

The University of Hong Kong

香 港 大 學



Department of Politics and Public Administration

Presents

## Exploring a Path: Public Choice Theory and the Future of Hong Kong

Public choice theory posits that systems can be understood by examining individual, self interested behavior. Cities have been described as “utility maximizing”, competitive entities, that pursue self gain. After discussing the assumptions, benefits and risks of public choice Professor Savitch examines it in the light of Hong Kong’s future. Is Hong Kong better off pursuing its own path to development or is cooperation better? Should cooperation be mainly directed to Mainland China or is international cooperation a better path? These and other questions are essential for Hong Kong’s future.

### Professor Hank Savitch

*Brown and Williamson Distinguished Research Professor  
School of Urban and Public Affairs  
University of Louisville*

Hank Savitch is a former co-editor at the *Journal of Urban Affairs* and former President of the Urban Politics Section of the American Political Science Association. He has published eleven books or monographs on various aspects of urban development, public policy and regional governance. His more than 100 articles have appeared in leading journals, collected works and research outlets and he is now co-editing a volume of papers on “Chinese Cities in Global Context”. He has received numerous awards both in the United States and abroad. He served as a Visiting Scholar at the London School of Economics (United Kingdom) as well as being named a Lady Davis Fellow at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem (Israel). He has been the recipient of awards which has allowed him to do extensive research in France for more than 20 years. Most recently Savitch was a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Chile, in Santiago. Professor Savitch has also served as a consultant to former mayor of New York City, David Dinkins, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Mayors’ Urban Summit and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and local organizations in Metro Louisville.

**Date: October 11, 2012 (Thur)**

**Time: 4:30 pm**

**Venue: Social Sciences Chamber, 11/F.,  
The Jockey Club Tower, HKU**

*(Tea & coffee will be served at 4:15pm)*

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