

Bio for P. Sai-wing Ho

P. Sai-wing Ho, Ph.D. Stanford University and B.Soc.Sci. University of Hong Kong, is Professor of Economics at the University of Denver, Colorado, USA. His research work lies in the broad area of trade and development, and is strongly informed by the history of economic analysis, with a minor focus on East and Southeast Asia. He has published articles in the *Cambridge Journal of Economics*, *Review of Political Economy*, *Contributions to Political Economy*, *Æconomia – History/Methodology/Philosophy*, *Metroeconomica*, *Journal of Economic Issues*, *Forum for Social Economics*, and the *UN Chronicle*, and he has served as a referee for most of these journals.

Ho's first book, *Rethinking Trade and Commercial Policy Theories: Development Perspectives*, was published by Edward Elgar Publishing in 2010. It re-examines the works of the classical economists and offers an alternative approach to integrating their trade and foreign investment analyses in a manner that rivals the standard neoclassical interpretation of classical trade theories. It also builds analytical connections with the works of certain 'protectionists', some early generation development economists, and various globalization skeptics. It clarifies the framework of contending development analyses and elucidates the role that policy interventions – including the use of trade and non-trade instruments, investment measures, and attempts to enhance indigenous technological capabilities – play within those frameworks. The hope is that this can prove to be a useful contrast with the mainstream approach that exaggerates the role played by trade interventions and then dismisses them as nothing but 'protectionism', thereby trivializing otherwise complex processes of development.

Ho is completing the manuscript for his second book, *Industrial Development and Division of Labour: A History of Analysis*, for the Cambridge University Press. This work reassesses the debate on industrial policies and seeks to move the current phase of it in a fruitful direction by critically re-examining the works of more economists than in the first book, including the so-called new trade theorists and those who have pioneered the research on global value chains.

Informed by the history of analysis aspect of his research, Ho has extended it into an area that is more institutional, viz. assessing the changing environment for development that is defined by various multilateral trade agreements negotiated under the auspices of the GATT/WTO. He hopes to sensibly caution against the implications of certain elements in such agreements for the progress of the developing countries. He also wants his work to shed light on South–North economic conflicts, the fiercest front where this is currently occurring is that between China and the United States. This is a subject which he plans to write about in his third book.

Ho has taught at the Renmin University in Beijing, and has given talks at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in Beijing as well as at several other universities in China and Hong Kong. Otherwise, he has mostly been stationed in Denver and had in fact taken up certain Chairperson (of his base department) and Director (of Asian Studies) roles totaling almost 14 years.