Lv Aofei, BA (Nankai University), Master (Nankai University), major in Political Science, got her master degree from Nankai University of China in June 2010, and is now researching on Chinese public health policy in Glasgow. Her project is about Chinese Public Policy Change during SARS and H1N1. Her interest is Chinese public health policy, public policy and comparative politics.

During the past 4 months, I have been reading several articles and books on two main parts – publications related to SARS in China and to public policy theory in general. Then I found two theories can be used to explain the public policy change during SARS period according to the history at that time, which is Punctuated-Equilibrium theory, Fragmented-Authoritarianism. I will use Kingdon’s policy cycle as the general framework, based on which the two theory will be incorporated to analyze the political outsider’s role on SARS policy in China, which are WHO, epidemic experts and media. As the result of that I can get the idea of policy change between SASR and H1N1. I am now working on the literature review and draft framework of the research and will write the 1st two paragraphs to prepare for the upgrade in May 2011.

Kari Mariska Pries

I am honoured to be joining the Transformations Group for 2011 as a new PhD Researcher in International Politics. Graduating with an MA in Political/Historical Geography in 2007, I took a hiatus from the academic world to work both in Canada and El Salvador. A return to university at Glasgow provides the opportunity for cross-disciplinary research and to take advantage of excellent supervisory support. My work under the direction of Dr. Mo Hume, will address public policy and legal approaches to migration, security and crime in Central America. The intent is to examine national and international approaches to state policy strategies and their implications for sovereignty and global governance debates.

Wang Hua took her BSc (2008) and MSc (2010) in Public Administration from Nankai University (China) with 1st class honours, where she developed an interest in studying NGO development and the public policy process in China. Her master’s thesis focused on a new and emerging economic NGO, the non-local Chamber of Commerce, involving the study of their growth mode and behaviour strategies in transformational China. In September 2010 she started her PhD in Glasgow University with a topic that builds on her previous research and combines her academic interests, that is, the influence of non-local Chambers of Commerce in the Chinese policy process. ‘In the next three years’, she writes, ‘I will equip myself with a broad-based knowledge of the policy process and an in-depth perspective on the research topic in order to conduct my PhD step by step’.