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• LEADING ARTICLE

Lessons for China in the U. S. Progressive Era: Three Models of Agency
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Abstract The America Progressive Era confronted problems in the late 19th and early 20th century are similar with what is happening in China today. Admittedly, particular environment brings more opportunities and Challenges to the reform. So, the paper reveals the background and facts of the emergency of the American Progressive Era, and base on it, the reasons of the blooming government reforms are explained. In order to answer the question of which are the cores, definitive reforms at which levels of government, that constitute the Progressive Era, I discussed it and concluded three models of agency. However, scholars seldom involve in this task. First, it is the “society-driven” interpretation, which points instead to public intellectuals, journalists, and progressive clergy as the agents of reform. Second, it is state-centered argument, the major instigators of progressive reform inside, rather than outside, the state, centering their interpretations mainly on presidents and (more recently) activists in a few important departments. Third, it is a progressive bent and falls within the first set of society-driven explanations, mainly educators and other professionals, students from comfortable families, and public-spirited people of ideas. In addition, the paper further researches the agents of modernization in the competing models and at last, I came to a conclusion that the state driven model is more fit for China according to the present Chinese situation.

Key Words Progressive, Social-driven, State-centered

• SYMPOSIUM: POLICY PROCESS

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Policy Actors, Resources and Strategies: A Policy Network Perspective on Nu River Hydropower Development Policy..... *Chunkui Zhu & Ping Shen* 25

Abstract Policy network is an analysis method to describe and explain the dynamic policy process. This research adopts the concept of policy network to analysis the process of the Nu River hydropower development policy from both static and dynamic perspectives. The static analysis focuses on the members, resources and relations involved of the relevant actors, in the Nu River policy networks. The dynamic analysis covers the positions of the actors, the strategies adopted by them and the interactions inside these networks.

Key Words Policy Network, Policy Actor, Resource Dependency, Actor Strategy

Competency of Government Decision Makers and Expert Advisory: An Empirical Study Based on Tianjin Government Cadres..... *Xufeng Zhu & Qianru Wang* 47

Abstract Research on the expert advisory in the policy process tends to focus on more the issue of knowledge supplier, while leaving the role of decision maker in the process of expert advisory untouched. This article aims to analyze the decision maker competencies in expert advisory. Through surveying 344 Tianjin government cadres at bureau and division levels, we find that when facing issues of public interests, the impacts of knowledge unitization Competencies, efficiency in consulting experts, and competencies of decision makers are significant, be they positive or negative, on their behaviors of expert advisory.

Key Words Decision Maker Competency, Expert Advisory, Decision-making Behavior, Tianjin, Cadres at Bureau and Division Levels

• ARTICLES**Why China Fails to Deliver its 4% of GDP Promise on Public Education Spending? — An Empirical Analysis on Cross Provincial Panel Data**..... *Guang Zhang & Yini Jiang* 68

Abstract This paper attempts to explain why China has failed to reach the target of public spending in education as 4% of GDP by arguing that this is because education

is marginalized in public budgeting for its marginalized position in the incentive system for Chinese local officials. This argument is supported empirically through an analysis of cross-province panel data from 1997 through 2006, which reveals that along with marginal increases of local revenues and fiscal transfers, the proportion of funds allocated to education in local budget was in a tendency of decreasing.

Key Words Public Spending in Education, Local Officials, Public Budgeting, Incentive System

The Mechanism of *Hidden-rule* Perspective in Organizational Politics

..... *Weishuang Lin, Teng Gao, Liyin Sun & Huaibin Jing* 85

Abstract Hidden-rule is a very popular terminology in the Chinese society. This paper reports on the findings of an empirical study in organizational politics with the employment of the grounded theory. It is shown that both the structure of leadership and traditional culture play some key roles in the mechanism. It is shown that the hidden-rule is resulting institutionally from the ways in which the core of leadership is organized. In addition, the social identification of it is further accelerated by the lost of social norms and the effects of herd instinct. The hidden-rule thus operate as a sub-organization outside the authority as a result. For institutional and cultural reasons, hidden-rule is a phenomenon that will exist for a certain period of time, for the reason of which further research is desperately needed

Key Words Organizational Politics, Public Administration, Civil Servant, Chinese Culture, Hidden-rule

Governing In All Ways: State-Building and the Change of Grass-root Governance in China

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Abstract This paper analyzes the grass-root governance issue from the perspective of state building, and ascribes this issue to how the state acquires the compliance of the society and state agents. In the process of state building, the state resorts to various means and makes use of its resources available in order to achieve social control or grassroots governance objectives of modern state. These include (1) the establishment of a formal bureaucracy and its rationalization; (2) commitment to rely

on informal bureaucrat to fulfill administrative duties; (3) mass mobilization; (4) establishment of government organized social organizations; (5) establishment of the self-governing mass organization. This paper tries to outline the historical picture of the evolution of grass-roots governance and further explore the “top-down” reform dynamic of the grass-roots governance in China.

Key Words State-Building, Grass-root Governance, Informal Bureaucrat, Mass Mobilization

Going beyond or Saving Representative Democracy? A Value Analysis and Rational Positioning of Cyber-democracy

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Abstract Cyber democracy is a new form of relationship between media and democracy, which is highly inclusive. It can weaken as well as improve representative democracy. The relationship between cyber democracy and representative democracy is not an either-or one but that of mutually supplementary. By analyzing the current wave of reforms triggered by the cyber-democracy, it is reasonable to argue that cyber-democracy is more on amending rather than rejecting representative democracy, more on seeking the balance of democracy rather than subverting it.

Key Words Cyber Democracy, Representative Democracy, Value Request, Positioning

● THEORETICAL REVIEW

A Review of the Relationship among Local Governments in the Market Transformation

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Abstract The transformation from planning economy to marketing economy has been a significant systematic reform since the founding of China, in the process of which, there is a rich body of academic resources concerning the relationship among local governments. There is a rich body of literature on this issue which involved scholars from many different disciplines such as economics, politics, administration and sociology. Research on the relationship between local governments is primarily centered on the effect of competition, cooperative channels and relationship

coordination mechanism between local governments. There is a clear boundary between any two disciplines, which is to say, researches conducted in from the perspective of economics, politics or public administration has in one way or another contradictory to the others. Such a situation is in some way a obstacle of further study on this topic. By review this body of literature in a comparative perspective, this paper hopes to bridge this gap and encourage further dialogue among scholars of various background.

Key Words Local Governments, Power Division in Finance, Competition, Cooperation, Coordination

• **BOOK REVIEWS**

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The Third Narration to Leviathan —— A Review of Birth of Leviathan;
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