

## A JOINT SEMINAR WITH DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

### Topic: Energizing GPN? A Global Production Networks perspective on the evolution of the liquefied natural gas sector and the emergence of a global gas market

#### ABSTRACT

Energy markets are an important contemporary site of economic globalization, yet the organization and scaling of these markets remains at the margins of research on global production networks. I do three things in this presentation that respond to this situation. First, I share results from recently completed research on the evolutionary dynamics of the liquefied natural gas (LNG) sector and its role in an emerging global gas market. Using a GPN approach, I show how the production network for LNG has evolved from a relatively simple ‘floating pipeline’ model of point-to-point, bi-national flows orchestrated by producing and consuming companies and governed by long-term contracts, to a more geographical and organizationally complex production network through which a global gas market is now taking shape for the first time. Second, reflecting on the case of LNG, I consider whether the energy sector presents particular opportunities (and challenges) for advancing conceptual and methodological themes in GPN-related research. Finally, building on the first and second parts of the presentation, I outline some potential directions for new research on LNG using a GPN approach and based on the LNG sector’s rapid evolution in the Pacific Basin. Here I consider the sector’s potential for thinking about value-capture trajectories and the organizational practices that constitute and scale markets, and highlight Singapore’s efforts to become a regional gas hub.



SPEAKER:

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CHAIR:

[Professor Neil Coe](#)

Head of Department of Geography;  
Co-Director of GPN@NUS  
National University of Singapore

DATE:

Friday, 20 Jan 2017

TIME:

3:30pm – 5:00pm

VENUE:

Seminar Room 06-42  
The Shaw Foundation Building,  
Block AS7, Level 6  
5 Arts Link  
Singapore 117570



## *Gavin Bridge*

Gavin Bridge is Professor of Economic Geography at Durham University and has research expertise in the political economy of natural resources. His research centres on the spatial and temporal dynamics of extractive industries - oil, gas and mining - and has been funded by the US National Science Foundation, the National Geographic Society, the European Commission, UK Energy Research Centre, British Academy and Leverhulme Trust. It includes work in the Americas on the land-use changes associated with mining exploration and investment, research on organisational and geographical restructuring of the international oil sector, and a collaborative project to understand the implications for UK energy security of an evolving 'global' market for natural gas. He is co-author, with Philippe Le Billon, of *Oil* published by Polity Press (2013, 2017), co-editor of the *Routledge Handbook of Political Ecology* (2015), and lead author for *Energy and Society: a critical perspective* (Routledge, forthcoming).