



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

INSTITUTE FOR CHINESE STUDIES

ICS presents the "China in Transition" Lecture Series

Local Water Governance in China: Taming the Water Dragons

Friday, January 27, 2017

4:00-5:30 pm

Mendenhall Lab 115

125 S Oval Mall



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Abstract: Administrative fragmentation among departments in local governments has been a critical public administration problem. In the Chinese context, water governance has historically suffered from administrative fragmentation, in which multiple agencies are tasked to manage similar policy areas, a phenomenon typically described as "multiple dragons govern water" (in Chinese: 九龍治水). This study investigates the political and administrative motivations for the administrative reform to address the functionally fragmented water management. Two approaches to address administrative fragmentation are investigated in this study: agency consolidation and network governance. This study first examines the motivation for local governments to form a consolidated water affairs bureau based on a national sample of 256 prefecture level cities during 2001 and 2010. In the second part of the study, I investigate the vertical and horizontal connections of local water agencies embedded in a policy network, with a case study of Dongguan City, Guangdong province.

Bio: Hongtao Yi is an assistant professor at the John Glenn College of Public Affairs, The Ohio State University. He earned his doctorate in Public Administration and Policy from Askew School of Public Administration and Policy at Florida State University in August 2012. His research interests focus on policy process, local governance, and energy and environmental policy. In the past four years, he has published 20 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters in top journals in the field of public affairs and environmental policy, including the *Policy Studies Journal*, *Review of Policy Research*, *Global Environmental Change* and *Energy Policy*. He has served as manuscript reviewers for 28 journals and book prospectus reviewers for Oxford University Press and Palgrave MacMillan. He currently serves as an international editor for *Fudan Public Administration Review*, and an editorial board member for Smart Cities. He also served as Chair of the Membership Committee of Section on Intergovernmental Administration and Management at ASPA, committee member of the Louis Brownlow Award Committee (ASPA), committee member of the Public Policy Poster Award Committee (APSA), and committee member of the Radin Award Committee for Public Management Research Association (PMRA).

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