

Chinese Scholars in the U.S. and US China Policy: A Perspective of

Agenda-Setting

Ni, Jianping (倪建平)

Shanghai Institute of American Studies ,Shanghai,China

Whereas an appeal to study the international dimension of Chinese American politics has been in place for over two decades, it may not be an exaggeration to suggest that we still know very little about the transnational political, as compared to the economic and socio-cultural, dimension of the Chinese American experience. In particular, it's necessary to investigate into the role of Chinese Americans in the disciplines of international relations and mass communication in advancing understanding of the two very vibrant nations in the world.

Over the past three decades, increasing number of Chinese scholars were coming to American graduate schools and developing theoretical and methodological skills equal if not superior to most of the previous generation of American China scholars. One of the most important of these developments is the interaction between the Chinese scholars in the U.S.A. and their American colleagues. It exposed American scholars and policy-makers to a wide variety of voices of Chinese critical not only of their government but of their traditional culture and their current social structure. This study make a case study of the role the Chinese scholars of CCA and ACPS play in enhancing US-China relations from the perspective of agenda-setting. It explores the empirical relationship between Chinese Americans' concern about the political condition of mainland China and their patterns of political participation in the United States. A main argument of this study is that only those homeland concerns that are consistent with US foreign policy interests are found to have a positive impact on the advancement of US-China relations.