The Department of East Asian Studies/Sinology is pleased to invite to the lecture of

**Professor Julia C. STRAUSS**  
SOAS, University of London, UK

**Rhetoric and Realiti(ies): The Evolving Relations between China and Africa**

**Abstract**  
The rapidly growing, and increasingly multi-layered, set of relations between China and Africa have occasioned a great deal of comment, much of it negative. This lecture will consider how China rhetorically situates its own activities in Africa in a broader rubric of non-conditionality, old friendship, and mutual benefit. It questions the simplifying construct of "China" and "Africa" to delve into a more nuanced and layered notion of the Chinese state and a range of Chinese actors involved with Africa, and suggests ways in which Chinese actors get things in Africa both right and wrong. It explores the ways in which African actors, including states and civil society stakeholders, are now responding to the Chinese presence in a multiplicity of ways that have increasingly less to do with either Western or Chinese rhetorics, and everything to do with a rapidly changing, layered set of African realities.

**Julia C. STRAUSS** is Editor of The China Quarterly and Senior Lecturer in Political Studies (China) at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.

**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2013  
**Time:** 16:15 p.m.  
**Location:** SIN 1, at the Institute for East Asian Studies/Sinology, Altes AKH, Campus, Spitalgasse 2, yard 2, entrance 2.3.

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