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British Association for Chinese Studies***

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## **President's Report, 2011-12**

In my first year as BACS President I have tried to continue the good work of my predecessor, Professor Tim Wright, in promoting public benefit, particularly in relation to enhancing a critically-informed understanding of China, Chinese culture, and Chinese language. Over the past year, BACS has continued its active involvement in the promotion and publication of scholarship in Chinese Studies, the encouragement of Chinese language study, and the participation in wider public debate about language-based Area Studies and modern language studies. This report provides a brief overview of BACS' core activities during the past academic year. This is followed by an overview of activities undertaken by myself and other Council members on behalf of BACS, a brief summary of recent Council discussions, and an indication of future developments.

### **Conferences**

The 2011 BACS conference was held at the University of Edinburgh, with very generous administrative and financial support from the Confucius Institute for Scotland. The keynote lectures by Professor Wang Hui (Qinghua) and Professor David Der-wei Wang (Harvard) were attended by approximately 120 people. The conference as a whole featured 60 presentations and 80 registered participants. The organising team, led by Professor Natascha Gentz, worked very efficiently to make the conference both an intellectual and a financial success.

The rising trend in conference attendance, already apparent in Edinburgh, was strongly continued in the build-up to the 2012 conference at Wadham College, Oxford. Well over 100 abstracts were submitted and, for the first time ever, the BACS conference organising committee, consisting of Dr Tao Tao Liu, Dr Joanne Smith Finley, and myself, had to be quite selective in its decisions. This is a healthy development, indicative of the growth of our field as well as of the ever-rising status of our annual conference. It is worth pointing out in this context that this unprecedented number of applications was achieved despite last-minute competition from the European Association of Chinese Studies (EACS), which decided very late to deviate from its normal slot in late August and hold its biennial conference in the same week as the BACS conference. I have been in touch with

the EACS president to ensure that, in future, better communication takes place to prevent such unfortunate clashes.

The 2013 conference will be a Joint East Asian Studies (JEAS) conference, co-organised with the colleagues of the British Association for Japanese Studies (BAJS) and the British Association for Korean Studies (BAKS). The conference will be hosted by the University of Nottingham from 5-7 September 2013, and will coincide with the International Forum for Contemporary Chinese Studies (IFCCS). This will ensure the presence of a strong contingent of scholars from China, as well as substantial funding from the Confucius Institute at Nottingham.

### **Scholarships**

BACS once again administered the application and selection process for the Huayu Enrichment Scholarships (HES), which provide UK nationals with the opportunity to study Mandarin in Taiwan. The BACS Council met with the Director of the Cultural Division of the Taiwan Representative Office in October and expressed its strong desire to re-instate the two-month HES, which had in the past been very popular with UK students but which had not been made available in the previous year. The TRO responded quickly and positively to our suggestions and provided a total of 192 months worth of scholarships to be divided over one-year, six-month, and two-month scholarships. Having screened all applications, the HES selection committee, consisting of Dr Tao Tao Liu, Dr Julian Ward and myself, recommended awarding 12 one-year scholarships, five six-month scholarships, and nine two-months scholarships. The demand for two-month scholarships was lower than expected, mainly in view of the new requirement for applicants to register with a Taiwanese university (and pay a substantial registration fee) prior to learning the outcome of their application. We provided feedback to the TRO, asking them to see if this requirement could be reconsidered. In addition, we suggested to the TRO that BACS is best placed to consider only those HES applications coming from students in university Chinese departments, which we can confidently rank with the usual assistance of departmental representatives. In comparison, we felt less confident about ranking this year's substantial number of applicants with no prior knowledge of Chinese and no affiliation to any Chinese department. We informed the TRO that, although we understand such applications are important to

them, they may want to consider having them undergo a separate screening process without BACS involvement.

A new scholarship administered by BACS for the first time this year was the 'Chinese Teacher Refresher Course' scholarship provided by Hanban through the Chinese Embassy. This scholarship, aimed especially at non-native speakers of Chinese involved in language-based Chinese Studies teaching, provides financial support to attend a language refresher Summer course at various universities in China. Having received the relevant information at short notice, a simple application and selection procedure took place in February/March, overseen by a committee consisting of Dr Joanne Smith Finley, Dr Gerda Wielander, and myself, resulting in BACS putting forward a shortlist of five candidates to the Embassy, all of whom were eventually awarded the scholarship (although one later withdrew for personal reasons). Feedback from successful applicants about their courses will be discussed at the first BACS Council meeting this coming year, with the aim of preparing a more robust advertising and selection procedure in coming years.

BACS is, in my view, well placed to assist fund-giving organisations in screening and assessing applications, and to provide overall advice and quality control for scholarship competitions. We will continue to try and deploy more activity in this area.

## **Publications**

April 2012 saw the long-awaited official launch of the *Journal of the British Association for Chinese Studies* (JBACS), after the first pilot issue had already been online since December 2011. We owe a great debt of gratitude to our colleague, Professor Don Starr, for bringing about this new initiative. In view of the recently announced new policy of all UK funding councils to insist on open-access publication of all publicly funded research from 2013 onwards, we are clearly in an excellent position, well ahead of everybody else, to develop JBACS as a key publication in our field. The very strong editorial board further guarantees that contributions to JBACS will undergo stringent peer review and quality control. All colleagues in Chinese Studies, especially those seeking to publish the outcomes of publicly-funded research, are strongly encouraged to contact the editors, and to submit their work to JBACS. The flexibility of the online open-access format

ensures a very short turnaround time for manuscripts, with plenty of opportunities to publish before the REF cut-off date.

Our annual *BACS Bulletin* was once again edited by Dr Jeremy Taylor. The reports from departments and centres across the country clearly show the huge growth in Chinese courses and programmes in recent years.

### **Affiliated organisations**

The China Postgraduate Network (CPN) was convened this year by Ms Gao Jian from Edinburgh University. The annual CPN conference, held in Edinburgh in June 2012, was a great success, with 60 speakers, including 56 PhD students and four guest speakers. BACS made a financial contribution to the conference. With support from BACS, the CPN website was migrated onto the BACS site server and has been given a new look. It can now be found at <http://www.bacsuk.org.uk/cpn/>. As always, the CPN convenor was invited to all BACS Council meetings, providing important input from the research student community.

The Association for Speakers of Chinese as a Second Language (ASCSL), co-chaired by Dr Frances Weightman and Mr Giles Blackburne, is a professional association for people who have achieved an accredited level of Chinese. The Association is continuing to grow, with membership now exceeding 500. As a result of generous support from Pearson Group and HSBC, the Web site (<http://www.chinesespeakers.org>) is currently undergoing further development to enhance its discussion forum and messaging functions. A number of members have secured jobs through vacancies posted on the Association's Web site, most recently with the China-Britain Business Council. Blogs on teaching Chinese and on contemporary culture have also been well received by members. In the past year, BACS once again provided modest financial support for the hosting of the ASCSL website. Giles Blackburne was co-opted onto the BACS Council following last year's AGM, which has positively strengthened our affiliation with the Association.

### **Activities undertaken on behalf of BACS**

Throughout the year, BACS members have been kept informed of my own and other Council members' participation in meetings on behalf of BACS, through



short reports circulated through our members' mailing list. I will not repeat the content of these reports. The meetings in question are listed below, with a brief indication of the main topics of discussion that were relevant to BACS:

- British Academy Humanities and Social Sciences Learned Societies and Subject Associations Meeting (September 2011). Briefing on draft REF working criteria. Special Area Studies roundtable.
- UK Council of Area Studies Associations (UKCASA) regular meeting (February 2012). Briefing on REF. Meeting with British Academy staff.
- AHRC Annual Subject Associations Meeting (June 2012). Briefing on new open access publishing policy. Discussion of AHRC international activity.
- UKCASA Annual General Meeting (June 2012), attended on behalf of BACS by Professor Naomi Standen. Meeting with UKBA staff and discussion of visa issues.
- Universities Council on Modern Languages (UCML) plenary meeting (June 2012), attended on behalf of BACS by Dr Gerda Wielander. Discussion of open access publishing, of the new tuition fee regime, and of possible inter-university cooperation to sustain provision in certain languages.

On behalf of BACS, and with input from both Council members and regular members, I responded to HEFCE consultations on the REF draft panel criteria and working methods, on the funding of Year Abroad programmes, and to a British Academy consultation on 'the need for languages in UK public policy'. BACS will also take part in the recently announced review of grants and scholarships for Chinese Studies to be carried out by the Universities' China Committee in London (UCCL).

On 12 April 2012, Dr David Pattinson represented BACS at a tree-planting ceremony in honour of the memory of Gladys Yang and Yang Xianyi, held at Merton College, Oxford. BACS made a small financial contribution to the event.

### **Council discussions and future plans**

The BACS Council met three times during the year, at SOAS, Newcastle and Oxford respectively. Apart from regular Council work, we spent much time discussing our membership drive. We thought carefully about the way in which we

want to present the benefits of being a BACS member and emphasise our role as a subject association representing the entire sector. The outcome of these discussions was the production of a new flyer, which concisely introduces BACS and its activities, and which we will start to circulate in the coming year. The production of such a flyer was suggested during last year's AGM.

We also discussed at length the state of the field of language-based Chinese Studies in the UK, especially in relation to the new fee regime in England and Wales, and in relation to the training of young researchers. It was agreed that we would monitor the impact of the fee regime on undergraduate recruitment in 2012/2013 by gathering departmental recruitment figures. We further agreed to start gathering data on the progression of UK-trained BA and MA graduates onto research degrees and into academic positions, and to explore the possibility of raising with the UK government our concerns about the lack of investment, especially in graduate programmes providing a balanced basis for research, both in terms of language proficiency and in terms of disciplinary training.

Michel Hockx  
September 2012

## University of Birmingham

Birmingham now has a China Institute to coordinate developments in Chinese Studies. At the moment this is still more about working *with* China rather than working *on* China, but a number of events are being planned for the coming year to raise the profile of China as it relates to the university community, including a launch event with guests from the Chinese Embassy and the Hong Kong Economic and Finance Office, visits by academics from Birmingham's partner institutions in Guangdong and from Capital Normal University, and public lectures on topics including the history of Chinese medicine.

The University continues to develop its research platform in Guangzhou with current projects funded in the areas of public health in collaboration with the Guangzhou Municipal Government and local hospitals. Subsequent projects with Sun Yat-sen University and the Guangzhou Institutes for Biomedicine and Health will also commence shortly.

The History Department is delighted to have appointed Shirley Ye as lecturer in modern Chinese history, to start in September 2013. China historians will thus play an important role in the globalisation of Birmingham's History degree. Apart from individual modules offered at second and third year, the first-year compulsory lecture course in medieval history now includes a selection of China-focused lectures and seminar topics, meaning that all History students will be exposed to China at an early stage.

History students taking modules on China-related topics are being encouraged to take Chinese language as their 'Modules Outside the Main Discipline' (MOMD), contributing to the 211 students from all over the university who studied Chinese last year. Many of these students are studying the language as part of a wide range of joint degree programmes that include Chinese. In 2011-12 we had 75 such students taking MOMD Year 1 Chinese, although MOMD Years 2 and 3 did not run. A further 112 students enrolled on Chinese Open Access (OA) courses, and the remainder took summer short courses. At time of writing 24 joint-degree students are so far registered for Year 1 Chinese for 2012-13.

Since we sent off the first group of Chinese-language students to China in 2009, the number of UoB students going to China as part of their language programme has steadily increased. In 2011-12 we sent five students, and at time of writing 15 students are starting their year. In order to develop our international language exchange programme, we have increased the number of host Chinese universities so that we now have seven Chinese universities hosting UoB students in four cities: Beijing, Shanghai, Ningbo and Guangzhou.

Naomi Standen

## University of Cambridge

In 2011-12, 69 undergraduates were enrolled over the four years of the undergraduate Tripos in Chinese studies at Cambridge; 21 students are currently enrolled for graduate degrees, these mostly being PhD candidates. Our core doctoral fields include Chinese linguistics and second language acquisition (Boping Yuan), modern history (Hans van de Ven), modern literature and film (Susan Daruvala, Lin Peiyin), anthropology (Adam Chau), late imperial China (Joe McDermott), and early and medieval China (Roel Sterckx). Imre Galambos, who has worked for ten years at the International Dunhuang Project at the British Library, will join us as University Lecturer in pre-modern Chinese studies. He is a specialist in manuscript culture and Dunhuang studies. His appointment is the first in the UK to link an active teaching and research programme to the unique Dunhuang collections in London and beyond.

Adam Chau continues his work on various aspects of Chinese religious culture in modern and contemporary China. He lectured and presented papers at the Max Planck Institutes in Göttingen and Berlin, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Université Paris Ouest (Nanterre), the Universities of Münster and Oslo, and Academia Sinica, and participated in the 7th International Sinology Forum in Porto. Several book chapters and papers appeared including 'Efficacy, Not Confessionality: Ritual Polytypy at Chinese Funerals' (in Glenn Bowman ed. *Sharing the Sacra: the Politics and Pragmatics of Inter-communal Relations around Holy Places*, Berghahn, 2012) and 'Transnational Buddhist Activists in the Age of Empires' (in A. Green and V. Viaene ed., *Religious Internationals in the Modern World: Globalization and Faith Communities since 1750*, Palgrave Macmillan 2012).

Boping Yuan presented at the 24th North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics at the University of San Francisco, and at the 11th International Conference on Chinese as a Second Language, Xi'an, where he was presented with an 'Outstanding paper award'. His publications include 'Is Chinese 'daodi' 'the hell' in English Speakers' L2 Acquisition of Chinese daodi... wh... Questions? -- Effects and Recoverability of L1 Transfer at L2 Interfaces' in the *International Journal of Bilingualism* 16.2. Boping also served as external examiner for Chinese at

the University of Hong Kong and as assessor for the MA in Chinese Linguistics and Language Acquisition at the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Joe McDermott was promoted to a readership. He gave papers in Taipei, Hong Kong, Beijing and Tokyo. Among his publications are 'The Rise of Huizhou Merchants: Kinship and Commerce in Ming China', in Billy So ed., *The Economy of Lower Yangzi Delta in Late Imperial China* (Routledge 2012). Joe is currently working on a project studying hereditary book collecting families in Jiangnan during the Qing.

Roel Sterckx spent a sabbatical at the Institute of History and Philology at Academia Sinica and offered lectures and papers at National Taiwan University, National Chengchi University, the National Central Library in Taipei, the Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Hong Kong, the Institute of Advanced Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and the Biennial Conference of the European Association for Chinese Studies in Paris. He delivered a public lecture entitled 'Il cosmo nel pensiero cinese antico' at the 2011 edition of the Festival Filosofia in Modena, Italy. Publications include contributions to *The Search for Immortality: Tomb Treasures of Han China* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2012), the catalogue of a highly successful exhibition organised by James Lin at the Fitzwilliam Museum; and to Vivienne Lo ed., *Perfect Bodies: Sports, Medicine and Immortality* (London: British Museum Research Publications, 2012). Roel finished his six-year stint as Secretary of the European Association for Chinese Studies and continues to serve on the Chiang Ching-kuo European Fellowship Committee.

Hans van de Ven gave keynotes and lectures at Leiden, Bristol, Manchester, Nanjing and Peking Universities, as well as at Academia Sinica. He delivered a public lecture in Taipei as part of a series to commemorate the 1911 Revolution, and co-edited (with Edward Drea and Mark Peattie) *The Battle for China* (Stanford), which was awarded the Annual Book Award by the Society for Military History of the USA. Together with Denis Showalter and Roger Chickering he edited *The Cambridge History of War: vol. 4: War in the Modern Period*, currently in press. Hans will serve as convenor for the Humanities panels for the 2014 RAE exercise in Hong Kong. He was also in charge of the first edition of our Humanitas China Studies

visiting professorship scheme, which brought Wu Hung (Chicago) to Cambridge. Another highlight was a meeting convened on the theme of 'The Chinese Renaissance in Europe' at the British Academy.

Mark Strange concluded his final year as a Draper's Fellow at Pembroke College and affiliated lecturer with us, and moved on to a post at the Australian National University. Li-Kuei Chien, post-doctoral fellow in Chinese Buddhism, secured an appointment at Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Daniel Trambaiolo concluded his term as affiliated researcher with us. We are very grateful for their contributions to our programme and wish them well. Kun-Chin Lin, who works, among other fields, on energy security and transport, was appointed to a lectureship in the department of politics. The usual schedule of seminars was held at the Faculty and the Needham Research Institute. Speakers included Nicolas Standaert (Leuven), Michel Hockx (SOAS), Elisabeth Hsu (Oxford), Xu Guoqi (HKU), Philip Kuhn (Harvard) and many others.

Roel Sterckx

## University of Central Lancashire

The old School of Languages and International Studies expanded over the summer of 2012 into the new School of Language, Literature and International Studies (SoLLIS), with a new dean appointed. The Chinese team are also delighted to welcome the new Co-Director of the Confucius Institute, Professor Gang Sui, and a new teacher from our partner in China, Beijing International Studies University.

Despite the pressure of tuition fee rises, recruitment onto the Chinese programme did well and exceeded the ADP target: 20 new students will start on the degree programme in September 2012. More importantly, we are very proud of setting two new records: achieving a 100% retention rate for students on the BA (Hons) programme of Business Management in China; and over 80% of final year students graduating with a distinction, with two award winners: one for Outstanding Academic Achievement, one for Oral Distinction in Chinese, and two students gaining scholarships to continue with their postgraduate studies with MA courses in top universities in China.

To add value for students paying the new fees, we started to adopt a 30 teaching-week calendar for the academic year in 2011-12, and ran two new year-long elective modules. The Beginner Chinese class was very popular and we ran two parallel sessions to accommodate student numbers. The Chinese translation module was also run for the first time in a mixed class of our students majoring in Chinese with UG students from China, and this was a great success in terms of learning outcomes.

We organised a 'big family' event during Induction Week to help 'break the ice' for new students, and enable better integration amongst students from different year groups and different Chinese courses (Business Management in China and Subject Chinese). We also organised events for students to meet their 'study buddies' (language exchange partners from China). The Confucius Institute has continued to inspire students with its creative programme of events designed to encourage students' development and to strengthen and support their desire to improve their Chinese language skills and knowledge of Chinese culture. Over the last academic year, we have offered staff and students a range of activities including Chinese



calligraphy, Chinese history & philosophy, Tai Chi, Chinese cinema, the monthly China Lecture Series, etc. Additional revision classes have been offered for all students studying Chinese, providing them with a weekly session to cover areas of study that are causing difficulties, and free weekly preparatory classes for HSK were also offered to ensure that the students reach their full potential. Moreover, students also participated in the Kite Festival and our New Year Performance.

We have created many opportunities for students at UCLan and local schools to visit and study in China, providing a platform for our students to practise their language skills and learn more about Chinese culture. We have helped ten students to win CI scholarships to study in China on courses ranging in length from four weeks to one academic year, with the scholarship fully covering tuition fees, accommodation and a monthly stipend. We have successfully bid for the UCLan Travel Bursary for the fourth years, resulting in over 20 students undertaking a rich and well-structured Easter study tour to Beijing. We have also sponsored students to attend summer courses at BISU, Southwest University of Finance and Economics and Sichuan University, to name but a few.

In addition to language courses in China, we have supported students with internships and gaining valuable work experience in China. To prepare our students for life after university and to improve their employability skills, we are also communicating with local businesses to find work experience for our final year Business Management in China and MA Translation students to gain experience as translators while carrying out their studies here at UCLan.

Sunny Liu

## **China Postgraduate Network**

The China Postgraduate Network (CPN) continued its growth in the academic year of 2011/2012. Membership increased from 455 to 520. With support from BACS, the CPN established a new Web site to promote the network and its conference. The CPN also organised two events to develop its connections in the north of the United Kingdom.

On 22 January 2012, an informal 'Panda Visit' event was organised at Edinburgh Zoo to embrace the arrival of two giant pandas there. Another event was the annual conference of the CPN, which was held in Edinburgh from 18-19 June 2012, and which was supported by BACS, the Confucius Institute for Scotland and the Institute for Academic Development of Edinburgh University. In all, 60 participants attended the conference, including 56 students and four guest speakers. Professor Natascha Gentz addressed the opening session of the conference on behalf of Confucius Institute for Scotland and BACS. Professor Wang Yaping, Dr. Felix Boecking and Dr. Joachim Gentz presented keynote speeches during the two days. Some 44 presenters were organised into 13 panels with various themes including History, the Arts and Social Issues, and International Relations. Amongst the participants, 12 students and three speakers were from the University of Edinburgh, with the remainder coming from other universities around the UK, as well as from Germany, Denmark, Ireland, Hong Kong and the United States.

After the conference, some participants created a conference group on Facebook to develop the connections established at the conference. In addition to the expansion of the general CPN, the conference also brought postgraduate students involved in Chinese studies in Edinburgh and other Scottish universities together and took them into the wider community.

In August 2012, a new leadership team was recruited for the CPN. Emily Whewell from the University of Leicester was appointed as president of the CPN for 2012/2013.

Jian Gao

## **Chinese In Schools**

The GCSE is currently the most popular KS4 qualification type in England for Mandarin Chinese. Edexcel and AQA both offer full GCSE courses, accredited by Ofqual. Last year, Edexcel introduced an international GCSE, which is listed on Ofqual's Register of Regulated Qualifications as 'Level 1/Level 2 Certificates' but has not been widely adopted by state schools. It has been taken up by some Chinese community schools who have not been in a position to administer the controlled assessments now required for GCSE. The GCSE is seen as an accessible qualification for learners of Chinese as a foreign language and schools generally see the results achieved as a fair reflection of their pupils' abilities. At A-level, teachers continue to highlight issues relating to assessment and grade distribution, as many high-performing students are awarded lower grades than expected and in some cases miss their university places as a result. There is a growing interest in Cambridge Pre-U and IB qualifications for sixth form study.

### **The IOE Confucius Institute for Schools**

In June 2012, the SSAT Confucius Institute (CI) was transferred to the Institute of Education, University of London, to become the IOE Confucius Institute of Schools. The CI team all transferred across, as did the 34 Confucius Classroom schools. The IOE CI will continue to expand its support to schools teaching Chinese language, and classes about China, across their curriculum.

#### Academic progression seminar

During the academic year 2012/13, the IOE CI is planning to hold an academic progression seminar. The event will focus on progression routes from school to university for students of Chinese and China across the curriculum, and will bring together secondary school teachers, university lecturers and examining bodies with the aim of initiating discussion about how they might work together to support the development of the study of Chinese and China at the HE level. Issues of transition from schools to HEIs, entry requirements and the content of KS4, KS5 and HE courses, will all feature on the agenda.

One of the principal objectives of this event is to produce a series of action points that will serve to develop the relationship between schools and universities; these

will be circulated to the wider Chinese teaching community via BACS and the CI e-forum.

### Teaching resources

Following the successful publication of the complete series of teaching resources aimed specifically at students in UK schools, the books have been very well received by both students and teachers and are fast becoming the most popular school textbooks for learning Chinese in the country. *Jìn bù 1 & 2* covers Key Stage 3 and Edexcel GCSE supports the study of GCSE.

### Teacher training

#### *PGCE course*

The CI is working with colleagues at the IOE to develop and deliver the PGCE course for teachers of Mandarin Chinese. There were ten student teachers on the course last academic year and another ten have begun this year. The student teachers have a great deal of Mandarin-specific input, as well as generic language input, with student teachers offering European languages.

#### *UK-based short course*

The CI runs a one week (30 hr) intensive training course for teachers of Chinese, which has been very favourably rated by participants. The course combines the expertise of experienced teacher trainers and academics from UK HEIs with the practical classroom experience of the CI and Confucius Classrooms (CCs). The course emphasises the practical skills required to teach Chinese while also covering the more generic skills necessary for teaching in mainstream schools in England.

#### *Experience China course*

Following on the success of the Experience China course in July 2011 at Beijing Normal University, the CI ran it again this summer at both Beijing Normal University and at Shanghai East China Normal University. This three-week immersive course equips UK qualified teachers of other languages with some basic knowledge of Chinese language so they begin to teach beginner-level Chinese in their schools upon their return to the UK and/or act as the catalyst for the introduction of Chinese and support any Chinese teachers in their schools. So far

65 teachers have participated on these courses and the feedback has been extremely positive.

### IOE CI Confucius Classrooms

The IOE CI currently works with 34 Confucius Classrooms (CCs) around the country. These 34 schools comprise 12 advanced CCs and 22 CCs, which joined the network in June 2010. Since their establishment, these 34 CCs have shown their commitment to developing Chinese teaching and learning in their own schools and through outreach work in their local areas.

In figures:

- 34 IOE Confucius Classrooms in secondary schools across England.
- IOE CI Confucius Classrooms currently work with over 200 'spoke' schools.
- Over 5,942 students are currently studying Chinese in IOE Confucius Classrooms and nearly 50,000 students have had some kind of Chinese provision via these Confucius Classroom schools.

### Annual Chinese conference 2012

The ninth annual Chinese conference took place at The Great Connaught Rooms and The British Museum on 18-19 May 2012. The event featured a range of interactive sessions and hands-on workshops delivered by experienced Chinese teaching practitioners from China, France, the United States and Hong Kong, as well as from the UK. This year, the conference attracted its highest delegate numbers to date.

### China across the curriculum

On 1 March 2012, the CI worked once again with Kerry Brown at Chatham House to organise the fourth annual student conference on China. Over 150 students attended the event and included talks from the following speakers:

- 'Why China's leaders changing this year matters': Dr Rod Wye, Associate Fellow, Chatham House
- 'Why China's relations with Taiwan matter': Dr Rex Li, Liverpool John Moores University
- 'Why China's relations with India matter': Dr Gareth Price, Senior Research Fellow, Chatham House

- 'Why China's urbanisation matters and how it is happening': Dr Deljana Iossifova, University of Westminster

Katharine Carruthers

## **Durham University**

Research on China at Durham is conducted in many departments but is coordinated through the cross-University Centre for Contemporary Chinese Studies. This currently has 12 members from seven departments: Business, Geography, History, Government and International Affairs, Library studies, Modern Languages and Cultures, and Science. Members' research interests are not confined to China but many other aspects of contemporary East Asia. These include Chinese language and translation studies; the social and cultural history of modern China; China's minority regions, especially Xinjiang; Chinese business studies, especially finance and industrial policy; China's foreign and security policy; the political economy of China and East Asia; China's relations with Africa; and Southeast Asian human geography.

The Centre also conducts an annual lecture programme of external and internal speakers. In addition, it helps to coordinate activities for research students on China and East Asia. On 13-14 October 2011, Durham research students organised a workshop entitled 'Contemporary East Asia'. This was attended by research students from Warwick, St. Andrews, King's College, SOAS, Sheffield, Leeds, LSE, Oxford, Newcastle and Nottingham. Wang Zhengxu (Nottingham) and Christopher Dent (Leeds) gave keynote lectures to the workshop. Durham also hosts a large number of MA students on its degree programmes on East Asia and China.

A pilot year of the new BA in Chinese Studies programme was run in 2011-12 with a small initial cohort recruited after the normal recruiting season. October 2012 will see the first regular cohort for this new programme, which was formally launched by the Chinese Ambassador, Liu Xiaoming, as part of an official visit to Durham University on 29 May 2012. Ambassador Liu also gave an extremely accomplished lecture in English, which was very well-received by an audience of over 200 students and staff. As part of the development of the new degree programme Dr Qing Cao, a specialist in research on the Chinese media, was appointed to a senior lectureship in the School of Modern Languages and Cultures, starting from October 2012. He will contribute a module on Chinese Cinema to the second year of the new course. The Chinese stream of the MA in Translation Studies increased

its enrolment to 32 students and a total of three PhD students, and the number of students taking non-specialist Chinese modules also increased with the addition of a third-level module in this. Durham's new policy of encouraging all undergraduates to take a language module is likely to result in a further increase in non-specialist students taking Chinese language modules. The History Department, which partners the School of Modern Languages and Cultures in the BA in Chinese Studies programme and has two specialists in Chinese history, Elif Akcetin and Paul Bailey, has found its Chinese history modules, compulsory for Chinese Studies students, very popular with history students. Paul Bailey has also established a link with Zhejiang University where he has been a guest lecturer for the past two years.

David Kerr & Don Starr



## University of Edinburgh

Fourteen students graduated from Chinese with single honours and nine students with joint honours from Chinese studies in 2012. Among post-graduates, six students graduated with the Master of Chinese Studies, and ten students started on first year of the programme. Two PhD students were accepted by Edinburgh in 2011.

Professor Wang Hui from Tsinghua University was a visiting scholar for three months from September 2011 as a fellow of the Institute of Advanced Studies in the Humanities. In the School of History, Classics and Archaeology, Dr Stephen McDowall was appointed Chancellor's Fellow in History.

Chinese Studies appointed Dr. Antonio Paoellio and Dr. Mark McLeister as temporary (senior) teaching fellows as replacements for Natascha Gentz and Joachim Gentz, who are on academic leave in 2012/2013 and research fellows at the International Consortium for Research in the Humanities, Erlangen.

The Confucius Institute for Scotland appointed a new administrator, Xin Zhang, and welcomed a new teacher, Ying Jianqing, as well as five student volunteer teachers from Fudan University.

With a number of new appointments trained in the Social Sciences, Asian Studies developed a new Masters programme in MSc East Asian Relations and, with staff in Sanskrit, Japanese and Chinese, a new MSc in Asian Religions.

Publications by staff members include:

- Daniel Hammond: 'Social Assistance in China 1993-2002: Institutions, feedback and policy actors in the Chinese policy process', *Asian Politics and Policy*, 3.1 (2011): 69-93; 'Local Variation in Urban Social Assistance Policy: The Community Public Service Agency in Dalian City', in B. Carrillo and J. Duckett (eds), *China's Changing Welfare Mix: Local Perspectives*, London: Routledge, 2011, pp. 64-81.
- Joachim Gentz: 'Rational choice and the Chinese discourse on the Unity of the Three Religions (sanjiao heyi 三教合一)', *Religion* 41.4 (2011):

535-546; 'Confucius Confronting Contingency in the *Lunyu* and the *Gongyang zhuàn*', *Journal of Chinese Philosophy* 39.1 (2012): 60-70;  
'Religionskritik im Wandel der Orthodoxie. Vom Dritten Opiumkrieg und vom Aberglauben in China', in Ulrich Berner and Johannes Quack (eds.), *Religion und Kritik in der Moderne*, Berlin: Lit Verlag, 2012, pp. 55-81.

Conferences and Lectures hosted:

- The British Association for Chinese Studies (BACS) Annual Conference. Talks were given by the following Edinburgh staff: Natascha Gentz, Joachim Gentz, Julian Ward, Daniel Hammond and Christopher Rosenmeier
- 'Art in Translation' Conference, Art History.
- Virtual Worlds Research Network Conference, sponsored by the Confucius Institute.
- 2012 European Confucius Institute/Classrooms Working Symposium Edinburgh.
- China Postgraduate Network 2012 Annual Conference.

Talks:

- Professor Ian Holliday (Hong Kong): 'Rising China and Global Justice'
- Professor Wang Hui (Tsinghua): 'Empire or Nation: A Critique of Two Narratives of Chinese history'
- Dr Si Jia Jane (Fudan): 'On the Eve of the 1911 Revolution'
- Dr Antje Richter (Colorado): 'Calligraphy and Beyond: The Letters of Wang Xizhi'
- Conversations with Xu Zecheng and Annie Baobei, as part of the British Council's London Book Fair, China Market Focus 2012
- Adam Dupre: 'China/Scotland: The Global Context'
- Stephen Perry: 'Understanding China is Essential for Everyone'
- Felix Boecking (Edinburgh): 'Making Sense of China's 20th-Century Economic Transformation'
- Ji Bin: 'China's Economic Growth and Transformation'.

Natascha Gentz

## University of Glasgow

The University of Glasgow has extended its activities in Chinese studies over the last year. Although its decade-long collaboration with the University of Edinburgh to deliver a two-year Master's programme came to an end, Glasgow now offers four taught postgraduate programmes on China: an MSc in Chinese Studies; an MSc in International Politics focused on China; an MLitt in the Arts of China; and, an MSc in International Management for China. These courses include Chinese language components.

The University of Glasgow launched a Confucius Institute in October 2011. The Institute, founded in collaboration with Nankai University (Tianjin), builds on the two universities' already well-established research partnerships. The Institute delivers Chinese language classes to the general public in Glasgow and the West of Scotland, as well as organising contemporary art and cultural events. Over the last year it has organised an exhibition of the paintings of contemporary artist, Fan Zeng, as well as supporting two contemporary photography exhibitions by Chinese and a film festival. It also organised an international workshop on contemporary Chinese film and talks on contemporary Chinese national festivals.

The Confucius Institute also aims to promote research-based understanding of China, and to this end works with the Scottish Centre for China Research (SCCR) to deliver a programme of lectures and workshops as well as to provide support for teaching about China in Scotland's schools. The SCCR, which is based at the University of Glasgow, was set up in 2008 to foster research collaboration in Chinese studies across Scotland. In addition to its joint activities with the Confucius Institute, it organises its own lectures, workshops and seminar series. Highlights this year have been the highly acclaimed annual Glasgow China Lecture, delivered by Professor Christine Wong of the University of Oxford, and a seminar series that at times was so popular the audience spilled into the corridors. Members of the SCCR have had a very successful year winning major research grants, including several funded by the UK research councils as well as the European Union.

Jane Duckett

## International Dunhuang Project

The International Dunhuang Project (IDP) was established in 1994 to coordinate international teams of conservators, cataloguers, researchers and digitisation professionals to ensure the preservation of the Silk Road collections and to make them freely accessible via multilingual Web sites hosted locally by IDP centres at holding institutions worldwide.

The pursuit and publication of ground-breaking research continues to be central to the work of IDP. The previous year saw the publication of two historical monographs: *Tibet: A History* (Yale University Press, 2011) by Sam van Schaik and *Manuscripts and Travellers: The Sino-Tibetan Documents of a Tenth-Century Buddhist Pilgrim* (de Gruyter, 2012) by Imre Galambos and Sam van Schaik. In October 2012 Imre Galambos is taking up a lectureship at the University of Cambridge. Imre joined the IDP ten years ago as Overseas Project Manager and, more recently, Research Project Manager. IDP very much looks forward to continuing to work with him and his students there.

In connection with the recently completed Dunhuang Palaeography Project (2005-10), several articles on the palaeography and codicology of Chinese and Tibetan manuscripts have been published, and a new online resource for manuscript studies is available on the IDP website ([http://idp.bl.uk/pages/technical\\_resources.a4d](http://idp.bl.uk/pages/technical_resources.a4d)). This resource provides an introduction to the variety of writing styles found in the Tibetan and Chinese manuscripts from Central Asia. Each page introduces the features and dating of particular styles, and contains a transcription exercise allowing anyone to test their reading ability.

At the end of 2011, the IDP made a successful bid to the Arts and Humanities Research Council for a 14-month project entitled 'Contextualising Texts: Enhancing the Research Potential of Buddhist Manuscript Material', and work started in February 2012. The project involves working closely with academics and their students to develop, test and implement an enhanced multimedia research interface for the IDP, suitable for interdisciplinary research by historians, art historians, geographers and archaeologists. The project also aims to develop and

expand IDP's existing networks with scholars in the UK and worldwide, but most especially in China.

In a major addition to the digitised material available on the IDP Web site, photographer Rachel Roberts, working closely with Catrin Kost, has completed the photography of the British Museum's Central Asian artefacts. This material includes sculptures, wall-paintings and a variety of archaeological artefacts. In addition, sixteen Chinese scrolls from Dunhuang, donated in 1915 by Arthur Bollerup Sørensen to the Royal Library in Copenhagen, have been added to the IDP database and Web site.

The Dunhuang Academy (Dunhuang, China) hosted the first IDP Partners' Meeting in October 2011 for around 30 staff from the IDP's participating institutions in China, Japan, Korea, France, Germany, Sweden and the UK. Discussions focused on the IDP's future direction, with sessions on scope and content, research, technology, localisation and communication. In November 2011, a team from the IDP and the Xinjiang Institute of Archaeology (XJIA) photographed and filmed archaeological sites at Niya and Karadong initially excavated by Aurel Stein on his four Central Asian expeditions (1900-30). Photography from the 2011 fieldtrip has been uploaded to the IDP Web site, and the video footage is currently being edited. The visit was part of an ongoing collaboration with XJIA. A full report has been published in issue 39 of *IDP News*.

Future plans for the IDP in 2012-13 include a complete redesign of the IDP database and Web site allowing the user increased access to IDP data and enhanced functionality. IDP China (Beijing) will be celebrating the ten-year anniversary of the launch of the Chinese IDP Web site at the National Library of China in November 2012. Also, the IDP is holding a major international conference at the British Library, in collaboration with SOAS and XJIA, from 8-10 November 2012, entitled 'Archaeology of the Southern Taklamakan: Hedin and Stein's Legacy and New Explorations'.

Alastair Morrison

## King's College London

The China Institute at King's, renamed the Lau China Institute after a benefactor of the College, continued in 2011-12 under the Directorship of Professor Xinzhong Yao. The founding of the Institute in 2010 was part of the College's wider internationalisation strategy, which has continued to unfold through various initiatives.

A series of new appointments is being made at the China Institute. In September 2012 three new lecturers took up their posts: Dr Charlotte Goodburn and Dr Timothy Hildebrandt as Lecturers in Chinese Politics, and Dr Jennifer Altehenger as Lecturer in Contemporary Chinese History, the latter a joint appointment with the Department of History at King's. Two further appointments, at lecturer and senior lecturer levels, are planned in 2013.

Charlotte Goodburn comes to King's after being a post-doctoral researcher in Development Studies at the University of Cambridge. She completed her PhD in the Department of Land Economy at Cambridge, and holds a BA (in History) and an MPhil (in Contemporary Chinese Studies), also from Cambridge. Tim Hildebrandt holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of Wisconsin–Madison, and, before coming to King's, taught in the School of International Relations at the University of Southern California. He is the author of *Social Organizations and the Authoritarian State in China*, which is forthcoming from Cambridge University Press. Jennifer Altehenger obtained her BA in Oriental Studies from the University of Cambridge and her doctorate from the Institute of Chinese Studies, University of Heidelberg, in 2010. From 2010 to 2011, she was a nine-month departmental lecturer in Modern Chinese History at the History Faculty, University of Oxford, and Merton College.

These new appointments complement the existing research of China Institute staff, which includes Chinese religion, Confucian Studies and comparative ethics between Confucianism and Christianity (Professor Xinzhong Yao); hygiene, public health, and experiences of old age and demographic change (Anna Boermel); local governance and public goods provision in rural China in relation to entrepreneurship and China's economic and social development (Vanessa Pesqué

Cela); International Relations theory and China's relationships with international Organisations, principally the UN Security Council (Suzanne Yang); and Chinese film and social media (Parfect).

2011-12 was the first year for the Lau China Institute's PhD programme, on which seven new students enrolled. Topics include Political Frameworks and Women's Networking in Wartime China; the Production of Political Ideas in Contemporary China; Post-80s Writers and the Literary Field in China; the Cultural Influence of Sun Yat-Sen; the Concept of Shame and its Influence on the Business Strategies of Private Entrepreneurs for Social Insurance in China; and Chambers of Commerce in the PRC and Taiwan. Eight further enrolments are expected in 2012-13.

The Institute's first Master's programme, the MSc in China and Globalisation, which was launched in 2010-11, was taken by 39 students in 2011-12. Expected enrolment for 2012-13 is 50-60 students. A new Master's programme, MSc Governance in Contemporary China, is being launched in 2012-13 and is convened by Dr Suzanne Yang. It includes core modules on Government and Governance in Contemporary China, China's Corporate Governance in Comparative Perspective, and China and Global Governance.

Around 25 research seminars and public lectures were held by the China Institute in 2011-12, several of these held jointly with the Brazil and India Institutes at King's, including three events with three speakers each focusing on one of the regions in a comparative framework. Titles of these events were 'The Rise of the BRICS: Restructuring the Global Order?', 'Political Transitions in China, India and Brazil Today', and 'Re-evaluating the Global Periphery: Contemporary Growth and Domestic Development in Brazil, China, and India'. A well-attended public debate and fundraising event was staged in November 2011 entitled 'Who Wants to Be the Next Superpower?'. The participants reprised their discussion in shortened form for an item on BBC Radio Four's *The World Tonight* on 23 December 2011.

Ralph Parfect

## University of Leeds

In 2011-12 Leeds admitted 12 new undergraduates to study Chinese single honours, and 45 to study Chinese joint honours. The total number of undergraduates studying Chinese was 214. We had 25 postgraduates studying for Master's degrees in Chinese studies, and seven research postgraduates currently working on research related to Chinese language, literature, society and international relations.

The academic year 2011-12 has been a time of change and uncertainty for Chinese at Leeds, mainly because of significant organisational changes within the School of Modern Languages & Cultures, and particularly with regard to longer-term staff planning. However, colleagues have continued to be very dedicated to their work of teaching and research, and our students have also generally done us credit. After this transitional year, and with the restoration of East Asian Studies (which had been split up into its constituent parts, Chinese, Japanese, and South-East Asian & Asia-Pacific Studies), we hope for more stability and predictability next year.

With the Chair in Chinese remaining vacant (we hope for an appointment in 2013), we continued to enjoy the benefit of having Dr Wang Youxuan as a temporary lecturer, while our Hanban-funded teacher Ma Hongjun continued to enhance our Chinese language teaching. We also benefited from the employment of Jane Caple on a temporary contract to cover the maternity leave of Frances Weightman and then of Liu Jieyu. Jane is a Leeds graduate, and received her doctorate during the year with a fascinating dissertation on Tibetan monasteries in Qinghai. She will leave us in October for a well-deserved post-doctoral position at Manchester, while Wang Youxuan moves to a permanent position at Portsmouth in September, and Ma Hongjun remains with us for another year.. The vacant positions will be filled by two new temporary members of staff from September.

We marked the end of an era in East Asian Studies at Leeds with the retirement of Dr Judith Nordby, our Lecturer in Mongolian Studies, originally a student of our founder, Owen Lattimore. Judith has been a member of staff longer than any of us, and is a repository of arcane knowledge not only of the history of the department but of the most obscure university regulations on what is and is not permitted for students to take degrees. She will be much missed not only for her Mongolian and



procedural expertise, but for her congeniality as a colleague and her unfailing concern for students in difficulty, including those memorably categorised by her as 'not very good at life'. We expect to see her back next year, though, when we celebrate 50 years of Chinese and East Asian studies at Leeds.

As well as supporting Chinese at Leeds by funding Ma Hongjun, Hanban also generously gave us a small grant to support Chinese-language activities and to give awards to students who are outstanding in Chinese language. One of our outstanding Level 2 students, Aaron Powell, gained a third prize in the 11th Chinese Bridge Chinese-language proficiency competition in London in March 2012. Tom Mahony, a previous Chinese Bridge prize-winner, graduated with a first-class degree this year, as did four other joint honours students, and two of our single honours students.

Staff publications included two articles by Dr Li Ruru, 'The market, ideology, and convention: *Jingju* performers' creativity in the 21<sup>st</sup> century' (*The Drama Review*, 56.2, Summer 2012) and 'Singing, speaking, dance-acting, and combat: mouth, hands, eyes, body and steps from training to performance in Beijing Opera (*jingju*)', (*Theatre, Dance and Performance Training*, 3.1, March 2012). With her usual tireless activity, Ruru was also involved with the Globe to Globe World Shakespeare Festival, and continued to promote international understanding of the work of playwright Cao Yu, with lectures and exhibitions in the United Kingdom, Canada and the United States, while she and David Jiang also prepared to take their devised theatrical piece based on four plays by Cao Yu with a student cast to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. She has also received a seed-corn award of £11,600 from the World Universities Network to start a theatre network, 'Staging China'.

Dr Alison Hardie's translation of Ji Cheng's 17th-century garden 'manual', *The Craft of Gardens (Yuanye)*, long out of print, was reissued with full colour illustrations by Shanghai Press & Publishing Development in January 2012; the Shanghai Press & Publishing Administration visited the University in April prior to the London Book Fair, and an article about the visit appeared in Shanghai's *Wenhuibao* newspaper. Alison visited California in March, not just to enjoy the sunshine but to deliver a public lecture at the Huntington Library on architectural and archaeological heritage in 20th-century Chinese visual culture.

Dr David Pattinson was invited to present a paper on a 17th-century Chinese letter collection at a workshop on 'Letter Writing & Epistolary Culture in China' which took place at the University of Colorado Boulder from 17-18 August.

Dr Yang Lan, with Dr Chen Lili of Sheffield, organised a symposium in August on 'The Supervision of Research Students in Teaching Chinese as a Second Language' which was held in Leeds under the auspices of the White Rose East Asia Centre, attended by academics from the UK, China, Korea and New Zealand, including our colleague emeritus Dr Yip Po-ching.

Alison Hardie

## University of Manchester

This has been a productive and successful year for Centre for Chinese Studies (CCS) at Manchester, with some splendid events and several major publications from its core members that enhance the centre's expertise in migration, media and queer studies, translation and interpreting, the history of science and technology, economic history, economic development and international politics.

'Global Rice' brought together anthropologists, economic historians and historians of science. Organised by Dagmar Schaefer, participants tackled China as a nation of 'rice', and rice in the early modern world economy. Participants discussed rice as a crop, a food and a commodity, and the roles it played in shaping the historical trajectories of Africa and the Americas, Europe and almost every region of Asia. In March the CCS hosted the first 2012 Europe-China LGBT Exchange workshop. In a seminal event, Dr William Schroeder from the University CCS and three of his colleagues from UK and European institutions brought together researchers of Queer China from the PRC and other locations to discuss research agendas and collaborative possibilities. The exchange hosted colleagues from Finland, the United Kingdom, the People's Republic of China, and the United States for a three-day meeting. Supported by the Ford Foundation, the British Interuniversity China Centre (BICC) and Manchester's CCS, the exchange garnered significant media attention. Professor Lisa Rofel (UC Santa Cruz), interviewed Professor Li Yinhe (CASS) and Professor Cui Zi'en (Beijing Film Academy) in front of an audience of more than 100.

CCS's major annual conference centred on 'Cosmopolitan China'. Professor Peter Perdue (Yale) presented a keynote speech on 'Ecologies of Empire: Multicultural Elements in Imperial China'. This was chaired by Martin Jacques. Under the leadership of Dr Yangwen zheng the two-day conference featured a diverse range of topics: religion, diaspora and transnationalism, urbanism and vernacular cosmopolitanism. The participants came from as far as the United States, Japan, Germany, Spain, and as close as Cambridge, Oxford, Newcastle and SOAS. Papers from workshop on 'China's Futures and the World's Future', co-supported by CCS and the British Inter-university China Centre in February 2011, was published as a special issue of *China Information* in July 2012.

In November 2011, Professor Michael Dutton from Goldsmiths College, in coordination with the Poststructural and Critical Theory Research Group (Politics), gave a wide-ranging interdisciplinary talk titled 'Fragments of the Political', which challenged modernity's ever-extending claims by presenting an alternative model of politics, government, and Being through analysis of Cai Guoqiang's reworking of China's famous 'Rent Collection Courtyard' sculpture. Professor Hans van de Ven from Cambridge then spoke in February on 'Outsourcing Empire: The Founding of the Chinese Customs Service, 1854-1864', in a talk, hosted jointly with the History department, that laid out some of the historical foundations of contemporary Chinese globalism. Dr Marta Hanson from Johns Hopkins University enlightened attendees in March with her discussion 'Visualising the Geography of Diseases in China, 1870s-1920s', which explored the use of medical mapping as a tool of power in late-19th- and early-20th century China. Finally, Professor John Knight from Oxford presented a widely attended talk, sponsored in collaboration with the School of Social Sciences and the Brooks World Poverty Institute, entitled 'Challenges to China's Continued Rapid Growth'.

Several PhDs of our first generation have been offered positions: Astrid Nordin was offered a lectureship at the University of Lancaster before she even finished her PhD. David Tobin and Bart van Malssen were both offered one-year teaching posts at Manchester and Edinburgh. Five more PhD students will submit in 2012-13. The centre has been awarded a new ERCS Case award financing a PhD project on Science and Museums in the People's Republic of China and the UK since 1900: Engaging people in physical science research. Jane Caple has received a Leverhulme Postdoctorate scholarship and is joining CCS in September 2012.

Since September 2011, the CCS has been led by Dagmar Schaefer. Research staff in the School of Languages, Linguistics and Cultures, where East Asian Studies is based, include: Dr James St Andre (Lecturer in Translation); Dr Wei-hsin Lin (Lecturer in Chinese Literary and Cultural Studies); Dr. Jeesoon Hong, (Lecturer in Chinese Culture); Dr William Schroeder (Lecturer in Chinese Studies). Language teaching is provided by Dr. Ablimit Baki (senior language tutor); Dr Minjie Xing (senior language tutor); Dr Hongfen Zhou (language tutor); and two part-time language tutors. As a cross-faculty interdisciplinary unit CCS staff members are

colocated in other schools: Dr Yangwen Zheng (Arts, History and Cultures); Prof. William A. Callahan, Dr Shogo Suzuki, Dr Elena Barabantseva, and Dr. Xiaobing Wang (Social Sciences); Dr Yinfang Zhan (Environment and Development); and Dr Hong (Business).

Together with its counterparts at Oxford, and Bristol Universities, the Centre is a member of the national consortium, the British Inter-University China Centre (BICC). In February 2012, it was awarded a £300,000 grant from the AHRC and the British Academy to fund BICC Phase 2 (2012-14): 9 research networks and 15 placements in government, think tanks and business (£97,000 at Manchester). A further £100,000 grant was awarded in July 2012 to support enhanced KE and networking activities (£27,450 at Manchester). Professor William A Callahan is the co-director of BICC. The centre collaborates through its members with several local institutions, including the Museum of Science and Industries (MOSI), in Manchester as well as with renowned international partners abroad, including the Palace Museum (Beijing), the Asian Research Institute (Singapore) and the Fujian Centre for Ancient Chinese Civilisation.

Dagmar Schaefer

## Newcastle University

Newcastle University has now firmly established itself as the main provider of undergraduate degrees in Chinese Studies in the northeast of England.

Jon Howlett (who has now taken up a lectureship in Modern Asian History at York) was awarded funding from the British Inter-University China Centre (AHRC) to establish and coordinate a research network on 'The Chinese 1950s' in partnership with East China Normal University in Shanghai. The network's first activity was to put together a panel on 'New Perspectives on the Early 1950s' for BACS in September 2012 (Jon Howlett, Amy King, Jennifer Altehenger and Henrietta Harrison). Jon also offered a wide range of modules on China (19th century East-West encounters, the Boxer Uprising, Republican China, and Communist China) to around 80-100 students.

Valerie Pellatt gave a talk entitled 'Mini-poster art: postage stamps of the People's Republic of China' on 9 October 2012 at a meeting of the Scotland-China Association, Friends Meeting House, Edinburgh. The stamps will be gifted to the National Museum of Scotland, and her article on them is shortly due to be published in *Sine*, the bulletin of the Scotland-China Association.

To celebrate the launch of the Confucius Institute at Newcastle University, we will be holding events across the city promoting and celebrating Chinese culture and language. The institute will be launching officially in the new year and this will coincide with a diverse programme of activities aimed at students, schools, businesses and members of the public. We are hoping to involve some of Newcastle's major cultural institutions including the Tyneside Cinema, Northern Stage and Great North Museum, where Chinese film, theatre and cultural history will be on show. There will also be an opportunity to pick up some Chinese language with taster sessions on offer for all. The climax of the week will see the institute officially opened by the Vice Chancellor and the Chinese Ambassador.

Joanne Smith Finley

## University of Nottingham

There have been a number of staff changes at Nottingham since our last report to BACS. The leavers include Dr Dylan Sutherland, who has moved on to Durham Business School. Dylan made a tremendous contribution to establishing our first Masters courses while at Nottingham, particularly the internship option which has proved so popular with students. Dr Daria Berg has taken up a Chair in Chinese Culture and Society at the University of St Gallen in Switzerland. The School benefited greatly from Daria's development of innovative online teaching and assessment methods, and both in teaching and research, the breadth of her expertise in gender, literature and popular culture has proved hard to replace. We wish both Daria and Dylan well in their new posts.

New arrivals include Dr Tyler Rooker, whose anthropological, ethnographic approach to Chinese business has added a valuable new dimension to our research profile in that area. He presented some of his work on the Shanghai real-estate market at the School's 5th International Forum for Contemporary Chinese Studies (IFCCS5), held in collaboration with the Beijing University of Technology and the LSE in Beijing in August 2012. Economist Dr Hong Li has joined us from Kingston University, bolstering the team delivering our new Masters courses in Corporate Finance and Banking and Financial Markets in Contemporary China, while our new Senior Research Fellow in the China Policy Institute, Dr Maria Jesus Herrerias, is working on international trade, regional development, and energy and the environment in China. We also welcomed Dr Jeremy Taylor as associate professor in contemporary Chinese Studies to help strengthen the humanities side of the School's research and teaching profile. Finally, we have doubled the size of our professorial contingent, with the recruitment of distinguished economic sociologist Professor Lina Song from the School of Sociology and Social Policy at Nottingham, and the well-deserved and very popular appointment of our own Dr Stephen Morgan to a Chair.

The School admitted nearly 100 new undergraduates in September 2012, taking our total to about 280 students across all single-honours courses, with another 200 on a range of joint degrees. With new Masters courses recruiting their first intake in September 2011, our taught-postgraduate numbers also rose to more than 90

students in the year just gone. These developments explain the need for a new building to house the School: the Si Yuan Centre. Sited beside the lake on the Jubilee Campus, this new building gives us three storeys of space in which all staff, including the Mandarin teaching team, the China Policy Institute, and the Confucius Institute, plus our two dozen PhD students, can finally be under one roof. It will also allow us to provide more study and social space for the exclusive use of our students. The Si Yuan Centre is being officially opened on 19 December 2012.

During the year, Dr Andreas Fulda has continued to organise workshops and conferences in the PRC as part of his €1 million EU-funded EU-China Civil Society Dialogue Project, bringing together academics and NGO practitioners from Europe and China to pool ideas and resources on issues such as left-behind children, informal work and migration, social entrepreneurship, and industrial pollution and environmental health. This project's legacy of sustainable, practical and effective collaboration between European and Chinese NGOs is potentially one of the School's most significant achievements in its six-year history.

The School was represented at the AAS 2012 in Toronto by Dr Xiaoling Zhang, speaking on China's promotion of soft power in Africa, and by Dr Wu Bin, presenting a paper on exercising global citizenship in local Chinese communities. Bin's previous research on the problems Chinese migrants face accessing services and understanding their rights in the UK led him in 2011-12 to launch a non-credit-bearing module as part of the Nottingham Advantage Award scheme. Student volunteers on the module developed projects in collaboration with the local Chinese community to fill some of the gaps already identified, such as the lack of relevant English-language provision for older Chinese in the UK, and Chinese migrants' problems accessing the NHS. Given the short space of time available, the first projects achieved remarkable results, and helped build new links between the School, the Chinese community, and local government and service providers, while also giving student participants valuable career and life experience as an added benefit from their time at Nottingham.

Other School publications and research activity include Dr Hongyi Lai on China's soft power; Professor Yao Shujie, Dr Chen Jian and Dr Luo Dan on China and the



financial crisis; Professor Steve Tsang on democratisation in Taiwan and Hong Kong and cross-Strait relations; Dr Cong Cao on high-tech development and innovation policy in China; Dr Qianlan Wu on international competition law and China; and Dr Wang Zhengxu on local government legitimacy in China. Most colleagues participated in the 5th IFCCS in Beijing, where the keynote speakers included Thomas Gold, Suisheng Zhao, Orville Schell and Wing Thye Woo, and we are very pleased to be hosting the JEACS conference with IFCCS6 in September 2013 here in Nottingham.

Jackie Sheehan

## The Open University

In response to the increasing demand for language learning through distance education, the Department of Languages at The Open University (OU) UK introduced beginners Chinese to its curriculum in November 2009. The name for the module is *Dì yī bù* (module code: L197). This is a key introductory Level 1 module (worth 30 points). Level 1 modules provide core subject knowledge, along with study skills needed for both higher education and distance learning. Students can study this module independently or as part of a qualification. The Chartered Institute of Marketing recognises this course under their Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programme.

OU's Beginners Chinese is one of the new generations of OU language modules taught by blended learning: a mixture of face-to-face tutorials and synchronous online tutorials. The study materials make use of a variety of media, including printed books and audio recordings, as well as rich learning materials on the virtual learning environment. As this is a part-time course, all the tutorials are timetabled in the evening or at weekends. There are about 20 students in each tutorial group, with each group having a designated tutor who runs tutorials (face-to-face and online), and marks assignments, providing both spoken and written feedback. The teaching duration of the module is 44 weeks, starting in October and finishing in the following September.

At the start of 2009/2010 academic year, 467 students were enrolled at the start of the module. The numbers for the subsequent two years (2010/2011 and 2011/2012) were 341 and 326 respectively.

The Chinese team has 15 part-time associate lecturers and one full-time academic, Dr Kan Qian, who is the Chair and Head of Chinese. The team is very active in the research of mobile learning and its impact on the teaching and learning of Chinese. From 2010 to 2011, the Chinese team worked with OU's Knowledge Media Institute and developed the 'Chinese Characters First Steps' App (a character learning application for smartphones). This App includes the key characters (over 400) introduced in the OU's L197 Beginners Chinese module. The second version of the full App with 20 lessons for the iPhone, iPod Touch, and

iPad was released to the iTunes Store in July 2011. The Android version was released early in 2012 and currently only contains the first lesson.

Kan Qian

## University of Sheffield

At the undergraduate level, Sheffield has 30 incoming students in 2012/13, with nine of these being single honours and 21 dual honours. We continue to have a number of doctoral candidates in Chinese Studies, with Chris Bond being awarded his PhD on 18 May 2012.

There have been a number of staff changes at the School, with Dr Yu Chen recently joining as a Lecturer in Chinese Studies, and Dr Jeremy Taylor recently leaving to take up a position at the University of Nottingham. In other developments, Dr Sarah Dauncey is now the Honorary Secretary of BACS and the Commissioning Editor of *JBACS*.

Dr Sarah Dauncey has been invited to present a special talk at the Weston Park Museum to accompany the British Museum's travelling exhibition 'China: Journey to the East'. Dr Yiu Por Chen presented papers at Beijing Normal University, Jinan University (Guangzhou), and in Bonn, Germany. Dr Chen Lili cooperated with Yang Lan of Leeds University to co-host an initial international conference, held at the University of Leeds in August this year, at which the Symposium on the Supervision of Research Students in TCSL was formally set up.

Staff publications include: Lili Chen (forthcoming), 'Who speaks and how? Studies of voicing in the *China Daily* following a decade of change', *Chinese Journal of Communication*; (forthcoming) 'Telling the story: Evaluation as an indicator of social and political change in the *China Daily*', *China Information*; Yiu Por Chen (forthcoming), 'Land Use Rights, Informal Economy, and Labor Policy Changes: An Analysis of China's Urban Labor Market Deregulation (1980-1984)' *Economics of Transition*; Zhong Zhang (2011), 'The Shareholder Derivative Action and Good Corporate Governance in China: Why is Excitement Actually for Nothing?' *UCLA Pacific Basin Law Journal* 28(2); and *The Derivative Action and Good Corporate Governance in China: Economic Theories and Legal Rules* (Lambert Academic Publishing); Xiaowei Zang (2012), 'Scaling the Socioeconomic Ladder: Uyghur Perceptions of Class Status in Urümchi', *Journal of Contemporary China* 21/78; (2012) 'Uyghur Islamic Piety in Urümchi, Xinjiang', *Chinese Sociological Review* 44/4: 82-101; (2012) 'Age and the Cost of Being Uyghurs in Urümchi', *China Quarterly* 210: 419-34;

(2012) 'Gender Roles and Ethnic Income Inequality in Urümchi', *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 35/2: 238-58; (2012) 'Minority Threat and Ethnic Variation in Party Membership Attainment in China', *Journal of Contemporary China* 21/75: 519-30.

Yiu Por Chen

## **SOAS, University of London**

In the academic year 2011/2012, student intake for the BA Chinese programme remained at healthy levels, while 45 BA Chinese (Single and Joint Degree) students and four International Management students proceeded to their second year in Beijing. Total enrolment for all four years of BA Chinese (single-subject) was 90 FTE, and the total for all four years of the joint-degree programme was 56 FTE (i.e. 112 students). This was the second year of our new BA Chinese Studies programme, with a total of 12 students. Unlike the traditional 'single-subject' and 'joint-degree' programmes, this new programme allows students to take China-related courses across all SOAS departments, while studying language at individually appropriate levels. The programme does not include a Year Abroad and is expected to be attractive to applicants who already have studied Chinese to intermediate or advanced levels prior to entering university, as well as to ab-initio learners who, for whatever reason, are unable to do a Year Abroad.

The BSc International Management (China) programme, under the auspices of the Department of Financial and Management Studies (DeFiMS), recruited 30 students for Year 1, while the programme with a Year Abroad in Beijing recruited ten new students.

Two students chose the Chinese pathway for the MA Applied Linguistics and Language Pedagogy, convened in the Linguistics Department. There were 20 students for MA Chinese Studies, four for MA Chinese Literature, and five for MA Sinology. The China and Inner Asia Department welcomed four new research students, three working in the modern and contemporary field, and one on the Ming period.

SOAS students continued to succeed in the 11th Chinese Bridge competition. This Chinese Proficiency Competition for Foreign College Students has been held annually since 2002. Each year, more than 6,000 contestants from around the world enter the competition. Some 28 students from 15 universities attended the UK final which was held at the British Museum. Owen Churchill, a third-year student, received the grand prize and Maximilian Sleigh-Parrott, a fourth-year student, was awarded first prize. Both went on to the finals held in Changsha, Hunan, from 3-25

July 2012. Rebecca Miller, a third-year student, received the best performance prize and was also invited to the final as a special guest. In Changsha, Owen Churchill won the first prize out of 117 final contestants, and was also awarded the online popularity prize by receiving over 64,000 votes from internet users. He received a three-year scholarship to study in China. A SOAS student has made it to the Beijing finals in each of the eleven years since the competition was established. Ms. Wanli Gao, Ms. Zhaoxia Pang and Ms. Lik Suen coached the students.

SOAS students were also successful on the scholarships front, with one student being awarded the BACS-Taiwan Huayu Enrichment Scholarship, and two being awarded China Scholarship Council Scholarships. As before, two HSBC Scholarships were available to UK/EU Master's students on either the MA Sinology or the MA Chinese Literature, and this year, both went to students in the MA Sinology programme.

Dr Tian Yuan Tan was awarded a British Academy Small Research Grant for a new project on 'Entertaining the Emperor: Elite Playwrights and Court Theatre in Eighteenth-Century China'. In April 2012, his forthcoming book, *An Anthology of Critical Studies on Tang Xianzu in Western Scholarship* (co-edited with Xu Yongming, Zhejiang University), received a Harvard-Yenching Institute Publication Grant.

The 2012 AC Graham lectures were held in February, jointly organised by the China and Inner Asia Department's Early China Seminar, the Centre of Chinese Studies, and the London Confucius Institute, the latter providing a generous grant to help sponsor the event. Professor Carine Defoort of the University of Leuven in Belgium delivered two well-attended public lectures and taught a master class to MA and PhD students.

Dr Lianyi Song and Ms Lik Suen joined the European Benchmarking Chinese Language Project in January 2012. This involves four European universities, with SOAS as the leading institution.

Professor Michel Hockx was appointed Interim Director of the London Confucius Institute from January to September 2012. Dr Andrew Lo in the Department of China and Inner Asia Studies was promoted to Professor in September 2012. Dr

Tian Yuan Tan took over as the new Chair of the Centre of Chinese Studies in August 2012.

Andrew Lo



## University of Westminster

Recruitment to Westminster's undergraduate Chinese courses continued to be stable last year. In total we had 33 students in our beginners' class, which included students combining Chinese with International Business, International Relations and Linguistics. This year also saw the first intake (of seven students) on our new Single Honours Degree in Contemporary Chinese Studies. Fifteen students spent their Year Abroad at various destinations in China, including our partner university Beijing International Studies University. Five of their students in turn spent the academic year at Westminster studying our BA Translation Chinese. Final year dissertations and bilingual projects (research projects with a professional rather than an academic audience in mind) continue to be written in Chinese by all students, who spend a Year Abroad.

Through Gerda Wielander's involvement in the university's China Strategy Group and resulting work with prospective Chinese partner universities, we were able to sign two further agreements with Chinese universities this year. We now have an exchange agreement with Beihang University in Beijing as well as a progression agreement with Guangdong Foreign Studies University in Guangzhou, whose president is a University of Westminster alumnus. The year also saw the establishment of a Westminster presence in China through the opening of a China 'base camp' in Beijing, which currently has two permanent members of staff. This year we welcomed Wang Mingjie as a new member on our teaching team to join Bi Xiaolan, Xu Shejiao, Wang Caiwen, Rosabel Chung, Derek Hird, Wang Cangbai, Gerda Wielander and Harriet Evans who as a team cover the wide variety of our curriculum .

Chinese continues to thrive on our university-wide open language programme under the expert guidance of Huang Dian.

This year saw funding success with Gerda Wielander's award of an AHRC Fellowship Grant to complete her monograph on *Christian Values in Communist China*, (Routledge Contemporary China Series 2014). Gerda also contributed '*As plants grow towards sunlight...*' The Amity Foundations' NGO Incubator in historical perspective to *One Hundred Years after the Chinese Xinhai Revolution: Domestic Change*,

*Challenges, and Continuities*, edited by Jean-Marc Blanchard and Kun-chin Lin, London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2013. Wang Cangbai published two new pieces on 'Guigiao (Returned Overseas Chinese) as Political Subjects in the Making of the People's Republic of China, 1949-1979', in Xiang Biao, et al eds., *Return: Nationalizing Transnational Mobility in Asia*, Duke University Press 2012, and 'Bridging borders in the global city: negotiating sameness and difference in Hong Kong's skilled immigrants from mainland China', *Journal of International Migration and Integration*, 2012. Derek Hird finished co-writing *Men and Masculinities on Contemporary Modern China*, a monograph co-authored with Song Geng (ANU) for publication with Brill in 2013, and contributed 'The Paradox of Pluralization: Masculinities, Androgyny and Male Anxiety' to a volume co-edited by Peter Aggleton and Henrietta Moore on *Understanding Global Sexualities: New Frontiers* (Routledge, 2012). Derek's research in queer studies resulted in a collaboration with William Schroeder (Manchester) to co-organise an inaugural workshop, hosted by Manchester University and significantly funded by the Ford Foundation, to set up an international network on Queer China. In Beijing, Harriet Evans co-organised the last of the three workshops for her British Academy funded project on 'Cultural Heritage in China: Changing Trajectories, Changing Tasks'. With invitations to lecture to UCL's MA in Heritage Studies and co-organise a panel on cultural heritage in China for the inaugural conference of the International Association of Critical Heritage Studies, (Gothenburg, May 2012), she was appointed Research Associate of the UCL Centre for Museums, Heritage and Material Culture Studies. She contributed chapters on 'The Intimate Individual; Perspectives from the Mother-Daughter Relationship' for a collection on *Chinese Modernity and the Individual Psyche*, edited by Andrew Kipnis, (Palgrave Macmillan), on 'Belonging to Old Beijing: Old Lady Gao's Story', in Angilee Shah and Jeffrey Wasserstrom, eds. *Chinese Characters* (University of California Press), and 'Ambiguities of Address: Posters of the Cultural Revolution and their Post-Mao Appeal' in Li Jie and ZhengEnhua (eds.), *China's Red Legacy* (Harvard University Press).

With the REF2014 beckoning, the research activities of the Contemporary China Centre broadened out this year to address the 'impact' of our work. This took two main forms. Derek Hird took up his HEIP funded week's placement in the Shanghai branch of Ogilvy and Mather, where he ran a highly successful series of

workshops on gender, masculinity and men. Harriet Evans started a collaborative project with a Camden primary school to develop the University's Chinese Poster Collection as a tool to teach China to Year 5 and 6 pupils. Her outreach work this year also included a day's workshop to secondary school students, based on the screening and discussion of a fascinating documentary film—'Please Vote for Me' (Chen Weijun, 2007)—about a school experiment to elect a class monitor. She also chaired screenings and discussions about OuNing's documentary film on the demolition of a Beijing neighbourhood (*Meishijie*, 2006) at London's Free Word Centre.

The seminar programme ran another highly interesting and well attended series of talks, the success of which was largely due to Derek Hird's efforts. Speakers included Andrew Kipnis (ANU), Rebecca Karl (NYU) Bao Hongwei (Nottingham Trent), Ralph Parfect (King's) and Anna Lora-Wainwright (Oxford), and a number of Westminster Colleagues: Elizabeth Waters (political posters from Uzbekistan), Anne Witchard (Lao She in London), and Volker Scheid (Chinese medicine). Scheid's and Witchard's presentations launched the start of what we hope will be new collaborative projects between the CCC and the University's broadening interests in China in the School of Life Sciences and the Department of English, Linguistics and Cultural Studies. The CCC also screened two fascinating films, both of which provoked lively debate: Zhang Bingjian's *Readymade*, a film about Mao impersonators, and He Xiaopei's *The Lucky One*, about a woman dying of AIDS, much of the research for which came from her fieldwork for her PhD on 'I am AIDS' (Westminster, 2008).

Gerda Weiland & Harriet Evans

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Colin	Alexander	Leeds
Ghulam	Ali	Monash
Sarah	Allan	Dartmouth
Jennifer	Atkinson	
Elena	Barabantseva	Manchester
Gordon	Barrett	Bristol
Edward	Barton	
Eona	Bell	
Paul	Bevan	SOAS
Robert	Bickers	Bristol
Giles	Blackburne	CBBC
Anna	Boermel	Oxford
Francesca	Bray	Edinburgh
William	Buckingham	De Montfort
Sam	Burt	LSE
A.R.	Butler	St Andrews
William	Callahan	Manchester
Jane	Caple	Leeds
Katharine	Carruthers	SSAT
Yuen Lai	Chan	Oxford
Pin-Ling	Chang	Newcastle
Qu	Chen	
Shih-chen	Chao	Manchester
Isabelle	Cheng	Portsmouth
Joan Yin	Cheung	SOAS
Sally	Church	Cambridge
Craig	Clunas	Oxford
Anthony	Coogan	
Carole	Couper	Glasgow
Lindsay	Cunningham-Cross	Manchester
Sarah	Dauncey	Sheffield
Delia	Davin	Leeds
Hugo	de Burgh	Westminster
Seong Lin	Ding	Malaya
Peter	Ditmanson	Oxford
Majorie	Dryburgh	Sheffield
Jane	Duckett	Glasgow
Glen	Dudbridge	Oxford
Chau-hung	Dung	City U HK
Michael	Dunn	Newcastle
Harriet	Evans	Westminster
Peter	Ferdinand	Warwick
Stephan	Feuchtwang	LSE
Elisabeth	Forster	Oxford

Jian	Gao	Edinburgh
Joachim	Gentz	Edinburgh
Natascha	Gentz	Edinburgh
Anne	Gerritsen	Warwick
Tommaso	Gianni	
John	Gittings	
Nele F	Glang	Sheffield
Wei	Gong	LSE
Vivienne Xiangwei	Guo	King's
Daniel	Hammond	Edinburgh
Lifeng	Han	SOAS
Alison	Hardie	Leeds
Henrietta	Harrison	Oxford
Jessica	Harrison-Hall	British Museum
Jane	Hayward	Oxford
Shao-lan	Hertel	Free University Berlin
Andrew	Hillier	Bristol
Michel	Hockx	SOAS
Arnhilt	Hoefle	SAS, U London
Ros	Holmes	Oxford
Chia-Lynne	Hong	Chinese Culture Univ
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Caroline	Hoy	
Elisabeth	Hsu	Oxford
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Tehyun	Ma	Birkbeck
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Caroline	Mason	Durham
William	Matthews	UCL
Stephen	McDowall	Edinburgh
Hui	Miao	Birmingham
Carol	Michaelson	British Museum
Rana	Mitter	Oxford
Neil	Munro	Glasgow/Edinburgh
Hongping Annie	Nie	Oxford
How Wee	Ng	SOAS
Ka Yi	Ng	Chinese Uni HK
Paulette	Nonfodji	Amsterdam
Ralph	Parfect	King's (Inst.)
W Stewart	Paton	
David	Pattinson	Leeds
Adele	Pearson	Cambridge
Valerie	Pellatt	Newcastle
Melissa	Pilgrim	
Emily	Preston	Leeds
Emilio	Ramos Calzon	SOAS
Linda	Rosen	CBBC
Anne	Russell	
Marcelo	Sabanes	
Mindi	Schneider	Cornell
Jacqueline	Sheehan	Nottingham
Joanne	Smith Finley	Newcastle
G Kentak	Son	King's College
James	St André	Manchester
Naomi	Standen	Birmingham
Don	Starr	Durham
Norman	Stockman	Aberdeen
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Hau	Tran	Ulster
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Tingting	Wan	Edinburgh
Julian	Ward	Edinburgh
Frances	Weightman	Leeds
Marnix	Wells	

Yan	Wen-Thornton	Exeter
Gerda	Wielander	Westminster
Justin	Winslett	Oxford
Frances	Wood	British Library
Tim	Wright	Sheffield
Ting	Xu	LSE
Makio	Yamada	Oxford
Yujing	Yang	
Claudia	Zanardi	King's College
Beibei	Zhan	SOAS
Nana	Zhang	Warwick
Tao	Zhang	Nottingham Trent
Zhu	Zhu	Edinburgh