PART V

SHAPING CASS AND THE WORLD
UNDER LI TIEYING AND AFTER
This concluding part concerns Li Tieying’s reign at CASS from 1998 until 2003 and elaborates on two core issues that were central to the previous twenty years of institutional development of CASS, from its conception in 1978 until the departure of former CASS President Hu Sheng in 1998. The first issue relates to the efficacy of academic planning, more specifically, the plans to streamline the academic organization and personnel of CASS. In the 1990s CASS leaders voiced their intentions to reorganize CASS personnel, to cut expenses, redistribute facilities and rationalize research planning. These plans were to be implemented by introducing competition, creating new housing schemes, re-organising medical facilities and overhauling the system of remuneration. Chapter 14 concerns an analysis of the implementation of these plans and an estimation of their effects. At the same time, it throws light on how administrative measures were used to direct research at CASS, which will help in the exploration of a second question, that of the evanescent concept of the freedom of research. I propose to explore the scope of the freedom of research in terms of the role played by CASS in state policy-making, in its incentive system for initiating and conducting research, and in the way in which research concepts are defined as part of overall research planning and funding.

Chapter 14 discusses changes in academic organization and provides a short overview of Li Tieying’s presidency from 1998 to 2003. Under Li Tieying’s presidency decisions were made that greatly influenced CASS’s organization of research, the grant system for research items, research funding in general, the reorganization of the academic structure of disciplines, the living conditions of academics, and the channels through which academics met and communicated. These aspects of academic organization also define the general contours within which research was designed, formulated, and put into practice.

On the basis of this link between CASS policy-making and administrative organization, I argue in concluding Chapter 15 that the formulation of research policies and the symbolic meaning used in officialdom are of great influence on the delineation of academic research fields, con-