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Nordic Centre Newsletter *Autumn 2018*

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About

- Nordic Centre at Fudan University is a platform for academic collaboration between the five Nordic countries and China
- If you wish to subscribe to the Nordic Centre newsletter, which is published four times yearly, please go to

nordiccentre.net

First Nordic Studies lecture



Belt & Road Initiative

OCT 29

/

OCT 30

2018

Sustainable Development and Law: China-Nordic Perspectives



/THE PROGRAM/

29/10/2018 MONDAY

09:00-10:00

Welcome - Introduction to Conference
Chinese and Nordic Organizers

10:00-12:00

PART I: Legal and Sustainability
Significance of the BRI

12:00-14:00

Lunch

14:00-17:30

PART II: National Regional
and Global Dimensions

30/10/2018 TUESDAY

09:00-12:00

PART III: Specific Fields of
Law and Sustainability

12:00-14:00

Lunch

14:00-16:00

PART IV: Practitioners' Legal
Perspectives: Projects and Cases

16:00-17:00

Concluding Round Table

Main organizer: University of Oslo, with Nordic Centre at Fudan University



look for more info: <http://www.nordiccentre.net/bri-conference/>

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Masthead

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or associates, or found as
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The new intern has arrived Nordic Centre

This semester we have the pleasure to have Jeppe Stromseng as our intern to help us in our daily responsibilities. Having reinforcements in our team always create new energy. Jeppe is a master student at Aarhus University where he studies European Studies and completed his bachelor's degree in history at La Trobe University in Melbourne, Australia last June. Next year, Jeppe will write his master thesis China's belt and road initiative in relation to the EU and how the initiative will change their relation.



"I am very excited to get the opportunity to come to China and work at Nordic Centre. Before I applied, I had limited knowledge about China despite visiting the country a few years ago. However, working at Nordic Centre gives me an insight in collaboration between China and the Nordic region. The first month as an intern has been exciting and challenging in a very positive way and I hope that the rest of the semester will be as busy as it has been up until now."

We wish Jeppe all the best during his stay with us.

News to trust: Finnish journalism at the University of Tampere

On September 11, Ari Heinonen from the faculty of communication sciences of University of Tampere gave a lecture about journalism education in Finland. He emphasized that by understanding the world, you are then able to change it. At the University of Tampere, students of journalism get a firm introduction of the profession of journalism. In addition to their major, they need to do a minor in another field of study for specialization.

In a world of fake news and social media, Finnish journalism has been characterized as trustworthy by the Finnish population. This is truly special as Finland does not have a national newspaper, but instead several local newspapers that covers different regions. Just like the other Nordic countries, Finnish journalism has high standards of ethics making them a trustworthy source of information. However, in recent times Finnish journalism has faced challenges as the media market such as profits decreasing and fewer journalists.

The lecture was followed by a roundtable discussion where the audience was allowed to ask further questions.

Nordic Centre podcast episode 11

Podcast on how biotechnology and information technology might change society, body and minds.

With the organizational leader and author Dag Hareide. Listen [here](#)

Interview with **Naja Hjortshøj**

Innovation and entrepreneurship: Words that make a Danish master's student buzz



Meeting people can change your whole life. Some end up finding the love of their life, while others change their academic path, like Naja Hjortshøj.

“I randomly bumped into an old friend of mine on the train during my last year of my anthropology degree. Her parents are from China and she taught me a few Chinese characters. I got obsessed with learning them; it was like an addiction and I could not stop.”

Since then has Naja changed her anthropology major into a minor and enrolled into Chinese studies at Aarhus University. She is now in the final year of her master's degree and decided to go to China to do research her master thesis.

“It would not have been possible to do my project if I had stayed back home in Denmark. The topic I am writing about is how Fudan University is implementing innovation and entrepreneurship education. Innovation and entrepreneurship have become two buzzwords in the higher education sector in China and especially here at Fudan. They are doing a lot of efforts to teach the students to become innovative. I am taking part in different courses on this topic and group work discussions with Chinese students to see how they are getting familiar with these concepts.”

To get the data she needs for her thesis, Naja must do ethnographic fieldwork which is one of the basic methods of anthropology that implies to go to a place to study the social interaction between people.

“If I had stayed at home, I would have been limited to study what is written on text. I would not get any sense of how the students who are being educated to become innovative and entrepreneurial perceive of it. I would have banged my head against the wall in frustration.”



Interview continues from previous page

It is not easy to find a suitable place to sit down and write your thesis. Crowded libraries, noise and uncomfortable chairs are some of the challenges an academic might face while writing. Nordic Centre has several rooms where academics can work in peace and quiet.

“For me, Nordic Centre was a natural choice to come to have an office. First of all, you got great connections with different researchers here at Fudan University, among others from Fudan’s newly established school of innovation and entrepreneurship. Secondly, just by having an office here opens up new doors for me. The other week Ville Taamajaa came into my office to say hello and told that he is teaching a design thinking course here at Nordic Centre.”

Ville Taamajaa is from FuTuRe double degree from University of Turku. In September, he visited Nordic Centre where he hosted a product development and product design course that focuses on catalysing innovation abilities. He has hosted an intensive prototyping course at Nordic Centre in September where students learned how to go from an product idea to actually making the product.

“I introduced myself and told him what I was working with and then Ville invited me to join his course which was perfect because it was a great way for me to do fieldwork. I was surprised to get the invitation, but in a positive way. Just like when I met my old friend who taught me Chinese characters, I met Ville who takes my research in another direction than what I expected. It is great!”



**Direktoratet for
internasjonalisering
og kvalitetsutvikling
i høyere utdanning**

Diku: Call for applications – book grants 2018

The Norwegian Agency for International Cooperation and Quality Enhancement in Higher Education (Diku, former SIU) has now published the application form for book grants 2018.

The book grants scheme is intended for Norwegian teaching environments at higher education institutions abroad, and aims to improve the teaching of Norwegian at such institutions.

You can apply for a grant of up to NOK 10,000 to cover expenses for the procurement of textbooks (specialist literature and fiction books), DVDs, subscribe to newspapers, journals and dictionaries.

The application deadline is November 1st and applications must be submitted online.

Guidelines and link to the application form is found on Diku's [website](#).

Interview with Benedicte Brøgger:

Researching China's policies for social entrepreneurship



Benedicte Brøgger is a familiar face in Shanghai. She has been the associate dean for the BI Norwegian School of Business and Fudan MBA program. She currently teaches at BI Norwegian Business School in Oslo, but came to Shanghai and had her office at Nordic Centre for a few weeks in September.

“Currently I am writing a book about social entrepreneurship and social enterprises which focuses on social development and companies’ role for the social development here in China. I have written a book before on the same topic about Norway, but China is so different. What I am researching is what the conditions and premises are for Chinese companies, what are their strengths and weaknesses and what countries can learn from each other. I have followed a few social enterprises in China for some years, and the stay in Shanghai allowed me to connect with some of them. It was also a great opportunity to learn more about governance of social enterprises in China. China is far advanced when it comes to policies for social entrepreneurship, and the visit was a change to get updated on recent changes in social innovation policies.”

Brøgger has done more than just research for her upcoming book while she has been back in Shanghai. On September 18, she gave a presentation at a Norwegian Business Association China event titled: *Sharing Experience on internship – opportunities and pitfalls*.

“A successful internship depends on how well prepared the company and the intern are. The expectations from both sides should be clear from day one and the intern should be allowed to grow with the job. However, that does not mean that the company solely is responsible to make that happen. The intern should take half of that responsibility. It is not about what a company could do for the intern, it is also about what the intern can do for the company. If you want to work for the company where you do your internship, you should prove to them that you are a person they should hire in the future”.

Back home in Oslo, she teaches business development and cross-cultural management, and point out how essential it is for her students get practical experience with how different markets work.

“To feel that you take a risk when you go out in a real-life working situation is crucial for the students. Many are way out of their comfort zone, but it is like that whenever you are trying something for the very first time. Going out to the unknown and try to e.g. register a company, hold a pitch for a well-known institution or what to look for in a contracts for the first time are something that we cannot teach. Do not get me wrong, books and lectures are very important for the students. We lay the foundations, but there are so much inbetween the lines that the students

Nordic Centre will in soon announce application details for our internship for spring 2019.

First CROSWEL meeting at Nordic Centre

The 1st meeting in the network for Comparative Research on Social Work and Welfare (CROSWEL) was arranged between October 17-19 at Nordic Centre. The participants got a presentation- of research in the network and initiative for a book project called “Social work in China and Sweden.



University of Bergen launches China action plan

The University of Bergen has recently introduced a plan of action for the institution’s long-term collaboration with China.

The aim is to facilitate high quality research, education, innovation and dissemination of research-based knowledge between Chinese universities and the University of Bergen. This ambitious plan seeks to make the UiB the leading Norwegian university on research collaboration with China.

You can download the plan [here](#) and it will be available in Chinese and English translations shortly.



Picture: UiB



Funding and grants applications

Call for funding applications: Nordic projects at universities worldwide, 2019

SNU (Samarbetsnämnden för Nordenundervisning i utlandet) now calls for applications for support of Nordic cooperation projects at universities worldwide. The project must have a Nordic focus and should include at least three Nordic countries or languages.

The project, which should take place in 2019, must complement the regular teaching and research activities at the university and the aim of the project must be to promote the interest in the Nordic languages, culture and societies.

The application form is available [here](#), and should be sent to the network's Icelandic member, Ulfar Bragason, e-mail: ulfarb@hi.is

Call for applications: Mobility- and workshop grants from ReNew

ReNEW (Reimagining Norden in an Evolving World) will give mobility- and workshop grants for scholars working in a partner university of the ReNEW Hub, including affiliated researchers.

Applicants must be doing research within the themes of ReNEW, conceived broadly.

ReNEW mobility is intended to intensify research collaboration and exchange of scholars while the workshops have multiple purposes, such as, to explore research ideas, to pursue on-going cooperation in the context of a joint publication or other activities.

The workshop/mobility stay should be carried out in 2019. Successful workshop applicants are requested to submit their preliminary workshop programme for publication on the ReNEW website.

Deadline for applications is 15 November 2018.

For further details: https://www.helsinki.fi/sites/default/files/atoms/files/cfa_renew_mobility_and_workshop_grants_autumn_2018.pdf



Social September

With Nordic Centre returning from being closed in August, the arrival of new students who took part in our social events in September brings back “hygge” to the campus. During the orientation week, the newly arrived exchange students had a gathering along with local Chinese students where expectations and experiences were shared.

For our Mid-Autumn celebration, we arranged garden games where the participants were divided into five teams on five different posts. Activities ranged from throw ball in a bucket, frisbee, jumping bags, chopstick run and water tank run. The weather was on our side which made it into a fun and engaging event for local and international students. The members of the winning team received a glass sculpture of the Nordic Centre building.



Interview with Svetlana Pasti:

From Murmansk to Shanghai via Tampere: Media landscapes in transition

Svetlana Pasti is an expert in the field of journalism. After she completed her masters in journalism at Leningrad State University, she became an editor, then the editor in chief in Severomorsk Radio of the Murmansk Broadcasting Service for 14 years. However, she moved to Finland in 1996 and completed her PhD in social science became a senior researcher at University of Tampere.

For the next six months, Svetlana Pasti will have her office at Nordic Centre to carry out her research concerning Russian and Chinese journalism. We sat down with her to elaborate on the presentation her colleague, Ari Heinonen, gave about trends and challenges in journalism education in Finland on September 11 at Nordic Centre and more.

“The trends in the journalism education in Finland, and especially at the University of Tampere, are to educate the students to cope and manage different media platforms. For example, visual journalism has become extremely important for the profession which is something we have included in our education program.”

“In the past, we only offered journalism courses in Finnish. However, we are trying to become more international and have changed the teaching language to English. We also try to invite international researchers to come and share their experiences with our students.”



Picture: University of Tampere

Last year, Svetlana co-edited the book *Contemporary BRICS Journalism Non-Western Media in Transition* and published numerous articles about BRICS journalism in the last couple of years. However, the education University of Tampere provide their students is in great contrast to the media trends in China.

“The main difference is that journalism in the People’s Republic of China has been and remains a state service. Although in recent times the situation has been changing with the emergence of private media and commercialization of journalism, which leads to an enhanced entertainment function. But the production of news remains mainly the right and duty of state media. This means that journalists are state employees and working in the state interests and not in the interests of capital and majority of the journalists are members of the party.”

The Demon Director's 100th anniversary



Illustration: in slowmotion on flickr

Ingmar Bergman is a cultural treasure. He is considered to be among the most influential directors in the film industry of all time and received numerous of prizes such as Academy Awards and the Golden Globe Awards. Rumors about his rigorous rehearsals gave him the nickname the 'demon director', but he will be remembered as one of very few directors who managed to create his own cinematic world, almost a genre unto itself. In 2018, Bergman would have turned 100 years old. We had the pleasure of getting a Q&A with the head of culture and communication at the Swedish Consulate, Louise Lu, regarding the director's anniversary.

Nordic Centre: What makes Ingmar Bergman's films so special?

Louise Lu: "What is really unique about Bergman is his ability to use the mass medium of film – by nature as much an industry as an art – as a deeply personal form of expression, equally suited to depicting existential or psychological problems as well as a tangible world of events."

NC: The China Film Archive screened Bergman movies during the international film festival both in Shanghai and Beijing earlier this year, is there a link between Bergman and China?

LL: "Some of his films have been adapted to theatre plays in China, e.g. *Scenes from a Marriage*."

NC: How were the movies received?

LL: "I believe almost all the tickets were sold out"

NC: For someone who does not know Bergman, which movie should one start with in order to understand his greatness?

LL: "His three Oscar-awarded films: *The Virgin Spring*, *Through a Glass Darkly*, *Fanny and Alexander*."

What will Bergman's legacy mean for the next 100 years of Swedish film?

LL: "Many filmmakers have been inspired by Bergman and his works. He will probably continue to influence the future filmmakers as long as the themes in his films are still relevant to the contemporary society."

Activities since September 2018

September 7: Social welcome event for Chinese-, exchange and international students.

September 10 : Start of Swedish course.

September 11: University of Tampere lecture about journalism education in Finland by Ari Heinonen.

September 11: Start of Nordic Studies.

September 11-28: FuTuRe prototyping workshops with Ville Taamajaa.

September 21: Presentation by Kathinka Furst from Duke Kunshan University.

September 24: Mid-Autumn Festival garden games for students.

September 26: Dag Hareide seminar on how the rapid change in biotechnology and information technology might change society, body and minds.

October 10: Social movie night where the Norwegian film *Trolljegeren* was screened.

October 17-19: The 1st meeting in the network for Comparative Research on Social Work and Welfare (CROSWEL) by Umeå University.

Upcoming events

October 23: Strategy workshop for Nordic Centre

October 29-30: Bi-annual Conference of Nordic Centre: Belt & Road Initiative, Sustainable Development and Law

October 29: PART I: The Legal and Sustainability Significance of the Belt Road Initiative.

PART II: National, Regional and Global Dimensions.

October 30: PART III: Fields of Law and Sustainability.

PART IV: Concluding Round Table.

November 8: Student language cafe

November 15: Quiz night

November 26: Storytelling evening

December 12: Christmas party

If you would like to organize a research event at Nordic Centre or elsewhere at Fudan University, please write to magnus@nordiccentre.net

Remember that you can also apply for Nordic Centre funding for holding such events. You can also apply for funding for shorter research stays through the Research Platform. Read more at nordiccentre.net