

**Special Session at the 2015 AAG Annual Meeting:
The Geography of Inequality in Asia**

**Special Issue in *Applied Geography*: Spatiality of Regional Inequality
Special Issue in *Geographical Review*: The Geography of Inequality in Asia**

Organizers and Editors:

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Inequality is a fundamental issue for human society, a core subject of academic inquiry, and a major concern of governments. There has been a long-lasting debate about the pattern, trajectory, and mechanisms of geographical inequality, as well as policies that address poverty and inequality. This debate has been dominated by convergence (e.g., neoclassical economics) and divergence (e.g., dependency, neo-Marxism) schools. Concerns for the negative effects of globalization and liberalization and the unequal benefits of the transition in socialist countries have generated renewed debates since the late 1980s, which are intellectually enriched by developments in the new economic geography, new growth theory, economic sociology, institutional/evolutionary economic geography, and GIS. Thanks largely to the intensification of globalization and the uneven consequences of the recent global financial crisis, inequality has once again become a hotly debated topic among top world leaders, including those of the United Nations, World Bank and United States.

The geography of inequality has also drawn renewed scholarly interest, but the existing knowledge is fragmented and partial. This session intends to attract scholars with varied backgrounds to examine the dimensions, complexity, and dynamics of the geography of inequality from multiple perspectives.

Potential topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Outcomes: income, social, health, education, digital, innovation, environmental inequalities, etc., and their interactive effects
- Trajectory/Dynamics: Timing, effects of intergenerational inequality, levels of development
- Scale: From global to local and everyday life, with an emphasis on the regional scale
- Space/Place: Spatial association/agglomeration/clustering, core-periphery relations, uneven nature of inequality, space/place as agents etc.
- Networks: Spatial relations, flows, interactions
- Processes/Mechanisms: Globalization, liberalization, marketization, institutional change, decentralization, geography
- Procedures/Policies: Role of institutions, policy effects and options, justice, planning

- Methodology: ESDA, spatial regression, GWR, multilevel modeling, spatial Markov chain, spatial distribution dynamics, big data etc.

AAG Annual Meeting, Chicago, April 21-25, 2015

Organizers: Yehua Dennis Wei and Sanjoy Chakravorty

Submission Procedure: Please submit your participation/registration fee and abstracts online through the AAG's website (www.aag.org). We would appreciate it if you would send us your PIN and title at your earliest time, at least two weeks before the AAG official deadline, to give us time to finalize and register the sessions.

Publication Plan I: A Spatial Issue in Applied Geography

Guest Editor: Yehua Dennis Wei

We will edit a special issue entitled “Spatiality of Regional Inequality” in *Applied Geography* (Impact Factor 2012: 2.779, Ranked: 5th in Geography, >600 submissions in 2013). Please keep in mind that all papers have to go through a rigorous blind review process; *Applied Geography* is highly selective and only the most appropriate papers can be published.

We hope the proposed special issue becomes an influential project for *Applied Geography* and well cited. We prefer theoretically guided, quantitatively oriented, empirical research. Each paper should consider the problem-oriented and application-oriented focus of the journal. The authors will complement deep and state-of-the-art conceptual and empirical analysis, and discuss the practical consequences of their findings as well as ways to translate them into policy measures.

We would like authors to address questions such as the following: what are the nature and trajectory of spatial inequality? What does the spatiality of regional inequality mean? How to measure the roles of geography, contexts and institutions? What are the interactive effects of scale? How to use developments in GIS and big data to advance our knowledge of inequality?

Time Table for the Delivery of Proposed Papers

June 15, 2014	Submission of title, abstract and bio
September 1, 2014	Submission of draft papers to the editor for comments
October 1, 2014	Submission of the manuscript to the editor and then to AG for review
December 1, 2014	Editorial comments to authors
February 1 2015	Revised manuscripts to AG, and second round of revision if necessary
Early 2015	Publication of the special issue

For information on *Applied Geography*, please check: <http://www.journals.elsevier.com/applied-geography/>

For a sample special issue in *Applied Geography*, please check Wei, Y.H.D. and I. Liefner (eds.), Special Issue on Globalization, Industrial Restructuring, and Regional Development in China, *Applied Geography* 32(1): 102-184, 2012.

Publication Plan II: A Spatial Issue in *Geographical Review*

Guest Editors: Yehua Dennis Wei and Sanjoy Chakravorty

We will also edit a special issue entitled “The Geography of Inequality in Asia” in *Geographical Review*, which is one of the oldest geographical journal and has been published by American Geographical Society since 1915, with its predecessor, the Bulletin (and Journal) of the American Geographical Society being published in 1852. Again please keep in mind that all papers have to go through a rigorous blind review process; *Geographical Review* is also selective and only the most appropriate papers can be published.

With a new editorial team, *Geographical Review* has made a number of improvements to recapture some of the lost influence in geography, and we hope the proposed special issue becomes an influential project for *Geographical Review* in its revitalization process. Similar to *Applied Geography*, we prefer theoretically guided, quantitatively oriented, empirical research, and the authors will complement deep and state-of-the-art conceptual and empirical analysis, and discuss the practical consequences of their findings as well as ways to translate them into policy measures.

We would like authors to address questions in the context of Asia such as: what are the nature and trajectory of spatial inequality in Asia? How are inequality displayed in terms of convergence/divergence, dimension, scale and time? What are the underlying mechanisms that drive spatial inequality (inter- and intra-regional, inter- and intra-urban)? What are the roles of nation states, especially the Chinese and Indian forms of the development state and the roles and policies of sub-national states? In what ways does geography matter to the political economy of policy and development outcomes? How do national and sub-national states understand and leverage their geographical endowments vis-a-vis globalization? How to use developments in GIS and big data to advance our knowledge of inequality? What are the theoretical and policy implications of the research?

Time Table for the Delivery of Proposed Papers:

July 1, 2014	Submission of title, abstract and bio
March 1, 2015:	Submission of draft papers to the editor(s) for comments
July 1, 2015	Submission of the manuscript to the editor and <i>GR</i> for review
October 1, 2015	Editorial comments to authors
January 1, 2015	Revised manuscripts to the editor and <i>GR</i> , and second round of revision if necessary
Mid-2016	Publication of the special issue

For information on *Geographical Review*, please check:
[http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1001/\(ISSN\)1931-0846](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1001/(ISSN)1931-0846)

Yehua Dennis Wei (Ph.D., UCLA), professor, is an economic/urban geographer and development specialist, with research interests in globalization, development, urbanization, and sustainability, especially in China. He is author of *Regional Development in China* (Routledge, 2000) and *New Economic Geographies* (in Chinese) (Chinese Science Press, 2011) and more than 100 referenced journal articles including *Economic Geography*, *Journal of Economic Geography* and *Progress in Human Geography*. He has edited *Innovation and Regional*

Development in China (Routledge, 2014) and seven journal special issues including *Environment and Planning A* (2002, 2011) and *Applied Geography* (2012). His research has been funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation, Ford Foundation, National Geographic Society, World Bank and the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC). He has received awards for excellence in research from AAG's Regional Development and Planning Specialty Group, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and NSFC (Outstanding Young Scientist Award). His professional services include: advisor/panelist for the NSF, consultant to the World Bank, Chair of AAG's China Geography, Asian Geography, and Regional Development & Planning specialty groups, and vice president of Chinese Professionals in GIS. For more information, check <http://content.csbs.utah.edu/~weiy/>.

Sanjoy Chakravorty (Ph.D., USC), professor (Geography and Urban Studies, Temple University), is an economic/urban geographer with research interests in development, distribution, urbanization, and epistemology, especially in India. He is author or co-author of four published and two forthcoming books, including *The Price of Land: Acquisition, Conflict, Consequence* (Oxford University Press, 2013), *Made in India: The Economic Geography and Political Economy of Industrialization* (Oxford University Press, 2007), and *Fragments of Inequality: Social, Spatial, and Evolutionary Analyses of Income Distribution* (Routledge, 2006). He has authored or co-authored over fifty journal papers and book chapters; the papers are scattered through geography, economics, and urban journals. He also writes pieces for newspapers in India (in English and Bangla). Some of his research has been funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation, the U.S. National Institute of Justice, the American Institute of Indian Studies, and the World Bank. For more information, check <http://sites.temple.edu/sanjoy/>.