ISSUE 1

June 2018: Biannual Newsletter

Department of Government and Public Administration

The Chinese University of Hong Kong



Head's Message

Professor Carlos Lo Wing Hung, Department Head, Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK

On behalf of the GPA Department, I am pleased to announce the launch of the GPA Newsletter. This represents a serious biannual effort to facilitate and strengthen the communication with our stakeholders concerning departmental academic research, teaching and learning activities, and community services, particularly with our students and alumni.

As a GPA graduate in 1982, I am glad to rejoin the Department as a faculty member to carry on its lofty mission of achieving research and education excellence. The GPA Department has accumulated a profound and fine tradition since its establishment at CUHK forty-eight years ago in 1970, marked by a close and interactive teacher-student relation, thanks to our most respectful first generation of teachers, including Prof. Bryon Weng, Prof. H.C. Kuan, Mr. Andrew Wong, Prof. Peter Lee and Mr. Jeremiah Wong who have committed their whole life, starting from scratch, to build it into a major force internationally in political science and public administration research and education.

(Continued on the next page)

Inside This Issue

Getting Started 1 – 2

Recent Events Highlights 3

Star Researchers 4 – 6

Research Grants Updates 7

Teaching Corner 8-9

Media/News Commentaries 10 – 11

Student/Alumni News 12

Staff Updates 13



Professor Carlos Lo Wing Hung, Department Head, Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK



The GPA Department has traditionally focused on achieving the proper balance of students' intellectual development and knowledge building. On the one hand, a conscientious effort has been devoted to cultivating students' sensitivity to political and social issues, ability to perform independent thinking and critical analysis and to exercise discriminative judgement, and capacity to behave socially and politically responsibly. On the other hand, the orientation of knowledge building has set academic theories in the three disciplines of political studies, namely, political science, public administration, and international relations, as foundation and their application as the core, with the cause on advancing social development and solving practical political and policy problems. As for talent training, we have been committed to groom academic agenda-setting researchers, responsible public administrative executives, caring political leaders, and global-focused international organization management practitioners.

The GPA Department is proud of having graduated a large pool of talented students, spreading across the political circle, the public sector, the commercial industry, and the academic community. Among those well-known graduates are Dr. Priscilla Mei-fun Leung, an incumbent Legislative Councillor; Dr. Kenneth Ka-lok Chan, the former Chairman of the Civic Party; Ms. Carol Yip, Director of Social Welfare Department; Mr. Lo Wing Hung, the Publisher/Chief Curator of Bastille Post; and Prof. Shui-Yan Tang, Frances R. and John J. Duggan Professor in Public Administration at the University of Southern California. There is much for junior graduates and current students to learn from these senior GPA alumni and to take their achievements as your career inspiration. In building and extending the alumni network, the GPA Alumni Association serves importantly the networking purpose of connecting alumni together with the Department and promoting active interactions among them.

The intimate teacher-student relationship is the long-established construct framed out of the Department's conscious effort, which is aspired to maintain the close connection and benign interaction between the teachers and the students in the teaching and learning process for achieving the mutual benefits of education transcendence. In this regard, the bridging role of the GPA Society is very important.

I am excited to share with all of you that the growth and development of the GPA Department will reach an important milestone of the 50th anniversary in 2020. The Department has already kicked off the preparation for organizing the celebration for this historic moment. I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to contribute your wisdom and creative ideas to the organization of the GPA 50 Anniversary and of course to join us in the jubilation.



Career Workshop: Tips On Success As A Young Scholar

Date: 16 March 2018 Speaker: Professor Brian Rathbun

Professor of International Relations, University of Southern California

University of Southern California

Research Seminar: Who Blinked? Projecting Resolve (Or Lack Thereof) in Face-To-Face Diplomacy

Date: 13 April 2018 Speaker: Professor Seanon Wong

Assistant Professor , Department of Government and Public Administration, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Research Seminar: Sanctioning The Homeland: Diasporas' Influence On American Economic Sanctions Policy

Date: 24 April 2018 Speaker: Professor Tyler Kustra

Visiting Fellow, Weatherhead Centre, International Affairs at Harvard University

<u>International Conference:</u> <u>Global Sustainability and the Belt and Road</u> <u>Initiative – Engaging the World from Hong Kong</u>

Date: 27 April 2018 <u>Moderator:</u> Professor Carlos Lo

Head, Department of Government and

Public Administration,

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Research Seminar: In the Line of Fire: Political Violence and Decentralization in Colombia

Date: 15 May 2018 Speaker: Professor Mario Chacon,

Assistant Professor of Politics, New York University Abu Dhabi

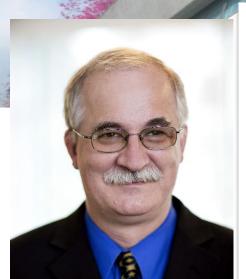


International Conference: Global Sustainability and the Belt and Road Initiative – Engaging the World from Hong Kong



Professor Tyler Kustra, Visiting Fellow, Weatherhead Centre, International Affairs at Harvard University

Star Researchers



Professor Pierre Landry, Professor, Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK

Professor Pierre Landry

Landry, P. F., Benstead, L. J., Kao, K., Lust, E. M., and Malouche, D. (2017). "Using Tablet Computers to Implement Surveys in Challenging Environments", *Survey Practice*, 10(2).

Landry, P. F., Lü, X. and Duan, H., (2017). "Does performance matter? Evaluating political selection along the Chinese administrative ladder", *Comparative Political Studies*, pp. 1-32.

Abstract:

Political selection is central to the survival of all regimes. This article evaluates the relative importance of performance and political connection for the advancement of local politicians under authoritarianism. We hypothesize that in a large-scale multilevel polity, economic performance plays a greater role in promotion at lower administrative levels of government than at higher ones, even after controlling for political connections. This dualist strategy allows the ruling elites to achieve economic performance while minimizing the advancement of potentially disloyal challengers. Thus, balancing between loyalty and competence among subordinates enhances regime survival. Our empirical evidence draws on a comprehensive panel dataset of provincial, prefectural, and county-level Communist party secretaries and government executives appointed between 1999 and 2007. We find consistent evidence for our argument under various model specifications. We also explore the heterogeneous effects of performance on promotion given the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) age ineligibility rule for cadre promotion and jurisdiction characteristics.



Professor Seanon Wong Si Lon, Assistant Professor, Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK

Professor Seanon Wong Si Lon

Professor Seanon Wong will publish a forthcoming article in a new ISA Journal:

Wong, Seanon, (Forthcoming in 2018). "Stoics and Hotheads: Leaders Temperament, Anger, and the Expression of Resolve in Face-to-face Diplomacy", *Journal of Global Security Studies*.

Professor Seanon Wong and Dr. Hak Yin Li have also co-authored an article in Place Branding and Public Diplomacy, which is a major top journal in public diplomacy:

Wong, Seanon and Li Hak Yin, (2018). "The Evolution of Chinese Public Diplomacy and the Rise of Think Tanks", *Place Branding and Public Diplomacy*, 14(1), pp. 36-46.

Abstract:

The evolution and change of Chinese public diplomacy can be seen from panda diplomacy, the Confucius Institutes, Chinese mass media's "going out" strategy as well as various international events such as the 2008 Beijing Olympics and the 2010 World Expo in Shanghai. Some substantial studies have found that these Chinese public diplomacies could not help much in terms of improving China's image or enhancing Western understanding of China. This article aims at examining the latest Chinese policy instrument—think tanks—to see if they can boost Chinese soft power. In addition, this article illustrates the Chinese think tanks from an institutional perspective by studying their contribution in the One Belt One Road (OBOR) Initiative through the case studies of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) and Chongyang Institute for Financial Studies at Renmin University of China (RDCY). The Chinese think tanks have played an important role in targeting foreign publics and working on track II diplomacy. However, there is still room for improvement. The major sources of this article are derived from published materials, websites of Chinese institutions and interviews.



Professor Vivian Zhan Jing

Professor Vivian Zhan has provided an extensive range of academic talks at a number of major international universities recently on contemporary Chinese politics recently. Professor Zhan's recent talks are outlined comprehensively below:

"礦產資源與中國地方治理和發展", Institute for Advanced Study in Humanities and Social Sciences, Zhejiang University, China (2018-03)

"以反腐促改革:中國反腐重點領域的變遷", School of International and Public Affairs, Shanghai Jiaotong University, China (2018-03)

"<u>模棱之道:中国政府间信息不对称研究</u>", School of Political Science and Public Administration, East China University of Politics and Law, China (2018-03)

"資源衝突應對的中國經驗", School of Public Affairs, Zhejiang University, China (2018-03)

"China's Foreign Policy" & "China: A Global Power" in Faculty Training Workshop organized by United Board, Harvard-Yenching Institute & Christ University, Christ University, India (2018-01)

"China's Resource Curse: Minerals, Local Governance and Development", Division of Social Science, the Hong Kong University of Science & Technology, Hong Kong (2017-12)

"從改革視角看中國反腐重點領域的變遷", School of Public Administration, Nanchang University, China (2017-11)

"Political Research Methods and Contemporary Chinese Political Studies", Institute of Advanced Studies of Humanities and Social Sciences, Chongqing University, China (2017-10)

"The Art of Political Ambiguity: Top-down Intergovernmental Information Asymmetry in China", Institute of Advanced Studies in in Humanities and Social Sciences, Chongqing University, China (2017-09)



Professor Vivian Zhan Jing, Associate Professor, Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK



Professor Jiang Junyan, Assistant Professor, Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK

Professor Jiang Junyan

Professor Junyan Jiang received the Best Paper Award in Comparative Politics Section by the American Political Science Association 2017.

"From Internet to Social Safety Net: The Policy Consequences of Online Participation in China."

Jiang, Junyan (Forthcoming in 2018). "Making Bureaucracy Work: Patronage Networks, Performance Incentives, and Economic Development in China". <u>American Journal of Political Science</u>.

Abstract

Patron-client networks are widely found in governments of transitional societies and are often seen as an impediment to effective governance. This article advances an alternative view that emphasizes their enabling effects. I argue that patron-client relations can be used to improve government performance by resolving principal-agent problems within political hierarchies. I substantiate this claim by examining how patronage networks shape economic performance of local governments in China. Using an original city-level panel dataset between 2000 and 2011, and a new method that identifies patronage ties based on past promotions, I show that city leaders with informal ties to the incumbent provincial leaders deliver significantly faster economic growth than those without. I conduct additional analyses to rule out several important alternative explanations and provide evidence on the incentive-enhancing mechanism. These findings highlight the importance of informal institutions for bureaucratic management and authoritarian governance.



pp. 13-27.

Smith, W. J. C., (2017). "Civil Disobedience as Transnational Disruption", Global Constitutionalism, 6:3, pp. 477-504.

Abstract:

Civil disobedience has been theorised as an informal guardian of the constitution in democratic societies, but such accounts struggle to accommodate protest that has an international or global dimension. This article addresses this issue through offering a theory of civil disobedience as transnational disruption. Civil disobedience is 'transnational' insofar as it is an appeal to a national, international or global public that highlights failures to observe moral, political or legal values that are an appropriate source of normative authority in global contexts. Civil disobedience is 'disruptive' insofar as it obstructs the routine activities of relevant parties in order to draw attention to the demands of protesters. The core argument is that civil disobedience can uphold normative standards that have been incorporated into a dense network of treaties, conventions and global regulatory frameworks. It can thus make a modest but valuable contribution to the processes through which publics deliberate about the meaning and interpretation of these contested norms.

Conference Papers:

Recent Paper presentations at:

The Political Studies Association 68th Annual International Conference, Cardiff, 26-28 March 2018.

The Annual Colloquium on 'Philosophy and Social Sciences' at the Institute of Philosophy, Prague, 16-20 May 2018.

The Helmut Schmidt University/University of the Federal Armed Forces, Hamburg, 23 May 2018.

Professor William J. C. Smith. Associate Professor. Department of Government and **Public Administration, CUHK**

Dr. James F. Downes

Lecturer, Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK

Downes, James and Matthew Loveless (Forthcoming in 2018). "Centre Right and Radical Right Party Competition in Europe: Strategic Emphasis on Immigration, Incumbency and Economic Crisis", *Electoral Studies*.

Abstract:

We examine centre right and radical right party competition. We argue that centre right parties – particularly non-incumbents - recognise economic crises as electoral opportunities for radical right parties and respond with the strategic emphasis of immigration in mass appeals. To test this, we merge party performance data with expert surveys across 24 European Union countries to examine parties' electoral performances during the 2008 economic crisis. We find that non-incumbent centre right parties benefited from emphasising immigration, performing better than radical right parties. Second, incumbent centre right parties that did not emphasise immigration lost out electorally, providing an opportunity for far-right parties to benefit from immigration in this economic context. Qualitative case studies further suggest that while these effects appear to be more pronounced in Western Europe, the results are consistent across the East and West. The findings suggest a reconsideration of immigration as an exclusive issue for far-right electoral success.



Professor Chen Xi:

<u>Project Title:</u> 'Group Solidarity and Peasant Protests in China', General Research Fund, <u>Hong Kong</u> Research Grants Council

grants to conduct their high impact research. These research projects are outlined below:

Professor Seanon Wong Si Lon:

<u>Project Title:</u> 'Mapping the Repertoire of Emotions and their Communicative', Early Career Scheme, <u>University Grants Committee</u>

Professor Wilson Wong Wai Ho:

<u>Project Title:</u> 'Social Media and Political Participation of the Youth', General Research Fund, <u>Hong</u> Kong Research Grants Council



Professor Chen Xi, Associate Professor, Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK



Professor Wilson Wong Wai Ho, Associate Professor, Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK

Teaching Corner

Professor Seanon Wong Si Lon

Professor Seanon Wong has provided methodological innovation in his International Relations courses through an online simulation of international politics (www.statecraftsim.com). Statecraft is an online simulation popular among universities, particularly in the United States, for students to learn about the different theories and concepts in international politics. This is the first time it is used in Hong Kong. In essence, students are assigned to play the role of individual countries with different attributes (regime type, form of government, natural resources endowment, geographic and demographic features). These "countries" interact at regular intervals over the course of a semester, in the manner that countries interact in real-life, e.g. trade, fight wars, extend diplomatic recognitions. Throughout, students are asked to write and discuss with each other their experience and what they have learned about international politics from the simulation. It gets competitive, as students receive a score for their participation! The cost of participation has been covered by Professor Seanon Wong's Early Career Scheme research grant.

Dr. James F. Downes

Dr. James F. Downes has published two short articles for the UK Higher Education Academy and the British International Studies Association on importance teaching Quantitative and Qualitative Research Methods for undergraduate political science students. Dr. Downes outlined his applied teaching philosophy and drew on his experience teaching "Political Research Methodology" (GPAD 2111B). Furthermore, Dr. Downes has also developed a new course for Lee Woo Sing College on 'The Rise of Populism in Europe' (GEWS 2121) and this course will examine the recent electoral growth of radical right and left-wing parties in Europe alongside making comparisons between variants of 'populism' in Europe to 'localism' in Hong Kong.



Dr. James F. Downes, Lecturer, Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK

Sharing of Teaching Philosophy:
Tips for Teaching Research
Methods to Political Science
Students

"Emphasise the future career benefits (academic and nonacademic) that Research Methods can provide."

"Draw on online resources and materials for a hands on learning experience."

"Use a statistical software that is user friendly- Remember that students must be able to walk before they can run."

Congratulations to Professor Chow Po Chung for receiving two highly important teaching awards. Professor Chow Po Chung received the Vice-Chancellor's Exemplary Teaching Award 2017 from the Chinese University of Hong Kong, alongside the Exemplary Teaching Award 2018 from the Faculty of Social Sciences at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Many congratulations to Professor Chow Po Chung for his teaching excellence and caring



commitment towards our students!

Outdoor teaching by Professor Chow Po Chung



Outdoor teaching by Professor Chow Po Chung



Photo Day with Graduating students



Sharing with undergraduate students

Media/News Commentaries

Dr. Li Hak Yin

Dr. Hak Yin Li has made numerous appearances as an expert media commentator in the last few months. Dr. Li has provided extensive analysis for a number of news outlets such as Ming Pao and the Hong Kong Economic Journal on issues that relate to relations between China and North Korea, alongside the upcoming summit between President Kim Jong-Un and President Donald Trump. His recent media commentary and articles on these important geo-political issues can be found below:

「國際視野:美朝峰會–看中國和朝鮮的出招」・《香港電台 – 左右紅藍綠》・2018 年 5 月 31 日

「北韓綁架日人謎團未解·婦尋愛女奔波 40 載」·《頭條日報》·2018 年 5 月 4 日

「金正恩能為東北亞創造新歷史?」・《明報》・2018 年 4 月 30 日

「兩韓峰會港學者:緩和半島局勢」、《中央通訊社》・2018 年 4 月 27 日

"Kim Jong Un's Visit to China", RTHK Radio 3's Backchat, 2018-4-3

「金正恩訪華」・《香港電台 – 左右紅藍綠》・2018 年 3 月 29 日

「金打核武牌 弱國有外交」・《蘋果新聞》・2018 年 3 月 29 日

「兩韓峰會」,《有線新聞》,2018年3月28日

"Taking Central Stage: China Invests in Expanding Global Influence", The Globe Post, 2018-3-22

「北京暗施硬功逼金正恩就範」、《信報》、2018年3月17日

「朝核問題」、《有線新聞》、2018年3月9日

"China Silences Online Critics of Unlimited Presidential Term Move", The Globe Post, 2018-2-28

「雙學三子獲和平獎提名」・《明報》・2018 年 2 月 2 日



Dr. Li Hak Yin, Lecturer, Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK

Dr. James F. Downes

Explaining the electoral debacle of social democratic parties in Europe. London School of Economics, European Politics & Policy (Forthcoming in June 2018).

Published Election Reports for the **Europe Asia Policy Centre for Comparative Research**:

The Italian 2017 National Parliamentary Election. 2018-12-03

Public Opinion: The EU's Handling of the Refugee Crisis. 2018-10-04

The Hungarian 2018 National Parliamentary Election: The 'Rise' of Illiberal Democracy. 2018-24-04

Winning back votes from the far right: does the centre right's focus on immigration pay off? London School of Economics, British Politics and Policy, 2018-06-01

<u>Do centre-right parties win back votes from the far right by talking about immigration?</u> London School of Economics, EUROPP, European Politics and Policy, 2018-03-01

什麼人訪問什麼人:加泰隆尼亞獨立運動 困境與啟示 "The Catalan Independence Movement." Ming Pao. 2017-08-10

德選民掌握歐洲命運 "The 2017 German Federal Election. The Hong Kong Economic Journal (EJ Global Plus). 2017-16-09

Media/News Commentaries

Mr. Ivan Choy Chi Keung

Mr. Ivan Choy is a prominent public intellectual in Hong Kong. He has won "Best Column of the Year" in China awarded by Tencent; and also "Human Rights Press Award" (commentary and analysis category) jointly awarded by Foreign Correspondents' Club of HK, Hong Kong Journalists Association and Amnesty International (HK). His research interests include Hong Kong politics, electoral and party politics, and political leadership.

「那年我在馬克思之墓地拾起石頭」,《明報》,2018年5月9日

「兩韓峰會裏餐桌上的政治交鋒」・《明報》・2018年5月2日

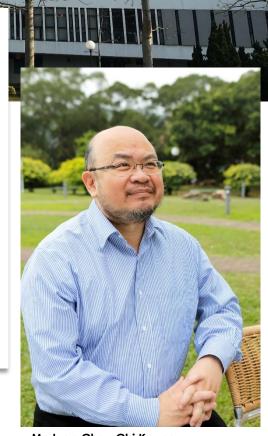
「蔡子強指如要求 4 人歸還全數薪津 立會未必有確實勝算」,香港電台網站中文

新聞,2018年4月18日

「一個為國家尋回公義的演員」,《明報》,2018年4月11日

「周日補選選情展望」,《明報》,2018年3月7日

「<u>DQ 之怒!</u>」,《明報》,2018年1月31日



Mr. Ivan Choy Chi Keung, Senior Lecturer, Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK



Professor Ma Ngok, Associate Professor, Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK

Professor Ma Ngok

Research and Teaching Interests: Hong Kong politics, including elections, party politics, statesociety relations, social movements, democratization, political culture, identity politics. Recent focus on comparative social movements and democratization experiences with respect to Hong Kong.

「有些事情再也回不去了」、《明報》、2018年4月9日

「知識分子有種責任?」·《五夜講場 - 哲學有偈傾 2018》·RTHK TV31·2018 年 4 月 2 日

「補選後的香港民主派統合困局」,《端傳媒》,2018年3月21日

「專權選舉的自由陰影」、《明報》、2018年2月5日

「買辦與共謀兩制的辯證」、《明報》、2017年12月4日

「重讀哈維爾與一國兩制的支柱」,《明報》,2017年10月16日

Student/Alumni News



Ms. Jadice Lau Hoi Tong

「<u>國際視野:巴勒斯坦為何不能富國</u> 強兵」・《香港電台 – 左右紅藍 綠》・2018 年 5 月 25 日

「國際視野:聯合國為何解決不到持 續多年的以巴衝突?」,《香港電台 – 左右紅藍綠》,2018年5月24日

Ms. Jadice Lau Hoi Tong, MPhil Year 2 Student, Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK



Ms. Lai Lok Ping 2017 Graduate, Department of Government and Public Administration, CUHK

Recent Graduate Updates:

Our recent graduates are now working in political careers that relate to public policy and public administration. Below are some updates of our recent graduates.

Ms. Mandy Cheung Man Kwan (2017 Graduate) Assistant Information Officer, Information Services Department, HKSAR Government

Mr. Lorant Ching Long (2016 Graduate) Graduate Trainee, The Hong Kong Jockey Club

Ms. Yola Chue Yik Tung (2017 Graduate) Analyst, Mexico Ministry of Economy, Representative Office of Mexico in Hong Kong

Ms. Carmen Lau Ka Man (2017 Graduate) Legislative Assistant, Office of Hon Jeremy Tam Man Ho

Ms. Lai Lok Ping

Alumni sharing Experience Sharing: Research Assistant at the International Crisis Group

Many non-GPAD students think that there is a "GPAD-student" archetype, but that's far from the truth! There doesn't exist any characteristic that is strong enough to define our students and tie them together. Politics is never the ONLY topic of discussion by any means among us. Those I know have a diverse array of hobbies—traveling, book-worming, public speaking, job hunting, you name it. Underlying the different interests is a culture of critical thinking—thanks to our professors and their tutorials! Most importantly, the professors are approachable and never aloof! There are big lecture classes and also tutorials in which students like me can get a very personalized experience and enough attention.

The past four years has been the most amazing experience I have had in my life. What impressed me the most was a Model UN game in the GPAD 2185 course. Two years after this experience, I still savor the sense of wonder it harbored, and with that in mind, resolutely pursue a career in international relations and connect with a group of like-minded peers who are equally passionate about international affairs and communicating knowledge. Soon after I graduated I went to Beijing for an internship at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in a bid to gain wider exposure to the field of international development and poverty reduction in China. After that, I came back for a research assistant position at the International Crisis Group, a non-governmental organization committed to preventing and resolving deadly conflict, where I research on North East Asia security issues such as Sino-DPRK relations, East and South China Seas, cross-strait relations.

Staff Updates

We thank Mr. Samuel Chan (Teaching Assistant) who has provided excellent teaching in 2017/18. Alongside Mr. Charles Fung, Samuel won the Exemplary Teaching Assistant Award (First term, 2017-18) and this further underlines the excellent teaching and care for our students that Samuel provided. Samuel will be commencing his PhD at the University of California, Berkeley later on this year and we thank him for his excellent service to the Department and we wish him all the best for the future.

We are delighted to welcome Ms. Jasmine Yip to the Department. Jasmine started in March 2018 and will serve as Project Co-ordinator for the Department.

If you have any news, comments, or anything we can include in the next issue of newsletter, please contact us by sending an email to jasmineyip@cuhk.edu.hk

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http://www.gpa.cuhk.edu.hk/engb/home



GPA Alumni Information Update:
To change your contact details, please fill in the form below.
https://cloud.itsc.cuhk.edu.hk/webform/view.php?id=5086636



EDITORIAL MEMBER
DR. JAMES F. DOWNES