Historical and Emerging Perspectives on Philanthropy in China

Steven C. Rockefeller II & Dr. Meng Zhao

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Stanford PACS at Peking University

Kim Meredith
Executive Director
AGENDA

- Welcome
- Philanthropy in the United States and China
- Around the Room – Around the World Introductions
- Introduction of Steven C. Rockefeller II
- Mr. Rockefeller: Historical Perspectives on Rockefeller Philanthropy in China
- Introduction of Dr. Meng Zhao
- Dr. Meng Zhao: Emerging Perspectives on Philanthropy in China
- Group Discussion
Key Terms

**Philanthropy** is a term rooted in the Greek words philos and anthropos, which mean “love” and “human being,” respectively. Today the term generally refers to the concept of voluntary giving by individuals or groups to promote the common good.

**Civil Society** refers to the arena of uncoerced collective action around shared interests, purposes and values. In theory its institutional forms are distinct from the state and market, though in practice, the boundaries between state, civil society and market are complex, blurred and negotiated.
More Key Terms: Social Innovation

- New strategies, concepts, ideas and organizations that meet social needs that strengthen civil society and society as a whole.

- Opportunities to explore social enterprise, social entrepreneurs and corporate social responsibility.

- Novel solutions to a social problems that are more effective, efficient, sustainable or just than existing solutions.

- Social innovation can take place within government, business or the nonprofit sector.
Philanthropy and Civil Society in China

- Confucian tradition of charity and Taoist tradition of economic activity and charity.

- Strong government to support social programs so philanthropy and civil society will have unique qualities

- China Good Neighbor Policy: response to 2011 tsunami and government funding campaign

- According to World Bank: 415,000 Civil Society Organizations

- 1,843 foundations (public and private)/846 private foundations growing since 1982
Emerging Philanthropy in China

- Individual and corporate profits have led to an emerging culture of philanthropy beyond guanxi
- Charitable donations account for 0.1% of GDP
- 2008: 60 billion RMB after Great Sichuan Earthquake that measured 8.0 in May 2008 killing an estimated 68,000 people
- 2009: 30 billion RMB returned to “normal” levels of giving
- 10% -15% of contributions are from individuals
- 80%-85% of contributions are from corporations
Today multiple Rockefeller philanthropies continue China programs in science, medicine and the arts that began a century ago.

Across the twentieth century, the Rockefeller investment in China’s science, medicine and higher education was close to $800 million, which far outweighed that of any other American source.

Mary Brown Bullock, PhD and Author

“The Oil Prince’s Legacy: Rockefeller Philanthropy in China”
Table A1. The Rockefeller Foundation’s Expenditures, 1913-1951 (in order of size of funding)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount (Dollars)</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China Medical Board*</td>
<td>27,079,015.34</td>
<td>48.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peking Union Medical College</td>
<td>17,970,527.31</td>
<td>32.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missionary colleges</td>
<td>4,257,385.28</td>
<td>7.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fellowships/grants</td>
<td>2,139,753.11</td>
<td>3.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese hospitals, universities, and institutions</td>
<td>2,024,320.34</td>
<td>3.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missionary hospitals and missionary general</td>
<td>1,024,880.90</td>
<td>1.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration/surveys</td>
<td>951,004.13</td>
<td>1.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>55,446,886.41</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The sum of $22 million is an endowment that has remained invested in the United States by the China Medical Board since 1951.

Source: These data were extrapolated from “The Rockefeller Foundation Payments for Work in China, 1914-1951,” 13/133, RG 1, 601, Rockefeller Foundation Archives, Rockefeller Archives Center.
Total Giving in the USA 1970 - 2010

Total giving, 1970–2010
(in billions of dollars)

- Inflation-adjusted dollars
- Current dollars
- Inflation-adjusted dollars in recessions
Philanthropic Giving in 2010

**Donors**
- Individuals $211.77 73%
- Foundations* $41.00 14%
- Bequests $22.83 8%
- Corporation $15.29 5%

**Recipients**
- Religion $100.63 35%
- Education $41.67 14%
- Human services $26.49 9%
- Health $22.83 8%
- Public-society benefit $24.24 8%
- Arts, culture, and humanities $13.28 5%
- International affairs $15.77 5%
- Environment/animals $6.66 2%
- To individuals* $4.20 2%
- Unallocated** $2.12 1%
Giving Source by Total: Percentage of Total, 1971-2010

Giving by source: Percentage of the total by five-year spans, 1971–2010
Emerging Trends in Philanthropy

- Globalization
- Microfinance
- Funder Collaboration
- Complexity
- Technology
- New Donor Behavior
- Venture Philanthropy
- Collective Impact: Public-Private Partnerships
- Impact Investing
- Hybrid: Profit/Nonprofit
- Shared Value: Corporate Social Responsibility
- Social Entrepreneurs
- Strategic Philanthropy: Measurement/Outcomes
Blurring the Lines
Finding the Best Solutions for Social Change:

“The scope and complexity of social and scientific challenges has grown immensely in recent decades. We need solutions commensurate with the scope and complexity of the challenges.”

John Hennessy, President of Stanford University