

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

CO-ORGANISED WITH RESEARCH CENTRE FOR URBAN AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT,
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Urban Entrepreneurialism and ‘Space of Innovation’: Evidence from Shenzhen, China

ABSTRACT

Supporting innovation and growth through spatial development is among the priorities for entrepreneurial cities globally. Dominant urban studies examine the developmental process, power dynamics, and political-economic impacts of specific industrial spaces that foster high-tech development. However, besides these specific spatial projects, a new policy entitled ‘Building for Innovation Industries’ (BII) has also been formed to institutionalise and territorialise the entrepreneurial spatial policy to promote innovation in Shenzhen, China. Examining this policy deepens our understanding of urban entrepreneurialism in incubating innovation. Based on policy review, data analysis and interviews, this study investigates the public-private interaction in the location, development and distribution of BII projects. This study finds that although characteristics of urban entrepreneurialism in China, namely, strong state guidance and engagement of state-owned enterprises, remain in the provision of space, the market has salient power in locating, producing and negotiating the distribution of BII projects. Besides, the entrepreneurial state is also unfolded, comprised of multiple actors that are mutually contradictory but also cooperative. This study suggests that territorialisation and institutionalisation of entrepreneurial policy bring some challenges for Chinese cities during their transformation from producer to operator of ‘space of innovation’.

LANGUAGE

English

DATE

15 Apr 2021 (Thu)

TIME

4:30 – 6:00 pm (GMT+8)

ZOOM MEETING

ID: 973 6037 5790

<https://cuhk.zoom.us/j/97360375790>

(no password required)

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Yiling Luo obtained her PhD degree in urban planning from The University of Hong Kong and then joined the Department of Geography and Resource Management, CUHK as a postdoctoral fellow in Nov 2020. Dr. Luo’s current research focuses on the urban policy and spatial developmental process for promoting entrepreneurship, innovation and social impacts. She has published some works on coworking, spatial regulation and natural resource management in both international and Chinese journals.

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