

bbacs

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2008-9

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bacs council

Council of the British Association for Chinese Studies 2008-9

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Bulletin editor: Don Starr

<http://www.bacsuk.org.uk/>

Prospective new BACS members, please note: cheques for paying the membership fee should be made out to "British Association for Chinese Studies," and sent with your name and address to **BACS Treasurer, Dr. David Pattinson, Department of East Asian Studies, School of Modern Languages and Cultures, University of Leeds, Woodhouse Lane, Leeds, LS2 9JT**, email: treasurer@bacsuk.org.uk

Information about current fees can be found on the BACS web-site.

The information on this page was correct at time of going to press. For the most up-to-date version of this information, visit the BACS web-site at www.bacsuk.org.uk

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Chinese Studies and BACS continued to thrive in 2008-09, as you will see from the following reports. It was a period of consolidation for the new research centres, the BICC and WREAC, and newer departments such as Manchester and Nottingham. Focus was on the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise and there are some impressive reports of research activity here, though disappointing results in the RAE for languages in general and some departments of Chinese in particular. The President gives details of BACS' responses in his report. This year there are new reports from Salford and UCLAN where there is increased activity in Chinese studies, including a new Confucius Institute at UCLAN. The Confucius Institutes and Confucius Classrooms have been a particular area of growth. We hope the latter augurs well for future student numbers, although it certainly requires university departments to come up with inventive solutions for coping with students of varying levels of prior Chinese knowledge (see the SOAS report for an example). Some information on Confucius Classrooms is given by Katharine Carruthers in her SSAT report. Once again there are reports too from the British Council and the International Dunhuang Project. This year we have included a new section of reports from BACS' affiliates, the ASCSL, BCLTS and the CPN.

We are very grateful to HSBC for their continued sponsorship of the BACS Bulletin.

We should like to thank very much Esther Tyldesley for her work as editor of the past two Bulletins. Jeremy Taylor (jeremy.taylor@sheffield.ac.uk) has kindly agreed to act as Bulletin editor from the 2009-10 edition, due for publication in the Autumn of 2010. Please address any correspondence about the next Bulletin to him (but any complaints about this one to me). Old Bulletins will be available on the new BACS website (due to be operational very soon), starting with the most recent and, we hope, moving steadily backwards.

With grateful thanks to all who have contributed to this Bulletin, and to all BACS members for your continued support.

Don Starr
Durham University
January 2010

Please check that your contact details are correct in the list of BACS members at the end of this bulletin. If you need to update your contact details you can use the on-line application form which is automatically forwarded to the Treasurer and Hon Sec.

bacs news

BACS President's Report 2009

Conference 2009, and the future

The 2009 Conference has been a Joint East Asian Studies Conference, held in conjunction with BAJIS and BAKS, at Halifax Hall, University of Sheffield. There was a great deal of interest in the Conference, with over 100 applications to present papers or organise panels. This has been far more than at previous such conferences, with the result that the programme has been strong and relatively coherent. We decided not to have a theme for the Conference, on the grounds that we wished to attract as wide a range of participants as possible, and did not want anyone to feel that the theme excluded their particular interest. Thus general interest in the Conference, both from presenters and from attendees has been strong, and we have used up all the accommodation we booked. Unfortunately, within an overall strong interest and strong set of papers, a disappointingly small number have been on China. Why this happened is not clear. We circulated information through the JISC list and on the BACS website, though there has been a competing conference specifically on China at Nottingham that overlaps with the JEAS Conference. We organised for Professor Fan Ke of Nanjing University to give the keynote speech for China. We are grateful to the Universities China Committee in London for a grant to enable us to bring Professor Fan to the Conference and afterwards to visit a range of Chinese Studies and sociology departments in order to build up connections between China and the UK.

Last year, the AGM expressed disappointment that the JEASC was not to be held, as originally planned, in Bristol, and the hope that BACS would continue to support the development of Chinese Studies in Bristol. We have therefore arranged to hold the 2010 BACS Conference at the University of Bristol in September, and have had good support from the academic and administrative staff at the Centre for East Asian Studies. As it has become clear that the best accommodation tends to be booked up long in advance, we have also made arrangements to hold the 2011 Conference at the University of Edinburgh, and we again have had strong collaboration from academic staff there, as well as from the administrators in the Confucius Institute.

Promoting Chinese Studies

BACS has continued to represent the interests of Chinese studies through the UK Council of Area Studies Associations (UKCASA), the University Council for Modern Languages (UCML) and through contact with funding agencies. The outcome of the AHRC block grants scheme (see the 2008 President's report) has turned out to be as negative as we had feared. Over the whole period 2009-2013 there are 13 Doctoral studentships for the whole country over the whole of Asian Studies.¹ This compares with 19 for Celtic Studies

¹ See the Excel table at <http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/FundingOpportunities/Pages/BGP.aspx>.

and 86 for French. Even Cambridge has been allocated only one PhD scholarship and one MPhil over five years, shared between Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Sanskrit etc. This does not fit with government policy as outlined in David Miliband's document, *The UK and China: A Framework for Engagement*. This issue was discussed at an earlier session of this conference, with a view to a joint approach by the East Asian Studies Associations. BACS did, however, succeed in nominating a China specialist (Professor Hans Van de Ven) for membership of the AHRC's Peer Review College, which reviews grant applications.

Don Starr attended the UCML meeting on 14th May on behalf of BACS. The meeting was chaired by Pam Moores, chair of UCML, accompanied by Mike Kelly. It was arranged following a questionnaire sent out to relevant associations including BACS. Tim Wright had completed the questionnaire on behalf of BACS. UCML was seeking to address serious problems facing languages departments following relatively poor RAE grades, worse funding outcomes (e.g. big RAE funding losses at top performing language departments in Oxford and Edinburgh) and the general threat to language departments, with course closures announced by several universities, including Imperial. The points made were that HEFCE was seriously concerned about language decline, the REF may place all languages in a single panel, and that 'impact' was the new 'esteem' for the REF.

As President of BACS I attended the Consultation on HEFCE review of Modern Foreign Languages provision, to be written by Michael Worton of UCL, on 1 July at Birkbeck College London. There was a wide ranging discussion of the issues surrounding language offerings, and an equally wide range of diverse experiences on the part of different languages and areas. Both at the meeting and in filling in the questionnaire, I tried to represent Chinese Studies, mentioning in particular the problems of bringing Chinese language teachers to the UK, and the issues raised by the expansion of A Level graduates in Chinese. Given that the bottom line for the whole initiative is that no new resources will be available (steady state is probably optimistic), one can have limited expectations. Although an interim report was promised for 31 July, I have not received anything, nor can I find it on the web.²

BACS has continued to be concerned over the issue of the provision of on-line access to Chinese journals and other databases. The 1999 HEFCE China initiative provided a few UK universities with funded access to the Chinese Academic Journals database. We would like to see the much more generous access negotiated by the German authorities apply to the UK and have been pressing HEFCE and JISC to fund this nationally. There was a meeting in December organised by the Research Information Network and the Centres for Language-based Areas Studies on the issue of online resources of Asian Studies in general, and there has been considerable progress in the area of Islamic Studies.³ It is not totally clear where we are. HEFCE announced in June that they were considering a number of tenders

² Now available on the HEFCE website – Ed.

³ <http://www.hefce.ac.uk/aboutus/sis/islamic/>

for material to be made available through JISC, but it is not clear whether Chinese sources were included.

In the wake of the Miliband document on UK–China ties, Council decided to commission a graduate in Chinese, Hector McLennan, to write a report on the state of China Studies and Mandarin language teaching in UK universities at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. It was hoped that this would complement the very thorough job done a few years ago by Jenny Clegg in relation to secondary schools.

Taiwan Scholarships

BACS continues to be responsible for the primary selection of UK students for language training scholarships in Taiwan. There have been major changes in the scheme introduced by the Taiwan Ministry of Education, with which BACS expressed its dissatisfaction. The Secretary's report will cover this in more detail. At the suggestion of Council, the President wrote to the CCK Foundation asking for their ideas on who might in future support the discontinued two-month summer scholarship scheme. However, the CCK Foundation responded that they did not support undergraduate study.

Website and JISCMail

The website (www.bacsuk.org.uk) publicises news and events relating to China and provides an overview of BACS activities and its affiliates. Our longstanding webmaster now wishes to take a well-earned rest and devote her energies to other causes, and Don Starr has generously agreed to temporarily act as webmaster. In the longer term, we would like to hear from any member with the expertise and interest to undertake this task. Following the decision in principle to launch a BACS on-line journal we took advice on the technical aspects of hosting and managing this. It became clear that the software of BACS current website was obsolete and needed updating to accommodate the changes necessary to launch the journal. In addition to providing for the journal, the aim in carrying out this work is to have a website that is easier to edit, more attractive and provides new functions, including on-line membership application. In particular, because the current website uses obsolete software, it has been difficult to find qualified editors and to share out the editorial work. As a result we approached the UCCL in June 2008 for funding support. We have been in negotiations with them and with the company offering the lowest quotation, Artwerx, over the detailed specification. Artwerx is now well on with the work and we expect the new website to be up and running very soon. Once we have this we can proceed to announce formally the journal and invite submissions. These will be fully peer-reviewed so we shall be asking for volunteers to do this.

BACS continues to offer on-line information services about Chinese studies, both through our website and through our BACS Jiscmail list. These are open to all. The list also provides news on vacant posts, lectures and China-related events and activities. It is principally maintained thanks to the efforts of the Hon Sec Norman Stockman (though list members can write to it directly) and

provides a stream of email information to people who register. Information on registering can be found on the BACS website.

Council also decided to accept the suggestion that it develop a logo to be used on correspondence and the website. A competition was held for designs and, after lively discussion on the Council, not guided by the artistically illiterate President, the design by Yuen-lai Winnie Chan, of Wadham College, Oxford was declared the winner, though it was agreed some further minor amendment was necessary. Don Starr has been working with the web designer to finalise the logo design. We would like to thank Winnie Chan and everyone else who has contributed for their work on the logo.

Affiliated Organisations

The BACS-affiliated Association for Speakers of Chinese as a Second Language (also known as chinesespeakers.org) has had a highly successful first year. The Association, a collaboration of former-BACS council members Giles Blackburne (of the China-Britain Business Council) and Frances Weightman (of the University of Leeds) is a professional network, established in Sept 2008, open to anyone who has studied Chinese as a second language to degree, HSK 6 or certified equivalent level. It exists primarily to consolidate links between Chinese departments and the business sector and to provide opportunities for networking, continuing professional development and the promotion of the study of Chinese. In its first year, the Association has had over 200 members accepted, based all over the world (although mainly in UK and East Asia). Thanks to sponsorship from BACS, WREAC, CBBC and JS Associates, the Association's website (www.chinesespeakers.org) now has an interactive language corner (with new content added on a monthly basis), a discussion forum, and the Association is also in the process of developing an internship scheme specifically targeted at graduates in Chinese. It is also looking for a main sponsor to cover the administrative running of the site (currently done informally by Frances and Giles but as the Association continues to expand this will soon no longer be feasible). Any suggestions would be most welcome!

The aim of the Chinese Postgraduate Network (CPN) is to create a more vibrant young research community interested in different aspects of China and all things Chinese. It aims to aid the growth of such a community through different kinds of support, but most importantly through helping young scholars develop their research communication skills and through encouraging institutional exchange, knowledge transfer and networking amongst the members of this community. A major service has been to keep members informed about relevant events, scholarships and job opportunities via the email list. The network administration has also provided a source of contact, advice and practical help to members. A new and exciting expansion of the network in the past year was the launch of the CPN forum on Facebook. The purpose of this forum is to complement the mailing list with a more informal space for exchanging practical help and advice, for example finding a couch to stay on for a conference, or organising a local CPN gathering when on fieldwork in China. The major undertaking this year was the organisation

of the CPN conference. After a successful re-launch conference last spring, this year followed up with what is hoped will become an annual event. The 2009 conference was an important contribution to these aims. It took place in Manchester on 23-24 April and brought together more than 60 scholars from 18 different institutions across the UK for two full days of presentations and lively debates. A development of this year's conference was the production of conference proceedings where presenters could get their papers distributed. Electronic copies of these proceedings can be found on the web.⁴ The conference was supported by BACS, the British Inter-University China Centre, White Rose East Asia Centre, University of Manchester Graduate Centre in Politics, University of Manchester Centre for International Politics, and University of Manchester Centre for Chinese Studies.⁵

Thanks

I would finally like to thank the retiring members of the Council for their sterling efforts over their period of office, and particularly Jackie Sheehan for taking over the job of Treasurer at a difficult time, and successfully steering us through a period of change and transition, and Esther Tyldesley for undertaking the onerous task of editing the BACS newsletter of the past three years. Carol Rennie has made a major contribution as webmaster over the past several years. Astrid Nordin is handing over the management of the CPN after a successful year, and I would like to thank her for her efforts. Don Starr's tenure as immediate past President is coming to an end, though it is highly questionable whether we will be able to do without his contribution and sage advice. Norman Stockman has continued as always to provide excellent input and service as our Honorary Secretary, and sincere thanks are due to him as well. Finally thanks to Frances Weightman, Astrid Nordin, Don Starr and John Moffet for (unfootnoted!) contributions to this report.

Tim Wright
Sheffield September 2009

⁴ <http://www.bicc.ac.uk/ChinaPostgraduateNetwork/CPNSharedResearch/tabid/469/Default.aspx>

⁵ A full report on the conference can be found at <http://www.bicc.ac.uk/ChinaPostgraduateNetwork/CPN2009AnnualConference/tabid/571/Default.aspx>

Honorary Secretary's Report for BACS 2008-09

The work of the Honorary Secretary includes producing agendas and minutes for Council meetings and the AGM, conducting elections to Council when necessary, administering the BACS-Taiwan scholarships under the Mandarin Enrichment Program, liaising with the website manager concerning the content of the site, managing the BACS JISMAIL list, liaising with the Treasurer over membership issues, and carrying on correspondence (mainly by e-mail) on a wide range of issues relevant to the business of the Association.

BACS Council

The Council held three meetings during the year, one in Sheffield, one in London and one in Cambridge, and discussed a wide range of issues relevant to the running of BACS. Thanks are due to the local organisers of each meeting, respectively Jeremy Taylor, Kate Elders and Roel Sterckx. Elections to Council are to be held at the AGM in September 2009, as the office of Treasurer and four positions as members of Council are due to fall vacant.

BACS-Taiwan scholarships

BACS was informed during the year by the Taipei Representative Office in the UK that the Taiwan Ministry of Education had decided to change the arrangements for the BACS-Taiwan scholarships under the Mandarin Enrichment Program this year. The two-month scholarships were to be scrapped and some of the funding for them allocated to the one-year scholarships, the quota of which would rise from ten to twelve. In addition, a new regulation would be brought in which would limit eligibility to those who had not previously studied in Taiwan.

BACS strenuously made known its objections to these changes to the TRO, both in writing and in a face-to-face meeting with TRO officials. Mr Tony Lin, Director of the Cultural Division of the TRO, who sympathised with BACS's position, passed our objections on to the MoE, but with little effect. The two-month scholarships were abolished. The implementation of the regulation restricting application to students who had not studied in Taiwan was, at the last minute, and after applications under this new rule had been invited, postponed until the following year, and BACS consequently invited further applications from students who had previously studied in Taiwan, which delayed the selection process for some weeks.

In the event, twenty-six applications were received for the one-year scholarships (compared with thirty-seven for two-month scholarships and seventeen for one-year scholarships in 2008). The BACS assessors were impressed with the standard of applications, and were able to recommend twelve one-year awards for language study in Taiwan, and to nominate eight reserves in case of subsequent withdrawals. Our thanks are due to the assessors for so willingly taking on the extra work of assessing and grading

the applications. We are, despite the new restrictions, very grateful for the opportunity to administer these awards. The Taiwan Scholarship programme for degree studies is now handled directly by the TRO, as is the Taiwan Fellowship scheme, providing for two three-week postgraduate or postdoctoral research or field trips to Taiwan.

Bulletin/Website

We are most grateful to Esther Tyldesley for her work as editor of the BACS Bulletin. The 2008 Bulletin was published and distributed in 2009, and the 2009 edition is currently in preparation. Thanks are due also to Carol Rennie, who continued her efficient management of the BACS website throughout the year, but who has now decided to relinquish this responsibility. The Chinese internet authorities firewalled the BACS website in February 2008 preventing access to it from within China, for no reason that we have been able to discover, and so far as we know this remains the situation. The website continues to receive about one thousand hits per month.

BACS JISMAIL List

Sixty-nine subscribers joined the BACS email discussion list during the year from the last AGM, some of which were changes of name or address, and sixteen people left the list. This brings the total number of list subscribers to 259. I call again on BACS members (and anyone else with interests in things Chinese) to join the list: www.jiscmail.ac.uk, which can be accessed from the BACS page <http://www.bacsuk.org.uk/BACSmailinglist.html>. The list is a useful forum for people to make announcements to or enquiries of the BACS membership and other subscribers. My own contributions as secretary have been mainly to forward messages sent to me which may be of interest to subscribers. These are mostly announcements of meetings and conferences, as well as information from bodies to which BACS is affiliated, especially UKCASA. I hope I have not been overdoing this forwarding activity and unduly clogging up subscribers' inboxes.

BACS Membership Database

The database of members now includes an e-mail list, which can be used to contact members on BACS business. However, the list is not complete, and I would strongly urge BACS members who believe that their current e-mail address is not available to BACS to send the information to me at secretary@bacsuk.org.uk.

Norman Stockman
September 2009

BACS mailing list

For any members not yet aware of this, the BACS mailing list can be found at www.jiscmail.ac.uk. The stated aim of this list is to make announcements to/circulate information from its members and associates with reference to Chinese Studies in the UK. Just go to the site and click on 'BACS' then 'join the list'. The registration process couldn't be simpler. The list is moderated by our Honorary Secretary, Norman Stockman.

BACS Affiliates

Association for Speakers of Chinese as a Second Language

The ASCSL (chinesespeakers.org) was formally launched in Leeds in September 2008, to coincide with the BACS conference, where our honorary president (UK) James Kyngge gave a presentation and Tsingtao Beer sponsored the reception.

The main forum for our association is our website (www.chinesespeakers.org), which includes information about our objectives, activities, job vacancies, postgrad opportunities along with profiles of our presidents and advisory board members, all on open access basis, and provides a useful resource to current students and other interested non-members. In the Members Only section, as well as a discussion forum and language corner, you can browse members contact details and profiles. Our secretariat is based at the University of Leeds.

Our objectives are listed as follows:-

- To provide networking opportunities for speakers of Chinese as a second language who are using or would like to use their skills in professional settings
- To provide links between potential employers and members possessing a certified level (full undergraduate degree or equivalent) of Chinese language
- To publicise opportunities for further professional development via short courses or Masters degrees offered by universities and colleges
- To create on-going links between Chinese departments and graduates who are using their language skills at work
- To provide outreach activities which promote the study of Chinese in schools and universities
- To act as a lobbying organization in order to raise the currency of Chinese language skills

Our first year has been very successful in achieving our objectives, greatly aided by sponsorship from the White Rose East Asia Centre, the China-Britain Business Council, University of Leeds, and BACS. We have had 200 members signing up within our first 12 months (based all over the world, but with the majority in the UK or East Asia), our site is used regularly with both new and returning visitors, and we post top-up language updates every month, kindly provided by our team of language consultants, currently based within the White Rose East Asia Centre. We are developing regional social/networking activities and the north of England group meets informally once a month for language practice and other events.

Over the coming year the ASCSL plans to help tackle employability issues for speakers of Chinese as a second language by launching a new ChineseSpeakers Internship Scheme in partnership with the British Chamber of Commerce in Guangdong, which will offer members short term placements within UK and Chinese enterprises. Opportunities will be advertised on the members area of the website. Sponsorship permitting, sound and video content will also enhance the role of website's language corner.

Membership is free of charge and open to all speakers of Chinese as a second language who have studied the language to full undergraduate degree-level or equivalent (HSK level 6). If you haven't already and would like to join, visit our website and click on the 'membership' tab.

Frances Weightman and Giles Blackburne
Co-chairs, ASCSL

British Chinese Language Teaching Society

Since the founding of BCLTS at the initiative of Shio Yun Kan of the University of Oxford in 1997, the Society has expanded from eight members at six universities to seventy six members at twenty six universities in the UK over the twelve years. Life long membership was awarded in 2008 to Prof Glen Dudbridge, Dr Po-Ching Yip and Mr P.C T'ung for their great contributions to Chinese language teaching in the UK.

The present committee members are Huang Dian as Chairman (University of Westminster), Dr Lu Rugang as newsletter editor (University of Southampton), Xuan Li as treasurer and Jin Wei as coordinator (SOAS), Emma Wu as secretary (University of Cambridge), Shio-yun Kan as permanent member of the BCLTS Committee (University of Oxford), Don Starr as BACS representative (Durham University).

BCLTS plans to run an annual workshop, focusing on practical Chinese language teaching and learning skills and an annual symposium, focusing on pedagogical issues in Chinese language teaching. Due to shortages of funds, the annual workshops have been removed since 2006 to enable BCLTS keep the symposium running every year with its limited funds. The Seventh BCLTS International Symposium on "Chinese Language Teaching and Learning: Theories and Practices" was held from 29 to 30th June 2009 at the University of Sheffield. Fifty one participants from the universities of Britain, China, Holland, the US and Singapore attended the symposium. Twenty one papers were presented at the symposium and the themes were mainly concerned with acquisition of Chinese as a second language, Chinese language and culture, IT in Chinese teaching and learning, classroom practice, learning strategies and materials development.

Dr Yuan Boping (University of Cambridge) was appointed as academic advisor in 2008 with the role of linking BCLTS with wider society, such as the International Society of Chinese Language Teaching of China and the UCCL. Dr Yuan edited the first BCLTS paper collection which was published in 2008. The second paper collection was edited by Dr George Zhang of SOAS and was published in July 2009.

The Eighth BCLTS International Symposium on "Theories on Pedagogy and Chinese Foreign Language Classroom Practice" is scheduled for 28-30th June 2010 at the University of Cardiff.

Before ending the report, I'd like to thank my predecessors for their dedication to keeping BCLTS going for these 12 years: They are: Kan Shioyun (the University of Oxford), Song Yang (the University of Oxford), Song Lianyi (SOAS), Zhang Xiaoling (the University of Nottingham), and George Zhang (SOAS). Special thanks to Kan Shioyun, Don Starr and Yuan Boping for their inspiration and advice as members of the BCLTS committee.

Huang Dian

Chinese Postgraduate Network 2008-2009

After a year as CPN convenor I am now stepping down after what I believe has been a successful year for the CPN. Our membership has kept growing and now counts just over 300 young scholars.

Throughout the year, a major service of the CPN has been to keep our members informed about relevant academic events, scholarships and job opportunities via our email list. The network administration has also provided a source of contact, advice and practical help to members.

The major undertaking of the CPN this year has been the organisation of the CPN conference. After a successful re-launch conference last spring, this year followed up with what we hope will become an annual event. The aim of the CPN is to create a more vibrant young research community interested in different aspects of China and all things Chinese. We aim to aid the growth of such a community through different kinds of support, but most importantly through helping young scholars develop their research communication skills and through encouraging institutional exchange, knowledge transfer and networking amongst the members of this community. The CPN conference 2009 has been an important contribution to these aims. The conference took place in Manchester on 23-24 April and brought together more than 60 scholars from 18 different institutions across the UK for 2 full days of presentations and lively debates. A development of this year's conference was the production of conference proceedings where presenters could get their papers distributed. Electronic copies of these proceedings can be found on our website: <http://www.bicc.ac.uk/ChinaPostgraduateNetwork/CPNSharedResearch/tabid/469/Default.aspx>.

The CPN Conference 2009 was supported by British Association of Chinese Studies, British Inter-University China Centre, White Rose East Asia Centre, University of Manchester Graduate Centre in Politics, University of Manchester Centre for International Politics, and University of Manchester Centre for Chinese Studies. We owe a great thanks to our sponsors, whose support made it possible to have such a great and well-attended conference.

A full report on the conference can be found on our website:
<http://www.bicc.ac.uk/ChinaPostgraduateNetwork/CPN2009AnnualConference/tabid/571/Default.aspx>.

A new and exciting expansion of the network in the past year was the launch of the CPN forum on Facebook. The purpose of this forum is to complement the mailing list (which is efficient for publicising events, jobs and scholarships) with a more informal space for exchanging practical help and advice, for example finding a couch to stay on for a conference, or organising a local CPN gathering when on fieldwork in China.

I am now handing over convenorship for the coming year to Mr. Chen Taichang, an Oxford student with exciting plans for the future development of the CPN.

Thank you for your support during the past year, we look forward to an equally rewarding relation in the future.

Astrid Nordin
Convenor, China Postgraduate Network

Departmental Reports

University of Bristol

New appointments were made at the beginning of the year in CEAS and History as a result of the ESRC-funded 'Colonialism in Comparative Perspective' project, which studies the history of the foreign concessions in Tianjin, and their relations with Chinese authority, and the city's Chinese residents. Having completed his PhD at Cambridge Songchuan Chen joined as a Research Associate, while Dr Cord Eberspächer (based in History) came to us from Berlin, and Dr Aglaia De Angeli came from Lyon. The team is led by Maurizio Marinelli, Robert Bickers and Nikki Cooper (Swansea). As well as work in various archives the team held a workshop with colleagues from Tianjin Academy of Social Sciences in Tianjin in September 2009. Dr Winnie Wang, a UCLA graduate, joined Geographical Sciences.

In terms of teaching programmes, the new CEAS MSc programme in East Asian Development and the Global Economy attracted a significant number of applications and successfully recruited 9 students for 2008/9 (all from overseas), and our East Asian Studies MSc recruited 8. CEAS also launched its third undergraduate open undergraduate unit 'China: From empire to state' in 2009. Eight new PhD students started in CEAS in 2008/09. The first Annual Bristol Lecture in East Asian Studies was held in February 2009 – with Lord Desai speaking on 'China and The Global Financial Crisis'. The Centre also hosted its first Bristol Postgraduate Network for East Asian Studies conference in July 2009: a successful PhD conference on the topic of 'public policy in East Asia' with 40 participants. Bristol also hosted the January 2009 Wagnet Graduate Workshop (part-funded by the British Inter-university China Centre). CEAS secured new university resource from the Vice-Chancellor's Initiative fund to promote university-wide research activities in East Asian Studies, and a new series of workshops and conferences are being supported over the next two years. The Centre for East Asian Studies will merge with the Departments of Politics and Sociology with effect from 1 August 2010, to create a new School within the Faculty of Social Sciences and Law, while Centre Director Yongjin Zhang left CEAS to take up a chair in International Politics in the Department of Politics.

This was the University of Bristol's centenary and the University adopted the 'Historical Photographs of China' project (<http://chp.ish-lyon.cnrs.fr/>, led by Robert Bickers) as a centenary project. As well as an exhibition of photographs in Bristol's Grant Bradley Gallery, the University's Centre for Public Engagement ran a series of lectures and workshops, and outreach events, and collaborated on Chinese New Year 2009 and other events with the Bristol City Museum, which was holding its 'China: Journey to the East' exhibition with the British Museum. The Photographs project will be developed further through a new JISC funded project, 'Visualising China' <http://visualisingchina.ilrt.bris.ac.uk/> Robert Bickers gave his inaugural lecture, 'A Chinese lighthouse murder mystery, 1932', and was on AHRC research leave, while John Kieschnick spent the session at Academia Sinica. Tehyun

Ma secured her PhD in History, and a post as Research Associate on the 'China and Japan at War' project at Oxford. Five students began PhDs in History exploring topics ranging from European music at the Qing court to the administration of the Shanghai International Settlement by the Shanghai Municipal Council.

Misa Izuhara & Robert Bickers

University of Cambridge

Undergraduate intake was healthy in 2008-2009; we took 23 new first years and have around 65 students taking the full-time BA course in Chinese. Application numbers vary year on year but, overall, numbers continue to be steady and modestly rising. At present 13 students are taking an M.Phil in Chinese or East Asian Studies, and we have 25 registered PhD candidates.

Our teaching and research staff had a busy year. Boping Yuan gave papers at Qinghua and Beijing Foreign Studies University, Nankai University, Chuo University in Tokyo and at conferences in Beijing, Shanghai, Singapore, Urbana-Champaign, and the Universities of York and Essex. Boping was the Wilson T.S. Wang-New Method College Visiting Professor in Language and Linguistics at the Chinese University of Hong Kong where he delivered a plenary lecture entitled "What hinders the success of adult second language acquisition: An interface problem in adult second language acquisition of Mandarin Chinese." Hans van de Ven attended a meeting on China's Foreign Relations during WWII in Chongqing at which Chinese, Japanese, Russian, and Euro-American scholars participated. He gave lectures and papers at Berkeley, Yale, and the University of British Columbia and, together with Professor Mary Jacobus organized a workshop entitled "Translation and Conflict: Confucianism, the Classics and Chinese/Asian Modernities." This workshop, which included papers by Susan Daruvala, Adam Chau and Roel Sterckx, was part of an AHRC-sponsored network 'Translations and Transformations'. Hans also served on the British Academy China panel and the AHRC Peer Review College. Roel Sterckx gave papers in Beijing, Charles University in Prague, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and the Universities of Leuven and Edinburgh. He delivered the 7th Joseph Needham Memorial Lecture entitled "Naturalist Illustration in Traditional China" at an event jointly hosted by the University of Hong Kong, the Chinese University of Hong Kong and HKUST. Lin Peiyin co-organised with Professor Mei Chia-ling of National Taiwan University an international conference on "Encounters and Transformations: Cultural Transmission and Knowledge Production in a Cross-literary and Historical Perspective - 1850-1960". This event was hosted at Downing College and supported by the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation. Peiyin also gave papers in Berlin, the AAS at Chicago, Singapore and Taipei. Adam Chau presented papers at the Universities of Wales, Bielefeld, Oxford, LSE, Edinburgh and Qinghua, and spent part of the summer doing field work in Xinzhui on the Hakka Yimin Festival. Barak Kushner gave talks on Sino-Japanese relations in the post WWII area at National Taiwan University, Waseda, Chicago, Bristol and Nanjing and

contributed, with Lin Peiyin, to a workshop in Taipei entitled “Exploring the Cultural Faces of Taiwan, 1945-1960,” sponsored by the Taiwanese Ministry of Education.

James Lin organized a highly successful exhibition of the jades held in the collection of the Fitzwilliam Museum and wrote the catalogue entitled *The Immortal Stone-- Chinese Jades from the Neolithic period to the twentieth century* (London: Scala, 2009). He made research trips to the Palace Museum in Taipei and museums at Xuzhou, Chengdu and the Nanyue Wang Museum. Mark Strange, who joined us as junior research fellow in October, traveled to Beijing University Library for his work on Sima Guang. Christopher Rosenmeier, CCK Postdoctoral Fellow, organized the Junior Scholars Conference on Modern Chinese Literature and Culture. Topics ranged widely covering modern and contemporary poetry, film, fiction, journals, literary societies, etc. The meeting was attended by scholars from SOAS, Cambridge, and Leiden, and a keynote speech, "Chinese, Literature, and the World Wide Web", was given by Professor Michel Hockx. Christopher Cullen (Needham Research Institute) gave papers and lectures in Leiden, Budapest, Beijing and Singapore and hosted, together with Catherine Jami, an international workshop on “Genealogies of Science in Asia: Cross-Cultural Appropriation”, as part of the ‘Science and History in Asia’ programme jointly run by the NRI and the International Institute for Asian Studies, Leiden.

A host of speakers passed through our weekly Monday seminar series again. They included Joël Thoraval (Paris), Donald Harper (Chicago), Terry Kleeman (Colorado), Stephan Feuchtwang (LSE), and others. This year’s Chuan Lyu Lectures were given by Professor Chou Wan-Yao of Academia Sinica. Her lectures were entitled “Taiwan in view of maritime history” and “Generational Differences in Colonial and early Postwar Taiwan.”

We are happy to report that Peiyi Wu rejoined us as Taiwan lector and were pleased to appoint Li Kuei-chien, a fresh PhD from SOAS, to a newly established teaching and research fellowship in Chinese Buddhism. George Mak, a 2nd year PhD candidate was shortlisted for the 2nd Sir George Staunton Prize of the Royal Asiatic Society. His article 'Laissez-faire or Active Intervention? The Nature of the British Bible Society's Patronage of the Translation of the Chinese union version,' will be published in the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*.

In June, an Honorary Doctor of Letters degree was conferred on Professor Wang Gungwu in recognition of his contribution to international scholarship as a historian of China and the Chinese. He was presented to the Chancellor, HRH Prince Philip the Duke of Edinburgh at the 800th Anniversary Degree Congregation at Senate House, along with nine other eminent individuals from the fields of religion, business, science, music, history, philanthropy, politics and economics. The first Chinese historian to be honoured by the University, Professor Wang is Chairman of the East Asian Institute and a Professor of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at the National University of Singapore and a former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Hong Kong.

Roel Sterckx

University of Central Lancashire

2008-09 has been a fruitful year for the Chinese section at UCLAN, with flourishing activities and a number of exciting changes taken place, starting with the official launch of the Confucius Institute in September 2008.

The Confucius Institute runs a series of Chinese clubs, cultural events and workshops, which benefits the local community as well as our students doing a degree in Chinese. Its establishment has also brought tangible financial benefits to our students. The best student won a generous CI scholarship to study at Shanghai University, with tuition fees, accommodation and living cost all paid for. In addition, 8 students won a CI scholarship to join a 4-week intensive summer course at Beijing Language and Culture University, improving their confidence in the language and understanding of the culture. All in all, a total of 15 students won CI scholarships and went to study for from 1 month to 1 academic year in different cities in China.

Furthermore, CI events such as a photography exhibition of over 300 entries and a speech competition, the first of its kind in Preston, were attended by local schools and attracted media attention, resulting in several news stories at LEP. Apart from running a weekly film club, it also held a film festival in October, 2008, highlighting the best films of the fifth & sixth generation directors.

As part of staff development, the CI also helped part-time staff in gaining four scholarships for a 4-week teacher training course in Beijing. Feedback was very positive in that trainees not only gained knowledge, skills and networking opportunities, they also each received a generous supply of books and other learning materials. It also held a language & culture course for MFL teachers, designed specifically for them to be able to immediately introduce Chinese culture in their schools.

2008-2009 was the first year for our students on the Business Management in China course to do a year abroad split between study and a work placement in China. It was very encouraging to know half of our students had been placed in the top sets in their respective universities based on the results of exams taken at the beginning of the year, confirming the high standard of teaching and learning. Students going on placement in China have always been the only Modern Foreign Languages group not entitled to any external funding in the past. However, the course team put in a bid to the UCLan Travel Bursary scheme and was awarded £15,000 pounds in total for various projects. So most of the students on BM in China received support of between £500-£600 towards their placement year.

Following Feixia Yu's appointment as the co-Director of UCLAN Confucius Institute in Sep. 2008, a new program leader for Subject Chinese and Business Management in China was recruited from China. This is Sunny Liu, who has 17 years teaching experience of Chinese as a second language and actually taught at UCLAN from 2000-2002. As an associate professor of translation studies with seven books published, her appointment is a great asset to the new MA Interpreting Program and the translation and business

interpreting modules in the final year programme of BM in China that started to run in Sep. 2009. We were also delighted to welcome two new Hanban-sponsored teachers: Hongxia Zhang and Lynn Li to join us on a two year contract.

As part of the university drive to internationalize the curriculum, a travel bursary scheme was created to help students undertake field-work projects or study tours outside the UK. In 2008-2009, a total of 17 students benefited from bursaries and completed their China projects.

Sunny Liu

University of Edinburgh

Students

Undergraduate

14 single honours students and 3 joint honours (with French/Economics) graduated in 2009, 4 of them with a first.

Postgraduate

In 2008/09 5 new PhD students, Zheng Ji, Sun Tzu-yi, Sun Xiaoyi, Zou Yijie and Lara Arnason arrived to join the group of a current total of 19 PhDs in Chinese Studies, including 4 joint PhD's. Winnie Tsui successfully passed her viva for her thesis on the travel writings of Wang Tao.

10 Master students were enrolled in the 2 years "Master of Chinese Studies" programme, while the MSc in "Modern Chinese Cultural Studies" attracted 3 new students from China and the US. We also have moved the PG courses to Abden House, which provides an exceptionally comfortable and well equipped study environment.

Staff

Christopher Rosenmeier (PhD SOAS, Postdoctoral Fellow Cambridge) joined the department as temporary full time lecturer. We will hopefully be able to keep him for a while. The History of Arts appointed Yang Chia-ling as a new full time lecturer in Chinese Arts in the autumn, and we look forward to close collaboration in our PG programmes.

We also welcomed Tao Lian as the new Co-Director of the Confucius Institute, who luckily will stay for another year with us, as well as three very engaged and enthusiastic volunteer teachers from Fudan University, who contribute to Chinese tutorial courses for the undergraduate students.

Activities

Lectures and conferences of staff members

J. Gentz: „Living in the same house': ritual principles in early Chinese reflections on mourning rites“, International Conference "Ritual Dynamics and the Science of Ritual", 29th September – 2nd October 2008 in Heidelberg. „Die Entstehung des allgemeinen Religionsbegriffs in Ostasien (und Westeuropa)“ keynote lecture at the workshop: "Die Entstehung des allgemeinen Religionsbegriffs in Ostasien und Westeuropa", organized by the Research College "Dynamics in the History of Religions" in Bochum, 19th

December 2008. "The first History of Chinese Philosophy: Xie Wuliang's: *Zhongguo zhexue shi* (1916) in context", University of Oxford, 5th March 2009. "Verlockende Verbindungen: ein paar Tips zu IPS", Symposium in Honour of Rudolf Wagner, Heidelberg, 15. May 2009. „Bombenmeditation – wie friedlich ist der Buddhismus?“, Katholische Hochschule Heidelberg, 15. May 2009. „Mohist traces in the *Chunqiu fanlu*“, Mozi workshop: the many faces of Mozi, Leuven 26-28.06.2009. "Literary Forms of Argument in Early China and the Missing Premise: Syllogism or Enthymeme?" International Conference 'Literary Forms of Argument in Pre-Modern China', Oxford, 16th - 19th September 2009. "Tomb libraries": a cross-comparative analysis of assembly, function, materiality, and the complexity of entombed manuscripts across ancient cultures, International Conference: *Reading Early Chinese Manuscripts: Texts, Contexts, Methods* at Princeton 23.-24. October 2009. "Kant, Marx oder Jesus? Neue konfuzianische Ethik in Taiwan, der VRChina und den USA", Workshop: Ethik und Moral im religiösen Kontext des modernen Asiens, Bayreuth 13.-14. November. "Rational choice between Three Religions?" International Conference: Beyond the Market: Exploring Religious Fields in Modern China, Lampeter 20.-22. November 2009. "Mirror Discourses in the Argument Between the CCP and the Falun Gong", Scotland China Association Edinburgh, 8. Dec. 2009; **N. Gentz**: "Talking to the World", Chair of the media panel, Edinburgh Lecture Series, University of Edinburgh, 27th Oct, 2008. "Coming to terms with new concepts: translingual practice in China and Japan" Keynote Lecture at 11th International Conference on Conceptual History "Global-Historical Diffusion of Western Concepts and the Transformation of Northeast Asian Regional Order" International Research School in Conceptual History and Political Thought Seoul, South Korea, September 18-19, 2008. "May Fourth and the Birth of Chinese Drama Theory", Keynote Lecture at Intl Conference on The May Fourth Movement and Chinese Modern and Contemporary Literature, May Fourth Conference, Peking, April, 2009. "Chinese Media concepts in historical perspective", Manchester, Centre for Chinese Studies, February 2009. "Clashes with the court: legal conflicts for printers, publishers and journalists in Late Qing China" Intl Conference on Global Publishing in Honkong and Shanghai, Hongkong, Nov 2009. "The Nobel Laureate Gao Xingjian" for the Scotland China Association Edinburgh. "Confucianism and the Modern World" for Morningside Peace Group; **T. McClellan**: "Hameland to Homeland: a Scotsman explores land and people in the fiction of Zhong Lihe", Graduate Institute of Taiwan Literature, National Taiwan University, 12 June 2009. "Postcolonial Nativist Fiction: Zhong Lihe 鍾理和 (1915-1960), the Old Country and Taiwan native soil", paper presentation at the 15th annual conference of the North American Taiwan Studies Association in Austin, Texas, 26-28 June; **C. Rosenmeier**: "Tradition and Politics in Mu Shiyong's Early Short Stories", International Conference on Encounters and Transformations: Cultural Transmission and Knowledge Production in a Cross-literary and Historical Perspective, 1850-1960. 28-29 September 2009. **J. Ward** "History in Chinese film" Glasgow Caledonian University, November 2008; "Michelangelo Antonioni's Chung-kuo (China) and its reception in China" China and the World in Mao's Last Decade, 1966-1976 held at the University of Hong Kong, January 9-10, 2009.

Conferences/workshops and lectures organised/hosted partly together with the Confucius Institute:

- Series of 6 lectures on Taiwanese Documentary Film by Professor Hu Taili (Academia Sinica, Taiwan), funded by Chiang Ching Kuo, 13-24 October, 2008;
- PG training Workshop on “Old Chinese” (Philosophy and Religion), Feb 2009, with Oxford, funded by AHRC
- International conference on “Literary Forms of Argumentation in Pre-Modern China” funded by the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS), September 2009 in collaboration with Oxford;
- ‘Internationalisation of Business: Is there a China or India model’ , with Business School UoE, October 2009, funded by Hanban
- UK Confucius Institute Director’s workshop

We were also most delighted to welcome the following scholars providing a broad variety of talks and seminars: Christoph Harbsmeier (Oslo), Li Wengang (CASS, Peking), Fan Ke (Washington), Liu Xinming (Fudan, Shanghai), Rana Mitter, (Oxford), Jane Duckett, (Glasgow), Ian Taylor (St Andrews), Tan Zhen (Fudan, Shanghai), Michael Puett (Harvard).

On the literature and arts front, the Confucius Institute ran a large high tech drama production of “A Midsummer Night’s Dream”, collaboration with Beijing Film Academy, Creative Technology and support from Edinburgh University, which ran for 2 weeks at the International Fringe Festival. We were also delighted to have Ding Qirui, artist of the Beijing Dance Academy, as “artist in residence” for 3 weeks to Edinburgh, to prepare a dance show and give a public lecture about modern Chinese dance. Kimho Ip, composer and Yangqin player staged his new composition “Requiem for Travellers” in August 2009.

The new established HSK Examination Centre held its first HSK exams in April 2009, and the Confucius Institute for Scotland received the Award of Excellence for the third time.

Publications

J.Gentz *Keywords Re-Oriented*. Göttingen: Universitätsverlag Göttingen, 2009. (ISBN 978-3-940344-88-5); „Multiple religiöse Identität in Ostasien“, in: Reinhold Bernhardt, Perry Schmidt-Leukel (eds.), *Multiple religiöse Identität. Aus verschiedenen religiösen Traditionen schöpfen*. Zürich: Theologischer Verlag Zürich, 2008, pp. 115-135; „Buddhism and Chinese Religions“, in: Perry Schmidt-Leukel (ed.), *Buddhist Attitudes to Other Religions*, EOS: St. Ottilien, 2008, pp. 172-211; „Language of Heaven, Exegetical Skepticism and the Reinsertion of Religious Concepts in the *Gongyang* Tradition“, in: John Lagerwey, Marc Kalinowski (eds.), *Early Chinese Religion: Part One: Shang Through Han (1250 BC-220 AD)*, Leiden: Brill, 2008, pp. 813-838; In Japanese: „Exegesis of the ‚Mourning Garment‘ chapter. Commentarial forms and contents on burial rites in the ancient Chinese ritual books with focus on the *Sangfu zhuan*,“ in: Watanabe Yoshihirō (ed.), *New Research on Confucianism in the Two Han Dynasties*. Tōkyō: Kyūko-shoin, 2008, pp. 231-256; „Geschichtete Ritendiskurse. Eine Archäologie“, in: *Monumenta Serica*

56 (2008): 97-115; „The Religious Situation in East Asia“, in: Hans Joas and Klaus Wiegandt (eds.), Alex Skinner (transl.), *Secularization and the World Religions*, Liverpool: Liverpool University Press, 2009, pp. 241-277; „Ein Augenblick Unsterblichkeit : Das Bildprogramm von Mawangdui-Banner und *xiuzhen tu*“, in: Roland Altenburger, Martin Lehnert and Andrea Riemenschnitter (eds.), *Dem Text ein Freund: Erkundungen des chinesischen Altertums: Robert H. Gassmann gewidmet*, Bern etc.: Lang, 2009, pp. 145–171; „Spirituelle Herausforderung China: sind chinesische Religionen anders?“, in: Christian von Zimmermann (ed.), *Herausforderung China*, Bern, 2009, pp. 35-59. **T.McClellan**: “Home and the Land: the “native” fiction of Zhong Lihe”, *Journal of Modern Literature in Chinese*, 9.2 (December 2009): 154-182; Translation of Zhong Lihe, “The Fourth Day” (Di si ri, 1945), [7247 words plus Translator’s Introduction], *Renditions*, 72 (Autumn 2009): 71-93. **Esther Tyldesley**. Translation of: "Confucius from the Heart" by Yu Dan

Natascha Gentz

University of Leeds

Undergraduate recruitment continued to be very successful in 2008/09 with 69 new undergraduates taking up Chinese either as single or joint honours, bringing the total number of students currently registered on Chinese programmes to 218. Our MA programmes have also continued to thrive, with 19 students enrolled on Masters programmes in Chinese, Chinese Studies, Chinese and Business, Chinese Business and the Asia Pacific, East Asian Regional Development and Asia Pacific Studies.

Our increasingly large cohort of PhD students in the department contribute actively to our research culture. We currently have nine researchers whose topics are specifically related to China: Alberto Camarena Perez, “Prospects for the formation of a pluralistic security community between China and ASEAN”; Zhiyan Zhu, “Han migrants in an ethnic minority region: a study on Xinjiang production and construction corps identities” (China Scholarship Council researcher); Jane Caple, “Impact of political, socio-economic and cultural change on Tibetan Buddhist institutions in Modern China”; Dan Li, “Chinese linguistics and teaching Chinese as a second language.”; Daniel Young, “The process of standardisation which a minority language goes through to become an official written language”; Caroline Fielder, “Faith-based organisations and their role in urban poverty reduction in China”; Ulrika Lofblad, “Heritage conservation and local politics in the PRC”; Julien Wielputz, “A Critical Assessment of the European Union's Economic Policies Towards the People's Republic of China”; and Lewis Husain, “The New Cooperative Medical Scheme and Innovation in China.”

Books published by our colleagues over 2008-9 include: Kweku Ampiah and Sanusha Naidu (eds.), *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon?: Africa and China*, Scottsville: University of KwaZulu-Natal Press, 2008; Li Ruru (ed), *Li Yuru on the Art of Jingju (李玉茹谈戏说艺)* (Shanghai: Literature and Arts Publishing House, 2008); Delia Davin, *Mao Zedong*, (second edition) (The History Press,

2009); Flemming Christiansen, David Pong, Julia Andrews, Jean-Philippe Béja, Antonia Finnane, and David Faure (eds.), *Encyclopedia of Modern China*, (4 vols) (Scribner's Sons/Thomson and Gale/Macmillan, 2009). Chris Dent's monograph *East Asian Regionalism* (Routledge, London (2008), announced in last year's report, was awarded the Masayoshi Ohira Foundation Special Prize in 2009.

Book chapters on China were published in the following volumes: *The Archaeology of Destruction*, Lila Rakoczy (ed), (Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2008) (DP); *Handbook of Youth and Young Adulthood: New Perspectives and Agendas*, A. Furlong (ed) (Routledge, 2009) (LJY); *Marriage migration and gender*, Rajni Palriwala and Patricia Uberoi (eds), (New Delhi: Sage, 2008) (DD); *Shakespeare's World/ World Shakespeare*, Fotheringham, Jansohn and White (eds), (Newark: Delaware Press, 2008) (LRR); *Japan's Diplomacy in the 1950s: From Isolation to Integration*, M. Iokibe, C. Rose, J. Tomaru, and J. Weste (eds) (RoutledgeCurzon, 2008) (CR); and various contributions to Brill's *Encyclopaedia of China* and Macmillan's *Encyclopaedia of Modern China* (DD, FC).

Colleagues have presented papers over this year at the following conferences and workshops: 'Provincial China' Workshop at Nankai University (LJY); International Conference on Sexualities in China, China People's University (LJY); International Conference on Gender and China, Fudan University (LJY); East Asian Social Policy Conference, Sheffield (LJY); 'Risk and East Asian Societies', Berlin (LJY). 'Chinatowns. Myths and Realities of an Urban Phenomenon in the United States and Europe' at Leibniz Universität Hanover (FC); International Conference on Chinese Society and China Studies, Nanjing (FC); 'Cityscapes of Diaspora: Chinatowns & Beyond', Middlesex Univ.; 'Post Communist Societies', University of Magdeburg (DD); International Congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences, Kunming. (DD); China Social Welfare Forum, CASS, Beijing (HZ); 'Migration and Development: What Can We Learn from the Chinese Experience?' Beijing (HZ); 'Trends of Urbanisation and Suburbanisation in Southeast Asia', Ho Chi Minh City (HZ); Forum on China-Africa Relations, Pretoria (KA). Lectures and seminars were also given at Nanjing University and Nankai University (FC).

We have also hosted a number of conferences and workshops at Leeds. Heather Zhang (lead organiser) organised the Ninth European Conference on Agriculture and Rural Development in China (ECARDC9) from 3-5 April 2009 (see the WREAC report in this bulletin for more information). Many WREAC colleagues contributed papers to a workshop on East Asian Paratexts, organised by Frances Weightman, considering the paraphernalia, such as prefaces and illustrations surrounding Chinese and Japanese texts. Kweku Ampiah and Chris Dent held a workshop at Leeds on 'China – Africa Development Relations,' which facilitated discussion amongst expert scholars and practitioners on these issues and helped consolidate Leeds' growing expertise in East Asian-African relations.

Flemming Christiansen continues to head up the Marie-Curie funded “China in the World” Postgraduate Research Summer School, which in summer 2008 was held at Bristol and summer 2009 in Oslo and other WUN training activities. In particular, the WUN Contemporary China Seminar Fleming has organised (<http://www.wun.ac.uk/chinacenter/index.html>) continues to provide an excellent variety of speakers with an international audience. Over this year we had the following contributions: Marianne Hester on “Young People's Attitudes to Violence and Sexual Coercion in Relationships in China”; Delia Davin on “Marriage Migration in Contemporary China”; David Bray on “Master Plans and Model Communities: Rationalities of Planning in Contemporary Urban China”; Yongjin Zhang on “Politics, Culture and Responsible Scholarship in China Today”; Maurizio Marinelli on “Making Concessions in Tianjin: From Hyper-Colonial (1860-1945) to Globalising Cityscape”; Susan Whiting on “Rural Land Disputes and Farmer Responses”; Ka Ho Mok on “Regional Disparity and Education Inequality: City Responses and Coping Strategies in China”; Thomas Heberer on “China: Creating Civil Society Structures Top Down?”; Mayfair Yang on “What's Missing in the 'Wenzhou Model'? : Ritual Economy, Community-Building, & Georges Bataille's Notion of 'Sovereignty'”; and Fleming Christiansen on “Social Class in Contemporary China and the Emergence of Civil Society.”

We have built further on our Knowledge Transfer expertise this year. The *Association for Speakers of Chinese as a Second Language* continues to thrive (see the report on this elsewhere in the bulletin). Heather Zhang was invited to present a training session “How To Gain Access To Community And Communicate Effectively With Interviewees”, at the Research and Training Workshop on “Providing Social Services For Children And Community” co-organised by UNICEF and Nankai University, hosted by Department of Social Policy and Social Work, at Nankai. Ruru Li gave a public lecture on “How to Promote Chinese Culture Abroad” at the Summer Camp for Teaching Chinese Abroad, organized by China National Office for Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language. Ruru also contributed to a one-hour programme for Shanghai Oriental TV station Theatre Channel, on “Beijing Opera Actress-training in the 1930s.” Fleming Christiansen participated in the IIED (International Institute for Environment and Development) Beijing regional advisory panel in Beijing, discussing strategic priorities for China's development. Fleming also contributed to *China in verandering. Balans en toekomst van de hervormingen*, Woei-lien Chong and Tak-wing Ngo (eds.), (Almere: Parthenon, 2008), an overview of social developments in China, written for a general (Dutch) public. Alison Hardie gave a public lecture on 16th-17th century Chinese garden designers to the 'History of Gardens and Landscapes' seminar series at the Institute for Historical Research at the University of London. Our PhD students are also key contributors in this field, notably Caroline Fielder, who acts as advisor to the Archbishop of Canterbury on Chinese affairs, including preparation for the annual academic dialogue on the theme of religion in China in July 2009.

In other activities, Ruru has been closely involved in “Opera Encounter; Common Voice”, a two-year cultural exchange project sponsored by the EU, led by the School of Performance and Culture Industries, Leeds University.

The project involves collaboration with four other institutions: Opera North, Bregentz Opera Festival, (Austria), Sibelius Academy (Finland) and Shanghai Theatre Academy. Practitioners meet and work together on a theme of "Two mothers and a baby"; scholars, researchers, cultural administrators and managers meet and exchange experiences.

In December we hosted the semi-final of the British Council's Chinese Speaking Contest for schools, with around 150 secondary school children, from Scotland and the north of England taking part. The standard was high and indicative to us of the sterling advances being made at secondary level, and the subsequent challenges universities face in adapting to a range of entry levels. Our undergraduates, several of whom helped organise the day and gave presentations about studying at university, found the experience particularly interesting, inspiring some of them to consider teaching as a career. Frances Weightman was on the judging panel for this and for the subsequent final, held at the British Museum. We also hosted the Olympic delegation from Beijing, who are planning for their visit to the UK in 2012 – again our students proved to be our biggest asset, with several making impressive presentations to the guests in Chinese.

Finally, on a sadder note, we are sorry to announce that Mark Lavery, for many years a lecturer in Chinese at the University of Leeds, died in 2008. Mark was a devoted teacher who passed on enthusiasms for subjects as diverse as Lu Xun and the history of Chinese characters to generations of students.

Frances Weightman

University of Manchester

The Centre for Chinese Studies at the University of Manchester received its fourth cohort of students in September 2009. The undergraduate student number has doubled from last year's intake with a total intake of 56 (including 7 overseas); 16 are studying for single honours and the rest on joint honours. Two students started on the MA Contemporary China courses. The Centre also has six Ph.D. students at present.

The Centre is led by Professor Hong Liu (Director) and Professor William A Callahan (Research Director) with an additional eleven academic members of staff. They are: Dr James St Andre, Lecturer in Translation; Dr Sam Liang, Lecturer in Chinese Cultural Studies; Dr Wei-hsin Lin, Lecturer in Chinese Literary and Cultural Studies; Dr. Jeelson Hong, Lecturer in Chinese Culture; Dr William Schroeder, BICC postdoctoral fellow in the Society and Culture of Contemporary China. The above mentioned staff, together with Hong Liu, two Senior Chinese Language Tutors, Mr. Ablimit Baki and Dr Minjie Xing, and one Chinese Language Tutor Dr Hongfen Zhou, form part of the East Asian Studies Department at the School of Languages, Linguistics and Cultures.

The Centre is a cross-faculty interdisciplinary unit with staff members co-locating in other schools, including Dr Yangwen Zheng (Arts, History and Cultures), Dr Shogo Suzuki, Dr Elena Barabantseva, and Dr. Xiaobing Wang (Social Sciences), Dr Yinfang Zhan (Environment and Development), and Dr Katherine Chang (Business).

Together with its counterparts at Oxford and Bristol universities, the Centre is a member of the national consortium, the British Inter-University China Centre (BICC), which was awarded a £5 million Language Based Area Studies grant from the ESRC, AHRC and HEFCE over 5 years. Professor William A Callahan is the co-director of the BICC. A total of six Ph.D. studentships have been awarded to candidates studying at the CCS under this scheme.

Members' selected publications and research activities in 2008/09:

Hong Liu: *Images, Metaphors and Postcolonial Transformation: A Study of Sino-Indonesian Interactions, 1949-1965*. Singapore: National University of Singapore Press, forthcoming; *Pramoedya and China* (first author, with Gunawan Mohamad and Sumit Mandal). Jakarta: Komunitas Bambu, 2008; *The Cold War in Asia: After Geopolitics and Diplomacy* (co-editor with Yangwen Zheng and Michael Szonyi). Boston: Brill USA, forthcoming; "Boundary-Crossing through the Cyberspace: Chinese Women and Transnational Marriages since 1994," in Khun Eng Kuan-Pearce, ed., *Chinese Women and Cyberspace* (Amsterdam University Press, 2008), "Pramoedya Anata Toer dan Cina: Transformasi dari Suatu Intelektual Kebudayaan," [In Indonesian], in J.J Rizal and Fadriah Nurdiansih, eds., *Membaca Pram* (Jakarta: Komunitas Bambu, 2008); "Transnational Chinese as a New Policy Arena: China and Singapore at the turn of the 21st Century," [in Chinese], *China Studies* (2008). He was awarded research grants by the British Academy, Research Councils UK-China, for work on "The Nation-states and Migrant communities" and "China in Local and Transnational Perspectives."

William A Callahan: submitted his manuscript for *China: The Pessoptimist Nation*, which has now been published by Oxford University Press (2010). Other publications include "Chinese Visions of World Order: Post-hegemonic or a New Hegemony?" *International Studies Review* 10 (December 2008), pp. 749-61. "Chinese Visions of World Order: Tianxia, Empire and The World" [in Chinese], *Shijie jingji yu zhengzhi* [World Economics and Politics], (Beijing: Chinese Academy of Social Sciences), October 2008 (this provoked much debate in China, including a response from Zhao Tingyang in the same issue); "The Cartography of National Humiliation and the Emergence of China's Geobody," *Public Culture* 21:1, (2009); he also finished the editorial work on *China Orders the World?: Soft Power, Norms and Foreign Policy*, co-edited with Elena Barabantseva, which was submitted to Stanford University Press. Callahan was appointed as a Member of the National Committee on United States-China Relations, as a Visiting Professor at Portland State University for his sabbatical in Autumn 2008, and received a research grant from UCCL to study new Chinese views of the world in Shanghai and Beijing, including

being a Visiting Professor at Tsinghua University. He gave evidence on Chinese foreign policy at the House of Lords in April 2009.

Jeesoon Hong: “Trans-regional Circulation of Jackie Chan’s Image in the Late Cold War Years’ East Asia” *Asian Cinema*, vol. 20, no. 1, (Spring/Summer 2009); “Translation of Subjectivity and Stereotyping: Ling Shuhua’s Chinese and English Translations” *Translation Quarterly* 52 (Summer 2009); “Zhang Ailing’s View of the Masses and Chinese Mass Culture: A Comparative Reading of Zhang Ailing’s Writings in *The Twentieth Century* and the Self-Translations into Chinese” *Junggukhak nonchong* 41 (*Chinese Studies*), July 2009; “Intellectuals in Post 9/11 America, Area Studies in Globalization and Challenge to Literary Theory: Interview with Lydia Liu” in *Junggukhak nonchong* (*Chinese Studies*) 26, April 2008; Hong won a Faculty Fellowship, The India China Institute, The New School, New York, USA (2008).

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Shogo Suzuki: *Civilisation and Empire: China and Japan’s Encounter with the European International Society* (Routledge, 2009); ‘Chinese Soft Power, Insecurity Studies, Myopia and Fantasy’, *Third World Quarterly*, vol. 30, no. 4, (2009), pp. 779-793; ‘Seeking “Legitimate” Great Power Status in post-Cold War International Society: China and Japan’s Participation in UNPKO’, *International Relations*, vol. 22, no. 1, (2008) pp. 45-63; ‘Can apology serve as a security policy? responsible scholarship and breaking the chains of negative history in Sino-Japanese relations’, *Korean Journal of Defense Analysis*, vol. 20, no. 4, (2008) pp. 309-324; ‘Sino-Japanese Relations’ in Gunther Hauser (ed), *China – The Rising Power*. (Frankfurt: Peter Lang,

2008); Suzuki had a British Academy Exchange Fellowship with Academia Sinica, Taiwan, and a Japan Foundation Endowment Committee Grant to undertake fieldwork in Japan, March-April 2009

Yin-Fang Zhang: (co-authored) 'Electricity Sector Reform in Developing Countries: An Econometric Assessment of the Effects of Privatisation, Competition and Regulation' *Journal of Regulatory Economics* 33:2 (2008):159-173; Co-authored) 'Regulatory Reform and Governance: A Survey of Selected Developing and Transition Economies', *Public Administration and Development* 29:4 (2009):330-339; British Academy Small Grant, £4,590, Regulatory Framework of the Electricity Sector and Sustainable Development in China.

Katherine Chang: Huang, S., Chang, E. & Wu, H. 2009, 'A Case Study of Applying Data Mining Techniques in An Outfitter's Customer Value Analysis', *Expert Systems With Applications (SCI)*, Elsevier, vol. 36 (3P2), pp. 5909-5915; Lo, C., Wu, S., Chang, E. & Cheng, Y. 2008, 'The Application of Datamining Techniques in Analyzing the Customer Loyalty and the Customer Value – the Case of An Outfitter in Taiwan', *Journal of Quality (in traditional Chinese)*, vol. 15 (4); and conference presentations at W, H. H., Chang, E. & Lo, C. F. 2009, 'Applying RFM Model and K-Means Method in Customer Value Analysis of An Outfitter', *The 16th ISPE International Conference on Concurrent Engineering*; Chang, E., Tseng, Y. & Shen, T. 2008, 'The Conceptual Framework for the Relationships among Store Image, Consumer Perceived Risks, Consumer Value and Purchase Intention on the Internet', *General Online Research 2008 Conference*, Hamburg, Germany; Chang, E. 2008, 'The Characteristics and Internationalization of Chinese Global Companies – An Analysis from The Cultural Perspective', *The Globalization of Chinese Enterprises*, Harvard Asia Programs Workshop.

Samuel Liang: *Mapping Modernity in Shanghai: Space, Gender, and Visual Culture in the Sojourners' City, 1853-98* (Routledge, forthcoming 2010); '上海弄堂的革命與懷舊：從中共“一大”會址到新天地' (The Revolution and Nostalgia of Shanghai Longtang: From the CCP First Congress Memorial to Xintiandi), 「台灣社會研究季刊」 (*Taiwan: A Radical Quarterly in Social Studies*), forthcoming in early 2010 (in Chinese); 'Where the Courtyard Meets the Street: Spatial Culture of the Li Neighborhoods, Shanghai, 1870-1900,' *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* 67, no.4 (2008): 482-503; 'Amnesiac Monument, Nostalgic Fashion: Shanghai's New Heaven and Earth', *Wasafiri* 23, no.3 (special issue on Chinese writings, 2008): 47-55; 'The Past and Present of the CCP First Congress Memorial, Shanghai', *The China Beat*, January 2009. <http://www.thechinabeat.org/?p=343>; 'Where the Occidental Becomes Oriental: Imagineering Guangzhou's New Upscale Housing,' 《文化研究月報》 (Cultural Research Monthly) 89 (2009). <http://hermes.hrc.ntu.edu.tw/csa/journal/89/criticism01.htm>

Xiaobing Wang: "Economic Development and Surplus Labour: A Critical Review of the Lewis Model", (with Jenifer Piesse) BWPI working paper, no.89; "Labor Market Segregation and Integration in China: A Spatial and Sectoral

Analysis, 1988-2002" (with Jenifer Piesse) KCL Department of Management Research Paper Series No 51. September 2008; "Poverty and Vulnerability in Rural China: Effects of Taxation" (with Katsushi S. Imai and Woojin Kang) The University of Manchester, Economics Working Paper Number: EDP-0913. under journal review, Chronic Poverty Research Centre (CPRC) working paper, WP156; "Regulation and Corruption in Transitional China", Joseph Stiglitz (eds.) *Initiative for Policy Dialogue China Task Force on Regulation*. The University of Manchester, Economics Working Paper Number: EDP-0920; "Book review: Richard Sanders and Chen Yang (eds.), China's Post-Reform Economy - Achieving Harmony, Sustaining Growth," *East Asia: an International Quarterly*, Volume 25, Number 3 / September, 2008, p325-327.

Wei-hsin Lin: 'Jiedu Chuanqi zhong de nüxin? Zhang Ailing yu Irigaray de duihua' (Analyzing the Female Characters in Chuanqi? a Dialogue between Zhang Ailing and Irigaray), in Chen Zishan ed., *Re-reading Zhang Ailing* (Chongdu Zhang Ailing), Shanghai Bookstore Publishing House: Shanghai, 2008.

Elena Barabantseva: *De-centering China: Overseas Chinese, National Minorities and Nationalism* (Routledge, forthcoming 2010); 'Change vs. Order: Shijie Meets Tianxia in China's Interactions with the World', *Alternatives: Global, Local, Political* 34, 2009: 129-155; 'Development as Localization: Ethnic Minorities in Official Discourse on China's Western Development Project', *Critical Asian Studies* 41: 2 (June 2009): 225-254; "From the Language of Class to the Rhetoric of Development: Discourses of 'Nationality' and 'Ethnicity' in China", the *Journal of Contemporary China* 2008 17: 56 (2008): 565-589; working on *China Orders the World?* co-edited book (with Professor William A. Callahan); 'Change vs. Order: Shijie meets Tianxia in China's interactions with the World', book chapter in *China Orders the World?*, co-edited book (with Professor William A. Callahan)

Anna Lora-Wainwright: 'Social and cultural understandings of oesophagus and stomach cancer in rural Sichuan', 2007, *Asian and African Studies* XII: 1 (Special Issue: Selected Papers from The XVI. Biennial Conference of the European Association of Chinese Studies), published by the Department of Asian and African Studies, University of Ljubljana; convenor and organiser of a one day workshop on "Environment and Health in China - Interdisciplinary Perspectives", Manchester University (November 2007); Co-convenor (with Dr. Adam Frank) on the panel "Rich, (un)Healthy, and Immortal: Habit, Morality, and the Affect of Power in Contemporary China", Association of Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Atlanta (April 2008)

The Centre has organised 10 research seminars in 2008/09 with invited speakers from both UK and overseas. Topics range from to politics and new leadership.

The Centre has been managing and delivering the Study China Programme on behalf of the Department of Innovation, Universities and Skills (previously knows as Department for Education and Skills) since May 2007. Each year, more than 400 UK undergraduate students were selected from thousands of

applicants to go on a 3-week study programme with language learning, cultural exploration and business orientation. This scheme is now open to students from Scotland and Northern Ireland as well as England. In Easter and summer 2009, some 400 UK students spent three weeks at East China Normal University (Shanghai), Shandong University (Jinan) and Zhejiang University (Hangzhou).

William A. Callahan (Acting Director)

University of Newcastle

SH Student numbers 08-09

4 students at Stage 1; 2 students at Stage 2; 5 students on their Year Abroad in China; and 5 students at Stage 4. Total: 16 students

DH Student numbers 08-09

We also had many more students taking 4 years of Chinese (40-60 credits per year) within degree programmes such as T900 (Modern Languages), QT19 (Modern Languages and Linguistics), R9N2 (Modern Languages with Management Studies), Y001 (Combined Studies), Q1T4 (Linguistics with Chinese) and Q100 (Linguistics). 17 students at Stage 1; 24 students at Stage 2; 21 students on their Year Abroad in China; and 18 students at Stage 4. Total: 80 students.

Staffing

We have six full-time Lecturers: three in Chinese Studies (Joanne Smith Finley, Sabrina Yu, Valerie Pellatt in the School of Modern Languages) one in Chinese History (Naomi Standen, in the School of Historical Studies) and one in Chinese Politics (Michael Barr, in the School of Geography, Politics and Sociology) and one in East Asian Politics (James Babb, in the School of Geography, Politics and Sociology). We also have one 0.5 Fractional Chinese Language teacher (Yunzhen Liu) and one Part-time Chinese language teacher (Linda Cheng).

Language modules

CHN1003 Level A Chinese I

CHN1004 Level A Chinese II

CHN2001 Level B Chinese

CHN4001 Level C Chinese

CHN4061 Level D Chinese

We also now offer the following modules as Stage 4 options to students taking Japanese:

CHN2102 Elementary Chinese I

CHN2101 Elementary Chinese II

Content modules

We now offer a wide range of content modules in addition to our language modules. These include:

Stage 1: CHN1005 Introduction to Chinese Culture

Stage 2: CHN2004 Studying Contemporary Chinese Society; CHN2005 Gender and Media in Modern China; HIS2111 Glory to Disaster: The Tang Dynasty; HIS2033 Women and Men in Late Imperial China; HIS2125 The Silk Roads; POL2033 Traditional East Asian Political Thought; POL2084 Contemporary Chinese Politics

Stage 4: CHN4004 Nation and Nationalisms in Contemporary China; CHN4006 Stars in Chinese Cinema; SML4099 Dissertation; HIS3093 The Mongols and China

Newcastle University has been approached by the British Council and HSBC and invited to host the northern heats of the 2009-10 British Council Chinese speaking competition for schools. This event is scheduled to take place on Monday December 14th 2009. The southern heats will be hosted by SOAS, with finals taking place in London.

Joanne Smith Finley

University of Nottingham

The School of Contemporary Chinese Studies (SCCS) has been rapidly expanding and developing study opportunities at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels since its inception in 2007. Its first cohort of single-honours graduates received their degrees in July 2009. The year 09/10 saw over 200 students enroll on single honours and joint undergraduate programmes including the School's recently launched 4-year MSc programmes, MSc Contemporary Chinese Studies, MSc Business and Economy of Contemporary China and MSc Global Issues and Contemporary Chinese Studies. In addition, over 700 students from across the University are undertaking various Chinese Mandarin courses.

A very good mixture of Chinese and home / EU students, 28 in total, are currently studying on the School's Masters programmes (6 on the MA in Contemporary Chinese Studies, 16 on the MSc Management in Contemporary China, 9 on the MA in Chinese / English Translation and Interpretation).

One highlight of the Masters programmes has been the successful development of an internship programme. 16 of our 08/09 Masters students successfully completed their internships in either China or the UK. Students were offered positions in a wide range of businesses. Dynamic high-tech businesses, such as Romax Technologies (wind power engineering), IDC (industrial design), Prism Sound (audio equipment and design) and Pengower Ltd (software development) offered opportunities in the UK. An array of opportunities were also made available in China by HSBC, HuaXia Bank, Avid China (a transnational media company), Wolverine (a world leading joint venture manufacturing firm), Paragon Law (a transnational legal firm), as well as wholesale businesses, furniture manufacturers and retailers. A number of

these students have subsequently been offered full-time positions in these companies following graduation.

SCCS academic staff members currently supervise 20 PhD students, including three jointly supervised with other schools. Four new PhD students began their studies in September 2009. They came from China, Italy, Malaysia and Poland.

Among the many achievements of the PHD programme in 2009, highlights included:

- The gaining of an Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) Asian Languages and Culture Doctoral Award under the AHRC's Block Grant Partnership scheme for 2010-12 academic years.
- Winning a University Research Studentship which was awarded to Ms Elzbieta Pron. Additional University doctoral training award monies were also obtained that will allow SCCS to offer two £11,000 studentships for 2010-12 academic years.

Over the past year, the SCCS academic staff produced a large volume of high quality academic publications including top journal articles and research monographs on China, cementing its position as the UK's largest and most influential centre of contemporary China research. These publications and policy commentaries are widely cited and disseminated through both Chinese and English media, including BBC, China Radio International, the Financial Times, the Guardian, the Telegraph, the Independent, the China Daily and People's Daily etc. Details of such can be found on our website at <http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/Chinese/news-events/sccs-in-the-news/index.aspx>

SCCS' research centre, China Policy Institute (CPI) has made remarkable progress over the past year. Its vision to create Europe's leading centre for the study of Chinese democratization took a step closer to reality in 2009 with the approval of their EU Marie Curie programme proposal for a two-year research fellowship for Associate Professor SUN Long from Renmin University to investigate the Middle Class, Civil Rights and Popular Protest in China with CPI Research Coordinator Zhengxu Wang. He will join CPI's first Marie Curie fellow, Dr MA Deyong from Nankai University's prestigious Zhou Enlai School of Public Administration, who is due to arrive in March 2010 to begin another project with Dr Wang to study China's experimentation with democratization at the township and village levels.

These EU-funded posts, together with two other EU research fellows who joined recently to conduct the €1.4-million FP7 project on Chinese Views of the EU, take the total of externally-funded positions at CPI to four.

Promoting Chinese language and culture has been the major focus for Nottingham Confucius Institute (NCI) under the School. Drawing upon the expertise and resources of SCCS and Fudan University, NCI has supported,

organised and ran a wide range of activities. Highlights of NCI achievements in 2009 included:

1. Expansion of its evening Mandarin courses to meet high demand from local Nottingham people. 4 different levels of course ranging from Beginner level 1 to Business level 3 are currently offered to over 50 students on weekday evenings.
2. The hosting of a hugely successful Inaugural Chinese Speech Contest entitled “China and Me” at the university on 25 November 2009. A total of 17 contestants of different nationalities including British, French, German, Russian, Canadian and Malaysian, from various schools and departments of Nottingham University took part. All were current Mandarin course students.
3. A 3-months teacher training programme specifically designed for Mandarin teachers at the Nottingham Chinese School, the local community Mandarin language school in the Nottingham area. This programme aimed to improve the teaching skills of these teachers whilst helping them develop an understanding of recent developments in the theory and practice of teaching Chinese as a foreign language. All trainees said that they benefited a great deal from the training.

Along with developing into a leading teaching and research centre, SCCS has also been engaged in various high-profile activities, focusing on key political, economic and social issues relating to China. Below are some examples:

1. In September 2009, SCCS successfully hosted the 2nd annual conference of the International Forum for Contemporary Chinese Studies (IFCCS), attracting over 150 delegates from more than 20 different countries. The 3rd annual conference of IFCCS will be held in Tianjin, China, jointly with Nankai University.
2. In October 2009, SCCS organised a highly successful 2-day workshop on behalf of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in Nottingham on human trafficking, the exploitation of Chinese migrants in the UK and the impact of economic recession, attended by more than 70 people from government, business, NGOs and Chinese community organizations. The workshop, attended by Roger Plant, Head of an ILO “Special Action Programme” to combat forced labour, Lu Xu, Counsellor and Consul General of the Chinese Embassy in the UK and Darryl Dixon of the Gangmasters Licensing Authority, was held to bring together officials, researchers, employers, labour brokers and Chinese community leaders to discuss collaboration on the problems.
3. On 7th December 2009, SCCS co-hosted a live debate on climate change with the BBC at the University of Nottingham to coincide with the UN Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen. Prof Yao, Head of the School, joined Dr Sheng Xiangyu, Associate Director at Scott Wilson’s Environment and Natural Resources Group, and Christian Ellermann, Doctoral Researcher at the Environmental Change Institute, Oxford University and a consultant on energy and climate strategy for Ecofys, on the expert panel to address questions and discuss in

particular the role of China – the world’s biggest CO2 emitter – in dealing with the global environmental challenge.

4. SCCS has received confirmation from the British Embassy in Beijing that their bid to host an innovative, tailored Chevening Young Leaders Training Programme for 20 candidates selected by the All-China Youth Federation has been successful. This £296,000 programme involves 13 weeks of intensive training on three themes: the economics of climate change, government relations with NGOs and civil society and reform, regulation and policy development.

Hua Geddes

University of Oxford

Staff changes

New members of staff scheduled to join, or rejoin, us in 2009 include Margaret Hillenbrand (Modern Literature), Peter Ditmanson (History), Anna Lora-Wainwright (Geography), and Tienieke D’Heaseleer (Classical Chinese). At the end of 2008, Tim Brook returned to the University of British Columbia, Tao Tao Liu retired and Robert Chard took up a two-year Visiting Professorship at Tokyo University.

Teaching

The undergraduate intake for the BA Hons course in Chinese totalled 13 students bringing undergraduate numbers to 53. Finalists performed well with several going on to do post-graduate work in fields related to Chinese Studies, at universities such as Columbia, LSE and Oxford. 10 students completed the MPhil course in Modern Chinese Studies and the MSt continued to attract students preparing to work on traditional China in various fields of in the Humanities. A new East Asian MPhil which will take the teaching of Classical Chinese *ab initio* as a core component is scheduled to commence in 2011. After a successful first year, with three distinctions, the MSc in Modern Chinese Studies admitted a total of 21 students.

Chinese Language Teaching

In addition to the established language teaching at graduate and undergraduate levels, a series of stand-alone courses (beginners, intermediate and advanced level) have been designed and will be on offer to graduate students across several faculties from 2010.

BICC (the British Inter-University China Centre) successfully launched its Mid-Career Development language course which provides language teaching for academic and academic-related staff in disciplines other than Chinese Studies.

BICC also held a two day teacher training workshop in Oxford, in July 2009, for teachers of Mandarin at primary, secondary, and tertiary level, building upon the Centre’s existing commitment to Mandarin teaching.

University of Oxford China Centre

Launched in May of 2008, the University of Oxford China Centre joins together academics from across the whole University, co-ordinating and promoting activities in all areas of the study of China. It plays a key role in the University's strategy to strengthen its relationship with China and other centres of scholarship in Chinese studies worldwide.

The China Centre has held a number of events throughout the year, including a major conference held in conjunction with Standard Chartered Bank, entitled "The People's Republic ahead of its 60th anniversary: can China become the engine for world economic growth?" .

Major Research Grants

The research programme on China's War with Japan, 1931 to the present, funded by a Leverhulme Research Leadership award to Rana Mitter, had its first full year in 2008-09. In addition to a number of seminars, three major research conferences were held in Oxford, Shanghai (collaborating with the French Consulate and Tongji University) and Venice, (co-organized by Ca' Foscari University, and funded by the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation). Articles by associated researchers appeared in several major publications.

The Contemporary China Studies Programme (CCSP), largely funded by Leverhulme and now housed in the China Centre, has continued to engage in a wide range of different research areas. Many of the ongoing research projects are directed to understanding the 'authoritarian resilience' of China's still-communist party-state.

Conferences

In March the CCSP sponsored a three-day conference on "China's education reform: radical shifts and their implications," organized by Dr Janette Ryan, a CCSP academic visitor. This conference was jointly sponsored by Monash University.

China Centre academics Dr Christine Wong and Dr Albert Park co-organized a very successful half-day colloquium on "Building a harmonious society in China: reducing poverty and improving public services," that was attended by 60 faculty members, students, and the public.

China Centre academics Dr Patricia Thornton and Dr Karl Gerth held a conference entitled "Consumer Revolution or Consuming Revolution?," funded by the CCSP Leverhulme grant.

Dr Dirk Meyer co-organised a conference with the University of Edinburgh and the National Taiwan University on literary arguments in pre-modern Chinese texts and their philosophical functions.

Dr Dirk Meyer also hosted a conference on Research Training on Old Chinese Phonology and Palaeography. This workshop was the second of five workshops funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) and BICC.

BICC held a major international conference, Reinventing the Party State, in December 2008. Convened by Dr Frank Pieke, this was held at Shenyang Normal University and drew upon the expertise of scholars from within and outside China.

Laura Newby

University of Salford

The School of Languages has been teaching Chinese at Salford since 2004 and by 2009 the School has established programmes with Chinese from beginners' level at undergraduate level through to Masters level study and PhD research.

The teaching staff for Chinese include Chinese studies specialists, practising translators and interpreters as well as leading researchers. Students on our courses have benefited in the past year from additional contributions from specialist Chinese and English speakers and working translators and interpreters, as well as the opportunity to undertake a range of work and study placements.

The School is committed to maximise every opportunity for our students and in December 2008 a number of our Masters students in Chinese interpreted for the Prime Minister's Initiative (PMI2) Project Workshop on Employability and Entrepreneurship. This involved representatives from Salford and East China Normal University and Harbin Institute of Technology, and also Shanghai Jiaotong University via Skype. This was a great opportunity for the students to get some further practice in a real-life interpreting situation.

Links/Partnerships

The School of Languages has established links with the following institutions in China. Students from these institutions can study part of their course in the UK at Salford and our own undergraduate students are able to spend their International Placement Year studying in China:

Sichuan University
East China Normal University
Sun Yat-Sen University on our RA for UG students of Chinese

The follow taught programmes with Chinese are currently offered:

Undergraduate programmes

Beginners' Chinese is available on five of our well-established undergraduate language programmes:

BA (Hons) Modern Language Studies with TESOL
BA (Hons) Linguistics and a Modern Language

BA (Hons) Modern Languages and Translation and Interpreting Studies (in combination with either French or Spanish)

BA (Hons) Modern Languages with TESOL (in combination with either French or Spanish)

BA (Hons) Modern Languages and Linguistics (in combination with either French or Spanish)

A wide range of modules are offered for these programmes including Translation, Interpreting, Linguistics, Applied Linguistics, and TESOL etc. The component of Chinese History, Culture and Society is offered within the Chinese modules.

Postgraduate programmes

MA/PgDip Chinese/English/Chinese Translation

MA/PgDip Chinese/English/Chinese Translation with Interpreting

MA/PgDip Chinese/English/Chinese Translation with International Business Studies

MA/PgDip Chinese/English/Chinese Translation with Interpreting

A wide range of modules is offered for these programmes including Literary Translation, Audio-Visual Translation, Translation Studies, Principles and Strategies of Translation, Translation Project Management etc alongside translation and interpreting modules.

Research

Doctoral Supervision

The School has currently 2 PhD students conducting research in the areas of Chinese-English literary translation and translation of political texts. The School regularly offers Graduate Teaching Assistantships and PhD fee-waiver schemes to qualified candidates.

Dongning Feng

School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London

BA Chinese

In the academic year 2008/2009, student intake for BA Chinese showed a slight decline compared to the two previous years, most likely due to the raised entry requirement (ABB). A total of 84 students enrolled on the programme, 38 of them for the single-subject degree, and 46 (i.e. 23 FTE) for a joint degree. The total number of students enrolled on the four-year BA Chinese single-subject programme was 106, while a total of 136 students (68 FTE) were enrolled on the four-year joint-degree programme. This was the first year in which the department offered a fully integrated suite of language courses, allowing students in any given year to select language courses at the level they require, and thus in practice doing away with the “ab initio” requirement. This was done on a trial basis, and was made official at the end of the year. Henceforth, SOAS will no longer turn away learners of Chinese for the BA Chinese on the grounds of their being “overqualified.” During the year, the department obtained permission to raise its entry requirement to

AAB for 2009/2010, and to introduce a new, three-year BA Chinese Studies programme from September 2010 onwards.

The department joined a successful bid, jointly with National Taiwan University and Heidelberg University, to develop its teaching and teaching materials in Hokkien (Taiwanese).

Two third-year students of the BA Chinese participated in the UK preliminaries of the Chinese Bridge competition, with Steven Lipscombe clinching first prize and participating in the finals in China, while his classmate Jim Faherty came third.

For the first time this year, two scholarships were made available by the China Scholarship Council for SOAS graduates to continue their study in China. Moreover, one scholarship was made available for students in the field of Taiwanese literature to study at National Taiwan University.

MA programmes

There was a healthy intake (40 students) for the MA Chinese Studies, but a slight dip in numbers for the MA Sinology, which recruited only 3 students, whereas the MA Chinese Literature enrolled no students at all. As before, two HSBC Scholarships were available to UK/EU Master's students on either the MA Sinology or the MA Chinese Literature, and these were therefore both taken up by Sinology students.

Research

On the research front, all staff working in the area of Chinese literature and culture were included in the SOAS Asian Studies submission to the 2008 RAE, which saw SOAS research in Asian Studies recognized as the best in the country.

The annual series of conferences for research students in the field of modern Chinese literature from SOAS, Cambridge, and Oxford was continued under a new name. The "Chinese Literature Conference" (CLIC), co-organized by Dr Cosima Bruno (SOAS) and Dr Christopher Rosenmeier (Cambridge) was held at Cambridge in June 2009.

Staffing

In the Department of the Languages and Cultures of China and Inner Asia, there were various developments on the staffing front during this year. Bernhard Fuehrer was promoted to Professor of Sinology. Michel Hockx was on leave for the Spring term to take up a visiting professorship at Harvard University. At the end of the year, Dr Margaret Hillenbrand resigned to take up a position at Oxford University.

Chinese History at SOAS

The SOAS History department introduced three new China-related courses, to be taught in biennial rotation: "Christianity in China (1600-1949): Historical Impact and Interpretations," "Manchu Society and Culture: An alternative history of China (1600-1997)," and "Traders, Believers, Rebels: A Social

History of Islam in China (650-2008).” In May 2009, the department organized an international workshop entitled “The Puzzle of National Markets and the Standards of Living: China’s Economic History Revisited,” with papers by Li Bozhong, Mark Elvin, Joseph McDermott, Timothy Brook, Lars Laamann, Kent Deng, and Andrea Janku, 7 May 2009.

Chinese Law at SOAS

For the twenty-first year in succession, the SOAS Centre for East Asian Law contributed to the “Lord Chancellor’s Fellowship Scheme for Young Chinese Lawyers,” the principal purpose of which is to introduce Chinese lawyers to standards of legal practice in the common law world, and to explore new developments in international legal practice. The SOAS element of the Programme in the period in question was delivered for the most part over the summer of 2008. The Centre also operated, for the eleventh year in succession, the “Judicial Studies Programme for Chinese Judges,” which is designed to enhance standards of judicial decision-making in China by furthering the Chinese judges’ understanding of advanced specialist areas of law and legal culture.

Chinese Music at SOAS

The SOAS Music department once again ran UG and PG courses in the Music of East Asia, consisting for one-third of tuition related to Chinese music. Several students took performance courses in *dizi* and *sanxian*, while PhD students worked on Taiwanese pop, Guzheng and the Chinese conservatory, and the Shanghai soundscape. The department ran a workshop in Chinese opera percussion, which included a very successful *kunqu* performance in the SOAS concert series, and the department’s silk-and-bamboo ensemble played at many SOAS and external events.

Michel Hockx

University of Sheffield

Chinese Studies at Sheffield continued to develop in 2009, in the areas of research, postgraduate training, teaching and outreach to the community. It also moved its location from the old Arts Tower, which is now undergoing extensive renovation, to a series of Victorian houses on Shearwood Road, where it expects to remain for around two years. It is enjoying a larger allocation of space, which allows for both student and staff common rooms as well as extensive space for research and taught postgraduate students.

Professor Chris Bramall’s major new text on the Chinese economy, *Chinese Economic Development* (Routledge 2009) was published. The book addresses many of the broader aspects of development, including literacy, morality, demographics and the environment, and argues that the Maoist era was one during which rural literacy, rural health care, rural industry and infrastructure all expanded rapidly. Dr Jeremy Taylor raised funds from a wide variety of sources to support a workshop on re-assessing Chiang Kai-shek, held in Canada in August 2009. It attracted scholars from East Asia, North

America and Europe and led to lively discussions on Chiang's significance for China before and since 1949. Marjory Dryburgh's paper on Bai Jianwu and Chinese collaboration with Japan was published in the prestigious *Journal of Asian Studies* in August 2009.

PhD students graduating in the period included Drs Florian Schneider ("Visual Political Communication in Popular Chinese Television Series", Hong Yu ("Regional Inequality in Guangdong Province"), and Kirsten Lehr (Educational 'Success' in China? An Evaluation of Educational Policy in the People's Republic Since 1996"). Florian Schneider has taken up a position as Lecturer at Leiden University. Sheffield's Music Department also graduated a number of students in ethnomusicology for topics in the broad area of Chinese music: Chien Shang-Jen, "Voices of Eternal Spring: A Study of the Hingcun diao Song Family and Other Folk Songs of the Hingcun Area, Taiwan"; Loo Fungying, "Exploring Taijiquan in the Physicality of Piano Playing" (& Lecture Recital); Samuel Wong Shengmiao, "Hua Yue: The Chinese Orchestra in Contemporary Singapore" Meanwhile, former PhD student David Wong has published his first book, *Music of the Chinese in Sabah: The Keyboard Cultures* (Kota Kinabalu: Opus Publications, 2009), which draws on his doctoral studies.

Undergraduate recruitment continued at record levels, and the School continues to attract good quality students. Sheffield student George Martin participated in the 8th Chinese bridge Competition and won a place in the final in Changsha, at which his performance won him a six month scholarship at a Chinese University.

Sheffield hosted the 2009 Joint East Asian Studies Conference, organised by the British Associations for Chinese, Japanese and Korean Studies. The attendance was a record for this conference, and all enjoyed the keynote speech by Professor Fan Ke from Nanjing University. It also hosted the 4th International Conference on Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language (TCFL) for the British Chinese Language Teaching Society on June 29 and 30th. More than twenty papers covered everything from the development of teaching materials to the exploration of new teaching methodologies and techniques for online teaching.

The Sheffield Confucius Institute was extremely active under the directorship of Dr Lily Chen. Professors Liang Yanmin and Wang Tianxing arrived from Beijing Language and Culture University and Nanjing University and have made a great contribution to the Institute's activities. In July the Institute moved to spacious new premises on Shearwood Road, which were formally opened in October 2009 by Madam Lin Wenyi, Vice-President of the Chinese People's Consultative Conference, and Professor Phil Powrie, PVC at Sheffield. The Institute organised a China Week – when it laid on a range of China-related activities in the University and across the city centre. These included a photo exhibition, a children's art workshop, and language, *taijiquan* and calligraphy taster sessions for adults. In November 2008, the Institute collaborated with Creative Sheffield to run a briefing on "Urban Regeneration in China: Opportunities for Sheffield Companies". The briefing was part of a

British government sponsored project on urban regeneration and affordable housing in China and the UK, involving participation from the cities of Sheffield, Glasgow, Nanjing and Wuhan.

Tim Wright

University of Westminster

Undergraduate programme

Chinese continues to do well on the UG programme at Westminster. Chinese is one of six languages offered in the Department of Modern and Applied Language; students combine Chinese with other languages (French or Spanish), with International Relations, English Language, English Literature and Linguistics or with International Business. Native speakers of Chinese are enrolled on our new BA Translation Chinese. We successfully validated a new BA in Journalism and Contemporary Chinese Studies and are in the process of validating a Single Honours degree in Contemporary Chinese Studies with recruitment to start from September 2010.

The University hosted this year's Chinese Language Speaking Competition, organised by the Chinese Embassy in London and UoW students were successful in two categories. Shanta Lahiri won a prize for her Taiji performance and Diana Nomekaite came third in the language competition, which is particularly impressive as Chinese only formed 25% of her degree.

Chinese was successfully introduced on the University's open language programme PolyLang and Chinese continues to be offered under the MLEP (Modern Languages Evening Programme), in six grades in total in accordance with the MLEP format. Our remaining PTBA Chinese students successfully completed their studies this year.

Postgraduate programmes and research

The year saw exciting changes in the University's organisation and provision of postgraduate teaching on the Chinese Studies MA. The Centre for the Study of Democracy (host to the University's Chinese Studies since 1999) was absorbed into a newly established Department of Politics and International Relations, and - in search of a new home - Harriet Evans started to develop links with other departments and schools in the university, including the School of Architecture and the Built Environment, Law, and Media, Art and Design. Having proposed a new MA in Contemporary Asia in Comparative Perspective which draws on teaching and research expertise on India and China across the university, and with successful scores in the RAE 2008, she and her colleague Wang Cangbai were invited to join the Department of Modern and Applied Languages to facilitate the expansion of its postgraduate and research profile. The new MA will be validated in March 2010 and will become part of the Contemporary Asia Research Centre, School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Languages, the opening of which is planned for the summer 2010.

Asian Studies research has also been strengthened by new developments, starting with an expansion in numbers. Derek Hird was awarded his PhD for his dissertation on *White-Collar Masculinities in Urban China*, and was appointed as 0.5 Research Fellow. Gerda Wielander brings her research interests on Christianity in China to the team and Wang Cangbai has developed collaborative links to expand his research on skilled migrants with scholars in Middlesex University and Hong Kong University. Katie Hill organised a symposium on 'The Spectre of China. Chinese Art and Identity in the British Context' in June. Harriet Evans continued her work on an oral history of urban change in Beijing, and obtained Coreach funding to work with scholars in Westminster's School of Architecture, UCL's Department of Anthropology, the German Archeological Institute, and the Institutes of Sociology and Ethnology, CASS for a two year project on cultural heritage in China. Derek Hird presented papers in Hanoi and Beijing; Gerda Wielander gave papers in London, Sheffield and Washington D.C; Wang Cangbai gave papers at conferences in London, Auckland and Hong Kong, and Harriet Evans in Leicester, Edinburgh, Shanghai and Sydney. The support of the UCCL for Derek and Harriet's Beijing trips is gratefully acknowledged. Katie and Cangbai made their first research trips to China for the Coreach project – Cangbai to interview the director and curator of the new Overseas Chinese Museum in Beijing, and Katie to research folk art at the Nianhua Museum in Wuqiang, Hebei Province.

Gerda Wielander
Harriet Evans

White Rose East Asia Centre

The White Rose East Asia Centre (WREAC) was formally established in 2006 with funding from the Economic and Social Research Council, the Arts and Humanities Research Council, and the Higher Education Funding Council for England. It is a joint initiative between the University of Leeds Department of East Asian Studies (DEAS) and the Centre for International Business University of Leeds (CIBUL) and the School of East Asian Studies (SEAS) at the University of Sheffield. The National Institute of Chinese Studies, established within WREAC, provides the umbrella for the Centre's China-related activities. As WREAC is fully integrated with the departments of East Asian Studies at Leeds and Sheffield there may be some overlap in reporting. Heather Zhang (lead organiser) organised the Ninth European Conference on Agriculture and Rural Development in China (ECARDC9) from 3-5 April 2009. More than 60 participants, including senior researchers from China's State Council, academics, policy-makers, NGO representatives and PhD researchers from China, UK, Europe, Japan, Australia, and North America gathered together to debate and reflect on China's rural development policies in respect of urban-rural relations against a background of the more recent Chinese central government policy emphasis on urban-rural integration, people-centred and balanced development. Papers from this conference are to be published in a special issue of the *Journal of Current Chinese Affairs* (Vol 38, No 4), available as an open access resource at

<http://hup.sub.uni-hamburg.de/giga/jcca>. Three further publications are planned in 2010.

A research workshop on China-Africa Development Relations was held on 27 February, organised by Chris Dent and Kweku Ampiah, in which academics were joined by members of the diplomatic community and FCO officials in debate on these issues, and WREAC supported the 6th East Asian Social Policy International Conference, held at the University of Sheffield from 3-4 July 2009 as well as the China Postgraduate Network Conference held in Manchester from 23-24 April 2009.

WREAC continued to organise regular research seminars during the year. Seminars relating to China included '*Progress, Belonging and Boundaries*' Dr Yi Lin, Associate Professor of Sociology, Xiamen University, (Leeds); *Paying for Nationalism - Guomindang Tariff Policy, 1927-1941* Dr. Felix Boecking, Lecturer in Modern Chinese Economic and Political History, University of Edinburgh (Sheffield), *The New Rich in China: Why there is no new middle class* David S G Goodman, Professor of Chinese Politics, University of Sydney (Sheffield); *Ups and Downs in China-Japan Relations* Quansheng Zhao, Professor of international Relations and Director of the Center for Asian Studies American University, Washington, DC (Sheffield); *Transferring Organizational Practices and the Dynamics of Hybridisation* Dr Jos Gamble - Royal Holloway, University of London (Leeds); *Understanding China: A Feasible Undertaking?* Adrian Johnson (Leeds); and *Revolution and Class Conflict in North China, 1939-1940* David S G Goodman Professor of Chinese Politics, University of Sydney (Leeds)

Through the Worldwide Universities Network Contemporary China Center, Flemming Christiansen arranged another series of video conferences, linking WUN members in China, North America, Europe and Australia (see the Leeds Chinese report for more details).

In April, WREAC organised a month long exhibition and associated events 'A month in East Asia' held at the ICOSS Centre at Sheffield. China-related contributions to this included images of the research of Dr Hu Xiaoling (Sheffield) and Dr Meng Ji (Sheffield), in collaboration with Dr Jamie McLaughlin of the Humanities Research Institute, on the "Construction of the Sheffield Corpus of Chinese (SCC)"; a poster exhibition of the work of young researchers including Leeds PhD student Caroline Fielder's "Mission Impossible: Faith and voluntary action in China"; and Hinrich Voss (Roberts Academic Fellow at the Centre for International Business at the University of Leeds (CIBUL) on "Drivers of international investment by mainland Chinese companies"; a lecture by Marjorie Dryburgh (Sheffield) on "The political and the personal in the modern Chinese diary"; and the showing and discussion of a number of short Chinese films, led by Ming-Yeh Rawnsley (Leeds).

WREAC specific publications include: Ji, Meng, "Corpus stylistics in Translation Studies", in *Language and Literature: Journal of Poetics and Linguistics Association*, vol. 18, no.1, London & Washington: Sage Publication, pp. 61-73 and "Corpus statistics in contrastive literary studies", in *Journal of*

Quantitative Linguistics, London: Routledge, 16 (3), pp. 243-55; Liu, Jieyu, 'The Stratification of Youth Employment in Contemporary China', pp.182-188 in *Handbook of Youth and Young Adulthood: New Perspectives*; Ampiah, Kweku (with Sanush Naidu), eds.(2008), *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon? Africa and China*, Scottsville, University of Kwazulu-Natal Press; Voss, Hinrich (co-authored with (Buckley, P.J., Cross, A.R., Tan, H. and Liu, X). 'Historic and Emergent Trends in Chinese Outward Direct Investment', in *Management International Review* December 2008 Vol 48 no 6 pp.715-748, and (co-authored with Buckley, P.J., Clegg, L.J., Cross, A.R., Rhodes, M. and Zheng, P). 'Explaining China's outward FDI: An Institutional Perspective', in K. Sauvart (ed.) *The Rise of Transnational Corporations from Emerging Markets: Threat or Opportunity?* Cheltenham, Edward Elgar, pp.151-224; as well as Zhang, Zhong 'Legal Deterrence: The Foundation of Corporate Governance – Evidence from China', in '*Institutional Design for China's Evolving Economy*' (ed Joseph Stiglitz).

In early 2009, a cooperation agreement was signed with the German Institute for Global and Area Studies (GIGA) for the joint editorship (GIGA/National Institute of Chinese Studies) of the *Journal of Current Chinese Affairs*. At the same time, Flemming Christiansen has joined the editorial board as part of the planned transition from a German Language in-house journal to an English Language peer-reviewed journal.

WREAC recruited three new PhD students: Caroline Fielder 'Faith-based organisations and their role in urban poverty reduction in China' (Leeds); Lewis Husain 'The New Cooperative Medical Scheme and Innovation in China' (Leeds); and Mark McLeister "'Negotiating" religious policy and practice: A micro-level analysis of Three-Self Patriotic Movement churches in Shandong' (Sheffield). Christopher Bond transferred to Sheffield from Leeds on completion of his MA in Chinese Studies, and commenced his PhD on 'The impact of foreign direct investment on inequality in Shandong province'.

CIBUL was a key partner in the UKTI-funded 'China's Regional Cities' project which has contributed to business development and policy making in the UK and China. It has informed a series of 17 interactive business-focused workshops in the UK and China carried out in late 2008 and early 2009. The response by businesses was very positive as illustrated by the Chinese leg of the tour which recorded some 200 attendees over five events. In total nearly a 1,000 companies attended the workshops. In these workshops businesses were informed where and how to do business in China's regional cities and had opportunities to engage with the researchers. The research results were also disseminated to businesses through extensive media coverage in China and Britain (such as the *Financial Times* and the ESRC magazine *Britain in 2010*). The report was also referred to by Gordon Brown and Wen Jiabao when they met in London in early 2009.

Finally, as Flemming has a sabbatical year at the University of Duisburg-Essen, Delia Davin is currently Acting Director of the National Institute of Chinese Studies.

Jennie Rauch



**The more you look
at the world, the more
you recognise what
really matters to people.**

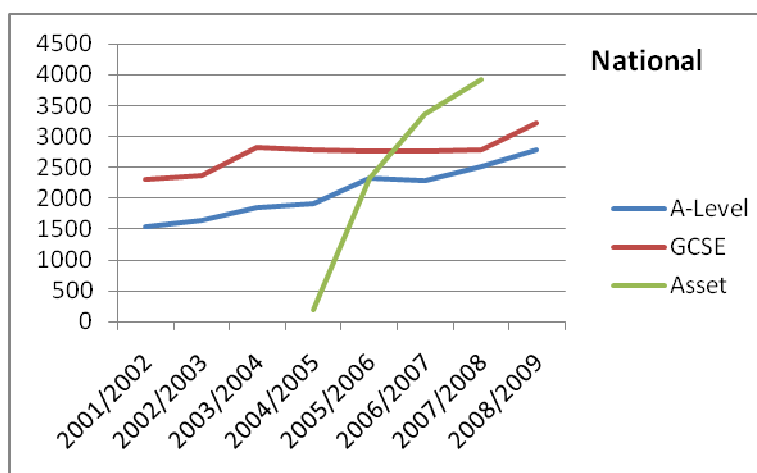
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Chinese in Schools

As with previous years, in 2009 the interest at school level for Chinese learning continued to grow. A new Edexcel GCSE specification which brings Mandarin decisively into line with the other more traditionally taught languages has just begun to be taught in September on the back of the highest ever entry figures in the 2008/09 academic year. AQA has now launched a Mandarin specification and schools continue to explore alternative accreditation routes through Asset languages, IB and the Cambridge Pre-U exam. The entry level Asset Breakthrough qualification continues to be very popular in schools.



In black and white, the top line is GCSE, the lower line A level and the steeply rising line Asset

The Chinese Networks and the Confucius Institute at the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust

The Chinese Networks at the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust (SSAT) continues to promote and develop the study of Chinese and China across the curriculum in schools.

GCSE Chinese teaching resources

September 2009 saw the publication of the Edexcel GCSE Chinese student book produced by SSAT and Pearson. The book, which is accompanied by a set of audio CDs, a teachers' guide and an assessment pack, follows the Edexcel specification and was written by experienced UK school teachers and edited by Katharine Carruthers, SSAT CI Director and BACS Schools Liaison Officer and reviewed by Peking University, School of Chinese as a Second Language. It represents the first time that a Chinese language teaching resource has the look and feel of resources for mainstream modern foreign languages. Feedback from school based teachers has been overwhelmingly positive.

The GCSE book is the first in a series of three textbooks with the next two, which cover Key stage 3, being published in September 2010 and 2011.

If you would like to know any more about the resources, please contact the series editor Katharine Carruthers (katharine.carruthers@ssatrust.org.uk)

Sixth Annual Chinese Conference

The SSAT Confucius Institute and Chinese Networks sixth annual Chinese conference (for teachers of Chinese in schools) took place on 3-4 July 2009 and for the first time, spanned two full days. The British Museum generously hosted day 1, and day 2 was held at Lambeth Academy, London, a school committed to teaching Chinese. The conference featured a range of interactive sessions and hands-on workshops delivered by experienced Chinese teaching practitioners, and provided delegates with a wealth of innovative ideas to take back to the classroom. There were also keynote speeches from Mr Tian Xiaogang, Minister Counsellor for Education at the Chinese Embassy and from Shumang Fredlein and Ma Yamin, teachers from Hong Kong and Australia respectively, as well as contributions from the British Museum, the London-based Confucius Institute for Traditional Chinese Medicine, which delivered a session on Chinese wellbeing in schools, and a presentation from the Yellow Earth theatre group. With over 200 delegates and exhibitors this was the most popular conference to date and it looks set to grow in size and scope this year.

If any of you would like to attend or would like to find out more about the conference, please contact Derry Tomlinson at SSAT on derry.tomlinson@ssatrust.org.uk

SSAT Confucius Classrooms

Throughout 2009, the 12 SSAT Confucius Classrooms (CCs) have been developing their own Mandarin provision and building productive regional networks with partner secondary schools and feeder primaries in their area. Each of the 12 CCs has been joined this year by one or two Hanban teachers (a total group of 21). The Hanban teachers are experienced classroom teachers from our partnership schools in China and the initiative has further built our capacity to support schools wanting to start to introduce Chinese.

SSAT/Hanban Summer Camps

In July 2009, a record 327 young people had the opportunity to go to China on the SSAT/Hanban summer camp. SSAT organised the UK end and Hanban provided a programme of language classes and cultural visits in Beijing and one of four provinces, with SSAT providing curriculum input with respect to what language should be covered by the teachers during the in-China language classes.

Despite a number of the participants being quarantined for a time as a result of a few H1N1 cases in the group (a cultural experience in itself!), the participants enjoyed their time in China and returned enthusiastic to continue their studies.

China across the curriculum

Throughout 2009, the SSAT Chinese Networks team has worked with Kerry Brown at the Royal Institute of International Affairs, Chatham House to produce a series of 'China briefings'. Kerry has written the briefings specifically for school age students. They have covered recent political, economic and social trends in China and these briefings have encouraged schools to include the study of China across other areas of their curriculum. Following the very successful student conference in 2009, the second China

seminar for Schools is planned at Chatham House for March 12th, chaired by Kerry Brown with talks from Jasper Becker, James Kynge and Rana Mitter.

Katharine Carruthers
Specialist Schools and Academies Trust
www.ssatrust.org.uk/chinese



This is a review of the British Council's work in the academic year 2008/09 with schools in the UK that teach Chinese or have links with schools in China.

All of our education activity with China contributes to the delivery of the National Languages Strategy and the Department for Children, Schools and Families' International Strategy in England and devolved administrations' educational priorities.

All of our programmes are funded by the DCSF or the devolved administrations, or supported by the HSBC Global Education Programme. The British Council in the UK and China (operating in China as the Cultural and Education Section of the British Embassy) is also pleased to work in partnership with Confucius Institute Headquarters (Hanban).

There has been a continuing increase in interest in school partnership work with China over the last year. Many of these school partnerships are part of district links where the impact is felt far beyond education. All of the different programmes detailed below contribute to a wider strategy of promoting greater engagement with China and contribute to the British Council's work in promoting Intercultural Dialogue.

Language Assistants Programme

The British Council has managed language assistant programmes for more than a century and has managed the programme with China since 1998 when the first English language assistants were appointed to teach in Chinese schools. We now send approximately 80 per year. A significant number of former English language assistants choose to study Chinese in China or the UK as a result of the experience.

Since 2001 the programme has operated on a bilateral basis with teachers from China coming to spend a year in the UK. Numbers have grown steadily since 2001. 95 Chinese Language Assistants (CLAs), the highest number yet, arrived in the UK in September 2008. Approximately two thirds of them came from partner schools in China. As well as teaching Chinese and contributing a Chinese element to other subjects, these assistants are also responsible for

developing the relationship between partner schools and districts. Local authorities with a commitment to developing the teaching of Chinese will often use a CLA to run Chinese clubs or taster lessons in a number of schools that are thinking of introducing Chinese onto the curriculum in the following school year. This is happening in both primary and secondary schools.

The CLAs are employed by their host school on the same terms and conditions as assistants from 22 other countries. The British Council provides pastoral and professional support for the CLAs throughout their year here. HSBC covered the costs of the international travel and visas, the UK travel, and the induction and in-service training costs in the UK. The DCSF supported the programme in paying all costs (staff time and travel) to run the programme on behalf of England, and the devolved administrations did likewise in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

“Learn Chinese in China” – Language Immersion Courses

The 2009 “Learn Chinese in China” Language Immersion Courses took place in July/August in five course centres, with over 350 students and teachers from thirty-five English and Scottish schools taking part. The courses in Beijing and Shanghai were open to all schools, while those in Nanjing, Nanhai and Chongqing were offered to schools with partners in those locations, thereby strengthening school and area links.

All participants began the courses with time in Beijing, where they participated in cultural visits including the Great Wall, the Forbidden City and the Summer Palace, and took part in cultural activities and classes such as knot-work and Ancient Chinese literature.

They then spent two weeks in their main course centre, where the programme offered a mixture of intensive language tuition, cultural activities, sightseeing visits, time with Chinese secondary school students and where possible visits to their partner schools. Throughout the course students were assessed using the Asset Languages teacher assessment levels, and on returning to the UK schools entered their students for the external Asset speaking and listening exams.

The courses were funded by the DCSF, Learning and Teaching Scotland and Hanban and were organised by the British Council and Hanban.

Key Stage 2 Chinese Language and Culture Immersion Courses

2009 was the third year of the Key Stage 2 Chinese Language and Culture Immersion Courses, supported by the HSBC Global Education Programme and run by the British Council.

Over 90 students from 9 local authorities were involved in the two week-long residential courses, held in Surrey and Leicestershire in July and August 2009. The courses offered an exciting programme with Mandarin Chinese classes in the morning and cultural activities including tai chi, puppet making and lion

dance workshops in the afternoon, culminating in a performance for the students' families, guardians and carers at the end of the week.

Mandarin Chinese Speaking Competition

2008/09 was the sixth year of the competition, which is supported by the HSBC Global Education Programme and run by the British Council. Due to an increasing number of entries over the years, regional heats were held for the first time. These took place in December 2008 and were hosted by SOAS and the University of Leeds. 220 students from 44 schools took part in the heats, at which the chair of judges commented that the standard of the competitors had once again increased from previous years, which is a positive indicator of the development of Mandarin in the UK.

91 students from 24 schools were chosen to compete at the final, held at the prestigious Clore Education Centre at the British Museum. The British Museum designed break-out sessions for students during their free time, and the young people from the Medway Lion Team performed a stunning Dragon Dance. The panel was made up of representatives from HSBC, the Embassy of the People's Republic of China, the University of Newcastle and the University of Leeds.

The first place winners of the individual and group categories were thrilled to win a week long trip to China from 8 to 16 April.

China Competition for Primary School Students

This was the first year in which this competition was run. Primary schools across the UK were invited to submit electronic slide presentations prepared by their students aged 7-11, showing how much they knew about the lives of the students at their partner school in China. A requirement was that schools show evidence of collaborating with their partners to compile this information, encouraging good communication between schools.

24 schools registered, 12 of which went on to submit entries. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize winners received prize grants of £5,000, £4,000 and £3,000 respectively and are using them in a range of innovative ways to further their partnership and work on China within their school.

This competition was one of the last activities funded by China Now.

Head teachers' visit

In May 2009 British Council worked with Hanban on the third annual Head teachers' visit to China.

One hundred head teacher and local authority co-ordinators from sixteen English local authorities took part in the visit, along with ten participants from Wales and ten from Northern Ireland. All of the in-China costs were met by Hanban, while international travel and other costs were met by the DCSF for the English participants; by the International Education Unit of the Department for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills, Welsh Assembly

Government for the Welsh participants and through the grant funding from the Department of Education for the Northern Irish participants. The visit was organised by Hanban and the British Council in the UK and China.

All participants attended a conference in Beijing before travelling to their partner districts to work with their partner schools. The aim of the visit was to establish or enhance sustainable school links with Chinese schools for joint curriculum projects and to provide ideas for encouraging and enhancing Chinese language programmes in UK schools. Participants also had the opportunity to find out more about the Chinese education system and gain first-hand understanding of Chinese culture.

School and Area Linking

Three grant panels were held during the academic year 2008/09, at which grants were approved for 78 English primary and secondary school teachers and head teachers and local authority representatives to visit their partner schools and districts in China, through the DCSF funded School and Area Linking Visit programme administered by the British Council. The visits were to enable schools to meet and discuss future joint projects that they would work on together. The majority of the schools visited as part of area links.

The British Council also manages the HSBC Area Links programme and in summer 2009 awarded three years of funding to a further three areas to support them in their partnership with China. They were the North London Schools International Network, linked with Shunde; Cornwall, linked with Yuxi and Qujing in Yunnan province; and Cardiff, linked with Chongqing.

Twelve other local authorities have already been supported or are being supported by HSBC Area Links funding.

The British Council in China provides support and briefings for the Chinese schools involved in these partnerships as well as support during the actual visits.

Joint Curriculum Projects

During the 2008/09 academic year three grant panels were held, at which grants were approved for 49 primary, secondary and special schools in England. These schools received a DCSF Joint Curriculum Project (JCP) grant of up to £5,000 to work on their chosen project. JCPs can be on a huge range of themes, but must always be of mutual benefit to both schools in the partnership, and embedded into the curriculum.

All secondary school applications approved at these panels involve students travelling to their partner schools in China to work on the project together, and an increasing number of primary school projects include student mobility.

Conference on educational co-operation with China

The largest turnout since the Conference began of over 200 education practitioners gathered at HSBC headquarters in London for the 7th annual

China Conference, hosted jointly by HSBC and the British Council, and supported by the DCSF. Delegates attending included representatives from schools and local authorities across Britain, as well as from a variety of organisations including the DCSF, the Scottish Government and the Welsh Assembly Government, the Embassy of the People's Republic of China, QCA, BBC World Class and others. The conference was opened by the Rt Hon Jim Knight MP, Minister of State for Schools and Learners, DCSF and Minister Counsellor Tian Xiaogang from the Embassy of the People's Republic of China, Simon Martin, HSBC Holdings, and Martin Davidson, Chief Executive of the British Council.

Workshop sessions were held on developing new school partnerships and sustaining partnerships in the different regions of China followed by specialist sessions on communications with Chinese partners, developing joint curriculum projects, Language Assistants, primary curriculum and enterprise projects.

One of the plenary sessions featured presentations from young participants who had taken part in the Mandarin Chinese Speaking Competition, the HSBC Gap Year Scholars programme or the Prime Minister's Global Fellowship. Delegates were amazed by the students' impressive Chinese language skills and understanding of China.

China Now / 100 Words Schools Competition

The British Council was a programme partner of China Now, the largest ever festival of Chinese culture in Europe, and was involved in a number of their education programmes including the 100 Words Schools Competition. Linked secondary schools in China and the UK were invited to write 100 word plays in the language they were learning - either English or Mandarin. Scripts were filmed and uploaded onto a secure website, www.elanguages.com The Chinese winning teams visited the UK for a week-long programme of dialogue and exchange in the autumn term. During this, fresh material was written and rehearsed, culminating in a public bi-lingual performance involving all of the students in a central London venue. The young people then returned to the UK schools and performed the complete programme of work created over the three days in front of the whole school.

For more information about any of these programmes then please contact world.links@britishcouncil.org or visit www.britishcouncil.org/schoolpartnerships

Kit Byford
British Council

The 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 astonishing sculptures, murals and manuscripts. One of the most notable discoveries was the Buddhist cave library near the oasis town of Dunhuang on the edge of the Gobi desert in western China. The cave had been sealed and hidden at the end of the first millennium AD and only re-discovered in 1900. Forty thousand manuscripts, paintings and printed documents on paper and silk were found in the cave itself. Tens of thousands more items were excavated from other Silk Road archaeological sites. The majority of the manuscripts are in Chinese, but there is also a large collection of Tibetan documents as well as other items in Uighur, 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 this great trade route from 100 BC to AD 1400. Yet most were dispersed to institutions worldwide in the early 1900s, making access difficult.

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 via multilingual websites hosted locally by IDP centres at holding institutions worldwide. The IDP centre at the British Library has a team of ten people with two computer consultants, with other centres worldwide in China (National Library of China and Dunhuang Academy), Russia (Institute of Oriental Manuscripts, St Petersburg), Japan (Ryukoku University, Kyoto), Germany (BBAW, Staatsbibliothek and Asian Art Museum, Berlin), and France (Bibliothèque nationale, and Musée Guimet, Paris).

The website of IDP France was launched in April 2009, bringing online 60,000 images and 8,000 catalogue records from the Pelliot collections of both institutions.

Through the multilingual websites hosted by the IDP centres, IDP now offers free access to over 245,000 images of almost 100,000 artefacts from the Silk Road, with catalogues and contextual information.

Research

2008-9 has been another active year for research by IDP staff members, with papers published on a range of subjects including the Dunhuang Star Chart, a Tibetan *Mahāyoga* treatise from Dunhuang, Aurel Stein, manuscript copies of stone inscriptions in the Dunhuang corpus, the Baoenjing, and the third Otani expedition to Dunhuang. Staff have also presented papers at several workshops and conferences worldwide on Chan Buddhism, the Silk Road in

world history, early Chinese writing, scribal notation in medieval Chinese manuscripts, digital content issues relating to heritage material etc. Otherwise research continues on large-scale projects such as the palaeography of Chinese and Tibetan manuscripts from Dunhuang (a Leverhulme Fund project), and archaeological sites of the southern Silk Road.

In November 2008 members of a joint project between IDP and the Xinjiang Institute of Archaeology in China (XJIA) went on a field trip to take documentary photography of archaeological sites in the southern Taklamakan visited by Stein, resulting in over 800 modern images of the sites going online on IDP. These can be viewed on the Advanced Search page of the website, selecting 'Photograph' and filtering by archaeological site: http://idp.bl.uk/database/database_search.a4d.

As part of the DCMS World Collections Programme, IDP is hosting two interns from the Dunhuang Academy, China for five months each, further enhancing a long-standing relationship between IDP and Dunhuang. Both interns have worked on image manipulation and XML catalogue mark-up, as well as helping translate training manuals.

Over the summer we took one volunteer and are always happy to hear from anyone in the UK who would like to be involved in IDP's work.

IDP staff are happy to come and give talks to schools and universities on their research and on IDP.

Education

IDP staff have run three educational workshops (funded by the Ford Foundation) over 2008-9 in collaboration with colleagues from the Dunhuang Academy. Two workshops were held at the Mogao Caves near Dunhuang for seventy local schoolchildren, including an introduction to astronomy in medieval China, focusing on the Dunhuang Star Chart. A third workshop was held at the British Library in London for twenty Key Stage 3 students, also on Chinese astronomy and the Star Chart, and with the participation of visiting colleagues from Dunhuang. IDP has recently commissioned an educational wall poster of the Chinese sky, offering a visually attractive introduction to astronomy in premodern China.

As part of an EU-funded project, IDP has produced a new web resource with downloadable educational worksheets in English, French and German on the subject of Buddhism for teachers and students. The worksheets introduce the topic by presenting the history and basic tenets of the religion, its transmission through Asia, and its iconography and manifestation in printed documents, paintings and manuscripts from international museum and library collections. The resource, and others, can be found at: http://idp.bl.uk/pages/education_students.a4d.

To find out more, please visit our website at <http://idp.bl.uk>. You can access all the other language websites from the home page.

Alastair Morrison

