

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR CHINA DEVELOPMENT STUDIES
CENTRE FOR CHINA FINANCIAL RESEARCH
&
ASIAN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL LAW

Seminar

**President Obama's Pivot to Asia-Pacific
and US-China Relations**

Professor Suisheng Zhao

*Director, Center for China-US Cooperation
Josef Korbel School of International Studies
University of Denver*



Friday, 27 April 2012, 1:00 - 2:00 pm

Room LG104, LG1 Floor, KK Leung Building, The University of Hong Kong

One most significant development in US's policy toward China during President Obama's first term is a "paradigm shift" from setting aside old concerns and stressing shared interests to a pivot toward Asia-Pacific to shore up US leadership and reassure its allies that the US will stay and actively defend its interests in the region, even if it meant challenging China's core interests and clashing with Beijing on sensitive issues such as the territorial disputes in the South China Sea. How to understand this shift? Is it a turn to encircle and contain China's rise? The talk will seek answers to these questions and is divided in three parts: 1) the policy adjustment; 2) the causes; 3) implications.

Suisheng Zhao is Professor and Director of the Center for China-US Cooperation at Josef Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver and the recipient of the Distinguished Scholar Award of 2010 at DU. A founding editor of the *Journal of Contemporary China*, he is member of the Board of Governors of the US Committee of the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific, a member of National Committee on US-China Relations, a Research Associate at the Fairbanks Center for East Asian Research in Harvard University, and a Honorary Jianzhi Professor at Beijing University, Renmin University, China University of International Relations, Fudan University and Shanghai foreign Studies University. He received his Ph.D. degree in political science from the University of California-San Diego. He is the author and editor of more than ten books, including: *China and East Asian Regionalism: Economic and Security Cooperation and Institution-Building* (Routledge 2012), *In Search of China's Development Model: Beyond the Beijing Consensus* (Routledge 2011), *China and the United States, Cooperation and Competition in Northeast Asia* (Palgrave/Macmillan, 2008), *China-US Relations Transformed: Perspectives and Strategic Interactions* (Routledge, 2008), *China and Democracy: Reconsidering the Prospects for a Democratic China* (Routledge, 2000). His articles have appeared in *Political Science Quarterly*, *The Wilson Quarterly*, *Washington Quarterly*, *International Politik*, *The Hague Journal of Democracy*, *European Financial Review*, *The China Quarterly*, *World Affairs*, *Asian Survey*, *Asian Affairs*, *Journal of Democracy*, *Pacific Affairs*, and elsewhere.

Please register online via www.AIIFL.com or email Flora Leung at fkleung@hku.hk to reserve a place.