

Saul Wilson

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Employment

2022–2023 **Postdoctoral Research Associate**, *Brown University*, Providence, RI.
Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs

Education

- 2016–2022 **Ph.D.**, *Harvard University*, Cambridge, MA.
Government (Subfields: Comparative Politics, American Politics)
Thesis: *The Landlord State: State Ambition During China's Rapid Urbanization, 1978-2020*
- 2015–2016 **S.M.**, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*, Cambridge, MA.
Urban Studies and Planning
- 2014–2015 **Non-Degree**, *Peking University*, Beijing, China.
Chinese language training and several undergraduate courses
- 2010–2014 **S.B.**, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*, Cambridge, MA.
Mathematics and Asian & Asian Diaspora Studies

Areas of Research

Chinese politics	bureaucratic politics
political economy of urban development	leadership
state-business relations	inequality

Peer-Reviewed Publications

English

- **Saul Wilson** and Zhang Xiaorong. 2019. "Village Reconstruction in Rural China: The Importance of Being Urban." *China Quarterly* issue 238: pp. 438-460. DOI: 10.1017/S0305741019000298.

Chinese

- **Saul Wilson** 孙睿. Translated by Chen Min 陈敏. 2021. “辨析产权与规划权力的关系——中国控规与美国区划法的比较研究 (The Sequencing of Property Rights and Planning Powers: Implications for Urban Redevelopment in China and the U.S.)” 《国际城市规划》 *Urban Planning International* issue 183: pp. 83-90. DOI: 10.19830/j.upi.2018.414.
- Hou Li 侯丽 and **Saul Wilson** 孙睿. 2019. “地方规划决策制度的创新与演进——以上海和深圳的规划委员会制度为例 (Innovation and Evolution of Planning Decision-Making Institutions: A Comparison of the Shanghai and Shenzhen City Planning Commissions).” 《城市规划学刊》 *Urban Planning Forum* issue 253: pp. 87-93. DOI: 10.16361/j.upf.201906011.

Papers Under Review

- Chen Hao, **Saul Wilson**, Xu Changxin, Cheng Cheng, and Wang Yuhua. “Dethroning the Mao-Era Elite: Using *Organizational Histories* to Illuminate Cadre Management.” Revise and resubmit at *China Quarterly*.

Working Papers

- **Saul Wilson** and Hou Li. “Fencing Off: Trading Institutional Constraints for Institutional Autonomy.”
- **Saul Wilson**. “The Making of the Landless Landlord Peasant: Government Policy and the Development of Villages-in-the-City in Shanghai and Guangzhou”
- **Saul Wilson**. “Reopening the Price Scissors: The Bureaucratic Origins of China’s Statist Land Regime.”
- **Saul Wilson**. “Taking the Mayor’s Measure, Part I: Municipal Cadre Management in Fujian Province.”
- **Saul Wilson**. “Taking the Mayor’s Measure, Part II: Do Residential Developers Follow Local Officials in Fujian Province?”
- **Saul Wilson**. “A Schematic Model of Chinese Political Economy.”

Other Publications

- **Saul Wilson**. 2022. “Book Review: *Invisible China: How the Urban-Rural Divide Threatens China’s Rise* by Scott Rozelle and Natalie Hell.” *China Information* volume 36, issue 1: pp. 137-138. DOI: 10.1177/0920203X221081349b.

Honors, Awards, and Funding

- 2020-2022 Harvard Weatherhead Center Grant
- 2020-2021 Fairbank Center Graduate Student Associate
 - 2020 Harvard Asia Center, Victor and William Fung Foundation Grant
- 2018-2019 Desmond and Whitney Shum Fellowship
 - 2018 Fairbank Center Summer Research Funding
- 2016-2022 Graduate Fellowship, for study at Harvard
 - 2016 Student Project Award of the American Planning Association, Massachusetts Chapter, for team project
- 2015-2016 Accenture Fellowship, for study at MIT
 - 2015 Phi Beta Kappa
- 2014-2015 Chinese Government Scholarship, for study at Peking University
 - 2014 MIT Department of Foreign Languages & Literatures, for fieldwork
- 2012-2013 Li & Fung Scholarship, for three language programs in China
- 2010-2014 National Merit Scholarship

Visiting Affiliations

- 2022-2023 Visiting Scholar, Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, Harvard University
- 2018-2022 Visiting Professor, Internet Information Research Center, Minjiang University
 - 2019 Visiting Student, College of Architecture, South China University of Technology
 - 2014 Visiting Student, Department of Political Science, Tsinghua University

Academic Service

Reviewer.

Urban Geography, 《国际城市规划》 *Urban Planning International*

- 2016- **Urban China Zoom**, Co-Organizer.

Previously named the Urban China Seminar and the Urban China Workshop. Sponsored, variously, by the MIT China Future City Lab, the MIT Sustainable Urbanization Lab, and the Harvard Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies.

- Fall 2018 **Harvard-MIT-BU Cambridge Chinese Politics Research Workshop**, Co-Organizer.
- Spring 2016 **MIT China Talk Series**, Co-Organizer.

Academic Conference Talks

- 2021.09.28 “Dethroning the Mao-Era Elite: Using *Organizational Histories* to Illuminate Cadre Management.” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting. Virtual. (With Chen Hao.)
- 2021.08.27 “The Landlord State: Land Arbitrage and State Building in China.” New Faces in Chinese Politics Conference at Duke University. Durham, North Carolina.
- 2020.09.11 “Fencing Off: Trading Institutional Constraints for Institutional Autonomy.” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting. Virtual.
- 2019.06.16 “Urban Planning Commissions: Managing Discretion in the Chinese Planning System.” International Association for Chinese Planning Annual Meeting. Chengdu, China.
- 2019.05.19 “Institutional Innovation and Cross-Jurisdictional Learning: China’s Urban Planning Commissions.” Comparative Studies on Development Models in the World: Theories and Practices, at Zhejiang University. Hangzhou, China.
- 2018.06.30 “Structural Impediments to Urban Redevelopment in China: A Comparison of US and Chinese Zoning Practices.” International Association for Chinese Planning Annual Meeting. Xi’an, China.
- 2018.03.24 “Taking the Mayor’s Measure.” Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting. Washington.
- 2017.12.28 “Sequencing Property Rights and Urban Planning: A Comparison of American Zoning and Chinese Detailed Control Plans.” New Approaches to Understanding Urban Planning in China, at Tongji University. Shanghai, China.
- 2016.11.03 “Transportation and Administrative Boundaries: Spatial Hierarchy in Mobility Patterns of a Chinese City’s Residents.” Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Annual Conference. Portland, Oregon.

Invited Talks

Academic Audiences

- 2022.01.06 “The Landlord State: Land Arbitrage and the Refashioning of Chinese State-Society Relations.” Ashoka University. Virtual.
- 2021.04.09 “Dethroning the Mao-Era Elite, Clearing the Way for Reform: Using *Organizational Histories* to Illuminate Cadre Management.” 21st Century China Center, School of Global Policy and Strategy, UC San Diego. Virtual.
- 2019.06.12 “中美开发强度规划制度比较.” Dongguan University of Technology. Dongguan, China.
- 2019.03.02 “Taking the Mayor’s Measure.” Minjiang College. Fuzhou, China.

- 2018.07.11 “Sequencing Property Rights and Urban Planning: Implications for Urban Redevelopment and the Study of Chinese Political Economy.” School of Government, Sun Yat-sen University. Guangzhou, China.
- 2018.06.22 “基于福建和山西的市级官员变动研究.” South China Economics Workshop, Sun Yat-sen University. Guangzhou, China.
- 2018.01.04 “中美控规比较.” Nanjing Tech University. Nanjing, China.
- 2018.01.03 “Structural Impediments to Urban Redevelopment in China: A Comparison of US and Chinese Zoning Practices.” Nanjing University. Nanjing, China.

Practitioner Audiences

- 2019.07.14 “详细规划审批比较.” 融合与发展：国土空间规划编制研讨会 (Integration and Development: Conference on the Compilation of Territorial Space Planning). Xi’an, China.
- 2019.05.24 “地方规划决策制度的创新与演进以上海和深圳的规划委员会制度为例.” 中国城市规划学会控制性详细规划学术委员会年会 (Annual Meeting of the Detailed Control Planning Committee of the Chinese Urban Planning Association). Qingdao, China.
- 2019.02.26 “中国控规和美国区划法的比较.” Xiamen Planning Institute. Xiamen, China.
- 2017.08.04 “中国城市更新的制度性障碍：中美控规比较.” China Academy of Urban Planning and Design. Beijing, China.

Public Audiences

- 2021.06.12 “从产权与规划权力来看中美城市规划的区别.” 波士顿清华校友会 (Tsinghua Alumni in Boston). Virtual.
- 2021.04.27 “China’s State-Owned Land Regime and Its Implications for China’s Political Economy.” China Group, Harvard Club of New York. Virtual.
- 2019.05.07 “Urban Planning: A Comparison of the US and China.” 东莞市厚街镇侨联组织厚街侨留分会 (Dongguan Overseas Scholars Association, Houjie Branch). Dongguan, China.

Teaching

- 2018-2021 **Harvard College**, *Teaching Fellow*.
- Spring 2021 EASTD 98J: Political Economy of 21st Century China: Junior Tutorial
- Fall 2020 Gov 1740: International Law and Institutions
- Spring 2020 Gov 1359: The Road to the White House
- Fall 2019 Gov 1247: Geopolitics of Energy
- Fall 2018 Gov 1280: Government & Politics of China

Summer 2016 **Samuel Tak Lee China Socially Responsible Real Estate Entrepreneurship Summer Workshop, Instructor.**

Taught urban planning at Inner Mongolia Institute of Technology, Tongji-Zhejiang College, and Xiamen University

2009-2010 **Baltimore Polytechnic Institute, Teaching Assistant.**

AP World History

— Languages

English: Native

Chinese: Advanced

— Coding skills

Python