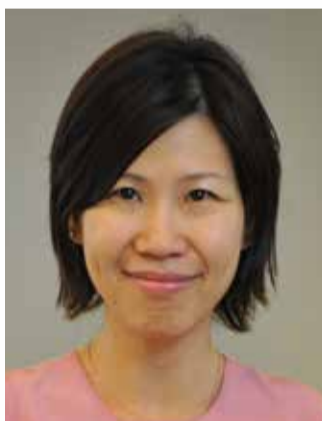


IWP RESEARCH SEMINAR

FEAR, DISGUST AND LOATHING: EMOTIONAL QUALITIES OF PUBLIC POLICIES

This paper joins two recent trends in public policy – policy bubbles and the emotional quality of policies. It proposes to locate these within the meta-framework of the policy sciences conceived by Lasswell (1971) with the following hypotheses. First, negative policy bubbles affect the policy process through a negative “goal definition” of the problem, which makes it unattractive to stakeholders. Second, emotions affect the contextual orientation of policy analysts, the Lasswellian “act of creative orientation.” This paper provides an empirical test of these hypotheses with two cases of recycled drinking water. Provision of recycled drinking water is an underinvested policy which has been implemented on a large scale in fewer than five instances. Although the narratives in the first successful case in Namibia are relatively low valence and center on sustainability and governance, the second case in the United States shows emotions that were highly salient, with anger, social justice, and disgust.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER



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Leong Ching has degrees in philosophy and information technology. Despite this, she has found gainful employment at the Institute of Water Policy, where she spends her time applying for research visas and checking weather reports for her field trips. Her research interests include water governance, institutional change theories and the role of narratives in public perceptions. She has research projects in rivers in India, Cambodia and China. Her journal articles have been rejected by top journals including *Governance*, *Policy Sciences* and *Water Resources Management*.

CHAIR

Prof Michael Howlett

Yong Pung How Chair Professor, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy

Monday, 11 April 2016 12:15pm-1:30pm

Seminar Room 3-5, Level 3, Manasseh Meyer Building, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy
469E Bukit Timah Road, Singapore 259774

Admission is free. Please register at lkyschoolevents@nus.edu.sg

Light lunch will be served for those who register by 6 April 2016.

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