since the first decades of the 20th century. However, while for scholars such as Max Weber and John K. Fairbank this was a question of primarily historical and theoretical interest, the rise of China over the past 20 years along with its newly rediscovered emphasis on Confucianism has made it one with immediate practical significance. In May 2015, Bond University in Queensland, Australia hosted the first Symposium in an on-going series aiming to explore the practical relevance of Confucian thought for all facets of contemporary life. The second Symposium, to be hosted by the Centre for East-West Relations at Beijing Foreign Studies University, China October 7-10, 2016, aims to focus on what role Confucian thought and traditions of governance can and should play in an emerging economic order ever more focused on nations with a Confucian heritage.

To that end, we invite proposals for presentations from scholars, writers and members of the business community addressing relevant issues in this area, particularly concerning:

- Confucian business ethics
- Anti-corruption strategies
- 'Win-win' dynamics and infinite game assumptions in Chinese policies such as the new Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and the 'One Road One Belt' initiative
- Historical Confucian attitudes towards merchants and profit
- Confucian concepts of business management

- New Confucian law and governance models

Proposals should be brief (approx. 200 words), including a working title and content summary, and should be emailed to cewrbeiwai@bfsu.edu.cn and/or benjamin.coles@ruc.edu.cn by the end of June 2016, with full papers to be submitted by August 15th 2016.

Conference Organising Committee

- **Professor Raoul Mortley** (Dean and Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Faculty of Society and Design, Bond University)
- **Professor Chenshan Tian** (Director, Center for East-West Relations, Beijing Foreign Studies University)
- **Dr. James Ferguson** (Assistant Professor and Director, Centre for East-West Cultural and Economic Studies, Bond University)
- **Dr. Rosita Dellios** (Associate Professor, Faculty of Society and Design, Bond University)
- **Mr. Alan Chan** (Honorary Fellow, Faculty of Society and Design, Bond University)
- **Mr. Benjamin Coles** (Doctoral Candidate, School of Philosophy, Renmin University of China)

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