Comparative Policy Responses to Demographic Change in East Asia:  
Defining a Research Agenda  
January 20-21, 2011  
Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center, Stanford University

Demographic changes are profoundly shaping the political, economic, and social landscape of the Asia-Pacific region. How have individuals, families, communities, and policymakers responded? How should they? For example, how will national and social identities transform as population ageing strains traditions of filial piety and immigration disrupts ethnic homogeneity? Will the economies of East Asia languish, or will a “second demographic dividend” spur renewed economic growth? Demographic change can have important psychological and political effects. For example, can one seriously imagine a resurgent, militaristic Japan with a declining and aging population? The responses to demographic change in Japan, South Korea, China, and their neighbors will have great potential long-term effects in the Asia-Pacific region.

This panel discussion, the opening and public portion of a 1-1/2 day workshop that will define a research agenda for the next three years, will bring together selected outside experts and faculty within the Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center for an interdisciplinary and comparative discussion of the policy responses to rapid demographic change in East Asia.
Comparative Policy Responses to Demographic Change in East Asia:
An expert panel discussion

Thursday, January 20, 2011
Bechtel Conference Center, Encina Hall
Stanford University

3:00 p.m. – 3:10 p.m.  Gi-Wook Shin, Director, Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center, Stanford University:
Introduction and welcome

3:10 p.m. – 3:25 p.m.  Brian Nichiporuk, RAND Corporation:
The Security Implications of Demographic Trends in East Asia

3:25 p.m. – 3:40 p.m.  Michael Sutton, East-West Center, Washington, DC:
Political & Security Implications of Population Aging in Japan

3:40 p.m. – 3:55 p.m.  John Skrentny, Director, Center for Comparative Immigration Studies, Professor of Sociology, University of California, San Diego:
An East Asian Model to Managing Immigration? Durability & Change in the 2000s.

3:55 p.m. – 4:10 p.m.  Chong-En Bai, Chair, Department of Economics, Freeman Chair Professor of Economics, Tsinghua University:
Policy Responses to Demographic Change in China

4:10 p.m. – 4:25 p.m.  David Bloom, Clarence James Gamble Professor of Economics and Demography Chair, Department of Global Health and Population, Harvard University:
Demographic Change in East Asia: Challenges, Options and Evidence

4:25 p.m. – 4:40 p.m.  Naohiro Ogawa, Director, Population Research Institute, Nihon University:
Population Aging & Changing Human Capital in Japan & other East Asian Countries

4:40 p.m. – 4:55 p.m.  Andrew Mason, Professor of Economics, University of Hawaii, Manoa & Senior Fellow, East-West Center, Hawaii:
Population Aging and the Generational Economy: Key Findings

4:55 p.m. – 5:10 p.m.  James Raymo, Professor of Sociology, University of Wisconsin, Madison
The “Second Demographic Transition” and family change in Japan

5:10 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.  Discussion/Conclusion