

CHAPTER 22

A Comparative Analysis of American and Chinese News Media Coverage of Climate Change Issues over the Period 2007–2015

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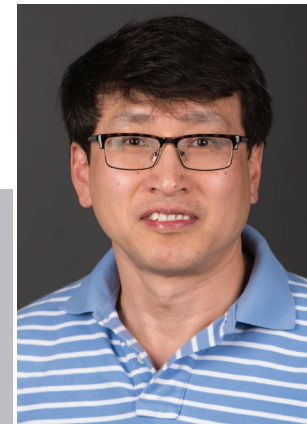
In the late 1970s, the global community grew to understand the need to balance a nation's desire for economic growth and social progress with the need to protect the environment and show good stewardship of the world's resources (Servaes, Polk, Shi, Reilly, & Yakupitijage, 2012). Since that time, the international community has championed the concept of Sustainable Development as the key to addressing critical issues such as hunger, poverty, economic growth, and the environment (Yacoumis, 2018). The 1987 Brundtland Commission Report defines Sustainable Development as "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" (WCED, 1987 Chapter 2, para. 1). In 2015, the United Nations Member States adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It provides a plan for peace and prosperity for the planet. The plan identifies 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), one of which is to "take urgent action

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These two publications represent my ongoing research examining Chinese and American views on climate change. The article published in *Climate Policy* (2019) shares findings on public support for the Paris Agreement among citizens in these two important countries based on surveys conducted in 2015 and features a co-author (Paul Stroik), a UWEC Economics Department alum. The book chapter published in *The Palgrave Handbook of International Communication and Sustainable Development* shares findings on Chinese and American news media coverage of climate change based on Nexis Uni searches and features a co-author (Won Yong Jang) who is a professor in the UWEC Communications and Journalism Department.