



# Urban Research Program

## 2010 Gold Coast Seminar Series

**Dr Jason Byrne**

### Planning China's subtropical cities – Lessons and challenges in Beihai and Hangzhou

China is experiencing rates of urbanisation that dwarf anything that England, the United States or Australia experienced when these countries urbanised. For example, the head of BHP suggested in a public speech that in the next two decades China will be constructing 55,000 new skyscrapers in its major cities. Such growth took half a century in the USA and a hundred years or more in industrial England. This rapacious appetite for development is presenting enormous challenges for infrastructure, housing, governance and environmental protection.

Dr Jason Byrne is a Senior Lecturer in Urban and Environmental Planning. His research focus is on urban environments ecological entities. He presents a photo-essay/personal reflection on what he thinks we might learn from Chinese subtropical urbanism.

**Friday 26th February**

11.00 a.m. - 12.00 p.m.

Gold Coast campus - Building G31, Room 3.17