

## Modern China Lecture Series

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# Constructive Postmodernism in China Today

With Speaker Zhihe Wang, Ph.D, Director of the Institute for Postmodern Development of China, executive director of the China Project, Center for Process Studies, Claremont

**Friday April 18, 2014: noon – 2 p.m.**

Located in PL-4005

**Talk Abstract:** Coined by David Ray Griffin, the term “constructive postmodernism” refers to a pluralistic but integrative thinking, worldview, and practice. It is based on Alfred North Whitehead’s process philosophy. Eighteen years ago, almost no Chinese had heard the term. But today constructive postmodernism has become an influential movement in China, which is gaining a following among intellectuals and politicians alike. The lecture will explore China’s current shift toward an ecological civilization and address these questions: Why has it been so well received? What is the deep convergence between constructive postmodernism and Chinese tradition? What is its impact on China today, and what kinds of challenges is it facing?



**Speaker Bio:** Zhihe Wang, born in Beijing, China, is director of the institute for Postmodern Development of China, and the executive director of the China Project, Center for Process Studies, Claremont. He is also director of Center for Postmodern Studies and Professor of Philosophy at the Harbin Institute of Technology. Dr.

Wang received his B.A. and M.A. in Philosophy from Peking University in Beijing, China, his Ph.D. from the Claremont Graduate University. His areas of specialty include process philosophy, constructive postmodernism, ecological civilization, and second enlightenment. Since 2002 he and his team have established more than 20 research institutes for constructive postmodern studies at universities in China. He has helped organize more than 70 international conferences on ecological civilization, sustainable urbanization, ecological agriculture, postmodern law, science and spirituality, education reform, social responsibility in business, land and social justice, and management. He has published extensively on these topics.