Australia-China Relations Institute

About us
OVERVIEW

The Australia-China Relations Institute (ACRI) is an independent, non-partisan research institute established in 2014 by the University of Technology Sydney (UTS). Chinese studies centres exist in other Australian universities. UTS:ACRI, however, is Australia’s first and only research institute devoted to studying the relationship of these countries.

UTS:ACRI seeks to inform Australia’s engagement with China through research, analysis and dialogue grounded in scholarly rigour.
2020 was a unique and challenging year, a historic inflection point. COVID-19 marked, and continues to mark, lives across the world: we will undoubtedly be navigating the longer-term consequences for some time to come. As we head into a new year we recognise the exceptional efforts of all those who have aided global and local communities to adapt and meet the difficulties presented by the pandemic.

It was also a historic year for the relationship between Australia and the People’s Republic of China (PRC). Political trust fell to the lowest level since diplomatic ties were established in 1972 and these tensions spilled over to the economic realm, hitting Australian exports and crimping inward investment from the PRC, as well as putting people-to-people links on edge.

UTS:ACRI, alongside countless other organisations, moved quickly to adjust to the sudden and swift change in circumstances. I am proud of what the Institute was able to accomplish and the efforts of its staff, and thankful to our broader networks for their support.

In 2020, UTS:ACRI continued its strong track-record of informing Australia’s engagement with the PRC by publishing 27 peer-reviewed journal articles, four major research reports, 56 commentary pieces, seven briefings, five conference papers and four factsheets.

UTS:ACRI’s Australia-China monthly wrap-up, launched at the end of 2019, and the Perspectives commentary series, launched at the beginning of 2020, have become well-received fixtures of UTS:ACRI’s analytical output.

The Institute also hosted 10 events, nearly all open to the general public, deepening and broadening Australia’s discussion of the relationship with the PRC in the process.
I am particularly pleased to note the accolades awarded to our researchers. UTS:ACRI Principal Research Fellow, Associate Professor Xunpeng Shi, was named one of Australia’s Top 250 Researchers and the field leader in Environmental Law and Policy, based on citation performance, by The Australian’s Research magazine. A/Professor Shi was also recognised in Mendeley Data’s top 100,000 cited scientists in the world, ranking in the top two percent. UTS:ACRI Senior Project and Research Officer, Elena Collinson, was named one of Australia’s 40 Under 40 Most Influential Asian-Australians in 2020 as an awardee in the Education category. The Awards are announced as part of the Asian-Australian Leadership Summit. She was also named one of 20 Young Women to Watch in International Affairs by Young Australians in International Affairs.

While COVID-19 upended a number of traditional modes of academic exchange, UTS:ACRI took this year the opportunity to bolster its connections with other academic institutions and with UTS faculties. We finished 2020 hosting five outstanding adjunct appointments and counting in our network 26 Research Associates located across nearly all UTS faculties. UTS’ ongoing support for the Institute remains the foundation for UTS:ACRI’s resilience, as well as its independence and academic freedom. UTS provided 86 percent of UTS:ACRI’s income in 2020, covering all operating costs. Alongside this bedrock of UTS support, we also welcomed a mostly new Advisory Board, ably chaired by King & Wood Mallesons’ Chief Executive Partner, Australia, Berkeley Cox.

In our 2019 Annual Report, I noted a number of opportunities for Australia associated with engagement with the PRC. Last year, even amidst trade disruptions, both goods exports and imports to and from the PRC reached record highs as a proportion of the Australian total. And it’s not just about ‘rocks and crops’: UTS:ACRI research published in July 2020 found that more Australian scientific and research publications now involve a collaborator affiliated with a PRC institution than an American one.

The challenges I noted in the 2019 Annual Report have also not abated, and if anything, have only intensified. Aside from trade disruption, the PRC government’s positions on Xinjiang, Hong Kong and Taiwan, and on territorial disputes such as in the South China Sea, remain areas of considerable strategic and human rights concern for Australia. Particularly alarming is the situation faced by Australians Yang Hengjun and Cheng Lei, who remained detained in the PRC on national security-related charges.
Their plight is made worse by there no longer being any Australian journalists on the ground dedicated to covering these stories with The Australian Financial Review’s Michael Smith and the Australian Broadcasting Corporation’s Bill Birtles being rushed home in September owing to fears for their safety.

And lest the moves all appear one-way, many PRC-based observers were shocked to learn that Australian security agencies had raided the homes of four Chinese journalists in search of evidence of foreign interference in June 2020, as well as a subsequent decision by the Minister of Home Affairs to revoke the visas of two mainland Chinese academics, the directors of two of the largest Australian studies centres in the PRC.

Amidst these developments, UTS:ACRI’s mandate has become all the more important: ‘to inform Australia’s engagement with the PRC through research, analysis and dialogue grounded in scholarly rigour’. Decisions and actions informed by facts and evidence will be crucial to navigating the opportunities and challenges that impact Australia’s national interest going forward.

Professor James Laurenceson
Director, UTS:ACRI
AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

UTS:ACRI’s Principal Research Fellow Associate Professor Xunpeng Shi was listed in The Australian’s 2020 Research magazine as one of Australia's Top 250 Researchers and Australia’s leading researcher in the field of Environmental Law & Policy. The Australian, in partnership with the data research analytics firm League of Scholars, used data science to analyse and profile the best researchers and research institutions in Australia. Research field leaders are the researchers with the highest number of citations from papers published in the last five years in the 20 top journals in their field.

A/Professor Shi was also ranked in the top two percent of scientists in the world by Mendeley Data, drawing on Stanford University’s list, ‘Updated science-wide author databases of standardised citation indicators’. This ranking comprises a database of the top 100,000 scientists classified into 22 scientific fields and 176 sub-fields, who were ranked by their standardised citation indicators.

UTS:ACRI’s Senior Project and Research Officer Elena Collinson was named in the 40 under 40 Most Influential Asian-Australians Awards for 2020 as an awardee in the category of Education. The 40 under 40 list was announced as part of the Asian-Australian Leadership Summit, convened by PwC Australia, Asialink at the University of Melbourne, Johnson Partners and the Centre for Asian-Australian Leadership at The Australian National University.

Ms Collinson was also listed as one of 20 Young Women to Watch in International Affairs by Young Australians in International Affairs in 2020. The aim of the list is to recognise, celebrate and promote the next generation of women achieving success and making an impact in government, academia, think-tanks, the private sector and civil society across a broad horizon of international affairs.
OUR PEOPLE

JAMES LAURENCESON
Director

ELENA COLLINSON
Senior Project and Research Officer

JANICE FEBBRAIO
Head of Strategy and Partnerships

MING LIANG
Institute Officer

AMY MA
Communications Officer

THOMAS PANTLE
Research Assistant

XUNPENG SHI
Principal Research Fellow

MICHAEL ZHOU
Project and Research Officer
UTS:ACRI’s Management Committee monitors the Institute’s activities and performance, and approves the budget and strategic direction of UTS:ACRI’s research and other programs.

The Management Committee is headed by UTS Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International) Ian Watt and comprises Professor Glenn Wightwick, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Innovation and Enterprise); Professor Kathy Walsh, Finance Discipline Group, UTS Business School; Dr Lai-Ha Chan, Senior Lecturer, Social and Political Sciences Program, School of Communication, UTS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences; and Professor James Laurenceson, UTS:ACRI Director.
The role of the UTS:ACRI's Advisory Board is to provide advice for the UTS:ACRI Management Committee's consideration.

**MR BERKELEY COX**

Mr Berkeley Cox is the Chair of the UTS:ACRI Advisory Board and the Chief Executive Partner of King & Wood Mallesons, Australia. He leads the strategic direction of KWM's Australian business and drives execution against firm priorities and on its international, client, people and innovation agenda. Mr Cox became a partner of legacy Mallesons Stephen Jaques in 2001 and managed a successful legal practice covering debt capital markets, funds management, structured finance, securitisation and derivatives including practice in the U.S. in the late ‘90s when he was admitted to the New York Bar.

**PROFESSOR JAMES LAURENCESON**

Professor James Laurenceson is Director of the Australia-China Relations Institute at UTS. He has previously held appointments at the University of Queensland (Australia), Shandong University (China) and Shimonoseki City University (Japan). He was President of the Chinese Economics Society of Australia from 2012-2014. His academic research has been published in leading scholarly journals including *China Economic Review* and *China Economic Journal*. Professor Laurenceson also provides regular commentary on contemporary developments in China’s economy and the Australia-China economic relationship.

**MR ROWAN CALICK OBE**

Author and columnist Rowan Callick worked for almost 20 years for *The Australian Financial Review* (AFR), finally as Asia Pacific Editor. He was China Correspondent for the AFR, based in Hong Kong, from 1996-2000. He worked for *The Australian* from the start of 2006 until mid-2018, twice serving as China Correspondent in Beijing, and also as Asia-Pacific Editor. He continues to write regularly for the newspaper. He was awarded an OBE in 2015 for services to journalism and to the training of PNG journalists.
ABOUT US

MR CLINTON DINES
Mr Clinton Dines is the Non-Executive Director of the Port of Newcastle, Freedom Road Travel and Fonterra Cooperative Group Limited. He served as the President of BHP Billiton China from 2001 to 2009. He has extensive frontline operational and commercial management positions in China and was BHP Billiton’s senior country executive in China for 21 years. He also held senior positions at Jardine Matheson Group, Santa Fe Transport Group and Asia Securities Venture Capital.

PROFESSOR JANE GOLLEY
Professor Jane Golley is Director of the Australian Centre on China in the World (CIW) at the Australian National University. Her research has covered a wide range of Chinese transition and development issues, including industrial agglomeration and regional policy; demographic change and economic growth; household consumption and carbon dioxide emissions, and rural-urban inequalities in education. Professor Golley has published a book on *The Dynamics of Chinese Regional Development: Market Nature, State Nurture*. She is co-editor of the *China Story Yearbook*, produced annually by CIW.

MS YUN JIANG
Yun Jiang is a director at the China Policy Centre, an editor of the *China Story* blog and a researcher at the Australian National University. Prior to this, she has worked for the Australian Public Service for eight years, including the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Department of Defence, and Treasury. Her research interests include geoeconomics, cross-cutting issues on China, Australia-China relations, and Chinese-Australians. Yun holds a Master of Public Policy and Master of Diplomacy from the Australian National University (ANU). She speaks Mandarin.

MR PETER OSBORNE
From 2009 to February 2020 Mr Osborne was Managing Director Asia for Blackmores Limited, Australia’s leading ASX listed natural healthcare company. Mr Osborne was responsible for the overall strategy for Blackmores’ growth objectives in Asia. Prior to working for Blackmores, Mr Osborne was Australia’s most senior trade diplomat in China as the Minister (Commercial) and Austrade’s Country Manager for China in the Australian Embassy Beijing. Mr Osborne also previously held Australia’s Senior Trade Commissioner positions in Shanghai, Hong Kong and Taipei.
PROFESSOR RICHARD RIGBY

Professor Richard Rigby is an Emeritus Professor in the College of Asia and the Pacific at the Australian National University. Professor Rigby joined Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs in 1975, where he worked until the end of 2001: postings included Tokyo, Beijing (twice), Shanghai (Consul-General 1994–1998), London, and Israel (Ambassador, 2000–2001). He then joined the Office of National Assessments as Assistant Director-General, responsible for North and South Asia. He was also the Founding Director of the ANU China Institute and Associate Director of the Australian Centre on China in the World.

PROFESSOR WANNING SUN

Wanning Sun is a Professor of Media and Communication in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at UTS. She is a specialist in a number of areas, including Chinese media and cultural studies; rural-to-urban migration and social change in contemporary China; and soft power, public diplomacy and diasporic Chinese media. She is the author of three single-authored monographs: Leaving China: Media, Migration, and Transnational Imagination (2002); Maid in China: Media, Morality, and the Cultural Politics of Boundaries (2009); and Subaltern China: Rural Migrants, Media, and Cultural Practices (2014).

DR MERRIDEN VARRALL

Dr Merriden Varrall is Director of the Australia Geopolitics Hub at KPMG, where she provides business-relevant insights into global, regional and local geopolitical trends. From 2014-2018, Dr Varrall was the Director of the Lowy Institute’s East Asia Program, where she is a non-resident fellow. Before joining the Institute, Dr Varrall was the Assistant Country Director and Senior Policy Advisor at United Nations Development Programme, China. Prior to that she worked for the Australian Government Treasury and the Department of Family and Community Services.

DR GARRY WILLINGE

Dr Garry Willinge is Managing Director of Cbridge Limited (HK), a management consulting, corporate advisory, capital markets and leadership development firm. He has interests in companies across a number of sectors around the world and facilitated early stage companies’ growth, IPO and exits. He is an Adjunct Professor of Business Studies at Curtin University in Australia and previously served a full term of nine years on the Advisory Board of Curtin Business School. In November 2013, he received an honorary degree of Doctor of Technology from Curtin University.
HONORARY APPOINTMENTS

Through its honorary appointments program, UTS:ACRI values its engagement with research, educational and industry partners.

UTS:ACRI honorary appointments are made in line with the UTS Honorary Titles and Awards Policy.

ADJUNCT PROFESSORS

UTS:ACRI’s adjunct academic titles are awarded to academics from other universities on the basis of their achievements and expertise.

UTS:ACRI’s adjunct professors are eminent individuals who have made a notable contribution within the Australia-China space.

- Professor Jocelyn Chey AM, former Australian consul general to Hong Kong
- Professor Greg McCarthy, former BHP Chair of Australian Studies at Peking University; Senior Honorary Research Fellow, University of Western Australia
- Professor Tao Xie, Dean, School of International Relations and Diplomacy, Beijing Foreign Studies University

ADJUNCT ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

UTS:ACRI’s adjunct academic titles are awarded to academics from other universities on the basis of their achievements and expertise.

- Dr Chengxin Pan, Associate Professor of International Relations, Deakin University
- Dr Jingdong Yuan, Associate Professor, Department of Government and International Relations, University of Sydney
RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

UTS:ACRI endeavours to work with academics in UTS faculties and institutes across a variety of disciplines to help inform contemporary Australia-China relations.

More information about UTS:ACRI’s Research Associates Program is available on UTS:ACRI’s website.

- Dr Lai-Ha Chan, UTS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- Dr Michael Fabinyi, UTS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- Associate Professor Youguang Guo, UTS Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology
- Associate Professor Colin Hawes, UTS Faculty of Law
- Dr Christina Ho, UTS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- Professor Andrew Jakubowicz, UTS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- Associate Professor Jinchen Ji, UTS Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology
- Dr Yongjian Ke, UTS Faculty of Design, Architecture and Building
- Dr Susie Khamis, UTS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- Associate Professor Zhen Luo, UTS Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology
- Associate Professor Shiko Maruyama, UTS Business School
- Dr Ofer Mintz, UTS Business School
- Associate Professor Hussain Rammal, UTS Business School
- Ms Michele Rumsey, UTS Health
- Dr Suwin Sandu, UTS Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology
- Associate Professor Song Shi, UTS Faculty of Design, Architecture and Building
- Associate Professor Natalie Stoianoff, UTS Faculty of Law
- Professor Wanning Sun, UTS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- Professor Kathy Walsh, UTS Business School
- Associate Professor Junji Xiao, UTS Business School
- Associate Professor Jingqing Yang, UTS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- Dr Muyi Yang, UTS Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology
- Dr Yang Yang, UTS Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology
- Dr Litao Yu, UTS Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology
- Dr Yi Zhang, UTS Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology
- Dr Liya Zhao, UTS Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology
VISITING SCHOLARS

UTS:ACRI maintains an active visiting academic program. Visitors range from senior academics through to PhD students from other institutions.

Visiting scholars during 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INSTITUTE</th>
<th>POSITION</th>
<th>RESEARCH TOPIC</th>
<th>START DATE</th>
<th>DURATION* (MONTHS)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yunfei An Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics</td>
<td>PhD Student</td>
<td>Climate change policy</td>
<td>08/08/2019</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ye Cao Beijing Institute of Technology</td>
<td>PhD Student</td>
<td>Energy and climate change</td>
<td>09/09/2019</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ning Liu Nanjing University of Posts and Telecommunications</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Pension policy</td>
<td>07/09/2019</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yan Wu Beijing Technology and Business University</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>Trade and environment</td>
<td>01/11/2019</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hua Yang Jiangsu University</td>
<td>PhD Student</td>
<td>Climate change management</td>
<td>09/09/2019</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wenjie Zhang Qilu University of Technology</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>Australia-China relations</td>
<td>31/08/2019</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zhibo Zhao Ocean University of China</td>
<td>PhD Student</td>
<td>Urbanisation and environment</td>
<td>16/10/2019</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A full list of visiting scholars, past and current, is available on UTS:ACRI’s website.

*Duration for some scholars differs slightly from the timeframe outlined in the 2019 Annual Report due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.*
RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM

UTS:ACRI offers a research grants program to support the development of research by academics in UTS faculties and institutes across a variety of disciplines that will help inform Australia-China relations.

In 2020, 10 recipients were awarded UTS:ACRI Research Grants.

- Dr Lai-Ha Chan, UTS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, *Australia’s half-hearted engagement with the FOIP and the BRI: the role of middle power identity*
- Associate Professor Colin Hawes, UTS Faculty of Law, *The Chinese corporate ecosystem*
- Dr Susie Khamis, UTS Business School, *The role of popular social media and digital public diplomacy in Australia-China relations: Analysis of how Facebook and WeChat influence nation branding and mutual perceptions*
- Associate Professor Shiko Maruyama, UTS Business School, *Not only exporting education but also importing brains? Chinese students’ migration decision after graduation*
- Professor Greg McCarthy, UTS:ACRI, *Australia-China relations: understanding Australia in China*
- Dr Suwin Sandu, UTS Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology, *The role of hydrogen energy in shaping the future Australia-China economic relationship: A macroeconomic analysis*
- Associate Professor Song Shi, UTS Faculty of Design, *Architecture and Building, Do Chinese buyers push up Sydney housing prices?*
- Professor Kathy Walsh, UTS Business School, *Could China’s digital currency be a catalyst for internationalising the Renminbi?*
- Associate Professor Jingqing Yang, UTS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, *New narratives and novel coronavirus: China’s COVID war on mass media*
- Dr Yi Zhang, UTS Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology, *What is the role of Australia-China collaboration in Australia’s AI research: A study of competitive technological intelligence*

Grant applications underwent strict and rigorous assessment by the UTS:ACRI Grants Assessment Committee. The Committee is comprised of four academic members with extensive experience and research credentials.
INSTITUTE OPERATING PRINCIPLES

UTS:ACRI is a UTS entity providing rigorous and independent scholarly research and evidence-based analysis of the highest quality to key stakeholders in the Australia-China relationship, including the Australian public.

UTS:ACRI’s day to day activities and the strategic actions of the Management Committee and Members are bound by UTS policies and procedures relating to academic integrity, independence and transparency.

Key UTS policy instruments relating to the work of UTS:ACRI include:

- Code of Conduct
- Expression and Practice of Religious, Political and Other Values, Beliefs and Ideas at UTS
- External Relations
- Gifts and Benefits
- Honorary Titles and Awards
- Invitations and Dignitaries
- Research Management

All policies are available online at: http://www.gsu.uts.edu.au/policies/index-a-z.html.
86 percent of UTS:ACRI’s funding in 2020 was derived from contributions by the University of Technology Sydney.

14 percent of UTS:ACRI’s funding in 2020 was derived from industry supporters. Industry contributions were received from China Construction Bank, John Holland, King & Wood Mallesons, Moelis Australia, PwC, and Yancoal.

UTS:ACRI receives funding from industry partners to support its mission to inform Australia’s engagement with China through research, analysis and dialogue grounded in scholarly rigour. Industry partners do not provide strategic direction nor do they shape or influence UTS:ACRI’s research and other programs.
Research & analysis
OVERVIEW

Research is the basis on which UTS:ACRI seeks to inform Australia’s engagement with the PRC. By uncovering facts and deepening understanding though undertaking and supporting evidence-based analysis, UTS:ACRI research serves to promote sound public and private sector decision-making, as well as raising the level of Australia-China relations literacy amongst the general public.

Traditional academic output such as scholarly journal articles and conference papers are complemented by a flow of research reports, fact sheets, briefings and commentary pieces that explore contemporary developments.

In 2020 UTS:ACRI published:

- 27 peer-reviewed journal articles
- 4 major research reports
- 5 conference papers
- 7 briefings
- 4 fact sheets
- 12 Australia-China monthly wrap-ups
- 10 Perspectives series pieces
- 56 commentary pieces (see ‘Media & Public Commentary’ section for a full list)

JOURNAL ARTICLES


• Yong Zhao, Xunpeng Shi, Feng Song*, 2020. ‘Has Chinese outward foreign direct investment in energy enhanced China’s energy security?’, *Energy Policy*, 146:111803.


• Ke Wang, Yujiao Xian, Kexin Yang, Xunpeng Shi, Yi-Ming Wei, Zhimin Huang, 2020. ‘The marginal abatement cost curve and optimized abatement trajectory of CO2 emissions from China’s petroleum industry’, Regional Environmental Change, 20:131.

Dealing with commercial legal risks in the People’s Republic of China: a primer for Australian businesses

Dr Colin Hawes
April 2 2020

This report focuses on what foreign investors can expect from the PRC legal system should they get involved in regular commercial disputes with their PRC business and trading partners, or experience legal and extra-legal obstacles when dealing with regulators and government officials, and how to maximise the chances of avoiding them in the first place.

Australia-China: a series of reflections

Edited by Professor Jocelyn Chey
February 26 2020

This collection of 12 essays aims to demonstrate the breadth of expertise and understanding of Chinese affairs that is available in Australia and New Zealand. Originally published in December 2019 in Pearls and Irritations, the blog maintained by former senior Australian public servant and diplomat, John Menadue, the essays have been gathered together as a series to be republished by UTS:ACRI.
COVID-19 and the Australia-China relationship’s zombie economic idea

Professor James Laurenceson, Michael Zhou
May 7 2020

This report analyses Australia’s trade exposure to the PRC, what is driving this exposure and whether this level of exposure serves Australia’s national interests. It also examines what the prospects for greater diversification of Australia’s economic relationships are in the near future.

The Australia-China science boom

Professor James Laurenceson, Michael Zhou
July 22 2020

This report documents the latest state of play in Australia’s partnership with the PRC in the creation of scientific knowledge and discusses some of the most recent challenges.
CONFERENCE PAPERS


- Xunpeng Shi, 'Drivers and dynamics of household energy consumption and emissions', presented at the Symposium of Household Energy Transition and Behaviour, Beijing Institute of Technology, Beijing, November 29 2020.

MONTHLY WRAP-UP

The Australia-China monthly wrap-up is a concise monthly summary and analysis of major developments in the Australia-China relationship.


- Elena Collinson, James Laurenceson, *Australia-China monthly wrap-up: July 2020*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, August 4 2020.


PERSPECTIVES

Perspectives is UTS:ACRI’s monthly commentary series, featuring a piece on a topical subject in the Australia-China relationship from an invited expert contributor.


- Tao Xie, *What a virus teaches us about China-US relations*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, April 3 2020.


- Yun Jiang, *COVID-19 and taking a principled stance*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, June 3 2020.

- Peter Osborne, *People-to-people links: the lifeblood of the Australia-China relationship*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, July 3 2020.

- James Curran, *On being ‘very different countries’: AUSMIN and China’s rise*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, August 4 2020.

- Jingdong Yuan, *Avoiding military conflict and restoring Australia-PRC relations: a pragmatic way forward*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, September 2 2020.

- James Laurenceson, *Clear-eyed responses as well as assessments needed on the PRC*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, October 1 2020.
• Merriden Varrall, *Doing business in a complex geopolitical landscape – some stories of success*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, November 4 2020.

• Jing Han, *The importance of arts and cultural exchanges in Australia-PRC relations*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, December 3 2020.
FACT SHEETS


- Xunpeng Shi, *The emissions impact of Australia-PRC trade*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, August 11 2020.

- Thomas Pantle, *Australia’s exports to the PRC: Take away iron ore and what’s left?*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, October 23 2020.
Events

Australia-China relations: The state of play

Panellists:

Glesda Korporaali QAM
Recent China correspondent & Associate Editor (Business) at The Australian

Dr Geoff Raby AC
Businessperson & former Australian Ambassador to China

Osimond Chiu
Commentator & research fellow at Per Capita

Moderator:

Professor James Laurenceson
Director of UTS:ACRI

@acri_uts @UTSEngage
In 2020, UTS:ACRI hosted 10 events, including ‘in conversation with’-style discussions, panels and roundtables. Following the outbreak of COVID-19 in Australia, UTS:ACRI moved its public programs online, delivering events in webinar form.

EVENTS LIST

UTS:ACRI/UTS Big Thinking Forum - Australia-China relations: The state of play, February 5 2020, UTS Great Hall (pictured)

UTS:ACRI in partnership with UTS Big Thinking Forums hosted a panel discussion to mark the Lunar New Year. Panellists Glenda Korporaal OAM, recent China correspondent and senior financial journalist at The Australian; Dr Geoff Raby AO, businessman and former Australian Ambassador to China; and Osmond Chiu, research fellow at Per Capita, reflected on the impact developments in the Australia-PRC bilateral relationship over 2019 had on politics, business and the domestic community, and discussed the challenges that lay ahead.
An Australian foreign correspondent in China: In conversation with Kirsty Needham, February 20 2020, UTS Business School (pictured)

Kirsty Needham, The Sydney Morning Herald and The Age’s recently returned China correspondent, discussed the changing environment for foreign correspondents operating in-country in the PRC and the mounting challenges for foreign journalists in the face of tightening controls on information availability and increasing censorship in conversation with Professor James Laurenceson. They also explored, among other issues, some of the challenges in garnering the support and interest of Australia-based editors and the news-consuming public when it comes to developments in the PRC.

Does China have the rule of law? What Australian businesses and the public should know, April 2 2020, online

In the first webinar hosted by UTS:ACRI, Dr Colin Hawes, Associate Professor in the Law Faculty at UTS, delivered a presentation based on the findings of his commissioned research report for UTS:ACRI, *Dealing with commercial legal risks in the People’s Republic of China: a primer for Australian businesses*, followed by a wide-ranging discussion with Professor James Laurenceson.
COVID-19 and the Australia-China relationship’s zombie economic idea – Report launch, May 7 2020, online (pictured)

UTS:ACRI launched the report COVID-19 and the Australia-China relationship’s zombie economic idea by Professor James Laurenceson and Michael Zhou in a webinar, with lead author Professor Laurenceson presenting on the report’s main findings. Following his presentation Professor Laurenceson was interviewed by UTS:ACRI Advisory Board member and The Australian columnist Rowan Callick OBE.

The Australia-China science boom – Report launch, July 29 2020, online

UTS:ACRI launched the report The Australia-China science boom by Professor James Laurenceson and Michael Zhou in a webinar, with lead author Professor Laurenceson presenting on the report’s main findings. Following his presentation Professor Laurenceson was interviewed by John Ross, Asia-Pacific Editor for Times Higher Education.
Australia relations – the view from China, August 5 2020, online

UTS:ACRI hosted a webinar featuring panelists Will Glasgow, China correspondent for The Australian; Jack Brady, CEO and Executive Director of AustCham Shanghai; and Diane Hu, Assistant Professor and Deputy Director of the Australian Studies Centre at Beijing Foreign Studies University. They discussed perceptions of Australia in the PRC outside government statements and state media commentary.

Australian universities, the PRC and academic freedom, September 3 2020, online (pictured)

UTS:ACRI hosted a webinar featuring panelists Dr Jonathan Benney, Lecturer in Chinese Studies at Monash University; Tim Dodd, Higher Education Editor at The Australian; and Margaret Simons, Director of the Centre for Advanced Journalism at Melbourne University discussing the Australian higher education sector’s engagement with the PRC, particularly with respect to issues involving academic freedom.
Australia-PRC economic ties: whither now?, October 22 2020, online

UTS:ACRI hosted a webinar featuring panelists Dr Diane Hu, Assistant Professor and Deputy Director of the Australian Studies Centre at Beijing Foreign Studies University; David Uren, economics writer and former Economics Editor at The Australian; and Dr Jeffrey Wilson, Research Director at the Perth USAsia Centre discussing the trajectory of the Australia-PRC economic relationship and the prospects of a wider trade and investment war.

China’s grand strategy and Australia’s future in the new global order – in conversation with Geoff Raby, November 3 2020, online (pictured)

Author and former Australian Ambassador to China Dr Geoff Raby joined Professor James Laurenceson in conversation to launch his new book, China’s grand strategy and Australia’s future in the new global order (Melbourne University Publishing), discussing Australia’s future position in global affairs. The speakers explored key concepts in Dr Raby’s book, including Australia’s role in the competition between the US and the PRC for dominance in the Indo-Pacific region; shifts in Australia’s strategic and security interests in recent years; and a need for diplomacy as well as firmness in Australia’s dealings with the PRC.
Roundtable: the future of Australia-China relations, December 10 2020, online

UTS:ACRI in partnership with the Institute for a Community with Shared Future at the Communication University of China hosted two roundtable discussions in which Australian and Chinese academics exchanged views on the current state and future trajectory of relations between Australia and the PRC.
Media & public commentary
OVERVIEW


UTS:ACRI experts were also regular contributors to a wide range of publications, both in Australia and overseas. The list of published articles, featuring in policy forums and domestic media outlets, appears in the list below.

OPINION PIECES

• James Laurenceson, 'China trade questions confound Australia’s Indo-Pacific shift', East Asia Forum, January 5 2020.


• Xunpeng Shi, Qiang Ji, Dayong Zhang, 美伊冲突对国际油价冲击的影响 (The impact of US-Iran conflicts on the international oil prices), 21世纪经济报道 (21st Century Business Herald), January 7 2020.

• Xunpeng Shi, 许可证交易：一个低成本去产能的选项 (Permit trading: an instrument to reduce the cost of capacity cut), 南方能源观察 (Energy Observer), January 20 2020.

• James Laurenceson, 'Coronavirus is no excuse for racist behaviour', The Daily Telegraph, January 30 2020.


• James Laurenceson, ‘Australia stands with the US (most of the time)’, *Australian Outlook*, Australian Institute of International Affairs, February 28 2020.

• Xunpeng Shi, ‘Coronavirus may accelerate gas market transition in East Asia’, *East Asia Forum*, March 3 2020.

• Xunpeng Shi, Qiang Ji, Dayong Zhang, ‘南财快评：新冠疫情之下，国际原油市场的动荡或会持续 (Nancai Quick Review: Under the coronavirus epidemic, the turmoil in the international crude oil market may continue)’, *21世纪经济报道 (21st Century Business Herald)*, March 9 2020.

• Yifan Shen, Xunpeng Shi, ‘全球化时代，我们应该为低油价欢呼吗？(Should we hail for the low oil prices in a globalized world?)’, *中国能源报 (China Energy News)*, March 9 2020.


• Xunpeng Shi, ‘警惕“特朗普因素”操纵石油价格 (The “Trump Factor” may manipulate oil prices)’, *新浪财经 (Sina Finance)*, April 3 2020.

• Xunpeng Shi, Qiang Ji, Dayong Zhang, ‘国际原油市场中的美国因素(The US factor in the international oil markets)’, *21世纪经济报道 (21st Century Business Herald)*, April 3 2020.

• James Laurenceson, Elena Collinson, ‘Coronavirus has taught us that Australia can’t trust China – or the US’, *10 daily*, April 6 2020.

• Xunpeng Shi, Qiang Ji, Dayong Zhang, ‘OPEC视频开大会，要警惕国际石油市场中“看得见的手”(Be alert to “visible hands” in the international oil markets)’, *21世纪经济报道 (21st Century Business Herald)*, April 9 2020.
• Xunpeng Shi, ‘国际原油市场中的“非市场因素”值得关注 (Non-market factors in the international oils markets worth attention)’, 中国石化报 (Sinopec News), April 17 2020.


• Xunpeng Shi, ‘负油价可能加速美国和欧佩克合作 全球石油消费国利益或受损 (Negative oil prices may accelerate cooperation between the US and OPEC)’, 新华财经 (Xinhua Finance), April 21 2020.


• Xunpeng Shi, Qiang Ji, Dayong Zhang, ‘负油价如何影响金融市场和消费者？ (How negative oil price may affect financial market and consumers)’, 21世纪经济报道 (21st Century Business Herald), April 22 2020.

• James Laurenceson, ‘Contrary to opinions in China, Australia is not a US lapdog’, Global Times, April 28 2020.

• James Laurenceson, Elena Collinson, ‘China doesn’t want trust, it wants obedience’, 10 daily, May 1 2020.


• Xunpeng Shi, ‘Would China extend its boycott to Australian resources and energy?’, Policy Forum, Australian National University, May 25 2020.


• James Laurenceson, ‘The trade dispute between Australia and China should be taken with a grain of barley’, Australian Outlook, Australian Institute of International Affairs, June 5 2020.
• Xunpeng Shi, Qiang Ji, Dayong Zhang, 欧佩克在平衡原油市场时仍需走钢丝 (OPEC continue to teetering on the high wire), 21世纪经济报道 (21st Century Business Herald), June 5 2020.

• Xunpeng Shi, ‘保油价，沙特说，“我已经尽力了，兄弟们看着办吧! (Saudi: I have tried my best to boost oil prices!)’, 21世纪经济报道 (21st Century Business Herald), June 9 2020.

• Xunpeng Shi, 石油需求是否已经达峰 (Has the oil demand peaked)?, 21世纪经济报道 (21st Century Business Herald), June 20 2020.


• James Laurenceson, 'The many sources of disinformation in the Australia-China relationship', The China Story, Australian National University, June 30 2020.

• Xunpeng Shi, 深圳天然气交易中心未来前景可期 (Shenzhen might be able to create a natural gas trading center), 21世纪经济报道 (21st Century Business Herald), June 30 2020.

• Elena Collinson, 'Correspondence - "Beijing Calling"', Australian Foreign Affairs, July 13 2020.

• James Laurenceson, ‘From rocks to science: the irrepressible Australia-China economic relationship', The China Story, Australian National University, August 3 2020.

• James Laurenceson, 'AUSMIN shows Australia’s China policy different to US", Global Times, August 4 2020.


• James Laurenceson, 'Australia, all is not lost despite China's trade tantrums', The Interpreter, Lowy Institute, September 8 2020.

• James Laurenceson, 'Why the Australia-China relationship is unravelling faster than we could have imagined', *The Conversation*, September 9 2020.

• Xunpeng Shi, Qiang Ji, Dayong Zhang, ‘独木难支，沙特会不会放弃减产 (One can’t rescue the situation alone, will Saudi Arabia cease production?)’, *21世纪经济报道 (21st Century Business Herald)*, September 10 2020.


• Xunpeng Shi, ‘对地炼开征风险准备金一石二鸟 (Applying low price tax on local refineries has double benefits)’, *21世纪经济报道 (21st Century Business Herald)*, September 29 2020.

• Xunpeng Shi, 'The lesser-known benefits of trade with China', *Policy Forum*, Australian National University, October 21 2020.


• James Laurenceson, ‘There’s no need for panic over China’s trade threats’, *The Conversation*, November 12 2020.


• James Laurenceson, 'Why Australia is on its own in its trade conflict with China', *South China Morning Post*, December 2 2020.


• Xunpeng Shi, Muyi Yang, ‘能源转型是一项系统工程需要稳健，煤价才会稳 (Energy transition is a systematic project)’, 21世纪经济报道 (21st Century Business Herald), December 17 2020.
The UTS:ACRI Podcast
OVERVIEW

Since July 2017, UTS:ACRI has produced a podcast series focusing on a range of areas pertinent to the Australia-China relationship, including economics, business, foreign policy, domestic politics, history and culture. The podcast is a stand-alone series available through SoundCloud, iTunes and the UTS:ACRI website.

The UTSACRI Podcast features 44 episodes in total.

EPISODES

- **COVID-19: What is the Australia-China economic impact?, with James Laurenceson, Director, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, interviewed by Elena Collinson, March 31 2020**

- **COVID-19: Supply-chain risks and foreign investment, with Jeffrey Wilson, Research Director, Perth USAsia Centre, interviewed by James Laurenceson, April 6 2020**

- **COVID-19: US-China war of words and geopolitical implications, with Xie Tao, Director, Dean, School of International Relations and Diplomacy, Beijing Foreign Studies University; Adjunct Professor, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, interviewed by James Laurenceson, April 17 2020**