Awash in Debt:
State Liabilities and the
Future of the Chinese Economy

PUBLIC TALK

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Although China has some of the world’s lowest levels of foreign debt and official government debt, the Chinese government and state owned banks and enterprises actually owe an enormous amount of debt to domestic financial institutions and households. This presentation first catalogs the different segments of debt owned by the Chinese government and related entities and the claimants on this debt. It then discusses some implications for the choice set in Chinese monetary policy and the likelihood of a consumption-based growth model.

Victor C. Shih is a political economist at Northwestern University specializing in China. An immigrant to the United States from Hong Kong, Dr. Shih received his doctorate in Government from Harvard University, where he researched banking sector reform in China with the support of the Jacob K. Javits Fellowship and the Fulbright Fellowship. He is the author of Factions and Finance in China: Elite Conflict and Inflation. He is further the author of numerous articles appearing in academic and business journals, including The China Quarterly, Comparative Political Studies, Journal of Politics, The Wall Street Journal and The China Business Review, and frequent adviser to the financial community on the banking industry in China.

For questions or to RSVP, contact Heidi Serochi (hserochi@ucsd.edu).