

HENNEBACH PROGRAM

in the Humanities

Monday, December 7th

The Hennebach Program in the Humanities invites you to a talk on

China's Political Future: Meritocracy, Democracy, or Both?

Public Lecture

12:00 Noon in Coolbaugh 209

and

Round Table Discussion

with James Jesudason and Elizabeth Van Wie Davis

4:00 p.m. in Ballroom D, Student Center

Light Refreshments provided

Westerners divide the political world into "good" democracies and "bad" authoritarian regimes. But the Chinese model does not fit in either category. China has evolved a political system that can best be described as "political meritocracy." Drawing on his 2015 book *The China Model*, Daniel A. Bell will discuss the ideals and the reality of this unique political system.

Daniel A. Bell is a prolific and controversial political theorist who has been teaching at Tsinghua University in Beijing since 2004. He is now Chair Professor of the Schwarzman Scholars Program at Tsinghua and director of the Berggruen Philosophy and Culture Center. His articles have appeared in the *New York Times*, *Financial Times*, *Global Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, and in regular columns published in the *Huffington Post*, *Project Syndicate*, and *The Guardian*, as well as in Chinese language press.

Elizabeth Van Wie Davis lived and worked in Asia for many years. Initially her academic research focused on China, but her work on Chinese energy policy and the environment expanded to other parts of Asia. Her most recent book is *Ruling, Resources, and Religion in China* (2012).

James V. Jesudason grew up in Malaysia and was educated in the U.S. His academic work has focused on Southeast Asia, and he overlapped with Daniel Bell as a professor at the National University of Singapore. After obtaining his PHD at Harvard, Jesudason taught in the Department of Sociology at the National University of Singapore, where he overlapped with Daniel Bell.



Daniel A. Bell