

SYM Network of 'Governance and Innovation'

2014 Annual Symposium

'Asian State in Transition and Public Services'

31st Oct. and 1st Nov. 2014 (Friday, Saturday)

Southwest Jiaotong University, Chengdu, Sichuan Province, P.R. China

The **SYM** Network¹ of 'Governance and Innovation' 2014 Annual Symposium will be hosted by the school of Public Administration, Southwest Jiaotong University, P.R. China, as well as supported by Yonsei University, Korea and Meiji University, Japan. This symposium aims to provide a communication platform for academics, researchers, and graduates to not only present their recent and latest researches but also share their thoughts and discuss the future development on governance and innovation in Asian countries. All theoretical, empirical and practical papers from scholars and professionals are all highly welcome.

Themes

Main Theme: Asian State in Transition and Public Services

Topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (1) Conceptualization of innovation in administration/policy entrepreneurs in public affairs.
- (2) The changing role of state and government in the age of Innovation. Decentralization, decentralized governance, and good governance.
- (3) From public to private sector delivery of services: the role of public-private partnership and civil society. The innovative tools and means to provide high efficiency and sound quality public services.
- (4) Fiscal and administrative decentralization trends: challenges and prospects in Asian countries.

¹ SYM is the abbreviation of Southwest Jiaotong University, Yonsei University, Wonju and Meiji University, which are from China, Korea and Japan.

Venue

This Symposium will be held at the Jinghu Hotel, Southwest Jiaotong University, Chengdu, Sichuan Province, P.R. China.

Important Dates:

Abstract Submission: September 30th, 2014

Final Paper Submission: October 25th, 2014

Conference Date: 31st Oct. and 1st Nov. 2014

Contact:

Should you have any question about submission, please feel free to contact us by gggl_swjtu@126.com, as well as by yangswjtu@126.com, Prof. Yifan YANG.

Introduction of Chengdu City

Chengdu (Chéngdū, Chinese: 成都), located in central Sichuan Province in China, is the provincial capital of Sichuan and one of the sub-provincial cities in China. The State Science assures Chengdu as the center of technology, business, financial and communication. Chengdu is also the political, economic, cultural and educational center of Sichuan Province. It's the focused city under the country's economic construction and social development plan, honored as a national historical and cultural city. Chengdu enjoys a long history. 2,500 years ago, Kaiming IX, king of ancient Shu in the Zhou Dynasty (11th century 256BC), started to set up the capital in Chengdu. "A town was built in this area in the first year and the capital in the second year, so the ancestor named the city as Chengdu, which means to become a capital. Later on, Chengdu gradually became one of the most important centers of politics, economy and culture in China. It has been the capital for the feudal dynasties five times and twice for the peasant uprising regimes, known as Dashu and Daxi. As early as in the Han Dynasty (206BC-220AD)), Chengdu began to enjoy the fame of one of the Top Five Capitals. In the Tang Dynasty (618-907), Chengdu was reputed as the Yang (Yangzhou) first, yi (Chengdu) second; it had by then become the economic center just after Yangzhou. In the Western Han Dynasty (206BC-8AD), brocades produced in Chengdu were very popular in China. So Chengdu was also called the City of Brocade. In the Five Kingdoms Period (907-960),

Mengchang, king of the Houshu Kingdom, decreed to plant hibiscuses on the protective wall of the city, so Chengdu was also called the City of Hibiscus. As one of China's famous historical and cultural cities, Chengdu enjoys rich tourist resources. 15,500 years ago, a well-known poet in the Jin Kingdom, Zuo Si extolled Chengdu as lofty and pretty. This city has also gained the eulogium by both Li Bai, the poet immortal and Du Fu, the poet sage.

It sets brocade officials to manage brocade industry because of its prosperity, therefore it enjoys the name of 'city of brocade official'. Chengdu is known as 'hibiscus town', referred to as 'Rong' for its hibiscus all over the city back in Five Dynasties. Chengdu was set up as the municipal city in 1921 with the total area of 12,400 sq km and central city area of 283.86 sq km., administers 9 districts, 4 municipal level cities and 6 county level cities, has the permanent resident population of 14,070,800 by the end of 2011. Chengdu urban and rural comprehensive reform pilot area has been formally approved by the State Council in 2007, becoming another national comprehensive reform pilot area after Pudong district of Shanghai and Haibin district of Tianjin. With rich cultural heritage and beautiful scenic spots, Chengdu is a peaceful and prosperous city.