



JOHNS HOPKINS
UNIVERSITY



**The Johns Hopkins University Shanghai Alumni Club and
the Young China Watchers**

cordially invite you to:

Confucianism & Politics in China

Speaker: Daniel A. Bell (贝淡宁)

Professor of Philosophy at Tsinghua University



Tuesday, November 9th 2010

19:00pm – 20:30pm

@ Southern Barbarian Pudong 南蛮子

B1-9 DBS Building, 1318 Lujiazui Ring Road, (near Shanghai Aquarium)

Subway directions: take line 2 to Lujiazui Station, exit 1, turn right, then walk 2 minutes.
陆家嘴环路 1318 号星展银行大 B1-9 (靠近水族馆) 地铁 2 号线陆家嘴站 1 号出口, 右
转步行 2 分钟

Agenda:

19:00 – 19:05 Opening Remarks

19:05 – 19:35 Presentation

19:35 – 20:00 Q&A

20:00 – Dinner and Drinks

RSVP: Kindly respond to Frank Tsai (HNC02-03): franktsai@technomicasia.com or
Raffaello Pantucci (EU STFP Research Fellow): rpantucci@gmail.com

Communism has lost its capacity to inspire the Chinese. But what is replacing it? And what should replace it? Clearly, there is a need for a new moral foundation for political rule in China, as well as a new philosophy that can provide moral guidance in everyday life. To the surprise of most Sinologists, the new philosophy does not owe much to Western liberal-democracy. Rather, the old and venerable tradition of Confucianism is being revived and debated by government officials, critical intellectuals, as well as ordinary citizens. In today's talk, Daniel A. Bell will explore the reasons for the revival of Confucianism in China and discuss some proposals for a more progressive form of Confucianism that offers a compelling alternative to Western-style liberal democracy.

Speaker Bio:

Daniel A. Bell is professor of ethics and political philosophy at Tsinghua University (Beijing). He was born in Montreal, educated at McGill and Oxford, has taught in Singapore and Hong Kong, and has held research fellowships at Princeton and Stanford. He is the author of **China's New Confucianism: Politics and Everyday Life in a Changing Society** (Princeton University Press, 2008), **Beyond Liberal Democracy: Political Thinking for an East Asian Context** (Princeton University Press, 2006; Chinese translation published in 2009 by Shanghai Sanlian Chubanshe), **East Meets West: Human Rights and Democracy in East Asia** (Princeton University Press, 2000), and **Communitarianism and Its Critics** (Oxford University Press, 1993). He is the editor of **Confucian Political Ethics** (Princeton University Press, 2007) and the coeditor of six books. He writes on Chinese politics and philosophy for **Du Shu**, **Dissent**, **Newsweek**, and the **Guardian's Comment Is Free** blog, he has published comments in the **New York Times**, **Huanxiu Shibao**, the **International Herald Tribune**, and the **Toronto Globe and Mail**, and he has been interviewed on CCTV, NPR, BBC, and CBC. His articles and books have been translated in Chinese (Chinese name: 贝淡宁) and twelve other languages. Some of his articles are available at www.danielabell.com and he can be reached at daniel.a.bell@gmail.com.

About Young China Watchers:

Young China Watchers is an informal group of young professionals living in and working on China. First established in Beijing, it is now opening up a chapter in Shanghai. Through regular roundtables and talks, it provides a chance for dynamic individuals - of all nationalities and from all employment sectors - to interact, broaden their network circle, and discuss the most pressing issues regarding politics, economics and foreign policy emerging from China today. It aims to foster the next generation of China thought-leaders - be they in academia, government, or business - that will be integral to both China's internal development and to how the world engages with a rising China.

The group works by providing a regular informal session at which we invite a senior policy practitioner, academic, journalist or business executive to come and lead a moderated discussion about a pre-determined topic. The forum is primarily English-speaking, though the community is drawn from around the world, and thus it provides an excellent forum to debate in a frank manner the key issues surrounding China's rise on the global stage. For more information on the Young China Watchers, or to join the list, please write to: youngchinawatchers@gmail.com.