

# Record of Doctoral Dissertation Screening

Graduate School of Asia Pacific Studies

\*If possible please fill out this form in both English and Japanese.

<b>Name/ DOB / Nationality</b>	ZOU Xiaolong	1986/06/29	China
<b>Last Institution Attended</b>	September, 2016 Graduate School of Asia Pacific Studies Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University Doctoral Program Completed		
<b>Degree Type</b>	Doctor of Philosophy in Asia Pacific Studies	<b>Date of Award</b>	September 20, 2016
<b>Requirements for Degree Conferral</b>	Persons who comply to the Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University Degree Regulations Article 13 Section 1		Degree Regulation Article 4 Section 1
<b>Title of Dissertation (Eng./Jap.)</b>	Understanding and Evaluating Sustainable Cities: Case Studies from China and Japan (持続可能な都市の理解と評価：中国及び日本のケース)		
<b>Examiners (Affiliation)</b>	(Supervisor)1. LI Yan		2. COOPER Malcolm
	3. GU Chaolin (Tsinghua University)		
<b>Summary of Dissertation Contents</b>	<p>The candidate's dissertation aims to understand and evaluate the on-going sustainable urbanization trends by investigating three representative sustainable city models (or categories), namely, "Eco-city", "Low-carbon City" and "Smart City" in the east Asian contexts. Cases from China and Japan are studied and analyzed with references to international practices. Furthermore, he has proposed and developed an integrated approach for evaluating such urban models with local inputs and flexible customizability.</p> <p>The major outline of his dissertation is as the follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduction</li> <li>2. Review of Literature</li> <li>3. Eco-city Development in China: International Perspective and Comparison</li> <li>4. Low-carbon City Development in China: Lessons and References From Other Countries</li> <li>5. Understanding Smart City Developments: A New Framework and Its Application in Japan</li> <li>6. A New Evaluation Approach for Sustainable Cities: From Smart City Concept to Indicator Weighting</li> <li>7. Conclusion</li> </ol>		

<p><b>Summary of Dissertation Screening Results</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• His dissertation tackles the grand topic of global urban sustainability trends by studying three selected urban models in China and Japan of the Asian setting. This topic is capably handled by the candidate, and the specific case studies and research method are carried out in a professional manner. There is not yet any similar study conducted that focused on developing an integrated approach for evaluation of sustainable cities in general, therefore the candidate's dissertation fill in the research gap by providing such knowledge.</li> <li>• The conceptualized framework and proposed integrated evaluation approach also offer practical references for policy makers and urban managers on a broader geographical scale. For example, his case study comparison of China and Japan's eco-cities, case study of low-carbon cities from Japan and Germany offers good lessons and references to China's sustainable urban developments; his conceptual framework of smart city and its application in Japan provides holistic understanding to this new urban development trend with suitable method for evaluation.</li> <li>• Some further research topics can also be derived from his dissertation, such as the specific evaluation and ranking of Japan's sustainable cities based on his proposed index; different local application of the proposed integrated approach for new urban project development and implementation.</li> <li>• An oral defense of the dissertation was held on July 22, 2016.</li> <li>• The examiners unanimously decide that this dissertation deserves to be awarded a PhD degree.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Summary of Examination Results or confirmation of Academic Skills</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The graduating student complies with the Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University Degree Regulation Article 13 Section 1.</li> <li>• The graduate has successfully passed the oral examination.</li> <li>• The graduate has published a number of academic papers during his PhD study: one book chapter published by Springer (indexed by EI); three peer-reviewed journal articles (indexed by Scopus); two book review papers in APU's peer review journal; several conference papers (including Best Paper Award in the 13th AP Conference). He has also participated in several international conferences and delivered presentations; moreover, he has been invited to be the referee for two Elsevier journals, which is a good indication of his academic achievements.</li> </ul>