



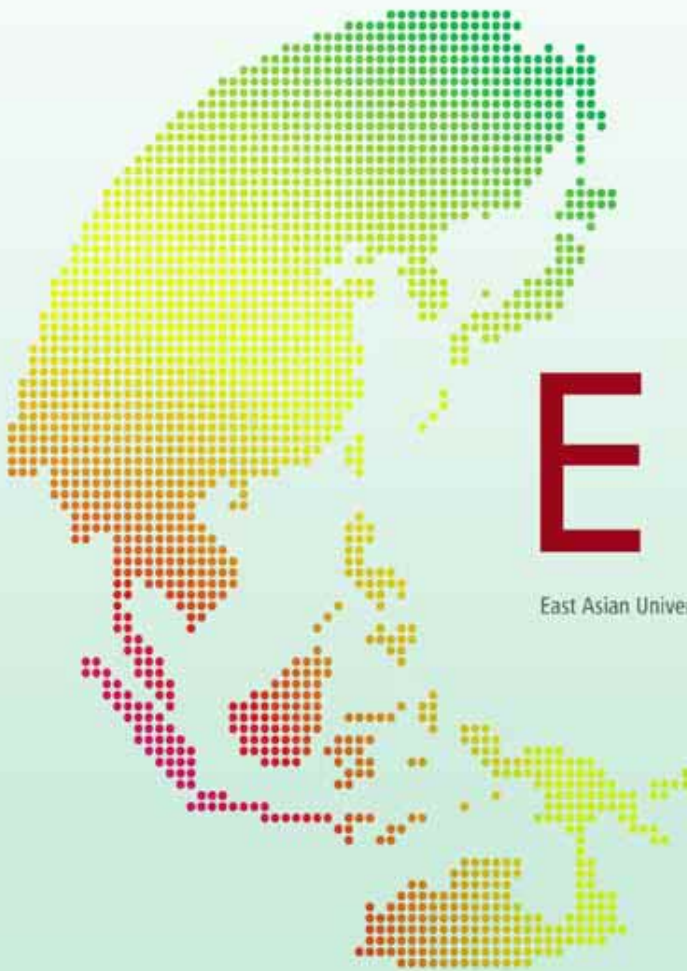
NANYANG
TECHNOLOGICAL
UNIVERSITY

School of Humanities and Social Sciences

HORIZON

Sharing ideas, Bridging minds

ISSUE NO.5 | **March/April 2013**



EAUI

East Asian University Institute (EAUI) for Asian Regional Integration

Waseda University

Korea University

Nanyang Technological University

Peking University

Thammasat University

Campus-Asia EAUI Winter School @ NTU

Paving the way for a regional graduate school of Asia

Public Policy & Global Affairs

HSS breaks new ground with first-of-its-kind degree programme

Fung Global Fellows

NTU linguist wins prestigious fellowship to Princeton

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Chair's Message



“Our school recently successfully conducted the Campus Asia-EAUI Winter School – the first to be held outside Japan. The Campus Asia-EAUI is a transnational collaborative project by five schools in five leading Asian universities: NTU, Waseda, Peking, Korea, and Thammasat. Funded with US\$5 million through competitive bidding, it aims to develop an Asia-wide graduate school by 2020.”

Dear colleagues, students, alumni and friends,

I am pleased to share HSS's two major developments in education and research in recent months – the Campus Asia-East Asian University Institute (EAUI) programme and the Public Policy and Global Affairs undergraduate degree programme.

Our school recently successfully conducted the Campus Asia-EAUI Winter School – the first to be held outside Japan. The Campus Asia-EAUI is a transnational collaborative project by five schools in five leading Asian universities: NTU, Waseda, Peking, Korea, and Thammasat. Funded with US\$5 million through competitive bidding, it aims to develop an Asia-wide graduate school by 2020. The first of its kind in the region, the Campus Asia-EAUI will be the equivalent of the famed European University Institute. In addition to engaging research collaboration, it will groom graduates for leadership roles aimed at promoting regional integration in Asia. We strongly believe that such a regional and global university network can contribute significantly to building bridges across cultures, politics, and disciplines.

As part of the Campus Asia-EAUI alliance, our graduate students have the chance to head to our partner universities to attend summer and winter schools, as well as to go on exchange with full funding. The Campus Asia-EAUI also serves as a vehicle for research collaborations between faculty members of the five partner universities. Thus, it will contribute significantly to NTU's Sustainable Earth, Innovation Asia, and New Silk Road strategic research thrusts, as well as to the School's Global Asia research initiative.

Besides the Campus Asia-EAUI programmes, our graduate students can also study and conduct research in selected European universities through the Erasmus MULTI programme funded by the European Commission. We are in the midst of forging more partnerships with world-class universities to provide overseas opportunities for our graduate students.

On the undergraduate education front, and following the successful inauguration of the History programme last year which attracted 69 new students, HSS has launched another new degree programme, Public Policy and Global Affairs. The first of its kind in Singapore, the programme combines the study of public policy, public administration and global affairs. I am confident that the programme, under the capable leadership of Professor He Baogang, will produce graduates who are adept at crafting policies that can help improve the lives of ordinary citizens and chart the development of Singapore's and the region's future.

It has been a great start to 2013, and I would like to thank all faculty and staff members, students and alumni for your invaluable contribution to the School's continued growth. I wish all of you a fruitful year ahead. Thank you.


Professor Liu Hong
Chair

School of Humanities and Social Sciences

News

New degree in Public Policy and Global Affairs



A select number of HSS professors will soon get to use what is arguably one of the coolest designations in academia: Professor of Global Affairs.

This is because HSS has just rolled out a new undergraduate degree programme in Public Policy and Global Affairs (PPGA).

The first-of-its kind in Singapore, the four-year direct honours programme offers an interdisciplinary curriculum that combines politics and international relations, public policy, and public administration. It aims to prepare students for career and leadership roles in both public and private sectors in Singapore and the region.

The programme will accept its first intake of students this August.

Students will get to study, among other areas, policy analysis, programme evaluation, public financial management, human resource management, and non-profit management.

They will also receive professional training in political dynamics, international politics, comparative politics, comparative public administration, and global affairs.

The programme also aims to imbue in students the attributes of life-long learning, innovativeness, upstanding moral character, respect and capacity for leadership, teamwork and discipline, as well as a sense of professionalism.

Graduates from this programme are best suited for careers in civil service administration, public management, policy analysis, journalism, and research.

Please visit <http://bit.ly/VHYeV5> for more details.

New Second Major

Outstanding Psychology undergraduates can now take up a second major in Biological Sciences offered by NTU's School of Biological Science. Likewise, Biological Sciences undergraduates can choose to take up a second major in Psychology. This new option reflects the interdisciplinary nature of the current research trend in Psychology and Biology. Students will not only gain breadth of exposure but also greater depth of study in a field related to their specialisation.

Inaugural NTU Chinese writer-in-residence



The Division of Chinese at HSS has appointed critically-acclaimed local writer Yeng Pway-Ngon as NTU's inaugural Chinese writer-in-residence.

A recipient of the Cultural Medallion for Literature in 2003, Yeng is considered one of the foremost modernist writers in Singapore and Malaysia.

The Chinese Creative Writing Residencies Programme is jointly run by NTU's School of Humanities and Social Sciences, and the National Arts Council (NAC).

The programme is the first of its kind to host local and international Chinese creative writers at a Singapore university. The writers will get to teach in NTU for up to six months, while working on a literary project of their own.

NTU and NAC are co-funding up to \$1.5 million over three years for the programme.

Yeng has published five novels, two collections of short stories, three volumes of poetry, two collections of stage plays, 11 volumes of essays, a collection of social critique and another collection dealing with literary criticism.

Three of his novels, *A Man like Me* (一个象我这样的男人), *Trivialities about Me and Myself* (我与我自己的二三事) and *The Studio* (画室) won the Singapore Literature Prize.

Trivialities about Me and Myself was listed as one of the 10 Best Chinese Novels in the World in 2006 by Hong Kong-based Asia Weekly. *The Studio* won the same accolade in 2011.

NTU Chinese library held an exhibition of his works from 18-31 January.

Yeng teaches a novel writing course in NTU, and is working on a new novel based on the theme of Cantonese opera, set in the late 1930s to 1940s.

HASS Dean appointed Toh Puan Mahani Idris Daim Chair Professor



Prof Alan Chan, Dean of NTU's College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (HASS), has been conferred by the University the title of Toh Puan Mahani Idris Daim Chair Professor.

The Toh Puan Mahani Idris Daim Chair Professorship is the first endowed professorship in Humanities and Social Sciences at NTU. It was launched in 2005 with a gift of \$1.5 million from well-known arts patron Toh Puan Mahani Idris Daim, the wife of Malaysia's former finance minister Tun Daim Zainuddin.

An internationally-acclaimed academic, Prof Chan is a philosopher by training, specialising in Chinese philosophy and religion. He joined NTU in 2009 to lead the College which comprises the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, the Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information, the School of Art, Design and Media, the Nanyang Centre for Public Administration (NCPA), and the Centre for Liberal Arts and Social Sciences.

Under his leadership, the College has attracted a record number of top students, increased its success in winning research grants, expanded partnerships with leading universities, developed new undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, and established initiatives such as Singapore's new Centre for Contemporary Art at Gillman Barracks, the NTU-National Arts Council creative writing programmes (in Chinese and English), the Communication Cube writing mentorship programme, and the NTU International Summer School in China Programme. Over the last three years, Prof Chan has raised close to S\$5million in endowment benefitting various College and School programmes.

HSS Chair appointed Tan Kah Kee Chair Professor

Prof Liu Hong, Chair of NTU's School of Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS), has been conferred by the University the title of Tan Kah Kee Chair Professor.



The prestigious Tan Kah Kee Chair Professorship was launched in 1996 by the then Singapore President Mr Ong Teng Cheong to honour Mr Tan Kah Kee (1874 – 1961) and to pay tribute to his exceptional and wide-ranging contributions.

An internationally renowned scholar in Asian Studies and in Chinese Diaspora, Prof Liu has authored and edited 12 books (in English, Chinese, and Bahasa Indonesia), and over 80 academic articles, many of which appeared in top-ranked, peer-reviewed journals. In 2007, he was awarded the Eminent Yangtze Scholar Award, the highest academic honour given by the People's Republic of China.

Prof Liu Hong had taught at the National University of Singapore from 1995 to 2006, and was awarded tenure in less than five years. He was the Chair Professor of East Asian Studies and the Founding Director of the Centre for Chinese Studies at the University of Manchester from 2006 to 2010. He joined NTU in 2010, and has chaired the School since July 2011. Under his leadership, the School has made rapid progress, notably launching two new undergraduate degree programmes (in History and in Public Policy & Global Affairs), creating five interdisciplinary research clusters, substantially increasing its success in winning external research grants, forging global collaborations with top universities such as Harvard, Melbourne and Kyoto, and establishing the NTU-National Arts Council Chinese Creative Writing Residency Programme, the first in a Singapore university.

NTU honours alumna Sim Ann

In recognition of her outstanding contributions to Singapore, NTU conferred Ms Sim Ann with the Nanyang Outstanding Young Alumni Award on 13 October, 2012, at the annual university's homecoming.



Ms Sim is the Senior Parliamentary Secretary of the Ministry of Communications and Information, and Ministry of Education, as well as a member of parliament since 2011. She graduated from HSS with a postgraduate diploma in translation and interpretation in 2005.

She was one of the seven NTU alumni, under the ages of 40, recognised for their achievements in their professions, or have contributed significantly to NTU or the society.

As a result of her equal facility in two languages, Ms Sim has been the spokesperson for bilingualism and bilingual education in the incumbent government. She spearheads the Lee Kuan Yew Bilingualism Fund as its vice-chairman, and also heads the Bicultural Taskforce.

Before taking up political office, she served in the civil service for over a decade, holding several leadership appointments. From 2003 to 2006, she was Deputy Director of Trade at the Ministry of Trade and Industry. From 2007 to 2009, she was the Regional Director (East China) at International Enterprise Singapore. In 2009, she joined the National Population Secretariat as its Director.

NTU linguist wins prestigious fellowship to Princeton

NTU linguist Asst Prof Tan Ying Ying has been awarded the prestigious Fung Global fellowship from Princeton University.



The Fung Global Fellows Program brings exceptional international early career faculty members working in the social sciences and the humanities to Princeton for a year of research, writing, and collaboration.

Only six scholars from around the world are selected for the highly competitive program each year.

Asst Prof Tan will head to Princeton in academic year 2013/14 to conduct a research project in the area of language planning and policy.

Her research aims to challenge the assumption, typically made in studies on language planning and policy, that language communities are passive recipient of language policies. Using the example of Singapore, she will argue that the language community can in fact have an agentive role in the face of the authority's language planning and policies.

NTU commemorates the 40th Anniversary of Mr Tan Lark Sye's passing

Well-known philanthropist Tan Lark Sye may have passed away some 40 years ago, but he is still remembered fondly for his leading role in the founding of Nantah (former Nanyang University) in 1953 with the support of the Chinese community.

Nantah alumni, faculty and students of NTU, as well as members of the public and Chinese community groups gathered at a commemoration event on 29 October, 2012 to mark the 40th anniversary of Mr Tan's death.

The event, held at the Singapore Press Holding's News Centre, was jointly organised by NTU's Centre for Chinese Language and Culture (CCLC) and the Association of Nanyang University Graduates.

Nantah, then the only Chinese-medium university in Southeast Asia, was the predecessor institution of NTU.

Mr Tan, a rubber tycoon, personally donated a sum of \$5 million to Nantah's building fund, as well as 523 acres of land for its campus on behalf of the Hokkien Huay Kuan.

What was remarkable was his ability to rally the Chinese community – from poor trishaw riders to wealthy businessmen – to come together and donate generously.

In his opening address, guest of honour Deputy Prime Minister Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam hailed Mr Tan as a role model and spoke of the need for society to rekindle public-spiritedness and the value of giving back to the community, significant features of Mr Tan's era.

"The lessons of Tan Lark Sye, Tan Kah Kee and others like them are that it was not just about giving money.

"It was about putting great energy, effort and leadership into the causes they believed in," he said.

Back then, Chinese middle school students in Singapore and the region did not have a chance to attend university as they couldn't go to communist China for studies.

But because of Mr Tan's vision and leadership in founding Nantah, these students had a shot at higher education.

Although Nantah lasted only 25 years, a result of falling enrolment due to changes in the government's language and education policy in the 1960s, the university produced nearly 12,000 graduates, many of whom made sterling contributions in different fields ranging from the arts and education to government and politics. This is a testament to the success of Nantah.



Guest of honour Deputy Prime Minister Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam (above) speaks of the need to replicate the model of philanthropy from Mr Tan Lark Sye's era.

Mr Tan Lark Sye (left) is remembered for his leading role in the founding of Nantah in 1953. This was accomplished with support from the entire Chinese community, with donations drawn from poor trishaw riders, cabaret girls, as well as rich businessmen.

Tan Lark Sye Professorship

In 1998, NTU set up the Tan Lark Sye Professorship in Chinese language and culture to recognise Mr Tan's contribution to the university.

Chinese community groups and Nantah alumni donated nearly \$2 million to fund the professorship, allowing NTU's CCLC to invite up to two renowned scholars from worldwide each year to conduct research in NTU and give public lectures.

The Professorship aims to make NTU a key research hub for Chinese language and culture in Southeast Asia, and also to raise social awareness and concern for issues pertaining to Chinese language and culture.

The current Tan Lark Sye Professor is Harvard University's Prof David Wang Der-Wei who gave a keynote address on *Sinophone Humanities and Singaporean Experience: Ten Keywords* at the commemoration event.

The commemoration event included a seminar on Nantah history by Assoc Prof Lee Leong Sze, National Kaoshiung Normal University; Dr Zhou Zhao Cheng, Editor, Lianhe Zaobao Online and Editor, Crossroads; and Asst Prof Yow Chuen Hoe, NTU's Division of Chinese.

DPM Mr Tharman also launched five new Chinese books, three of them on the history of Nantah, at the commemoration event.

In appreciation of Lee Guan Kin



Assoc Prof Lee Guan Kin – an esteemed member of the Division of Chinese who has just retired.

Highly-esteemed Chinese faculty member Assoc Prof Lee Guan Kin closed a chapter on her illustrious academic career as she retired from NTU in February.

The Division of Chinese and the Centre for Chinese Language and Culture held a commemorative event and dinner at NTU in her honour on 25 January. Over a hundred students, colleagues, friends as well as luminaries from the academia, turned up to show their appreciation to Assoc Prof Lee.

An accomplished scholar in the field of Ethnic Chinese Studies in Southeast Asia, Assoc Prof Lee was the founding head of the Division of Chinese, and the director of the CCLC.

A Nantah alumna, Assoc Prof Lee obtained her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Nanyang University. She taught at Hwa Chong junior college before doing her PhD at the University of Hong Kong. After completing her PhD under the supervision of Prof Wang Gungwu in 1994, she joined the CCLC in NTU.

Languages in danger of extinction

By Chua Yini



Prof Suzanne Romaine warns that almost half of the world's languages are down to their last remaining speakers.

Imagine a world where people speak only English, or Mandarin or Spanish.

Up to ninety per cent of the world's languages could perish within the next hundred years, a phenomenon that is directly linked to the loss of biodiversity, said NTU's Toh Puan Mahani Idris Daim Visiting Chair Professor, Suzanne Romaine.

While most people are aware of the loss of plant and animal species and ecosystems, it is less known that a parallel danger threatens the world's languages, said Prof Romaine.

"The general public doesn't really know much about the extinction of languages, although it has appeared increasingly in the media over the last few years," she said.

Prof Romaine, who is also the Merton Professor of English Language at Oxford University, was speaking at a public lecture at the School of Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS) on 24th January. As a visiting professor in NTU, she conducts research and teaches classes during her month long stay here.

Prof Romaine has written several books on the topic, and cited "alarming" statistic from various research reports: The 6,900 surviving languages in the world today are dying at the rate of one every fortnight.

The loss of linguistic equilibrium

According to Prof Romaine, throughout most of human history, the number of languages being lost have roughly equated to the new ones created.

"However, for the past 500 years, this linguistic equilibrium has been broken and small languages nearly everywhere have come under intense threat," she said.

She explained that no language was able to assert dominance in the past as people lived in small and distinct groups. Therefore, there were no empires that might cause the sustained expansion of a group of people and its culture.

However, this is no longer the case nowadays.

"While large languages are expanding, others are contracting" said Prof Romaine. This is due to the dominance of certain languages which are spread through agriculture, colonisation, the industrial revolution, globalisation of economies and the mass media.

Calling these forces the "global village phenomenon", she revealed that they have "propelled some few languages, all of them eurasian in origin, to spread over the last few centuries"

Prof Romaine added that the phenomenon is still active today. She cited the example of semi nomadic tribes in parts of Africa who are being pushed out by the expansion of foreigners.

The last speaker: custodians of dying languages

As a result of the global village phenomenon, the linguistic equilibrium has been broken, causing huge disparities between the sizes of populations that speak the languages of the world.

Therefore, almost half of the world's languages are left with their last speakers and face the threat of being wiped out from the face of the earth.

"If the last speaker [of a language] dies, the language disappears forever, leaving few or no traces," said Prof Romaine.

Out of the 6,900 languages in the world, 83 major languages are spoken by 79.4% of the world's population. In contrast, 3,586 small languages – half of the world's total number of languages – are spoken by only 0.2% of the world population.

Said Prof Romaine: “Most speakers of large languages like English or Chinese can't imagine the possibility [of being the last speaker], but a growing number of extinctions over the last 500 years or so has made that an all too real prospect for a great many people”

Parallel with biodiversity crisis

There is a close relationship between the biodiversity and linguistic diversity crises, said Prof Romaine. This may be due to a geographic overlap between languages and species. High concentrations of biodiversity and linguistic diversity are found in the tropics, and trails off towards the poles.

“Most of the languages are actually spoken in regions that contain exceptionally high biodiversity,” she said, citing Papua New Guinea as an example of a common repository. She added that such hotspots are the ones most vulnerable to the pressures of globalisation.

However, while more research needs to be done, she remains hopeful for the future of biodiversity and languages in the world.

She said: “In a sense, this is good news...even if we don't know precisely the relationship or the unlying causes...it's a good thing in the sense that we're dealing with one bigger interconnected problem rather than with several isolated problems.”

NTU's efforts in preserving endangered languages

- Funded by a MOE AcRF Tier 2 grant, researchers from HSS's Division of Linguistics and Multilingual Studies (LMS), and the School of Art, Design and Media will document four endangered Asian languages in north east India; northern Thailand; southern peninsular Malaysia, and eastern Indonesia. Language data collected will be stored in a digital repository in NTU called the Archive of Indigenous Languages and Cultures of Asia. The first of its kind in Asia, it will provide universal access to minority communities, academics, and members of the public. The project will also mount arresting exhibits of Southeast Asian culture, heritage, and languages.
- Funded by a MOE AcRF Tier 1 grant, researchers from LMS will document Zhongshan Min, a fast disappearing Southern Min dialect in Guangdong, China.
- The Digital Intangible Heritage of Asia, a research and development cluster in NTU, brings together linguists, historians, interactive media specialists, and computer engineers to conserve endangered languages and cultural knowledge through interactive digital media. One of its projects Singapore Voices produced sensitive, expressive presentations of interviews with elderly speakers of Tamil, Malayalam, Telugu, Teochew, Hokkien, Hakka, Hainanese and Baba Malay.

HSS hosts leading linguists in Sino-Tibetan languages

The Division of Linguistics and Multilingual Studies hosted the 45th International Conference on Sino-Tibetan Languages and Linguistics (ICSTLL) from 26 – 28 October, 2012.

Keynote speakers included Prof Hilary Chappell, Chair Professor in Linguistic Typology of East Asian Languages, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales; Prof James Matisoff, Professor Emeritus, University of California at Berkeley; Prof Luke Kang Kwong, Dean (Research), NTU's College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences; and Prof Randy LaPolla, Head, NTU's Division of Linguistics and Multilingual Studies.

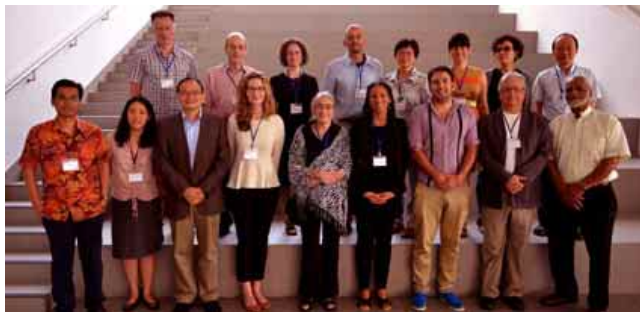
The organiser also held workshops on Austroasiatic languages, on Miao-Yao languages, and on the use of a



Sino-Tibetan Etymological Dictionary and Thesaurus database.

The conference was sponsored by NTU's Centre of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences.

Examining biology, medicine, and race beyond the genome



The workshop attracted scholars from leading universities such as Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and University of Oxford.

Research into social issues arising from advances in biological and medical sciences is of particular importance as NTU readies itself for its new medical school in August 2013. To this end, the Humanities, Science and Society (HSS@HSS) research cluster brought together leading scholars from around the world to examine issues arising from an interdisciplinary workshop on Biology, Medicine, and Race Beyond the Genome, held from 17 – 18 January.

Since the completion of the Human Genome Project in 2001, biologists have continued to deepen our understanding of human biology and of its relation to medicine. This ‘postgenomic’ period has been linked to changes in technology, methods and approaches in the life sciences. Has biology been radically transformed? If so, how? Has postgenomic biology established new understandings of race and population, similarity and difference, or of the interaction between genes and the environment?

These and other questions were examined at the workshop which attracted scholars from leading universities such as Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and University of Oxford. They presented papers on five themes: Postgenomics and the Environment; Race and Ethnicity in the Postgenomic Age; Nations, Family, Identity; Translocal Genomics, Data, and Difference; Methods, Metaphors, Practices.

The workshop was sponsored by HSS, NTU’s Centre for Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, and the International Institute for Asian Studies in Leiden.

HSS hosts conference on Nietzsche and Chinese Literature

The Division of Chinese hosted leading scholars researching on Nietzsche and Chinese Literature at the International Conference of Nietzsche and Modern and Contemporary Chinese Literature from 22 – 23 November, 2012.



Participants of the International Conference of Nietzsche and Modern and Contemporary Chinese Literature.

Covering three broad topics: Nietzsche and Contemporary Chinese Literature; Nietzsche and Lu Xun, and Nietzsche in China: Translation and Literature, a total of 12 papers were presented including the following:

- My “Nietzsche in China” after 40 Years – by Prof Marian Galik (Slovak Academy of Sciences)
- “Supermen” Refracted in Black: The Transformation of Nietzsche’s “Superman” in Lu Xun’s Works – by Assoc Prof Cheung Chiu-yee (Division of Chinese, NTU)
- Nietzschean existentialism in the work of Yeng Pway Ngon and Goh Poh Seng – by Assoc Prof Sim Wai Chew (Division of English, NTU)
- The Influence of “Japan’s Nietzsche” on Lu Xun – by Prof Li Dong Mu (Bukkyo University)
- Translation and Politics: Translation of Nietzsche in China in the 1950s and 1960s – by Dr Cui Feng (Division of Chinese, NTU)

All papers will be published by Global Publishing, Singapore, in 2013. The conference was sponsored by NTU’s Centre of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences and NTU’s Confucius Institute.

Centre for Modern Languages holds inaugural open house

The Centre for Modern Languages at HSS held its inaugural open house on 16th January to showcase exciting elements of its language courses to NTU students.

The Centre offers courses in Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Malay, Spanish, Thai and Vietnamese. These range from introductory to advanced levels.

The event allowed students to learn about the curriculum and hence to make informed choices when choosing language electives. Lecturers were on hand to answer questions posed by students.

Students also learned about various cultures through demonstrations of Chinese diabolo, French Pétanque, Thai name writing, and Japanese origami. Korean and Italian videos were screened; a former “French Idol” winner graced the occasion with a song.



Paving the way for a regional graduate school of Asia

The School of Humanities and Social Sciences in NTU successfully concluded the Campus Asia-East Asian University Institute (EAUI) Winter School 2013 – the first held outside of Japan.

The Winter School @ NTU, held from 25th February to 1st March, is part of a series of prelude programmes conducted to path the way for the launch of a regional graduate school in Asia, Campus-Asia EAUI, by 2020. It is a collaboration between five leading Asian universities: Waseda University, NTU, Peking University, Korea University, and Thammasat University.

Over 60 faculty members and graduate students from the partner universities gathered at NTU for five days of intensive interdisciplinary education and research undertakings. The Winter School @ NTU served as a vehicle for the development of curriculum and research programmes for Campus-Asia EAUI.

Turn the page to find out what the Campus Asia-EAUI is all about – and how it enables NTU to play an integral role in building a sustainable Asia.



Feature

What is Campus-Asia EAUI?

The Campus Asia-EAUI is envisioned to be a regional graduate school of Asia. To be formally launched by 2020, it will offer postgraduate degree programmes with the aim of grooming scholars and professionals who can foster Asian regional integration. The Campus Asia-EAUI consortium comprises:

- Waseda University's Graduate School of Asia-Pacific Studies (Japan)
- Nanyang Technological University's School of Humanities and Social Sciences (Singapore)
- Peking University's School of International Studies (China)
- Korea University's Asiatic Research Institute and College of Political Science (Korea)
- Thammasat University's Faculty of Political Science (Thailand)

Through a curriculum co-taught by faculty from the consortium, students will develop interdisciplinary expertise in areas such as politics, international relations, economics, history and sociology. They will carry out cutting-edge research to address regional problems, build a cohesive network, forge lasting friendship, and hopefully take on future leadership roles in academia, regional institutions, governments and private sector organisations.

To path the way for the launch of Campus Asia-EAUI by 2020, the consortium ran a series of pre-programmes starting in 2012. The pre-programmes consist of winter and summer schools and exchange programme. They are open to all graduate students from the partner universities, including NTU's HSS.

These overseas immersion programmes are fully funded by a US\$ 5 million grant from Japan's Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT). The consortium, led

by Waseda University, won the backing of MEXT in 2012 despite facing over 56 contending bids from top universities worldwide.

Each partner university will take turn to host the winter schools, while Waseda university will host the summer schools. Students will be co-taught by faculty members from the partner universities and will study Asian regional integration issues and concerns.

PhD students from each partner university can also go on a semester-long exchange at Waseda University. Likewise, PhD students from Waseda University can head to one of the four other partner universities for exchange.

Waseda University hosted the inaugural Summer and Winter Schools in 2012. The 2013 Winter School was held in NTU, while the upcoming 2013 Summer School is slated to be held at Waseda University.

Why the need for Campus Asia-EAUI?

The Campus Asia-EAUI is modelled after the European University Institute (EUI) and the College of Europe. They were formed in the aftermath of the Second World War to promote integration and mutual understanding between all nations in Europe.

Both distinguished institutions have produced notable alumni excelling in various fields and who have made significant contributions to European integration. A notable example is Nick Clegg, the current Deputy Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and a former member of the European Parliament. He is a graduate of the College of Europe.

In a similar vein, the Campus-Asia EAUI and its pre-programmes aim to groom students to become effective leaders in regional integration, deploying a curriculum which emphasises interdisciplinary learning and cross-cultural research and learning environments.

What's in store for NTU students?

Summer School

- Lectures and project work held at Waseda University
- Round-trip air ticket and accommodation provided
- Open to all HSS graduate students

Winter School

- Lectures and project work held at NTU, Waseda University, Korea University, Peking University, or Thammasat University
- Round-trip air ticket and accommodation provided
- Open to all HSS graduate students

Graduate Exchange Programme

- Semester-long exchange programme at Waseda University
- Round-trip air ticket and partial subsidy for accommodation provided
- Open to all HSS PhD students

Interested students can obtain more information at <http://bit.ly/Z2thYr>



The Campus-Asia EAU and its pre-programmes aim to groom students to become effective leaders in regional integration.

In his welcome address to the Winter School @ NTU, Prof Liu Hong, Chair of HSS, said: “The Campus Asia-EAUI is a unique program which brings together leading Asian universities to act as a cultural and scientific bridge between countries in Asia.

“Through interdisciplinary dialogues, I am hopeful that students and scholars will develop strategies for promoting a sustainable Asia, and for managing social, political, economic, cultural and environmental challenges that Asia is facing.”

He also described Asia as an engine of growth that is increasingly troubled by challenges such as an aging population, ethnic and religious conflicts, security issues, economic inequality and poverty, the loss of biodiversity, deforestation, natural and man-made disasters, and pandemics.

For instance, Asia is now the world’s number one greenhouse gas emitter. Japan on its part struggles to rebuild Fukushima in the aftermath of nuclear disaster. Across the East China Sea, tension remains high over territorial disputes involving the Diaoyu Islands, also known as Senkaku Islands. In Southeast Asia, trans-boundary haze, a result of forest fires in Indonesia, often engulfs the skies of neighbouring countries. And closer to home, Singapore has to grapple with a fast-ageing population – a problem that adversely affects Japan.

These and other problems are often trans-border or transnational in nature, and solving them will require cooperation from the affected countries. Asian countries need to look beyond parochial national interest – and come together to address these

issues. But unlike Europe, Asia is a much more diverse continent – with diverse ethnic groups, languages, and cultures – making cooperation and dialogue difficult.

Hence the need for a regional graduate school to bring together the best minds in Asia, to be taught by leading scholars from various parts of Asia.

Prof Shunji Matsuoka, a professor of economics at Waseda University and also the general manager of the Campus Asia-EAUI programme, said: “We found that having a regional wide graduate school university has helped to enhance the human resource of effective regional cooperation in Europe.

“The Asian way is of course quite different from the European way. Asia is much more diversified in its political systems, economic institutes, and socio-cultural aspects compared to Europe.

“Nevertheless, we can learn from the European cases and other region’s experiences to help make peace and prosperity in East Asia. We have designed to make the East Asian University Institute (EAUI) an organisation equivalent to the European University Institute (EUI) of Europe, with an aim to develop a peaceful and prosperous Asia.”

With the five partner universities as anchors, the Campus-Asia EAUI aims to expand and to open the programme in the future to other leading universities in Japan and other Asian countries, as well as those under the Universitas 21 network and the Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU).

Feature

Promoting Interdisciplinary Research

The Campus-Asia EAUI also serves as a vehicle for developing joint research projects involving faculty members from partner universities. They can exchange research ideas in workshops or conferences held in conjunction with the winter or summer schools. A research workshop on the theme "Citizenship, Identity and Community" was held at the Winter School @ NTU.



Scholars can participate in workshops or conferences held in conjunction with the winter or summer schools.

The following papers were presented:

- **Emerging Consensus on Human Security**
By Prof Yasushi Katsuma, Waseda University
- **Making the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) Political for the Global Community**
By Dr Janjira Sombatpoonsiri, Thammasat University
- **The Migrants' Workers Movement in the Democratic Consolidation of Korea**
By Prof Nam-Kook Kim, Korea University
- **Citizenship and Identity in Cosmopolitan Communities: A Confucian Exploration**
By Assoc Prof Tan Sor Hoon, National University of Singapore
- **Citizenship, Identity and Community: Follow the Footsteps of Okakura Kakuzo**
By Assoc Prof Chu Xiaobo, Peking University
- **Low Fertility and the Politics of Population: The Case of Singapore**
By Asst Prof Shirley Sun, Sociology, NTU
- **Global Citizenship Education and Diaspora Chinese Community: An Exploration at the University of Nottingham**
By Dr Bin Wu, University of Nottingham
- **Starting Transnational Citizens: Belonging Between Here & There & Back Again**
By Dr Michiel Baas, International Institute for Asian Studies
- **Japanese Development Assistance towards ASEAN Countries**
By Dr Naohiro Kitano, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)



Visiting researcher scheme

Waseda University also hosts faculty members from partner universities through a visiting researcher scheme. Asst Prof Joey Long (above), Director of NTU's History Programme, was the first faculty member from NTU to take part in the scheme. The month-long visit at Waseda University (conducted last December) provided him with a supportive environment to write a chapter bringing together his new research on Singapore-U. S. relations during the Vietnam War. At the Waseda library, he tracked down scholarly writings on how Japanese diplomats had attempted to bring stability to Southeast Asia as Indonesia conducted its Confrontation policy against Malaysia from 1963 to 1966. He also presented a paper at a seminar on American military interventionism and obtained useful feedback on his ideas and arguments.

Faculty members from the partner universities delivered the following lectures to students of EAUI Winter School @ NTU:

- **Citizenship and Democracy**
By Prof He Baogang, Public Policy & Global Affairs, NTU
- **Citizenship and the Multiple Dimensions of Security**
By Asst Prof Joey Long, History, NTU
- **Traditional and Non-Traditional Security in East Asia**
By Prof Key-young Son, Korea University
- **State, Citizenship and Energy Security: A Comparison between China and Singapore**
By Assoc Prof Chen Shaofeng, Peking University
- **Popular Dissent and the Reconfiguration of Global Citizenship: From the Arab Awakening, Occupy Movements to Thailand's Red Shirts**
By Dr Janjira Sombatpoonsiri, Thammasat University
- **National Identity, Transnational Practices and Local Belonging: Citizenship in the Global Age**
By Assoc Prof Gracia Liu-Farrer, Waseda University

Campus-Asia EAUI Winter School @ NTU

Faculty members from the five partner universities took turns to deliver lectures on the theme of the issues and challenges of citizenship and security in contemporary Asia. Students were able to hear from each professor's own unique perspective on the theme.

Thereafter, students were required to demonstrate their understanding of the theme, as well as independent and creative thinking, through group projects and presentations. In the process, they learned to work together despite their different academic, cultural, national and language backgrounds.

They also visited NEWater (below), a wastewater reclamation facility, to understand how Singapore deals with the water security issue.



Other Overseas Programme

Besides the Campus Asia-EAUI pre-programmes, HSS graduate students can also take part in the Erasmus MULTI exchange programme. Funded by the European Commission, the programme allows graduate students to head to Europe for study and research on Multilinguality and Multiculturalism. They can go to: University of the Provence (France); University of Pisa (Italy); the University of Saarland (Germany); Freie Universität Berlin (Germany); or City University of London (UK). Airfare and living expenses are provided. Also in the pipeline are new exchange programmes with several world-class universities such as Auckland University, Boston University, Melbourne University and Kyoto University. Details will be announced in due course. Stay tuned!

What students say about their Campus Asia-EAUI experience:

"Learning from the different students was very enlightening and listening to different viewpoints from different cultures, mindsets, and considering current and pressing issues in our region was a very engaging experience."

Lim Yiru, NTU
2102 Winter School @ Waseda Participant

"It was an incredible experience for me in term of learning. The discussions in class never failed to enlighten me with new knowledge. Waseda's Central Library is also rich in resources since Waseda University was established in 1902; so it is more than deserving of a visit."

Christabelle He, NTU
2012/13 Exchange @ Waseda Participant

"This is an unique programme which is truly inspirational, and has allowed me to grow, and be 'bigger' than I was. It might sound cliché but having the chance to learn and to improve the world is mind-blowing."

Woo Tin Yuen, Peking University
2013 Winter School @ NTU Participant

"It was very interesting to hear from professors, who specialise in different disciplines, speaking on the issue on security. There were some overlapping areas but their interpretations and perspectives on the issue were very different and insightful."

Ridronachai Warungkarasami, Thammasat University
2013 Winter School @ NTU Participant

"I thoroughly enjoyed being here because the EAUI programme allowed me to learn to see the world from different perspectives... the professors spoke on the same topic, but yet their interpretations and viewpoints are different."

Motoi Takekawa, Waseda University
2013 Winter School @ NTU Participant

"Before this, I wasn't exposed to multiculturalism back in Korea. But through interactions with students from different universities, I learnt something new which I couldn't have done so through textbooks."

Hey Lyung Yun, Korea University
2013 Winter School @ NTU Participant

The Revolutionary-turned-Economist

Albert Winsemius Chair Professor Ng Yew Kwang remembers his heady days as a student activist in Malaysia.

By Chua Yini



NTU's Albert Winsemius Chair Professor Ng Yew Kwang was a recipient of the Distinguished Fellow award, the highest recognition from the Economic Society of Australia.

Fifteen-year-old Ng Yew Kwang stood in a packed hall in Pin Hwa High School in Penang, his spirits lifted by the presence of his comrades who had rallied together to fight for socialist ideals. Almost a thousand people from four Chinese schools were squeezed into the tiny area; they sang songs and made speeches.

It was a particular day in 1957, the heyday of the Communist student protest movement in Malaya. Ng was a member of a left-wing group in school.

The police surrounded the area and ordered the students to leave. But Ng and his comrades refused. Suddenly, shots were fired, the windows came crashing down, a mist began to gather and swirl around the packed hall. Chaos ensued as people started to cough and scream in pain.

Fifty years on from the incident, Ng still remembers how it is like to have tear gas fired at oneself.

"Initially, we felt very excited. But after a while, no one could stand it. It's unbearable," said 70-year-old Ng, now a Professor of Economics in NTU. He recounted his young days with a wistful smile.

In his teens, Ng was active in the left-wing student movement at Han Chiang High School in Penang. He took part in strikes and demonstrations and attended secret meetings to organise such activities.

But he now believes that economics is the best engine of change.

"I gave up my revolutionary dream to become an economist," Ng said. "I believed that communism could change society for the better. But my education in the university, and the events in China and Russia gradually convinced me otherwise."

"I believed that communism could change society for the better. But my education in the university, and the events in China and Russia gradually convinced me otherwise."

His revolutionary dream may be gone, but his desire to make a difference remains.

Ng graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce from Nanyang University in 1966 and obtained a PhD in Economics from Sydney University in 1971. He went on to make huge contributions to economic knowledge and understanding.

Renowned for his work in welfare economics, he has published more than two hundred refereed papers and three dozen books. In 2007, he received the Distinguished Fellow award, the highest recognition awarded by the Economic Society of Australia.

He also helped to establish mesoeconomics as a simplified method of analysis with both micro and macro elements. He also proposed welfare biology – which combines evolutionary biology and economics in the study of animal welfare – as a subject.

Ng, who is also Emeritus Professor at Monash University, joined NTU as the Albert Winsemius Chair Professor this January.

The Chair Professorship was established by NTU in 1997 as a tribute to Dr Albert Winsemius, the Dutch economist who acted as Singapore's economic advisor from the early 1960s to the 80s.

A man with a pernicious mind, Ng is widely read and has published on subjects other than economics. He has authored books and academic papers on philosophy, psychology, biology, mathematics and cosmology, and even published a martial arts novel.

"When you have ideas that are different or not in the books you read, or when you find mistakes, you want to make your views known," he said.

Ng maintains that at 70, his mind is as sharp as ever.

"I haven't thought about what I'll do (after his stint in NTU). By then I'll be 75, but I'll probably continue to write things for publication after retirement," he said with a booming laugh.

A thinker and realist rolled into one

By Neo Ping May



Prof He Baogang studied philosophy for his bachelor's and master's degrees, but switched his focus to political science when he was doing his Ph.D. at Australian National University.

The School of Humanities and Social Sciences in NTU will produce public policy-makers who are not only well-versed in social theory, political systems theory, and global affairs, but also understand the reality on the ground. This will make them adept at crafting policies that can help improve the lives of ordinary citizens.

This is Prof He Baogang's vision for the School's upcoming new Public Policy and Global Affairs (PPGA) undergraduate degree programme. He joined NTU this January to spearhead the development and launch of the new programme.

The four-year interdisciplinary direct honours degree is the first of its kind in Singapore. It combines the study of public policy, public administration, and global affairs.

"I hope to produce graduates who know what is happening on the ground – not just in books but on the ground," said Prof He.

"We need graduates who are master theorists, who know what is going on, and who are able to combine theory and practice to produce policies that are beneficial to society and the community."

Prof He himself is one such scholar.

An authority on Chinese democratisation, Non-Governmental Organisations, and local governance, Prof He was awarded the Harry Mayer prize by the Australian Political Association in 1994. He has also gained international recognition in the fields of international relations and Asian Studies.

“Philosophers make arguments, but you have to deal with empirical work nowadays, and you can't just have a grand idea.”

In his younger days, he studied philosophy for his bachelor's and master's degrees, but switched his focus to political science when he did his Ph.D. at Australian National University in 1988.

The reason?

He had developed a liking for more grounded, empirical research – for investigative work guided by observation and experiment.

"Philosophers make arguments, but you have to deal with empirical work nowadays, and you can't just have a grand idea," he said.

Thus a large component of his research involves fieldwork recording and observation.

In 2001, the United Nations invited him to review its China Rural Official Training program. He was also invited by the Danish International Development Agency to examine a political reform project in China in 2003, and to examine the procedures for direct township elections in 2004.

Much of his empirical research is linked to large ideals such as civil society and democracy, and he has also attempted to test, modify and develop different theoretical hypotheses.

He also served as an advisor to Chinese local governments for village elections, to the Wenling government for the set up of deliberative institutions, and to the Dejiang community for the building of deliberative discussion forums.

Prior to joining NTU, Prof He was the Chair of International Studies at Deakin University, Australia.

He feels that Singapore, placed at the geographical intersection between the East and West, is the perfect location for research on the various hybrids of democracy models, and for the formulation of a "best practices" model of democracy.

Prof He's books include *Rural Democracy in China*; *Democratic Theory: Predicament and Transcendence*; and *Deliberative Democracy: Theory, Method and Practice*.

JC-dropout turned millionaire professor

By Neo Ping May



Asst Prof Leong's (above) autobiography *Singapore's Lost Son* (right) made it to #1 on Amazon's bestsellers list in Singapore.

He is no stranger to Singaporeans and the NTU community.

Asst Prof Leong Kaiwen, an Economics division faculty member, is the famed JC-dropout turned millionaire professor who shot to fame when his autobiography, *Singapore's Lost Son*, appeared in October last year.

The book, on how he overcame his personal and financial struggles, made it to #1 on the Amazon bestsellers list in Singapore.

Asst Prof Leong dropped out of four junior colleges, took the A-levels as a private candidate and then won a place at Boston University where he went on to complete a double major in economics and mathematics.

Now 31, he holds three master's degrees and a Ph.D. in economics from Princeton University. He also became a millionaire from investing in real estate in China.

His achievements were the results of sheer determination and grit.

While studying in American, he had to work 20 hours a day, with very little sleep in between, and to survive on a single potato every day. He had no money because his parents were then facing bankruptcy back home.

After graduating from Boston University in 2007, he took a year off in China to search for his first pot of gold – so that he could help tackle his family's financial woes.

He sold water bottles from door to door as a salesman, and eventually became the top seller in his company. And the rest

“Everybody makes mistakes and deserves a second chance... If you want people to give you a chance when you make mistakes yourself, you should be more forgiving and try to help others in the first place.”

became history when he “bought low and sold very high” in the real estate market.

Second Chance

Through his autobiography, Asst Prof Leong hopes his personal struggles will inspire students to overcome their own life challenges and excel in their endeavours.

His message extends also to ex-offenders.

In 2011, he founded the Princeton Mind, a social enterprise that helps ex-offenders become their own boss and make a decent living.



He feels that these people are not intrinsically bad; they just lacked guidance or an opportunity to turn their lives around.

“Everybody makes mistakes and deserves a second chance,” he said.

“If you want people to give you a chance when you make mistakes yourself, you should be more forgiving and try to help others in the first place.”

Perhaps kindness begets kindness. The ex-offenders

whom Asst Prof Leong had helped also later returned the favour.

He needed to interview prostitutes in the Geylang red-light district for his research project on sex workers in Singapore. But most were unwilling to speak to him for fear that he might be an undercover policeman.

Fortunately, the ex-offenders, with plenty of contacts in the trade, were on hand to help. They introduced their demimonde contacts to Asst Prof Leong and even sat through the scheduled interviews in order to allay their fears.

New book on banking

Asst Prof Leong also co-authored a new book, *The Ultimate Banker*, which aims to give readers a comprehensive overview of the banking industry.

He wants to enlighten students who aspire to enter the banking industry but only have a vague idea of what it entails.

“I believe knowledge or information is power,” he said.

“Without knowledge there is nothing you can actually do, you’re just shooting around in the dark”.

Research

MOE Academic Research Grant Awards

A total 11 research proposals from HSS has been awarded the Ministry of Education (MOE) Academic Research Fund (AcRF) Tier 1 research grant. The AcRF provides funding for research that has academic significance and will drive future research, potentially leading to innovations and discoveries. Congratulations to all researchers!

Economics



Title: Enhancing Cooperation in Social Dilemma: The Role of Non-Binding Default-Decision Options, Rewards and Punishments

PI: Assoc Prof Yohanes Eko Riyanto

Description: This research project investigates the role of non-binding default-decision options and centralized monetary rewards and punishments in fostering cooperation in the presence of social dilemma using laboratory-controlled economic experiment. The traditional economic theory would argue that the use of non-binding default decision-options should have no impact on the economic outcomes. This is because individuals can always make an active decision to undo the existing default options. However, mounting empirical studies on

default options have shown otherwise. The first part of the research project intends to evaluate the viability of extending the use of non-binding default options as a mechanism to foster cooperation in social dilemma settings. The second part of this research project evaluates a closely related topic on the effectiveness of monetary rewards and punishments as a mechanism to foster cooperation in the presence of social dilemma using laboratory-controlled experiment.



Title: Behavioral and Social Economics of Taxi Services

PI: Asst Prof Walter Edgar Theseira

Co-PI: Assoc Prof Yohanes Eko Riyanto, Dr Ong Qiyao

Collaborator: Asst Prof Jessica Pan (National University of Singapore)

Description: The daily decisions of taxi drivers provide one of the richest sources of data for improving our understanding of fundamental economic models of individual and market behavior. The project will address the controversial and well-

publicized literature on the labor supply elasticity of taxi drivers. The results have important implications for the labor economics and behavioral economics literature.

Linguistics and Multilingual Studies



Title: Music Perception by Multilinguals: Exploring the Effects of Tone Language Experience on Musical Competence

PI: Asst Prof Chan Hiu Dan Alice

Description: In this research we will examine pitch perception performance by the Singapore population with a large-scale normative study. Our research will provide an important first step towards development of diagnostic tools to identify amusics in Singapore as well as treatment programme for amusic individuals to prepare them to communicate effectively. In the light of the unique multilingual nature of the Singapore

society, we will explore if experience with multiple tone languages has effects on how well we process linguistic and musical pitch. The proposed study will enhance the scientific knowledge regarding the interrelationship between language and music with a long-term goal of developing clinical application for treating amusic individuals.

Linguistics and Multilingual Studies



Title: Shifted in Translation: An Empirical Study of Meaning Change across Languages

PI: Asst Prof Francis Charles Bond

Description: The project studies how meaning is expressed differently in different languages. We look at several collections of translated text in Chinese, English, Japanese and Indonesian, that we have marked up with detailed semantic classes. In this project we link the classes across languages and analyze how and why it is not always

possible to link them directly. The result will be the largest sense-annotated multilingual corpus in the world, and the first to include Asian languages. It will lead to a deeper understanding of how we express meaning in words, and how meaning changes when we translate.



Title: Documentation of Zhongshan Min: Sustainability of dialectal islands in modernizing China

PI: Asst Prof Frantisek Kratochvil

Co-PI: Prof Randy LaPolla

Collaborator: Prof John Newman (University of Alberta)

Description: This project proposes a detailed documentation of Zhongshan Min, a Southern Min dialect, spoken by about 150,000 people in Guangdong, China. The dialect was brought to Zhongshan by migrants from Fujian in the Northern Song period (1023-1031) and has been separated from the Fujian branch for about 1000 years. The documentation of Zhongshan Min is urgent and has important linguistic implications. Although surrounded and changed by centuries-long contact with Cantonese, Zhongshan Min has managed to maintain

characteristic Southern Min features and its speakers were able to sustain multilingualism. Today, however, the Zhongshan area is rapidly industrializing and attracting thousands of migrants. Many speakers are moving to urban areas nearby and overseas, and thus stop using their 'village tongue' in their daily life. The dialect is disappearing fast. Documentation of Zhongshan Min will give us valuable insights into areas such as diaspora sustainability, multilingualism, and dynamics of language change and language contact.



Title: On the typology of grammatical alignment patterns, and the interactions and interdependencies of grammatical alignment, transitivity, information structure and referent saliency

PI: Prof Randy John LaPolla

Description: Expressing 'who did what to whom, with what, where' is the core of human linguistic communication, but there are many different ways this information can be structured in different languages. Understanding the different ways that languages structure such meanings is central to our understanding of human cognition, communication, and language development. This project focuses on the different linguistic means the speaker uses to help the hearer to infer the role of some participant in the action or situation mentioned in an utterance. This project will investigate several Sino-Tibetan and Austronesian languages that

seem to have unusual alignment systems using an evidence-based inductive discourse and construction-specific approach in order to see if in fact they manifest one of the recognized alignment patterns, a previously unrecognized alignment pattern, a mixture of alignment patterns, or no alignment pattern at all. It will also investigate patterns of transitivity and information structure in these languages, and the interactions and interdependencies of grammatical alignment, transitivity, information structure, and referent saliency in determining the particular structures used in discourse.



Title: Discriminating accents

PI: Asst Prof Tan Ying Ying

Description: Accents are often the main sources of prejudice and discrimination. In May 2010 for example, the state of Arizona legislated that teachers with ethnic accents can no longer teach English. In Singapore, many Singaporeans distinguish themselves as the rightful "natives" by discriminating between local and non-local accents, and more importantly, using accents to discriminate against foreigners. This adds to the increasingly public (and ugly) tensions that have been fermenting over the Singapore government's generous open-door immigration policies. As more "new immigrants" make Singapore their home, Singaporeans have been asked by the Prime Minister in the recent National Day Rally Speech, to show a "big heart" and to accept these

"new arrivals" as part of the community (Lee, 2012b). Does accent have a role to play in exacerbating the tension between the locals and non-locals in Singapore? If so, can the understanding of accents be the first step toward cultivating this "big-heartedness"? Will embracing different accents be the circuit breaker to move the nation toward integration and cohesiveness? What are the attitudes of Singaporeans and the "new immigrants" toward different accents, and how can they be educated to appreciate these differences? The objective of this proposed project is to study in detail, the perceptual categories in the discrimination of accents, and the ways in which accents can be used to discriminate others.

Psychology



Title: Agent-based Modeling: Integration of Social, Psychological, and Computational Analyses

PI: Asst Prof Qiu Lin

Description: Many real-world social phenomena, such as racial segregation and culture formation, are resulted from the operation of complex systems that involve large number of individuals interacting with each other. They are difficult to understand and predict based on theories of individual-level behavior. In this project, we

aim to investigate methodological issues in applying agent-based modeling (ABM) in socio-psychological research, and use ABM as a computational approach to bridge the research on individual-level psychological processes with macro-level social phenomena.

Grant Amount: SGD 40,000

Sociology



Title: Voice, Identity and Solidarity in Online Faith: Civil Society and Religious Groups' Political Engagement in China

PI: Asst Prof Lim Khek Gee, Francis

Collaborator: Dr Sng Bee Bee (RSIS and UniSIM)

Description: This research seeks to examine the ways in which religious use of the Internet and social media contribute to the development of civil society. Through a case study of China, and utilising mixed methods comprising online participant observation, website and hyperlinks analyses, surveys and in-depth interviews, the

research aims to offer insights into the diverse motivations behind the users' participation in online religious activities, and to analyse the different ways online religious groups relate to the state as the latter engages in the regulation of religion.



Title: Social, economic and political change and family patterns in Reformasi Indonesia

PI: Asst Prof Tan Joo Ean

Co-PI: Asst Prof Premchand Dommaraju

Collaborators: Dr Augustina Situmorang (Indonesian Institute of Sciences)

Description: This project proposes to conduct an in-depth study of Indonesian marriage patterns. Since the collapse of the Suharto government in 1998, there have been two major developments: first, the emergence of the *Reformasi* movement that has brought about a number of political reforms that have had far-reaching implications. The conservative *Pancasila* doctrine that shaped policies, which were restrictive to women – women's roles were officially limited to wife and mother – has been overturned. Second, there also appears to be increasing Islamization of everyday life. There is an

ongoing debate as to what this means for Indonesian society. A dual-pronged approach will be used to examine the impact of these important changes on marriage patterns in Indonesia. Using both an existing survey data to obtain a macro overview as well as a micro exploratory approach to obtain detailed information which cannot be obtained from existing survey data, we will not only get a better understanding of if and how marriage patterns are changing but also inform us on the broader social and cultural changes.



Title: Everyday lives of the low-income in Singapore

PI: Asst Prof Teo You Yenn

Co-PI: Asst Prof Kamaludeen Mohamed Nasir

Description: The proposed project investigates the experiences of low-income individuals and families in contemporary Singapore. Through ethnographic research – in-depth and focus group interviews, as well as participant observations in a low-income area – we seek to uncover the complexities and variations in everyday experiences, practices, and identities of those deemed to be “low income.” The

project will add significantly to the lacuna of ethnographic research on the experiences of being low-income, in Singapore as well as globally. This study will be timely contribution to the ongoing national debate about what is to be done about low-income households and the growing income inequality in contemporary Singapore.

Selected Recent Publications

Books

跨界亚洲的理念与实践：中国模式、华人网络、国际关系 The Conceptualization and Practices of Transnational Asia: China Model, Ethnic Networks, International Relations

By Prof Liu Hong (History Programme)

Nanjing University Press, 2013, Pp. 305

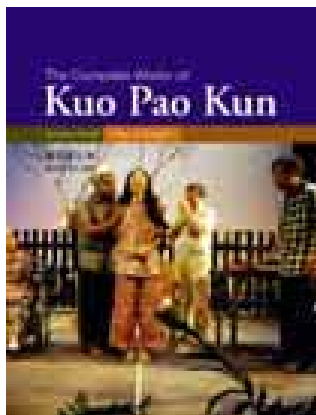


This book is concerned with the emergence and characteristics Transnational Asia, which could be understood from three interlinked angles: as a *flexible geopolitical and cultural space* encompassing the regions that are conveniently but problematically termed as East and Southeast Asia; as an *evolving process and entity* through which East/Southeast Asian countries dynamically engage with one another and with the external world, which in turn (re)shapes its

own domestic agendas and development strategies; and an *analytical tool and approach* to examining the flows of population, ideas, goods, social practices, and capital in a cross-national and trans-regional context. Drawing upon a wide range of data in Chinese, English, Indonesian and Japanese as well as the author's own fieldwork, this book is composed of 12 chapters which are organized under three sections: 1) Theoretical and Methodological Explorations; 2) the Historicity and Fluidity of Transnational Asia; and 3) Transnational Chinese and a Rising China.

The Complete Works of Kuo Pao Kun Vol. 4: Plays in English

Edited by Assoc Prof C.J. Wee Wan-ling (Division of English)



The Theatre Practice and Global Publishing, World Scientific, 2012

The Complete Works of Kuo Pao Kun Vol. 4: Plays in English has within its covers both published and previously unpublished texts written in English by the late Kuo Pao Kun. This is the complete anthology of his plays written in English; the anthology also includes all Kuo's multilingual plays. Plays published for the first time include: Geylang People in

the Net; Sunset Rise; and One Hundred Years in Waiting.

Journal

《华人研究国际学报》第四卷第二期

The International Journal of Diasporic Chinese Studies, Volume 4, Issue 2

Edited by Assoc Prof Lee Guan Kin (Centre for Chinese Language and Culture), Prof Liu Hong (History Programme), Dr Zeng Shaocong (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences)

Global Publishing, 2012

This bi-annual journal aims to foster originality, multiplicity, and novelty in the studies of Chinese Diaspora. This issue touches on, among other topics, the overseas Chinese economy, society, culture, as well as their relationship with China. Areas of study include Singapore, Japan, and the various ancestral hometowns in China.

本期四篇专论分别是廖赤阳〈当代华人知识分子社团的跨国实践及其理念：以“日本华人教授会议”为个案〉、郑莉〈日常生活中的国际联系（1950-1990）：安溪湖头李氏书信解析〉、杨妍〈1933之变革：论新加坡早期华人银行发展——以华侨银行为例〉，以及石沧金和欧阳班钰〈新加坡真空教发展史初探〉。文章围绕海外华人的经济、社会、文化 和海外华人与中国的关系四个方面展开讨论，研究区域集中在新加坡、日本和中国的侨乡。

Journal Articles

The Civic World of International Communism: The Taiwanese Communists and the Comintern (1921 – 1931)

By Dr Anna Belogurova (History Programme)

Modern Asian Studies, 2012

Vol 46, Issue 6, Pages 1602 – 1632

The short history of the Taiwanese Communist Party (Taiwan gongchandang 台灣共產黨) (1928 – 1931) offers a window into the negotiative polity of international communism during the Third Period (1928 – 1934). The Party was established during the time when the Comintern intensified its operations in colonies and promoted the organization of communist parties there. Its demise was the result of government suppression that occurred as a reaction to their increased public activity in 1931, allegedly at the direction of the Comintern. This paper examines the Comintern's role in the Taiwanese communist movement and shows that the Taiwanese communists were active agents (rather than passive tools) in their relationship with the Comintern.

Public Executive Leadership in East and West: An Examination of HRM Factors in Eight Countries

By Asst Prof Chen Chung Ann (Public Policy & Global Affairs Programme), et al.

Review of Public Personnel Administration, forthcoming, 2013

This paper compares human resource management practices in different regions. More precisely, we compare Asia-Pacific countries with USA. We find that public sector employees in Asia are more likely than American civil servants to perceive that their civil service system is outstanding, their performance-reward link is strong, and they are held accountable through performance appraisal. However, they also perceive that "followership" is more serious. This paper identifies distinctive advantages and problems for public sector innovation in Asia-Pacific, and we encourage researchers in Asia to "go deep in theories and practices" by revising and improving contemporary public sector HR theories mainly developed in USA.

Employment-based Social Protection in Singapore: Issues and Prospects

By Prof Chew Soon Beng, *Division of Economics*

ASEAN Economic Bulletin, 2012

Vol 29, Issue 3, Pages 218 – 229

The social protection system in Singapore can be defined in terms of having the ability and opportunity to work for a family wage for at least thirty years in order to own a house, provide adequate healthcare protection for the family, pay for children's education as well as provide a stream of income during the post-employment period. Singapore's protection system is superior in many ways but there are deficiencies. For instance, any discontinuity in employment or breakup of the family will threaten this social protection system. Furthermore, some low-income workers have to continue to work even in their seventies. The paper makes some recommendations for the improvement of the social protection system in Singapore.

建国初政治文化语境下的《译文》（《世界文学》）创刊 On the the Founding of *Yi Wen* (World Literature) in the People's Republic of China in the Early 1950s

By Dr Cui Feng (*Division of Chinese*)

中国比较文学, 2013 年, 第1 期

Owned by the Chinese Writers Association, *Yi Wen* (or *Shijie Wenxue* since 1959) was the only state-sponsored journal publishing foreign literature in mainland China in the 1950s and '60s. With the formation of new mainstream ideology after the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949, translation activities were largely planned and organized. Based on newly-discovered historical materials, this paper examines the founding process and the operation of *Yi Wen* or *Shijie Wenxue* in its early days in order to gain insight into the interaction between translation and mainstream ideology against a specific social-political background.

Estimating Technical Efficiency in Micro Panels

By Asst Prof Feng Qu (*Division of Economics*), with William Horrace

Economics Letters, 2012

Vol 117, Pages 730 – 733

Bootstrap confidence intervals on fixed-effects efficiency estimates in micro panels exhibit low coverage probabilities. We propose an alternative efficiency measure involving the mean of the firm effects. With the same estimated efficiency ranks as the traditional measure, its corresponding bootstrap confidence intervals have better coverage probabilities.

Rejuvenating China: The Translation of Sir Henry Rider Haggard's Juvenile Literature by Lin Shu in Late Imperial China

By Asst Prof Kwan Sze Pui Uganda (*Division of Chinese*)

Translation Studies, 2013

Vol 6, Issue 1, Pages 33 – 47

Lin Shu (1852 – 1924) translated Sir Henry Rider Haggard's works in late Qing China (1644 – 1912) with a political purpose in mind. By contextualizing the translation background, analyzing the discourse created by Lin Shu at the paratranslation level in his translations of Haggard's works and highlighting Lin's treatment of gender, this study argues that Lin Shu appropriated Haggard's work to refresh the national imagination of China by means of a new allegory – the juvenile boy. Lin

Shu adopted a gender-inclusive Chinese term, *shaonian*, to denote the notion "juvenile" following Liang Qichao (1873 – 1929), who was influenced by the impact of translated juvenile literature on the successful transformation of Meiji Japan (1868 – 1912) into a powerful modern state. Through his use of an ostensibly gender-neutral term in reference only to the young male protagonist, Lin Shu exploits and extends Haggard's colonialist politics into a discourse whose intention is to mobilize male Chinese readers to rejuvenate China.

Governing as Gardening: Reflections on Soft Authoritarianism in Singapore

By Asst Prof Kamaludeen Mohamed Nasir (*Division of Sociology*), with Bryan S. Turner

Citizenship Studies, forthcoming 2013

The idea of 'soft authoritarianism' as a general description of many Asian societies, can be defined as a political system in which there are minimal components of democracy such as elections and political parties but, as a consequence of rapid modernisation, state control of the economy and an emphasis on export-driven growth, basic social and political rights are often compromised. Typically, these states govern in the name of constitutionalism but often use the law to suppress political activity on the part of citizens. These societies have often replaced the rule of law with neo-Confucian rule of virtue in which the duties of the citizen to the state are more important than the responsibilities of the state towards the citizen. In these authoritarian polities, the state constructs an educational system to discipline the electorate rather than to create an informed citizenry, simply because there is low trust between leaders and electorate. The duty of the passive citizen is merely to consent to the legitimacy of the regime; the duty of the state is to provide security by weeding out citizens who are troublesome. We argue that Singapore has, until the recent election in 2011, been the classic illustration of soft authoritarianism, but we conclude by asking whether Singapore is moving from governance based on a gardening metaphor of weeding out bad influences to a more mature and open democracy.

Biological Aging and Social Characteristics: Gerontology, the Baltimore City Hospitals, and the National Institutes of Health

By Asst Prof Hyung Wook Park (*History Programme*)

Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences, 2013

Vol 68, Issue 1, Pages 49 – 86

The intramural gerontological research program in the National Institutes of Health underwent a substantial growth after its creation within the precincts of the Baltimore City Hospitals in 1940. This paper analyzes its development and the associated problems of its early years. Gerontologists aimed at improving the social and economic life of the elderly through scientific research. With this aim in mind, they conducted various investigations using the indigent aged patients of the Baltimore City Hospitals. Yet the scientists of aging, who hoped to eliminate negative social factors that might bias their research and heighten the confusion between pathology and aging per se, eventually stopped using these patients in the hospital as human subjects. Instead they sought educated affluent subjects in order to eliminate the impact of poverty. By doing so, however, they introduced a new source of social bias to their work, especially within the novel project begun in 1958, the Baltimore Longitudinal Study of Aging. This article thus examines the context of the development of gerontologists' research by analyzing their agenda, institutional environment, and research subjects in the 1940s and the 1950s.

Selected Recent Publications

Senescence, Growth, and Gerontology in the United States

By Asst Prof Hyung Wook Park (*History Programme*)

Journal of the History of Biology, forthcoming, 2014

This paper discusses how growth and aging became interrelated phenomena with the creation of gerontology in the United States. I first show that the relation of growth to senescence, which had hardly attracted scientific attention before the twentieth century, started to be investigated by several experimental scientists around the 1900s. Subsequently, research on the connection between the two phenomena entered a new domain through the birth of gerontology as a scientific field comprised of various disciplines, many of which addressed growth. Due to gerontologists' efforts, the association between aging and growth became stronger and more multifaceted within the discursive and organizational matrix constituting the new science, leading to a broader definition of senescence with an ambiguous connection to chronological age. Furthermore, as gerontologists borrowed the cultural agendas as well as research methods from studies of growth, aging began to be defined as a phenomenon that could be actively controlled and managed in both social arenas and laboratory environments.

“文章四友”新论：以李峤、崔融之应用文书写为探讨中心

New Perspectives on “Wenzhang siyou”: Focus on Li Qiao and Cui Rong's Practical Prose

By Asst Prof Qu Jingyi (*Division of Chinese*)

国立台湾师范大学《师大学报：语言与文学类》

Journal of National Taiwan Normal University (Language and Literature), 2012

Vol 57, Issue 2, Pages 29 – 58

Li Qiao Cui Rong, Su Weidao, and Du Shenyang are called “Wenzhang siyou” (文章四友) or the Four Literary Friends in historical Chinese Literature. However, little research on their achievements in prose writing has been done. This study focuses on Li Qiao and Cui Rong's practical prose because Su Weidao's and Du Shenyang's prose was not reserved. In Li and Cui's prose, beautiful and parallel styles worsen over time. Their ode declarations, merit epitaphs, and mourning appointments indicated their appointments as palace writers, and become continuation of the Six Dynasties. There were no political meanings or true feelings in their writing. Many auspicious ideas, which were used to praise Emperor Wu (武后), were in their prose. However, their memorial discussions containing various implications were their “bright color.” Comparatively, Cui's literary achievements were more significant than Li's for several reasons. First, Cui's prose is richly embellished with allusions and quotations. Second, Cui is good at writing parallelisms in the Lianzhu (连珠) style. Third, his tendency for three-word sentences made his syntax more changeable. We further discuss “wenzhang” in Wenzhang siyou, which includes poetry and prose, but mainly examine the latter. The rankings of Wenzhang siyou is consistent with the achievements of the four writers.

试论中唐常袞制书之文章价值

On Prose Value of CHANG Gun's Imperial Edicts in the Mid-Tang Period

By Asst Prof Qu Jingyi (*Division of Chinese*)

香港中文大学《中国文化研究所学报》(Journal of Chinese Studies), 2013

Vol 56, Pages 165 – 186

After “ANSHI's Treason” 安史之乱, people started to have resurgence consciousness and the Confucius thought of applying theory to reality is very common. CHANG Gun is a bright spot of prose writers in the relatively silent era. For the first time, the paper takes cognizance of CHANG Gun 常袞's prose value in the Mid-Tang period. I analyze his imperial edicts value of acquaintanceship and history. Because “Ru shu”(Confucian skill) was canonized and practicability was greatly enhanced in his imperial edicts, the new generation of “Wenru” (people who were knowledgeable in Confucianism and had writing skill and executive ability) was transferred and a new imperial edict style was produced.

Generality and specificity: Malaysian undergraduate students' self-reported creativity

By Asst Prof Qu Li (*Division of Psychology*), with Tan Chee-Seng

International Journal of Creativity and Problem Solving, 2012

Vol 22, Issue 2, Pages 19 – 30

The current study examined whether creativity is domain specific or domain general. Malaysian undergraduate students' (N = 724) self-perceived creativity over 56 different items were assessed with the Creativity Domain Questionnaire (CDQ). Two-level exploratory factor analyses showed a hierarchical model composed of a general creativity with five specific domains (social interaction, art, problem management, performance, and science) embedded. Further confirmatory factor analysis indicates the model has a good fit with data after model refinement. These indicate that creativity is double featured. Additionally, the results affirm validity of the CDQ in examining self-reported creativity in Malaysians. Furthermore, the uniqueness of self-reported creativity of Malaysian undergraduate students was revealed.

Multi-level visual adaptation: Dissociating curvature and facial-expression aftereffects produced by the same adapting stimuli

By Asst Prof Xu Hong (*Division of Psychology*), et al.

Vision Research, 2012

Vol 72, Pages 42 – 53

Adaptation aftereffects offer a critical window onto sensory processing in the brain. However, such sensory processing is hierarchical, progressing from the extraction of simple features to the representation of complex patterns. The way that adaptation depends on coordinated changes across different levels of the hierarchy has been studied. However, when a given adapting stimulus produces both a low- and a high level aftereffect, it remains unclear whether the high-level aftereffect is a passive reflection of low-level adaptation, or whether it is generated, at least partially, de novo in high-level areas. We assembled the two key ingredients needed for investigating this question psychophysically. One ingredient involves perceptual tasks that depend rather exclusively on low or high levels of processing, and yet involve partially identical stimuli that inspire cross-level adaptation. For this, we considered the discrimination of curvature or facial expression using curves or cartoon faces. The other ingredient is spatial or temporal stimulus manipulations that limit adaptation to either low or high levels. For this, we used crowding and brief presentations. We found that crowding an adapting curve with flanking curves reduces the curvature aftereffect much more than the facial-expression aftereffect, and vice versa for crowding the adapting face with flanking faces. Additionally, reducing adaptation time to a cartoon face diminishes the curvature aftereffect more drastically than the facial-expression aftereffect. These results suggest that high level aftereffects, even when generated by a low-level adaptor, are not completely inherited from lower levels, and offer a window into the determining factors.