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# China Journal of Accounting Research

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# An Introduction by Co-Editors

2008 marks the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Open Door Policy in China. China has become the largest emerging market in the world through a gradual transformation process. China is well integrated with the world economy and is an important power in global economic development.

Accounting reform has moved in step with economic reform in China since 1978. During the course of this transformation, the accounting system in China has been transformed from its focus of serving a planned and government-controlled economy to a market economy. Accounting is now geared more towards investors' protection. The accounting system has experienced different stages from copying the accounting standards and practices followed in mature markets to adapting to and harmonizing with international accounting standards. The number of countries that recognize Chinese GAAP as an equivalent set of accounting standards to IFRS has been steadily increasing.

Accounting research in China has followed closely on the heels of China's accounting reform since the start. Early accounting research was mostly concerned with replicating Western-based studies. More recently, it has been noted that the emphasis is shifting away from mere replication to one of developing China's own research agenda and unique topics. In the immediate future, accounting research in China will emphasize more local and regional issues with implications of a generalizable nature to other markets. This focus on issues pertaining to China is a niche that will add important contributions to the international academic research community.

The *China Journal of Accounting Research (CJAR)* is a double-blind refereed English language journal. The journal publishes research papers that adopt contemporary research methodologies about issues regarding accounting, finance, auditing and corporate governance in China, the Greater China region and other emerging markets. The journal is to be an interactive platform for researchers interested in China-related accounting issues. The unique institutional environment in China creates a research setting that allows issues to be investigated that would be otherwise difficult to observe. In this regard, CJAR is an invaluable communication vehicle for alerting the worldwide academic community about quality theoretical and empirical research of an indigenous nature about China.

Initially CJAR will be published every six months, but eventually this could increase to quarterly. About 3-4 quality papers will be published in each issue.

We invite the participation of worldwide accounting researchers about China-related accounting issues.