

# CHINESE STUDIES ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

## NEWSLETTER - November 2005 No 32

CSAA Newsletter Editor: Jeremy Clarke SJ: [jeremy.clarke@anu.edu.au](mailto:jeremy.clarke@anu.edu.au)  
Pacific and Asian History, RSPAS, Australian National University, ACT, 0200

Number 32, November, 2005

---

### CONTENT

- ▲ [President's message](#)
- ▲ [Two views from Bendigo](#)
- ▲ [Welcome to our website](#)
- ▲ [Newspapers at the National Library](#)
- ▲ [On pages and servers in Sino-cyberspace](#)
- ▲ [The New Sinology and the end of history](#)
- ▲ [Introducing the 'Women and Gender in Chinese Studies Network'](#)
- ▲ [Introducing the work of three current postgraduate students from across the country](#)
- ▲ [Finding an intellectual community: the inaugural pre-CSAA Chinese Studies Postgraduate Forum](#)
- ▲ [Joint conference of the ISCP and ASACP](#)
- ▲ [The China node](#)
- ▲ [China studies news from the University of Western Australia](#)
- ▲ [UTS China Research Group](#)
- ▲ [The ARC Asia Pacific Futures Research Network](#)
- ▲ [Postgraduate students register member overview](#)
- ▲ [Diary dates](#)



### President's Message

#### *Celebrations*

This is my first editorial as the incoming President of the Chinese Studies Association of Australia. I follow a wonderful group of former presidents: Professors Carney Fisher, Mabel Lee, Colin Mackerras, David Holm, Andrew Watson, Tim Wright, Rafe de Crespigny, Hans Hendrichske, and John Fitzgerald. (Please let me know if

I've missed anyone out, as CSAA holds no formal record of past presidents.) The current CSAA Council wants to contact all past presidents (going back to 1989) and find out what they are doing now. We especially want them all to help us celebrate the 10th biennial CSAA conference in 2007. Griffith University, with particular support from the Griffith Asia Institute, will be the host.

I am involved in a different celebration in 2005: the centenary of Chinese cinema. Chinese-language films now attract international audiences. Festival awards proliferate, with Wong Kar-wai's *2046* (2004) receiving 16 awards out of 17 nominations in 2004 and 2005. This fanfare is a far cry from China's first films, which were operatic excerpts and melodrama. Let's look back at the earliest films.

Ren Qingtai made the first Chinese film in 1905, although foreign films had been shown as early as 1896. Ren made film a Chinese spectacle. A photographer and entrepreneur, he screened films at his own entertainment centres in Beijing: Dongan Market and Daguanlou. Daguanlou was a theatre built in the traditional teahouse style of horizontal rows of seating, with women (upstairs) segregated from men (downstairs). The seats were always full, offering a variety show format that included opera and short foreign films of slapstick, magic and Chinese and foreign scenery. Ren included moving pictures of opera - an extension of his business of selling photos of opera stars through his photography shop - as a novel addition to the repertoire. *Dingjun Mountain* was the earliest and apparently so popular that Ren continued to film more favourites, after first performing the stage versions at Daguanlou. He selected excerpts such as fighting and acrobatics that emphasised the visual spectacle of early silent film technology and used opera stars as film stars.



The first Chinese-made long feature, *Yan Ruisheng* (dir. Ren Pengnian, 1921), continued the emphasis on spectacle but with a contemporary theme: a real-life 1920s criminal case about the murder of a Shanghai prostitute. She was so renowned in the city's pleasure quarters that she was called 'Queen of the Flowers'. A college student, Yan Ruisheng, killed her for money after squandering his own in brothels, gambling dens, teahouses and so on. A retired prostitute played the victim while one of Yan's 'friends' played his role. As in any good melodrama or indeed any good detective story, the murderer and his two accomplices are traced, arrested, tried, and executed.

China's first blockbuster is a fictional melodrama made in 1923. Called *Orphan Rescues Grandfather* (dir. Zhang Shichuan), it was apparently so popular that it saved the famous Mingxing Film Studio from bankruptcy. The title speaks for itself. A Yang family patriarch disowns and banishes his virtuous widowed daughter-in-law when the villain of the piece, Daopei, wrongly accuses her of infidelity. Daopei is a thoroughly bad lot: he is next in line as the heir, is spurned by the daughter-in-law, squanders all the family's money, and plots Yang's death. But in the meantime, and unknown to Yang, a grandson called Yupu is born, grows up and importantly attends

a very good modern school (the implication being that a good education means good morals, although this maxim didn't work in Yan Ruisheng's case). Yupu rescues his unknown grandfather in the nick of time, the villain indulges in a deathbed confession, and all ends happily ever after. I love the ending, even though it legitimises patriarchy. Grandfather Yang proclaims 'Good daughter-in-law. Good child', and hands over half his money.

Finally, China's earliest extant movie is a delightful Charlie Chaplin-esque comedy about the love of a fruit-seller called Cheng for a doctor's daughter: *Laborer's Love* (dir. Zhang Shichuan, 1922). There is lots of laughter whenever I show it nearly a century later to students or Chinese visitors. In the film, the doctor's street-side booth is opposite the fruit-seller's stall. Cheng has to improve the doctor's failing practice to win the girl. He succeeds by ingeniously but secretly causing injury to groups of gamblers and drinkers (the implication being that they morally deserve injury) who of course go straight to the doctor. And are cured. Again, all ends happily ever after.



These first films are often forgotten as 'primitive' works. Chinese earliest classics from the right and left of the political spectrum, such as *Tomboy* and *Street Angel* respectively, come from the 1930s, when cinema 'came of age', which in the Chinese context means 'became politicised'. Scholars of Western and Chinese film are now re-thinking so-called 'primitive' cinema and giving it a major role in film history. In a very real way, early film anticipates the flowering of Chinese films in the later 20th century. Opera acrobatics transmute into films like *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* (dir. Ang Lee, 2000) and *Hero* (dir. Zhang Yimou, 2002), which are choreographed martial arts spectacles with dance-like rhythms. Yan Ruisheng leads into documentaries, social exposure film, and cop dramas such as Jackie Chan's famous *Cop Story* series. *Orphan* prefigures a century of romantic melodramas and nostalgia pieces, whether family melodramas by Lee Hsing in Taiwan, political melodramas by Xie Jin in the PRC, or nostalgia films by Wong Kar-wai.

And *Laborer's Love* is a rare treasure, beautifully conceived, well-acted and deliciously funny. In terms of characterisation and class, it develops into the serious business of revolutionary stories about the labouring classes under Mao or into warm, human and often farcical comedies like those of Stephen Chow in Hong Kong. Chow's latest offering, *Kung fu Hustle* (2004), was recently screened in major Australian cinemas.

All in all, 2005 is a very good year to think back to those wonderful film pioneers. Publications abound. Retrospectives and symposia are celebrating Chinese cinema around the world. In Australia, a 2006 symposium at the University of NSW shifts our

gaze to a new century: 'The Future of Chinese Cinema' (1-3 April, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia).

Mary Farquhar  
Griffith University  
Brisbane



---

## **Two views from Bendigo**

*CSAA Conference, 2005 Report*



**John Fitzgerald**  
**Conference Convenor**

The CSAA convened its ninth Biennial conference in Bendigo, Victoria, from 30 June to 3 July 2005. The Bundoora and Bendigo campuses of La Trobe University hosted the conference.

Two hundred delegates attended over three days, of whom 129 presented papers at the conference. Among presenters, 50 were overseas visitors (40 per cent) and 79 were Australian scholars (60 per cent). Thirteen countries were represented. The two countries with the strongest representation were China, with 21 delegates, and the United States with 11. Readers can consult abstracts of the papers on the new CSAA website <http://www.csaa.org.au/abstracts2005.doc>

The Bendigo conference mapped new frontiers for the CSAA on several fronts. We met for the first time in a non-metropolitan regional centre, with the active support of a local community organisation, the Bendigo Golden Dragon Museum. Secondly, we collaborated for the first time with an international professional association, the International Society for the Study of Chinese Overseas (ISSCO), in organising the conference. The President of ISSCO Professor Teresita Ang See attended the conference along with a healthy cohort of ISSCO members.



While the collaborative nature of the conference gave it a high international profile, its regional aspect attracted considerable press publicity in Australia. Conference participants were interviewed on local and national ABC radio and by the ABC's Asia-Pacific Television, and conference visitors and events received good coverage in the Bendigo Advertiser.



As with past CSAA events, the Bendigo conference provided an opportunity for Australian and international China scholars to exchange the latest news and research findings with their colleagues. The participation of ISSCO added another dimension - a strong focus on studies of the Chinese diaspora - and the selection of Bendigo as the site for the conference introduced China scholars to Australia's regional Chinese heritage and to the community organisations that are doing so much to preserve it, including the splendid Golden Dragon Museum.

We have many to thank for the success of the conference. The City of Greater Bendigo gave unstinting support and the local community extended a warm welcome. The CSAA is especially indebted to Mayor Rod Fyffe, to the Bendigo Ambassadors, to the Bendigo Tourism Office, to La Trobe University volunteers, and most particularly to staff and volunteers of the Golden Dragon Museum and to its directors, Mr Russell Jack and Mrs Joan Jack.

All members of the CSAA benefited from the generous conference subvention provided by Professor Michael Osborne, Vice-Chancellor of La Trobe University. The conference returned a financial surplus of \$5,000 after expenses to the Association.



## **A student's perspective**

**Emily Dunn**  
**University of Melbourne**

My name is Emily Dunn, and I am about 18 months into a PhD at the University of Melbourne, looking mainly at the writings of a contemporary quasi-Protestant millenarian 'cult' called Eastern Lightning. This year's CSAA conference in Bendigo was both the first CSAA conference I had attended and the first conference I had presented at, and I have been asked to reflect briefly on these experiences.

I once heard a fellow postgrad say that he didn't feel like a real PhD student, and was convinced that one of these days someone would tap him on the shoulder and expose him for the poor imitation he was. I (and probably many others) can really identify with this feeling, and so it was with some trepidation that I submitted my presentation proposal. While I knew it would be a great opportunity to get feedback on my work, it is quite nerve-racking to lay your work bare in front of minds you suspect are far greater than your own!



Thankfully, prior to the conference, I was encouraged by time spent with other postgrads from around the country at the pre-CSAA Postgrad Forum at Melbourne

University. Brainstorming with fellow panellists Jeremy Clarke and Haiqing Yu in Bendigo cafes likewise boosted my confidence, provoked new thoughts and reinvigorated my passion for our common area of study - religion in contemporary China. Our panel passed without catastrophe, and even elicited some really interesting questions from the audience (thank you). My adrenaline rush kept me smiling all day. As a first-time presenter, there will always be things to improve on, but the fact that I was not laughed out of Bendigo remains a great source of affirmation in the dark hours of hand-wringing and self-doubt as I go about my thesis!

As for the rest of the conference, I attended panels on markedly diverse subjects: security and foreign affairs, computer games and gay identity, wedding and marriage, philosophy, and 'suzhi'. All of these were entertaining, fascinating, and beckoned me to approach my own subject matter from different angles.

Another highlight was the many conversations enjoyed with scholars both young and young-at-heart over coffee and meal breaks. These were highly effective in creating both intellectual stimulation and a wonderful sense of community.

Attending the CSAA conference is an enjoyable and enriching experience, and presenting a paper poses an additional opportunity to get feedback from fellow members of the China studies 'academy'. I thank the CSAA community for the support it has provided me thus far, and encourage other scholars starting out to take full advantage of it. While putting your work out there can be scary, it's also rewarding and exhilarating. The 2006 Asian Studies Conference is fast approaching - take a breath and submit an abstract (or at least come along)!



### **Welcome to our website** **<http://www.csaa.org.au/>**

On August the 10th this year the revamped Chinese Studies Association of Australia web page was posted. Ms Valerie Shavgarova, the creator and manager of the site, talks with the editor.

I grew up in Far East Russia. This is quite close to China, and people would often go to Harbin for sightseeing trips. Although I studied Chinese at high school, my real relationship with the country began after I completed my Masters of Business Management degree in 1996. For the next three years I worked for a Qingdao recruitment company in northeast China.

I loved my time in Qingdao. My work was challenging: organising the recruitment of Russian workers for the hospitality industry, finding suitable workers, dealing with government departments, arranging visas, sorting out accommodation, and finding places of work. I learnt a lot, and I am proud of what I achieved.

Living in Qingdao was great. The people were courteous and very friendly to me - I made many friends. I lived near the beach and greatly enjoyed the cobblestone streets, and of course, the shopping and the fashions.

My employer, a Chinese company, sponsored me to learn Chinese at Guangbo Xueyuan, the Beijing Film and Television School. Learning Chinese was fascinating difficult of course, but I really enjoyed it.

Living in China and studying Chinese improved my communication skills but it has also made me more tolerant of others and more accepting of other cultures.

I came to Australia in 1999 and continued studying again - this time, Human Resources and Business Management at Canberra Institute of Technology. I also began working as a recruitment officer in the Human Resources division at the Australian National University in Canberra. In 2003/04 I entered the University's graduate recruitment program.



In October 2004, I accepted an offer for the position of Website/Resources Manager of the International Centre of Excellence in Asia Pacific <http://iceaps.anu.edu.au> at the ANU, now under the leadership of Professor John Fitzgerald. Although this is my full-time job, and it keeps me busy I assure you, I am also studying again, this time doing a Diploma in Web Development. I believe it's important to keep up to date with the latest developments in this fast-changing field.

Professor Fitzgerald asked me whether I would be interested in designing and managing a new website for the Chinese Studies Association of Australia. I was very happy to do so. It not only allows me to keep alive my interest in China, it also helps me to use my skills in web design. At ICEAPS we are interested in developing web resources that can be more easily accessible to all interested in Asia Pacific studies.

I would hope to do the same sort of thing with the CSAA website, but I need people's help with this. It would be great if we were able to update the page quite frequently, but this relies on people sending me material to put on the page - articles, stories, pictures and so on. The material that is on the page I mostly gathered from the previous site, the address of which now redirects people to our new site. I am always grateful for anything people might like to suggest, for as you can see, I always like to learn!

Please feel free to complete the online survey Valerie has designed concerning the new web page, obtainable from the following address. Valerie welcomes any suggestions, comments or ideas members of the Association would like to offer. Her

email is [valerie.shavgarova@anu.edu.au](mailto:valerie.shavgarova@anu.edu.au)

Online survey at <http://www.csaa.org.au/usersurvey.html>



## **Newspapers at the National Library**

Wan Wong

National Library of Australia

Thank you for all the positive feedback for the first column on the National Library's collection and services in the last issue of this newsletter. As promised, this time we will look at the newspaper resources at the National Library.

As the largest Chinese collection in the country, the National Library has taken on the responsibility of collecting newspapers published in China in a comprehensive manner. We are unique in collecting all major dailies from all the 31 provinces and provincial level cities. These newspapers mostly date back to the early 1980s. As researchers would know, the major dailies are state-owned and in recent years have declined somewhat in their importance compared to the 'urban dailies' (du shi bao) which cater less for the Party than for the 'market'. The National Library also acquires the major ones of these such as Zhongguo qing nian bao , Xin Jing bao and Nan fang zhou mo. In addition, we also have major national thematic newspapers such as Zhongguo ren kou bao and Ren min zheng xie bao. The complete list of newspapers we currently collect from China is online at <http://www.nla.gov.au/collect/osnews.html>

Although for storage and long-term preservation reasons we do acquire most of our newspapers from China on microfilm, some are acquired in other formats. For instance, the most important Chinese newspaper, Ren min ri bao, or the People's Daily, is acquired now in two ways. Current issues arrive by airmail and are put in the Asian Collections Reading Room for readers to browse, while cumulations are acquired in an annual CD-ROM for ease of searching. Of course readers can also choose to read it online through the link at the page mentioned above. The Factiva database that the National Library subscribes to covers major Chinese newspapers such as Ming Pao and Jin Rong Shi bao. This database is accessible from all reading rooms of the library.



To meet research needs the National Library also purchases retrospective materials. The publication of newspapers in China began in the late 19th century, and the earliest ones were 'gazettes' from the Qing court, the Di bao from the Guangxu-Xuantong period (1882-1910). For the 20th century we have now purchased all four major republican dailies: Shen bao and Minguo ri bao from Shanghai, as well as Da



gong bao and Yi shi bao from Tianjin. Some of them are in microfilm while others are in hardcopy.

It is often difficult to find information in newspapers without consulting a good index. At the National Library we have the standard tool, Ren da fu yin bao kan zi liao, with current issues in quarterly updated CD-ROMs and older issues in hardcopy. For older and current materials there is the excellent index on CD-ROMs put out by the Shanghai Library called Quan guo bao kan suo yin shu ju ku, covering the 20th century to date. There are also hardcopy indexes to individual newspapers such as Ren min ri bao and Guang ming ri bao, etc.

You can see from our collection of online newspaper titles that we do have English newspapers from China like the China Daily. Older English language titles such as the China Weekly Review during the republican period, and the South China Morning Post from 1903 are also in the collection.

As always, suggestions for purchase or any other feedback about our collection and services are most welcome. Please contact the writer at (02) 6262 1613 or [wwong@nla.gov.au](mailto:wwong@nla.gov.au)



---

### **On pages and servers in Sino-cyberspace:**



My experiences with electronic research tools at ANU and the NLA\*

Niv Horesh

Division of Pacific and Asian History  
Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies  
Australian National University  
[niv.horesh@anu.edu.au](mailto:niv.horesh@anu.edu.au)

While writing up my thesis on China's pre-war monetary history over the past couple of years, I have had the privilege to work in Canberra with Renata Osborne and Toshio Takagi, who tended to my interminable enquiries about new books and primary source acquisitions. Across the lake, Wan Wong and Mayumi Shinozaki were equally accommodating, often referring me to new publications in my field about which I had very little knowledge. Throughout this period, my research required that I skim through large volumes of late-Qing and Republican era press reports capturing popular sentiments and perceptions of foreign banks. It was this aspect of my work that taught me to value the electronic databases available from The Australia National Library (ANU) and the National Library of Australia (NLA). The present paper will establish some broader generalisations based on my experiences, so that other postgraduate students, librarians and Australia's wider Sinophone community might also benefit from these resources.

The first part of the paper will discuss how new electronic research tools might be revolutionising the landscape of historiography in the years to come. The second section will specifically focus on Sinological applications, and the ways in which they differ from European-language platforms. The third section will identify some of the shortfalls of the main electronic databases that cater for scholars here in Australia, and pinpoint those databases that have not yet been introduced. Finally, I will try to assess the next strain of applications that may appear on the horizon in the near future, and make suggestions to colleagues concerning areas where I think much headway can potentially be made with relatively little effort.



## **1. Using electronic databases**

Probably just about anyone who completed their undergraduate studies before the 1990s can recall what a Sisyphean task it used to be to identify relevant articles in tatty printed indexes for an essay long overdue, then handwrite a hasty draft and have others type it for you. Sometime in the early 1990s, the tedium of typewriters had decisively made way for the PC. Word-processing technology, and the subsequent spread of the World Wide Web rendered some of these labour-intensive research chores a fleeting memory.

Nowadays, electronic databases help scholars economise on valuable research time and streamline fieldwork exigencies in two salient ways. Primarily, researchers can dig out statistical, semantic or biographical bits of information in just a fraction of the time it once took experienced scholars to look through their diffuse notes. Speedier knowledge management is made possible by the increasing number of mainstream reference aids that have become available online: dictionaries, thesauri, encyclopaedias, yearbooks, etc.

One such aid, which I have personally benefited from immensely, is the online edition of the Oxford Dictionary of British National Biography [ODBNB], a recent acquisition by the ANU featuring more than 50,000 biographies of the men and women who shaped all aspects of Britain's past. Scholars whose interests interface, in one way or another, with British history would find this application indispensable. Sinologists, too, can benefit, since the ODBNB affords a vantage point on the formative background of many 'Old China Hands' - be they Empire Builders, Merchants, Bankers or Mercenaries.



The ODBNB was exceedingly costly to produce, and is strictly limited to paying subscribers. Yet, it can become a doubly powerful research tool when supplemented with open-code applications that are currently changing the face of the Net. Wikipedia is probably the best example: a unique free-content online encyclopaedia that is written collaboratively by anonymous volunteers in a host of languages. Launched as recently as 2001, it has now accumulated more than 1.5 million entries, with about one-third in English and no fewer than 100,000 in Japanese.

The other radical transformation of our research routine is propelled by what can loosely be termed as the virtual library. Once upon a time, a new research project required months of wandering in pursuit of pertinent materials. Nowadays, however, the perimeters of received wisdom are much more clearly demarked by virtue of the 'keyword search'. In other words, it is now infinitely easier to identify and bag nearly everything of value that has been written in one's field. This development is largely attributable to improvements in OCR (Optical Character Recognition) technology, which allow academic networks like JSTOR to catalogue and digitise issues of leading journals across different disciplines as they appear.

This results in not only a remarkable upturn of productivity, but it is also more environmentally friendly, as more and more researchers get accustomed to reading material on a computer screen and to printing off segments more selectively. At the same time, libraries can conserve precious stack space by offering serials electronically rather than leaving hardbound volumes to gather dust in dark basements. ANU postgraduate students, who have had to pay a visit to the Hancock Library basement in search of old journal articles on tightly-packed shelves, know that this can often be a vexing task.



JSTOR was established in order to relieve readers and librarians around the world from similar tasks. It was set up in August 1995 as an independent non-profit organisation, and has since inspired other ambitious projects. PCI Full Text, for example, is a database comprising back issues of over 300 leading journals in the Humanities and Social Sciences. It provides location leads, and sometimes online access, to over 1.2 million articles, the earliest dating as far back as 1770.

But above all, our research routine is liable to change in the near future due to the fact that more and more archives in the West and Japan have begun to put up their entire catalogues online, allowing scholars to carry out vital work off-site. This trend seems to have been pioneered last year by the UK Public Records Office in London, and appears to be catching on rapidly. The PRO has also set an example for other archives around the world by committing itself to complete digitisation of all its collections within the next few years. This means that, before long, scholars will not have to travel all the way to London to view declassified British government files. One can certainly envision PhD dissertations touching on themes in British history being submitted here in Australia in the near future without the need for expensive fieldwork to be undertaken in the UK.

Probably the most reassuring sign that this trend is truly spreading is the fact that the US National Archives and Record Administration [NARA] has recently launched a substantial segment of its catalogue online, complete with call numbers and content abstracts. Other archives in Europe and East Asia may still be lagging behind the Anglo-American lead in this area, but it's only a question of time before they rethink their role.



## 2. Sinological databases

For 'Asianists' working in the West, one particular electronic database towers above all the rest - The Bibliography of Asian Studies [BAS]. It contains information on more than 610,000 articles and monographs concerning East, Southeast, and South Asia, published worldwide from 1971 to the present. BAS has identified the most important English-language periodicals in Asian Studies, and has indexed them on a priority basis in order to make their coverage as up-to-date as possible. Various ad hoc projects have also contributed substantial numbers of additional records to the database, thereby increasing the coverage to include newly-published and previously-excluded journals as well as eliminating gaps in the coverage of previously indexed periodicals.

The main shortcoming of BAS is that it is largely oblivious to literature published in other languages, particularly Asian ones. Thus, scholars have to rely on a melange of country-specific databases to keep abreast of academic discourse outside the confines of the Anglophone world. Solutions here vary in server reliability and scope across disciplines. The Nichigai Network, for example, catalogues 1.68 million

bibliographical records of Japanese publications from 1925 onwards - but, sadly, only a small part of these materials is physically available in Canberra. It would be encouraging to see Nichigai raising the bar by offering some of the journal articles on its online catalogue for download along the lines set out by JSTOR and other Western academic databases.



China specialists, for their part, have to make do with Zhongguo qikan quanwen shujuku [ZGQKQWSJK], which is maintained by a Beijing-based company. Though touted as all embracing, I personally find this database of relatively little use. It does allow users to download articles, but these tend to be of uneven quality. Search matches almost invariably yield short items published in obscure PRC journals, often comprising excessive footnotes or none at all. Questionable quality-control practices are compounded by the fact that the database leaves out pre-1994 literature, which means scholars have to do more footwork in search of printed indexes. The Renmin daxue baokan ziliao [RMDXBKZL] is one supplemental index that comes to mind. Considered more selective in its choice of articles, the RMDXBKZL is nevertheless unavailable online.

On the whole, Taiwan-based projects seem to pack more punch. The online gateway to the Siku quanshu is, for example, a wonderful tool for the study of Chinese literary history, as it turns this gigantic Qianlong-era repository into electronically searchable files. One would hope that similar Academia Sinica or commercial applications will become readily available in Australia. These now range from e-texts of classics like Hong lou meng, Shuihu zhuan or Xi youji to online editions of the Twenty-Five Dynastic Histories, the Tripitaka and divination bone facsimile.

Ultimately, advancement in primary source accessibility holds the future. In this sense, the Japan Centre for Asian Historical Records [JACAR] has also picked up the PRO gauntlet. The Centre is now employing cutting-edge computer technology to enable scholars to download, at no charge, select Meiji and Taisho government records on Japan's foreign policy with English transcripts. When extended to cover all National Archive of Japan collections, the JACAR project promises to be an incredibly powerful research aid.



### **3. Suggestions for the future**

Because it is unique in the region, the JACAR project underscores what is left wanting in other East Asian databases. The PRC, so it seems, is teeming with state, provincial and municipal level Library danweis entrusted with the preservation, compilation, and dissemination of historical documents, but accessibility remains a persistent problem. Whereas scholars can now search the Jinshisuo and Guoshiguan Republican-era catalogues without having to board a Taipei-bound flight, the top two historic archives in the PRC did not even have, until recently, a website of their own. In both cases, however, off-site perusal of records seems a very long way off. It is precisely here where tighter cooperation with universities and libraries in the West may provide the funds needed to free up a looming bottleneck. It would be ideal if scholars could streamline fieldwork in China by achieving a better idea of what is available in her archives before departure.

Money, of course, is a perpetual problem in other areas too. Its premium content and impressive interface notwithstanding, we have recently had to forfeit the Super Star [Chao Xing] database here in Canberra because subscription was too expensive. I personally feel that this episode illustrates not only homespun economics, but also the fact that many China scholars - PhD students and Professors alike - do not sufficiently appreciate how an electronic research capacity can conserve time and energy. IT-driven innovations may be a bit harder to stomach in the Humanities, so it would have been good to see the Menzies Library at the ANU or the NLA appointing a librarian specifically dedicated to expounding upon their merits. Given the current pace of change, regular 'e-training' for postgraduate students may be as important as keeping tabs on new electronic research aids that come on stream.

### **Notes**

-----  
\* For more information on the research aids mentioned in this paper or how to access them, please contact the author by email. Many thanks to Timothy Amos, a fellow PhD Scholar at the Division of Pacific and Asian Studies, who read and commented on an earlier draft.



---

## **The New Sinology and the end of history**

**John Fitzgerald**  
**Australian National University**

Geremie Barm's essay *Toward a New Sinology* (CSAA Newsletter 31) is a refreshing contribution to discussions on Chinese studies in this country, one clearly intended to prompt further discussion. With its combative attacks on 'academocrats' among Australian scholars, its assertive claims for the pre-eminence of a particular methodology for the study of China, and its assertion that quality pedagogy in Sinology is undergoing a resurgence in Australian historical studies, the essay makes a series of claims for the New Sinology that are clearly intended to stake out a 'position'. As commissioning editor for the essay I really have no business commenting on that position. But I cannot help wondering about the implications of the New Sinology for the study of history.

The essay leaves to one side many of the arguments and accretions surrounding the old Sinology and invites us to focus on the promise of the New. The New Sinology is described as a distinctive mode of intellectual inquiry characterised by a robust engagement with contemporary China and the Sinophone world, by strong scholastic underpinnings in classical and modern Chinese languages and studies, and by an ecumenical attitude in relation to other disciplines. Above all it is attentive to Sinophone ways of speaking, writing, and seeing. Institutionally, it has its roots in an ANU tradition pioneered by Pierre Ryckmans, it is hostile to the overt emphasis on economics and trade that is preferred by government, and it is opposed to the ethos of for-profit universities and the corporatist objectives of academocrats. It is also said to be a distinctive Australian product known for its robust encounters with overly 'hide-bound' disciplinary approaches. For this reason it is a useful promotional device for branding the new generation at the helm of Chinese studies at the ANU. This summary does little justice to Barm's eloquent account but captures I believe the key points of the essay. I'd like to take up a few points bearing on the study of history.



History is a fairly open discipline in this country. In the recent Australian History Wars, for example, any patriot with a laptop and access to a publisher could lay claim to be an historian. By this measure history shapes up rather differently from other humanities or social sciences disciplines such as art history, economics, sociology, anthropology, or even literature. History is practised and regarded as a kind of public shareware in contrast to the proprietary software of what Barm refers to as hide-bound disciplines. For this reason it is more vulnerable than most disciplines to the ambit claims of other methodologies. Any Sinologist with an interest in popular memory or cultural heritage can hang up the shingle of the historian. That said, the rating of an historian with multiple degrees and years of teaching experience in history is only as good as his or her last book. The question at issue for historians is not one of credentials but of scholarly practice.

The historical practice of the New Sinology is introduced by reference to the China Heritage Project at the ANU. The New Sinology essay expands on comments made at the launch of the China Heritage Project, and it sits on the China Heritage website.

The Heritage Project in turn pays tribute to the New Sinology where it 'advocates a New Sinology that builds on traditional Sinological strengths while emphasising a robust engagement with the complex and shifting realities of contemporary China'. What is its practice? The China Heritage Project has been created to mount and to maintain Bruce Doar's monumental efforts in translating Chinese scholarship on history and archaeology, and to post regular essays and updates on what's happening on the heritage front in China. It's a kind of historical practice that supplies translations and heritage news from the front lines. All to the good - but hardly history.



This practice is consistent with that of an older Sinology that specialised in translation and interpretation, two arts at the heart of the New. As a form of pedagogy the New Sinology imparts sound knowledge of classical and modern Chinese language and studies to students already familiar with (say) French or English, thereby equipping them to interpret contemporary China for Anglophone and Francophone audiences who do not co-habit the margins of the Chinese-language world. At this point the New Sinology may repeat another experience of the Old in excluding people of Chinese descent from the art of Sinological interpretation. The two outstanding teachers to whom Barm gives credit for his Sinological training at ANU are Pierre Ryckmans and Liu Tsun-yan of the Asian Studies Faculty. Under the unwritten code of the old Sinology, Ryckmans was a Sinologist as Liu could never be.

The New Sinology would truly earn its name if it could cultivate Sinology among people of Chinese descent. But what would a Chinese Sinologist look like? More particularly, what would a Chinese Sinologist/Historian look like? Let us shift the stage scenery a little. Imagine an eminent group of scholars in China announcing the advent of a new school of Anglostudies grounded in deep familiarity with the English language, classical and modern, and an ecumenical approach toward the disciplines. If they intended to suggest that Chinese scholars needed to know the English language to comprehend the English-speaking world they would be commended but hardly applauded. English fluency is a standard requirement for scholars seeking to understand documentary sources written in English or graphic sources crafted in the European idiom. But if, by extolling an ecumenical attitude to the disciplines, they meant to imply that the research methods around which knowledge of the Anglophone world was organised counted for little alongside fluency in English cultural idioms, then they could be asked to explain their line of reasoning. Every native English speaker comes equipped with English. Familiarity with a language does not equip anyone to undertake linguistic research any more than living in an Anglophone society makes one an English sociologist. An Irishman with a long memory makes the worst kind of historian.



Chinese pioneers of Anglostudies could strongly and truthfully respond that their followers were engaged in cross-cultural translation, a discipline in its own right that

is only now receiving due recognition in China and abroad.\* They could point out in their defence that, while they touch, see, read, and hear English-language sources, this is hardly the end of the matter. The point of the exercise is to write up their Anglo-findings in Chinese for the edification of a Chinese-language readership. Typically, they translate English-language authors into Chinese, produce books of selected English-language documents in Chinese, and write general books about the Anglophone world in a style that reflects their easy familiarity with the Anglo Other. Their work is characterised by eclectic borrowings from the insights of sociology, art history, literature, political science, geography, demography, literary studies and so on, without claiming allegiance to any discipline other than cross-cultural translation itself, which at the end of the day is grounded in an intimate knowledge of the language in all its forms and the cultures embedded in its various dialects.

The discipline of history operates on different assumptions. It assumes, for example, that anyone anywhere can participate, in any language, if they have the requisite discipline skills-set. Among historians, the world of words and things is translated not into another language but into discipline-specific ways of questioning the data, of organising knowledge about the past, and of contributing to comparative understanding of states, societies and cultures. Nor do historical studies operate on the assumption that their work is done when they adequately translate and interpret one cultural-linguistic past into another. This is properly the business of translation studies, a business best confined to a few experts (as Pierre Ryckmans always insisted for an earlier Sinology) who can faithfully master the nuances of the relevant languages and dialects, and provide comparative annotations on the translated materials. Translation studies are intuitively comparative, to the extent that they are cross-cultural, yet they are not amenable to comparative study in the sense in which historians generally employ the term.



Change the Chinese world for the Anglo one in Anglostudies and we can glean some idea of the direction in which the New Sinology is pointing. It is pointing away from history. Where history makes an appearance, it appears to be subsumed under the New Sinology as a heritage-dialect of cultural studies which needs to be grasped in order to understand and interpret contemporary China. The focus is on China, especially contemporary China, and the methodology is linguistic and aesthetic competence. Familiarity with this style of history is important chiefly for attaining literacy in contemporary Chinese Studies. Hence, as Barm points out, to be ‘unlettered’ in history is to be ‘semi-literate’ in ‘the culture, thought and even language of China today’.

China and the Sinophone world, on the other hand, hold little value for historical studies. This is the nub of the matter. History features in the New Sinology as a kind of heritage skill-set that non-natives of China need to acquire in order to attain China Literacy and hence understand contemporary China. Why China literacy is worth striving for is neither self evident nor explained. Why China literacy should matter for historians, in particular, is left hanging. There is nothing in the methodology to persuade people interested in history (as distinct from China) to develop an interest in



the history of China.

The New Sinology may convert its methodological weaknesses into strengths by referring to Australia's international reputation in Chinese Studies for 'robust encounters with overly hide-bound disciplinary approaches'. Flouting the disciplines is not a methodological weakness when it can be promoted as a distinctive national strength. But again, to what degree is Australia's reputation for robust encounters with overly hide-bound disciplinary approaches a strength or weakness in Chinese historical studies?



Let's reflect back for a moment on an alternative tradition of historical scholarship that once flourished in Australia alongside Sinological studies. A new spirit is at play in the corridors of ANU highly favourable to Barm's reconstruction of Sinology. This is all to the good. The Sinological tradition has long counted for something in the Chinese languages and studies programs at that university and the ANU is at liberty to put its resources where it will. As a discipline supporting research and teaching in history, however, Sinology is unknown outside the institution. There was a time when the ANU was regarded internationally as an important site for historical studies of China. I would venture that this is no longer the case, and venture further that the New Sinology is incapable of enhancing Australia's reputation for historical studies of China.

Chinese historical studies were practised and carried beyond the ANU not by Sinologists but by historians trained in the Far Eastern and later East Asian history programs. Graduate students in the history program were expected to be fluent in Chinese languages and studies, and they were expected to learn, practise and study history in the program. The New Sinology differs from the old in assuming that it can displace historical studies of this kind 'something the old Sinology would never have presumed to do' by inflecting language studies with references to heritage and kaozheng research, once the preserve of Chinese language and literature departments.

The wider effect of this strategy is likely to be twofold. Firstly, it may well lead to a resurgence of credentialism in this country, as History Departments that once welcomed PhD graduates from the East Asian History Division come to ask by what measure graduates in the New Sinology are qualified to teach history or to offer research training for graduate students in history. Historians in the same departments may well ask by what measure New Sinologists deem to sit in judgment upon their historical teaching and research.



Secondly, the New Sinology is unlikely to restore Australia's declining reputation as a site for Chinese historical studies. It may well be recognised as an important development in studies of contemporary Chinese culture, but since Barm writes as an historian there can be no doubting the historical claims of the New Sinology.\*\*

I may have misread *Toward a New Sinology*. But is there not a risk all the same, attendant on its particular style of historical practice, that the New Sinology will displace what little remains of discipline-grounded historical studies of China in this country with cross-cultural translations and contemporary heritage updates, whose worth is measured by their currency rather than by their contribution to original research in the discipline of history? If so, what measure of relief can the Sinological style of history offer historians from the day-to-day focus of government, business, or the so-called academo-crats? Worse, what is to stop historical practitioners of the New Sinology from settling comfortably into faddish neo-disciplines that 'translate' the rich heritage nuances of contemporary China without reference to historical studies at all?

## Notes

-----  
\* See for example Lydia Liu (1995), *Translingual practice: literature, national culture, and translated modernity: China, 1900-1937*, Stanford, Cal: Stanford University Press and Lydia Liu (edited) (1999), *Tokens of exchange: the problem of translation in global circulations*, Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

\*\* Geremie Barm is Professor of Chinese History at the ANU, was elevated to the Academy of the Humanities in the discipline of history, and holds a distinguished Federation Fellowship awarded in the Asian History discipline by the Australian Research Council.

 [top](#)

---

## **Introducing the 'Women and Gender in Chinese Studies Network'**



**Maria Jaschok and Anne Gerritsen  
for WAGNet**

The 'Women and Gender in Chinese Studies Network' (WAGNet) was inaugurated at the Second International Convention of Asia Scholars held in Berlin in August 2001. The founding members of the Network were motivated into action by the relative invisibility of women's and gender studies scholarship at the biannual conference of the European Association of Chinese Studies held in Torino, Italy, in August 2000. As a group, we felt that as the study of women and gender now has a prominent and permanent place both in the academy and in the field of Chinese studies, it is important to provide a network to facilitate communication and co-operation. We considered this especially important because of the disciplinary, linguistic, and national boundaries that continue to divide the field of women and gender in Chinese studies. Our aim was to make it possible for people working in diverse disciplines, ranging from archaeology to globalisation and development studies, in diverse languages, ranging from English and German to Chinese and Russian, and in diverse national environments, to find common concerns, priorities, and interests.

Since August 2001, our website <http://www.wagnet.ox.ac.uk> has functioned as a central site for communication and interaction. Since then, more than 200 members from many different countries have joined the Network. The website provides members with information about upcoming workshops and conferences, and recent publications in all European languages. The website facilitates communication and exchange of ideas, and thereby fosters a stimulating environment for research. We also have a very active 'listserve', where all members can freely submit messages and share ideas and information.



Besides the website and the listserve, WAGNet has engaged in a number of initiatives. At the 2002 European Association of China Studies (EACS) conference in Moscow and the 2004 EACS conference in Heidelberg, WAGNet organised a separate 'women and gender' panel. These panels provided invaluable opportunities for the presentation of recent research, the exchange of ideas and experiences, and the forging of new collaborations. Some of the papers from the 'women and gender' section of the Heidelberg conference will appear in 2006 in a separate issue of *Berliner China Hefte*, which is edited by two WAGNet members. At the recently held ICAS conference (Shanghai, 2005), members of the WAGNet community also presented papers on a range of topics.

While these large conferences provided a platform for the presentation of recent work in the field of women and gender in China to large audiences, we have also tried to provide opportunities for more in-depth discussion and small-scale collaboration. We are particularly proud of the two Graduate Student Conferences organised by WAGNet. After the initiative taken by Dr Harriet Zurndorfer (Leiden University) to organise a two-day workshop for graduate students working in the fields of women and gender in China in 1998, the members of the steering committee of WAGNet organised a second workshop in Oxford in September 2003. We selected 13 doctoral students from an impressive range of submissions, and invited discussants from around the UK to offer comments on their works. In the informal atmosphere of the workshop and the beautiful surroundings of Oxford, every single member of the group, participants and discussants alike, felt newly stimulated, rewarded and refreshed.



The Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation, which had generously sponsored us for the Oxford workshop, agreed to a further workshop, this time organised in Prague (in January 2005). Our particular aim here was to strengthen our ties with the Sinological communities of Eastern Europe, and to introduce students and colleagues in Eastern Europe to the ideas and approaches that inform our work on women and gender. The workshop in Prague, organised by Professor Olga Lomova in conjunction with WAGNet, was another tremendous success, with participants not just from Eastern Europe, but also from the United States and Asia. After receiving encouraging feedback from everyone, we are now planning to organise a fourth graduate student

workshop, hopefully for September 2007.

While WAGNet was initially established as a Network to strengthen the European community of scholars working within the field of women and gender, it has rapidly grown beyond European boundaries. WAGNet has members from all over the world, although for practical reasons those who have been involved in the organisational aspects of the Network (notably those who are part of the small steering group that meets roughly once a year) have been based in Europe.

We would, however, be delighted to welcome more members from Australia and Asia, so spread the word, and sign up! Even better, do participate and use the listserve for any announcements about activities at your institution or in your neighbourhood, or for thoughts you wish to share or any discussion you would like to initiate. Simply send a message to: [wagnet@listserv.warwick.ac.uk](mailto:wagnet@listserv.warwick.ac.uk) and it will be distributed to all members.

We look forward to hearing from you all!



---

### **Introducing the work of three current postgraduate students from across the country**

#### Painting the Town

Beatriz Carrillo Garcia  
University of Technology, Sydney  
[Beatriz.Carrillo@uts.edu.au](mailto:Beatriz.Carrillo@uts.edu.au)

During the early years of economic reform and up until the mid-1990s, researchers viewed with enthusiasm the development of China's small towns. Researchers and Chinese officials alike spoke about the advantages and the potentials of a 'bottom up' urbanisation formed by a large network of small towns. The 'talk of the town' was everywhere, but few pursued empirical studies on the issue; instead, they followed the lights of the big cities. Small towns, however, remain a crucial element not only of China's urbanisation but also of rural industrialisation, and of the advancement of social development throughout the country. In the past three years I have been mapping those developments in a not-so-small town in Hongtong County, Shanxi Province.

The main body of the fieldwork consisted of interviews with rural migrant workers, which were concerned mainly with their experiences in the town rather than on the circumstances that led them to leave agriculture. Personal connections and informal networks continue to be crucial in oiling the administrative wheels for successful job hunting and business entrepreneurship. Institutional reform and the establishment of more efficient regimes for administrative procedures are slowly being implemented at

the town level, although at the time of writing they largely only have the 'shell' (new modern government buildings) but have yet little content (old informal ways continue to be used).



Of those interviewed, the large majority were Hongtong County natives with strong kinship links with the town. Even though place of origin did influence rural workers' access to jobs, public services, welfare and social inclusion, those from other provinces did not feel discriminated against or isolated from social membership. Furthermore, hukou differentiation did not represent a strong marker between locals and outsiders in either economic or social spheres. Access to social insurances remains very limited, even among urban hukou holders. Typically only those working in the state sector are included in the social security system, and even in that case insurance coverage depends on the financial capability of the specific government department or danwei. Access to schooling for both locals and outsiders seems also to be more a matter of affordability rather than of hukou status. Increased competition for students among public schools, and more recently from a growing number of private schools, has led most schools to abolish the extra fees charged on outsiders. Moreover, the prefectural government (Linfen City) issued a regulation last year in which it established that local school age children (from urban and rural areas) should in principle be eligible to enter any school within the Linfen area.

Housing presents an interesting case. This is perhaps where socio-economic demarcation between locals and outsiders tends to be more salient. Most rural workers in the sample continue to live in rural areas, though usually not in their home village. They rent or build houses in villages next to the town and commute to work on a daily basis. Those suburban villages have become an extension of the town, experiencing different degrees of urbanisation. Living conditions, however, are not necessarily better in the town, even though access to tap water, a drainage system, paved streets and streetlights are not always available in the villages. Yet, rural workers prefer to live in the village where housing is more spacious, the environment is cleaner, and land and rents are cheaper.

County and town governments' priorities continue to be oriented towards economic development, while encouraging self-reliance in areas such as health care, education, and housing. Without explicitly promoting private enterprise, local officials are giving tacit support to private schools, training centres, hospitals and clinics. The private sector, although still fragmented and mostly of a small scale, has in the past five years greatly increased its participation in the local economy. It is the private economy that has allowed rural workers easier access to economic opportunities in the town.

Meantime, in the short and medium term - as the town sets up and expands its social security and welfare systems - social development will largely depend on the individual financial situation of urban, rural and migrant households.



---

A study of the Chinese people's mediation system - Culture, variance and diversity

**Quan Jin**  
**University of Sydney**  
[quan.jin@gmail.com](mailto:quan.jin@gmail.com)

Since 1949 the Chinese people's mediation mechanism ('PMM') has played a very important role in settling a large number of disputes at the ground level, but the past ten years has seen a considerable reduction of its role. Now the national government, the Ministry of Justice and the Supreme People's court have requested immediate action to help the PMM to revert to its dominance in small-scale dispute settlement.

Many relevant research studies have been carried out, investigating the problems undermining the PMM and trying to seek out practical solutions. However, this research failed to take into account the great differences that exist between urban cities and rural villages in relation to the PMM's function, which resulted in their failure to produce satisfactory and practical answers to the PMM's troubles.

My research will adopt a number of research approaches, including case study and field survey, to examine how and why the PMM functions differently. The principal argument in this thesis is that the traditional mediation mode, tightly attached to Confucian ideology, is still popular among rural villages, whilst it has been gradually excluded from urban communities because of the profound impact made by the implementation of the socialist market economy. Secondary arguments include how the transformation era influences Chinese society as a whole, which explains the indispensable role the PMM plays in settling large numbers of small-scale conflicts, and why the PMM itself cannot move towards professionalisation and systemisation.



---

Questions of competence

**Jeffrey Hou-Jiun Li**  
**Newcastle Graduate School of Business**  
**University of Newcastle**  
[Hou-Jiun.Li@studentmail.newcastle.edu.au](mailto:Hou-Jiun.Li@studentmail.newcastle.edu.au)

Jeffrey Hou-Jiun Li is a Doctoral Candidate in Management at the Newcastle Graduate School of Business in Newcastle, Australia. His research interests include Managerial Competence, Human Resource Management, Organisational Change, and Performance Management in Chinese study. Two of his papers have recently been approved by Asia-Pacific Researchers in Organisational study - 11th International Colloquium and 19th ANZAM conference. His PhD thesis is entitled 'What does

competence mean for Chinese managers: Modelling the relationships between organisational culture, organisational structure, managerial competence and managerial performance’.

According to Longenecker and Fink (2001: 9), ultra-competitive environments require organisational change, which requires effective managerial performance, which requires appropriate skills and behaviours (i.e. competencies). Furthermore, Jirasinghe and Lyons (1996) argued that environmental factors (e.g. organisational culture and organisational structure) influence an individual’s competence in an organisation, and that competence is related to performance. The work of these researchers indicates that managerial competence influences managerial performance. An assumption of this study is that managerial competence will mediate partially the relationship between organisational culture and managerial performance. The proposed model posits that organisational structure will moderate the relationship between managerial competence and managerial performance.

In conclusion, the theoretical components of the conceptual framework are organisational culture, organisational structure, managerial performance and managerial competence. An additional theoretical benefit of this study is that it tests the proposed model in a Chinese setting, thereby proving a test of the different scales and hypotheses that have been examined predominantly in Western settings.



---

### **Finding an intellectual community: the inaugural pre-CSAA Chinese Studies Postgraduate Forum**

**Alex English**

**President of the Chinese Studies Research Group (CSRG)  
University of Melbourne**

Just prior to the CSAA Conference in Bendigo this year, a lively and entertaining gathering took place in Melbourne with some of Australia’s brightest and promising young Chinese studies postgraduate students. The students were in good company with many of Australia’s leading Sinologists also present, including Professor Geremie Barm, Dr Antonia Finnane, Dr Gloria Davies, Professor David Holm and Dr Luigi Tomba. All of these people were gathered at the inaugural pre-CSAA Chinese Studies Postgraduate Forum that was held over two days in late June at the University of Melbourne. As a promising sign for the future of Chinese Studies in Australia nearly 60 people attended the forum from all around Melbourne and interstate, as well as several international participants.

The forum was enriched by the participation of many Sinophiles from Australia and abroad. These included Dr Luigi Tomba of the ANU, who hosted the final discussion of the forum; Professor Ellen Widmer of Wesleyan University (USA); and Fr Yves

Camus S.J. of the Macau Ricci Institute. The forum revolved around four research themes: 'Expressions of Trans-cultural Borders'; 'Language, Text, and Ontology'; 'Interpreting Space and Place'; and 'Orthodoxy'. Each panel included three postgraduate presentations followed by feedback from an academic discussant, some questions and discussions. The forum attempted to bridge some of the difficulties of approaching Chinese Studies from numerous disciplinary backgrounds and across cultural and linguistic borders. Therefore, the forum emphasised inter-connections, boundaries and junctions within Chinese Studies, reflecting the zones where disciplines, topics and languages overlap or appear fractured.

The forum successfully encouraged vibrant academic and social interaction amongst postgraduate researchers working in the area of Chinese Studies. Moreover, the involvement of several leading academics offered the postgraduates important support and inspiration through direct feedback and the communication of research theories.



There were two key prompts for organising the conference. The initial idea arose from previous CSAA conferences which, despite the best efforts of the organisers to encourage postgraduate inclusion, still witnessed a large number of students on the periphery and outside of the familiar academic circles. The second trigger was an attempt to follow up on the contacts and ideas initiated by the excellent annual Chinese Studies Graduate Summer School at the Australian National University.

It is hoped that the success of the inaugural Chinese Studies Research Forum in Melbourne will encourage CSAA and the host of the 2007 CSAA Conference, Griffith University, to continue organising such an event. The forum not only provided a valuable contribution to promoting the next generation of Chinese Studies researchers in Australia, but also reinvigorated the presence of an intellectual community for many postgraduates.

The forum was initiated and organised by Melbourne University's Chinese Studies Research Group (CSRG). The CSRG is run by a group of postgraduates from around the university with the support of the East Asian Library.

The key to the success of this event rested upon the time, energy, organisation, inspiration and creativity of several members of the CSRG and especially Melbourne University's East Asian librarian, Bick-har Yeung.

However, the forum would not have been possible without the financial support of the University of Melbourne's Arts Faculty and International Office, and the Melbourne Institute for Asian Languages and Society (MIALS). CSAA provided support for the initiation of the forum as well as ongoing publicity. Thank you all so very much!

For more details about the CSRG please visit our website  
<http://www.lib.unimelb.edu.au/collections/asian/CSRG/CSRG.html>



**Joint conference of the International Society of Chinese Philosophy (ISCP) and the Australasian Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy (ASACP)**

13-19 July 2005

University of New South Wales  
Sydney, Australia

**Karyn Lai**  
**Senior Lecturer and ISCP President**  
**School of Philosophy**  
**University of New South Wales**

This 14th biennial conference of the International Society of Chinese Philosophy (ISCP) was particularly significant in the following ways:

- a. it was the first time a conference of the ISCP had been held outside the northern hemisphere; and
- b. it was held jointly with the annual conference of the Australasian Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy (ASACP), a professional society of philosophers working in the field of Asian philosophy. The ASACP was founded in 1991 and has so far held annual conferences in the Asian and Australasian (Australia and New Zealand) region.

The theme of this conference was *Chinese Philosophy and Human Development in the 21st Century*, with the following sub-themes:

- values, health and ethics, including conceptions of self, society and well-being, politics, international relations and globalisation issues
- trade, economy, business and human resource development
- culture, art and religion
- the natural environment and natural resources, built environments, and the impact of development on the natural environment, and
- scientific and technological developments, with particular emphasis on emergent ethical challenges.

There were two public lectures organised in conjunction with the conference, one given by Professor Chung-ying Cheng (University of Hawaii) on *Doing Business Management in Chinese Philosophy: The Creativity Theory* and the other by Professor Nathan Sivin (University of Pennsylvania) on *Drawing Insights from Chinese Medicine*.



Four plenary speakers addressed a range of themes:

**Dr Nick Bunnin** (Oxford University), *God's Knowledge and Ours: Kant and Mou Zongsan on Intellectual Intuition*;

**Dr John Makeham** (University of Adelaide), *The Legitimacy of Chinese Philosophy: Views from the Periphery*;

**Professor Lisa Raphals** (University of California), *Thinking Outside Confucianism: New Approaches to Self and Autonomy*; and

**Professor Tang Yijie** (Beijing University), *Constructing 'Chinese Philosophy' in Sino-Euro Cultural Exchanges*.

There were 88 papers presented and 104 participants in total (35 from Australia and New Zealand, 23 from PR China, 21 from North America and Canada, 11 from Taiwan, 7 from Europe and 7 from Hong Kong and Singapore). Participants were primarily from the area of philosophy, though there were others from history, Chinese studies, literature, and sociology disciplines. Ten graduate students presented papers, which covered a range of topics including business management, Chinese medicine, Chinese philosophy, Chinese intellectual history, ethics and the environment, social and political philosophy, logic in Chinese philosophy, and issues associated with reconstructing Chinese philosophy for contemporary China.

The conference operated in two languages, Chinese and English, and the atmosphere was extremely friendly and supportive. A significant proportion of participants at this conference were not existing ISCP or ASACP members. Many new friendships were made. This sets the path for future collaborative work between members of the two societies.



### **Fu Foundation Essay Contest**

The Fu Foundation runs an Essay Contest in conjunction with the ISCP conferences <http://www.charleswei-hsunfufoundation.org/essays.htm> Winners will receive an all-expenses paid trip to attend the conference. Congratulations to the following winners:

- Chinese Language category: Yang Guorong, PhD (East China Normal University, Shanghai, PRC) The Debate over 'Tian' and 'Ren' - A Reinterpretation of the Zhuangzi;
- English Language Category: Chen Kung Hung (Graduate Degree Fellow East-West Center, University of Hawaii), Meanings in the Making: Words, Creativity, and a Philosophical Interpretation of A Book from the Sky;

- Senior Scholar Category: Yang Ju-ping, PhD (College of History, Nankai University, Tianjin, PRC), Zhuangzi and the Cynics - Their Significance to the Modern Society

### **Sponsors**

A number of organisations very generously provided financial support for the conference. These are the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at the University of New South Wales, The School of Philosophy at the University of New South Wales, and the Culture Regeneration Research Society. China Southern Airlines provided two free air tickets and discount fares for participants travelling from PR China. In addition, prominent members of the Sydney Chinese community donated generously to the conference. They are Mr Philip Chau, Mr Stephen Chan, Mr William Chiu, Mr Frank Chou, Dr Michael Chung, Mr Gary Lam, Mr Amen Lee, Mr Henry Ngai, Mrs Helen Sham-Ho, Mr Peter Tseng and Mr Eric Wong.

Because of the success in sponsorship, the conference was able to provide significant financial support for all the plenary speakers as well as a number of participants from PR China.

 [top](#)

### **Publications**

A number of papers presented at the conference will be published in a special issue of the *Journal of Chinese Philosophy*.

Additionally, a selection of papers will be edited by the President and published in a volume with the theme 'Chinese Philosophy: Contemporary Issues and Future Directions'. It is envisaged that this volume will be published by a commercial publisher.

Abstracts of the papers are available at <http://www.incompass.com.au/iscp/program.asp?sub=0373>

The web address of the ISCP is: [www.cwu.edu/~iscp](http://www.cwu.edu/~iscp)

Queries may be directed to the conference organiser and ISCP President, Dr Karyn Lai [K.Lai@unsw.edu.au](mailto:K.Lai@unsw.edu.au).

 [top](#)

---

## **The China node**

**Stephanie Donald**  
**University of Technology, Sydney**

The China Node is based at UTS. It is also the Sydney node of the APFN (each node is located in a different part of the country). This year it has focussed on supporting

postgraduate involvement in larger Asia-Pacific Network supported activities. This has been much appreciated by students and supervisors, and we hope to continue with this emphasis. Large event funding and special funding is more the preserve of the Network itself, although all ideas will be considered. The China Node is also planning a meeting for Node scholars in December (see further details below), and is offering support to a conference in Melbourne in 2006.

The China Node receives the same ARC funding as other nodes (\$10,000 pa) but has a significantly larger number of scholars to accommodate and respond to across Australia than do the other regions in the Network. We therefore attempt to produce value for China Studies by a) increasing access to ideas for new scholars across the country, b) supporting information flows through our email system, and c) facilitating connections and the development of ideas on the relevant theme for the year.

It is hoped that all activities will make real links between institutions and groups of researchers. We have a casual administration assistant, Dr Yi Zheng, who works part-time (sometimes only one hour a week), but who keeps an eye on the China Node email list in case of queries and suggestions. She will be assisting the organisers of the December event and may be in contact with you on this matter.



## 2005

1. Fresh and Salt: Water and Border Debates in Australia and Asia (UTS, Sydney) - the Node funded postdoctorate and senior node scholars from Melbourne, WA, ANU and Queensland, and a postgraduate/ postdoctoral dinner. An e-publication is under way.
  2. A workshop on regional security was convened through the China and Japan/Korea nodes in Canberra on 5 May. Tessa Morris Suzuki, Jenny Corbett, John Fitzgerald and David Goodman were key organisers. China and Japan nodes funded postgraduate interstate participants.
  3. Gendering Governance in Asia (organised by Vera Mackie), 25 September - the China Node is funding catering costs and three ECR attendees.
  4. A second workshop (at Griffith University, organised by Nick Knight) in November. Again, the China Node is funding three postgraduate attendees.
  5. A two-day China Node meeting is being organised for 8-9 December. It will take place at UNSW and UTS. The discussion and program leaders are Hans Hendrichske (UNSW), Gary Sigley (UWA) and Luigi Tomba (ANU). More details will be forthcoming soon. All China Node scholars are invited to attend. Themes will (probably) include fiscal and economic security, the future of China Studies, and Education.
-

*In place of the usual campus roundup, this issue focuses at depth on the work being conducted in two schools - the University of Western Australia and the University of Technology, Sydney. Later issues will focus on other institutions.*



---

## **China studies news from the University of Western Australia**

**Gary Sigley**  
**University of Western Australia**

The last six months has been an extremely busy time here for Chinese Studies and China related activity.

The Association for Chinese Economic Studies (Australia) held its annual conference at UWA from 7-8 July. The theme of the conference was 'Transition, Growth, and Globalisation'. A/Prof Wu Yanrui from the School of Economics and Commerce was one of the main organisers. More information can be found at <http://acesa.ecom.uwa.edu.au>.

Dr Chen Jie from Political Science and International Relations has been awarded a US\$31,000 research grant from the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange (Taipei). The project length is three years and the project is to look at NGO communities in China and Taiwan: expanding linkages with trans-national civil society. This is the second time a UWA staff member has received a grant from the foundation. Chen Jie is currently in China conducting the first round of interviews and research.



### **The Confucius Institute at UWA**

Since the official unveiling on 20 May the Confucius Institute has been very active in establishing its program and planning for the coming year. It has been confirmed that the CI will have offices in a prime location within the newly acquired campus at Claremont (the site of the former Edith Cowan University campus). Two appointments have been made: Dr Gary Sigley has been appointed as Director and Ms Elaine Burgess as Development Officer. Elaine is a fluent speaker of Chinese who recently returned to Perth after seven years of work in the Austrade Office in Beijing.

Professor Anne Pauwels, Dr Gary Sigley and Dr Wang Yi attended the inaugural World Chinese Conference in Beijing in August. A visit was also made to Zhejiang University (ZJU), which is the designated partner institution with the Confucius Institute at UWA. UWA will host two Chinese language teachers from ZJU in 2006.

The first round of Chinese language teaching has commenced with a program of Chinese Beginners (in conjunction with UWA Extension) and One to One teaching for business and government executives. The courses have been very well received thus far.

The Confucius Institute also held its first public lecture on the 16 August. The speaker was Mr Daniel Griswald from the CATO Institute in Washington DC. Mr Griswald spoke on the topic of 'The Australia/China Free Trade Agreement and Its Impact on US Relations for the 3 Nations'. The event was jointly sponsored by the US Consulate in Perth. This was followed more recently on 30 September by a public lecture delivered by former Ambassador to China, Mr David Sadleir, on the topic of 'China and Its Neighbours in a New Century'.

2006 is set to be a big year for the Confucius Institute with many activities planned, including a Chinese film festival, an international conference on China and the region, co-hosting the national Chinese language teachers' conference (with the Chinese Language Teachers' Association of WA), and (with Zhejiang University) a conference in July 2006 on the theme of 'China Australia Comparative Studies'.



## **UTS China Research Group**

**David Goodman**  
**University of Technology, Sydney**

The China Research Group at UTS is concerned with investigating and explaining processes of social, political, economic and cultural change in China. Its core researchers are staff members at UTS, though others also participate from ANU, University of Sydney, UNSW, Macquarie University, and Erasmus University Rotterdam. Its approach is shaped by both cultural studies and the social sciences and is heavily focussed on explaining change at the local level in China, particularly through fieldwork.

The China Research Group provides a framework to support research through a range of activities, including the organisation of an annual workshop, and a publications program. The China Research Group hosts the China Node of the ARC Asia Pacific Futures Network (Convenor Stephanie Donald). The Research Group also hosts one of the largest PhD programs on China Studies in Australia.



### **Researchers in the China Research Group include:**

**Dr Guo Yingjie** (Convenor), whose current research is concerned with the impact of

WTO on Dingzhou in Hebei Province. His most recent book is *Cultural Nationalism in Contemporary China: The Search for National Identity under Reform*.

**Dr Susette Cooke**, who is currently preparing a social history of Qinghai Province under the PRC. She is the author of *Tibet Outside the TAR*.

**Professor Stephanie Hemelryk Donald**, the Director of the Institute for International Studies, is currently working on the development of China's creative industries. Her most recent books include *Little Friends: Children's Film and Media Culture in China* and *The State of China Atlas*.

**Dr Louise Edwards** (Australian National University), whose research explores women and gender issues in Republican China and in the politics of contemporary China. Her most recent book is *Women's Suffrage in Asia: Gender, Nationalism and Democracy*.

**Associate Professor Feng Chongyi**, who is a historian of contemporary China, especially of the social history of the peasantry. His recent work focuses on social democracy in China, and his most recent publication is *Li Shenzhi and the Fate of Liberalism in China*.

**Professor David S.G. Goodman**, who works on provincial social change, including at the moment a study of women entrepreneurs and local politics. His most recent publication is *China's Campaign to 'Open Up the West': National, Provincial and Local Perspectives*.

**Associate Professor Hans Hendrichske** (UNSW), who researches networks of social and economic change. He is the editor of *Provincial China*.

**Dr Colin Hawes (Macquarie University)**, who currently teaches in the areas of corporate law, Asian law and international banking/finance law, and will be teaching Chinese Corporate/Commercial Law in Autumn 2006. His current research project is a systematic study of Chinese corporate culture.

**Dr Adrian Hearn**, who is a postdoctoral research fellow at the UTS Institute for International Studies. His research examines the capacity of community organisations to democratically deliver health and education services in collaboration with decentralised State authorities and international NGOs.

**Dr Elaine Jeffreys**, who researches issues surrounding governmentality in contemporary China, especially those related to gender and sexual matters. Her most recent book is *China: Sex and Prostitution*.



**Dr Yixu Lu**, who is Head of German Studies at UTS. She is currently engaged in a study of *Colonial Qingdao: Social Interactions between Chinese and Germans*.

**Professor Barbara Krug** (Erasmus University, Rotterdam), whose research examines the dynamics of local level economic change. Her most recent book is *China's Rational Entrepreneur*.

**Dr Jonathan Markley** (Macquarie University), who has worked at Macquarie University both during and after his graduate studies, and recent courses he has been involved with include 'Ancient Greek Religion', 'Modern Chinese History', and 'Myth in the Ancient World'. His main research interest is Chinese historiography.

**Dr P♦I Nyiri** (Macquarie University), who is an anthropologist whose most recent books include *Scenic Spots: The Construction of the Chinese Tourist site and the Question of Cultural Authority* and *Transnational Chinese: Fujianese Migrants in Europe*.

**Dr Kylie Redfern**, who is a researcher of business ethics and values in China.

**Dr Wang Yiyan** (University of Sydney), whose research is concerned with contemporary Chinese culture, especially literature, and particularly its regional dimensions. Her latest publication is *Narrating China: Defunct Capital and the Fictional World* - a study of Jia Pingwa and his fiction.

**Dr Yang Jingqing**, whose current research examines the emergence of professional associations in contemporary China. His current focus is in the development of the medical and legal professions.

**Dr Zheng Yi**, who is concerned with cultural poetics and comparative aesthetics. She is working with Stephanie Donald on the construction of middle class taste structures in urban China.

Publications listed all date from 2004/5. Further information is available at <http://www.transforming.cultures.uts.edu.au/chinagroup/>

The China Research Group supports the largest PhD program on China Studies in Australia. Candidates may work through either English or Chinese.



#### **Current UTS PhD students include:**

**Cao Qibao**, The Ageing of the Population, Social Security and Sustainable Development in Yunnan;  
**Beatriz Carrillo**, New Urban Spaces in China: Social Development and Migrant Incorporation in Chinese

**Liu Xue**, Architecture and Culture: A Study in Courtyard Style Dwellings in Yunnan, China;  
**Ma Yong**, A Study of the Transformation and Optimum Mode of the Tourist Space in the Three



Towns;

**Chen Minglu**, Tiger Girls: Women Leaders of China's Private Enterprises;

**Ivan Cucco**, New Agricultural Cooperatives in China;

**Anja Fladrich**, Germany in China: Colonial Interactions in Qingdao;

**Gong Siyi**, A Study on the Model and Operating Mechanism of Sino-Foreign Joint Tertiary Educational Institutions in Shanghai;

**Sabina Groeneveld**, Historical Sociology - Germany in China; Guo Hailiang, A Study of Poverty in the Mountainous Region in Luliang, China;

**Guo Xiangang**, Theoretical Management;

**Guo Yuntao**, Energy Industry in China: An Assessment of Its Supply Capacity;

**Huang Zhenhai**, Regional Strategy in Globalisation: China's Certification Industry;

**Hou Shumei**, China's Administrative Law Reform Since Its WTO Accession;

**Jiang Wei**, Which Step Blocks Your Way: The Hindering Factors in Strategy Implementation Processes in Non-State Owned Small-Medium Chinese Enterprises;

**Liu Jing**, Formulation and Implementation of Objectives in Physical Education Among Minority Nationalities at High Schools in Yunnan Province;

**Li Sulei**, Chinese Female White Collar Workers; Li Xiuhong, Higher Education in China;

**Liu Ersi**, Industrial Chain and Economic Development in Underdevelopment Regions: The Case of Flower Industry in Yunnan Province, China;

**Liu Songyu**, Opening Up Female Gorges on the Yangtze River;

**Mao Yiming**, Consumer Behaviour and the Middle Class;

**Qiu Yueshou**, Li Shenzhi and China in Transition: Discourse of Liberalism in a Post-Totalitarian Society;

**Ren Chuanzhong**, The Transformation of the Meaning of Folk Culture in the Process of Communication: A Case Study of Folk Customs in Two Ethnic Villages in Yunnan, China;

**Ren Chuan**, Multiculturalism in Australia;

**Tian Weimin**, Development of Eco-Tourism in Pumi Communities in Lanping, Yunnan Province;

**Wang Suqiang**, A Study of MBA Cases in Hainan Special Economic Zone, China;

**Wang Yancai**, Professionalisation of School Teachers in the Minority Regions in Yunnan, China;

**Wang Yongming**, Development of Private Economy in Sichuan; Wang Yu, Banking System Reform in Yunnan;

**Wang Zhimeng**, Internet and China: The Impact of Web Revolution on Chinese Politics and Economics;

**Wu Bobo**, From State Monopoly to Market: WTO and the Marketization Strategies of Certification and Inspection Industry in China;

**Xiong Shuxin**, Television Programs and the Culture of Minority Nationalities in Yunnan;

**Yang Lin**, Developing Human Resources and Sustainable Development in Under-developed Areas in China: The Case of Yunnan Province;

**Zhang Fenxi**, Higher Education and Social Change;

**Zhang Lujin**, Banking System Reform in Guangxi;

**Zhang Yun**, Divorce in China;

**Zhang, Sara**, The Impact of

Role and Voice in Chinese Literature;  
**Liu Tianwei**, A Study on the Team Management System in China's Family Companies;  
**Liu Xingshu**, Legal Responsibilities for Students - Injuries on Campus in China;

Business Education on Chinese Women;  
**Zhou Rui**, Public Administration in the Public Interest: Public Administration Role in China Post SARS



The Group grew out of the former UNSW-UTS Centre for Research on Provincial China, and has taken over a number of its functions and activities. These include the annual Provincial China Workshop, the journal Provincial China, and associated publications. Workshops are currently planned on Local Administration, to be held in Guiyang (2006), and Colonies in China, to be held in Qingdao (2007).

The annual Provincial China workshops have each concentrated on a specific theme and have been held on three continents. Participants include both Chinese and external academics and discussions are usually bilingual.

Workshops thus far have been held in:

Haikou, Hainan (1994);  
 Suzhou, Jiangsu (1995);  
 Hangzhou, Zhejiang (1996);  
 Kunming, Yunnan (1998);  
 Hong Kong (1999);  
 Taiyuan (2000);  
 Hangzhou, Zhejiang (2001);  
 Haikou, Hainan (2002);  
 Hamburg, Germany (2003);  
 and the Hunter Valley, New South Wales (2004).

**Publications from the workshops include:**

**David S.G. Goodman** (ed.) (1997), *China's provinces in reform: class, community and political culture*, London: Routledge.

**Feng Chongyi and Hans Hendrichske** (ed) (1999), *The political economy of China's provinces: competitive and comparative advantage*, London: Routledge.

**John Fitzgerald** (ed.) (2001), *Rethinking China's provinces*, London: Routledge.

**Barbara Krug** (ed.) (2004), *China's rational entrepreneurs*, London: RoutledgeCurzon.

**David S.G. Goodman** (ed.) (2004), *China's campaign to 'Open Up the West': national, provincial-level and local perspectives*, Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.

**Jing Wang** (ed.) (2005), *Locating China*, RoutledgeCurzon, London.

**Tim Oakes and Louisa Schein** (eds) forthcoming, *Translocal China*, London: RoutledgeCurzon.



---

## **The ARC Asia Pacific Futures Research Network**

**Louise Edwards**  
**Australian National University**

(ARC-APFRN) has a postgraduate researcher database which CSAA members are most welcome to join. Currently over 270 students around the country have registered. Students interested in being included in the database should visit this website to input their details. The form is very simple and should take no more than 5 minutes to complete. The database will enable the ASAA, ICEAPS and the ARC-APFRN to inform postgraduates of the activities that are being organised to enhance student and ECR research opportunities and career development. The Form can be accessed from the Network's site

<http://www.sueztosuva.org.au/index.php>

or from the link

<http://www.sueztosuva.org.au/postgradregister.php>



---

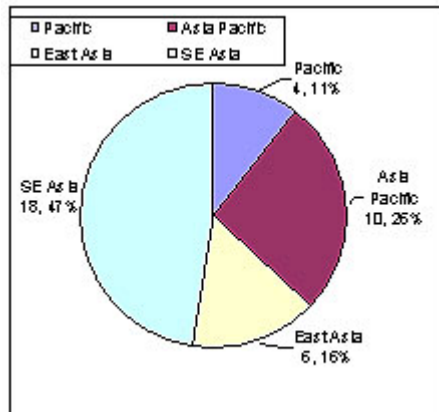
## **Postgraduate students register member overview**

- total of 270 students have registered
- some are researching Australian only topics and have not been included in the data below
- two main countries dominate (China and Indonesia) with West Asian studies being the most poorly represented

**Figure 1: Thesis topics researching regional**

**Figure 2: Thesis topics researching Pacific**

## issues



## nations

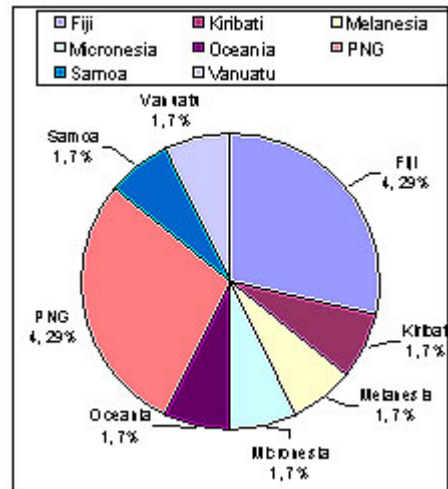
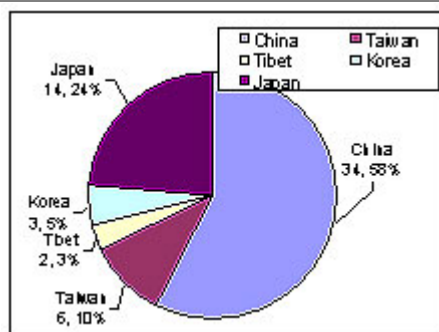


Figure 3: NE Asia thesis topics by country



China 34, 58%

Taiwan 6, 10%

Tibet 2, 3%

Korea 3, 5%

Japan 14, 24%

[top](#)

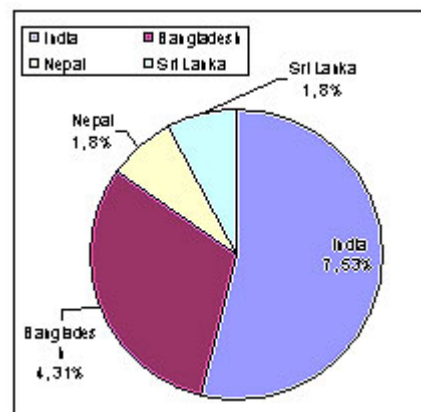
Figure 4: South Asia thesis topics by country

India 7, 53%

Bangladesh 4, 31%

Nepal 1, 8%

Sri Lanka 1, 8%



**Table 1: SE Asia thesis topics by country**

Burma	1
West Papua	1
Laos	2
Singapore	3
Philippines	4
Cambodia	7
Thailand	9
Vietnam	14
Malaysia	15
Indonesia	50



**Table 2: West Asia thesis topics by country**

Lebanon	1
Israel	1
Afghanistan	1



### **Diary dates**

## **The 16th Biennial Conference of the Asian Studies Association of Australia (ASAA)**

University of Wollongong, Australia  
26-29 June 2006

*Asia reconstructed:  
from critiques of development to postcolonial studies*

Professor Adrian Vickers  
**Conference Convenor**

### **Important Dates**

Registrations Begin	October 2005
Deadline for all abstracts and posters	3 February 2006
Notification of Successful Abstracts	28 February 2006
Early registration fee closes	28 April 2006

With support from the Wollongong University academic community and the key centre for research on the Asia-Pacific, CAPSTRANS. We also acknowledge the support and generous assistance of academic and administrative staff in the Faculty of Arts at the University of Wollongong.

Wollongong UniCentre has been appointed as the Secretariat for the 2006 ASAA Conference. They can be contacted at:


Wollongong UniCentre  
Conference Management Team

PO Box U100  
University of Wollongong NSW 2500

Contact: Peter Vrahas,  
Phone: 61 2 4221 8173,  
Fax: 61 2 4221 8001,  
Email: [vrahas@uow.edu.au](mailto:vrahas@uow.edu.au)

Further Information is available at <http://www.uow.edu.au/arts/conferences/asaa>

 *top*

	<b>International Society for the Study of Chinese Overseas</b>
	<b>Africa Regional Conference 4 December - 6 December 2006</b>
	Hosted by the <b>Department of Historical and Heritage Studies University of Pretoria, South Africa</b>

## **DIVERSITY IN DIASPORA: THE CHINESE OVERSEAS**

The conference email address to which all abstracts and queries should be sent is [issco@up.ac.za](mailto:issco@up.ac.za).

Non-email correspondence should be addressed to:

Karen Harris  
ISSCO Conference  
Department of Historical and Heritage Studies  
University of Pretoria  
Lynnwood Road  
Hillcrest  
Pretoria  
or fax +27 12 420 2656

Please submit all proposals to: [issco@up.ac.za](mailto:issco@up.ac.za)  
Abstract Proposal deadline is 30 June 2006.

 *top*

---

(Please submit to the editor [jeremy.clarke@anu.edu.au](mailto:jeremy.clarke@anu.edu.au) dates of interest to our members. These will be posted on our website.)

The CSAA Newsletter was edited by Jeremy Clarke SJ, Robyn White and Rosemary Murray, with assistance from Griffith Asia Institute. Please contact authors direct for

permission to quote or reprint articles. The views expressed in the articles are the views of the authors.

---

### **Academic journals of interest to our membership**

#### **THE CHINA JOURNAL**

The China Journal is a cutting-edge source of information and analysis about modern China and Taiwan. Written with clarity, it has proven to be a very important tool for teaching about one of the most significant regions in the world. The China Journal is a refereed, scholarly publication that focuses on topics relating to China, Hong Kong and Taiwan since 1949, plus studies of the major issues that contribute to understanding of Communist Party history and contemporary events.

For more than two decades the Journal has provided informed and insightful commentary from China scholars world-wide. It enjoys a substantial international readership. In addition to a wide range of articles, the Journal also carries book reviews of all the important books published on modern China. The Journal is published twice yearly - in January and July - by the Contemporary China Centre at the Australian National University.

The China Journal welcomes contributions from all points of view and from all fields. Articles should be comprehensible to a broad readership within the field of modern China studies. Submission of an article is taken to mean that it has not been previously published and is not being considered for publication elsewhere. Editorial correspondence should be sent to The China Journal, Contemporary China Centre, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, Australian National University, Canberra ACT 0200, Australia.

Further information is available from the editors:

Andrew Kipnis ([andrew.kipnis@anu.edu.au](mailto:andrew.kipnis@anu.edu.au)) or Luigi Tomba ([luigi.tomba@anu.edu.au](mailto:luigi.tomba@anu.edu.au))

 [top](#)



#### **Provincial China**

(Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group)

Editor: Hans Hendrichske, University of New South Wales

Research on the contemporary People's Republic of China needs to address the consequences of the inherent variation in social and economic development across the whole country. During the reform era, in particular, as the provincial-level political and administrative hierarchy has increased in

importance, and with new emphases on provincial and local identities, research needs to focus less on the centre and more on regional and local developments and diversification. This is the particular perspective of *Provincial China*.

Provincial China contains sections on statistics, theoretical perspectives and discussion, news of projects in progress and professional activities, conferences, workshops, information about sources, documents and materials, and ideas and information about provinces and localities in general. In addition, it accepts research articles and notes about any aspect of China's localities and provinces.

Editorial correspondence, including manuscripts for submission, should be sent to Provincial China, UNSW-UTS Centre for Research on Provincial China, Dept of Chinese and Indonesian Studies, The University of New South Wales, Sydney, NSW 2052 , Australia. Where possible, material for inclusion should be provided either on disk, stating format specifications or, preferably, sent as email attachment to [provincial.china@unsw.edu.au](mailto:provincial.china@unsw.edu.au).

---



**CHINESE STUDIES  
ASSOCIATION OF  
AUSTRALIA (Inc)**

*CSAA, the professional  
organisation for research and  
teaching about China in Australia.*

The Chinese Studies Association of Australia [CSAA] is the professional association for China specialists and post-graduate students in Australia. Its membership includes specialists in the fields of anthropology, economics, geography, history, language, law, linguistics, political science, sociology, literature and other aspects of Chinese society and culture. To inform its membership about what is occurring in the Chinese studies community throughout Australia, it regularly publishes the Chinese Studies Newsletter, containing information about on-going research, new publications, new appointments, forthcoming conferences and workshops, and a campus round-up.

The CSAA also convenes a major biennial conference, containing dozens of panels of papers and drawing a large number of participants both from Australia and abroad. The last national conference was held at the University of New South Wales, in July 2003, and the next will be hosted by La Trobe University in Bendigo, Victoria, from 30 June to 3 July 2005.

The CSAA liaises with government departments and other appropriate official bodies at Commonwealth and State levels regarding the teaching of the Chinese language

**COUNCIL OF THE CSAA 2003-  
2005**

**President**

*A/Professor Mary Farquhar  
Department of International  
Business & Asian Studies  
Griffith University  
NATHAN QLD 4111  
Tel: (61 7) 3735 7111  
Fax: (61 7) 3735 5111  
[m.farquhar@griffith.edu.au](mailto:m.farquhar@griffith.edu.au)*

**Secretary**

*Dr Anne McLaren  
Melbourne Institute for Asian  
Languages & Studies  
University of Melbourne  
PARKVILLE VIC 3052  
Tel: (61 3) 8344 5149  
Fax: (61 3) 9349 3472  
[mclae@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:mclae@unimelb.edu.au)*

**Treasurer**

*Dr Gary Sigley  
Asian Studies  
University of Western Australia  
CRAWLEY WA 6009  
Tel: (61 8) 6488 3959  
Fax: (61 8) 6488 1167  
[gsigley@cyllene.uwa.edu.au](mailto:gsigley@cyllene.uwa.edu.au)*

**Newsletter Editor**

*Fr Jeremy Clarke SJ  
Pacific and Asian History  
RSPAS  
Australian National University ACT  
0200  
Tel: (61 2) 6125 2170  
[jeremy.clarke@anu.edu.au](mailto:jeremy.clarke@anu.edu.au)*

**Council Members**

and culture in primary and secondary schools and universities and other issues relevant to the field of Chinese Studies, such as research funding. The Association works to ensure that it has a significant input on all important matters relating to Chinese Studies in Australia.

### **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

To become a member of the CSAA please, print out and complete the [membership application form](#), and post to the Treasurer.

Membership fees as at July 2004 are:

Conference-to-Conference Ordinary Membership (July 2005-June 2007): A\$45 for 2 years

Annual Ordinary Membership:

A\$30 per year

Annual membership for students and

those not in full employment: A\$10 per year (or A\$20 for 2 years)

Annual Corporate membership:

A\$100 per year

**Please return the form, with money order or a cheque made payable to the Chinese Studies Association of Australia [Inc.] to:**

*Dr Gary Sigley,  
Treasurer CSAA  
Asian Studies  
University of Western Australia  
Crawley  
WA 6009*

*Professor John Fitzgerald  
International Centre of Excellence  
in Asia-Pacific Studies  
Australian National University ACT  
0200*

*Tel: (61 2) 6125 7594*

*[John.Fitz@anu.edu.au](mailto:John.Fitz@anu.edu.au)*

*Professor Kam Louie  
China and Korea Centre  
Faculty of Asian Studies  
Australian National University ACT  
0200*

*Tel: (61 2) 6125 5560*

*Fax: (61 2) 6125 3144*

*[kam.louie@anu.edu.au](mailto:kam.louie@anu.edu.au)*

*A/Professor John Makeham  
School of Social Sciences  
ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY SA 5005*

*Tel: (61 8) 8303 4283*

*[john.makeham@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:john.makeham@adelaide.edu.au)*

*Dr Susan Trevaskes  
School of Languages & Applied  
Linguistics  
Griffith University*

*NATHAN QLD 4111*

*Tel: (61 7) 3735 5152*

*Fax: (61 7) 3735 6766*

*[S.Trevaskes@griffith.edu.au](mailto:S.Trevaskes@griffith.edu.au)*

*Web site manager  
Ms Valerie Shavgarova  
ICEAPS  
Australian National University ACT  
0200*

*[valerie.shavgarova@anu.edu.au](mailto:valerie.shavgarova@anu.edu.au)*