

Australia-China Relations
Institute
澳中关系研究院



2019 CHINA MASTERCLASS

for senior executives of industry

Australia-China Relations Institute
University of Technology Sydney

australiachinarelations.org

August 16 2019

8.30am - 5.00pm

UTS Business School
14-28 Ultimo Road
Ultimo NSW 2007



The UTS:ACRI China Masterclass is a highly interactive one-day program presented by Australia's leading China experts for senior executives of industry.

The UTS:ACRI China Masterclass was established in response to the vital need for industry leaders to gain a deeper understanding of today's China - its economy, politics, foreign policy, including a rapidly expanding strategic rivalry with the US - and how this translates in Australia.

The UTS:ACRI China Masterclass is conducted under Chatham House rules.

PROGRAM

8.30am - 9.00am

Registration and tea/coffee

9.00am - 9.15am

Welcome to country and opening remarks

Speaker: Mr **Iain Watt**, Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (International), University of Technology Sydney

9.15am - 10.15am

35 years working in China, learning how to think about it...

China is too important to ignore. How can the vision of enormous opportunity be reconciled to prodigious risk? How can a well-developed understanding of the context in which China's business environment exists support good strategic and commercial decision-making? What assumptions do Western business leaders typically hold and how do these views influence effective decision-making with respect to China opportunities?

Speaker: Mr **Clinton Dines**, former President of BHP Billiton China

10.15am - 10.30am

Morning tea



10.30am - 11.15am

[Australia's China opportunity](#)

Despite tensions in the political relationship, Australia's economic relationship with China has never been stronger. What explains this resilience, particularly given the end of the mining boom, Chinese growth having slowed to its slowest pace in 30 years and a worsening US-China trade dispute? Will this resilience persist?

Speaker: Professor **James Laurenceson**, Acting Director, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney

11.15am - 12.00pm

[How can business and government work together to strengthen community support for trade and investment?](#)

China's economic and regulatory environment is rapidly evolving. How can corporate Australia realise its full potential in this market? How do common perceptions measure up against the reality of doing business in China? How can we improve on promoting Australia's capabilities to China?

Speaker: Mr **Tim Beresford**, Deputy CEO of Global Markets and Sector Engagement, Australian Trade and Investment Commission (Austrade)

12.00pm - 1.00pm

[Lunch](#)

1.10pm

[Group photo](#)



1.15pm - 3.00pm

A high-level briefing on Australia's security challenges

Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO) Director-General Duncan Lewis has repeatedly warned that untoward foreign interference is at an “unprecedented” level. What are the security challenges Australia is facing and how are key decisions towards China being made? What are the facts and evidence that underpin these decisions and how can understanding the government's concerns help inform the risk management strategies of Australian business leaders?

Speakers:

Ms **Elly Lawson**, First Assistant Secretary, North Asia Division, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Mr **Cameron Ashe**, Deputy National Counter Foreign Interference Coordinator, Department of Home Affairs

Ms **Lucinda Atkinson**, Assistant Secretary, Attorney-General's Department

3.00pm - 3.15pm

Afternoon tea

3.15pm - 4.00pm

Australia's China challenge

Under President Xi Jinping the challenges China presents to Australia have multiplied. What are the major sources of tension? Is the scope for mutually beneficial engagement shrinking?

Speaker: Professor **Greg McCarthy**, former BHP Billiton Chair of Australian Studies at Peking University



4.00pm - 4.45pm

The Chinese corporate perspective on investing in Australia

What is the Chinese corporate perspective on investing in Australia and how does it fit into their global strategy? Where do they see opportunities for collaboration and what are their concerns and outlook for the future? Are perspectives shifting given the current geopolitical environment?

Speaker: Dr Wei Li, University of Sydney Business School

4.45pm - 5.00pm

Wrap-up



SPEAKERS



Cameron Ashe

Cameron Ashe was appointed as the Deputy National Counter Foreign Interference Coordinator in May 2018. He started his career as an Australian Signals Directorate Officer for 19 years. He was Deputy Chief of Facility at the Joint Defence Facility Pine Gap 2007-2009. In 2010, he made the switch to Intelligence Assessment, joining the Defence Intelligence Organisation as Assistant Secretary South East Asia and Pacific before being seconded for six months into the 2011 Independent Review of the Intelligence Community. He returned to DIO as Deputy Director in July of that year. From 2013-2015, he was the embedded Australian Deputy Director for Intelligence at the United States Pacific Command in Hawaii. On his return to Australia he was promoted into the position of FAS Intelligence, in which he led the transformation of intelligence capability following the 2015 Irvine Review.



Lucinda Atkinson

Lucinda Atkinson is the Assistant Secretary of the Institutional Integrity Branch in the Australian Government Attorney-General's Department. The Branch provides advice to Government on a range of legal and policy issues to do with the integrity of federal government institutions, including fraud, corruption and foreign influence. A lawyer by training, Lucinda joined the Department in 2005 and has worked in a variety of policy and strategy roles.



Tim Beresford

Mr Tim Beresford is Deputy CEO of Global Markets and Sector Engagement at the Australian Trade and Investment Commission (Austrade). He was previously Chief Operating Officer and Deputy Vice-Chancellor at Macquarie University. Before that, he was Austrade's Executive Director, Tourism, Investment, Education and Programmes. Prior to joining Austrade, he was First Assistant Secretary of Social Policy Division at Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. He worked at Westpac in senior line management and strategy roles, and also in the professional services sector across Europe, Asia and Australia, including five years at McKinsey & Co.





Clinton Dines

Mr Clinton Dines is the Non-Executive Director of the Port of Newcastle, Freedom Road Travel and Fonterra Cooperative Group Limited. He served as the President of BHP Billiton China from 2001-2009. He has extensive frontline operational and commercial management positions in China and was BHP Billiton's senior country executive in China for 21 years. He also held senior positions at Jardine Matheson Group, Santa Fe Transport Group and Asia Securities Venture Capital.



James Laurenceson

Professor James Laurenceson is Acting Director of the Australia-China Relations Institute at the University of Technology Sydney. He has previously held appointments at the University of Queensland (Australia), Shandong University (China) and Shimonoseki City University (Japan). He was President of the Chinese Economics Society of Australia from 2012- 2014. His academic research has been published in leading scholarly journals including *China Economic Review* and *China Economic Journal*.



Elly Lawson

Ms Elly Lawson is acting head of DFAT's North Asia Division. She has led East Asia Branch, covering the bilateral relationship with China, since 2017. Previous roles include head of the Indonesia Program Delivery and Timor-Leste Branch, Economic Counsellor in Jakarta, First Political Secretary in Beijing and several years in the China political section. She was a China analyst at the Department of Defence and at the Office of National Assessments. She worked in Beijing as a reporter for the Economist Group and as a translator. She studied modern and classical Chinese at Durham University, UK, including a year at the People's University in 1990.



Wei Li

Dr Wei Li is a core member of the University of Sydney Business School and KPMG research team. She leads the Chinese outbound investors' survey project and co-developed the KPMG/University of Sydney database on Chinese outbound direct investment in Australia. She is particularly interested in the transformation of state owned and private enterprises and the role of the state as promoter of international business activity.



**Greg McCarthy**

Professor Greg McCarthy is an Emeritus Professor at the University of Western Australia where he held a Personal Chair of Australian Politics. He was also previously the BHP Billiton Chair Professor of Australian Studies at Peking University in Beijing. His research focuses on transitional change within and between nations, exploring how material, cultural and political forces create instability and how nations, institutions and people adapt to uncertainty.



PARTICIPANTS

- [Peter Bennett](#), Council Member, University of Technology Sydney
- [Simon Byrnes](#), Chief Commercial Officer, Port of Newcastle
- [Richard Colless](#) AM, Chairman, Moelis Australia
- [Graham Dodds](#), Vice President Government Relations, Woodside Energy
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- [Geraldine O'Carroll](#), Deputy General Manager, China Construction Bank
- [Andrew Parker](#), Partner, Asia Practice Leader, PwC
- [Jiawen Tan](#), Chief of Staff, Huawei Australia
- [Vicki Thomson](#), Chief Executive Officer, Group of Eight Universities
- [Iain Watt](#), Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (International), University of Technology Sydney
- [Glenn Wightwick](#), Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Innovation and Enterprise), University of Technology Sydney



Australia-China Relations Institute

The Australia-China Relations Institute (ACRI) is an independent, non-partisan research institute established in 2014 by the University of Technology Sydney (UTS). Chinese studies centres exist in other Australian universities. UTS:ACRI, however, is Australia's first and only research institute devoted to studying the relationship of these countries.

In the past Australia's dominating economic relationships have been with the British Empire, the United States and Japan. Australia's most important trading relationship is now with China, a nation very different in governance, politics and values. As China's economy grows, so too does its strategic weight and the challenges and opportunities this presents to Australia.

UTS:ACRI seeks to inform Australia's engagement with China through research, analysis and dialogue grounded in scholarly rigour.

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