

# Portraits of 21st Century Chinese Universities: In the Move to Mass Higher Education

By Ruth Hayhoe and Li Jun

Chair: Yang Rui

Since the spring of 2006 we have been studying Chinese universities in their move to mass higher education, at a time of China's rise as an economic and geopolitical force in world affairs. A team of about twenty five scholars and graduate students have been involved in the project, which is funded by the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada. Four core members have taken leadership in differing dimensions, and two will be speaking in this presentation. Ruth Hayhoe will introduce the main research questions we have investigated and give an overview of the project's progress, including the policy study, the case studies and the student survey. She will explain our efforts to achieve authenticity through listening to the voices of students, faculty and leaders on 12 university campuses and through involving research partners from each campus. Li Jun will then present some of the outcomes of the study, including key findings of the student survey and our initial thinking on the contours of the emerging Chinese university model and how it may embody values from China's classical scholarship.

**Ruth HAYHOE** is a professor at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto and president emerita of the Hong Kong Institute of Education (HKIEd). Her recent books include *Comparative and International Education: Issues for Teachers*, co-edited with K Mundy, K Bickmore, M Madden & K Madjidi (Toronto: Canadian Scholars Press), *Portraits of Influential Chinese Educators* (CERC and Springer, 2006) and *Full Circle: A Life with Hong Kong and China* (CERC, 2004). She is an Honorary Fellow of the University of London Institute of Education (1998), holds the Silver Bauhinia Star of the Hong Kong SAR Government (2002), Commandeur dans l'ordre des Palmes Académiques of the Government of France (2002), an Honorary Doctorate in Education, the HKIEd (2002) and a Life-Time Contribution Award from the Higher Education SIG of the U.S. Comparative and International Education Society (2009).

**Jun LI** is an assistant professor in the Department of International Education and Lifelong Learning at the Hong Kong Institute of Education, and also an associate member of the School of Graduate Studies of the University of Toronto. His academic and teaching experience is in the field of international education policy with emphases on comparative and international education in East Asia, educational policy analysis applied to diverse societal settings, the transformation of higher education and global dialogue, teacher education policy, civic education and civil society, and the history and philosophy of Chinese education. Dr. Li has published 3 academic books and more than 50 journal papers and book chapters. Moreover, he has served on the International Editorial Board of *Paedagogica Historica* (Belgium, 1998-2007) and has been an invited paper reviewer of *The International Journal of Educational Development* (Oxford) since 2000 and *Comparative Education Review* (Chicago) since 2002.

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**All are welcome!**



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