



China and the Pacific: The View from Oceania

National University of Samoa
Apia, Samoa
25 – 27 February 2015



National
University
of Samoa



Conference Schedule

VENUE: Fale Samoa, Le Papaigalagala Campus
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SAMOA, APIA, SAMOA

Wednesday 25 February

7.10am Buses depart Hotel for NUS

7.30am 'Ava Ceremony

(traditional welcome for participants, followed by vaisalo, faausi, taufolo and French bread)

9.30am 1. Official Opening:

Chair: Fui Le'apai Tu'ua 'Ilaoa Professor Asofou So'o,
Vice Chancellor, National University of Samoa, Apia

Opening Address:

Hon Tuilaepa Lufesoliai Sialele Malielegaoi
Prime Minister of Samoa

Welcome Remarks:

H. E. Mme Li Yanduan

Ambassador of the Peoples Republic of China, Apia

Keynote Address

Tony Browne, Chair,
New Zealand Contemporary China Research Centre, Wellington

10.15am Conference Photo and 5 Minute Break

10.25am Conference Arrangements

Michael Powles

Conference Organiser, Former New Zealand Ambassador to China and High Commissioner to Fiji

10.30am 2. Changing Geopolitics: China and the Pacific

Chair: Leasiolagi Professor Malama Meleisea, Director, Centre for Samoan Studies, National University of Samoa, Apia

China's Growing Impact on the Regional Political Order

Dame Meg Taylor, Secretary-General/Deputy Secretary-General, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Suva

The Chinese Pacific: A Historical Review

Dr Paul D'Arcy, Associate Professor, School of Culture, History and Language, ANU College of Asia and the Pacific, Canberra

China's Policy Towards the South Pacific

Professor LIU Shusen, Director of the Centre for Oceanic Studies, Peking University, Beijing

11.30am 10-minute Break

11.40am Chair: Professor LIU Shusen, Deputy Dean, School of Foreign Languages, Director, Centre for Oceanian Studies, Peking University, Beijing

A Regional Perspective

Ms Fekita Utoikamanu, Deputy Director-General, Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Noumea and Suva

China's New Leadership and its Perceptions of the Asia Pacific Region

Professor BO Zhiyue, Director, New Zealand Contemporary China Research Centre, Victoria University of Wellington

Reflections on the Experiences of the Chinese Community in Samoa

Tuatagaloa Aumua Ming Leung Wai, Attorney-General of Samoa

12.45pm Lunch

1.45pm 3. Regional Security

Chair: Associate Professor Tarcisius Kabutaulaka, Center for Pacific Island Studies, University of Hawai'i.

The Pacific Islands in China's Geo-Strategic Thinking

Associate Professor YU Changsen, Executive Director, National Centre for Oceania Studies, Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou

The Outlook for Regional Security at a Time of Changing Geopolitics

Professor Terence Wesley-Smith, Director, Centre for Pacific Island Studies, University of Hawai'i, Hawai'i

Regional Security and the Role of External Actors

Dr Jim Rolfe, Director, New Zealand Centre for Strategic Studies, Victoria University of Wellington

3.00pm Afternoon Tea

3.20pm 4. Chinese in the Pacific

Chair: Professor Brian Moloughney, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, University of Otago, Dunedin

Chinese Samoan Interactions – Influence both Ways

Associate Professor Toeolesulusulu Damon Salesa, Head of Pacific Studies, University of Auckland

China in the Pacific: Alternative Perspectives

Dr Iati Iati, Lecturer, Department of Politics, University of Otago, Dunedin

China and the Pacific: A View from Tonga

Pesi Fonua, Editor, Mataitonga, Nukualofa

4.00pm 10-minute break

4.10pm Chair: Professor Jenny Dixon, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Strategic Engagement), University of Auckland

The Drivers of Current Chinese Business Migration to the South Pacific

Dr Graeme Smith, Research Fellow, School of International Political and Strategic Studies, Australian National University, Canberra

A Pacific Island Student in China - Reflections

Dr Rebecca Bogiri, Vila, Vanuatu,

Non-traditional Security and Global Governance: China's Participation in Climate Adaptation in Oceania

Associate Professor WANG Xuedong, Deputy Director, National Centre for Oceania Studies, Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou

5.10pm Buses depart NUS for Hotel

6.15pm Buses depart Hotel for NUS

6.30 – 8.00pm Welcome Reception hosted by the Vice Chancellor, National University of Samoa, Fui Le'apai Tu'ua 'Ilaoa Professor Asofou So'o
(Venue: NUS Fale Samoa)

8.00pm Buses depart NUS for Hotel

Thursday 26 February

8.10am Buses depart Hotel for NUS

8.30am 5. Development Cooperation

Chair: Associate Professor WANG Xuedong, National Centre for Oceania Studies, Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou

The Context of Overall Aid in the Pacific – and its Effectiveness

Professor John Overton, Professor, School of Geography, Victoria University of Wellington

Mapping Chinese Aid in the Pacific

Dr Philippa Brant, Research Associate, Lowy Institute for Public Policy, Sydney

Soft Loans and Aid: China's Economic Influence in the Pacific

Dr Biman Prasad, Leader, National Federation Party, Fiji; formerly Professor of Economics, University of the South Pacific, Suva

China's Aid: a Melanesian perspective

Ms Dulciana Somare-Brash, Deputy Director, Pacific Institute of Public Policy, Vila

10.15am Morning Tea

10.45am Chair: Letuimanu'asina Dr Emma Kruse Va'ai, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, National University of Samoa

The Samoan Experience of China's Aid

Mrs Pesetā Noumea Simi, Assistant Chief Executive, Ministry of Finance, Apia

China's Development Aid to Fiji: Motive and Method

Professor LYU Guixia, Research Centre for Pacific Island Countries, Liaocheng University, Shandong

The Trend Towards Chinese Triangular Development Cooperation: the Cases of PNG and Timor Leste

Denghua Zhang, PhD candidate, Australian National University, Canberra

The Tripartite China/NZ/Cook Islands Project in the Cook Islands – a Cook Islands Perspective

Hon Mark Brown, Minister of Finance of the Cook Islands

The Tripartite China/NZ/Cook Islands Project in the Cook Islands – a New Zealand Perspective

H. E. Ms Jackie Frizelle, NZ High Commissioner to Samoa and former Director of Strategy and Effectiveness, NZ Aid Programme

1.00pm Lunch

2.00pm 6. Trade and Investment

Chair: Ms Andie Fong Toy, Deputy Secretary-General, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Suva

The Samoan Experience

Tofa Hon. Fonotoe Nuafesili Lauofo, Deputy Prime Minister, Apia

Feeding the Dragon: China and Natural Resource Developments in Oceania

Associate Professor Tarcisius Kabutaulaka, Centre for Pacific Island Studies, University of Hawai'i, Hawai'i

Chinese Resource Projects in PNG

Dr Patrick Matbob, Divine Word University, Madang, Papua New Guinea

3.00pm Afternoon Tea

3.30pm Chair: Michael Powles, Former Chair, Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission Preparatory Conference

China's Growing Tuna Fishing Fleet in the Pacific Ocean:

A Samoan Fisheries Perspective

Ms Joyce Samuelu Ah Leong, Assistant Chief Executive, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Apia

China and the Sea: Potential for Pacific Partnerships?

Dr Paul D'Arcy, Associate Professor, School of Culture, History and Language, ANU College of Asia and the Pacific, Canberra

The Beijing Perspective

MOFCOM Official

5.10pm Buses depart NUS for Hotel

6.15pm Buses depart Hotel for NZ Residence, Letava

**6.30pm Participants' Dinner, hosted by New Zealand High Commissioner,
H. E. Ms Jackie Frizelle
Venue: New Zealand Residence, Letava.
Buses depart for Hotel**

Friday 27 February

8.40 am Buses depart Hotel for NUS

9.00am 7. Final Forum

Chair: Professor Jon Fraenkel, Professor of Comparative Politics, Victoria University of Wellington

Discussion will be open to all participants at the Conference and is expected to range over aspects of the broad subjects covered in earlier sessions.

10.15am Morning Tea

10.45am continue

11.45am Final Comments

12.00pm Close

12.15pm Buses depart NUS for Hotel