

Ethan Michelson

(July 2021)

Indiana University
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FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS, INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Professor of Sociology and Law

Department of Sociology, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures (2021–present)/Associate Professor (2008–2021)/Assistant Professor (2003–2008)
Maurer School of Law (2009–present)

Administrative Responsibilities

Indiana University, Chair, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures (2021–present)
Indiana University, China Gateway Office, Academic Director (2019–present)/Academic Co-Director (2017–2019)
Indiana University Center for Law, Society, and Culture: Director (2014–2016)/Co-Director (2012–2014)
Department of Sociology: Director of Graduate Studies (2012–2016)

EDUCATION

University of Chicago

Ph.D., Department of Sociology, 2003 (Dissertation: “Unhooking from the State: Chinese Lawyers in Transition”)
M.A., Department of Sociology, 1995

McGill University

B.A., First Class Joint Honors in East Asian Studies and Sociology, 1992

Nanjing University, Nanjing, China, Chinese language study, 1992–93

BOOKS

Forthcoming. Ethan Michelson. *Decoupling: Gender Injustice in China's Divorce Courts* (Cambridge University Press)

Under contract. Robert Nelson, Meghan Dawe, Ronit Dinovitzer, Bryant Garth, Ethan Michelson, Joyce Sterling, and David Wilkins. *The Making of Lawyer Careers: Inequality and Opportunity in the American Legal Profession* (The University of Chicago Press)

JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

2020. Ethan Michelson “Possession is Nine-Tenths of the Law: Why Wife-Beaters Are Awarded Child Custody in China’s Divorce Courts.” *Journal of Comparative Law* 15(2): 126-159.
2020. Ethan Michelson “In Search of Activist Lawyers in China: A Time Machine Back to the Heyday of Political Activism in the Chinese Legal Profession.” *Wisconsin International Law Journal* 37(2): 350-414.
2019. Ethan Michelson. “Many Voices in China’s Legal Profession: Plural Meanings of *Weiquan*.” *China Law and Society Review* 4(2): 71-101.
2019. Ethan Michelson “Decoupling: Marital Violence and the Struggle to Divorce in China” *American Journal of Sociology* 125(2): 325-381. (lead article)
Honorable Mention for the Distinguished Article Award of the American Sociological Association Section on the Sociology of Law
2018. Benjamin L. Read and Ethan Michelson. “Village Dispute Mediation in China, 2002–2010: An Enduring Institution amid Rural Change.” *Asian Journal of Law and Society* 5(2): 433-452.
2015. Ethan Michelson, “Immigrant Lawyers and the Changing Face of the U.S. Legal Profession.” *Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies* 22(1): 105-111.
2014. Sida Liu, Lily Liang, and Ethan Michelson. “Migration and Social Structure: The Spatial Mobility of Chinese Lawyers.” *Law & Policy* 36(2): 165-194.
2013. Ethan Michelson. “Women in the Legal Profession, 1970-2010: A Study of the Global Supply of Lawyers.” *Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies* 20(2): 1071-1137.
2012. Ethan Michelson. “Public Goods and State-Society Relations: An Impact Study of China’s Rural Stimulus.” Pp. 131-57 in *The Global Recession and China’s Political Economy*, edited by Dali L. Yang. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.
2012. Ethan Michelson. “Access to Lawyers: A Comparative Analysis of the Supply of Lawyers in China and the United States.” *National Taiwan University Law Review* 7(1): 223-255.
2011. Ethan Michelson and Benjamin L. Read. “Public Attitudes Toward Official Justice in Beijing and Rural China.” Pp. 169-203 in *Chinese Justice: Civil Dispute Resolution in Contemporary China*, edited by Margaret Y.K. Woo and Mary E. Gallagher. Cambridge and New York: Cambridge University Press.
2010. Ethan Michelson and Sida Liu. “What Do Chinese Lawyers Want? Political Values and Legal Practice in China.” Pp. 310-333 in *China’s Emerging Middle Class: Beyond Economic Transformation*, edited by Cheng Li. Washington DC: Brookings Institution Press.
2010. Ethan Michelson. “Family Planning Enforcement in Rural China: Enduring State-Society Conflict?” Pp. 189-226 in *Growing Pains: Tensions and Opportunity in China’s Transformation*, edited by Jean C. Oi, Scott Rozelle, and Xueguang Zhou. Stanford, CA: Shorenstein Asia Pacific Research Center, distributed by Brookings Institution Press.
2009. Ethan Michelson. “Gender Inequality in the Chinese Legal Profession.” *Research in the Sociology of Work* 19: 337-76.

2008. Benjamin L. Read and Ethan Michelson. "Mediating the Mediation Debate: Conflict Resolution and the Local State in China." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 52(5): 737-64.
2008. Ethan Michelson. "Dear Lawyer Bao: Everyday Problems, Legal Advice, and State Power in China." *Social Problems* 55(1): 43-71.
2008. Ethan Michelson. "Justice from Above or Below? Popular Strategies for Resolving Grievances in Rural China." *The China Quarterly* 193: 43-64.
Winner of the 2009 Gordon White Prize for most original article or research report published in *The China Quarterly*
2007. Ethan Michelson. "Lawyers, Political Embeddedness, and Institutional Continuity in China's Transition from Socialism." *American Journal of Sociology* 113(2): 352-414
Abridged and edited version reprinted in *Lawyers and the Rule of Law in an Era of Globalization*, pp. 39-66, edited by Yves Dezalay and Bryant Garth. New York: Routledge, 2011
Co-Winner of the 2009 Research Article Award of the American Sociological Association Section on Asia & Asian America
2007. Ethan Michelson. "Climbing the Dispute Pagoda: Grievances and Appeals to the Official Justice System in Rural China." *American Sociological Review* 72(3): 459-85
2006. Ethan Michelson. "The Practice of Law as an Obstacle to Justice: Chinese Lawyers at Work." *Law & Society Review* 40(1): 1-38. (lead article)
Reprinted in *Law and Society in East Asia*, edited by Christoph Antons and Roman Tomasic. London: Ashgate, 2013
Abridged and edited version reprinted in *Working in China: Ethnographies of Labor and Workplace Transformation*. pp.169-187, edited by Ching Kwan Lee. Oxon, UK and New York: Routledge, 2007
2000. Ethan Michelson and William L. Parish, "Gender Differentials in Economic Success: Rural China in 1991," Pp. 134-156 in *Redrawing Boundaries: Gender, Households, and Work in China*, edited by Barbara Entwisle and Gail Henderson. Berkeley: University of California Press.
2000. Ethan Michelson, Edward O. Laumann and John P. Heinz, "The Changing Character of the Lawyer-Client Relationship: Evidence From Two Chicago Surveys," in *The Management of Durable Relations: Theoretical and Empirical Models for Households and Organizations*, edited by Werner Raub and Jeroen Weesie. Amsterdam: Thela/Thesis Publishers.
1998. John P. Heinz, Edward O. Laumann, Robert L. Nelson, and Ethan Michelson, "The Changing Character of Lawyers' Work: Chicago in 1975 and 1995." *Law & Society Review* 32(5): 751-775.
Reprinted in *Urban Lawyers: The New Social Structure of the Bar*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2005.
1998. Ethan Michelson, "Guest Editor's Introduction." *Chinese Law and Government* 31(5): 5-38.
1998. Ethan Michelson, "Tradition in the Shadow of Modern Legal Practice: Continuity and Change in the Delivery of Justice in China (I)." *Chinese Law and Government* 31(5): 39-108.

1998. Ethan Michelson. "Tradition in the Shadow of Modern Legal Practice: Continuity and Change in the Delivery of Justice in China (II)." *Chinese Law and Government* 31(6): 3-104.
1996. William L. Parish and Ethan Michelson, "Politics and Markets: Dual Transformations." *American Journal of Sociology* 101(4): 1042-1059.
Reprinted in *Shichang Zhuanxing Yu Shehui Fenceng: Meiguo Shehuixuezhe Fenxi Zhongguo* (Market Transition and Social Stratification: American Sociologists' Analyses of China), edited by Yanjie Bian. Beijing: San Lian Press, 2002.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS AND TECHNICAL REPORTS

2019. Ethan Michelson, review of *Embedded Courts: Judicial Decision-Making in China* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2017), *Asian Journal of Law and Society* 6(2): 451-453.
2008. Ethan Michelson. "Popular Attitudes towards Dispute Processing in Urban and Rural China," The Foundation for Law, Justice, and Society.
2004. Ethan Michelson. "Shimin Shenghuo Zhong de Falü," (Law in the Lives of Urban Citizens) Pp. 81–104 in *Falü Yu Shehui: Shehuixue He Faxue de Shijiao* (Law and Society: Sociological and Jurisprudential Perspectives), edited by Guo Xinghua and Lu Yilong. Beijing: Renmin Daxue Chubanshe.
2003. Ethan Michelson, "Jiufen Yu Falü Xuqiu: Yi Beijing de Diaocha Wei Li," (Disputes and Legal Demand: Taking a Beijing Survey as a Case) *Jiangsu Shehui Kexue* (Jiangsu Social Science) 1: 72–80.
2001. Ethan Michelson, "Lang Lai Zi Nali? Zhongguo Lüshi de Xiwang Lai Zi Nali? (From Where Does the Wolf Come? From Where Do Chinese Lawyers' Hopes Come?)" *Huanqiu Falü Pinglun* (Global Law Review) 119: 173–5.
2000. Gao Hongjun and Ethan Michelson, "Shichang Jingji, Jiufen Jiejue Yu Lixing Falü: Bianhuazhong De Zhongguo Jiquan Shetuan (The Market, Dispute Resolution, and Rational Law: Corporatism in a Changing China)," Pp. 168–187 in *Gong Fa* (Public Law Review), Volume 2, edited by Xia Yong. Beijing: Falü Chubanshe.
2000. Ethan Michelson, "Statistical Appendix," in *Zou Xiang Quanli de Shidai: Zhongguo Gongmin Quanli Fazhan Yanjiu* (Towards an Age of Rights: Research on The Development of Chinese Citizen Rights), Revised Edition, edited by Xia Yong. Beijing: Zhongguo Zhengfa Daxue Chubanshe.
1993. Ethan Michelson. "In Defense of Collective Farms: Collectivization and Decollectivization in the People's Republic of China." *Society for Economic Anthropology Newsletter* 13(2): 6-15.

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND DISTINCTIONS

- National Institutes of Health, "Stigma of Mental Illness in China: Extending the SGC-MHS," 2010–2012
- U.S. Department of Education Fulbright-Hays Faculty Research Abroad Program Fellowship, 2009–2010
- U.S. Department of State Fulbright Research Scholar Grant, 2009–2010, declined

2009 Research Article Award of the American Sociological Association Section on Asia & Asian America
 Gordon White Prize for most original article or research report published in *The China Quarterly* in 2008
 Indiana University Outstanding Junior Faculty Award, campus-wide award for junior faculty members who show promise of achieving great distinction as scholars or artists, 2007–2008
 Hopkins-Nanjing Center, Institute for International Research, In-Residence Research Fellowship, 2006–2007
 Indiana University Research Leave Supplement, 2006–2007
 The University of Iowa, Obermann Center for Advanced Studies, Interdisciplinary Research Grant, Summer 2005 (co-PI: Benjamin L. Read)
 The University of Chicago Doolittle Fellowship, 2002
 American Bar Foundation, Doctoral Fellowship, 2001–2003
 Ford Foundation Individual Grant for Promoting Sociology of Law in China, 2000–2001 (Grant #15006118)
 Fulbright-Hays, Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship, 1999–2000
 National Science Foundation, Law and Social Science Program, Grant for Improving Doctoral Dissertation Research, 1999-2000 (co-PI: William L. Parish) [NSF#9906234]
 Social Science Research Council, International Dissertation Field Research Fellowship, 1999–2000
 Social Science Research Council, International Predissertation Fellowship Program, 1995–96
 National Science Foundation, Graduate Research Fellowship, 1993–97
 China/Canada Scholar Exchange Programme Fellowship, 1992–93
 Harold K. Schneider Prize, Society for Economic Anthropology, 1992–93
 David N. Solomon Prize in Sociology, McGill University, 1991–92
 Bielski Prize in Sociology, McGill University, 1989–90
 James McGill Award, McGill University, 1989–90

INVITED TALKS

2018. “The Economic Value of a Law Degree: Still Worth It?” (美国法律学位含金量依旧如初?), University of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing, May 25
 2018. “A Big Data Analysis of Divorce Decisions in Henan, 2009-2015” (离婚案件中裁判决定的影响因素——基于河南省 2009 年至 2015 年裁判文书的大数据分析), Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Institute of Sociology, Beijing, May 24
 2018. “A Big Data Analysis of Divorce Decisions in Henan, 2009-2015” (离婚案件中裁判决定的影响因素——基于河南省 2009 年至 2015 年裁判文书的大数据分析), Sichuan University School of Law, Chengdu, May 21
 2018. “China’s Civil Simplified Procedure is Not So Simple: A “Big Data” Study of First-Instance Divorce Cases” (简易程序不简单：一审离婚案件裁判文书“大数据”实证分析报告), Renmin University School of Law, Beijing, January 5.
 2017. “The Economic Value of a Law Degree: Still Worth It?” (美国法学教育依然合算吗?), China University of Political Science and Law, Beijing, November 23.

2017. "Divorce in China: Women's Sisyphean Quest for Freedom," University of Wisconsin-Madison, East Asian Legal Studies Center, March 15
2016. "A First Look at Lawyer Careers from Three Waves of the AJD Survey, 1999-2012," IU Center for Law, Society, and Culture, September 15
2015. "Divorce in Rural China: A New Source of 'Missing Females,'" Northwestern University, May 4
2013. "Women in the Legal Profession, 1970-2010: A Study of the Global Supply of Lawyers," Brown University, Department of Sociology, April 16
2012. Divorce in Rural China: A New Source of "Missing Females," University of Michigan, Center for Chinese Studies, November 19
2012. Access to Lawyers: Situating the Anomalous Case of China in Global Context, University of California-Berkeley Center for the Study of Law and Society, March 5
2012. Delivering Justice in Rural China, Indiana University-Bloomington, East Asian Studies Center, February 17
2012. Judicial Performance without Independence in Rural China, Indiana University-Bloomington, Center for Constitutional Democracy, February 9
2011. Access to Lawyers: A Comparative Analysis of the Supply of Lawyers in China and the United States, National Taiwan University School of Law, April 26
2010. Has Rural China Become More Harmonious? Early Findings from a New Survey, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, May 27
2010. America's 'Litigation Explosion': A "Law & Society" Approach, Chinese University of Political Science and Law, April 8
2009. Talk on Legal Professions Research, Opening Ceremony for School of Comparative Law, Chinese University of Political Science and Law, December 19
2009. Sino-Global Legal Alliance, Beijing, October 17
2008. University of Michigan, Department of Sociology, December 11
2008. Indiana University, School of Law, International Law Society, November 21
2008. Invited Discussant at Senior Scholar Seminar on the Role of Empirical Research in Criminal Justice Policy Change, Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government, October 6-7
2008. Washington University in St. Louis, School of Law, March 28
2007. Yale Law School, November 26
2007. Missouri Southern State University, Joplin, two talks for "China Semester," November 16
2006. Nanjing University, Department of Sociology, Sociological Seminar, No. 70, November 15
2006. Invited Discussant at Workshop on Globalization of Women's Rights, Wellesley College, July 30-August 2
2006. University of Illinois, College of Law, February 3
2005. University of Pittsburgh, Asian Studies Center, November 14
2005. University of Pittsburgh, Department of Sociology, November 14
2005. Iowa City Foreign Relations Council, June 11
2005. The University of Chicago, East Asia Workshop, May 31
2005. Northwestern University, Department of Sociology, April 7
2005. University at Buffalo (SUNY), Baldy Center for Law & Social Policy, March 4
2004. University of Michigan, Center for Chinese Studies, Noon Lecture Series, November 9

2002. Harvard University Law School, East Asian Legal Studies Series, December 16
2002. MIT Sloan School, Economic Sociology Seminar, December 19

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2019. “Many Voices in China’s Legal Profession: Plural Meanings of *Weiquan*,” for Conference on China’s Legal Construction Program at 40 Years: Towards an Autonomous Legal System? at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, October 11-13
2019. Roundtable on “Challenges of Studying Law in Authoritarian Settings: Big Data to the Rescue?” for Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, May 30-June 2, Washington DC
2019. “A Look Back at the Heyday of Political Activism in the Chinese Legal Profession: A Retrospective Excavation of a Lost Online Community of Lawyers,” for the 2019 Wisconsin International Law Journal Annual Symposium, Madison, WI, April 5
2018. “Public (Dis)trust in Law? Trust Gaps in China and Beyond,” (Ethan Michelson and Alisha Kirchoff) for World Justice Project Scholars Conference, October 26-27, 2018, Duke University School of Law
2018. “Behind Every Successful Man with a Law Degree...,” for After the JD: Strategies and Structures in the Making of Lawyers’ Careers, UC-Irvine School of Law, Center for Empirical Research on the Legal Profession, October 5-6.
2018. “Political Activism and Repression in the Chinese Legal Profession: Evidence from Two Surveys,” for Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, June 7-10, Toronto
2018. “Anti-Equality Machines: Racial and Ethnic Variation in Moves within, between, and away from Law Firms,” (Vitor Dias and Ethan Michelson) for Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, June 7-10, Toronto
2018. “Authoritarian Legality and Public (Dis)trust in Law: China and Beyond,” (Ethan Michelson and Alisha Kirchoff) for Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, June 7-10, Toronto
2018. review of Mary Gallagher’s *Authoritarian Legality in China: Law, Workers, and the State*, for Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, June 7-10, Toronto
2018. review of Kwai Ng and Xin He’s *Embedded Courts: Judicial Decision-Making in China*, for Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, June 7-10, Toronto
2018. “Decoupling: Marital Violence and the Struggle to Divorce in China,” for Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, March 22-25, Washington, DC
2017. “Assessing the Impact of the 2008 Recession on Lawyer Career Opportunities and Trajectories: Comparing Recipients of JDs and Other Advanced Degrees,” for Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, June 20-23, Mexico City
2016. presentation on “the role of gender in the legal profession” at conference on “After the J.D. and Future Research,” November 11-12, Chicago, IL
2016. “Childbirth, Parental Leaves, and Career Trajectories of Men and Women in Law Firms,” for Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, June 2-5, New Orleans, LA
2016. review of Sida Liu and Terry Halliday’s *Criminal Defense in China: The Politics of Lawyers at Work*, Cambridge University Press, CRN33, Book Panel: Introducing New Books in East Asian Law, Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, June 2-5, New Orleans, LA

2015. "Are Chinese Lawyers Returning to Criminal Defense?" for Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, May 27-31, Seattle, WA
2015. "Wave 2 of the China Legal Services Work Environment (CLE) Survey: Design and Early Findings," International Symposium on Longitudinal Studies on Lawyer Careers in East Asia, Aoyama Gakuin University, March 8, Tokyo, Japan
2014. "Village-level Mediation of Disputes: Evidence from Two Surveys" (presented by co-author Ben Read), conference on "Stability-Maintenance and the Chinese State's Response to Social Conflict," August 21, UC-San Diego
2014. "The Coming American Legal Service Shortage" (Anne Groggel and Ethan Michelson), for Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, May 29-June 1, Minneapolis, MN
2014. "Access to Lawyers: Situating the Anomalous Case of China in Global Context," for Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, May 29-June 1, Minneapolis, MN
2014. "Questioning the Questioners: Extending Research on the Fates of Recent Law School Graduates" (Elizabeth Ferrufino and Ethan Michelson), for Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, May 29-June 1, Minneapolis, MN
2014. "Fleeing Tort Reform? A Comparison of Lawyers' and Doctors' Inter-State Migration Patterns, 2000-2012" (Ethan Michelson, Eric Wright, and Brandon Finlay), for Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, May 29-June 1, Minneapolis, MN
2012. China Case Study, KDI-WB-CAG Policy Forum on Socio-economic Development: Strategy, Development and Capacity, Chinese Academy of Governance, Beijing, China, organized and sponsored by the Korean Development Institute and World Bank, October 31-November 2
2012. "Justice Without Judicial Autonomy, Judicial Performance Without Constitutionalism: The Case of Rural China," Social Change and the Constitution – a Conference on the Occasion of the 30th Anniversary of the Constitution of the PR China of 1982, June 15-17, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany
2012. "Women in the Legal Profession, 1960-2010: A Study of the Global Supply of Lawyers Based on Data from 78 Countries," for Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, June 5-8, 2012, Honolulu, HI
2012. "Judicial Performance without Independence: The Delivery of Justice and Political Legitimacy in Rural China," for the 107th Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Denver, CO, August 17-20 (also presented at the North American Chinese Sociologists' Association Mini-Conference, Chicago, August 16) (Ethan Michelson and Ke Li)
2012. "Judicial Performance without Independence: The Delivery of Justice and Political Legitimacy in Rural China," Workshop on Works-in-Progress on Chinese Law, Center for Chinese Legal Studies, Columbia University Law School, March 9 (Ethan Michelson and Ke Li)
2010. "Managing Social and Institutional Change in China: Trends and Implications for the US," USAID/East West Center China Seminar, August 17-18
2010. "An Empirical Assessment of the Impact of the Rural Stimulus on State-Society Relations during the Hu-Wen Era," International Conference on China and the Great Recession: The Global Financial Crisis and China's Development, Beijing, July 30
2010. "What do Chinese Lawyers Want?" for Conference on "Chinese Lawyers' Next Step," Caijing Magazine, Beijing, June 29

2010. USAID China Governance Analysis Seminar 2: Trends in Rule of Law and Accountability, Hong Kong, May 24-25
2009. "Chinese Lawyers and their Challenges: Findings from Two Surveys" for Conference on "International Symposium on Chinese Law and Society in Transition," East China University of Science and Technology, Shanghai, December 12
2009. paper for International Conference on Relational Sociology, Xi'an Jiaotong University, China, October 4-5
2009. "What Do Chinese Lawyers Want?" for Conference on "China's Emerging Middle Class: Beyond Economic Transformation," the Brookings Institution, Washington, DC, September 22-23
2009. "Chinese Lawyers since 2000: Findings from Two Surveys," for Conference on "The 'Law and Society' Movement in the 21st Century China: An Interdisciplinary & Transnational Dialogue on Reconstruction of Legal Order," the KoGuan Law School, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai, September 13
2009. "Gender Inequality in the Chinese Legal Profession," for the Law & Society Association Annual Meeting, Denver, May 28-31
2008. paper for Conference on Lawyers and the Construction of the Rule of Law: National and Transnational Processes, American Bar Foundation, Chicago, IL, March 21-22
2007. paper for "Growing Pains: Tensions and Opportunity in China's Transformation" workshop, Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center, Stanford University, November 2
2007. paper for "Chinese Justice: Civil Dispute Resolution in Post-Reform China" workshop at Harvard University Fairbank Center for East Asian Research, October 12-14
2007. paper for "Conference on Dispute Resolution in China," The William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawai'i, Honolulu, HI, September 17-18
2007. "Climbing the Dispute Pagoda: Grievances and Appeals to the Official Justice System in Rural China," for the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, August 30-September 2
2006. "Deprivation, Discontent, and Disobedience in Rural China: Collective Learning in Southeast Henan," for Conference on "Reclaiming Chinese Society: Politics of Redistribution, Recognition and Representation," University of California-Berkeley, October 27-28
2006. "Lawful and Unlawful Strategies of Contention in China: Evidence from a Survey of Rights Consciousness," for Conference on "Popular Contention in China," University of California-Berkeley, October 6-8 (with Jennifer Choo)
2006. "Dear Lawyer Bao: Institutional Change, State Power, and Popular Resistance in China," for Law and Society Annual Meeting, Baltimore, July 5-9 (Ethan Michelson)
2006. "Challenges and Coping Strategies in China's Criminal Defense Bar," for Law and Society Annual Meeting, Baltimore, July 5-9 (Ethan Michelson)
2006. "Hooked, Unhooked, Still Hooked: Lawyers, Political Embeddedness, and Institutional Continuity in China's Transition from Socialism," for Conference on Capitalism with Chinese Characteristics: China's Political Economy in Comparative and Theoretical Perspective, Bloomington, Indiana, May 19-20
2006. "Peasants' Burdens" and State Response: Explaining the Causes and Predicting the Consequences of State Concession to Popular Tax Resistance in Rural China," for the Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, April 6-9.

2005. "Global Institutions, Local Meaning: Appropriation and Indigenization in the Chinese Legal System," for Workshop on Comparative Institutional Research, Peking University, October 14–16.
2005. "Justice from Above or Justice from Below? Social Limits to Petitioning the State in Rural China," Overseas Young Chinese Forum 7th Annual Meeting (The State of Rural China: Chinese Peasants, Agriculture and Rural Society in the Reform Era), Storrs, CT, May 27–30.
2004. "The Trials and Tribulations of Chinese Lawyers," for the 99th Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Chicago, San Diego, August 14–17 (Ethan Michelson)
2004. "The Power of a Powerless Profession: Why and How Chinese Lawyers Screen Cases," for the Workshop on Working in China: New Ethnographies of Labor and the Chinese Workplace, Ann Arbor, MI, June 5 (Ethan Michelson)
2004. "How Much Does Law Matter in Rural China?" for Law and Society Annual Meeting, Chicago, May 27–30 (Ethan Michelson)
2004. "Chinese Lawyers and Their Competitors: State-Mediated Jurisdictional Conflicts," for Law and Society Annual Meeting, Chicago, May 27–30 (Sida Liu and Ethan Michelson)
2004. "Causes and Consequences of Grievances in Rural China," for Conference on Socioeconomic Rights in China Dickinson College, April 16–18 (Ethan Michelson)
2003. "Chinese Lawyers: Guanxi as a Substitute for Rights," for Human Rights in China: Progress, Problems, and Prospects, University of Chicago, April 19 (Ethan Michelson)
2002. "They Talk the Talk, But Can They Walk the Walk? Obstacles to Collective Action Among Chinese Lawyers," for Law and Society in China conference co-sponsored by the Institute for East Asian Studies, the Center for the Study of Law & Society, and the Center for Chinese Studies, University of California at Berkeley, September 20–21. (Ethan Michelson)
2002. "When Organizations Subsume Law: Work Units and the Structure of Disputing in Urban China," for the 97th Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Chicago, August 16-19 (also presented at the North American Chinese Sociologists' Association Mini-Conference, Chicago, August 15). (Ethan Michelson)
2002. "How Much Does Law Matter in Beijing?" for Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Vancouver, BC, Canada, May 30–June 1. (Ethan Michelson)
2002. "Lawyers and Clients in China: The Power of a Powerless Profession," for the Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, April 4–7. (Ethan Michelson)
1999. "Patterns of Provision and Jurisdictional Territorialism: The Organization of Work in Urban China," for the 94th Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Chicago, August 6–10. (Ethan Michelson)
1998. "Economic Development, Social Control, and Disputing in China: The Changing Face of Chinese Corporatism," for the 93rd Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, San Francisco, August 21–25. (with Gao Hongjun)
1997. "Chicago Lawyers and their Clients, 1975–95: A Client-Based Approach to the Social Transformation of the Bar," for "The Management of Durable Relations: Theoretical and Empirical Models for Households and Organizations," Zeist, The Netherlands, June 26–28. (Ethan Michelson, Edward O. Laumann, and John P. Heinz)

1997. “The Organization of Lawyers’ Work: Hemispheres, Tectonic Plate Movements, and Continental Drift,” for Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, May 29–June 1, St. Louis, Missouri. (John P. Heinz, Robert L. Nelson, Edward O. Laumann, and Ethan Michelson)
1997. “Corporatism and the Individual: Changing Dynamics of Disputing Under Rapid Social Change,” for Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, May 29–June 1, St. Louis, Missouri. (Ethan Michelson and Gao Hongjun)
1996. presentation at “Conducting Social Science Research in Southeast Asia” workshop jointly hosted by the Social Science Research Council and The University of San Carlos, Cebu City, Philippines, June 16–20. (Ethan Michelson)

SERVICE

American Sociological Association

Sociology of Law Section, Nominations Committee, 2004

Sociology of Law Section, Graduate Student Paper Award Committee, Chair, 2008

Sociology of Law Section, Graduate Student Paper Award Committee, Chair, 2010

Manuscript reviews for:

American Journal of Sociology

American Sociological Review

Asian Survey

British Journal of Political Science

Canadian Journal of Law & Society

International Political Science Review

Law & Policy

Law & Social Inquiry

Law & Society Review

Mobilization

Modern China

Political Behavior

Social Forces

The China Journal

The China Quarterly

The China Review

Work and Occupations

Grant proposal reviews for:

National Science Foundation

Israeli Science Foundation

Hong Kong Research Grants Council

Academic Council, Overseas Young Chinese Forum (<http://www.oycf.org>), 2006–2008

Facilitator, Fellows Workshop, Social Science Research Council International Dissertation Research Fellowship, Charleston, SC, March 2006

Screener, Social Science Research Council International Dissertation Research Fellowship, 2006

American Journal of Sociology, manuscript review committee, 1996–1997

ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

Law & Society Association

MEDIA INTERVIEWS

2011 Reuters
2010 Legal Daily (China)
2010 Wall Street Journal
2009 Outlook Weekly (China)
2009 Legal Daily (China)
2004 BBC World Service (television and radio)
2003 Knight Ridder Newspapers