The Fourth International Conference on The Chinese Economy: Present and Future

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Travel Report

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Thanks to the travel grant from the Department of Multidisciplinary Sciences of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at The University of Tokyo, I was able to attend The Fourth International Conference on The Chinese Economy: Present and Future held at Jinchun Garden, Tsinghua University. The theme of the conference is on all aspects of Chinese economy including: 1. Environment, nature resources and Climate; 2. Financial sector including banking, stock and futures markets; 3. Trade, international investment; 4. Urbanization, migrations, transports; 5. Reform of the State-owned enterprises; 6. Growth and Development.



The conference lasted from 8am to 18:30pm on December 16th (Saturday) and had 6 sessions in total. I was able to attend Session II Environment, Population & Health, Session III Macro II, Session IV Trade & Development and Session V Political

Economy. I was given the opportunity to be both a presenter and a discussant. I presented my paper "Bottom up or Bottom down? Strategic Environmental Regulation and Inbound Foreign Direct Investment in China" for 20 minutes and discussed other scholar's paper for 5 minutes in Session II Environment, Population & Health.

I got insightful comments and suggestions from Professor Jie Zheng (Tsinghua University), Taoxiong Liu (Tsinghua University), Yu Hao (Beijing Institute of Technology), Xiandeng Jiang (Southwestern University of Finance and Economics), Xia Xie (Tsinghua University), Chih Hai Yang (National Central University) and others, which will definitely be beneficial to the revision of my paper and further studies.

In addition, I also attended "2017 Workshop on Network Economics and Big Data" held also at Jinchun Garden, Tsinghua University. On Saturday, the organizer invited attendees of the conference to attend Sunday's workshop. Since my flight was in the afternoon of Sunday, I attended the morning session. I listened to the presentations of Professor Feng Zhu (Harvard Business School) and Han Hong (Stanford University), who are among the top economists of the world. I was especially impressed by Professor Han Hong's "OLS and 2SLS in randomized and conditionally randomized experiments" speech, which was approachable, coping well with quite complicated subjects. It broadened my mind and enlightened some ideas.

To sum it up, it was really an invaluable experience for me to attend this conference. I not only exchanged ideas with experts, but also learned a lot from senior economists' presentations. In the end, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for the Department of Multidisciplinary Sciences of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at The University of Tokyo for financial support.