



British Association for Chinese Studies

2021 Early Career Researcher Prize

The British Association for Chinese Studies (BACS) invites early career researchers to submit an original research paper for consideration for the 2021 BACS Early Career Researcher Prize.

The research paper can be on any arts, humanities or social sciences topic on traditional or modern China, broadly conceived. All submissions must involve original research on China or Chinese language sources and engage with relevant academic literature in Chinese Studies.

Founded in 1976, BACS is a non-political organisation which aims to encourage and promote Chinese studies in the United Kingdom, in particular, by organising conferences, lectures, seminars and other appropriate activities, by disseminating information, and by encouraging co-operation among persons and organisations concerned with the study of China.

The British Association for Chinese Studies Early Career Researcher Prize, which is kindly supported by the Universities' China Committee in London, was established in 2016 to:

- stimulate new research in arts, humanities and social sciences on traditional and modern China;
- recognise excellence in the field of Chinese Studies;
- promote early career researchers in the field.

Previous prize winners include Dr Angela Becher (University of Liverpool), Dr Ros Holmes (University of St Andrews), Dr Kailing Xie (University of Warwick), and Dr Pamela Hunt (University of Oxford).

The prize

The winner will receive:

- publication of the winning paper in the *British Journal of Chinese Studies* (BJoCS), subject to satisfactory revisions (where needed) according to peer review and judging panel recommendations;
- a cash prize of £500;
- mention on the BACS website and in the BACS Bulletin.

The *British Journal of Chinese Studies* is an open access, peer-reviewed e-journal publishing articles and reviews in the discipline areas covered by the British Association for Chinese Studies.

How to enter

Entries of **between 7,000-10,000** words should be submitted through our journal online submission system. Please see here for details including style guide please visit: <https://bjocs.site/index.php/bjocs/about/submissions>

The message to the editors must clearly state that the paper is for the *Early Career Researcher Prize 2021* and be accompanied by a letter from the entrant's home institution confirming their status and/or a certificate confirming PhD award date.

All entries will go through anonymous peer review by a panel of judges consisting of established scholars in the field. The winner will be selected from all entries recommended for publication by the judges.

The deadline is midnight Friday 30 April 2021.

Entrants should read the Competition Rules for full details of the terms and conditions of the prize.

Any queries should be directed to BACS via Dr Jennifer Altehenger: jennifer.altehenger@history.ox.ac.uk

Competition rules

The entry requirements and rules are as follows:

- The Prize is open to all PhD students, post-doctoral researchers, or other early career researchers, defined for the 2021 Prize as a scholar who received their PhD in or after 2016. Entrants must be based at an institution in the United Kingdom or should have received their PhD award from such an institution. **Evidence of status is required**, e.g. a letter from the entrant's home institution confirming status there and/or a certificate confirming PhD award date.
- Research papers are to be **between 7,000 – 10,000 words**, inclusive of all footnotes and references and should conform to the *British Journal of Chinese Studies* house style.
- Permission must be obtained for the reproduction of illustrations.
- The competition is free to enter and only **one** entry per person is permitted.
- All entries must be submitted through the *British Journal of Chinese Studies* online submission system. The covering message must clearly state that the paper is for the *Early Career Researcher Prize* and must be accompanied by evidence of early career status (see above).
- Papers submitted for the British Association for Chinese Studies Early Career Researcher Prize must **not** be under consideration for publication elsewhere. It is a condition of entry that all entrants will be prepared to grant an exclusive license to the *British Journal of Chinese Studies*, if accepted for publication.
- The closing date for entries will be **Friday 30 April 2021 at midnight**. Competition entries will go through double-blind peer review with an additional question to peer reviewers about the suitability of the paper for a prize. Where there is a tie, the final winner will be determined by a panel made of BACS Council members and the BJoCS editorial team. All entries will be subject to the *British Journal of Chinese Studies* ' normal standards of refereeing and editorial review, with the winner being that person judged to have produced the best piece of work in arts, humanities or social sciences research on traditional or modern China. If a submission is unsuitable according to the normal standards, then, in line with the normal procedure the editors will not submit it for peer review. The name of the winner will be announced on the British Association for Chinese Studies website and all submissions will receive feedback from the review process.
- The decision of the judges will be final and binding, and no correspondence will be entered into about it.
- The prize for the winner is non-exchangeable, non-transferable and no alternative is offered.
- There is no runner-up prize, but the editors may consider publishing any entries that are highly commended by the judges, subject to satisfactory revision according to judging panel recommendations.
- In the unlikely event that, in the judges' opinion, none of the essays submitted are of the required standard for the award of the prize, it will be offered for new entries the following year.
- The winner will be notified by email (using the email address provided at entry) **in the month of August**. If the winner does not respond to the British Association for Chinese Studies within 7 days of being notified, then the winner's prize will be forfeited and the British Association for Chinese Studies will be entitled to select another winner.
- Participants are deemed to have accepted and agreed to be bound by these terms and conditions upon entry. A copy of the terms and conditions can be viewed at <http://bacsuk.org.uk>. The British Association for Chinese Studies reserves the right to refuse entry or refuse to award the prize to anyone in breach of the terms and conditions.
- The British Association for Chinese Studies does not accept any responsibility for entries not successfully completed due to a technical fault (including, but not limited to technical malfunction, computer hardware or software failure, satellite, network or server failure) of any kind.
- The British Association for Chinese Studies reserves the right to hold void, cancel, suspend, or amend the competition if it becomes necessary to do so.