Editor-in-Chief’s Note

Govind Hariharan

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Dear Colleagues and Supporters of JEKEM and the India China America (ICA) Institute:

It is with great pleasure that we bring you this fourth volume of the ICA Institute’s Journal of Emerging Knowledge on Emerging Economies (JEKEM). Let me first take a minute to thank the previous editor-in-chief, Dr. Ashok Roy for his yeoman work in making this journal a success over the last three years. JEKEM within a short time frame is evolving into a journal that brings to attention topical research in a wide range of critical issues on emerging economies. As the western economies jump from cliff to cliff, emerging economies have also become mired in an eddy. Thought leadership such as those provided in this issue of JEKEM can provide a guiding light as we swim to shore. In that vein, this issue of JEKEM has contributions from authors from around the world on topics ranging from comparative studies of Foreign Direct Investment Flows in India and China, Reducing Regional Disparities in Argentina and Zicosur, and Industrial Clusters in China and Kazakhstan to Business Acument of Chinese B-School graduates, and from Land Acquisition legislation in India to the shift from unorganized to organized retail in Jammu. These are topics that are at the forefront of current discussions among policy makers, industry and academia and we hope that you will find
it as enlightening as we do. My sincere thanks to our Managing Editor, Dr. L. Roxanne Russell without whose diligence we could not have pulled this off.

I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some of the activities of the ICA Institute over the last year and its vision for the future. We request you to continue to participate and collaborate with us in making these a success. The India China America Institute (ICA Institute) was founded with the explicit purpose of providing thought leadership on and to foster business and economic partnerships between the emerging economic superpowers of India, and China and the USA. The ICA Institute's mission is to create knowledge and provide education and training to industry leaders, policy makers, and educational institutions on specific issues related to the business, and economic relationships between India, China and the U.S. The Institute aims to be a global thought leader on the role of innovation, entrepreneurship, inclusiveness and trade and investment between these countries in driving global economic growth.

The Institute conducts three broad sets of activities: a) Knowledge Creation: Creating relevant and applied scholarship and knowledge on India, China and the US with a focus on bilateral and trilateral issues, b) Knowledge Partnership: Develop knowledge partnerships between these countries through developing relationships with educational, industry and government organizations and thought leaders, c) Knowledge Exchange and Education: Exchange knowledge and Educate Industry, Government and Academia through training programs, reports and other activities on business/trade practices and related policies pertaining to the this new triad of India, China and America.

The flagship program of the ICA Institute which is called the Industry, Government and Academia Partnership (IGAP) program was launched in June of 2012. Under this program based on discussions with industry, government and academic thought leaders, we identify a key issue that is relevant to all three countries either as a challenge, an opportunity or the future, and bring together business leaders, policy makers and academics to sit together and find collaborative solutions to addressing that issue. The first initiative is on Financial Inclusion and the Unbanked in these three countries. A recent Joint Secretary of Banking from India, and the MD of a major credit rating agency and yours truly were brought together under the aegis of the ICA Institute to spend a few days deliberating on this issue for India. The same process is being planned for the US and China all of which will culminate in a report on Collaborative Solutions for Financial Inclusion. We have already completed our first research project on the topic which measures the impact of Financial Inclusion on the growth rate for each economy. Similar initiatives on Innovation, Entrepreneurship, Trade and Investment are currently being evaluated. Do email me any thoughts or suggestions you may have on the IGAP Program.

The ICA Institute has also successfully completed its first full year of Sector Briefs on various sectors in India and in China. We were able to provide topical snapshots of the latest data and analysis on specific sectors such as Textiles, Auto, Agriculture and
Information and Communication Technology for both India and China. We have also developed the capability to provide these in Mandarin and have most of the briefs available in mandarin now. We have received very laudatory remarks from current and former ambassadors, academics and business professionals. If you have not done so please visit the ICA website and sign up for the Sector Briefs and other reports. The Institute has also begun to establish solid partnerships with esteemed organizations such as the Halle Institute, ISAS at the National University of Singapore and many more to be reported soon. Last but not least in addition to bringing thought leaders to visit the institute and present their work to the public including at Kennesaw State University, and the India Summit at Emory, we have also sent students to attend APEC CEO summit in China, and to participate in a Competition at HR college in India, and developed a rigorous and relevant training program for the Indian Revenue Service officers. Under the guidance and mentorship of Dr. Jagdish Sheth and the ICA Board, we continue to grow in prominence. Many more trilateral activities are evolving and I hope you will continue to stay active with us and contribute your future articles and your suggestions.

Sincerely,

Dr. Govind Hariharan
Editor-in-Chief, JEKEM
Executive Director, ICA Institute.