

Turning the Tide: Policies for a Changing World

GPPN Student Conference 2012

2 – 3 December 2012, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, NUS

“Anyone who believes exponential growth can go on forever in a finite world is either a madman or an economist.” — Kenneth Boulding, economist.

For decades, liberal-capitalist ideas and practices of free markets and limited government have dominated and shaped national and intergovernmental frameworks and institutions. Such ideologies have been given further sustenance with economic reforms undertaken by traditionally communist governments, including China and Vietnam. However, while remarkable progress in poverty reduction has been achieved, such countries have also experienced increases in social polarisation and income inequalities. This is partly explained by certain economic policies that have perceived redistributive strategies as harming, rather than promoting, economic growth. In addition, as countries such as China and India grow, there are increasing environmental concerns that current strategies of promoting consumption-led growth may not be sustainable in the long run.

The above then begs the question: do we need a rethink of traditionally dominant economic and social policies? Can “rising” Asian countries play a lead role in the move towards more inclusive and sustainable growth?

The GPPN Student Conference 2012, **“Turning the Tide: Policies for a Changing World”** aims to provide a platform for debate and discussion on underlying causes of, and potential solutions to current economic, social and political crises.

The Conference will address the following sub-themes;

- *Can the current dominant economic system still “raise all boats”? Are there alternatives?*
- *Given growing income inequalities, what kind of policies can best promote social equity and more inclusive measures of growth?*
- *What roles can Asian nations play in a changing global order?*

Application procedures

Applicants must address ONE of the Conference sub-themes. Applications are open to all students from schools of the GPPN. Students are free to work individually or in groups with up to 3 participants. Applicants should submit the following PDF documents by Friday, 26th October 2012, 5 PM GST. All submissions should be sent by email to GraSPP@gppn2012.com

- **Abstract:** This summary of 500-800 words should outline the main focus of the paper, and must specify which of the 3 sub-themes is being addressed. The document should also include the title, the name(s) of the author(s), the affiliation(s) and email address(es). Applicants are encouraged to examine issues from a multi-disciplinary lens, and submit original and previously unpublished papers. Analyses should be substantiated with policy recommendations.

Applicants selected for the Conference will be notified by Sunday, 4th November 2012. All participants will be expected to submit an extended abstract of 1000 words by Monday, 12th November, 5 PM GST.

Asian Journal of Public Affairs (AJPA)

The proceedings from the conference will be published in a special issue by the Asian Journal of Public Affairs in Spring 2013. All papers selected for the conference will automatically qualify for consideration. Full papers not exceeding 6,000 words, must be submitted by Tuesday, 15 January 2013.



AJPA is a peer-reviewed journal published biannually by the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy. Further information about the journal and past issues can be found at www.ajpajournal.org.

Participants

The conference aims to include over 70 students and faculty from the schools in the GPPN:

- Fundação Getulio Vargas (Brazil)
- The Hertie School of Governance (Germany)
- The Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (Singapore)
- The London School of Economics (United Kingdom)
- Sciences Po (France)
- SIPA, Columbia University (United States of America)
- University of Tokyo – GraSPP (Japan)

