

POSTGRADUATE SEMINAR SERIES

Research Findings Seminar

Topic Title : **The implications of Environmental, Social, and Corporate Governance (ESG) in the post-pandemic era: an analysis in the energy sector**

Presenter : **Ms. Chen Shuyu**
PhD student of HKIBS

Abstract : Against the backdrop of the post-pandemic era and China's carbon neutrality goals, Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) disclosure has become an important channel through which firms influence capital markets and enhance sustainable development. This study investigates the impact of ESG information disclosure quality on the financial performance of Chinese energy listed companies and explores its underlying mechanisms.

Using panel data of A-share energy listed firms in China from 2009 to 2022, this study constructs an industry-specific ESG disclosure quality evaluation system based on the entropy weight method and measures corporate financial performance using principal component analysis. A mediation framework is employed to examine whether financing costs, technological innovation, and inefficient investment serve as transmission channels between ESG disclosure quality and financial performance.

The empirical results show that: (1) ESG information disclosure quality has a significantly positive effect on financial performance; (2) financing costs, technological innovation, and inefficient investment play significant mediating roles in this relationship; and (3) the findings remain robust under Bootstrap tests and instrumental variable estimations.

This study extends the ESG literature by focusing on disclosure quality rather than ESG performance levels and provides policy-relevant insights for improving ESG disclosure practices and promoting high-quality development in the energy sector.

Date : **9 February 2026, Monday**

Time : **12:30 – 14:00**

Venue : **SEK210, 2/F, Simon & Eleanor Kwok Building**

Language : **English**

*** All are Welcome ***