Contributors

**Werner Breitung** is an urban geographer with degrees from FU Berlin and the University of Basel. He lives in China and has been teaching at the University of Hong Kong and the University of Macau (since 2001) and at Sun Yat-sen University in Guangzhou (since 2004). He joined the Department of Urban Planning and Design at Xi’an Jiaotong-Liverpool University in Suzhou (China) in 2013 as professor. He has also led four major research projects by the German DFG and the Chinese NSFC, and published widely on urban issues, social geographies and borders in the Pearl River Delta.

**Hongxia Chai** is a teaching fellow in the Department of Social Policy and Social Work at the University of York in the UK. She has completed her PhD and MA in Public Policy and Public Administration at the University of York, as well as an MA in Chinese Politics at the Party School of the Central Committee of the CPC (Beijing). She is specialized in Public Policy, Comparative Social Policy, Governance and Chinese Politics.

**Junhua Chen** is an associate professor in the Department of Real Estate Management at the Central University of Finance and Economics in Beijing, China. His research covers the real-estate market and management, real-estate finance and investment, urbanization and housing policy.

**Limei Chen** is a lecturer in the Population Research Institute at East China Normal University (Shanghai). Her forthcoming book, *Private Housing Governance in China: Institution and Practice*, examines the institutions and practice of condominium living in urban China. She is now doing a research project on housing finance and elderly people in Shanghai.

**Youhong Chen** is Director of the Community and Governance Institute. Her book, an edited volume entitled *Community Governance: From Multicultural Perspectives: Theories and Practice*, with a preface by Nobel Laureate Elinor Ostrom, explores Chinese neighbourhood self-governance’s legal foundation, collective actions, institutional choices, and economic and enterprise development. She is researching the relationship between civil society and the state.
Yong Gui is a professor in the Department of Sociology at Fudan University. His research interests include Economic Sociology, Urban Community and Local Governance, Grassroots Contentious Politics, Social Capital and Social Network. He is the author of two books: Neighbourhood Space: Actions, Organizations and Interactions in Urban Communities and Social Foundation of Private Ownership. His work also appears in Human Relations, Sociological Studies and other journals.

Shengli Guo is Professor in the Social and Public Administration School, East China University of Science and Technology and doctor of philosophy in political science from Fudan University. She has published three books: The Creation and Reform of the Residents’ Committees: A Case Study of Shanghai, The Construction of Sovereign Power and the Restructuring of Urban Society and An Analysis of State Power Development in Shanghai in the Early Years of PRC, as well as a co-authored book, The International Communities in China within a Globalization Context: An Empirical Study of Changing District, Shanghai (with Guohong Zhu). She also has written two textbooks and published over 30 academic papers in journals such as CAAS Journal of Political Science.

Ronggui Huang is an assistant professor in the Department of Sociology at Fudan University. His research interests include neighbourhood governance in China, Internet and contentious politics, social capital and social networks. His work has appeared in top Chinese journals such as Sociological Studies, Chinese Journal of Sociology, Journalism & Communication and Journal of Public Management.

Yihong Jiang is a lecturer at the Centre for East Asian Studies, the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Her research focuses on the sociopolitical and spatial dynamics of urban development. She has written on aspects of urban governance in China, including urban competition and competitiveness, as well as homeowners’ groups and housing activism. Her previous writing appeared in journals such as Cities, Journal of Contemporary China and Habitat International.

Weihong Ma is an associate professor in the Department of Public Administration at Shenzhen University, China. She is also a research fellow at the Centre for Contemporary Chinese Political Studies of Shenzhen University. Her teaching and research interests span the fields of local governance, urban China transformation and China’s NGOs. Her English articles have appeared in the journals China Information (2006), Journal of Contemporary Asia (2009) and Journal of Contemporary China (2010). She has had a dozen Chinese articles published.
Benjamin L. Read is an associate professor in the Politics Department at the University of California, Santa Cruz. His book, *Roots of the State: Neighbourhood Organization and Social Networks in Beijing and Taipei*, examines the vast networks of urban administrative bodies found in the cities of China and Taiwan as windows on state–society relations. With two co-authors, he is working on a methods book concerning field research in political science.

Xiaoyi Sun is a post doctoral research fellow in the Department of Public Policy at City University of Hong Kong. Her research explores state-fostered and independent associational life at the grassroots level in urban China. She is also interested in urban theories and topics, including the production of space and urban governance.

Juan Tang is an associate professor in the Department of Public Administration at the College of Management, and Director of the Institute of Social Governance Innovation, at Shenzhen University. She completed her doctoral study at Peking University. Since 2003, she has worked on Chinese urban community and local public governance, the urban grassroots-level social movement, and has published seven books (monographs or as chief editor), including *Co-possession, Co-use, Co-governance* and 30 or so papers.

Jianjun Wang is a researcher at the Development Research Centre of Pingshan New District in Shenzhen. She finished her master’s studies at Shenzhen University. She has had five papers published, including ‘Institutional reasons of owner committees’ election conflict’ (published in the journal *Social Science Research*, 2009).

Ying Wu is an associate research fellow in the National Institute of Social Development, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. Her major research covers urbanization, grassroots governance, the sociology of housing and social movement. From 2009 to 2011, she worked for the Department of Public and Social Administration at City University of Hong Kong, and from 2007 to 2008 was a visiting scholar at the Melbourne School of Land and Environment at the University of Melbourne.

Ngai-Ming Yip is Professor in the Department of Public Policy, City University of Hong Kong. He researches on urban and housing issues in East Asia. He has recently published papers on the lateral networks of homeowners’ association in China as well as gated communities in Shanghai. He has completed a project on the reinvention of neighbourhood governance in urban China as well as working on a project on urbanization, economic reform and the transformation of the neighbourhood in transitional Vietnam.