

Erik Mobrand

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Associate Professor, Graduate School of International Studies, Seoul National University. March 2016 - present.
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, National University of Singapore. July 2010-Dec. 2015.
Visiting Fellow, Department of Political Science, NUS. Jan. 2008 - June 2010.
Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Political Science, NUS. Aug. 2006 - Dec. 2007.

EDUCATION

Princeton University, Politics, PhD, 2006; MA, 2003.
Dissertation: "Internal Migration and State Retreat in Chinese and South Korean Industrialization."
University of Washington, International Studies and Political Science (with distinction), BA, 2000.

LANGUAGES

Chinese: proficient reading, speaking (Mandarin)
Korean: proficient reading, speaking
English: mother tongue

RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENTS

Articles in peer-reviewed journals

The Street Leaders of Seoul and the Foundations of the South Korean Political Order, Modern Asian Studies, Vol. 50, No. 2 (March 2016): 636-674. Online at: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0026749X14000560>.
The Politics of Regulating Elections in South Korea: The Persistence of Restrictive Campaign Laws, Pacific Affairs, Vol. 88, No 4 (Dec. 2015): 791-811.
Legitimizing and Contesting Exclusion: Discussions about *Shiminhua* in Urban China, China: An International Journal, (Aug. 2015).
Reverse Remittances: Internal Migration and Rural-to-Urban Remittances in Industrializing South Korea, Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies, Vol. 38, No. 2 (Feb. 2012).
Explaining Divergent Responses to the North Korean Abductions Issue in Japan and South Korea, with Brad Williams, Journal of Asian Studies, Vol. 69, No. 2 (May 2010).
Endorsing the Exodus: How Rural Leaders Backed Peasant Migrations in 1980s Sichuan, Journal of Contemporary China, Vol. 18, Issue 58 (Jan. 2009).
Struggles over Unlicensed Housing in Seoul, 1960-1980, Urban Studies, Vol. 45, No. 2 (Feb.

2008).

Mobilization or Repression of Migrants in Urban China? Hometown Networks, Leadership, and Lessons from International and Historical Comparisons, Journal of Comparative Asian Development, Vol. 6, No. 2 (Fall 2007).

Politics of Cityward Migration: An Overview of China in International Perspective, Habitat International, Vol. 30, No. 2 (June 2006).

Book chapters

Rule-making and rule-breaking: Electoral corruption in Asia, with Jamie Davidson, in Routledge Handbook of Corruption in Asia, edited by Ian Scott and Ting Gong (New York: Routledge, forthcoming 2016).

Unlicensed Housing as Resistance to Elite Projects: Squatting in Seoul in the 1960s and 1970s, in Public Goods versus Economic Interests: Global Perspectives on the History of Squatting, edited by Freia Anders and Alexandra (New York: Routledge, forthcoming 2016).

South Korean Democracy in Light of Taiwan, in Democratization in China, Korea, and Southeast Asia? Local and National Perspectives, edited by Kate Zhou, Shelley Rigger, and Lynn T. White, III (New York: Routledge, 2014).

Chinese Urban Migration and Politics, in The Encyclopedia of Global Human Migration, edited by Immanuel Ness (New York: Wiley Blackwell, 2013).

Conferences and panels organized

International conference: “Theorizing Democracy in East Asia: Perspectives from within the Region,” NUS, Nov. 18, 2013. I organized and hosted the event, which featured speakers invited from Japan, Taiwan, South Korea, Australia, and the UK.

Seminar series on globalizing political studies of Asia, held at three universities in Singapore, 2014-15.

Workshop on Researching Singapore Politics, March 18, 2014, National University of Singapore.

Panel at American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, Aug. 31, 2014, on “Korean Democracy in Crisis?”

Panel at International Convention of Asia Scholars (ICAS), Daejeon, South Korea, Aug. 6-9, 2009.

Panel at Association for Asian Studies (AAS) Annual Meeting, Chicago, March 2005.

Research grants

Next Generation Researcher Project, Seoul National University, 2016-17. KRW 49,000,000 (USD45,000).

Korean Studies Grant (Research), Academy of Korean Studies, for project “Returned Chinese North Koreans: A Study of a Transnational Community,” 2014. Grant awarded (USD5,000) but I had to decline the award.

Faculty Research Committee Tier 1 grant, Ministry of Education (Singapore), for organizing conference on “Theorizing Democracy in East Asia: Perspectives from within the Region,” 2013-14. SGD20,000 (~USD16,000).

Korean Studies Grant (Research), Academy of Korean Studies, for project “Elections and Violence: A Korean Anomaly,” 2009-2010. Grant Number: AKS-2009-R-65. Renewed in 2010-11 under AKS-2010-R-65. I was principal investigator for this project with a value of USD8,000. The project is complete.

Faculty Research Committee Tier 1 grant, Ministry of Education (Singapore), for research on “Beacons of Change? Female Politicians and Democratisation in Thailand and South Korea,” 2009-12. SGD83,000 (~USD62,000). I was co-principal investigator.

Startup grant, National University of Singapore, 2010-13, for research on Korean elections. SGD20,000 (~USD16,000).

Staff Research Support Scheme, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore, 2008-09, for research on Korean elections. SGD5,000 (~USD4,000).

Staff Research Support Scheme, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore, co-recipient, for fieldwork in South Korea on responses to detention of citizens in North Korea, 2007-08. SGD5,000 (~USD4,000).

Korean Migration and Development Postdoctoral Research Fellowship, Social Science Research Council and Korean Research Foundation. For project on “Rural Families, Migration to Seoul, and Korean Development,” 2006-07. USD20,000. I was principal investigator.

Competitive grants funding my PhD research:

Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange. Dissertation writing support for academic year 2005-06. USD15,000.

Bradley Fellowship. Granted by the Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation through Princeton University for research in Hong Kong and Chengdu (China) during 2004-05.

Center for Migration and Development, Princeton University. Grants for research in Korea, June-Aug. 2005, and for research, June-Aug. 2003.

Program in Urbanization and Migration, Office of Population Research, Princeton University. For research in China, summer 2004.

Urban China Research Network Small Grant Award. For field research on migration to Chinese cities, 2003-04.

Center of International Studies, Princeton University. For field research, 2003-04.

James Liu Travel Fellowship. Granted through East Asian Studies Program, Princeton University. For research in China, summer 2003 (delayed due to SARS outbreak).

Council on Regional Studies, Princeton University. For preliminary dissertation research in Hong Kong, June-Aug., 2002.

East Asian Studies Program, Princeton University. For preliminary dissertation research in Hong Kong, June-Aug., 2002.

Graduate advising

PhD adviser for Chen Chao (graduated 2015), now assistant professor at Xiamen University.

Dissertation on labor politics in China.

Internal examiner on PhD dissertations for three students (graduated). Subjects of dissertations:

Engagement in regional international organizations (2013)

Provision of public goods in rural China (2013)

Industrial restructuring (2010)

PhD dissertation committee member for two students (graduated). Subjects of dissertations:

Nationalism and protest (2014)

Land disputes in China (2009)

Masters adviser for one graduate (2013): thesis on housing policy.

Masters examiner for three theses. Subjects of theses:

Migrant labor and activism (2013)

Land reform and corruption (2011)

Civil society activism (2009)

Research affiliations

Research Affiliate, East Asia Institute, National University of Singapore, 2011-present.
Research Associate, Asian Urbanisms Cluster, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore, 2011-present.
Fellow, Asiatic Research Institute, Korea University, May-July, 2011.
Visiting scholar, Universities Service Centre for China Studies, Chinese University of Hong Kong, 2002 and 2004-05.
Researcher, China-Korea Cultural Exchange Research Center, Dalian University (China), 2003

Editorial service and refereeing

Member, editorial board, Oxford Bibliographies Online.
I am the Comparative Politics editor. I suggest new article topics, recommend potential authors, identify possible referees, serve as a referee, and periodically review the overall article list.
Manuscript referee for Modern Asian Studies; Pacific Affairs; Journal of Contemporary China; Urban Studies; Asian Studies Review; Millennium; Journal of Asian and African Studies; Asian Journal of Political Science; Journal of Urban History; Cities; Asia and Pacific Migration Journal; Journal of Contemporary Southeast Asian Affairs; International Journal of Asia Pacific Studies; Asian Journal of Social Science; Journal of the National University of Singapore Teaching Academy; Oxford Bibliographies Online.
Referee for Minority Rights Group, ed., State of the World's Minorities Report, 2010 and 2011.

Outreach activities/ communication

Media appearances: Mediacorp's Channel 8, "Forum" (Singapore).
Invited speaker at NUS Political Science Society event on "The potential for political liberalization in China and its effects on foreign policy," April 7, 2011.
Panelist in discussion on "Repercussions of a Nuclear North Korea," Department of Political Science, National University of Singapore, Oct. 20, 2006.
Coordinated Princeton University's activities for Korea Peace Day 2005.

Select fellowships and awards

Writing Fellowship, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, NUS, July-Dec., 2013.
Fellow, Asiatic Research Institute, Korea University, May-July, 2011.
Nominated by Princeton University for American Political Science Association Dissertation Award in Urban Politics, 2008.
Post Doctoral Research Fellowship (3 years), Contemporary China Studies Programme, University of Oxford, 2006 (declined).
Pre-doctoral Fellowship, Academy of Korean Studies, South Korea, June-Aug. 2005.
Princeton University Graduate School Fellowship, 2000-03 and 2004-05.
Daniel S. Lev Award, University of Washington. Best senior thesis in Political Science, 1999-2000.
Robert A. Dahl Award, University of Washington. Top graduate in Political Science Department, June 2000.

TEACHING AREAS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Teaching areas

Comparative politics; politics of the developing world; democracy and democratization; East Asian development; urban politics; social policy; parties and elections in Asia; Chinese politics; international relations of East Asia

Courses taught

“Politics of Development” (SNU).
Political Science (PS)1101E: “Introduction to Politics” (NUS).
PS4881D: “Topics in Comparative Politics: Money and Politics” (NUS).
PS5312: Graduate “Seminar in Comparative Politics” (NUS).
PS4225: “Contemporary Issues in Chinese Politics” (NUS).
PS4222: “Politics of Social Policy” (NUS).
PS3263/2235: “Comparative Study of Development” (NUS).
PS6770: “Graduate Research Seminar” (NUS).
FMA1202M: “Freshman Seminar: Popular Culture and Power” (NUS).

Contributions to teaching development

Contributions to curriculum. I developed and proposed the following 7 modules at NUS:

- Money and Politics
- Politics of Social Policy
- Contemporary Issues in Chinese Politics
- Chinese Politics (graduate seminar)
- Popular Culture and Power
- Singapore Politics in Comparative Perspective
- Research on Singapore Politics

Chair, Curriculum Committee, Political Science (NUS), 2014. I led a review and expansion of the Singapore politics offerings.

Peers Programme. I designed and developed a student-led program for peer tutoring in writing. I train students in peer tutoring and oversee the program.

Advisory board, Conference on Technology-enhanced Learning, Oct. 7, 2013, NUS.

My methods of syllabus development were featured in training for new instructors at National University of Singapore.

Invited presentation: “Facebook for Teaching and Learning,” inaugural seminar in series on Technology in Pedagogy, Centre for Development of Teaching and Learning, NUS, April 6, 2011.

Invited presentation: “Learning with Facebook,” BuzzEd (conference on teaching and technology), NUS, January 4, 2011, and at Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Singapore, April 30, 2010.

Led a grant proposal to develop an online student portfolio system, 2013.

Presentation for Political Science department students on plagiarism prevention, “Originality in an Age of Sharing,” NUS, July 2015.

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE (NUS)

Comparative politics field coordinator, 2012-14. Introduced Comparative Politics Study Group.
Curriculum committee chair, 2014. Led review of offerings in area of Singapore politics.

Adviser to Peers Programme, 2008-15. Designed this program. Every year I trained students to work as peer mentors on writing assignments. I oversaw the building of an online platform related to the program, and managed the program.

Undergraduate committee, 2014-15. Reviewed student exchange applications, reviewed new module proposals.

Graduate committee, 2011-13. Reviewed applications to the program.

Public Administration search committee, 2011-12

Plagiarism committee, 2010-12, 2014-15. Founding member of this committee.

Presentation on behalf of Political Science at student orientation, July 2013.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES/ SERVICE

Memberships: Association for Asian Studies, American Political Science Association, International Political Science Association.

Discussant at annual meeting of the Asian Network for the Study of Local China, Singapore, May 13, 2011.

Chaired panel at workshop on “Transacted Intimacy: Political Economy of International Marriages in Asia,” Asia Research Institute, NUS, Oct. 14, 2010.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Connecting National Debates about Democracy in East Asia,” Asian Dynamics Initiative conference on Intra-Asian Connections, Copenhagen, Oct. 22-24, 2014.

“Democratizing to Dysfunction: Managing Access to Electoral Success in South Korea,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, Aug. 31, 2014.

“Democratizing to Dysfunction: Managing Access to Electoral Success in South Korea,” conference on “Theorizing Democracy in East Asia: Perspectives from within the Region,” NUS, Nov. 18, 2013.

“Legitimizing and Contesting Exclusion: Discussions about Shiminhua in Urban China,” Conference on Participation, Contestation, and Legitimation in Chinese Politics, IIT-Madras, India, Dec. 3-5, 2012.

“South Korean Democracy in Light of Taiwan,” Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Toronto, March 17, 2012.

“Lynn White and a Vision of Political Science,” Conference on Democracy in China and Southeast Asia? Local and National Perspectives, Princeton, NJ, March 15, 2012.

“Street leaders and State-building in South Korea, 1945-1965,” presented at the 2011 Kyujanggak International Symposium on Korean Studies, Seoul National University, South Korea, Aug. 25-27, 2011.

“Seoul Rules: Local Elections and Democratic Deficit in South Korea,” presented at the Fifth World Congress of Korean Studies, Chinese Culture University, Taiwan, Oct. 25-28, 2010.

“Why Are Korean Gangsters Poor Politicians?” presented at the International Convention of Asian Studies, Daejeon, South Korea, Aug. 6-9, 2009.

“Slum Wars: Low-income Housing Policy in 1960s Seoul,” presented at workshop on Korea in the 1960s held at Seoul National University, Feb. 23, 2009.

“What If Remittances Are Required? Evidence from South Korean Internal Migration,” presented at conference on “International Migration, Multi-local Livelihoods and Human Security: Perspectives from Europe, Asia and Africa,” hosted by the Institute for Social Studies, The Hague, Netherlands, Aug. 29-30, 2007.

- “Struggles over Unlicensed Housing in Seoul, 1960-1980,” presented at the Eighth Pacific Asia Conference on Korean Studies. Manesar, India, Dec. 15-17, 2006.
- “Rural Families, Migration to Seoul, and Korean Development,” presented at Summer Institute on International Migration, hosted by the Center for Comparative Immigration Studies, University of California, San Diego, June 21-22, 2006.
- “Native-Place Organization in Urban China: A conduit for migrants’ demands?” presented at Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting. Also organized panel. San Francisco, April 6-9, 2006.
- “Workers’ Conflict in Chengdu,” presented at Asian Studies Conference Japan. Sophia University, Tokyo, June 18-19, 2005.
- “For the Home Team? Urban migrants and rural leaders in China and South Korea,” presented at Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting. Chicago, March 31-April 3, 2005.
- “Beyond Household Registers and Floating Populations: Migration controls and their demise in China,” presented at Urban China Research Network conference on Cities in China: The next generation of urban research. Hong Kong Baptist University, Dec. 12-14, 2004.
- “Residential Patterns and Migrant Politics: China in Comparative Perspective,” presented at conference on Globalization, the State, and Urban Transformation in China. Hong Kong Baptist University, Dec. 15-17, 2003.