



Pre-conference on Shaping Geographies of Health, Health Care and Environment

18-21 August, 2016, Xi'an, Shaanxi, China

First Announcement and Call for Papers

Organized by

Shaanxi Normal University (SNNU)
Geographical Society of Shaanxi Province

Sponsored by

The International Geographical Union (IGU) Commission on Health and the
Environment (CHE)
Geographical Society of China (GSC) Commission on Medical Geography

Introduction:

Environmental changes and health is one of the most urgent challenges for the international society. With the rapid urbanisation process, the changes in the living environment, social organisation, family relations, housing conditions, transportation choices, dietary patterns, access to education and healthcare services, and the transmission of infectious disease agents affect people's everyday life. These changes are going to further exacerbate and add new environmental and health impacts on population, especially the vulnerable groups, which brings challenges but also opportunities for people's quality of life.

The purpose of the pre-conference is to bring together both international and Chinese researchers from the natural, social and health sciences to exchange ideas on the theme of "Shaping Geographies of Health, Health Care and Environment".

The main themes will be: (1) Geography of Health and Environmental Change, focused on the links among global change, health and environment in a globalizing world; (2) Health Care, focused on the analysis of quality of life with an emphasis on health, health care, and the environment at various geographic scales.

This conference would identify and discuss the state of knowledge on environmental health, development and vulnerability and on sustainable health care systems from a broad public health perspective but also include the medical performance, the environmental stresses, the demographic changes including population ageing, the socio-economic conditions and economic capability of health care systems.

Session themes:

- Geography of Health and Environmental Change
- Medical Geography
- Accessibility to Health Care
- Urban and Rural Health
- Public Health Surveillance
- Geography of Ageing and Elder Care

Scientific Committee:

Prof. Wuyi Wang (Chinese Academy of Sciences, China)

Prof. Mark Rosenberg (Queen's University, Canada)

Prof. Thomas Krafft (Maastricht University, Netherlands)

Prof. Linsheng Yang (Chinese Academy of Sciences, China)

Prof. Shengsheng Gong (Central China Normal University, China)
Prof. Svetlana Malkhazova (Moscow State University, Russia)
Prof. Izabella Lecka (University of Warsaw, Poland)
Prof. Robin Kearns (University of Auckland, New Zealand)
Prof. Zhibao Dong (Shaanxi Normal University, China)
Prof. Zhengchao Zhou (Shaanxi Normal University, China)
Prof. Zhenbin Zhao (Shaanxi Normal University, China)
Prof. Miao Ge (Shaanxi Normal University, China)
Prof. Xinwei Lu (Shaanxi Normal University, China)
Prof. Xiaoping Li (Shaanxi Normal University, China)

Organizing Committee:

Prof. Linsheng Yang (Chinese Academy of Sciences, China)
Prof. Xiaoping Li (Shaanxi Normal University, China)
Dr. Yang Cheng (Beijing Normal University, China)
Dr. Hairong Li (Chinese Academy of Sciences, China)
Prof. Miao Ge (Shaanxi Normal University, China)
Dr. Haibo Zheng (Shaanxi Normal University, China)

Secretary:

Prof. Xiaoping Li (Shaanxi Normal University, China)
Dr. Yang Cheng (Beijing Normal University, China)
Dr. Tao Yang (Shaanxi Normal University, China)
Dr. Xiaoyun Li (Shaanxi Normal University, China)
Dr. Yuru Wang (Shaanxi Normal University, China)
Dr. Shun Xiao (Shaanxi Normal University, China)

Conference Location:

The Pre-conference on Shaping Geographies of Health, Health Care and Environment will be held on August 18-21, 2016 in Xi'an, Shaanxi Province, P. R. China, and it is organised by the College of Tourism and Environment, Shaanxi Normal University (To find more information on Shaanxi Normal University and College of Tourism and Environment, please visit the website: <http://english.snnu.edu.cn/>).

Draft Program:

August 18 (Thursday)	Registration	
	Reception	
August 19 (Friday)	Opening Ceremony	8:30am — 9:00am
	Session 1	9:00am — 10:20am
	Group Photo and Coffee Break	10:20am — 10:40am
	Session 2	10:40am — 12:00am
	<i>Lunch</i>	12:00pm — 1:30pm
	Session 3	1:30pm — 2:50pm
	Coffee Break	2:50pm — 3:10pm
	Session 4	3:10pm — 4:30pm
	<i>Dinner</i>	6:00pm
August 20 (Saturday)	Session 5	8:30am — 9:50am
	Coffee Break	9:50am — 10:10am
	Session 6	10:10am — 11:30am
	Closing Remarks	11:30am — 11:45 am
	<i>Lunch</i>	11:45am — 1:30pm
	Fieldtrip: The Museum of Terra Cotta Warriors and Horses	2:00pm — 6:00pm
	<i>Dinner</i>	6:30pm
August 21 (Sunday)	<i>Back to Beijing</i>	

Working Language:

The pre-conference will be conducted in English. Relevant information will be available on the conference webpage (<http://geog.snnu.edu.cn/>) soon.

Abstract submission:

Abstract with approx. 400 words in English should be submitted before **May 15, 2016**. All abstract will be submitted via email to Dr. Tao Yang at yangfan2288@163.com. Please edit your abstract according to the Abstract Sample (available to download) and make sure the email title with **“Your name + Session themes”**.

Notification of acceptance will be sent out by **June 1, 2016**.

Registration:

All participants are strongly urged to send completed registration forms to the conference secretary (Dr. Tao Yang, email: yangfan2288@163.com) as soon as possible. The information you provide on the registration form will be used for visa documentation, hotel reservation and conference preparation.

All participants, except non-attending co-authors, must pay the registration fees of **\$200 (or 1200 RMB)**. This workshop offers a reduced registration fee of **\$100 (or 600 RMB)** for graduate students. The fees will be used for renting venue, printing workshop documents, providing food services, and preparing conference proceedings.

The detail information on the method of payment will be announced soon.

Visa:

Foreigners from most countries are required to apply for a visa to enter China. For detailed visa policies, please consult your Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Chinese Embassy or Consulate in your country. When you fill out the registration form, indicate whether you need the official visa documentation. Upon receipt of the registration form, the organizing committee will prepare and send the official visa documentation to those who need it.

Contact information:

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Important Dates:

Abstracts: May 15, 2016
Notification of acceptance: June 1, 2016
Early registration: June 15, 2016

About Xi'an City

(http://english.snnu.edu.cn/about.php?cat_id=1255):

Xi'an is one of the oldest cities in China, with a history of more than 3,100 years. Called Chang'an before the Ming Dynasty, Xi'an is one of the birthplaces of the ancient civilization in the Yellow River Basin area of the country. Xi'an used to be the capital city of 11 dynasties such as Western Zhou (11th century BC - 771 BC), Qin (221 BC - 206 BC), Western Han (206 BC - 24 AD) and Tang (618 - 907). Xi'an is also the eastern terminus of the Silk Road and home to the Terracotta Warriors.



Terra Cotta Warriors and Horses

The Museum of Terra Cotta Warriors and Horses is praised as 'the eighth major miracle of the world', the Mausoleum of Emperor Qin Shi Huang is listed on the World Heritage List, and the City Wall of the Ming Dynasty (1368 - 1644) is the largest and most intact Ming Dynasty castle in the world. In the city, there is the 3,000 year old Banpo Village Remains from the Neolithic Age (approximately from 8000 BC to 5000 BC), and the Forest of Stone Steles that holds 3,000 stone steles of different periods from the Han Dynasty to the Qing Dynasty. The natural landscape around Xian is also marvelous. Mt. Huashan, one of the five best-known mountains in China, is famous for its breath-taking cliffs and its unique characteristics.





City Wall

Find out more about Xi'an city at: <http://en1.xian-tourism.com/> and <http://www.chinatraveldesigner.com/travel-guide/xian.htm>

Arriving in Xi'an by airline and train:

By Airline

Xi'an's airport is located 50 km (about 31 miles) northwest of downtown Xi'an in Xianyang, a neighboring city. Ranked as the fourth most frequented airport in China, Xianyang International Airport (XIY) is home to 68 domestic daily flights from almost every major Chinese destination. International airlines from 10 Asian cities such as Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand have well-established services with XIY. In 2005, there opened 7 new international airline routes from Germany, France, Britain, America and Canada via transfers in Beijing. In 2006, other 8 international airline routes from Europe, America and Asia are opening via transfers in Shanghai.

There are shuttle buses between the airport and the urban area with a 25 Yuan admission fee per person. Alternatively, at a price of RMB 100-120 Yuan the journey can be made by taxi.

By Train

Xi'an Railway Station is one of the most pivotal terminals of the domestic railway system. It is the key junction between the southwest and the northwest, and forms a connecting link between the east and the west of China. The high speed train takes around 5 to 6 hours from Beijing to Xi'an.

The station lies in the north urban area of Xi'an, so it will take you about half an hour by car from the downtown area.

