

**Bulletin of the
British Association for Chinese Studies
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- Isabella Jackson, University of Aberdeen (2012-)
- Qian Kan, Open University (2012-)
- Jon Howlett, University of York (2013-)

President's Report, September 2013-September 2014

In my final year as BACS President I have worked with the Council to promote public understanding of China, Chinese culture and Chinese language, as well as the wider field of Chinese Studies. In addition to regular activity, we made considerable progress with our efforts to map the state of the field of Chinese Studies in the UK and to maximize the potential of BACS as a representative organization. We also put into practice the changes made to the BACS Council structure at the previous AGM.

The state of Chinese Studies in the UK

On 25 June 2014, BACS in partnership with the China Britain Business Council (CBBC), the University of Westminster and the Chopsticks Club, and sponsored by the Higher Education Association (HEA), organized a very successful “stakeholder dialogue” devoted to the topic of Chinese Studies in UK universities. The event took place at the University of Westminster in London and drew an audience of nearly one hundred people. Panels were devoted to the topics of Chinese in schools, different models of Chinese Studies in universities, and graduate employability. Throughout the day a number of bottlenecks were identified that are currently preventing smooth transition from school courses onto university courses, and from university courses into employment. All present agreed on two things: firstly that the dialogue needs to continue, perhaps in the form of some smaller meetings involving teachers, academics, and employers to be held in different parts of the country; and secondly that BACS should continue to take the lead in this process and should become the sole umbrella organization speaking on behalf of all stakeholders and their organizations.

I should like to thank Giles Blackburne, Sarah Dauncey, Katharine Carruthers, and Gerda Wielander, and HJ Colston for joining the organizing team for the stakeholder dialogue and helping to make the day such a great success. I should also like to thank Tim Clissold, who gave a very stimulating keynote address.

A full report about the event was circulated on the BACS mailing list.

BACS structure

As stipulated in our new Constitution adopted at the previous AGM, the Council this year tried to rely less on co-opted Council members for carrying out regular BACS activity. Isabella Jackson took over from Jeremy Taylor as editor of the *BACS Bulletin*. Jon Howlett took over from Don Starr as manager of the BACS website. I am grateful to Don and to Jeremy for their long-standing service to the Association. Discussions about how exactly to formulate the relationship between BACS and the members of its affiliate organizations (BCLTS, ASCSL, CPN) continued and will need to be resolved as part of the process of making BACS the key representative of the whole of UK Chinese Studies, as outlined above.

BACS website and UCCL document

The BACS website was redesigned and its content was updated. The new site should go live around the time of our 2014 AGM. An important new addition to the BACS website is the document “Funding in UK for Higher Level Non-Scientific China-Related Studies.” This document was commissioned by the UCCL for their AGM in November 2013, and subsequently circulated widely for comments. It has now been handed over to BACS to publish on our website and to maintain and update on an annual basis. In this way, the BACS website will always be able to present the most up-to-date information about funding for Chinese Studies in the UK, which is obviously in line with BACS’s function as a subject association. We are grateful to UCCL for committing annual financial support to enable BACS to carry out this work.

Conferences

The 2013 Joint East Asian Studies conference was held at the University of Nottingham, in conjunction with the International Forum for Contemporary Chinese Studies (IFCCS). The conference showcased much new research in the social sciences related to contemporary China, as well as a good number of papers in other fields. Keynote speakers for the Chinese component of the conference were Prof Jane Duckett (Glasgow) and Prof Frank Pieke (Leiden). Financial support was received from the British Inter-university China Centre, and from the Confucius Institute at Nottingham.

Preparations for the 2014 conference in Newcastle went very smoothly throughout the year, thanks to the stellar efforts by Council member Joanne Smith Finley and her colleagues at Newcastle University and the Newcastle Confucius Institute. We were especially pleased to be able to secure two outstanding keynote speakers, Prof David Goodman (Sydney) and Prof Zhang Haiyang (Minzu University). Very generous financial support for the conference was provided by UCCL.

Scholarships

BACS once again oversaw the selection process for the Huayu Enrichment Scholarships (HES), which provide funds for UK nationals to study Mandarin in Taiwan for periods of two months, six months, or a whole year. BACS Council member Kan Qian once again was in charge of communications with applicants and with the TRO as well as leading the selection panel. At Qian's initiative, a tremendous improvement was made compared to previous years by making the entire application process electronic rather than paper-based. I am most grateful to Qian for her sterling efforts, as well as to Naomi Standen and Jon Howlett for serving on the selection panel. 192 months worth of scholarships were awarded, with 10 applicants being awarded a one-year scholarship, 7 applicants receiving a six-month scholarship, and 15 a two-month summer scholarship.

Publications

The third volume of the *Journal of the British Association for Chinese Studies* came out in December 2013, in time for the REF deadline, once again offering a good mix of peer-reviewed articles and book reviews. Bringing out new issues of the journal on a regular basis continues to be a very time-consuming task for the two editors, Don Starr and Sarah Dauncey. A structural solution needs to be found to provide long-term support for routine administration and copy-editing for the journal. Since *JBACS* is one of the very few peer-reviewed, free, open access journals in the field, it is not an option to start charging a subscription fee. Financial support for the management of the journal will either have to be raised externally or to come from BACS membership fee income.

The annual *BACS Bulletin*, edited for the last time by Jeremy Taylor, came out in late 2013. All recent *BACS Bulletin* issues are also available on the BACS website as PDF files. The *Bulletin* remains the only up-to-date source of information about

developments at all Chinese Studies departments in the UK. It also contains an up-to-date BACS membership list.

BACS Archive

Former BACS Secretary Norman Stockman alerted us to the existence of an archive of BACS-related material going back to the very first meetings in the 1970s. It was agreed that the archive would be handed over to the SOAS Library to be kept in the SOAS Archive, where it will be available to users soon.

Affiliated organizations

The China Postgraduate Network (CPN) was convened this year by Jin Ren from Durham University. The CPN annual conference was held at Durham on 21-22 June, with keynote lectures by Dr Gordon Cheung (Durham) and Prof Qian Suoqiao (Newcastle). BACS provided the usual level of financial support to the conference and also continued to host the CPN website.

The Association for Speakers of Chinese as a Second Language (ASCSL), through its co-chair Giles Blackburne, was actively involved in the organization of the Chinese Studies stakeholder dialogue referred to above. The ASCSL website, financially supported by BACS, continues to be a very active forum for Chinese speakers active in professional settings. ASCSL is by far the largest network of degree-level Chinese speakers in the UK.

Ties between BACS and its affiliate the British Chinese Language Teaching Society were strengthened this year, with BCLTS kindly inviting me to be one of the keynote speakers at their annual conference.

Representatives of CPN, ASCSL, and BCLTS regularly attended BACS Council meetings. Discussion about ways in which members of the three affiliate organizations might be given some sort of affiliate membership of BACS are ongoing. Being able to draw on such an enlarged membership would add weight to BACS's ambition to speak on behalf of the whole sector in communications with government and other stakeholders.

Other activities

- In September 2013 I attended the AHRC Annual Subject Association Event

- In January 2014 I attended a meeting of the UK Council for Area Studies Associations (UKCASA), which featured a presentation by the FCO Policy Unit
- In June 2014 I gave the keynote lecture at the Annual Chinese Teaching Conference at the Institute of Education, University of London
- In July 2014 I gave one of the keynote lectures at the 12th BCLTS Conference, held at Regents University in London.

Michel Hockx
SOAS, University of London
September 2014

University of Aberdeen

The University of Aberdeen opened its Confucius Institute on 27 September 2013 with the support of its partner institution, Wuhan University. Alongside the University's four undergraduate semesters of Chinese language under its Sustained Studies programme, the Confucius Institute delivered classes at five different levels to a total of 240 people in its first year. It also became a HSK testing centre.

Courses in Chinese History are taught to third and fourth year students by Isabella Jackson, who also supervises Chinese History dissertations at undergraduate and doctoral levels. Chinese History will be among the course choices in the new MLitt in Modern History from 2015. The University is also introducing a new MSc in Translation and Interpreting, which will have a Chinese strand. Discussions continue on a potential undergraduate degree in Chinese Studies.

The AHRC-funded BICC Urban Chinese Studies Network, directed by Isabella Jackson, held its final conference in Aberdeen in January 2014. It brought together 30 scholars across a wide range of disciplines including Anthropology, Art, History, Law, Literature, Politics, Religious Studies, Sociology, and Town Planning, to approach the theme of China's Urban Environment, Past and Present. There was a strong international mix, with participants travelling from China and Japan to discuss work with scholars from Germany and all over Britain.

The Confucius Institute of the University of Aberdeen continued to provide financial support for the long-standing independent China Studies Group (<http://www.abdn.ac.uk/csg/>). The China Studies Group held four main events: Professor Michael Hockx of SOAS discussed 'Postsocialist Publishing: Internet Literature in China'; Professor Willy Brown, Darwin College, Cambridge spoke on 'The Emergence of Industrial Relations in China'; Dr Hans Steinmuller from the London School of Economics presented a paper entitled 'Moral Crisis in Rural China: irony and complicity in Hubei Province'; and Dr Nicola Horsburgh of Oxford University introduced her research on 'Chinese Contributions to Global Nuclear Politics since 1949.'

Barbara Fennell-Clark and Isabella Jackson

University of Birmingham

This year we have taught both modern and premodern China at all undergraduate level in the History Department, ranging from the Silk Roads to Tiananmen 1989. History students may select modules from a wide range of options in their second and final years, but take-up for China-related topics has been good, with second years requesting continuation modules to allow further study in third year, and interest in postgraduate work among some of the finalists.

Enrolment on Chinese language modules, particularly at entry level, continues to be brisk, and has created the happy necessity of hiring a second language teacher to assist Tang Xiaolong. The historians continue to work with interested parties in the language and social science departments towards a joint degree programme. Despite having no Chinese degree programme to channel interest, nevertheless one Birmingham student applied for a Huayu Enrichment Scholarship to study Chinese in Taiwan, and was successful. Having already been studying Chinese in Guangzhou this year, he will continue his language work for another 12 months in preparation for postgraduate work back in the UK.

Postgraduate activity continues to build. A student on our new MA in Global History has been writing their dissertation using material by Zhao Rugua and Ma Huan, and CHEN Xue will begin his MRes in September, with a view to continuing to a PhD. Jonathan Dugdale has begun his PhD with Naomi Standen, working on Liao pagodas from both archeological and historical perspectives. Another PhD student, Geoff Humble, spent nine months on a PhD Fellowship at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, working on Michal Biran's ERC project on 'Mobility, Empire and Cross-Cultural Contacts in Mongol Eurasia', as well as collecting, translating and analysing material for his own thesis. Both doctoral students have given conference papers, and have more lined up for the coming year. Academic colleagues have also given the usual round of papers this year, including Naomi Standen's lecture at the annual International Medieval Congress at Leeds, where her talk was the first keynote at that conference to deal with a topic on Eastern Eurasia and only the second to deal with a topic beyond the eastern Mediterranean (the first was the day before, and considered the Abbasid caliphate), <https://imc.leeds.ac.uk/dbsql02/AQueryServlet>. China Institute

<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/international/Global-engagement/china-institute/index.aspx>) events this year included one organised by Shirley Ye, in which Tong Lam discussed ‘Ruinscape and slumscape: picturing history and violence in global East Asia’.

Funding for projects includes Shirley Ye’s success, along with Howard Chiang (Warwick), in obtaining CCK funding for a series of joint seminars, featuring international visitors speaking on the theme of ‘Global China: New Approaches’. Speakers will include Eric Tagliacozzo, Shu-mei Shih, Pamela Crossley, Ien Ang and Angela Leung. Naomi Standen has also obtained a £500k AHRC grant for an archaeological-historical project in southeastern Inner Mongolia, which will provide, among other things, a PhD studentship and funded places for students to participate in fieldwork, <http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/historycultures/departments/history/research/projects/northeast-asian-cities.aspx>.

In sum, Chinese language study and the history of China at Birmingham – the latter from a standing start – are both looking healthy, but we would welcome more specialists on China in other subject areas.

Naomi Standen

Cambridge University

During 2013-14, a total of 52 undergraduates were enrolled for the BA (Hons) in Chinese Studies, 30 graduate students were working towards M.Phil and doctoral degrees. We are delighted to report the endowment of a permanent PhD studentship in honour of Louis Cha (Jin Yong) at St John's College.

Staff activities: Adam Chau's publications include 'A Different Kind of Religious Pluralism: Ritual Service Providers and Consumers in China', in Joachim Gentz and Perry Schmidt-Leukel, eds., *Religious Diversity in Chinese Thought* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2013); 'Religious Subjectification: The Practice of Cherishing Written Characters and Being a Ciji (Tzu Chi) Person', in Chang Hsun, ed. *Chinese Popular Religion: Linking Fieldwork and Theory* (Academia Sinica); and 'Household Sovereignty and Religious Subjectification: Comparing the Idiom of Hosting in Chinese and Christian Religious Cultures', in *Studies in Church History*, 2014. Routledge also issued a paperback edition of *Religion in Contemporary China: Revitalization and Innovation*. Adam gave papers, a.o., at Brown University, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, the Asia Research Institute (National University of Singapore), the Universities of Edinburgh, Amsterdam, Lund, and Frankfurt; and the 9th International Sinology Forum, Leiria, Portugal. Imre Galambos published, a.o., "Buddhist relics from the Western Regions: Japanese archaeological exploration of Central Asia," in Nile Green, ed., *Globalizing Central Asia: The Writing of Travel at the Crossroads of Asia* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press); and "New incarnations of old texts: Traces of a move to a new book form in medieval Chinese manuscripts." In Tōhōgaku kenkyū ronshū kankōkai ed., *Takata Tokio kyōju taishokū kinen Tōhōgaku kenkyū ronshū* 高田時雄教授退職記念東方学研究論集 (Kyoto: Rinsen shoten). Imre lectured at ANU (Canberra) and gave papers at Seoul National University, Odense (Denmark), the University of Florida and Princeton. Hans van de Ven's *Breaking with the Past: The Chinese Customs Service and the Global Origins of Modernity in China* appeared with Columbia University Press. Roel Sterckx gave papers at Brown University, Sheffield, the University of Ulster, Charles University Prague, the Central European University in Budapest, and the EACS conference in Coimbra. He also gave public lectures at the *La Storia in Piazza* festival in Genoa, the National University of Singapore and Nanyang Technological University. Chinese translations of *The Animal and the Daemon in Early China* and

Food, Sacrifice and Sagehood in Early China are in production. Boping Yuan delivered the keynote speech at the 2013 International Conference of Association of Teaching Chinese as a Second Language at Wenzao Ursuline University of Languages, Kaohsiung, and gave papers at Birbeck College, Xiamen University, Nanjing University and the University of Parma. Susan Daruvala served as Member of Academic Review Committee of the Humanities and Social Sciences Division at Academia Sinica.

Our “China Research Seminar” hosted papers by Jakub Hrubý (Czech Academy of Sciences), Johannes Kaminski (Cambridge), Ji Zhe (INALCO), Chris Courtney (Gonville and Caius College), Cangbai Wang (Westminster), Steve Smith (All Souls College), Cosima Bruno (SOAS), Peter Zarrow (Academia Sinica), Lisa Indraccolo (Zurich), Yunlian Chen (Nagoya University), John Garnaut (journalist and writer on Chinese politics), Martin Hoffman (Heidelberg), Fei-Hsien Wang (Cambridge), Rachel Leow (Cambridge), Peter Kornicki (Cambridge), Laura Newby (Oxford), Hans van de Ven (Cambridge), Jianjun Mei (Needham Research Institute), Philip Clart (University of Leipzig), Chris Atwood (Indiana University), Julia Lovell (Birbeck), Li Yingnan (Beijing Foreign Studies University), and Richard Madsen (University of California, San Diego). The annual Chuan Lyu lectures were delivered by Professor Leonard Blussé (Leiden) under the theme “Taiwan made in Holland” and were entitled “Early Modern Taiwan as a Laboratory of Colonial Society (1623–68)”, and “The Discovery of Northern and Eastern Taiwan’s Aboriginal Societies.” Professor Wang Der-wei (Harvard University) was this year’s Humanitas Visiting Professor. He delivered three lectures (“From Mara Poet to Nobel Laureate: On Modern Chinese Literary Culture”; “The Lyrical in Epic Time: On Modern Chinese Literary Thought”; and “Sailing to the Sinophone World”). His visit was concluded with a symposium on the “The Chineseness of Chinese Literature” where, in addition to local participants, speakers included Qian Jun (Newcastle), Michel Hockx (SOAS); and Natascha Gentz (Edinburgh). Weekly Friday text reading seminars were held at the Needham Research Institute. The NRI also hosted a very successful conference bringing together graduate students from SOAS, Oxford, and Cambridge. Michael Loewe shared his reflections on how research methodologies in sinology have changed over the decades.

Roel Sterckx

China Postgraduate Network, 2013-2014

China Postgraduate Network held the 2014 Annual Conference successfully in Durham University on 21-22 June 2014. China Postgraduate Network always tries to provide a meaningful platform for young scholars communicating with each other, the CPN conference has been held annually within the UK since 2008, attracting many young scholars and research or postgraduate students whose research and studies are related to China. This was the first time for the CPN holding conference in Durham University, this conference aimed to foster scholarly interaction and valuable networking among students and researchers in Durham and all other institutions.

The CPN 2014 conference attracted 40 attendees from different universities across the UK. Professor Qian Suoqiao (Newcastle University) and Dr. Dr Gordon C K Cheung (Durham University) were invited as keynote speakers of the conference. In this two-day event, 18 presenters and 2 keynote speakers from 12 UK universities gave presentations which covered various research areas including politics, business, history, literature, translation, sociology, film research and religious studies and area studies. All attendees enjoyed this two-day event, it was a great chance for all participants to present their work in a friendly, critical, and constructive setting, and receiving critical feedback through questions and discussion, shaping research communication skills, also enable networking and knowledge transfer among young aspiring academics.

Regarding the further promotion and dissemination after the conference, some conference pictures and information have been uploaded on CPN website (<http://www.bacsuk.org.uk/cpn/>) and been reported in MLAC Newsletter 3 (released on <https://www.dur.ac.uk/mlac/news/newsletters/>). Besides, the director of the Centre of Contemporary Chinese Studies, who is also one of our keynote speakers, Dr Cheung spoke highly of the CPN 2014 Annual Conference and helped to post the conference news on the website of his institution (<https://www.dur.ac.uk/china.studies/news/>). Besides, he showed strong interest in cooperating with either the BACS or the CPN to promote Chinese Studies across the UK.

Regarding the future of the CPN, we are trying to boost the communication and interaction of our members through social media and attract more scholars to join us, dedicating to the Chinese Studies together within the UK.

Jin Ren

Durham University

2013-14 was a rewarding and very fruitful year on teaching/learning, research, networks and other related works on Chinese studies. Networks were through high level talks and exchanges amongst academics and administrative staff. Teaching of Chinese studies were conducted mainly through the Chinese Studies BA degree, which was in its third year, offered by the School of Modern Languages and Culture (MLaC). Public seminars, conferences and impact related dialogues were facilitated through the Centre for Contemporary Chinese Studies (CCCS), the Business School and outside learned societies, such as the Chinese Students and Scholars Association (CSSA) and the British Association for Chinese Studies (BACS), etc.

The year began with many high level visits to China by senior administrative and academic staff. Prof. Deeks (PVC, Science) and various department heads visited China in April 2013 to launch the P&G and Peking programme. Prof. Higgins (VC) visited Beijing in May 2013 to attend an MNU alumni event arranged by UWA. Prof. Seth Kunin, (PVC, Faculty of Arts & Humanities) visited Peking University in October 2013 to meet with the first Durham exchange students, with a view to extend the exchange programme.

Durham University received one of the strongest delegations from Peking University on 19 November 2013. The main objectives of the delegation were to establish stronger links with academic departments across various faculties, especially Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences. They paid visit to Department of History, Department of Theology and Religion, School of Government and International Affairs and Department of Modern Languages and Cultures.

The nine delegates were Prof. Liu Wei (Vice President for Humanities and Social Sciences), Prof. Li Qiang (Assistant President and Director of Office of Humanities & Social Sciences), Prof. Gao Dai (Deputy Dean of Graduate School), Prof. Qian Chengdan (Director of Center for UK Studies), Prof. Jin Yongbing (Deputy Director of Department of Chinese Language & Literature), Prof. Fan Shiming (Deputy Dean of School of International Studies), Prof. Zhang Zhigang (Department of Philosophy), Dr. Zheng Ruqing (Deputy Director of Office of

International Relations), and Mr. Shi Zhongming (Program Officer of Office of International Relations). The delegation was warmly welcomed by Prof. Seth Kunin, Prof. David Petley (Dean of Research and International Engagement), Victoria Anderson (Assistant Director, International Office), Ladan Cockshut (Special Projects Officer, Science Faculty) and Melissa Schuessler (Exchanges & Study Abroad Officer).

The 2014 Durham CSSA Cultural & Business Conference: Sino-British Dialogue was held on 10 May 2014 at Durham University. The Dialogue, further divided into two panels (culture and soft power, and business and economics) was organised by the Chinese Students and Scholars Association (CSSA), and jointly supported by the School of Government & International Affairs, the Centre for Contemporary Chinese Studies and Durham Business School to promote business and cultural relations between China and the UK. Prominent speakers of the two panels were: Lord Michael Bates (Deputy Speaker of the House of Lords), Lady Bates (President of the Zhejiang UK Association), Lord Inglewood (Chairman of the CN Group), Mr Hugh Davies CMG (Chairman of the China Association), Sir Richard Heygate (Managing Partner of Oneida-Associates), Mr Roderic Wye (Associate Fellow of Asia Programme of Chatham House), Mr Raymond Li (BBC's Head of Chinese Service), Mr Wang Bo (Deputy Director of Business Confucius Institute at the University of Leeds) and Mr Duncan Levesley (China Britain Service Group, Grant Thornton). The Dialogue attracted huge numbers of students, media, business people and academics in a public engaging way.

The **China Postgraduate Network 2014 Annual Conference** of the British Association for Chinese Studies (BACS) was held at Durham University between 21 to 22 June 2014. The two-day event attracted many up-and-coming, young and talented postgraduate students from different universities across the UK. According to the organiser, 'The conference aims to provide a platform for scholarly interaction amongst postgraduate students whose research is related to China to foster inter-disciplinary collaboration and valuable networking'. There were two keynote addresses and 18 presentations. The 18 paper presenters were from many leading universities in the UK, including University of Birmingham, Durham University, University of Edinburgh, University of Glasgow, University of Kent, King's College London, University of Loughborough, SOAS and the

University of York, with research papers touching upon politics, business, history, literature, translation, sociology, film research and religious studies. The keynote speakers of the conference were Dr Gordon C K Cheung of Durham University and Prof Qian Suoqiao of Newcastle University. Dr Gordon C K Cheung's topic was 'A Second Research Agenda after PhD: Collaboration and the Research Story of Chinese Food and Business' and Prof. Qian Suoqiao's topic was 'Different Intellectual Dispositions of Lu Xun and Lin Yutang in the 1930s'.

World renowned speakers such as Prof. Shih Chih-yu (National Taiwan University) and Prof. Yu Yongding (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences), etc. gave public lectures in the Centre for Contemporary Chinese Studies (CCCS) and the Business School, respectively. The Centre for Contemporary Chinese Studies (CCCS) received a new grant from [Matariki Network of Universities \(MNU\)](#) in building more research collaboration on Greater China studies with Tübingen University. *East Asia: An International Quarterly*, a leading area studies journal edited in the School of Government and International Affairs, also came up with a special issue entitled 'China in South America: Argentina, Brazil and Venezuela', guest edited by [Carmen Amado Mendes](#) from the University of Coimbra. It was published in volume 30, issue 1, March 2013.

Gordon C. K. Cheung

University of Edinburgh

Now that Scotland has decided not to go independent, we will continue to send our annual report to BACS. In June the Chinese Studies Department moved from 8 Buccleuch Place to 50 George Square.

Students

On the undergraduate side, 6 students graduated with single honours in Chinese studies and 15 with joint honours.

The University of Edinburgh continues to do well in the Chinese Bridge competitions. Our 4th year students James Mabbutt, Ieva Nagyte and Marta Hennig, accompanied and coached by our Director of Chinese language teaching, Dr. Zhu Zhu, all made it to the final. James took the Grand Prize (top prize) with Ieva taking the First Prize and Marta taking the Best Knowledge Prize. Dr. Zhu Zhu was awarded the Best Tutor Prize.

On the postgraduate side, 8 students graduated from the Master of Chinese Studies programme and 6 from the MSc in East Asian Relations. Paul Man and Jie Xiaowei completed the PhD programme and four students started on their doctoral studies, making a total of 14 PhD students in Chinese and 6 joint PhD with other subjects.

Staff

Dr. Christopher Rosenmeier became permanent lecturer in July 2013. Dr. Huang Xuelei joined the department as Chancellor's Fellow and this year also saw the publication of her book *Shanghai Filmmaking*. Dr. Gregory Scott will be with us for the coming three years as a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow. Dr. Mark McLeister is continuing his employment as Early Career Fellow, covering Prof Natascha Gentz's teaching for her role as Dean International China at the UoE. Prof Paul Pickowitz, Distinguished Professor of History and Chinese Studies, UC San Diego, joined our department as Visiting Professor from September to December 2013 and is now again visiting from September to December 2014, giving lectures and teaching classes on Chinese film. Dr. Zhu Zhu completed her PhD, was awarded the Best Tutor Prize at the Chinese Bridge competition and was promoted to the post of Director of Chinese language teaching. Prof Joachim Gentz was promoted to a Personal Chair of Chinese Philosophy and Religions and has also been appointed

as a member of the AHRC's Peer Review College. Prof Natascha Gentz was elected as a Fellow to the Royal Society of Edinburgh in May. She acted as member of the REF Area Studies panel 27.

The field of Chinese Studies at the University of Edinburgh was further strengthened by 3 new appointed Chancellor's Fellows in History: Stephen McDowall; Sociology: Sophia Woodman; and Divinity: Alex Chow.

Publications this year include **Joachim Gentz**, "Notizen zur chinesischen Interreligiosität, Szkic o chińskiej interreligijności" in: *Keryks* 11/12 (2012/13): 43-58. (In German and Polish). Ed. with Perry Schmidt-Leukel: *Religious Diversity in Chinese Thought*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan, Sep 2013.

Natascha Gentz, "Wusi yundong yu xiandai xiju lilun de dansheng," in: *Jiedu benwen. Wusi yundong yu Zhongguo xiandai dangdai wenxue*, Wang Feng et. al ed., Beijing: Beijing daxue chubanshe, 2014, pp. 189-199. "From news xinwen to New knowledge xinxue: Newspapers as sources for Early Modern Chinese Encyclopedias," in Milena Dolezelova and Rudolf Wagner (eds), *Chinese Encyclopaedias of New Global Knowledge (1870-1920): Changing Ways of Thought*, Heidelberg: Springer Verlag, 2014, pp. 55-83. "Negotiating the Past: Narratives of the Cultural Revolution in Party History, Literature, Popular Media and Interviews," in: *Landscapes of the Chinese Soul. The Enduring Presence of the Cultural Revolution*, Tomas Plaenkers (ed), London: Karnac, 2014, pp. 1-34. "Jiang Qing", in Kerry Brown (Ed.), *Berkshire Dictionary of Chinese biography* Great Barrington, MA: Berkshire Publishing, pp. 1430 – 1444. **Huang Xuele**, *Shanghai Filmmaking: Crossing Borders, Connecting to the Globe, 1922–1938*, Leiden, Boston: Brill, 2014. "The Heroic and the Banal: Consuming Soviet Movies in Pre-Socialist China, 1920s–1940s," *Twentieth-Century China* 39, no. 2 (May 2014): 93–117. "Kua wenhua xinglü, kua meijie fanyi: cong *Lin'en dong zhen* dao *Konggu lan* 跨文化行旅, 跨媒介翻譯: 從《林恩東鎮》(East Lynne) 到《空谷蘭》, 1861-1935," *Tsinghua zhongwen xuebao* 清華中文學報 (Tsinghua Journal of Chinese Studies) no. 10 (Dec. 2013): 117-156. **Christopher Rosenmeier**, and Maja Kolmos, "Central Government Poverty Policy and Local Deviation: A Comparison of Dibao Regulations Across State Levels", *Social and Cultural Research*, Occasional Paper Series 14 (2013): 1-29. "The Yaksha" by Shi Zhecun, *Renditions* 79 (2013): 87-98. **Julian Ward**, "Xu Xiake", in

Kerry Brown (Ed.), *Berkshire Dictionary of Chinese Biography* Great Barrington, MA, 2014, pp. 1042-1054.

Talks: **Joachim Gentz**, “Philosophy that can be spoken of... Plato, Poetry, and the Problem of Unity in Early Chinese ‘Masters’ (zhuzi) texts,” International Conference: Reading the “Masters”: Contexts, Textual Structures, and Hermeneutic Strategies, Masaryk University, Brno, 5th–6th September 2014 (invited). “Interactions between Heaven, King, and the People in the *Shangshu*,” workshop: “The *Shangshu*: New Perspectives on the *Documents* Classic,” Berkeley, 1st–2nd September 2014 (invited). “Ambiguity of Religious Signs and Claim to Power in Chinese Propaganda Posters,” international conference: ‘Poster Art of Modern China,’ Edinburgh, 26–28 June 2014 (invited). “‘Duo shi 多士’ and ‘Duo fang 多方’ as prototypes of pacification speeches,” international conference: ‘The *Classic of Documents* and the Origins of Chinese Political Philosophy,’ Oxford, 20–23 March 2014 (invited). “周易與中國占卜傳統之衰落“ (The *Zhouyi* and the Decline of Divination in China), *Zhouyi*-Centre Jinan, China, 11 October 2013 (invited). “Rhetoric as the Art of Listening: Concepts of Persuasion in the first eleven chapters of the *Guiguzi*,” International conference: ‘Masters of Disguise? Conceptions and Misconceptions of “Rhetoric” in Chinese Antiquity,’ Uni Zürich, Einsiedeln, 4–6 September 2013 (invited). **Natascha Gentz**, “From Modernity to Tradition? Reflections on Chinese Media in Historical Perspective,” International Symposium ‘Chinese Cultural Modernity: Critical Reflections,’ Newcastle, 10.02.2014. “Wanqing Zhongguo xinwenchuban jie yu fating de chongtu”, Peking University, 06. 05. 2014. **Daniel Hammond**, “The Enemy Unseen? The Appearance and Significance of China and the Chinese in the Fallout Series,” BACS Annual Conference, Newcastle University (3–5 Sept, 2014). With Ms. Jing Jing, “Weak politics – A Strategic or Cultural Misunderstanding? An Analysis of Chinese Priorities in Sino-EU and Sino-ASEAN Relations under the Xi and Li regime,” CEASG Launch Conference: East Asia and the European Union, strong Economics, weak Politics? University of Groningen (8–9 May, 2014). “Getting the city to comply: Enforcement of the urban resident Minimum Livelihood Guarantee system, between 1997 and 1999,” China’s Urban Environment, Past and Present, BICC Chinese Urban Studies Network Conference, University of Aberdeen (16–18 January, 2014). With Dr. Chris Perkins, “Ways of Thinking and Practising in Chinese and Japanese Studies: An Initial Study,” Joint East Asian

Studies Conference, University of Nottingham (5-7 September, 2013). "Paying the Price: The environmental, social and health costs of China's development." Morningside Justice and Peace Group, Edinburgh, January 8 2014. "Social Assistance in the PRC," Scotland China Association, Edinburgh, 8 October, 2014. **Huang Xuele**i, "Hong Shen in the Popular Press, 1924–1949," European Association for Chinese Studies (EACS), Braga, July 2014. "Bringing the Real to the Reel: Realism and Silent Filmmaking in a Globalizing World, 1910s–1920s," East Asian Screen Studies Symposium, King's College London, May 2014. "Deodorizing China: Odour, Ordure, and (Dis)order in Shanghai's Foreign Settlements, 1845–1943," Conference 'China's Urban Environment, Past and Present' (BICC Chinese Urban Studies Network Conference), University of Aberdeen, Jan. 2014. "Mediating, Interlinking, and Multitasking: Hong Shen at the Mingxing (Star) Motion Picture Company, 1925-1937," Symposium 'Hong Shen and the Modern Mediasphere in Republican Era China,' The Ohio State University, Nov. 2013. "Politics of the Leg: Visual Representations of Female Legs and Propaganda Culture in China 1930s—1970s". Conference 'Poster Art of Modern China' The University of Edinburgh June 2014. **Mark McLeister**, "Festivals, Guests and Hosts in Urban Protestant Congregations," Gender and Family in the History of Missions and World Christianity, Yale-Edinburgh Group Meeting, The University of Edinburgh, June 26-28, 2014. "Chinese Christianity or Chinese Christianities? A Hearing-Impaired Protestant Congregation in Urban China," The Globalisation of Christianity in China, University of Manchester, May 15-16, 2014. "State Power, Spirit Power: Official Categories of Religion and Pentecostal-Style Activities in Urban Three-Self Churches in China," Centre for the Study of World Christianity, University of Edinburgh, February 25, 2014. "Appropriating and Negotiating State-defined Religious Space in a Chinese City," Power, Identity and the Authoritarian State: Urban Experiences Juxtaposed, The Royal Geographical Society, Imperial College London, August 28-30, 2013. **Julian Ward**, "A New Nation, A New Cinema: Chinese Cinema Under Mao," BFI Southbank as part of the BFI Century of Chinese Cinema season, June 10, 2014. "We would be wise to understand them a little better than we do now': A Scottish cameraman's 1971 trip to China," World Documentary Film & TV Conference, Falmouth University, Keynote Lecture, September 6, 2014.

Joachim Gentz organised a workshop and book launch on *Religious Diversity in Chinese Thought* on Nov 29. An international conference ‘Poster Art of Modern China,’ organised by Natascha Gentz, was held in Edinburgh, 26-28 June 2014. She also launched a Book Series *East Asian Studies* at Edinburgh University Press with David Wang Der-wei and Matthias Zachmann as co-editors. In November she organised the launch of the UoE PKU joint Research Centre on the study of China and the UK at a “Beijing University Day” in Edinburgh with a delegation of 9 distinguished PKU professors meeting some 25 UoE staff members in breakout sessions to discuss further co-operation. In March Natascha Gentz and Matthias Zachmann co-organised and chaired the 2nd Yun Posum Memorial Conference at the University of Edinburgh with a view to establishing Korean Studies in the department. A *Chinese Studies Seminar Series* was organised by Mark McLeister and Natascha Gentz in collaboration with Stephen McDowell.

The Confucius Institute for Scotland hosted a number of lectures, conferences and cultural events, including the following:

- Autumn term: Business Lecture series, involving senior politicians such as Lord Powell, Lord Davidson of Glen Clova and Lord Clement Jones.
- February: Terracotta Warriors Lantern Exhibition, Spring Festival, 30,000 + visitors in 10 days.
- June – July: Exhibition Poster Art of Modern China, 140 posters, 5,000 + visitors.
- August: Fringe Show, Storytelling by Migrant Workers from Beijing.

Joachim Gentz

University of Glasgow and the Scottish Centre for China Research

Chinese studies at the University of Glasgow is organised through the Scottish Centre for China Research (SCCR). The SCCR now includes 15 University of Glasgow staff researching China -- having most recently welcomed Dr David Tobin and Dr Bettina Blümling – and 11 doctoral research students. It delivers a MLitt in the Arts of China and an MSc in Chinese Studies. It also welcomes and encourages participation from staff and students across Scotland and has a further 8 staff as well as graduate students from other Scottish universities, including Dundee, Edinburgh, St. Andrews and the West of Scotland.

The SCCR aims to foster collaborative research through its three interdisciplinary research programmes: in ‘Governance, public policy and International Relations’; ‘International Economy, Business and Law’, and ‘Arts and Humanities’. Across these research programmes, members were in 2013-14 working on a number of externally funded grants on subjects from China’s housing and transport improvement policies, through health, inequality and poverty, to Hong Kong’s banking system and beyond.

In 2013-14 the SCCR organised a lively and very well-attended seminar series as well as lectures and workshops. Particular highlights included:

- A workshop, ‘Globalization of Chinese industrial sector: productivity, trade and finance’, 2-3 September 2013 at the University of Glasgow.
- A workshop, ‘China’s Health Reform after Four Years: Public Opinion’, organised jointly with Peking University’s Research Centre on Contemporary China, 16 September, Beijing.
- The annual Glasgow China lecture by Professor Marc Blecher, ‘Migrants and Mobilization: Labour Politics and Political Stability in China’, 21 May 2014.

Jane Duckett

International Dunhuang Project

Expanding Resources for Education and Scholarship on the Silk Road

Background

Little was known of the remarkable heritage of the Silk Road until explorers and archaeologists of the early twentieth century uncovered the ruins of ancient cities in the desert sands, revealing sculptures, murals and manuscripts. One of the most notable discoveries was the Buddhist cave library near the oasis town of Dunhuang in western China. Sealed and hidden at the end of the first millennium AD, it was only re-discovered in 1900 and found to contain forty thousand manuscripts, paintings and printed documents. Tens of thousands more items were excavated from other Silk Road archaeological sites. The manuscripts are in Chinese, Tibetan, Uygur, Prakrit, Tangut and many other languages, attesting to the richness of the links between China and her Silk Road neighbours. These unique items have fascinating stories to tell of life on these great trade routes from 100 BC to AD 1400. Yet after the discovery of the sites in the early twentieth century, they were dispersed to institutions worldwide.

The International Dunhuang Project (IDP)

The International Dunhuang Project 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 online via multilingual websites hosted by IDP centres worldwide. IDP at the British Library (lead curators of the Central Asian manuscripts) has a team of eight. Other centres are in China (National Library of China and Dunhuang Academy), Russia (Institute of Oriental Manuscripts, St Petersburg), Japan (Ryukoku University, Kyoto), Germany (BBAW, Staatsbibliothek and Museum of Asian Art, Berlin), France (Bibliothèque nationale and Musée Guimet, Paris), Korea (RIKS, Korea University, Seoul) and Sweden (various institutions). IDP currently offers free access to c. 450,000 images of over 100,000 manuscripts, artefacts and photographs from the Silk Road, with catalogues and contextual information.

Research

IDP is a partner in a major project grant from the European Research Council (ERC) of over EUR 8,000,000. The project title is ‘Beyond Boundaries: Religion, Region, Language and the State’. The research aims are to re-envision Asian history during the Gupta period (3rd-6th century) with a cross-disciplinary team working on archaeological sites, coins and manuscripts. The project is jointly led by three Principle Investigators, Sam van Schaik (British Library), Michael Willis (British Museum) and Nathan Hill (SOAS). It will last for six years, employ six Research Assistants and involve a network of academic collaborators from European universities.

Digitisation and Cataloguing

IDP continues to expand its collection of photographs taken by twentieth-century visitors to Dunhuang with the addition of those by Joseph Needham (in collaboration with the Needham Research Institute, Cambridge University), Desmond Parsons, Raghu Vira, and Irene and John Vincent. The majority of these are now digitised and available online with accompanying catalogues following shortly. More information can be found in the Autumn 2013 (42) issue of *IDP News*.

IDP is posting regular updates on newly digitised material on Twitter (@idp_uk), which we hope will alert a wider audience to the range of resources available on IDP.

Collaboration

IDP continues to extend its international partnerships. We signed an agreement with the Central Library, Taipei to include their Dunhuang manuscripts on IDP and also continued discussions with the State Hermitage in St Petersburg. We strengthened ties with UK organisations, working on projects with the Needham Research Institute in Cambridge and with Nottingham University, and initiating a new link with Reading University.

This year also saw the completion of IDP’s decade-long project with the International Research Institute for Advanced Buddhology (Soka University) to conserve, digitise and catalogue the 8,500+ Sanskrit manuscripts from Chinese Central Asia in the British Library.

Events

In celebration of its twentieth anniversary, IDP hosted a series of events at the British Library that began with a public lecture by Tim Williams (UCL) on the challenges of mapping the Silk Road and its sites for the UNESCO-ICOMOS project. This was followed by a Conservation and Digitisation Open Day and an afternoon of lectures, entitled 'Silk on the Silk Road'.

IDP20 events also included a highly successful photographic exhibition at the Royal Geographical Society 'Aurel Stein and the Silk Road: A hundred years on' in early 2014. This displayed photographs of ancient settlements, stupas and forts taken on Stein's three Central Asian expeditions between 1900 and 1916, alongside modern images and video taken on recent IDP expeditions to record the changes of the past century. An online gallery and full catalogue are both available on the IDP website.

Also in conjunction with IDP20, the whole of the printed copy of the *Diamond Sutra* is being displayed at the British Library for the first time. The scroll has been separated into its constituent panels as part of conservation work. Individual panels are being displayed for two months in turn from March 2014 to June 2015 alongside other examples of early printing. The exhibition is in the Sir John Ritblat Gallery and is open to all with free admission.

IDP20 featured prominently in our social media contributions over the past year, with a series of blog posts inviting twenty of our friends and supporters to select their favourite item from the IDP collections worldwide. The full selection is available as an online catalogue and a Pinterest board and was also featured in the special twentieth anniversary edition of *IDP News* (43, Spring 2014).

Future Plans

Work continues on the redevelopment of the IDP database and website, aimed at improving access and functionality. Comprehensive data validation and manuscript checks are ongoing in preparation for the anticipated re-launch in 2015.

Find Out More

To find out more, please visit <http://idp.bl.uk>. You can access all the other language websites from here, and there are also links to the IDP UK blog, Twitter feed, Facebook page, Pinterest boards, and YouTube channel.

IDP has also released its first annual highlights report this year, which is available to download as a PDF (http://idp.bl.uk/downloads/annual_report_2013_14.pdf).

Emma Goodliffe
International and Data Support Assistant
The International Dunhuang Project (IDP)
The British Library

King's College London

Teaching and research on China and Chinese language at King's College London (KCL) continued to grow steadily in 2013-14 across a number of departments.

The Lau China Institute, operating as part of the growing Global Institutes cluster at the College, continued in its focus on contemporary China in the context of the BRICS economies and of political, economic and cultural globalization. The Institute increased its number of PhD students to 21 through a third annual intake of around 7 students, while its Master's programmes in China and Globalization and Governance in Contemporary respectively entered their fourth and second years of student enrolment, in total recruiting 35 students, while also providing module options for around 30 students in other departments including Political Economy, Geography, War Studies and International Development Institute. Two new optional modules, in Chinese International Investments and Economic Policies and Development in Contemporary China, were taught by new appointee Dr Jan Knoerich, Lecturer in the Economy of China, who also became convenor of the China and Globalization programme.

Further areas of China Institute teaching in 2013-14 included Propaganda, Politics and Culture in Modern China (taught by Dr Jennifer Altehenger), Contemporary Chinese Society and Environment and Health (Dr Anna Boermel), Chinese Politics and Modern History (Dr Charlotte Goodburn), Chinese Business, Entrepreneurship and Corporate Governance (Vanessa Pesque Cela, who left King's in August 2014), Government and Governance (Dr Konstantinos Tsimonis, who joined King's as a Teaching Fellow in January 2014), China's International Relations and position in Global Governance (Dr Suzanne Yang), and Chinese Cultural Identity and Tradition (Professor Xinzhong Yao, who left in August 2014, together with Dr Ralph Parfect, who became Acting Director of the Institute in January 2014). China Institute staff also contributed to teaching in the International Development Institute's new Master's programme, MSc Emerging Economies, with plans to increase this contribution in future years, and the MSc Ageing and Society at the Department of Social Science, Health and Medicine, as well as developing a Chinese International Relations module for the Department of War Studies. For the first time the China Institute organised an Open Week in March 2014 with staff

members opening up their lectures to students and visitors and discussing problems facing China during a panel discussion.

China Institute staff publications in 2013-14 included Jennifer Altehenger's "Comic Travels: Disney Publishing in the People's Republic of China," in Anthony Fung (ed.), *Asian Popular Culture: The Global (Dis-)Connection*, Charlotte Goodburn's "Rural–Urban Migration and Gender Disparities in Child Healthcare in China and India", in *Development and Change*, July 2014, and Ralph Perfect's "Zhang Yimou's Sexual Storytelling and the iGeneration: Contending *Shanzhashu Zhi Lian* (*Under the Hawthorn Tree*) on Douban" in *China's iGeneration* (2014). Charlotte Goodburn also published a University of Nottingham China Policy Institute policy paper on the July 2014 announcement of reforms to the *hukou* system. Among the universities where China Institute staff presented their research at conferences and workshops were the Hong Kong, Vienna, Aberdeen, and the LSE (Dr Anna Boermel) and Shanghai Jiaotong University (Dr Ralph Perfect). New PhD research topics of students in the Institute included the Chinese shadow banking sector, educational institutions in Qingdao during the Cultural Revolution, print media journalism, and Civil Rights in Classical Confucian Political Philosophy.

The China Institute ran a weekly research seminar, which in addition to papers from Institute staff and PhD students, also welcomed visiting speakers Dr Matthew Johnson (Grinnell College), Dr Timothy Hildebrandt (LSE), Professor John Wong (University of Sydney), Dr Enze Han (SOAS), Dr Mayling Birney (LSE), Dr Wu Cuncun (University of Hong Kong), and Professor Tao Ran (Renmin University of China). The Institute also hosted a presentation visit from a team of historians at the China Academy of Social Sciences, introducing the newly published Official History of the PRC, with the event convened by Dr Jennifer Altehenger. The Centre for Governance Innovation in China, led by Dr Suzanne Yang, ran its inaugural event, a one-day conference on China and East Asian Maritime Security, jointly with the Centre for International Security and Peace Studies at Peking University, and including speakers Professors Yu Tiejin of Peking University and Geoff Till of the Defence Studies Department at King's.

The School of Law welcomed two new China-focussed appointees. In July 2013 (not reported in the last KCL report to this bulletin) Dr Angela Huyue Zhang became Lecturer in Competition Law; her most recent research has concerned how

bureaucratic politics are determinants of competition law enforcement in China. In September 2014 Dr Eva Pils became Reader in Transnational Law; her publications include *Comparative Perspectives on Criminal Justice in China* (2013). In 2014-15 Eva Pils will teach a Master's module on Law and Society in China. Further departments hosting China-oriented teaching and research at King's include Film Studies (Professor Chris Berry and Dr Victor Fan), Management (Professor Pervez Ghauri and Dr Frauke Mattison Thompson), and Comparative Literature (Dr Anup Grewal, Lecturer in Chinese and Comparative Literature). Chinese language study at King's received a boost in January 2014 with the appointment in the Modern Languages Centre of Dr Zhou Hongfen as Team Leader for Cantonese, Japanese, Korean and Mandarin. Hongfen was educated at Shandong Normal University and Nanjing Normal University (PhD in 2006), and prior to joining King's taught at the University of Manchester.

In summer 2014 the China Institute supported for the second year running the Chinese Visual Festival at King's, which brought to the College screenings of over 30 contemporary films from the Chinese and Tibetan speaking worlds, in addition to a series of pop-up art exhibitions of Chinese contemporary art. During the year China Institute staff gave various media interviews, including to the BBC on key slogans in modern Chinese history (Jennifer Altehenger) and to the *China Daily* on the slowing of Chinese economic growth (Jan Knoerich).

Ralph Parfect
Acting Director, Lau China Institute, King's College London

University of Leeds

In 2013-14 we admitted 61 new level 1 students to study degrees in Chinese (of these 41 were following joint honours programmes), and this brought our total number of undergraduate students in Chinese to 178. 26 students were enrolled on taught postgraduate programmes relating to China, including the online MA.

It was a very successful year for our PhD students, and we celebrated the graduations of Kelly Meng, on South African investment in China; Sarah Dodd, who also received a commendation of research excellence for her thesis, on monsters and monstrosity in the *Liaozhai zhiyi*; Julien Wielputz on the EU's economic policies towards the PRC; and Ed Griffith, on China's response to the Yasukuni Shrine issue. We have seven on-going PhDs in Chinese: Li Siyuan (China's soft power); Nicholas Loubere (microfinance and rural poverty in the PRC); Bianca Capasso (rubber plantations in China-Laos borderlands); Guo Shengnan (the concept of 'naked businessmen' and social identity); Wang Huimin (Discourse on China in US newspapers); Xu Wei (rural migrant children); and Limei Zheng (Measure-words in teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language).

The key event this year was a week of celebrations in October marking the 50th anniversary of the founding of our East Asian Studies Department by Professor Owen Lattimore. The highlight of the festivities was the reception attended by some 270 alumni, former and current staff, our new Vice-Chancellor Sir Alan Langlands, and diplomatic representatives from the countries and regions in which we specialise. There were speeches from the Vice-Chancellor, original staff members and long-time Professor of Chinese, Don Rimmington, 1960s student and later Professor of Chinese, Delia Davin, and alumnus and later UK Consul General in Hong Kong, Andrew Seaton. An impressive display by current students saw performances of Beijing opera, Shakespeare sonnets in Thai and Japanese pop songs. David Ball, a final-year student in Chinese, gave an excellent talk about the work of Chinese fashion photographer and artist Chen Man, some of whose works were displayed. We held an exhibition of evocative photographs taken by alumnus Peter Griffiths during his time as Reuters correspondent in Beijing during the 1970s, alongside some of the best student photos from our annual Eye on Asia photography competition. There was also a showing of the film *When China met*

Africa, co-directed by Leeds Chinese alumnus Marc Francis and even a football match between current students and alumni. (The alumni narrowly won!)

As for staffing, we have been ably assisted in teaching this year by our new PhD graduate Sarah Dodd who has also been working as a research assistant for the Writing Chinese research project. We were delighted to be able to appoint Dr Peng Ying, who has been working with us for some time, to a permanent teaching fellow post.

In other staff news, Alison Hardie continues as a Senior Fellow in Garden and Landscape Studies at Dumbarton Oaks, and attended their symposium on Sound and Scent in the Garden in May 2014. She gave a paper on Ruan Dacheng at the EACS conference in Braga and Coimbra and has now stepped down as an EACS board member after six interesting years. Heather Xiaoquan Zhang presented papers on poverty, social mobility and social welfare at conferences in Macao and Shanghai. Having been awarded a BA grant for a project on understanding homelessness in Chinese cities, Heather co-presented papers with Prof Guan Xinping on homelessness at conferences in Wuhan and Beijing. Heather and Nicholas Loubere her PhD student also co-presented papers on the financing of rural co-operatives, at conferences in Philadelphia and Croatia. Caroline Fielder presented papers in a workshop on Pentecostalism in the Public Sphere, held in Leeds, and on citizenship education and charity at EACS in Coimbra. Scholarship in language pedagogy continues to be a strength at Leeds: Peng Ying presented a paper in Beijing on the benefits and challenges of the Year Abroad for UK students; and Ning Yi presented a paper on the uses of webinar discussions at a conference in Xiamen, with funding from the UCCL.

Staff publications in 2013-14 include Alison Hardie's small but beautifully illustrated book, *Chinese Garden Pleasures: An Appreciation*, consisting of poetry and prose from the late imperial period on garden activities, mostly translated by Alison, which was published in late 2013. Papers were published on the following topics: 'Building civilizational competences: an exploration of Chinese Christian faith-based organizations in the pursuit of a harmonious society (Caroline Fielder); 'Changing Mutual Perceptions in China-Japan Relations: official and popular views' (Caroline Rose); 'The Impact of Study Abroad on Learning Autonomy (Peng Ying); 'Changing views of the Anti-Japanese War in Chinese high school history

textbooks' (Rose); 'Practice and Analysis of Long Distance Webinar Discussion' (Ning Yi); and a paper on garden-making in the Ming Dynasty (Hardie).

As part of the £150K award from the AHRC, WREAC projects (on TCSOL, Chinese theatre, and Chinese authors) continued apace. The network on teaching Chinese as a second language, co-run by Yang Lan and Chen Lili from Sheffield, organised a very successful symposium in Nanjing in August, attended by over 50 delegates, mostly supervisors of TCSOL postgraduates, and included leading figures in the field of general linguistics, Chinese linguistics and applied linguistics etc. Frances Weightman and Sarah Dodd's project on Chinese authors now has a website (<http://writingchinese.leeds.ac.uk>) and a whole exciting programme of events planned for 2014-15, showcasing new writing from China through a series of public talks in Leeds and a virtual bookclub, with monthly featured authors. Do join in the discussions online!

Frances Weightman

The University of Manchester

The University of Manchester's offerings in Chinese Studies continued to grow and diversify in the 2013-2014 academic year, with the majority of China-related activities supported by the Centre for Chinese Studies (CCS), the British Inter-University China Centre (BICC), the division of Language-Based Area Studies (LBAS) in the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures, as well as by the University of Manchester's very active Confucius Institute.

Chinese Studies welcomed 37 new students onto single and joint honours degree programmes in the 2013-2014 academic year, bringing the total number of undergraduates across the four years of study to 149. Chinese Studies undergraduates at Manchester choose from a wide range of courses across the Faculty of Humanities. In addition to compulsory language modules with varied entry levels, options include courses in Chinese history, politics, economics, religious studies, museum studies, literature, film studies, popular culture, anthropology and art. At present, undergraduate students can choose between twelve different universities for their third year study abroad in cities across mainland China as well as in Taipei and Hong Kong.

There were several changes in staffing in Chinese Studies this past year. New additions included Hongjun Ma, a language tutor in Mandarin Chinese; Dr. Christopher Payne, a lecturer in Chinese Cultural Studies who was previously teaching in the Academy of East Asian Studies at Sungkyunkwan University in Seoul; and Dr. Heather Inwood, lecturer in Chinese Cultural Studies and previously Assistant Professor in the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures at The Ohio State University. A number of new undergraduate courses were designed and taught for the first time in 2013-2014. Dr. Jane Caple, Leverhulme Early Career Fellow in Chinese Studies, taught "Ethnic Minorities in China: Discourse and Everyday Lives"; Dr. Christopher Payne taught "Visualities Across the Asian Continent: Contemporary Asian Art"; and Dr. Heather Inwood taught "Contemporary Pop Culture in Greater China".

In the Department of Chinese Studies, senior language tutor Dr. Minjie Xing obtained funding from the Universities China Committee in London (UCCL) for a conference on digitalised language teaching in Xiamen and won a Social Responsibility in the Curriculum award from the School of Arts, Languages and

Cultures for her Business Chinese course for advanced final-year undergraduate students. Dr. Ablimit Baki Elterish also secured funding from UCCL to conduct a survey on language use in Xinjiang. Dr. Xing and Dr. Elterish took 100 students from the UK to Shanghai with the Study China Program funded by the British government in the summers of 2013 and 2014 respectively. The Department of History also continues to go from strength to strength in China-related teaching and research, with three full-time teaching staff specialising in Chinese history and half of all incoming students enrolling in the modern Chinese history module.

In publication news, Dr. Christopher Payne published “Wushe, Literature, and Melodic Black Metal: The ‘Nonpolitics’ of Wuhe and the ‘Political’ ChthoniC”, in *Positions* 22 no.2 (2014), “Queer Otherwise: Anti-Sociality in Wuhe’s Gui’er and Ayao”, in *Archiv Orientalni* 81, no. 3 (2013), and “The Shadow of the Past: Ge Fei’s ‘Encounter’ with History” in *Sungkyun Journal of East Asian Studies* 13, no. 1(2013). Dr. Jane Caple published “Remembering monastic revival” in Yangdon Dhondup, Ulrich Pagel, Geoffrey Samuel (eds), *Unity and Diversity*, Leiden: Brill (2013). Dr. Minjie Xing co-edited *Innovation and Consolidation in Learning and Teaching Chinese--Applied Chinese Language Studies V*, Sinolingua London Ltd (2014). Dr. Ablimit Baki Elterish published “Language Use among Uyghur Students in Xinjiang” in Elise Ahne and Juldyz Smagulova (eds), *Language Change in Central Asia*, Germany: Mouten de Gruyter (2014) and “The Construction of Urban Uyghur Youth Identity through Language Use” in *Uyghur Youth Identities in Xinjiang*, London: Routledge (2014). Dr. Heather Inwood published *Verse Going Viral: China’s New Media Scenes*, Seattle: University of Washington Press (2014).

In the Department of Politics, Dr. Elena Barabantseva published a number of book chapters that included “Translating ‘Unity in Diversity’: The Predicament of Ethnicity in China’s Diaspora Politics” in Joyce C.H. Liu and Nick Vaughan-Williams (eds), *European-East Asian Borders in Translation*, London: Routledge (2014), “Chapter 12: How do people come to identify with nations?”, in Jenny Edkins and Maja Zehfuss (eds), *Global Politics: A New Introduction, 2nd edition*, London: Routledge (2013), and “Chapter 14: Chinese Nationalism” in Chris Ogden (ed), *Handbook of Chinese Governance*, London: Routledge (2013). She was also invited to join the editorial board on Emerging Asia book series published by Amsterdam University Press and continues to be an acting member of the editorial board of *Asian Ethnicity*.

2013-2014 was a busy year for China-related events, workshops and seminars organised by the University of Manchester. In August 2013, Dr. William Schroeder and the Queer China Working Group coordinated a BICC-funded workshop held in Beijing, hosting more than 40 participants who discussed ways to strengthen global queer exchanges. In October 2013, Professor Rey Chow gave a master class to postgraduate students and staff in which she discussed her most recent book, *Entanglements, or Transmedial Thinking about Capture*. The master class was co-organised by the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in the Arts and Languages (CIDRAL) and CCS. In December 2013, CCS welcomed the film director Hao Wu to Manchester for an exclusive preview screening of his new documentary film, *The Road to Fame*, also broadcast on BBC Four. In January 2014, Dr. Elena Barabantseva co-organised the BICC-funded research workshop “Governing Marriage Migration: Perspectives from Mainland China and Taiwan”, which took place on the campus of Tunghai University, Taiwan.

In May 2014, CCS hosted its annual conference, “The Glocalisation of Christianity in China”, organised by Dr. Yangwen Zheng, senior lecturer in the Department of History and currently Acting Director of CCS. The conference brought more than twenty scholars from around the world to Manchester; the keynote was delivered by the sociologist Dr. Richard Madsen. Dr. Heather Inwood and Dr. Christopher Payne co-organised a seminar series funded by the division of Language-Based Area Studies entitled “Contemporary East Asian Cultural Flows”, speakers for which included Professor Chris Berry of Kings College London, Dr. Kate Taylor-Jones of the University of Bangor, Dr. Mark Pendleton of the University of Sheffield and Dr. Margaret Hillenbrand of the University of Oxford. Other speakers hosted by CCS in 2013-2014 included Professor Giles Mohan from The Open University; Dr. Michael Radich from the University of Wellington; Professor Craig Clunas from the University of Oxford; Dr. Daniel Large from the Central European University; Professor Xu Guoqi from the University of Hong Kong; and Dr. Sophia Woodman of Edinburgh University.

Finally, the University of Manchester is now hosting the third phase of the ARHC-funded British Inter-University China Centre, previously hosted by Oxford and Bristol Universities. Over the next two years BICC will be funding a series of advanced language training programmes, cross-centre and cross-university

collaborative initiatives as well as research networks led by colleagues in these three institutions.

Heather Inwood

Newcastle University

Newcastle University has seen a number of exciting developments and events in 2013-14.

The Newcastle Confucius Institute, a partnership between Newcastle University and Xiamen University, was launched on 18 May 2013, becoming the first of its kind in the North East. The Institute has since engaged with the local community to develop cultural activities, academic events and education in pursuit of its strategic aims: facilitating the study of the Chinese language from primary to university level, and promoting the understanding of Chinese culture and contemporary China. Since April 2014, it has held evening courses in Tai Chi Practice and Elementary Chinese, and delivered Chinese language taster sessions in four local secondary schools. As co-sponsor of Newcastle City Council's 2014 Chinese New Year celebrations, the Institute hosted a popular Dumpling Party on New Year's Eve, where 200 guests were treated to live musical performances, a buffet and a dumpling-making demonstration. The first HSK examination was held in April 2014, and one undergraduate student secured a Confucius Institute Scholarship, now taken up at Nanjing University. The Institute hosted several research events. In February 2014, it co-hosted an international symposium on Chinese Cultural Modernity with key speakers from the Universities of Cambridge, Edinburgh, Princeton (U.S.) and London (SOAS), and featuring an inaugural lecture from the new Director of the Institute, Professor Qian Jun. Professor Sun Yifeng delivered the first talk in the Research Seminars in Chinese Studies on the 28th July, focusing on Translation Studies in China, and a Distinguished Chinese Lecture Series is currently being mapped out.

On 9-12 September 2013, the **'Talking to the World' International Competition and Conference** gathered over 150 professionals and experts in the field of conference interpreting at Newcastle University's Research Beehive. The event was hosted by the School of Modern Languages and the Language Resource Centre, and involved a simultaneous interpreting competition and an international conference. The competition gathered 21 interpreter student contestants from seven UK-based universities and from two top overseas institutions: the National Taiwan Normal University (NTNU) in Taipei, and Monterey Institute of International Studies in California. The competition was convened by Mr. Noël

Muylle, Honorary Director General, European Commission. The international conference, themed '**Talking to the World**', aimed to map the landscape of the interpreting profession in order to improve the education of the next generation of interpreters. 22 papers were presented, and another 10 were presented as posters. Keynote speakers came from the European Commission, the European Parliament, the United Nations, and from interpreter education institutions in Europe, China, Taiwan, and the UK. Their speeches provided important insights into the latest developments in the interpreting profession, and into interpreting research and education. Due to the huge success of the event, the event sponsor Televic Education has decided to continue supporting interpreter educators, researchers, and professionals in future events.

On 8-9 May 2014, a two day **Chinese Drama Translation Colloquium, 'Staging China'**, was held by Newcastle University's Translating and Interpreting Studies Section, in conjunction with Leeds University and the Stage@leeds theatre company. Day 1 was devoted to a series of talks, headed by Wan Fang, leading playwright, novelist and screen-writer, who talked about her approach to writing, and how her work is shaped by her experience. Dr Valerie Pellatt gave a talk on a project involving students in translating and performing two plays by Wan Fang. Catherine Grosvenor, a Scottish playwright and adaptor, discussed her experience working with new Chinese drama, adapted and performed under the aegis of National Theatre of Scotland. The day culminated in a performance of 'Poison' written by Wan Fang, translated by Newcastle University students, and adapted and performed by Stage@leeds. The second day was dedicated to hands-on translation of an excerpt from a new play by Wan Fang. Participants worked collaboratively in groups, and Wan Fang offered advice and guidance. We are grateful to the Newcastle Institute for Creative Arts and Performance, and The Sino-British Fellowship Trust for funding the event.

On 12-15 May 2014, the **Tenth Anniversary of the China Independent Film Festival UK Celebration** took place at the Northern Stage theatre and Culture Lab, Newcastle University. Organised by Dr Sabrina Qiong Yu and Lydia Dan Wu, this event was sponsored by the Centre For Film and Digital Media, Newcastle Institute for Creative Arts Practice, and the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. The China Independent Film Festival (CIFF) is the longest-running independent film festival in China, and this was the first time that the CIFF had

travelled abroad. The celebrations centred on the retrospective screening of 15 CIFF award-winning including documentaries, fiction features and animated shorts, and several post-screening Q&A sessions with film directors and festival curators. The event also featured an archival exhibition of posters, video clips, photos and other materials from the past ten years of the CIFF, **a workshop titled Film Festival in Focus**, which brought together curators, filmmakers and film scholars from the UK and China, and several talks and master-classes with directors. Guests included CIFF Founder, Professor Zhang Xianmin, CIFF Co-founder and Artistic Director Mr Cao Kai, Ms Feng Yan (one of China's most prominent female independent documentary filmmakers), the leading Tibetan director Pema Tsenden, Xiamen University Professor of Art Qin Jian, the Artistic Director of Edinburgh International Film Festival Mr Chris Fujiwara, and leading Chinese film studies scholar Professor Chris Berry (King's College London). Nearly 500 participants, including students, academic staff and the general public. were in attendance. This event has firmly placed Newcastle on the map of transnational Chinese independent film exhibition, and CIFF curators have expressed their wish to continue collaborating with Newcastle in promoting Chinese independent films overseas.

Finally, the BACS (British Association for Chinese Studies) Conference 2014 was held at Newcastle University Business School on 3-5 September 2014. This was the first time that Newcastle has hosted the national subject association meeting in BACS history. Following the Opening Address by Professor Michel Hockx (BACS President) and Professor Qian Jun (Director, Newcastle Confucius Institute), delegates were treated to two exciting keynote speeches. The first, 'Middle Class China: Dreams and Aspirations', was delivered by [Professor David Goodman](#), Professor of Chinese Politics at the University of Sydney, and Professor in the School of Sociology and Behavioural Sciences at Nanjing University. The second, 'Barrier Lake & Torrent for Transitional Justice: Landscapes, Mechanisms and Prospects of Frontier Governance in China Today', featured a rare appearance by Professor Zhang Haiyang, Professor in Ethnology/ Anthropology and Director of the Ethnic Minority Study Center of China (EMSCOC) at the Central Minzu University in Beijing. Panel themes covered a wide range of disciplines and subject areas, including Class, Citizenship and the 'China Dream'; The British in China; China and Her Others; Chinese as a Foreign Language; Identity and Representation

on China's Peripheries; the Imperial Chinese Literati; Water and Wellbeing; Ethnic Minorities Policies; 20th Century Drama, Rhyme and Poetry; Urban Development; Religion and Philosophy; Gender; Legitimacy & Loyalty in Chinese Politics; Social Relations; China's Rise; the History of Republican China; Discourses of Modernity and Tradition. UK delegates hailed from Newcastle, Warwick, Manchester, University of Wales Trinity Saint David, SOAS, Durham, Kings College London, Edinburgh, Kent, Manchester Metropolitan, Nottingham, Cambridge, Aberdeen, Leicester, Northumbria, Sussex, Lancaster, Birkbeck College, Open University, Sheffield, Oxford, Westminster, Birmingham, Nottingham Trent, Liverpool, Glasgow, Keele and Exeter. Other delegates travelled to Newcastle from New Zealand, Singapore, Japan, Beijing, Taipei, Finland, Belgium and the US. A number of major publishing houses were represented on site, including Routledge, Global China Press, Polity Press, Brill Academic Publishing, Cypress Books, Ashgate, Harvard University Press, and MacMillan Publishing. The conference dinner, held in Newcastle's Chinatown, proved extremely popular as delegates created their own unique combination of Chinese dipping sauces and tucked into Cantonese hotpot. Newcastle University and BACS are *deeply grateful to the Universities' China Committee in London (UCCL)* and to the Newcastle Confucius Institute for their generous financial support.

Joanne Smith-Finley

University of Nottingham, School of Contemporary Chinese Studies

There were a number of staff changes at the School of Contemporary Chinese Studies (SCCS) over the 2013-14 academic year. Most notably, Professor Steve Tsang took over as Head of School on 1st May 2014, succeeding Professor Shujie Yao who stepped down after his second term of service, concluding a leadership that began with the establishment of the school in January 2007.

This year saw several new faces welcomed to the school. Dr Scott Pacey joined us as Assistant Professor and will act as module convenor on several modules including Chinese Society and Economy in conjunction with Dr Sarah Dauncey. Dr Dauncey joined the school at the beginning of September as an Associate Professor from the University of Sheffield where she worked as a lecturer in Chinese Studies. Dr Yanan Feng also joined the school in September as a lecturer, after working as a researcher at the Nottingham University Business School and as a lecturer at the University of Coventry. Dr Chaoyan Wang joined us from the FINQ Investment Club LLP. Her previous position was Senior Lecturer in Finance at the University of Bedfordshire and she will be teaching finance modules for SCCS.

Sadly, Dr Maria Jesus Herrerias left Nottingham this year to take up a post at the University of Birmingham. Her contribution to School of Contemporary Chinese Studies will be greatly missed.

On the 31st July the Mandarin team moved to the School of Cultures, Languages and Area Studies. We look forward to close collaboration with them in their new department.

Staff at SCCS have continued to publish widely on a range of China-related topics this year. Some of the journal and chapter publications include: Professor Steve Tsang, *China after Deng Xiaoping: the search for a non-democratic development model in Democracy or Alternative Political Systems in Asia: After the Strongman* (Routledge); Dr Jeremy Taylor *Cartoons and Collaboration in Wartime China: The Mobilization of Chinese Cartoonists under Japanese Occupation in Modern China* and Dr Jonathan Sullivan, *Technology, creativity and the media in the engineering of China's future in New Media and Society*.

The school hosted a number of important international events this year. On 5-6 September, the 7th International Forum for Contemporary Chinese Studies took place at Nottingham's Jubilee Campus, with the theme of "Chinese Exceptionalism: Imagined or Historically-Grounded?". Unlike previous years, this year's conference was by invitation only, with a greater focus on roundtable discussion to encourage in-depth exchanges of ideas. We were honoured to have world leading scholars such as Professors Barry Naughton, Justin Yifu Lin, Dali Yang and David Bachman speaking. The 40+ participants had many inspiring and deeply interesting discussions throughout the conference.

In July our PhD students held an International PhD Student Conference, sponsored by SCCS, IAPS and IGS. The conference aimed to promote international co-operation between early career academics, creating opportunities for networking and future academic exchange. Thanks to SCCS' PhD Conference Committee the event was a great success and we look forward to next year's conference. The School's seminar series (managed by Dr Chun-yi Lee) welcomed a wide array of talented speakers this year. In addition, PhD students, visiting scholars and permanent staff took the opportunity to present work on a rich variety of topics at the Thursday lunchtime Brown Bag seminar series, which is managed by Dr Wu Bin.

The China Policy Institute (CPI) expanded its activities significantly under the directorship of Professor Steve Tsang; following his appointment as Head of School, the directorship was taken over on 1st August by Professor Niv Horesh. The CPI blog, managed by Dr Jon Sullivan, Deputy Director of the CPI, has continued to grow as a major source of news and informed comment on developments in the Chinese-speaking world, and now regularly attracts high-profile contributors from across the world (<http://blogs.nottingham.ac.uk/chinapolicyinstitute/>). In addition, the CPI's Taiwan Studies Programme, continued to host a number of workshops and visiting speakers throughout the year including Professor Shelley Rigger from Davidson College and Professor Yun-han Chu from National Taiwan University.

Tessa Schofield

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 第一步 *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 as part of a qualification or as a standalone module. The Chartered Institute of Marketing recognises this course under their Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programme.

OU's Beginners' Chinese is one of the new generation 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 print books, audio recordings as well as rich learning materials on the virtual learning environment. This is a part-time course, consisting of 37 weeks of study from October to July. 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.

Beginners' Chinese has been offered since 2009. Students' satisfaction with this module is very high. Over 95% of the students in the 2012-2013 academic year were satisfied with the quality of the module and their study experience.

In the current academic year, the Chinese team has 10 part-time associate lecturers and one full-time lecturer, Dr Kan Qian, who is the module 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). The iPhone version includes the key characters (over 400) introduced in the OU's L197 Beginners' Chinese module. The Android version was released early in 2012 and currently only contains the first lesson.

Kan Qian

University of Oxford

This summer we have moved into our new Dickson Poon University of Oxford China Centre Building, which was officially opened by HRH Prince William on September 8, 2014. The place is looking great and we look forward to sharing the same space with so many modern and traditional China scholars, as well as visitors. Rana Mitter will continue to function as its director and binding element—in addition to coffee, tea and other drinks. The centre is also serving partly as a museum, since it is presently filled with beautiful works of art that are certainly worth a separate visit, after which you can perhaps join us for some academic exchange as well.

The library has more room for its readers and a better infrastructure. Quite unexpectedly we received a huge donation of books by Madame Cheng Hong, the wife of Premier Li Keqiang. They included a number of expensive series that would have been unaffordable otherwise. The SERICA project has started its digitisation part of the SERICA project; its titles will be freely available to the public (<http://serica.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/home>).

Since coming out last year, Henrietta Harrison, *The Missionary's Curse and Other Tales from a Chinese Catholic Village* (Berkeley, 2013) and Rana Mitter, *China's War with Japan, 1937-1945: The Struggle for Survival* (London, 2013) have received wide attention, also in the non-academic press. *China's War* was nominated Book of the Year in *The Economist* and the *Financial Times*. Harrison was elected fellow of the British Academy. Anna Lora-Wainwright's remarkable *Fighting for Breath: Living Morally and Dying of Cancer in a Chinese Village* (Honolulu, 2013) won the Philip Leverhulme Prize. Finally Barend J. ter Haar will bring out *Practicing Scripture: A Lay Buddhist Movement in Late Imperial China* (Honolulu, 2014). As before he continues to be the co-editor of the book series *Sinica Leidensia* (Brill). Reza Hasmath published two edited volumes, *Inclusive Growth, Development and Welfare Policy: A Critical Assessment* (New York and Oxford, UK, 2014) and last year together with J. Hsu, *The Chinese Corporatist State: Adaptation, Survival and Resistance* (New York and Oxford, 2013).

My retired pre-predecessor here at Oxford, Glen Dudbridge, is also still going strong. Last year he published *A Portrait of Five Dynasties China: From the Memoirs of Wang Renyu (880-956)* (Oxford, 2013).

And of course, all of us go on publishing articles, such as Margaret Hillenbrand, "Letters of Penance: Writing America in Chinese and the Location of Chinese American Literature", which won the best essay award from the Society for the Study of the Multi-Ethnic Literatures of the US. She is the editor of a new book series on East Asian cinema for Edinburgh University Press, which is publishing its first titles this autumn, and she is also serving as a juror for the Newman Prize for Chinese Literature, 2015. Dirk Meyer is active as always, founding *The Journal of Manuscript and Text Culture* and working actively with Martin Kern at Princeton, and their students, on new approaches to the *Book of Documents*. This academic year he is Bernhard Karlgren Fellow of the Swedish Collegium for Advanced Study in Uppsala. Robert Chard continues as the managing editor of *International Journal of Asian Studies* and is researching the fascinating figure of Zhu Shunshui, a Confucian active in early Tokugawa Japan.

In terms of staff, much has happened as well. Laura Newby has resigned her post after 25 years of teaching and research at Oxford University. She will be dearly missed. We also said goodbye to Anthony Garnaut who took up a research fellowship in Melbourne, Monique Chu who took up a lectureship in Southampton, and to Sarah Eaton who took up a Professorship in Germany. We have welcomed the labour sociologist Jenny Chan. In the history department we will be joined by Micah Muscolino, who published *The Ecology of War in China: Henan Province, the Yellow River, and Beyond, 1938-1950* this year with Cambridge University Press.

Outside the China Centre much is going on as well. Think of Elisabeth Hsu who teaches medical anthropology and publishes on Chinese medical history, as well as organizing regular lectures on various aspects of Asian medicine. Rogier Creemers is a postdoc in the Programme in Comparative Media Law and Policy, working on the nexus between media policy and political change in China. At the Ashmolean the new exhibition "A View of Chinese Gardens" runs until the end of November 2014. Similarly, the magnificent exhibition organized by Craig Clunas at the British Museum, "Ming: 50 years that changed China" will run until early January 2015.

Of course, much more happened than can be fitted in this small summary and the above is merely a personal selection. And lest we forget: our different academic programs continue to attract students from all around the globe. Thanks to the good grace of Leeds and Oxford alumnus Humphrey Ko and his family, we will

even be offering two MSt scholarships for EU/UK students next year. People are finishing more books and more articles, as well as preparing all kinds of smaller and bigger meetings, on which we will report next year. Hopefully, we will be able to put up a more complete website at the China Centre to make it easier to find us as well. Do drop by, if not physically, then virtually.

Barend J. ter Haar

SOAS, University of London

Programmes

In the academic year 2013/2014, the China and Inner Asia Department at SOAS, University of London, recruited a total of 63 students across three undergraduate programmes: BA Chinese (Modern and Classical) single subject (16 students), BA Chinese (Modern and Classical) joint degree (31 students) and BA Chinese Studies (16 students). 38 BA Chinese (single and joint degree) students spent a year abroad at Beijing Normal University.

Total enrolment for all four years was 59 students for the BA Chinese single subject, 112 students for the BA Chinese joint degree programme, 35 for BA Chinese Studies and 2 for the recently launched BA Chinese Studies joint degree.

The BSc International Management of China programme, under the auspices of the Department of Financial and Management Studies (DeFiMS), admitted 48 new students in the three-year degree, and 21 in the four-year programme with a year abroad in Beijing. Total enrolment for all years was 128 for the three-year degree and 45 for the four-year degree.

At postgraduate level, the MA Chinese Studies recruited 33 students, three of which part-time. The MA Chinese Literature admitted 2 new students, and 9 joined the MA Sinology programme. The Chinese pathway of the MA Applied Linguistics and Language Pedagogy, convened in the Department of Linguistics, welcomed 2 new students. The MA Taiwan Studies recruited 4 students.

Two new MPhil/PhD students joined the Department of China and Inner Asia, one working on contemporary Sinophone writing and one with a research project on pre-modern poetry.

Student achievements

This was another very successful year for SOAS at the annual Chinese Bridge Competition, which was held on 22 March 2014. Frederic Gelati-Meinert, a fourth year BA Chinese student coached by Ms Gao Wanli, was awarded the second prize in the 13th edition of the competition, whereas Arianna Guarnieri and Anna Zech, coached by Ms Pang Zhaoxia and Dr Song Lianyi respectively, won the third prize.

All three SOAS contestants were invited to travel to China to join the Grand Competition as representatives for the UK.

Conferences and Events

Dr Rossella Ferrari organized and chaired “*The Fu Manchu Complex and Representations of East Asians in the Contemporary Arts and Media*”, a public seminar featuring talks by academics and theatre practitioners held at SOAS on 27 September 2013.

Professor Roger T. Ames of the University of Hawai’i at Manoa delivered this year’s AC Graham Memorial Lectures on 17, 19 and 21 February 2014. The titles of the three lectures were: “The *Zhongyong* and Confucian A-theistic Religiousness”, “[‘Everyone can Become a Sage:’ A Revisionist Reading of the Mencius on ‘Human Nature’ 人性](#)”, and “Confucian Role Ethics: Overcoming an Asymmetry in Cultural Comparisons”.

Dr Tian Yuan Tan was awarded a grant from the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation for the organisation of the "Brave New Theatres: 1616 in China and England" conference held at SOAS on 5-6 June 2014, in collaboration with scholars from the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust and National Chung Cheng University.

Dr Cosima Bruno organized and chaired a reading of Chinese and English poetry in translation on 17 June 2014 at SOAS. This was followed by a roundtable and featured the work of poets Astrid Alben, Richard Berengarten, Ming Di, Jiang Hao, Jiang Tao and Jennifer Wang.

In early 2013 the SOAS Centre of Taiwan Studies inaugurated a new “Understanding Taiwan through Film and Documentary” series of regular screenings of feature films, shorts and documentaries accompanied by talks by scholars and critics as well as Q&A sessions with Taiwanese filmmakers. This initiative is supported by the Ministry of Culture’s Spotlight Taiwan Programme and so far has hosted and screened films by Wan Jen, Chung Chuan, and Anita Chang, along with a number of academic seminars.

Staff News

In July 2014, Dr Tian Yuan Tan was re-elected Secretary-General of the European Association for Chinese Studies (EACS) and he will serve another two-year term on the Executive Committee of the Board.

Also in July, Ms Pang Zhaoxia, Lecturer in Chinese, was elected member of the executive committee of the British Chinese Language Teaching Society (BCLTS) and Dr Song Lianyi, Principal Teaching Fellow in the Department of China and Inner Asia, was appointed senior advisor of the BCLTS.

SOAS China Institute

The academic year 2013/14 saw the launch of the SOAS China Institute (SCI), a major strategic initiative aimed at integrating all SOAS's China-related expertise and activity across all disciplines and making it available to the wider world, as well as leading new cross-departmental initiatives in research and postgraduate teaching. Professor Michel Hockx was appointed as the first Director of the Institute. Dr Jieyu Liu, previously at Leeds University, was appointed Deputy Director. The formal launch of the SCI took place in April 2014 with a very successful event called "China: The Landscape," featuring presentations from China experts working in the fields of academia, business, media, and government. From 2014/15 onwards, the SCI will be convening a new, two-year MA programme in Advanced Chinese Studies, incorporating a period of study at Zhejiang University in Hangzhou. Following the establishment of the SCI, the SOAS Centre of Chinese Studies (CCS) has closed its doors.

Rossella Ferrari

University of Central Lancashire

This year has seen the new single honour degree in Chinese Language and Studies start to run in Sep, and the other single honour program was retitled to BA (hons) Business Management and Chinese to better target applications. As a result, the recruitment of our Chinese degree program have continued to grow for this new academic year. The success of the content based module Background to China also continued – it received record high student numbers that we have to run two parallel sessions this year.

The Chinese course leader has been recognised for teaching excellence: she was nominated and shortlisted for two most competitive awards of the Golden Rose – Lecturer of the Year 2014 and Personal Tutor of the year 2014. Golden Rose Award remains the only staff award that are nominated, decided and awarded by students, therefore represents the best kind of endorsement as they come from the students themselves.

The Confucius Institute has continued to design a creative programme of events to strengthen and support students' development and desire to improve their Chinese language skills and knowledge of Chinese culture. Throughout 2013/14 we continued to offer staff and students a wide range of activities and workshops including weekly Chinese calligraphy, brush painting, Modern Chinese Literature, a Chinese book club, Tai Chi, and Chinese cinema clubs.

UCLan CI has also offered weekly HSK preparatory lessons throughout the year, covering levels 1-6 and totalling 12 hours per week. These classes have been instrumental in helping students to pass the HSK exams, conveniently held on campus, which have in turn enabled the students to successfully compete for scholarships to study in China. In addition to HSK preparatory classes, UCLan CI holds weekly revision classes and skill development workshops for all students studying Chinese, to ensure that the students reach their full potential. Besides these opportunities, our students have also participated in a wide range of Chinese-themed activities, including the Dragon Boat Race, Kite Festival, and the Chinese New Year Performance.

We have created many opportunities for students at UCLan to visit and study in China, providing a platform for our students to practise their language skills and to

learn more about Chinese culture. Last academic year (2013-2014), UCLan CI was able to give financial assistance to over 30 students study in China, including students on full CI Scholarships for a year's study placement and also those participating on shorter 2-week intensive language study courses. Two of our students also won an award in the 2012 'Confucius Institute Cup' International Composition Competition for Chinese Language Learners.

Sunny Xin Liu

University of Wales Trinity Saint David

The key event during the academic year 2013-14 was the validation of a 4-year BA Chinese Studies inclusive of a year in China. We also validated a Certificate of Higher Education in Chinese at Level 4.

Following the increase in tuition fees, recruitment for our Chinese Studies programmes has gone down significantly. In 2013-14, enrolment in our Chinese Studies programmes, single honours and joint honours, was as follows:

Level 4: 4 students (all single honours Chinese Studies)

Level 5: 7 students (6 single honours, 1 joint honours)

Level 6: 14 students (12 single honours, 2 joint honours)

16 students graduated in July 2014 with a Bachelor's Degree in Chinese Studies.

Staffing levels have remained the same as last academic year. We currently have three Lecturers in Chinese Studies with a total of 2.5 FTE.

Projects

Thomas Jansen has begun a research project on Timothy Richard (1845-1919), the Welsh missionary who spent 45 years in China in the service of the Baptist Missionary Society, mainly in Shandong, Shanxi and Shanghai. The primary aim of this project is to examine Richard's role in the reform movement, especially in the reform of 1898, as well as his role in the founding of Shanxi University in 1902 on the basis of material in the Shanxi Provincial Archives and the Zongli Yamen Archives.

Publications

Jansen, Thomas, Thoralf Klein and Christian Meyer, eds., *Globalization and the Making of Religious Modernity in China: Transnational Religions, Local Agents, and the Study of Religion, 1800-Present*. Leiden and Boston: Brill, 2014. ISBN: 9789004271500

Thomas Jansen

University of Westminster

Undergraduate and postgraduate Chinese courses

Recruitment to our undergraduate courses has remained stable in 2013/14. All students are now enrolled on combined courses as recruitment to the single honours degree has been suspended due to low numbers. There is an increasing trend towards the combination with International Business, although the students recruited through the Business School do not always bring the right qualifications to succeed in degree level Chinese. We had an exceptionally strong cohort in our final year with six out of eighteen students awarded First Class degrees. They include Alex Diviney, Emmanuele Pezzillo, Niamh Wallis, Christie McElvogue, Zac Arora-Taylor and Sebastian Leacock. At postgraduate level we taught 48 Chinese students on our MA Translation and Interpreting and the MA Interpreting.

Our teaching staff at undergraduate and postgraduate level include Derek Hird, Xiaolan Bi, William Xu, Gerda Wielander, Caiwen Wang, Cangbai Wang, Paul Kendall, Fu Bing, Juliet Vine and Rosabel Chung. In January 2014 Gerda Wielander was appointed as Head of Modern Languages and Cultures, making her the first Chinese Studies specialist heading up a department of Modern Languages in the UK.

Contemporary China Centre

2013-2014 was another productive year for research under the Contemporary China Centre. Its seminar series continued to attract solid audiences, and its contribution to a Faculty-wide seminar series on 'Violence' brought in diverse speakers, including Professor Michael Dutton (Goldsmiths). The CCC's now established links with Volker Scheid and the Faculty of Science and Technology inspired the launch of a new research collaboration to create new conversations between the sciences and humanities about perceptions and practices of health and wellbeing across cultural boundaries. This collaboration involves all the CCC's members: Derek Hird on rethinking arguments about masculinity and emotional life; Gerda Wielander on discourses of happiness and emotional well-being; Cangbai Wang on migrant teenagers' understandings of wellbeing, and Harriet Evans on the emotional welfare of disadvantaged women. Evans' work with Professor Peter Cornwell, recently appointed to the English, Linguistics and

Cultural Studies Department, led to an exciting collaboration with Heidelberg University and Lyon University to set up a joint online archive of visual materials, including Westminster's China Poster Collection.

Following publication of his co-authored (with Song Geng) on *Men and Masculinities in Contemporary China* (Brill, 2013), Derek Hird gained British Academy funding for a joint project with Song Geng for a research project and international conference on 'Translating Chinese Masculinities and Men in Global Contexts', to be convened in December 2014. He extended his interests in gender in his contribution on 'Masculinities and violence against women in China,' in Alessandra Aresu and Maianne Hester, *Violence and abuse in contemporary China* (Routledge, 2014). Cangbai Wang expanded his interests in Chinese returnee migration memories and heritage to incorporate a comparative element, resulting in his organisation of a workshop on the 'Material Turn in Migration Studies', with papers on Irish immigrants in Argentina, and French and Italian immigrants in the UK. Internationally, he began a collaboration with Hanshan Normal University, funded by the All China Federation of Returned Overseas Chinese, to continue his research on memories and heritage of diasporic Chinese.

Since the publication of her book *Christian values in Communist China*, (Routledge, 2013), Gerda Wielander's research has taken up new themes on gendered discourses and experiences of happiness and wellbeing, including those of Chinese women intellectuals. Harriet Evans's work for her Leverhulme project on localities and cultural heritage saw a first workshop in Chengdu (October, 2013) involving scholars from Southwestern Nationalities University and Beijing University.

CCC members' research interests produced numerous international conference presentations and research trips to Canberra, Auckland, Hong Kong, Beijing, Hangzhou, Guangzhou, Stockholm and Gothenberg.

The CCC's outreach work with secondary and primary schools has continued, supported by Emily Williams' assistance to the China Poster Collection, and the new digital orientation to the China Poster Collection coordinated by Peter Cornwell.

China Media Centre

In September 2013, China Media Centre and India Media Centre, both of the Communication and Media Research Institute (CAMRI) in the Faculty of Media, Art and Design, jointly organised the academic conference *Communicating Soft Power*. This pioneering attempt to discuss Asian soft power in a comparative framework provided an opportunity to examine the strengths and limitations of the idea of soft power, deploying a multi-perspectival approach.

China Media Centre participated in an international conference called *Chinese Media and Relations with Europe*, held in The Hague call by the Clingendael Institute and the Netherlands Ministry of culture, attended by the leading European and US scholars of the field and leading Chinese activists and editors

The annual CMC academic conference *China's Media Go Global* was held in September 2014 at Tsinghua University. Co-sponsors were School of Journalism and Communication, Tsinghua University; Tsinghua-Epstein Centre for Global Media and Communication and the Chinese Association of Global Communication. It was managed by Alja Kranjec. A selection of the papers for publication as a special issue of an international, peer reviewed journal or book will be published in 2015.

CMC currently has 5 PhD students and 12 Visiting Scholars. Briefings this year have been managed for 12 institutions, including Shanghai Media Group, Tianjin TV, Jiangsu Broadcasting Corporation.

Gerda Wielander

University of York

The Department of History currently has three historians working on China: Oleg Benesch, David Clayton and Jon Howlett. Dr. Benesch has recently been working on the history of Sino-Japanese cultural relations, and an article on this subject is due to appear in *Extrême-Orient Extrême-Occident* later in 2014. In the summer of 2014 he will be spending five weeks in Qingdao conducting research, and will also present his research at Renmin University in Beijing. Dr. Clayton has presented his recent research on drought in Hong Kong to the Social History Society Annual Conference and his work on institutions in the colony at the Economic and Social History Workshop: A World of Standards. Dr. Howlett published an article titled "The British boss is gone and will never return': Communist takeovers of British companies in Shanghai (1949-1954)' in the journal *Modern Asian Studies*. In December 2013 he was a visiting scholar at Zhejiang University and from September to December 2014 he will visit Fudan.

Benesch and Howlett, along with York's Southeast Asia specialist, Tara Alberts, organised an interdisciplinary research event titled "Public History in Contested Spaces: Memory, Identity and Heritage in East and Southeast Asia" in May 2014. Howlett and Benesch also administer the mailing list 'Asia in the North': designed to bring together scholars of Asia and Asian themes (broadly defined and across disciplines) in the region. Colleagues from any northern university can subscribe to this list by visiting this webpage: www.jiscmail.ac.uk/ASIAINTHENORTH

In Languages for All Dan Li has created new courses in Chinese at Levels 2 Plus and 3. The introduction of these courses has enabled students who start their study of Chinese in Year 1 to take the language throughout their degree, and has also been designed as a response to recent changes in the cohort as more students now arrive with some previous knowledge of the language gained through learning Chinese at school e.g. GCSE or through spending time in China.

The Department of Language and Linguistic Science hosted visiting students from Zhejiang University in January. The two-week visit included talks and seminars by academic staff and student representatives and a Chinese New Year celebration. Dan and colleagues gave presentations at the White Rose network meeting for the Interdisciplinary Study of Second Language Learning. The purpose of this network

is to provide a forum for language teachers and researchers in the White Rose universities to exchange ideas and develop collaborative projects in the future.

Dr. Xiaodong Lin from the Department of Sociology has a particular research interest in the study of men and masculinities in China. His monograph, entitled *Gender, Modernity and Male Migrant Workers in China: Becoming a 'modern' man*, was shortlisted for the British Sociological Association Philip Abrams Memorial Prize 2014. In June, he and Professor Stevi Jackson (Centre for Women Studies) organized a Gender and Sexuality Research Symposium: *Masculinities, Modernity and Heteronormativity in the UK and South China*. It featured speakers from within the UK and Hong Kong, including Dr. Jieyu Liu (SOAS), Dr Hongwei Bao (University of Nottingham), Dr. Howard Chiang (University of Warwick); Dr. Travis Kong, Dr. Sik Ying Ho and Dr. Denise Tang (University of Hong Kong).

The Department of Sociology has also been very pleased to welcome Dr. Katiana Le Mantec from the Centre for Modern and Contemporary Chinese Studies (CECMC) Paris who has joined as a visiting postdoctoral fellow on a Fernand Braudel Postdoctoral Fellowship to work with Prof. Sharon McDonald from March to November 2014. Dr. Le Mantec is an anthropologist trained at the University of Nanterre and also holds the post of Young Research Associate in the Centre for Modern and Contemporary Chinese Studies in the CNRS, Paris. She is developing her work on the experience of forced migration associated with the building of the Three Gorges Dam, and in particular, developing an analysis of the reception of exhibitions about this. In December 2013 Prof. McDonald gave invited talks in China at: Southwestern University for Nationalities, Chengdu ('Culture, Society and Globalization'); the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Beijing University ('How to do things with J. L. Austin: Performatives in Philosophy and Anthropology', with Prof. Michael Beaney); and at China National Academy of Arts, Beijing ('Anthropological approaches to cultural heritage').

In the Department of Philosophy Prof. Michael Beaney has developed a module on Chinese philosophy with his PhD student Chen Long. Prof. Beaney has also recently been awarded a network grant to collaborate with analytic philosophers in China. The title of the project is the 'History of Analytic Philosophy International Network'. The proposed research concerns the history of analytic philosophy in both China and the West, and it will be jointly directed by Prof. Beaney and Prof.

Jiang Yi of Beijing Normal University, the President of the Chinese Society for Analytic Philosophy. The proposed research will address the following questions: (1) What are the origins of analytic philosophy in China and how has it developed, especially in the last decade or so? (2) How does the development of analytic philosophy in China relate to the development of analytic philosophy in the West? (3) What areas and themes have emerged as particularly interesting or significant in China and what distinctive contribution to both philosophy and wider intellectual debate have Chinese analytic philosophers been making? (4) What key philosophical concepts and terms have proved especially difficult to translate into Chinese, and what light do these questions of translation shed on the understanding of these concepts and terms in the West? (5) How can fruitful dialogue between Western and Chinese philosophers best be promoted and what does the future hold for analytic philosophy in both China and the West in an increasingly global context?

Jon Howlett

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Jennifer	Atkinson	
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