



The Passport

World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area (www.wacmb.org)

October 2019

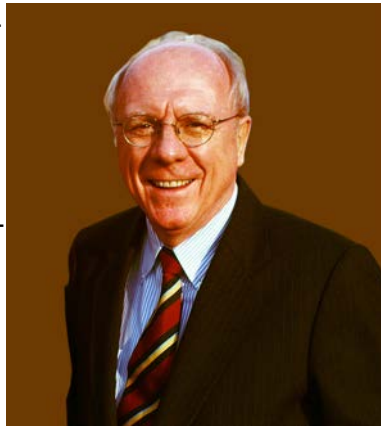
Turmoil in Hong Kong: Social Inequality and Political Failures are Rupturing the Community

Michael Ipson
International Banking Consultant
Tuesday, October 29, 2019

11:30 am: Registration ~11:50 am: Luncheon ~12:50 pm: Program
**** Palo Corona Park HQ, Carmel Valley Road (formerly Rancho Canada) ****

Hong Kong, a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China since 1997, is undergoing unprecedented social and political turmoil. Peaceful protests against a proposed extradition agreement with China have led to an outburst of discontent about the inequities of Hong Kong society, the growing Chinese presence there, and the stagnation in the governmental reform that was supposed to culminate in universal suffrage in the election of Hong Kong's head of government.

In his presentation to the World Affairs Council, Michael Ipson will examine the underlying issues that have fueled the protests in Hong Kong, including enormous disparities in wealth, a housing crisis, the legacy of colonial rule, hesitant political reform, and the younger generation's growing estrangement from China. He will also analyze the actions of the various stakeholders in the dispute and



sketch out possible outcomes.

Michael Ipson first resided in Hong Kong from 1966 to 1968 as an exchange student. He returned to conduct research at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, and then worked in Hong Kong as an international banker from 1982 to 1986 and 1988 to 2005. With permanent Hong Kong residence status, he has regularly traveled there during the past 15 years, including during the Umbrella Movement in 2014.

Ipson received his BA from UC Berkeley, an MA in East Asian Regional Studies from Stanford, and an MBA from DePaul University. He was a candidate in Chinese and Vietnamese History at Harvard, where he was a Fulbright Scholar.

(See page 3 for reservation information)

Thursday, October 3

4:30 pm

Board Meeting: McCone Building Conference Room, MIIS. Open to members.

Monday, October 14

4:00 - 5:30 pm

Discussion Group: MPC Social Science Building Room 101. Parking \$3.00 in Lot D.

Monday, October 21

4:00 - 5:30 pm

OLLI Discussion Group: CSUMB at Ryan Ranch, 8 Upper Ragsdale Dr.

WAC in Profile: Peggy Field

Peggy Field, the co-chair of WACMB's Office Administration and one of the smiling faces that greet you at our luncheons, has been involved with our organization since 2010. She has made Pacific Grove her home since 2009, after seven years in San Francisco and 40 years in "the Valley of Heart's Delight." Living, working, and playing during the Golden Age of Silicon Valley seems to her to be the greatest of historical good fortune.

Psychology presented itself as her life's calling while a freshman at UCSB, from which she graduated with a dual major in Philosophy and Psychology. Although she planned to go to medical school, a summer job at NASA's Ames Research Center launched Peggy on a five-year detour into Space Sciences; she worked on the Pioneer Project and "Grand Tour" mission, experiencing exciting launches at Cape Canaveral and celebrations at the Monkey Bar. Those experiences opened doors and set a high bar for life. Peggy's serpentine trajectory continued when she landed a position as Human Resources Director for Spectra-Physics, again setting a high bar for leadership integrity and best practices management, as well as cutting edge technology. Toss together a few more years in corporate management, add five years in graduate school, and a brilliant mentor; stir and mix, and voila! Peggy became a Psychologist.

Now holding a PhD in Clinical and Organizational Psychology, with a dissertation on "Systems Archetypes in a Learning Organization," Peggy began a 30-year psychology practice, with 20 of those years in Cupertino. Her practice attracted business and technical people suffering personal and professional fallout from high performance lives, and ultimately led to the door of Apple Computer, where she worked as Corporate Psychologist. Peggy currently works as a consulting scholar for Pacifica Graduate Institute, Santa Barbara.

"Always in community" is one of Peggy's foundational personal philosophies. Her favorite activity is her 36-year-running Saturday night date with her husband, Terry Field.

Program Report: Isebill Gruhn

We were honored to have Dr. Isebill Gruhn from UC Santa Cruz speak on "Europe in Turmoil" at our August luncheon. From Brexit to Italy's ongoing government problems to the general rise of nationalist-populist movements, the European project has not seen such disarray since it began in the aftermath of World War II.

Gruhn noted that European integration, from NATO to the European Union, was designed to end the persistent warfare that had plagued Europe through increased interdependence. Integration would also produce economies of scale for the modern world. The US played a critical role in advancing Europe's integration.

Europe's current turmoil has two primary causes. First, the EU's enormous expansion following the end of the Cold War allowed poorer countries of Eastern Europe to join, leading to a shift of large amounts of resources from richer to poorer countries within the EU. Those transfers generated significant resentment and alienation in Britain, Germany, and elsewhere among the original EU countries, creating lots of "unhappy people" who adopted new forms of nationalism out of national resentment. Second, under the Trump administration, the US is no longer committed to an integrated Europe, expediting the turmoil.

While these two causes are primary, other issues have fed into the resentment, including the mass immigration of people fleeing war and poverty in the Middle East and Africa, and the overbearing approach by the EU administration based in Brussels. The rise of right-wing populist movements in many European countries does not bode well for the future of an integrated Europe.

Check This Out!

WACMB has a user-friendly and up-to-date website, where you can make luncheon reservations, view videos of previous speakers, check what's on the calendar, and read The Passport. You'll also find a substantial collection of links to other websites of interest. Go to www.wacmb.org and see what's new!

RESERVATION FORM

Reservations due October 24 for October 29 presentation

Registration 11:30 am

Luncheon 11:50 am

Program 12:45 pm

Mail form and check or credit information to:

WACMB, PO Box 83, Monterey, CA 93942

or fax reservation form to (831) 643-1846

or register online at www.wacmb.org

Members @ \$31 _____

Guests @ \$40 _____

Total \$ _____

Turmoil in Hong Kong

Name/s _____ Card Holder Name _____

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Note: No refunds or credit will be given for cancellations received after the due date

DISCUSSION GROUPS

WAC discussion groups are free and open to the public. Each month, the group will select the topic for the following month's discussion.

MPC: October's topic is "The Iranian Powder Keg." What caused the current tense relationship between the US and Iran? How likely is armed conflict between the two?

Meetings are always on the second Monday of the month, from 4:00 - 5:30 pm in Room 101, Social Sciences Building. This month's meeting will be on October 14. Parking is available for \$3 in Lot D.

OLLI/CSUMB: Following up on September's luncheon topic, the OLLI discussion group will address relations between the US and Mexico.

Meetings are always on the third Monday of the month, from 4:00-5:30 pm at the CSUMB Ryan Ranch location. Parking is free. Note: Preregistration is required for OLLI programs. Register at olli.csumb.edu.

LUNCHEON MENU

- House Salad with Ranch Dressing
- Panko Crusted Chicken with Sherry Cream Sauce
- Roasted Potatoes
- Seasonal Vegetables
- Fresh Rolls and Butter
- Chef's Choice Dessert
- Coffee

VEGETARIAN OPTION

- Pasta with Marinara Sauce

This is the monthly newsletter of the World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area (WACMB). WACMB is a nonprofit, non-partisan organization established to promote the presentation, discussion, and study of international affairs. WACMB is a tax-exempt 501 (c) (3) organization, EIN-770301206. Contributions are tax deductible as permitted by law. WACMB sponsors monthly luncheons, discussion groups, and student scholarships.

Corporate and institutional support for the World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area is provided by

- *California State University Monterey Bay
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| Contributing..... | \$150 |
| Sustaining..... | \$75 |
| Family (couple)..... | \$50 |
| Individual | \$30 |
| Student*..... | \$15 |

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*Student memberships are limited to full-time students matriculating at an accredited college or graduate school. This also includes a special military membership for enlisted personnel, grades E-1 to E-4 only.

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