Susan Whiting will draw on empirical research on land disputes in rural China and sales contract disputes in urban China to examine the interplay between the role of the courts, communities, and popular notions of justice in dispute resolution.

Susan Whiting, associate professor of Political Science and adjunct associate professor of Law & International Studies at the University of Washington, specializes in Chinese and comparative politics, emphasizing the political economy of development. A prolific author, Whiting has written or contributed to reviews and publications on property rights, local governance, and fiscal reform. Her first book was *Power and Wealth in Rural China: The Political Economy of Institutional Change.*