Regional Governance of a Port in China

Presented by Peijun (Paige) Zhuang

In many coastal regions, several ports are located close to each other but port management agencies focus primarily on just one or two. Port operation is international and global, but port governance is often “territorially constrained” within regions or municipalities.

This research seminar will begin with a review of existing literature about regional governance of port development. Then, it will introduce the case study of Ningbo port in the eastern Chinese province of Zhejiang, including how a single port authority evolved there and how the nascent port authority has interacted with its host city and municipal government. Following that, Dr. Zhuang will touch upon the various scales of regional territorial “wars” and policy competition that were waged between ports in the Yangtze River Delta and Zhejiang Province; the structure of the experimental regional governance model employed by the Zhejiang province; and several issues related to regional governance of port development.

Peijun Zhuang, PhD., is a professor in the Logistics Department of the Maritime Academy at Ningbo University, China, and currently a visiting scholar at the California State University, Long Beach.

Over the past few years her research has focused on port management, port relationships, maritime logistics, and supply chain issues, and their interplay within cities and regions. Presently, she is exploring those fields from both institutional and hinterland perspectives. In addition to her academic experience, she has worked in a port authority and is a consultant for the Ningbo Port Group.