

## 6th Annual Conference – September 22-October 2, 2020

### Speaker Biographies

#### PANEL 5 – Featured Roundtable: Chinese Sharp Power and Africa

Tuesday, September 29, 2020, 9am to 10:30am EDT



**Deborah BRAUTIGAM** is the Director of the China Africa Research Initiative (SAIS-CARI) and the Bernard L. Schwartz Professor of International Political Economy at the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) at Johns Hopkins University. A leading expert on China in Africa, Professor Brautigam is the author of *The Dragon's Gift: The Real Story of China in Africa* (Oxford University Press, 2010; Chinese version published by Chinese Academy of Social Sciences Press) and *Chinese Aid and African Development: Exporting Green Revolution* (St. Martin's Press, 1998). She is also co-editor of *Taxation and State-Building: Capacity and Consent* (Cambridge University Press, 2008) as well as numerous articles published in academic journals and public affairs media. Professor Brautigam regularly advises international agencies and governments on China-Africa economic engagement. Her latest book, *Will Africa Feed China?* was published in October 2015 by Oxford University Press.

**David SHINN** has been teaching since 2001 in the Elliott School of International Affairs at George Washington University where he currently offers a graduate level course on "Rising China and Africa." He served for 37 years in the US Foreign Service with assignments at embassies in Lebanon, Kenya, Tanzania, Mauritania, Cameroon, Sudan, and as ambassador to Burkina Faso and Ethiopia. His assignments in the State Department included director of the office for East Africa, the Horn, and Indian Ocean Islands. He is the co-author of *China and Africa: A Century of Engagement* and is working on a new book that focuses on the China-Africa security and political relationship. He is the author of numerous book chapters and articles in policy and academic journals concerning China-Africa and African issues. He lectures throughout the United States on Africa and China-Africa. Ambassador Shinn has a PhD from George Washington University.





**Christopher WALKER** is Vice President for Studies and Analysis at the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), a private, nonprofit foundation dedicated to the growth and strengthening of democratic institutions around the world. In this capacity, he oversees the department responsible for NED’s multifaceted analytical work. He is an expert on authoritarian regimes, and has been at the forefront of the discussion on authoritarian influence on open systems, including through what he terms “sharp power.” His articles have appeared in numerous publications, including the *Financial Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Foreign Affairs*, and the *Journal of Democracy*. He is co-editor of the edited volume *Authoritarianism Goes Global: The Challenge to Democracy* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2016), and co-editor of the report *Sharp Power: Rising Authoritarian Influence* (NED’s International Forum for Democratic Studies, 2017). Twitter @Walker\_CT.

**Lina BENABDALLAH** is Assistant Professor at Wake Forest University and Research Fellow at SAIS - CARI. She is the author of *Shaping the Future of Power: Knowledge Production and Network-Building in China-Africa Relations* (University of Michigan Press, 2020). Her research has appeared in *The Journal of International Relations and Development*, *Third World Quarterly*, *African Studies Quarterly*, *Project on Middle East Political Science*, as well as in public facing outlets such as the *Washington Post’s* *Monkey Cage* and *Foreign Policy*.



**David O. SHULLMAN** is Senior Advisor at the International Republican Institute, where he oversees IRI’s work addressing the influence of China and other autocracies on democratic institutions and governance in countries around the world. He is also an Adjunct Senior Fellow at the Center for a New American Security. Dr. Shullman previously served for nearly a dozen years as one of the U.S. Government’s top experts on East Asia, most recently as Deputy National Intelligence Officer for East Asia on the National Intelligence Council. Dr. Shullman has testified on China topics before subcommittees of both chambers of the U.S. Congress and has published in numerous outlets including *Foreign Affairs* and *War on the Rocks*. He earned his PhD in Political Science from UCLA, a MALD from the Fletcher School, and a BA in Government from Georgetown.

**W. Gyude MOORE** is a Visiting Fellow at the Center for Global Development. He previously served as Liberia's Minister of Public Works with oversight on the construction and maintenance of public infrastructure. Prior to that role, Moore served as Deputy Chief of Staff to President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf and as Head of the President's Delivery Unit. As Head of PDU, he managed a team which monitored progress and drove delivery on the country's Public Sector Investment Program – over \$1 billion in road, power, sea and airport infrastructure and social programs. He was also the principal liaison between the Presidency and the Chinese Embassy, for both grant and loan programs. At CGD, Moore's focus is around financing infrastructure in Africa and the changing landscape of development financing. He has written on the rise of China and its expanding role in Africa, and Africa's response to these changes. He holds a B.S. in Political Science from Berea College and an M.S. in Foreign Service from Georgetown University.



**Jamie MONSON** is Director of the African Studies Center and Professor of History at Michigan State University. Her background is deeply rooted in East African environmental history and the relationship between development, resource use and landscape change in Africa. A recognized researcher and scholar, Monson's efforts have established her as a pioneer in China-Africa development studies. Her book, *Africa's Freedom Railway: How a Chinese Development Project Changed Lives and Livelihoods in Tanzania*, explores the TAZARA railway, which was built with Chinese development aid in the 1970s. Monson's most recent project is a book and documentary film based on life histories of TAZARA railway workers in Tanzania, Zambia and China. Together with Liu Shaonan, she is writing a new book on the history of China-Africa engagement, forthcoming from Ohio University Press, titled *Africa Looking East: Africa's Historical Engagement with China*. Monson teaches courses on East African history, African environmental history, history of science and technology in Africa, and has led workshops on international community engagement.