

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Announcing the 5th Foundation for Australian Studies in China  
Conference**

***Transnational Connectivity***

**#FASIC5**

**1 – 3 November 2017**

**Jiangsu Normal University, Xuzhou, Jiangsu**



*Image: Zhou Xiaoping, Bowl 2 (2015),  
ink, acrylic on rice paper on canvas 70 x 100cm, courtesy of the artist.*

Presented by  
**Australian Studies Centre, Jiangsu Normal University**

Convened by  
**Professor Greg McCarthy, BHP Chair of Australian Studies at Peking  
University**

Co organized by  
**the Australian Studies Centre at Peking University**

Sponsored by  
**Foundation for Australian Studies in China (FASIC)**

The 5th Foundation for Australian Studies in China Conference has as its theme, Transnational Connectivity, and will bring together over 70 scholars from a diversity of academic backgrounds –showcasing research on peoples, places and new perspectives, with the aim of enhancing the understanding between the two countries.

The 5th FASIC Conference will explore the Transnational Connectivity in Australia-China relations in terms of history, culture, geography, international relations, economics, tourism, immigration, Belt and Road visions, and societal dynamics.

This annual FASIC Conference is convened and designed by Professor Greg McCarthy, BHP Chair of Australian Studies at Peking University.

Professor McCarthy says, "This fifth FASIC Conference is an overwhelming opportunity for Chinese students, teachers and researchers to meet and exchange perspectives with Australian Studies practitioners from around the world. The forum also coincides with the 45th anniversary of diplomatic relations between China and Australia, a fitting time to reflect on the ever-changing and interconnecting parts of this transnational paradigm."

**For more details visit:** [pkuasc.fasic.org.au](http://pkuasc.fasic.org.au)

**Media enquiries:** Featured speakers and conference convenor, Professor Greg McCarthy, are available for interview on request. For all media enquiries, please contact John Paul Grima [jpgrima@facisc.org.au](mailto:jpgrima@facisc.org.au) or +86 1771 0383 551

**Attending the Conference:** The conference is open to the public and attendance is free, although registration is required. To register to attend the conference, please email John Paul Grima [jpgrima@facisc.org.au](mailto:jpgrima@facisc.org.au) by 13 October 2017 with a completed registration form.

### **About Foundation for Australian Studies in China**

The Foundation for Australian Studies in China (FASIC) is a not-for-profit organisation registered in Australia. FASIC supports existing and future initiatives which deepen awareness of Australia in China across a range of disciplines and fields of study. FASIC plays a significant role in the promotion of Australian Studies in China and looks to further expand and strengthen research and teaching collaboration between Australian and Chinese universities. FASIC provides grants and scholarships to Australian and Chinese professionals. A key initiative of the Foundation is the BHP Chair of Australian Studies at Peking University.

FASIC is supported by BHP, the Australia-China Council of the Department of Foreign Affairs and HHK Advisory.

### **About Professor Greg McCarthy, BHP Chair of Australian Studies at Peking University**

Professor McCarthy is the Second BHP Chair of Australian Studies at Peking University. He has been the Chair since February 2016. He also holds a professorial chair in Australian Politics at the University of Western Australia.

Professor McCarthy was educated at the University of Adelaide (BA, Ph.D). His main teaching and research interests are on Australian politics, Australia-China relations and the internationalisation of higher education. He is currently a co-director of two research centres, one in Beijing Foreign Studies University (BFSU), the China-Australia Centre for Transcultural Studies (CATS), and one at the University of Western Australia, the Australia-China Centre for Transcultural studies (ACTS).

## **About Jiangsu Normal University**

Jiangsu Normal University (JSNU), founded in 1952, is located in the historically and culturally significant city of Xuzhou, northern Jiangsu province. It is administered by the Jiangsu provincial government and Central Ministry of Education.

JSNU currently has four campuses: Quanshan, Yunlong, Kuiyuan and Jiawang. The university has three experimental programs, 22 specialty schools, the Teachers' Education School, Further Education School, International College and Kewen Institute. The university offers 87 undergraduate majors, 26 master programs, one doctor's program and one post-doctoral research station, covering 11 disciplines. Currently, the university has over 16,700 full-time undergraduate students and more than 2,300 postgraduate students.

## **About Australian Studies Centre, Jiangsu Normal University**

The Australian Studies Centre (ASC) at Jiangsu Normal University was established in 1993. The main research fields are Australian immigration policy, overseas Chinese, politics, diplomacy and Sino-Australian relations. The ASC at Jiangsu Normal University served as an International Affairs Research Base was approved by Jiangsu provincial Education Office in 2013, and served as a record research base approved by the Ministry of Education in 2017.

The research team of the Australian Studies Centre undertook nearly 20 projects, published several academic papers and 10 monographs on Australian studies over the past two decades. The ASC successfully hosted the Ninth International Conference of Australian Studies in China in 2004, and research staffs attend the International Conference of Australian Studies in China from the Fourth to the Fifteenth. There were 17 postgraduates who won the Australian Studies Competitive Projects Funding of Australia-China Council and went to Australia for academic research over the past decade.

## **About Xuzhou, Jiangsu**

Xuzhou lies at the strategic juncture of Jiangsu, Shandong, Henan and Anhui provinces, thus known as an important transport and economic hub. As the central city of the Huaihai Economic Zone, it one of the four cities under Jiangsu's key planning and urban development programs.

Xuzhou boasts a long history, a distinct culture and a large number of historic relics. "Three Superb Heritages of Han Dynasty" represented by Terra-Cotta Warriors of Han Dynasty, Han Dynasty Tombs and Han Dynasty Stone Portraits are renowned worldwide. Extensive Han Dynasty Terra-Cotta Warriors have been unearthed in Xuzhou.

## **#FASIC5**

FASIC is proudly supported by BHP.

The 5th FASIC Conference is generously supported by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in China.