



Final Report

**THE 10TH NORTHEAST ASIA ECONOMIC FORUM (NEAEF)
YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAM**

Table of Contents

Overview	
Program Goals	
Young Leaders Program Fellowship	
Program Components	
Area Group Presentations	
Thematic Group Presentations	
Individual Presentations	
Invited Presentations	
Seminar	
Meeting with Policymakers	
Program Evaluation	
Appendices	
Appendix 1: List of 2015 Young Leaders Program Fellows and Intern	
Appendix 2: Agenda of the 10th NEAEF Young Leaders Program	

The 10th Northeast Asia Economic Forum (NEAEF) Young Leaders Program

Overview

The Northeast Asia Economic Forum (NEAEF) successfully implemented its 10th Annual Young Leaders Program (YLP) from August 14 to 29, 2015 in China. The 2015 YLP was conducted in two segments. The first segment of 8 days was located at Nankai University, Tianjin; and the second segment at the Beijing Institute of Technology. Twenty-one YLP Fellowships plus one internship were awarded to young scholars and professionals from China, Japan, South Korea, Mongolia, Russia and the United States. Despite a late change of venue, NEAEF was able to make arrangements for implementing the YLP successfully at Nankai University and Beijing Institute of Technology.

Program Goals

The main goals of YLP are to:

1. enhance knowledge of the social, economic, and political institutions of the individual countries in Northeast Asia and North America;
2. encourage young leaders to consider a wide range of perspectives on regional and multilateral economic cooperation;
3. prepare YLP Fellows to work collaboratively and internationally;
4. provide them with practical education in policymaking through opportunities of direct dialogue with policymakers and other experts;
5. foster a sense of community among young leaders; and
6. promote a better understanding among individuals, countries and cultures in Northeast Asia and the United States.

In accordance with the above goals, the 2015 YLP was designed to include the following components:

1. 6 introductory presentations on the countries represented at the YLP, each prepared by YLP Fellows not from the country to elicit feedback from other YLP Fellows;
2. 4 collaborative thematic presentations by YLP Fellows with invited presenters providing input in parallel sessions on the same or related themes;
3. 8 presentations by individual YLP Fellows on topics relevant to the YLP goals;

4. 22 presentations by invited experts, organized into 12 sessions, 7 of which had a focus on China and 5 on regional economic cooperation and development;
5. one seminar at the Beijing Film Academy; and
6. one meeting with policymakers on regional economic development and cooperation.

The program lasted 16 days with a total of approximately 88 hours of activities, excluding free time over weekends and 2 days for arrival and departure respectively. All program activities were structured to facilitate interaction among the participants across nationalities and across academic or professional backgrounds. For most of the participants, it was their first experience in a truly international academic environment. Apart from the program activities, the participants appreciated informal, nonetheless valuable, opportunities for networking.

Young Leaders Program Fellowship

An online announcement of the 10th YLP was posted on the NEAEF website (www.neaef.org) in April, 2015. Subsequent announcements were sent to academic institutions, governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations, YLP alumni and other individuals in contact with potential applicants in China, Japan, South Korea, Mongolia, Russia and the United States.

Each applicant was asked to include in their online application package the following documents:

- a statement of purpose
- a resume
- two letters of recommendation.

The 2015 YLP Fellowships were awarded on a competitive basis by an admission committee consisting of members of the NEAEF staff in consultation with contacts in the six countries. The primary criteria for acceptance were demonstrated interest in Northeast Asia and Asia-US relations, evidence of leadership, academic excellence in the applicant's own field(s), motivation and ability to participate actively, and fluency in English and one or more Northeast Asian languages. Consideration was also given to an overall balance in the representation of the six countries within the 2015 YLP.

Twenty-three (23) applicants were selected and all of them accepted the Fellowship. However, two of them were unable to participate due to family emergency and medical condition respectively. In addition, two (2) internships were offered, of which one was declined due to a conflict of schedules. In all, twenty-one (21) YLP Fellows plus one (1) intern participated in the 2015 YLP.

Of the 22 beneficiaries of the 2015 Freeman Foundation Grant, 12 (55%) were male, and 10 (45%) female. They came from the following countries: China (27%), Japan (9%), South Korea (14%), Mongolia (14%), Russia (14%) and the United States (23%). Appendix 1 provides the basic demographic information of the 2015 Fellows and intern.

Eighteen (19%) of them were first-time recipients. The inclusion of 3 past YLP Fellows and 1 past intern in 2015 was meant partly to build peer mentoring into the program and partly to supplement insufficient logistical support in Tianjin and Beijing.

Cost-sharing agreements were reached for two YLP Fellows (with full support from their institutions) and the intern (with partial support from NEAEF).

Program Components

Since the inaugural YLP of 2006, the YLP agenda has been evolving in response to the economic issues of the region and the input from the participants. This year's program reflected such changes within the overall conceptual and organizational framework articulated by Dr. Lee-Jay Cho, Chairman of NEAEF. The updated version of the 2015 YLP agenda is attached as Appendix 2.

The 2015 agenda was based on the 2014 agenda with valuable input from Dr. Ming Liu of the School of Finance at Nankai University. The 2015 agenda included the following major components:

1. Collaborative presentations on the areas represented in YLP
2. Collaborative presentations on selected themes
3. Individual presentations
4. Invited presentations on China and this year's themes
5. Seminar
6. Meeting with policy makers

Due to a late change of venue, it was decided to proceed with the 2015 YLP without a full-scale annual NEAEF conference, which normally takes place toward the end of the YLP. However, NEAEF felt that in the format of special sessions, it was possible to integrate part of the annual NEAEF meeting into the YLP agenda, so that the YLP participants would not miss that part of the experience completely. For that purpose, one day and a half was allocated in Beijing for three NEAEF sessions, thereby contributing to the quality of the overall YLP experience.

A tragic explosion occurred in a depot of toxic chemicals near the Tianjin port days before the YLP was to start in Tianjin. The planned day-long field trip to the Tianjin Economic Development Area (TEDA), close to the explosion site, had to be called off for safety reasons and replaced by a half-day visit to the Zhou Enlai and Deng Yingchao Museum.

The six major components of the 2015 YLP are explained below:

Area Group Presentations

YLP Fellows were free to join one group responsible for a 60-minute introductory presentation on one of the 6 countries. The group should have no member from the country being introduced. Each group had 3 or 4 members with the responsibilities equally divided among them. A suggestion was made that the introductory presentation cover the following aspects of the country:

- socio-political system
- world view and relations with its neighbors in the region
- economic structure and issues
- current and potential contributions to regional cooperation

Each group was free to add other relevant topics or consult YLP Fellows from that country. Following the presentation, the presenters and the audience engaged in discussion for about 20 minutes. The participants thus pooled their knowledge of the region.

Thematic Group Presentations

The next collaborative exercise was the thematic group presentation. Each participant signed up for one of the four themes important for regional economic development:

- Trade in Northeast Asia
- Infrastructure Development for Physical Connectivity in Northeast Asia
- Energy and Environmental Protection Across the Borders in Northeast Asia
- The Northeast Asia Economic Community

Of the 4 themes selected for this year, the first 3 were kept from the past years. The last theme, however, was a new addition, intended to elicit visions of possible frameworks in which regional cooperation and development may be further enhanced.

Each thematic group was made up of 5 or 6 members. They conducted online research and organized their information into an 80-minute presentation, including time for discussion. This activity was meant to initiate the participants on the 4 themes so that they would possess the basic information for subsequent dialogues with the invited experts presenting on the same or related topics.

Individual Presentations

Within YLP, NEAEF promotes free exchange of ideas from diverse academic and professional backgrounds as another dimension of communication in support of regional development and cooperation. All YLP Fellows were given the option to make a presentation based upon their own work or research. The presenters were free to choose their format for the 25-minute presentation, including time for questions and answers. A tentative title of the presentation was solicited in the announcement of the YLP Fellowship.

Eight of the 21 YLP Fellows from 4 countries took advantage of the opportunity: 2 from Japan, 1 from South Korea, 1 from Russia, and 4 from the United States. The titles of their presentations are listed in Appendix 2.

Invited Presentations

A total of 22 invited presentations were made in 12 sessions, which fell into 2 broad categories: (a) focus on China and (b) regional cooperation and development.

The following 7 sessions, involving 8 invited speakers, focused on China:

- Session 1 Introduction to Nankai University
- Session 2 Economic Developments in China
- Session 3 Vision of Tianjin
- Session 4 Cross-Border Economic Cooperation in Northeast Asia and Tianjin as a Transportation and Logistics Hub
- Session 6 China's Strategy: The "One Belt and One Road" Initiative
- Session 7 Introduction to China Asia Pacific Institute
- Session 8 China's Aging Population

There were another 5 sessions, involving 14 invited speakers, focusing on regional economic cooperation and development:

- Session 5 Cross-Border Transportation and Logistics in Northeast Asia
- Session 9 Infrastructure Development and Physical Connectivity in the Context of Regional Integration in Northeast Asia
- NEAEF Session on Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Future
- NEAEF Session on Financial Cooperation in Northeast Asia: Individual Perspectives
- NEAEF Session on Building a Northeast Asia Economic Community: Country Perspectives

Two of the invited speakers, from China and Russia respectively, are YLP graduates. The inclusion of exemplary YLP graduates among the invited speakers serves to demonstrate the value of the program to new YLP participants.

Three YLP Fellows served as rapporteurs for the NEAEF sessions and prepared a concluding statement. Others agreed to serve as interpreters for some of the invited speakers or guests. For recordkeeping, the PowerPoint slides of all the invited speakers were collected.

Several YLP Fellows contributed to the success of the NEAEF conference by providing administrative, logistical or clerical support. Their service, an integral part of the intended training, contributed to the success of the 2015 YLP. NEAEF takes great pride in the competency of the 2015 participants and sincerely acknowledges their commendable service.

Field Trip Seminar in Beijing

Mr. Hou Guangming, President of the prestigious Beijing Film Academy, offered to lead a seminar on international cooperation in cinema on his campus. The YLP staff and participants enjoyed the campus tour under his personal guidance and the subsequent meeting with faculty members and students. Dr. Lee-jay Cho, Chairman of NEAEF, took the opportunity to thank Mr. Hou for his timely assistance, which made possible the Beijing segment of the 2015 YLP.

Meeting with Policymakers

The YLP Fellows appreciated the opportunity to interact with 4 policymakers from the European Union and the United States, who provided their insights into some of the development issues in the region. The panelists also answered questions from the audience about leadership potential and leadership styles.

Program Evaluation

A short list of the things (slightly edited) the respondents cited as the “most positive” aspects of the 2015 YLP is given below:

- Communication with other fellows
- Ability to meet, engage and create connections with YLP fellows
- Collaborative group work
- Joint work of people from different Northeast Asian countries
- Wonderful presentations from invited speakers
- Discussions among the guests and YLP fellows
- Open discussion about contemporary issues regarding future Northeast Asia cooperation
- Meeting policymakers or people who are actually working in the field
- Having Dr. Cho share his experience and knowledge
- Passion and dedication of the organizers, especially Dr. Cho

NEAEF is pleased to report to the Freeman Foundation that despite the unexpected problems in China, the 2015 Young Leaders Program has been implemented on time, within budget and, most importantly, without compromising its stated objectives. An unsolicited response from one of the participants is typical of the post-YLP sentiments shared by many participants:

“... I feel so blessed to have spent two enriching weeks learning about critical and practical issues in the NE Asia region and make good friends ... In the past, I have participated in several fellowships and the young leaders program. This program is the most enriching and captivating program that really allowed young leaders to study the issues, exchange perspectives, and think about how we can contribute to the regional cooperation. I have learned so much and ... encourage other young leaders to apply to the program. I am a proud member of YLP and will be happy to support the program in every way that I can, so please feel free to reach out to me for help.”

The 2015 YLP has proved to be more than another successful repeat. It may well be one of the most successful and cost-effective years so far. For its success and effectiveness, NEAEF wishes that its Young Leaders Program continues to be deemed an effective and worthy initiative that promotes peace, common prosperity and mutual understanding in Northeast Asia and the United States.

Appendices

Appendix 1 List of 2015 Young Leaders Program Fellows and Intern

	Last Name	First Name	Nationality	Affiliations
1	Chen	Ruizhe	CHN	Beijing Jiaotong University, Communication Engineering
2	Hua	Ming (Jamie)	CHN	The University of Edinburgh, MA
3	Zhao	Hui (Gary)	CHN	College of Economics ,Nankai University, MA
4	Fang	Cai	CHN	Phd candidate, Finance, Nankai University
5	Ma	Wanting	CHN	MA candidate, Finance, Nankai University
6	Liu	Qingyu (Tigre)	CHN	Intern, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
7	Ishihara	Megumi	JPN	Research Associate, Japan Electric Power Information Center (JEPIC)
8	Shimogori	Kei	JPN	MA, The University of Tokyo
9	Kim	Hahn Yeup	ROK	JD candidate, University of Hong Kong
10	Lee	Hyunkyung (Lyla)	ROK	MA candidate, Seoul National University
11	Park	Sungwoong	ROK	MBA candidate, Kyoto University
12	Dambajav	Sarangoo (Sara)	MON	Assistant to Oyun Sanjaasuren, Member of Parliament of Mongolia
13	Baatar	Battogtokh	MON	Lecturer, National University of Mongolia
14	Chimed	Munkhshur	MON	Officer, Ministry of Industry and Ministry of Economic Development
15	Khavinson	Nadezhda	RUS	Specialist, Dept of Jewish Autonomous Region, Birobidzhan, Russia
16	Khavinson	Mikhail	RUS	Senior Research Scientist, Institute for Complex Analysis, Birobidzhan, Russia
17	Reutov	Dmitry	RUS	Head of Marketing, Dalzavod Co., Ltd, Vladivostok, Russia
18	Chang	Stanley	USA	JD, Harvard Law School
19	Kelley	Lisa	USA	MA candidate, National Taiwan University
20	Kubalkova	Petra	USA	MPA, University of Hawaii at Manoa
21	Park	Sun Young (Kelly)	USA	MA candidate, University of Hawaii at Manoa
22	Searcy	Taylor	USA	MS candidate, Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University

THE 10TH YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAM (YLP)

August 14 – 29, 2015

Tianjin and Beijing, China

Organized by
Northeast Asia Economic Forum (NEAEF)

With Support from
Freeman Foundation and Other Institutions

Agenda

Week One – Tianjin

Friday, August 14

Arrival at Nankai University, Tianjin, China

Saturday, August 15

9:00 – 10:00

Opening Ceremony

Lee-Jay Cho, Chairman, Northeast Asia Economic Forum; Chairman,
Research Center for Financial Cooperation in Northeast Asia

Wang Shuzu, Former Vice Mayor of Tianjin, China

Liu Lanbiao, Associate Dean, School of Finance, Nankai University

10:00 – 10:15

Group Photo

10:15 – 10:30

Coffee Break

10:30 – 12:00

Introduction of YLP Fellows by Partners

12:00 – 13:30

Lunch

13:30 – 14:00

Program Orientation

Shuqiang Zhang, YLP Coordinator

14:00 – 14:20

Instruction on Internet Connection

14:20 – 15:20 **Sign-Up for Area Group Presentations**
Preparation for Area Group Presentations

15:20 – 15:40 Coffee Break

15:40 – 16:40 **Sign-Up for Thematic Group Presentations**
Preparation for Thematic Group Presentations

Sunday, August 16

Free Day

Monday, August 17

9:00 – 10:00 **Session 1: Introduction to Nankai University**

Presenter: **Liu Ming**, Assistant Professor, School of Finance,
Nankai University

10:00 – 10:20 Coffee Break

10:20 – 11:40 **Session 2: Economic Developments in China**

Presenter: **Zhang Jingjia**, Assistant Professor, China APEC Institute,
Nankai University

11:40 – 13:30 Lunch

13:30 – 15:30 **Session 3: Vision of Tianjin**

Presenter: **Zhang Xiaoyan**, Deputy Secretary General, Tianjin Municipal
Government

15:30 – 15:40 Coffee Break

15:40 – 17:00 **Preparation for Area Group Presentations**

Tuesday, August 18

9:00 – 10:20 **Session 4: Cross-Border Economic Cooperation in Northeast Asia
and Tianjin as a Transportation and Logistics Hub**

Presenter: **Jiao Zhilun**, Assistant Professor, China Economic and Social
Development Institute, Nankai University

10:20 – 10:40	Coffee Break
10:40 – 12:00	Session 5: Cross-Border Transportation and Logistics in Northeast Asia
	Presenter: Inoue Satoshi , Professor, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies, Japan
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 14:50	Area Group Presentation: China
14:50 – 15:10	Coffee Break
15:10 – 16:30	Area Group Presentation: Japan
16:30 – 17:00	Sign-Up for Individual Presentations

Wednesday, August 19

9:00 – 10:20	Area Group Presentation: Korea
10:20 – 10:40	Coffee Break
10:40 – 12:00	Area Group Presentation: Mongolia
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 14:50	Area Group Presentation: Russia
14:50 – 15:10	Coffee Break
15:10 – 16:30	Area Group Presentation: United States

Thursday, August 20

9:00 – 10:20	Session 6: China’s Strategy: The “One Belt and One Road” Initiative
	Presenter: Liu Ming , Assistant Professor, School of Finance, Nankai University
10:20 – 10:40	Coffee Break
10:40 – 12:00	Preparation for Thematic Group Presentations

12:00 – 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 15:10	Individual Presentations
13:30 – 13:55	Mikhail Khavinson: Prediction of Migration Dynamics at the Regional Level
13:55 – 14:20	Lisa Kelley: Impact of Public Diplomacy and Non-Material Factors on China’s Bilateral Trade Relations
14:20 – 14:45	Taylor Searcy: Japan and China Collaborating Efforts with ASEAN in Combating Piracy in South East Asia
14:45 – 15:10	Stanley Chang: Hawaii’ s Plastic Bag Ban
15:10 – 15:20	Coffee Break
15:20 – 15:45	Sungoong Park: Co-Financing Project Finance in Infrastructure Development
15:45 – 16:10	Kei Shimogori: Nuclear Energy Issues in Japan
16:10 – 16:35	Megumi Ishihara: Integration of Renewable Energies in Japan
16:35 – 17:00	Petra Kubalkova: Asia Infrastructure and Investment Bank

Friday, August 21

8:45 – 11:00	Zhou Enlai and Deng Yingchao Museum
	Free Time

Week Two - Beijing

Saturday, August 22

9:00 – 14:00	Bus transfer from Nankai University to Beijing Institute of Technology
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Sunday, August 23

Free Day

Monday, August 24

- 9:00 – 9:30 **Session 7: Introduction to China Asia Pacific Institute**
Zou Lixing, Deputy Director, Research Institute of China Development Bank
- 9:30 – 10:30 **Session 8: China’s Aging Population**
- Presenters: **Xiao Zhenyu**, Director, Committee of Experts in Population, Health and Longevity Studies, China Socio-Economic System Analysis Research Association
 He Xinhua, Senior Researcher, Institute of World Economy and Politics, China Academy of Social Sciences
- 10:30 – 10:40 Coffee Break
- 10:40 – 12:00 **Session 9: Infrastructure Development and Physical Connectivity in the Context of Regional Integration in Northeast Asia**
- Presenter: **Dmitry Reutov**, Head of Marketing, Dalzavod Co., Ltd
- Moderator: **Sergei Sevastianov**, Director, Asia Pacific International Institutions and Multilateral Cooperation Studies Center, School of Regional and International Studies, Far Eastern Federal University. Russia
- 12:00 – 13:30 Lunch
- 13:30 – 14:50 **Thematic Group Presentation: Trade in Northeast Asia**
- 14:50 – 15:00 Coffee Break
- 15:00 – 16:20 **Thematic Group Presentation: Infrastructure Development for Physical Connectivity in Northeast Asia**

Tuesday, August 25

- 9:15 – 10:00 Bus to Beijing Film Academy
- 10:00 – 12:00 **Seminar: International Cooperation in Cinema at the Beijing Film Academy**
- Hou Guangming**, President, Beijing Film Academy
- 12:00 – 14:00 Return to Beijing Institute of Technology, Lunch
- 14:00 – 15:20 **Thematic Presentation: Energy and Environment Protection Across the Borders in Northeast Asia**

15:20 – 15:30 Coffee Break

15:30 – 16:50 **Thematic Group Presentation: The Northeast Asia Economic Community**

Wednesday, August 26

9:00 – 12:00 **NEAEF Session on Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Future
Co-Sponsored by China Renewable Energy Society and the Northeast Asia Economic Forum**

Co-Chairs: **Shi Dinghuan**, President, China Renewable Energy Society
Denise Konan, Former Chancellor, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa; Dean, College of Social Sciences, UHM

9:00 – 9:20 **Welcome remarks**
Shi Dinghuan, President, China Renewable Energy Society

Congratulatory remarks
Steve Cowper, Former Governor of Alaska; CEO and Chairman, Alpha Wolf Production Inc.

9:20 – 10:40 Presenters: **Li Jun**, Executive Director, China Renewable Energy Society
Yoshiki Inuma, Senior Director, Research Department, Japan Electric Power Information Center
Mark Glick, State Energy Administrator, State of Hawaii

10:40 – 10:50 Coffee Break

10:50 – 12:00 Discussants: **Kenji Sumida**, Former President, East-West Center; Secretary General, North American Committee, Northeast Asia Economic Forum
Steve Cowper, Former Governor of Alaska; CEO and Chairman, Alpha Wolf Production Inc.

12:00 – 13:30 Lunch

13:30 – 16:00 **NEAEF Session on Financial Cooperation in Northeast Asia: Individual Perspectives**

Co-Chairs: **Lee-Jay Cho**, Chairman, Northeast Asia Economic Forum; Chairman, Research Center for Financial Cooperation in Northeast Asia
Wang Shuzu, Former Vice Mayor of Tianjin, China

- 13:30 – 15:00 Presenters: **Zou Lixing**, Deputy Director, Research Institute of China Development Bank
Hideo Naito, Managing Executive Officer and Global Head, Infrastructure and Environment Finance Group, Japan Bank for International Cooperation
Lee Jai-Min, Former Vice President, Korea Export-Import Bank; Professor, Korea Maritime University
Stanley Katz, Former Executive Vice President, Asian Development Bank
- 15:00 – 15:15 Coffee Break
- 15:15 – 16:30 Discussants: **Jae Hyung Hong**, Former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Korea
Zou Ping, Chairman, China Asia Pacific Institute
Zhang Xiaoyan, Deputy Secretary General, Tianjin Municipal Government, China
Zhang Jiangping, Director, Department of International Economic Cooperation, National Development and Reform Commission, China
- 16:30 – 17:30 **Concluding Remarks**
- Jiang Zhenghua**, Former Vice Chairman, National People's Congress, China

Thursday, August 27

- 9:00 – 12:00 **NEAEF Session on Building a Northeast Asia Economic Community: Country Perspectives**
- Chair: **Lee-Jay Cho**, Chairman, Northeast Asia Economic Forum; Chairman, Research Center for Financial Cooperation in Northeast Asia
- 9:00 – 10:40 Presenters: **Lee Chang Jae**, Distinguished Research Fellow, Korean Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP), Korea
Fu Jingyun, Associate Professor, Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, China
Tanabe Yasuo, Former Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan; Vice President and Executive Officer, Government and External Relations, Hitachi
Sergei Sevastianov, Director, Asia Pacific International Institutions and Multilateral Cooperation Studies Center, School of Regional and International Studies, Far Eastern Federal University. Russia

Glyn Ford, Professor and Director, European Center of Asian Studies, European Union

10:40 – 11:00 Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:00 Discussants: **Zha Daojiong**, Professor, School of International Studies, Peking University
Tony Michell, President, Korea Associates Business Consultancy

12:00 – 14:00 Lunch

14:00 – 14:30 **Concluding Statement**

Friday, August 28

9:00 – 10:30 **Policy Makers Meeting with YLP Fellows**

Panelists: **Stephen Cowper**, Former Governor of Alaska; CEO and Chairman, Alpha Wolf Production Inc.
Kenji Sumida, Former President, East-West Center; Secretary General, North American Committee, Northeast Asia Economic Forum
Glyn Ford, Director, European Center of Asian Studies
Denise Konan, Former Chancellor, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa; Dean, College of Social Sciences, UHM

Moderator: **Lee-Jay Cho**, Chairman, Northeast Asia Economic Forum; Chairman, Research Center for Financial Cooperation in Northeast Asia

10:30 – 10:45 **YLP Evaluation**

10:45 – 12:00 **YLP Completion Ceremony**

12:00 – 13:30 Lunch

Free Time

Saturday, August 29

Departure from Beijing