

CHINA CROSSROADS

Monday, August 14th, 2023, 19:30 – 21:00

Book Talk on China's Confucian Comeback: Confessions of a Minor Bureaucrat at a Chinese University

Daniel Bell

Chair Professor of Political Theory at HKU

Former Philosopher at Tsinghua University

Former Dean at Shandong University

Author of [The Dean of Shandong](#) (2023)

Author of [Just Hierarchy](#) (2022)

Author of [The China Model](#) (2016)

Author of [China's New Confucianism](#) (2010)

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Few Chinese intellectuals and reformers turned to Confucianism for inspiration at the end of the 20th century. But Confucianism has mounted a remarkable comeback in mainland China. What explains the Confucian comeback in contemporary China? And what are the implications for Chinese academia and society at large? Drawing on his new book [The Dean of Shandong](#) -- "an inside view of Chinese academia and what it reveals about Chinese society" -- Daniel Bell will attempt to answer these questions. The book was selected as a Summer Book of the Year by the Financial Times.

[Daniel A. Bell](#) is Professor, Chair of Political Theory with the Faculty of Law at the University of Hong Kong. He served as Dean of the School of Political Science and Public Administration at Shandong University (Qingdao) from 2017 to 2022. His books include *The Dean of Shandong* (2023), *Just Hierarchy* (co-authored with Wang Pei, 2020), *The China Model* (2015), *The Spirit of Cities* (co-authored with Avner de-Shalit, 2012), *China's New Confucianism* (2008), *Beyond Liberal Democracy* (2007), and *East Meets West* (2000), all published by Princeton University Press. He is also the author of *Communitarianism and Its Critics* (Oxford University Press, 1993). He is founding editor of the Princeton-China series (Princeton University Press) which translates and publishes original and influential academic works from China. His works have been translated in 23 languages. He has been interviewed in English, Chinese, and French. In 2018, he was awarded the Huilin Prize and was honored as a Cultural Leader by the World Economic Forum.

[China Crossroads](#) hosts talks on all topics related to China, including business, foreign policy, and other areas as they relate to China, the idea being that China is both already a "crossroads" of the world and itself at a "crossroads" in terms of its future global influence. For more information, contact Frank Tsai at editor@shanghai-review.org.