



Conference on Central-Local Fiscal Relations in China

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Presenters:

Alan J. Carter

Mr. Alan Carter is a Senior Economist in the International Business Taxation team in Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) in the United Kingdom. He provides advice on international tax competition, strategic tax policy issues and the taxation of oil and gas in the North Sea. He is the United Kingdom's main representative on the OECD Working Party 2 on tax policy analysis and statistics. Prior to joining HMRC, he worked in the Department of Trade and Industry providing economic advice on competition policy, science and technology policy, and industrial and trade policy. He has also worked in HM Treasury on international finance issues, Paris Club debt negotiations and aid policy. He has a Masters degree in International Economics from Sussex University.

Margit Molnar

Dr. Margit Molnar is an Economist in the Economics Department of the Paris-based Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Prior to joining the OECD, she consulted for the Japanese government project "The Asian Financial Crisis and Response of Macro-economy" in Japan, and conducted research for the Institute for World Economics of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. She is author of many articles, book chapters and book-length reports on Chinese and other Asian economies, including Challenges for China's Public Spending (2006 co-authored with Charles Pigott) and OECD Economic Survey: China (2005 co-authored). She received her B.A. from Renmin University of China, her Master's from Budapest Economics University and Ritsumeikan University, and her Ph.D. from the Graduate School of Economics, Keio University in Japan. She is fluent in English, Japanese, Chinese, Russian as well as her native Hungarian.

Raymond C. Scheppach

Dr. Ray Scheppach was appointed Executive Director of the National Governors Association (NGA) in January 1983. As executive director, Ray oversees the day-to-day operations of the association and works closely with NGA's chair and vice chair and their staffs to help identify priorities for the nation's governors. The association has three major missions: to produce information and analysis of state innovations and practices, to create a bipartisan forum for governors to establish and implement policy on federal issues and to assist governors in managing state government.

Prior to NGA, Ray worked for seven years at the Congressional Budget Office, serving the last two years as Deputy Director. Prior to that he worked for seven years in economic consulting and two years as an economist with the Standard Oil Company (Ohio).

He has written numerous professional articles on various public policy issues and has authored and co-authored four books on economics, including co-writing the 1984 book *New Directions in Economic Policy: An Agenda for the 1980s*. His specializations include federal and state budgets, health care policy, energy policy and United States competitiveness in the world economy. Ray is also one of the country's foremost experts on the role of government in the new economy. He co-authored the NGA report, *Governance in the New Economy*, which examines the forces shaping the U.S. economy and influencing American governance.



Ray received his bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Maine, and his master's and doctorate degrees in economics from the University of Connecticut.

Richard A. Weiss

As Director of the Department of Finance and Administration (DFA), Mr. Weiss serves as a member of the Governor's Cabinet and as Chief Fiscal Officer for the State of Arkansas. The Department consists of two major divisions, the Division of Management Services and the Division of Revenue. The Division of Management Services consists of the Offices of Budget, Accounting, State Procurement, Personnel Management, and Intergovernmental Services. The Division of Revenue consists of the Offices of Child Support Enforcement, Driver Services, Excise Tax Administration, Field Audit, Income Tax Administration, Motor Vehicle, State Revenue Administration, and Legal Services.

Mr. Weiss has three decades of experiences with the state government. Previously he served as Director, Deputy Director, and Administrator of DFA's Office of Budget. Mr. Weiss has also served as Interim Director for Department of Human Services (DHS) and Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ). Mr. Weiss graduated from Baylor University with a degree in Liberal Arts.

Christine Wong

Dr. Christine Wong is Henry M. Jackson Professor of International Studies at Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington in Seattle. She taught economics at Mount Holyoke College from 1979 to 1986, and joined the faculty of the Department of Economics at University of California, Santa Cruz in 1986. Prof. Wang was a National Fellow at Hoover Institution, Stanford University (1989-1990), and a Resident Scholar at Asian Development Bank (1995-1996). In 1997 She left Santa Cruz to serve as a Senior Economist at the World Bank, a position she held until 2000 when she was appointed her current position at University of Washington.

Dr. Wong has extensive experiences working and conducting research in China and countries of Southeast and Central Asia, including technical assistance projects and research studies for the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, UNDP, UNICEF, UK-DFID and others, work in the World Bank China Programs Department in Beijing, participation in Fulbright-Hays Fellowship for Advanced Research Abroad, and National Academy of Sciences' National Program for Advanced Study and Research in China.

Dr. Wong is the author of numerous books, journal articles and chapters in edited books on economy of China, transition economies and public finance. She received her bachelor's degree from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, her master's and doctorate degrees in economics from University of California, Berkeley.

Rapporteur:

Susan H. Whiting

Dr. Susan H. Whiting is an associate professor in the department of political science at the University of Washington, where she has been on the faculty since 1994. She holds adjunct appointments in the Jackson School of International Studies and the School of Law and directs the international Severyns-Ravenholt Lectureship. Dr. Whiting is the author of *Power and Wealth in Rural China: The Political Economy of Institutional Change* (Cambridge University Press, 2001) and is currently at work on a new book about law and transition in contemporary China. Her research also appears in journals and edited volumes, such as *Holding China Together:*



Diversity and National Integration in the Post-Deng Era (Cambridge University Press, 2004), Property Rights and Economic Reform in China, and Trust and Governance, among others.

Her research interests range from the evolution of property rights and the changing role of courts to the politics of economic reform and cadre management. She has provided technical assistance on fiscal reform in China under the auspices of the Asian Development Bank and has worked with the Ford Foundation to analyze the development of non-governmental organizations in China. In addition to Chinese and comparative politics, Dr. Whiting's teaching interests include the political economy of East Asia and research methodology.

Dr. Whiting holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Michigan and a B.A. in East Asian Studies from Yale University.