PROGRAMME

The Final Oral Examination
for the Degree of

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
(LAW)

Chong Ke
2007 Peking University LLM
2004 China University of Political Science and Law LLB

“Infrastructure, Participation and Regulation: An Analysis of the Politics and Potentials of Village Elections in China”

June 19th, 2013
6:00 pm PST
Social Sciences and Math building, room A144

Supervisory Committee:
Jeremy Webber, Faculty of Law, UVic (Co-supervisor)
Dr. Guoguang Wu, Department of Political Science, UVic (Co-supervisor)
Dr. Dennis M. Pilon, Department of Political Science, York University (Outside Member)

External Examiner:
Dr. Baogang He, School of Humanities and Social Science, Nanyang Technological University

Chair of Oral Examination:
Dr. Stephen Tax, Faculty of Business, UVic
Abstract

Inspired by critiques of controlled elections under “single-party rule,” this dissertation explores the performance, implications and potentials of China’s village elections. It first reviews the most important studies on the progress of China’s grassroots democracy and then analyzes the social-political background of village self-management which to date has been neglected in the academic literature. Based on empirical studies conducted in Sichuan, this dissertation investigates the roles and attitudes of various participatory groups in village elections and in the course of electoral reforms. It also discusses the failure of the existing law to set out fundamental rules for village elections and to effectively guide people’s behavior. Further, this dissertation offers detailed recommendations to improve the existing law in order to guarantee the accessibility, authenticity and competitiveness of village elections.

Awards, Scholarships, Fellowships

2013 Law Foundation of British Columbia Graduate Fellowship, University of Victoria
2012 Law Foundation of British Columbia Graduate Scholarship, University of Victoria
2007-2010 Graduate Fellowship, University of Victoria
2007 Associate Vice President of International Affairs stipend, University of Victoria

Presentations

1. Ke, C. “Another Way to Justice? Some Reflections on Court-Based Mediation.” 32nd Law and Society
Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. May 2008 (oral)
