

SEMINAR TITLE

Land, Property and the Developmental State

Place: Centre for African Studies Gallery, UCT

Date: Tuesday 12 June
12h30 to 15h00

SEMINAR

The aim of the seminar is to discuss two much contested issues in South Africa – Land and the Developmental State. You-tien is one of the world’s leading scholars on land and property reform in Taiwan and China. Vusi was previously employed in the Policy Coordination and Advisory Services in the Presidency and is now reflecting/writing on it. Lungisile, in addition to being the Acting Director in the Centre for African Studies also has the National Research Foundation (NRF) Research Chair in Land Reform and Democracy. It is indeed a privilege, and a unique opportunity to have such a collection of expertise and experience in a most appropriate location – the African Studies Institute.

SEMINAR PROGRAMME

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| 12h00 | Snacks and drinks in foyer |
| 12h30 | Welcome – Lungisile Ntsebeza |
| 12h40 | You-tien – Land, Property Reform and Social Activism in Taiwan and China |
| 13h30 | Discussion |
| 14h00 | Vusi Gumede – the Developmental State in South Africa |
| 14h30 | Introduction to discussion – Lungisile Ntsebeza |
| 15h00 | Closure – Nico Cloete |

You-tien Hsing is Professor of Geography at the University of California at Berkeley. She is the author of *Making Capitalism in China: The Taiwan Connection* (Oxford University Press, 1998), *The Great Urban Transformation: Politics of Land and Property in China* (Oxford University Press, 2010), and co-editor of *Reclaiming Chinese Society: The New Social Activism* (Routledge, 2009). Hsing serves on the editorial board of several international journals, and has been visiting professor to Tsinghua University in Beijing, Shanghai University in Shanghai, National Taiwan University and National Chengchi University in Taiwan. Hsing’s research has been focusing on the political economy of development, urbanisation and land in China. Recently she has expanded her interests to East Asian societies in the era of post-developmental state, and the politics of conservation in China’s northern frontier regions, particularly in Inner Mongolia. Hsing draws inspirations from ethnographical work. She believes that theorising starts from muddy realities. It is a process of open dialogues and self-reflections, of which the historical and the geographical, the institutional and the emotional are all indispensable.



Vusi Gumede is an Associate Professor in Development Studies at the University of Johannesburg. He worked for the South African government, first as economist in the Ministry of Trade and Industry and then in the Presidency's Policy Coordination and Advisory Services as an advisor and as chief policy analyst for about ten years. Prior to joining government, he was active in the academic and research environment. Prof. Gumede still contributes to the academia as a visiting scholar/fellow at various institutions abroad and has been honored by Cornell University as a Distinguished Africanist Scholar and by Yale University as a World Fellow. He also serves as Trustee for the Southern African Trust and as Editor for the Journal of Development and African Studies. Prof. Gumede is an expert in socio-economic and public policy issues in South Africa and Africa broadly and has published extensively and is working on a book on the developmental state.

Lungisile Ntsebeza is a Professor and Acting Director in the Centre for African Studies at the University of Cape Town. He is also the holder of the National Research Foundation (NRF) Research Chair in Land Reform and Democracy in South Africa. He has conducted extensive published research on the land question in South Africa around themes such as land rights, democratisation, rural local government, traditional authorities and land, and agrarian movements. His book, *Democracy Compromised: Chiefs and the Politics of Land in South Africa* was published by Brill Academic Publishers, Leiden, in 2005 and the HSRC Press in 2006. Prof. Ntsebeza has also co-edited two books: *The Land Question in South Africa: the Challenge of Transformation and Redistribution* (HSRC Press, 2007, with Ruth Hall); and, with Thembele Kepe, *Rural Resistance in South Africa: The Mpondo Revolts after fifty years* (Brill Academic Publishers, 2011 and UCT Press, 2012). His current research interests, apart from land and agrarians questions, include an investigation of African Studies at the University of Cape Town and a related project on the political and intellectual history of the late Archie Mafeje.

