

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
HKU Research Hub of Population Studies

Conference on Migration in East and Southeast Asia

Tentative Programme

Date: April 16 and 17, 2026 (Thursday and Friday)

Venue: Social Sciences Chamber, 11/F, The Jockey Club Tower, The University of Hong Kong

TIME	PROGRAMME (APRIL 16, 2026, DAY 1)
0930 – 0945	Registration
0945 – 1000	<p>Welcoming Remarks Ming Wen, Dean Faculty of Social Sciences The University of Hong Kong</p> <p>Group Photo</p>
1000 – 1140	<p><u>Session 1: Analysing the Structures and Processes of Labour Migration in East and Southeast Asia</u></p> <p><i>Seeing Domestic Workers as Victims: State Classification and Migration Governance</i> Rhacel Salazar Parreñas Doris Stevens Professor in Women’s Studies Professor of Sociology and Gender and Sexuality Studies Department of Sociology Princeton University</p> <p><i>Building the Channels, Keeping the Gates: The Role of Intermediaries in Shaping Differentiated Transnational Labour Mobilities Out of Indonesia</i> Gracia Liu-Farrer Professor Graduate School of Asia-Pacific Studies Waseda University</p> <p><i>Economic Integration of Immigrants and Job Search Methods</i> Kikuko Nagayoshi Professor Institute of Social Science The University of Tokyo</p> <p><i>“Good” Employers in the Global City: Managing Migrant Domestic Workers in Singapore</i> Yasmin Ortiga Associate Professor of Sociology School of Social Sciences Singapore Management University</p> <p><i>Open Floor Discussion</i> Moderator: Arthur Sakamoto Professor and Acting Academy Director Academy of Geography, Sociology and International Studies Hong Kong Baptist University</p>

TIME	PROGRAMME (APRIL 16, 2026, DAY 1)
1140 – 1300	<p data-bbox="320 174 1422 208">Session 2: Understanding Factors Influencing Migration in East and Southeast Asia</p> <p data-bbox="320 241 1401 275"><i>Migration Intentions and Destination Preferences in Asia: Insights from Hong Kong</i></p> <p data-bbox="344 277 855 405">Yingtong Lai Research Assistant Professor Department of Applied Social Sciences The Hong Kong Polytechnic University</p> <p data-bbox="320 443 1417 510"><i>International Migration Dynamics: Trends, Determinants, and Consequences: A Case Study of the Chitwan Valley Family Study in Nepal</i></p> <p data-bbox="344 512 938 674">Dirgha Ghimire Research Professor, Population Studies Center Faculty Associate, Survey Research Center Institute for Social Research University of Michigan</p> <p data-bbox="320 707 1406 741"><i>New Patterns of Cross-border Migration from Myanmar to China's Yunnan Province</i></p> <p data-bbox="344 743 1422 904">Zai Liang Distinguished Professor and Chair Department of Sociology Past Chair, International Migration Section of the American Sociological Association University at Albany, State University of New York</p> <p data-bbox="320 943 608 976"><i>Open Floor Discussion</i></p> <p data-bbox="344 978 1054 1106">Moderator: Shuzhuo Li Professor School of Public Policy and Administration Xi'an Jiaotong University</p>
1300 – 1420	Lunch (<i>invited guests only</i>)

TIME	PROGRAMME (APRIL 16, 2026, DAY 1)
1420 – 1540	<p data-bbox="300 170 1362 203"><u>Session 3: Exploring the Diversity of Migrant Groups in East and Southeast Asia</u></p> <p data-bbox="300 237 1219 271"><i>Transnational Mobility of Chinese Criminal Networks in Southeast Asia</i></p> <p data-bbox="323 275 962 439">Enze Han Associate Professor Department of Politics and Public Administration Faculty of Social Sciences The University of Hong Kong</p> <p data-bbox="300 472 1426 539"><i>Transnational Connection as Resource or Constraint: Gender and Origin Disparities in the Sense of Belonging among Foreign Professionals in Mainland China</i></p> <p data-bbox="323 544 991 672">Yue Yuan Lecturer Research Institute of Social Development Southwestern University of Finance and Economics</p> <p data-bbox="323 705 882 833">Meng Bai Associate Professor School of Public Policy and Administration Xi'an Jiaotong University</p> <p data-bbox="300 866 1433 967"><i>Becoming Liminal Subjects: Study Mothers' Enactment and Negotiation of Temporariness in the Pre-Tertiary Education-Migration Nexus from China to Southeast Asia</i></p> <p data-bbox="323 972 948 1135">Aeneas Zi Wang Jiangsu Province Specially-Appointed Professor Associate Professor of Sociology School of Social and Behavioural Sciences Nanjing University</p> <p data-bbox="300 1169 592 1202"><i>Open Floor Discussion</i></p> <p data-bbox="323 1207 1406 1402">Moderator: Zai Liang Distinguished Professor and Chair Department of Sociology Past Chair International Migration Section of the American Sociological Association University at Albany, State University of New York</p>
1540 – 1600	Coffee Break

TIME	PROGRAMME (APRIL 16, 2026, DAY 1)
1600 – 1720	<p data-bbox="300 170 1398 237"><u>Session 4: Examining Social, Physical, and Psychological Adaptation of Migrants in East and Southeast Asia</u></p> <p data-bbox="300 271 1390 338"><i>Aging Across Borders: Life Satisfaction Among Older Migrants and Non-Migrants in Thailand — Evidence from a National Survey</i></p> <p data-bbox="323 338 715 472">Ruttiya Bhula-or Associate Professor College of Population Studies Chulalongkorn University</p> <p data-bbox="300 506 1417 573"><i>Generational Patterns of AI Adoption Among Immigrants and Natives: The Moderating Role of Social Capital</i></p> <p data-bbox="323 573 655 707">Sou Hyun Jang Associate Professor Department of Sociology Korea University</p> <p data-bbox="300 741 1414 808"><i>The Impact of Place Identity on Immigrants' Health: Evidence from Mainland Chinese Immigrants in Hong Kong</i></p> <p data-bbox="323 808 1201 976">Chunxue Zhang Postdoctoral Fellow HKU Research Hub of Population Studies / Department of Sociology Faculty of Social Sciences The University of Hong Kong</p> <p data-bbox="323 1010 1201 1178">Eric Fong Chair Professor in Sociology Associate Dean (Postgraduate Education), Faculty of Social Sciences Director, Research Hub of Population Studies The University of Hong Kong</p> <p data-bbox="300 1211 592 1245"><i>Open Floor Discussion</i></p> <p data-bbox="323 1245 1201 1469">Moderator: William Axinn Ronald and Deborah Freedman Director International Research Hub, Institute for Social Research Research Professor Survey Research Center and Population Studies Center Professor of Sociology and Public Policy (by courtesy) University of Michigan</p>
1730	End of Day 1 of the Conference

TIME	PROGRAMME (APRIL 17, 2026, DAY 2)
0930 – 0945	Registration
0945 – 1125	<p><u>Session 5: Introducing New Data Sources for Studying East and Southeast Asia</u></p> <p><i>The Migration Data Landscape in the Asia-Pacific</i> Guy Abel Professor, HKU-100 Scholar Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences Associate Director, Research Hub of Population Studies The University of Hong Kong</p> <p><i>Advances in Data Collection Methods for Tracking and Interviewing Migrants over Time</i> William Axinn Ronald and Deborah Freedman Director International Research Hub, Institute for Social Research Research Professor, Survey Research Center and Population Studies Center Professor of Sociology and Public Policy (by courtesy) University of Michigan</p> <p><i>Diaspora Strategies: Optimal Return Windows and the New Dynamics of Asian Scientific Mobility</i> Jingyu Bi Associate Professor School of Public Policy and Administration Xi'an Jiaotong University</p> <p><i>The Impact of Global Wildfire on Population Migration</i> Yichen Wang Associate Professor School of Public Policy and Administration Xi'an Jiaotong University</p> <p><i>Open Floor Discussion</i> Moderator: Rhacel Salazar Parreñas Doris Stevens Professor in Women’s Studies Professor of Sociology and Gender and Sexuality Studies Department of Sociology Princeton University</p>
1125 – 1130	<p>Closing Remarks Eric Fong Chair Professor in Sociology Associate Dean (Postgraduate Education), Faculty of Social Sciences Director, Research Hub of Population Studies The University of Hong Kong</p>
1130	End of Day 2 of the Conference
1130 – 1145	Closed Door Discussion (<i>for speakers and invited guests only</i>)
1145 – 1330	Lunch (<i>invited guests only</i>)
END OF PROGRAMME	

April 8, 2026