

NATIONAL BUREAU OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH

**Conference on the Chinese Economy**  
Shang-Jin Wei, Organizer

September 30, 2005

NBER  
1050 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

**PRELIMINARY PROGRAM**

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29:**

7:00 & 7:30 pm Reception & Group Dinner, Cambridge Marriott Hotel, 2 Cambridge Center,  
(Broadway & 3rd Street) Cambridge, Massachusetts 02142

Dinner Speaker:  
KRISTIN FORBES, MIT and NBER  
(Member of the President's Council of Economic Advisers, 2003-2005)  
*The China Question in US Policy Discussions*

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30:**

7:30 a.m. Shuttle van from the Cambridge Marriott to 1050 Massachusetts Avenue

7:45 am Continental Breakfast

8:15 am Opening Remarks:

8:30 am XUEPENG LIU and JAN ONDRICH, Syracuse University  
MARY LOVELY, Syracuse University and NBER  
[\*How Much Do Low Wages Matter for Foreign Investment? The Case of China\*](#)

Discussant: LEE BRANSTETTER, Columbia University and NBER

9:20 am NANCY QIAN, Brown University  
[\*Missing Women and the Price of Tea in China: The Effect of Sex-Specific Earnings on Sex Imbalance\*](#)

Discussant: JOHN GILES, Michigan State University

10:10 am Coffee Break

10:40 am HONGBIN CAI, UC, Los Angeles  
HANMING FANG, Yale University  
COLIN XU, World Bank

[Eat, Drink, Firms and Governments: An Investigation of Corruption from Entertainment and Travel Costs of Chinese Firms](#)

Discussant: THOMAS RAWSKI, University of Pittsburgh

11:30 am RAYMOND FISMAN, Columbia University and NBER  
PETER MOUSTAKERSKI, Booz Allen Hamilton  
SHANG-JIN WEI, IMF and NBER  
[Outsourcing Tariff Evasion: A New Explanation for Entrepot Trade](#)

Discussant: MIHIR DESAI, Harvard University and NBER

12:20 pm Lunch

1:10 pm Panel Discussion:  
[Social Security Reform in China: Issues and Options](#)

PETER DIAMOND, MIT and NBER  
JEFFREY LIEBMAN, Harvard University and NBER

2:00 pm MARCOS CHAMON and ESWAR PRASAD, IMF  
*Determinants of Household Savings in China*

Discussant: CHANG-TAI HSIEH, UC, Berkeley and NBER

2:50 pm Coffee Break

3:10 pm HUI HUANG and SHUNMING ZHANG, University of Western Ontario  
YI WANG, Shanghai University  
YIMING WANG, Peking University  
JOHN WHALLEY, University of Western Ontario and NBER  
[A Trade Model with an Optimal Exchange Rate Motivated by Current Discussion of a Chinese Renminbi Float](#)

Discussant: AART KRAAY, World Bank

4:00 pm ALBERT HU, National University of Singapore  
GARY JEFFERSON, Brandeis University  
[The Great Wall of Patents: What is Behind China's Recent Patent Explosion?](#)

Discussant: WEI LI, University of Virginia

4:50 pm Adjourn