

## Candidate for the CEA Board Director

Dr. Jun Du, Lecturer, Aston University

### BIO

Dr. Jun Du (PhD. in Economics, University of Leicester, 2006) is currently a lecturer in Economic and Strategy Group, Aston Business School, Aston University, and will be a senior lecturer effectively from August 2010. She teaches Econometrics at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. Her research area includes microeconomic analysis of firm financing patterns, privatization, and innovative behavior. She publishes in journals such as *International Journal of Industrial Organization*, *Research policy* and *Kyklos*. She is currently the Principal Investigator of the ESRC funded First Grant Scheme project entitled "Privatisation, foreign investment and firm performance in China' (£109,684.53, 2008)". She is also a member of the Advanced Institute of Management (AIM) Research scholar pool and the ESRC peer review college.

### STATEMENT

I wish to apply for the position of board directorship of the Chinese Economists Association (CEA). While the CEA has taken a chief role in promoting research on the Chinese economy in the UK and the Europe, its board collects some academic leaders and excellent researchers in the area. The Association has successfully organized many conferences and events that facilitate knowledge advances and sharing in the community, which I myself benefit often. For this reason I wish to be part of the team to promote what I do with my knowledge, experience, capability and enthusiasm.

I am keen on working together with board members, scholars, researchers, students and practitioner concerned with China's economic development to advance our knowledge about economic development in China; to encourage and promote academic exchanges and research activities on the Chinese economy and; and to assist co-operation and participation in research efforts among economic professionals in the academic, government, and corporate sectors who share interests in economic and business relations between China and the UK. Importantly, I shall perform the duties prescribed by action of the executive board.

Among others, I will strive:

to collaborate with the Association members on promoting research on economic issues of China.

to promote, collaborate, and share experience on research funding applications on economic and management studies on China from the UK bodies;

to assist in editing newsletters and refereeing journals;

to help organizing workshops, conferences and events;

to promote the Association in the academia and beneficiaries in the UK whenever possible and appropriate;

to maintain and develop international contacts and collaborations with professionals in China and the Europe.

Some of the specific ideas are for example, first, I feel that more focused workshops can be organized alongside the annual conference and the parallel conference in China, as these will facilitate better communications and collaboration. To help funding such activities, small grant and purposeful grants can be targeted. More fund raising efforts from practitioners in the UK and Chinese professionals should be made. Second, as there are lots of PhD students and earlier career researchers, to prepare future strength of the CEA is important. Local CEA titled lectures, workshop and PhD conferences/colloquiums can also be considered. For example, we could invite the award winner of the Chinese Overseas Excellent Students in Economics to present their work in one of such events. Third, there are more and more non-Chinese scholars in the UK and the Europe who research on China. The CEA may think of ways to attract them to join the Association and advance its influence to a wider community.

**Dr. Yundan Gong, Lecturer, Aston Business School**

Candidate for the Board Director

**Bio**

Dr Yundan Gong is a lecturer in Economics and Innovation at Aston Business School. Before joining Aston she worked as a Research Fellow in the Leverhulme Centre for Research on Globalisation and Economic Policy (GEP) and did her PhD at Nottingham University Business School. Her main research interests are in China's economic development and in particular in foreign direct investment, firm performance analysis, innovation and R&D etc. Her research has appeared in prestigious journals like World Bank Economic Review, International Journal of Industrial Organization, World Development etc. She worked on UK government projects. Yundan has also successfully worked as a senior manager in a Chinese commercial bank before embarking on her academic career, where she gained insightful experience on economic growth in China. She has wide industry contacts arising from the practical implications of her research and through her activities as a business angel investing in high-growth businesses.

**Statement of Intention for Board Membership**

It is a great honour to be nominated for the Chinese Economic Association's Board of Directors. Since I attended my first CEA conference six years ago, I have attended every conference and witnessed the great progress of the CEA especially in terms of higher quality papers and largely increased number of participants. I feel very much part of this research community and am proud to be part of it. As a young researcher, I have learnt and benefited a lot from the activities organized by CEA in the past years and I would like to contribute to these activities and develop an environment that enhances the goals set out by CEA.

I believe that one of our main tasks in the coming years is to further increase the academic excellence of the conference and to further raise its profile. In the last couple of years, the CEA conference has already made big strides forward and I believe that the CEA and its annual conferences would deserve a higher media profile, both in the UK and in China. As a board member I would help to build up the network with media outlets and government departments. Many of our members already have very good contacts with British/UN/European organisations and we should leverage these connections and make the CEA more prominent.

Secondly, I am intending to organize a conference at Aston University in the next few years. Aston Business School has a very strong focus on international business and economics and has a strong interest to raise their already strong profile in research on China's economic development. Hosting a conference with more than 200 distinguished scholars would fit with this profile and therefore has the

potential to attract substantial funding. Aston has new state of the art facilities at Aston conference centre and an experienced media office which would help in raising the CEA profile. I believe this would help to make it a very successful conference.

Thirdly, I also think that the very positive experience with a best-paper award for PhD-students can be extended to papers from more senior researchers and I would therefore advocate the establishment of a prize for such research papers.

Finally, to achieve these and other aims, funding is obviously important. A lot of Chinese companies are setting out to grow with subsidiaries in Western countries and this also opens up new opportunities to attract funding for CEA. My network with Chinese and UK companies and policymakers should be of significant benefit here. As a board member I would use these contacts to attract funding.

I am very energetic and would see it as an honour to work hard for CEA. If I am elected to the Board of Directors, I shall do my best to assist the President and the rest of the organization to achieve these goals.

## **Yuning Gao, PhD, University of Cambridge**

### Candidate for the Board Director

#### **Bio**

I am now Winton Capital Research Associate at the Center for Financial History of University of Cambridge. Before joining the center, I have got PhD of Economics from Department of Land Economy, University of Cambridge in 2010 and the master of Management from the School of Public Policy and Management, Tsinghua University in 2005 and worked for its Center for China Studies for one and a half years.

My major research fields include international division of labor, commodity trade and China's industrial economy. My dissertation is finished under the supervision of Prof. Peter Nolan, which has been listed in the book series of Routledge studies on the Chinese Economy. I was awarded Sun Hung Kai - KWOK's Foundation Cambridge Bursary in 2007 and Best Student Papers of CEA-UK / Europe 20th Annual Conference in 2009.

#### **Statement**

Here I would like to demonstrate my aspiration to serve the Chinese Economist Association UK in 2010-2011, and to assist the President elected with the general issues as a member of the board.

Having been studying in UK for several years, I think I have some advantages of being in this position. I am familiar with the learning life and may help with the service of the association to the members, especially the students. Besides, I have been the administrative assistant for the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of CEA and the experience of mine in the operations can certainly contribute to the related affairs of the association.

If elected, I would like to take active part in all activities of CEA, work together with more Chinese economists in UK, and help the association with the daily affairs. Thank again for the consideration, and hope my nomination will be kindly considered!

## **Professor Laixiang SUN, SOAS, University of London**

### Candidate for the Board Director

#### **Bio**

Laixiang Sun is Chair Professor and Head of Department at Department of Financial and Management Studies, SOAS, University of London. He was awarded the title “Academician of the Academy of Social Sciences” ([www.acss.org.uk](http://www.acss.org.uk)) in March 2010. He is also a research professor at Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research in China Academy of Sciences, and he is affiliated with International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis in Laxenburg, Austria, and Guanghua School of Management in Peking University, Beijing, China. He is the author of more than 80 research publications spanning the areas of corporate finance, corporate governance, comparative economics, business and management in the great China region, integrated modeling, ecology, agriculture, and environment.

#### **Statement**

It is a great honor to be nominated for the Chinese Economic Association-UK & Europe (CEA) Board of Directors. I have been an active member of the association since 2008 and made important contributions to the CEA’s official journal – *Journal of Chinese Economic and Business Studies* (JCEBS) – in my capacity as one of co-editors of the Journal. I have conducted my editorial work in the most efficient way and guaranteed that the first round of review of those submissions in my care is completed within three months. In addition to this, I bring in new resources to the Journal by inviting referees from wide academic community beyond CEA members and pay more attention on enhancing the strength of JCEBS in business and management field. In recent effort of the editor team to submit the JCEBS for inclusion within Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI) database, I acquired two key strong recommendation letters from the editor of the *China Quarterly* and *China Economic Review*.

The resource-dependence perspective of management theory is more applicable to an association like CEA given the constant resource/financial constraint CEA faces. In this regard, I will be able to make a big difference for the preparation of 2012 CEA conference. I have put a budget of £15,000 into the budget of my department for the conference. There is a team of 4 academic staff in my department who are specialized on Chinese Business and Management Studies and are willing to do the organization work. Their PhD students will also be important organizers. With the strong backing of this team and the increasing influence of CEA, we are in a strong position to obtaining sponsorships from other funding agencies.

## **Dr. Yu Xiong, lecturer, Queen's University Management**

### **Candidate for board director**

Dr. Yu Xiong is a lecturer in Queen's University Management. Yu got his first degree in Computer Science in Chongqing University, China. He was awarded PhD in computing engineering from Nottingham Trent University in 2008. He is associate editor of the *International Journal of Mass Customization* and editorial board member of *International Journal of Chinese Culture and Management*. Currently, he is leading a British Academy Project on Closed Loop Supply Chain as Principal Investigator. Yu Xiong is visiting fellow at University of York, UK, and guest professor in Sichuan International Studies University, China.

### **Statement**

This is Yu Xiong's statement to apply for the position of CEA board member. The applicant believes that he can make the following contributions during my term:

1. The applicant is working in Queen's University Belfast as a lecturer in Operations and Supply Chain Management, using the influence of Queen's University Belfast, together with the applicant's role as deputy chair of Mandarin Speakers Association(Northern Ireland), the applicant could strengthen CEA's voice in Northern Ireland.
2. The applicant has the experience of working in CSSA-Nottingham as President, and CSSA-UK as vice president; he has gain a wide network resources, and some capability of organizing activities. Now he is head of talent exchange department of FCPS-UK(Federation of Chinese Professional Societies, UK)
3. The applicant is a committee member of Chongqing Youth Federation, and a committee member of Western Returned Scholars Association. So the applicant would like to strengthen the connection between CEA and China. The applicant has a good relationship with the Science and Technology Section of Chinese Embassy, and would like to do some coordination between CEA and the Chinese embassy.
4. The applicant has been an associate editor of *International Journal of Mass Customization* and an editorial board member of *International Journal of Chinese Culture and Management*. Currently, the applicant is principal investigation of a British Academy Project: Closed Loop Supply Chain in Competitive Environment. The applicant has an easy going character, and is willing to work with other CEA members on academic and non-academic activities.

5. The applicant also got good relationship with Lancaster, UCL, York University, and has organized joint forums with them. The applicant is a visiting fellow of University of York and visiting professor of Sichuan International Studies University.

Thank you for your consideration of this application

Applicant: Dr. Yu Xiong

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