China and the Pacific: The View from Oceania

National University of Samoa
Apia, Samoa

25 – 27 February 2015
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 Lopesolai Sailele 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