Research Café #7
Date: 18th November 2015 (Wednesday)
Time: 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm
Venue: GH404

Aging in Aging Places: Hong Kong and Shanghai Compared and
The Kwun Tong Age-friendly Project: Sitting-out Facility in Perspective

The population of Hong Kong and Shanghai is aging rapidly. About one million, or about 14% of Hong Kong’s total population, were 65+ in 2013. In Shanghai, the number of 60+ also reached 4.6 million, or 19% of the city’s population, in 2014. Understandably both cities are under tremendous pressure to come up with policies for protecting the well-being of the aging population. Regrettably many “aging places” provided for elderly people in these cities have become inadequate especially when the pace of urban renewal continued to escalate, forcing many older local residents to leave their familiar community and breaking up their long-established social networks which in turn, put their well-being under severe threat. In this Research Cafe, one academic and two social workers are offering their observations on how “good” living places could be created for older people based on the idea of aging in place and how successful cases could become good models for developing future housing policies as well as for fostering inter-disciplinary collaboration.

Presenters

Prof. Ho Hon LEUNG was born and raised in Hong Kong. He received his doctoral degree in Sociology from McGill University, Canada. He is currently Professor of the Department of Sociology of State University of New York at Oneonta (SUNY Oneonta). His research interests include ethnic relations, immigration, urban studies, and comparative aging. His most recent work is a cross-cultural comparative project examining the cultural heritage values of local restaurants that have passed the test of time. Prof. Leung is Chair of the Center for Social Science Research and Academic Excellent Committee at his university. He is also an appointed member for Grants Development Office/Sponsored Programs Advisory Council. His publications appear in national and international journals and books.

Gloria Hui and Ivan To are social workers from the Christian Family Service Centre.

This Research Cafe will be moderated by Dr Alma Au