

RESEARCH SEMINAR

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Green transitions in the blue economy: enabling sustainable coastal regional economic development

6 March 2024 (Wed)
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The blue economy has emerged as a globally significant concept for governing the (new) economic activities that harness ocean-based resources, such as maritime transport, deep sea mining, or renewable energies. A key contention of the blue economy is the purported socially and environmentally sustainable development it promises. However, blue economy sectors often manifest in coastal regions as some of the dirtiest and most polluting economic activities, or as the rusting remnants of deindustrialized activity, and with many of the associated socio-economic and environmental issues. This presents an opportunity for coastal regions to become key sites of innovation driving green transitions, benefitting from their proximity to blue spaces and potential for high carbon abatement, and emerging as high-tech hubs that facilitate the sustainable use of ocean resources by terrestrial activities.

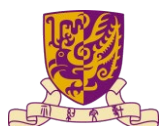
This seminar outlines some of the key strands of research required to understand the changing geographies of coastal regions in the blue economy, namely 1) the complex path dynamics between emerging green technologies; 2) the local dynamics driving sustainable technology transitions; and 3) the restructuring of blue-terrestrial configurations and the changing role of ports as key intermediaries.

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Dr. Jack L. Harris is an economic geographer with broad research interests founded in evolutionary economic geography and regional development, with an emphasis on governing local innovation dynamics, technology transitions and sustainable development.



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