

Report on the China Journal of Accounting Research Symposium 2008

Sanya City, Hainan Province, China
28-29 December, 2008

The second conference of the China Journal of Accounting Research (CJAR) was held on December 28 – 29, 2008 at the Howard Johnson Resort Sanya Bay, Sanya City. The conference was jointly hosted by City University of Hong Kong and Sun Yat-Sen University, under the sponsorship of Hong Kong Institute of Certified Accountants. More than fifty faculties and over sixty doctoral students from United States, Canada, Japan and Taiwan attended the conference. The focus of this conference is to continue to promote the recognition of CJAR, and encourage active submissions to CJAR, and to cultivate high quality accounting research in China.

The Symposium opened with a welcome speech of CJAR co-editor, **Professor Min Hai Wei**, Accounting Department of Sun Yat-Sen University, and followed by the speech of the Conference Chair and CJAR co-editor, **Dr Jieping Chen**, Department of Accountancy, City University of Hong Kong / China Europe International Business School. Conference sessions are facilitated by **Dr Xijia Su** of City University of Hong Kong and **Professor Feng Liu** of Sun Yat-Sen University.

A practitioners' forum was held thereafter, with speakers, Prof. Ding Yuan from the China Europe International Business School, Mr. Zhou Qingye from the Shanghai Stock Exchange, Mr. Tu Qiang from Invesco Great Wall, and Mr. Lv Guijun from the Bank of China. There was lively exchange of questions and answers between the forum speakers and the audience.

Following a coffee break, Paper Session 1 began with the presentation of Dr. Xiao Min and Dr. Yiu Jiaying both from the Xiamen University of China, on "Private Benefit of Control, Growth Opportunity and Investor Protection". Dr. Yang Zhifeng from the City University of Hong Kong, served as the discussant.

Paper Session 2 followed immediately, and Dr. Du Xingqiang and Dr. Xiu Zongfeng, both from the Xiamen University, presented a paper titled "Systemic Environment, Characteristic of Major Shareholder & Ownership Structure" with Dr. Guan Yuyan from the City University of Hong Kong as a session discussant.

Paper session 3 began after the lunch break. The topic of Paper Session III was “The Informativeness of the Management Discussion and Analysis” presented by Dr. Xie Shuang of Shanghai University of Finance and Economics. Dr. Jiang Guohua of Beijing University served as the discussant.

Dr. Xin Fu from Nanjing University presented his paper “Earnings Quality, Systemic Environment and Cost of Capital- Evidence from the Chinese Market for Securities, in Paper Session 4. The discussant, Dr. Zhang Tianyu of the City University of Hong Kong offered insightful remarks.

Paper Session 5 followed with presenter Dr. Xu Haoping and Dr. Chen Chao from Fu Dan University, and Dr. Chen Zhihong served as discussant. The paper was titled “Is Accounting Profit Misleading the IPO Market in China? – Concerning Evidence from Earnings Quality of IPO Firms”.

After a short coffee break, Paper Session 6 followed with presenter Dr. Luo Tanglun and Dr. Liu Xiaolung both from Sun Yat-sen University, their paper titled “Political Connection, Entry Barriers & Firm Performance -- Evidence from Chinese Entrepreneurial Firms”. Dr. Chen Chao from Fu Dan University discussed the paper.

In Paper Session 7, Dr. Chen Donghua and Dr. Shen Yongjian from Nanjing University presented their paper on “Motivation, Compensation & Performance—Evidence from 1,513 Listed Firms in the Shandong Province, China. Dr. Xiao Xing from Tsinghua University discussed the paper.

Dr. Fang Junxiong presented his paper on “Rebuilding Reputation—is this Effective? – Evidence from the Audit Market in China” in the last paper session, for day, and Dr. Wu Liansheng discussed the paper.

The evening of the first day finished on a high note with a banquet from 6:30 - 9:00pm, where participants and speakers had the chance to interact and exchange ideas.

On the second day, Prof. Ke Bin from Pennsylvania State University took the floor and gave a plenary speech on “Opportunities and Challenges in Publishing China Research in Top Tier US Journals”. It was an enlightening and inspiring talk.

Paper Session 9 followed, with Prof. Chia Ching Lee, Prof. Chin S. Ou and Prof. Anne Wu’s paper on “The Interaction Effect of Capacity Utilization and Quality on

Manufacturing Costs: An Examination of the Continuous Production Environment”. Prof. Takehisa Kajiwara discussed the paper.

After the coffee break, Dr. Chen Hanwen from Xiamen University, Dr. Jeff Z. Chen, Prof. Gerald J. Lobo from the University of Houston & Dr. Wang Yanyan from the University of Houston/Xiamen University presented their paper “The Effects of Borrower and Lender Ownership Type on Accounting Conservatism: Evidence from China.” Dr. Zhang Hao discussed the paper.

Dr. Chi Wuchun from National Chengchi University, Dr. Linda A. Myers from the University of Arkansas, Dr. Thomas C. Omer from Texas A & M University and Dr. Xie Hong from Syracuse University presented their paper in the concluding session, titled “The Effects of audit Partner Pre-client Experience on Earnings Quality and Perceptions of Earnings Quality: Evidence from Taiwan.” Dr. Li Yue from the Chinese University of Hong Kong discussed the paper.

The Editorial Board meeting was held concurrently and future direction and value of the China Journal of Accounting was unanimously affirmed. Prof. Joseph Fan from the Chinese University of Hong Kong suggested that topical areas in China accounting research should be explored to build a community of scholars and writers for the future, and fellow editors echoed his vision. It was also proposed that the next conference will be held in the Hangzhou, China in 2009.

The conference concluded with a farewell lunch where participants and guests once again had the opportunity to interact and exchange ideas.