



School of Humanities and Social Sciences

HORIZONS

Sharing ideas, Bridging minds

ISSUE NO.15 OCT/NOV 2016

Graduate Studies in the
Humanities
and **Social**
Sciences



SCHOOL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair

Prof Liu Hong

Associate Chair

(Undergraduate Education)

Assoc Prof Yohanes Eko Riyanto

Associate Chair (Graduate Studies)

Assoc Prof Francesco Cavallaro

Associate Chair (Research)

Assoc Prof Catherine Wan Ching

Assistant Chair

Dr Kenneth Ong Keng Wee

Assistant Chair

(Communications and Student Life)

Dr Tan Joo Ean

Head, Division of Chinese

Assoc Prof Yow Cheun Hoe

Head, Division of Economics

Prof Euston Quah

Head, Division of English

Assoc Prof Terence Richard Dawson

Head, Division of Linguistics and
Multilingual Studies

Assoc Prof Tan Ying Ying

Head, Division of Psychology

Assoc Prof Ringo Ho

Head, Division of Sociology

Prof Zhou Min

Director, History Programme

Asst Prof Goh Geok Yian

Head, Philosophy Programme

Prof Li Chenyang

Director, Public Policy & Global Affairs

Prof He Baogang

Deputy Director, Centre for Chinese
Language and Culture

Assoc Prof Yow Cheun Hoe

Director, Centre for Modern Languages

Assoc Prof Francesco Cavallaro

Head, Language and
Communication Centre

Prof Kingsley Bolton

Director, Professional Executive
Programme, and MSc in Applied
Economics

Prof Chew Soon Beng

Director, MA in Translation
and Interpretation

Asst Prof Helena Gao

CONTENTS

03	Chair's Message
04	Recognising Excellence
04	Commencement, Not Ending: HSS Convocation 2016
	News
05	Tan Lark Sye Professorship in Chinese Language and Culture Public Lecture Series
06	Sparking Debate and Ideas: International Symposium on Sinophone
07	Exploring Multidisciplinary Perspectives: Spontaneous Beauties? World Gardens and Gardens in the World International Conference
08	(Re)Imagining Singapore: Memes, Schemes and Dreams Workshop
09	Formulating Creative Research: Crossing Over Boundaries – In Search of Innovative Approaches to Asian Studies
09	Establishing New Frontiers in Economics Research: Economic Growth and Development Workshop
10	Strengthening Asian Regional Integration: 2016 Summer School @ Thammasat
10	Wah Shio! Foreigners May Be Less Blur Like Sotong Now that New Words from Singapore English Make Their Way into the Oxford English Dictionary
11	HSS Students Win International Undergraduate Award
11	Two American Sociological Association Awards 2016 Winners from HSS
	Feature
12-15	Graduate Studies in the Humanities and Social Sciences
	People
16	From Chess Champion to Historian
	Research
17	MOE Academic Research Grants Awards
	Publications
	Books
20	Book Chapters
21	Journal Articles

EDITORIAL TEAM

Advisor
Dr Tan Joo Ean

Editor
Mr Lin Daoyi

Members
Ms Janice Goh
Ms Phoebe Cheong

CONTRIBUTORS

Assistant Professor Samara Anne Cahill
Assistant Professor Hee Wai Siam
Dr Kyuhoon Cho
Dr David Sadoway
Ms Kang Mengni
Ms Lavisha Punjabi
Ms Pang Cai Feng

CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Dear colleagues, students, alumni and friends,

Since its establishment in 2004, the School of Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS) of Nanyang Technological University (NTU) has been mindful of the needs of industry and the workforce in Singapore and beyond. In addition to training high-calibre undergraduates and graduate studies (by research), the School also offers graduate coursework programmes—the Master of Science in Applied Economics (MAE) and more recently, the newly established Master in Translation and Interpretation (MTI).

Contributing to the nation by nurturing graduates who can tackle the challenges facing Singapore is just one of the aims of HSS; the School also seeks to be a leading intellectual centre of humanities and social sciences in Asia. To this end, HSS has recruited professors who are promising scholars and dedicated teachers, bringing the number of faculty members to more than 200. We have also increased the number of students undertaking graduate studies to above 350, with two-thirds enrolled in the Master of Arts (MA) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) programmes, and the remainder undertaking the MAE and MTI.

Under the guidance and mentorship of our experienced and knowledgeable faculty, the School's MA and PhD candidates are exposed to cutting-edge interdisciplinary research issues in the humanities and social sciences. Our research students are inspired and challenged to think out of the box. You will be able to read more about the research and learning experiences of our graduate students in this issue's feature story.

As we strive towards becoming an eminent research institution, HSS has been actively seeking partnerships with other leading universities and promoting interdisciplinary dialogue. A fruitful collaboration was the workshop jointly organised on 25 June 2016 with the Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies (GSII) and Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia (IASA) of the University of Tokyo. With the objectives of finding new and creative research agendas on Asia, as well as furthering academic linkages between NTU and the University of Tokyo, the workshop also provided faculty members and students with opportunities to explore new ideas and network with like-minded peers.

From 10–12 June 2016, the Division of English in HSS and the Centre for Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS) of the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences co-organised an international conference entitled *Spontaneous Beauties? World Gardens and Gardens in the World*. With the aim of enhancing international discourse pertaining to the different aesthetic principles to which gardens are designed, the event was well attended by many international scholars and local literary luminaries.

Apart from organising events that foster cooperation with other institutions, HSS is also engaged with the general public on pertinent subjects. To raise public interest in Chinese culture and society, the Centre of Chinese Language and Culture in HSS has been holding the *Tan Lark Sye Professorship in Chinese Language and Culture Public Lecture Series* for the past two decades. Professor Yan Yunxiang, Director of the Center for Chinese Studies and a renowned anthropologist from the



University of California, Los Angeles, who is the Tan Lark Sye Visiting Professor this year, delivered two well-received lectures entitled “Moral Transformation in Contemporary China” and “The Rise of Neo-Familism” in late August 2016 to more than 600 students, faculty and the public.

Last, but not least, I would like to congratulate the Class of 2016 who graduated in July. As they embark on their careers or further studies, the education that they have received from HSS will serve them in good stead. The skills and knowledge which they have gained from an education in the humanities and social sciences, I hope, will help them achieve their aspirations and contribute to the development of Singapore and beyond.

Professor Liu Hong

Tan Kah Kee Endowed Professor Chair, School of Humanities and Social Sciences

RECOGNISING EXCELLENCE

The School of Humanities and Social Sciences would like to congratulate the following faculty and staff for contributions to the School and University.

NATIONAL DAY AWARDS 2016

Commendation Medal

Name	Division/Centre/Office
Dr Leong Ping, Alvin	Language and Communication Centre

Long Service Award

Name	Division/Centre/Office
Assoc Prof Christos Sakellariou	Division of Economics
Mr Chan Weng Hoo	Undergraduate Office

Faculty Promotion to Professor

Name	Division/Centre/Office
Professor Kwok Kian Woon	Sociology
Professor Li Chenyang	Philosophy

Faculty Promotion to Associate Professor with Tenure

Name	Division/Centre/Office
Assoc Prof Alice Chan Hiu Dan	Linguistics and Multilingual Studies
Assoc Prof Feng Qu	Economics
Assoc Prof Michael David Gumert	Psychology

COMMENCEMENT, NOT ENDING: HSS CONVOCATION 2016



From left to right: Professor Liu Hong, Mr Chee Hong Tat, Bok Zhong Ming and Professor Alan Chan.

It was a day of joy, celebration and new beginnings as more than 600 students from the School of Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS) at Nanyang Technological University (NTU) put on their gowns and mortar boards to receive their degrees at the Nanyang Auditorium on Wednesday, 25 July 2016.

Mr Chee Hong Tat, Minister of State, Ministry of Communications and Information and Ministry of Health, graced the convocation ceremony

as the guest speaker. In his address, Mr Chee spoke of the importance of the humanities and social sciences in nurturing innovation in Singapore.

"In a complex and interconnected world, innovation involves integrating ideas from different disciplines and sectors," he said. "It is necessary but not sufficient to have good engineers and data scientists. We also need social scientists and people who are trained in the humanities to design products and services which reflect a

deep understanding of human needs and concerns."

Mr Chee, who is also Chairman on the National Translation Committee, also encouraged graduates to view education as a lifelong pursuit. He said, "At the individual level, we must be prepared to learn new things and be nimble enough to adapt to new challenges. I trust you will not look at today as the end of your education as learning is a continuous and rewarding journey."

In his valedictorian speech, Bok Zhong Ming from the Division of Chinese reminisced about the "trials and tribulations of undergraduate life" he endured with his fellow graduates. Echoing Mr Chee's message that graduation was not an ending, Zhong Ming shared that the convocation signified a new beginning for students.

"Donning our graduation robes, we are taking the first steps into a new world," said Zhong Ming. "As we pursue our dreams, as we continue to reach out for the stars after graduation, continue to keep that flame in you burning. Continue to actively participate in social issues, to speak up for the less-privileged, to explore the impossible, to make a difference to the world."

TAN LARK SYE PROFESSORSHIP IN CHINESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES

By Pang Caifeng



Professor Yan Yunxiang (right) with Professor Liu Hong.

As part of the *Tan Lark Sye Professorship in Chinese Language and Culture Public Lecture Series*, Professor Yan Yunxiang delivered two well-received public lectures pertaining to culture and society in China on 20 and 26 August 2016. Professor Yan is Professor of Social Anthropology and Director of Centre of Chinese Studies at University of California, Los Angeles.

During the first event held at Singapore Press Holdings News Centre, Professor Yan gave a presentation entitled “Moral Transformation in Contemporary China” and spoke on the evolution of morals in China. While many may point out that various incidents—like the *Sanlu* milk powder and *Xiao Yueyue* hit-and-run saga that occurred in China over the past few years—reflected the decline of morals in China’s society as people prioritise monetary or personal benefits over the welfare of others, Professor

Yan begged to differ. He weighed the issues and the varying social landscape of China, providing a holistic explanation of Chinese society. Professor Yan also shared case studies involving inspiring individuals who launched support groups and other constructive initiatives, creating a new phenomenon amongst communities and spawning a surge of people who fight for causes which they believe in. The lecture was chaired by Professor Liu Hong, Chair, School of Humanities and Social Science (HSS) in NTU, and Tan Kah Kee Endowed Professor.

At the second lecture held in HSS, Professor Yan explored another aspect of contemporary China—the rise of neo-familism, which was discussed with reference to various social norms in China’s society. Professor Yan analysed the existence and impact of familism in China at each stage of the country’s history before he examined

the current state of familism in China. During the Q&A session, Professor Yan also generously shared about research methodologies, providing scholarly advice to the audience.

The Tan Lark Sye Professorship in Chinese Language and Culture, established by The Association of Nanyang University Graduates in 1998, was named in honour of Mr. Tan Lark Sye, the founder of the former Nanyang University, to commemorate his enormous contribution to education, and celebrate the centenary of his birth in 1997. The funds raised through this professorship have enabled the Centre of Chinese Language and Culture (CCLC) to invite many world renowned scholars to visit NTU and raised public interest in Chinese issues through their public lectures. The Lectures are organised by the CCLC, the Association of Nanyang University Graduates and *Lianhe Zaobao*.

SPARKING DEBATE AND IDEAS: INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON THE SINOPHONE

By Assistant Professor Hee Wai Siam



What are the different implications when we use “Singaporean Chinese Literature”, “Sinophone Singaporean Literature” and “Chinese Literature in the World” to describe Chinese-language works written by Singaporean authors? As a transcultural site inevitably teeming with all sorts of paradoxes, what kinds of creative synergies have been produced exclusively in the field of Singapore Sinophone Literature? These are some of the many intriguing and thought-provoking questions that were raised by Professor Shih Shu-mei in her keynote speech at the *International Symposium on the Sinophone and Launch of Memorandum: A Reader of Singapore Chinese Short Stories* held at The Arts House on 14 May 2016.

Organised by the Division of Chinese in NTU’s School of Humanities and Social Sciences, the event aimed to increase awareness and interest in Singapore Sinophone Literature amongst the international academia and the Singapore public. After a short ceremony to commemorate the launch of *Memorandum: A Reader of Singapore Chinese Short Stories*, distinguished speakers from different parts of the world made speeches about Singapore Sinophone Literature, each speaking from and representing a distinctly different and sometimes opposing standpoint.

This symposium on the Sinophone was a space conducive for facilitating academic heteroglossia, provoking deeper thought and debate about the position, subjectivity and uniqueness

of Sinitic-language literatures around the world and about the concept of the Sinophone itself. Several members of the public, including Singapore Sinophone Literature writers, also actively participated in the Q&A session and contributing to this critical dialogue. As a public event, the symposium cum book launch represented an effort to engage with the public, bridging the gap between academia, the literary community and society in general.

The event also served as a gathering for Singapore Sinophone Literature writers across different generations. Writers and representatives from literary associations were invited to this event as an act of recognition for their contributions to Singapore Sinophone Literature. In this sense, the event joins the wider recent phenomenon of consolidating and recording cultural history and can be viewed as an act of self-reflection or rather, of soul-searching. In a nation where erasure is the norm, the launch of *Memorandum*, the holding of an international symposium dedicated to the discussion of Singapore Sinophone Literature, and the coming to fruition of this hyphenated event in Singapore’s Old Parliament House itself embody both an anxiety and prediction of forgetting about Singapore Sinophone Literature as well as an active resistance against this (pending) loss of memory. At the end of the day, perhaps the key contribution of this event lies in the very title of the book it had helped to launch—*Memorandum*, which means a note or brief report that aids in remembering something or for future reference.

EXPLORING MULTIDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES: SPONTANEOUS BEAUTIES? WORLD GARDENS AND GARDENS IN THE WORLD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

By Assistant Professor Samara Anne Cahill

Aiming to further international discourse and multi-disciplinary perspectives pertaining to the different aesthetic principles to which gardens are designed, shaped and made throughout the ages, Visiting Professor Shirley Chew, Assistant Professor Samara Anne Cahill and Ms Ann-Marie Chua, all from the Division of English in NTU's School of Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS), and the Centre for Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS) co-organised an international conference entitled *Spontaneous Beauties? World Gardens and Gardens in the World*.



Mr Ng Yi-Sheng (left) performing a reading on the opening evening of the conference.

Held from 10 to 12 June 2016 in NTU, the conference was attended by international scholars from India, Macedonia, the United Kingdom, and the United States, who enjoyed a congenial weekend forging intellectual and social connections with scholars and students from NTU, NUS, UniSIM, and Mr Nigel Taylor of the Singapore Botanic Gardens. Local literary luminaries also graced the event, including Mr Desmond Kon, Mr Lee Tzu Pheng, Ms Christine Suchen Lim, Ms Madeleine Lim, Mr Ng Yi-Sheng, Ms Melissa de Villiers, Ms Eleanor Wong, and Ms Yeo Wei Wei.

Four keynote speakers provided an international, disciplinary, and historical range of perspectives on gardens, ranging from permaculture to heritage; spiritual gardens to politicised gardens; gardens as spaces of botanical hybridity to spaces of civic and economic solidarity. Dr Stephen Bending

(University of Southampton) and Mr Taylor bookended the conference with discussions of gardens and botanical projects in eighteenth-century England and their relevance to understanding the histories of both the deeply personal experience of emotions and the global forces of empire.

Associate Professor Stanislaus Fung (Chinese University of Hong Kong) and Dr Elizabeth Cook (UK-based scholar and poet) examined the hybridity and adaptability of gardens through the disciplinary lenses of architecture and poetry, respectively. Also of particular interest was the highly anticipated dialogue between Dr Geh Min, a former President of the Nature Society (Singapore), and Professor Kwok Kian Woon, who is a former President of the Singapore Heritage Society and currently Professor of Sociology at HSS.

NTU students also did the university proud with an impressive array of perspectives on gardens. Undergraduates and graduate students presented papers alongside established scholars on topics such as the role and representation of gardens in nation building, film, urban community art, video games, memory studies, environmental (and economic) enclosure, Chinese historical dramas, modern and post-human literature, Islamic art and Qur'anic imagery, and the prosthetic politics of Gardens by the Bay.

Papers which were presented at the conference will be compiled and published in *Moving Worlds: A Journal of Transcultural Writings*.

(RE)IMAGINING SINGAPORE: MEMES, SCHEMES AND DREAMS WORKSHOP

By Dr David Sadoway

Who is responsible for articulating visions of the future in so-called “Global/World Cities”? How might Singapore publics engage in debates about the future? These questions were explored in the workshop, *Memes, Schemes and Dreams: Imagining Singapore Urban Futures*, organised by the Global Asia Research Cluster of NTU’s School of Humanities and Social Sciences. Held on 10 and 11 June 2016, this event aimed to link scholars with diverse publics to constructively discuss and debate ideas about urban futures for and about Singapore and beyond.

(for the year 2066). This session was co-facilitated by Dr Michelle Merrill and Ms Kay Chew Lin of the Sustainable Living Lab (SL2) and included a team of trained undergrad NTU students. The audience member teams employed the SEER method to brainstorm dreams and schemes. This involved discussing and debating future **S**ocio-economic, **E**nvironmental and civic **E**ngagement concepts and their possible **R**ealisation.

Invited international keynote speaker-provocateurs for the event—Professor Ananya Roy (University of California, Los Angeles), Professor Dimitrios Kaliampakos (National Technical

city. Her talk highlighted several links to Singapore and also referenced her research about the “worlding” of cities in an Asian context.

The conference shifted over to HSS on 11 June and featured three keynote provocations. Professor Kaliampakos provided the audience with an overview of underground urbanism around the world and touched on some of the interesting sociological aspects of the idea of “underground”, as well as the technical challenges and opportunities that cities face in order to address quality of life and liveability in the future—including the idea of developing the urban underground.

Later, Professor Zacharias’ in his keynote talk, “Pan-Asian Urban Trajectories”, made the point that many cities across Asia have become highly fragmented in the process of growth and “modernisation”. This urban fragmentation raises important questions about future mobility, walkability, accessibility and equity as many Asian cities wrestle with the challenges of become more livable spaces for all.

Professor McCann gave the final keynote, “Futures and Fortunes: Urban Space and Urban Life in a World of Mobile Memes”, drawing upon examples about “Vancouverism” and how travelling or mobile development, design and policy ideas from that Canadian west coast city have been employed (sometimes problematically) in other urban contexts and settings.

The workshop concluded with a forum discussion which provided a synthesis of the various ideas that were raised and which would provide reference for future research and debate. The various Op-Ed Talks and Keynote-Provocations were also videotaped and will be uploaded as short videos on:

<http://blogs.ntu.edu.sg/singurbanfutures/>.



(Re)imagining Singapore's future.

This lively and interactive event featured 20 “opinion editorial” (op-ed) style short talks by scholars, civil society activists and artists under the umbrella themes of: “Society, Citizens and Environment”; “Importing-Exporting Urban Memes and Schemes”; “Future Technology, Economy and Urban Governmentality”; and “Dreams & Realities: Singapore & Beyond”.

During the *Think Singapore Forum* session (on the event’s first day), participants formed small teams to sketch visions of the future of Singapore

University of Athens), Professor John Zacharias (Peking University) and Professor Eugene McCann (Simon Fraser University)—challenged the audience with critiques and alternative urban visions of future.

On the first day of the event held at the Pod @ National Library Board, Professor Roy’s talk, “Inequality & Democracy in the Asian Century: The Promise & Limits of Inclusive Growth,” challenged the audience to reflect on the notion of what costs are paid and what imbalances are created in the pursuit becoming a global

FORMULATING CREATIVE RESEARCH: CROSSING OVER BOUNDARIES – IN SEARCH OF INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO ASIAN STUDIES

By Dr Kyuhoon Cho

With the objectives of finding new and creative research agendas on Asia, as well as furthering academic linkages between Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and the University of Tokyo (UTokyo), the Global Asia Research Cluster in NTU's School of Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS), the Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies (GSII) and Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia (IASA) of UTokyo, jointly organised an international workshop entitled *Crossing Over Boundaries – In Search of Innovative Approaches to Asian Studies* on 25 June 2016 at NTU. This was a follow-up event from the previous workshop on *Understanding Globalising Asia: Methods and Issues*, which was held at UTokyo in November 2015.

Professor Liu Hong, Chair, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, NTU, opened the workshop which comprised five

distinctive sessions, namely “Locating Chinese-ness”, “Post-National Asia”, “Rethinking Modernity in Asia”, “Gendering Boundaries”, and “Research Collaboration Across Asia”, all of which featured active participation by graduate students from both universities. Student presentations covered diverse topics including the formation of a Chinese diaspora voluntary association network in Asia, perceptions of Japanese cultural policy, and the role of home countries in the emigration of health professionals.

Moving forward, the coordinators of the Global Asia Research Cluster, Associate Professor Francis Lim and Assistant Professor Kei Koga, will be exploring opportunities to “further expand and develop such international collaboration” with other institutions.

ESTABLISHING NEW FRONTIERS IN ECONOMICS RESEARCH: ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

By Kim Youjin



Associate Professor Paola Giulano giving her presentation.

Offering a platform to explore the theme of economic growth and development and to present the latest research amongst internationally renowned scholars, the *Economic Growth and Development Workshop* was held on 15 August 2016 in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, NTU.

Organised by the Economic Growth Centre (EGC) in HSS, the workshop covered subjects which included major aspects of national economic growth and development such as education, religion, culture, institution, finance, and health. The event brought together junior and senior academic researchers from around the world, including two former economists from International Monetary Fund (IMF) as the keynote speakers. The event was well-attended by both NTU undergraduate and graduate students.

Associate Professor Paola Giulano, from the Anderson School of Management, University of California-Los Angeles, gave the first keynote speech entitled “Long Term Orientation and Educational Performance”. She shared her research findings which found that migrant groups with long-term orientations, the ability to delay gratification and to exert self-control (she considered it as a cultural trait shared by certain migrant groups in this study), had better educational outcomes. The destination countries and whether the migrants were first or second generation were not factors in the process.

The second keynote speech, entitled “Human Capital in the Long-Run”, was delivered by Professor Lee Jong-Wha of the Asiatic Research Institute at Korea University. He examined how educational attainment levels in 111 countries over two centuries (1820-2010) influenced various economic outcomes, especially fertility rates. His data show that there was a significant progress in the educational attainment around the globe over the past two hundred years, which resulted in higher accumulation of human capital. Yet, the current measures used and data available do not reflect the quality of education and adult skills, which is relevant to the increase in earnings and economic growth.

The event also provided an excellent opportunity for the participants to engage in scholarly debate and to strengthen professional relationships.

STRENGTHENING ASIAN REGIONAL INTEGRATION: 2016 SUMMER SCHOOL @ THAMMASAT

By Kang Mengni

In order to enhance regional communication and integration, the East Asian University Institute (EAUI), comprising Korea University, Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Peking University, Thammasat University and Waseda University, has been organising annual Summer and Winter schools since 2012 as part of its joint education programme which was funded by a US\$5 million grant by the Japanese Ministry of Education.

This year's Summer School was held from 1 August to 5 August at Thammasat University and saw more than 30 graduate student participants from the five partner universities exploring the theme of "Identity and International Relations in East Asia: Culture, Religion, Ethnicity, and Nationalism". The programme also offered a series of interesting activities including lectures, field-trips and presentations.

Lecture topics covered by faculty during the workshop included Islamic culture in East Asia, regional integration and

regulatory harmonisation, nationalism and Chinese foreign policy, identities and regional values in East Asia, and post-colonialism. In addition, the participating students were also grouped to work on presentations based on the questions raised during the lectures, which provided the opportunity for them to network. Mr. Mohamed Shahni Bin Mohamed Saleh, was a leading member of this group who gave the best presentation entitled "Faces of Islam in Southeast Asia".

Moving forward, NTU will host the annual Summer School in 2017 and all five member institutions will be active participants.

About the EAUI:

The EAUI programme aims to develop individuals with globally-oriented perspectives on transnational issues, as well as playing a functional role in promoting intellectual regional integration by offering inter-university lectures and workshops for scholars from the five partner institutions.

WAH SHIOK! FOREIGNERS MAY BE LESS BLUR LIKE SOTONG NOW THAT NEW WORDS FROM SINGAPORE ENGLISH MAKE THEIR WAY INTO THE OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY

By Assistant Professor Ivan Panović



Dr Danica Salazar making her presentation.

The Division of Linguistics and Multilingual Studies (LMS) in NTU's School of Humanities and Social Sciences, under the auspices of the Centre for Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS), hosted a timely public talk entitled *Singapore English in the Oxford English Dictionary (OED)*. Dr Danica Salazar, Consultant Editor on World Englishes for the OED, was the guest speaker of the event, which attracted a large audience both from within and outside NTU.

Dr Salazar started her talk by giving an overview of the OED's long history before moving on to present the dictionary's changing policies on non-British words and current efforts to improve and widen its coverage of world varieties of English such as that spoken in Singapore. These efforts, stressed Dr Salazar, "involve implementing changes to the OED's inclusion criteria to better accommodate words from varieties other than British and American, refining its labeling system for national and regional varieties, adding regional audio pronunciations, collaborating with local vocabulary experts, using research databases and language corpora that contain more and better linguistic evidence for World Englishes, and experimenting with various crowdsourcing methods for gathering lexical data".

Dr Salazar further elaborated on the way Singapore English has been represented in the OED by focusing on some of the concrete examples of the idiosyncratic vocabulary of Singapore's English speakers, those which have been included as the revised and new entries in the recent and upcoming quarterly updates. The talk was followed by a lively Q&A session and discussion during which the guest speaker clarified some of the popular misconceptions and media misrepresentations surrounding the OED in general, and these latest Singapore English lexical additions to it in particular.

HSS STUDENTS WIN INTERNATIONAL UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS



Jonathan Tan.



Angelica Ng.

The School of Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS) is pleased to share that Jonathan Tan Jun Liang (Psychology, Class of 2016) and Angelica Ng Poh Ying (Psychology, Year 4), are the respective overall winners in the Psychology and Education categories of the prestigious Undergraduate Awards 2016. Jonathan won for his paper entitled “Effects of Sleep on Health Related Quality of

Life in Patients with Coronary Heart Disease”, which was supervised by Associate Professor Shen Biing-Jiun from the Division of Psychology.

Jonathan said, “I am greatly honoured to have been highly commended for three separate papers in the Undergraduate Awards and to be the overall winner of the Psychology category. I would therefore like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to Associate Professor Shen Biing-Jiun, Assistant Professor Xu Hong, and Assistant Professor Qu Li, for their guidance, support, and patience”.

Angelica submitted her winning paper entitled “Comparing Cyberbullying Perpetration on Social Media between Primary and Secondary

School Students” from her URECA (Undergraduate Research Experience on CAmpus) project, which was supervised by Associate Professor Shirley Ho and Mr Chen Liang from HSS’s sister school, the Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information. She said, “I feel deeply honored and flattered to have won the award. Writing the research paper was a very challenging yet fruitful experience for me, and I am thankful for the guidance, patience and support of my supervisors.”

In addition to the winners, 3 other entrants from HSS were “Highly Commended” in the Awards. They are: Mr Hong Yuchen (English, Year 4), Mr Lau Chzee An (Economics, Year 4) and Ms Ann Chu Ning (Psychology, Class of 2016).

TWO AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION AWARDS 2016 WINNERS FROM HSS



Professor Zhou Min.

This recipients of this year’s American Sociological Association (ASA) Awards include two faculty members from HSS—Professor Zhou Min and Associate Professor Teo You Yenn, both from the Division of Sociology in HSS.

The Asian American Achievement Paradox, a book co-authored by Professor Zhou with Professor Jennifer Lee from UCLA-Irvine, received three awards—the 2016 Thomas and Znaniecki Book Award of ASA International Migration Section of ASA International Migration Section, 2016 Book Award on Asian America of ASA Asia and Asian American Section, and the 2016 Pierre Bourdieu Award for Outstanding Book of ASA Sociology of Education Section. The book was also featured in a symposium in Ethnic and Racial Studies, which includes incisive and critical reviews from five leading sociologists at the vanguard of research

in race/ethnicity, immigration, education, and inequality.

Associate Professor Teo received the 2016 ASA Sex and Gender Section’s Feminist Scholar Activist Award for her “dedication to feminist social change, her prominent role among Singaporean Activists and her active research agenda that is intimately tied to social change”. Her scholarship investigates how class and gender inequalities are reproduced by the state in Singapore, and she has also contributed to the media numerous op-eds covering protection for children, gendered inequality in domestic labor, mothering issues, paternity leave, class reproduction in domestic labor and diversity.

The awards were presented on 21 August 2016 at a ceremony during the 111th ASA Annual Meeting held in Seattle, United States.



Associate Professor Teo You-Yenn.

GRADUATE STUDIES IN THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) established the School of Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS) in 2004 to achieve NTU's aim of becoming a global institution that grooms and nurtures leaders through research and education. In addition to producing highly accomplished graduates through holistic education as well as conferring undergraduate degrees, HSS also offers graduate coursework programmes—the Master of Science in Applied Economics (MAE) and the newly established Master in Translation and Interpretation (MTI).

Enhancing education levels and producing leaders who can overcome national, regional and global challenges are just two of the aims of HSS; the School also seeks to become a leading intellectual centre of the humanities and

social sciences in Asia. To this end, HSS has recruited professors who are leaders in their fields and promising scholars, bringing the number of faculty members to more than 200.

The growth in faculty numbers and research expertise, coupled with the rising prestige of NTU as a research institution, have allowed HSS to expand its research programmes across nine core disciplines (Chinese, Economics, English, History, Linguistics and Multilingual Studies, Philosophy, Psychology, Public Policy and Global Affairs, and Sociology). It has also enabled the School to increase the number of students undertaking graduate studies to above 350, with two-thirds enrolled in the Master of Arts (MA) by research and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) programmes, and

the remainder in the MAE and MTI programmes.

Under the guidance and mentorship of our experienced and knowledgeable faculty, the School's graduate students—in particular the MA and PhD candidates—are exposed to cutting-edge multidisciplinary research in the humanities and social sciences. HSS researchers also critically engage in interdisciplinary dialogues of complex issues across their fields and situate these dialogues within the changing context of Asia and its long-standing interactions with the rest of the world, providing graduate students with opportunities to study issues pertinent to the region. In the next few pages, you will find out more about the learning experiences and research areas of the School's graduate students.

SPACE FOR IDEAS

“I am interested in asking questions and doing research. Questions such as ‘does smaller class size lead to better performance?’ Or ‘does going to elite schools lead to better performance in the long run?’ The PhD programme is really the only opportunity where I get to explore these topics,” said Shen Yan Shun, a recent graduate from the MAE and who just enrolled as a



Shen Yan Shun.

PhD candidate in Economics at HSS. During his time in the MAE, Yan Shun wrote a paper entitled “Politicians’ Salary and Performance in Singapore: An Empirical Investigation”.

Echoing Yan Shun’s sentiments is George Wong, who recently graduated from NTU with a MA in Sociology. He shared, “HSS, being a relatively new school, gives you the opportunity to explore. I think it is very important as graduate students to have the freedom to explore different subjects. It is very liberating, and HSS gives that kind of space.”

For his thesis, due to increased public attention on the lives of low-wage foreign migrant workers in Singapore (which comprise one-sixth of the population), George investigated the micropolitics of leisure spaces of female foreign domestic workers (FFDWs) in the island-state. He undertook a study

which revealed “unique socio-political dynamics that cannot be fully elucidated through formal work experiences and explored collaborative socio-spatial projects of conversion and claiming of everyday space for leisure purposes by FFDWs”.

Elaborating on his project, George, who will be pursuing a PhD at the City University of New York, said, “The project was conducted with the objective to provide policy makers with additional information including important factors to consider when creating spaces for migrant workers. Rather than relocating them to another space and rebuilding infrastructure, why not use an existing space and improve it such as building more amenities, or even allowing the private sector to provide services. It improves the overall quality of the urban spaces.”

(cont'd on page 13)

(cont'd from page 12)

Citing his thesis as an example of how ideas are developed at HSS, George described the School as an institution where “ideas are nurtured, they are challenged and they are led to grow in ways that we may not even imagine.”

“It is a place where people are not being judged immediately by the quality of their ideas,” he said. “They are given a space to incubate their ideas. It is something that is very rare in a research community.”

“HSS is a place where people are not being judged immediately by the quality of their ideas. They are given a space to incubate their ideas. It is something that is very rare in a research community.”

– George Wong



George Wong.

INSPIRING MENTORS

Part of the School's culture to allow ideas to bloom and come to fruition is down to its faculty members who are not only at the forefront of research in the humanities and social sciences, but also dedicated teachers and keen learners themselves. Graduating from leading global universities, HSS professors and lecturers are passionate about imparting their skills and knowledge to the next generation of researchers.

“As I was new to qualitative research, doing ethnography was a challenge for me,” said George. “Assistant Professor Laavanya Kathiravelu, my thesis supervisor, provided me with insights from her own research, as well as advice and tips that books would not tell you. For example, how I am supposed to approach people, what interaction is like, what sort of words to use, how I should carry myself in these situations, etc.”

Similar to George's experience, Amanda Foo, who earned a MA in Linguistics and Multilingual Studies at HSS, described that the support from her supervisor and other professors was invaluable.

“A good part of it is that it is really challenging, not in the sense that you are just doing research or the professor would spoon-feed you,” said Amanda. “They will make you think and ask you difficult questions to challenge yourself and develop critical-thinking. They mainly want you to learn and that is the best part. They are passionate not only about their own research, but others as well.”

Amanda's thesis entitled “A Matter of National (In)security: English Language Policy in Singapore”, analysed linguistic insecurity—a phenomenon where a speaker's negative perception of his/her own speech in comparison to the “superior” variety can lead to an obsession with the “standard” form and a discrimination against those who do not conform to it—with reference to the English language in Singapore. She studied how the state propagated the belief that Singaporeans are poor English speakers and how this idea has been ingrained or internalised by citizens. Her research also demonstrated that “an ever-growing number of Singaporeans are exercising their linguistic ownership of English, in direct contrast to the state's



Amanda Foo.

instrumentalist view of English as purely a ‘working language’”.

She credits her success in completing her degree to her supervisor, Associate Professor Tan Ying Ying who was “extremely helpful and encouraging while holding her work to the high standard that was required”.

SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

As Singapore began transitioning from a manufacturing-based economy to a knowledge-based one in the late-1990s, universities, which were the bedrocks of research and innovation, were granted autonomy from government control. According to Singapore's Ministry of Education, this development would allow universities to “exercise greater flexibility to make far-reaching changes to create a unique educational experience for their

students, as well as compete in the global university landscape”.

After granting autonomy to universities, resources for research and development were also increased in order to not only develop a workforce that could meet the challenges of the twenty-first century, but also nurture research and innovation in Singapore. The infusion of resources enabled the expansion of research and at the same time,

attracted scholars to undertake their studies in Singapore, from which HSS has benefitted.

Originally majoring in the natural sciences, Gayathri Haridas chose to pursue her PhD in Public Policy and Global Affairs at HSS. Her decision was partly influenced by the fact that Singapore did not neglect funding for the humanities and social sciences, in contrast to other countries.

(cont'd on page 14)



Gayathri Haridas

(cont'd from page 13)

"After my masters, I knew I wanted to study more about Asia and I wanted to be in Asia to do that," explained Gayathri. "Singapore was a viable option considering the excellent infrastructure and the fact that I get as much funding as an engineering or a science student, which doesn't happen elsewhere in the world."

“ My work aims to help policy-makers craft better policies to aid academics and achieve state goals. How can the state achieve its goals without impeding academics and restricting their creativity, or enhancing their research? ”

– Gayathri Haridas

Coincidentally, Gayathri's research focuses on innovation policies in Singapore and the role of universities in innovation. She elaborated, "For a lot of countries, it is usually the state and industry that are responsible for driving the economy and universities usually take a backseat. But in a knowledge-based economy, universities stand alongside the state and industry and thus, there are three major actors in any system of innovation. So I ask academics how they respond to these policies set by the state. I am also curious to find out how academics approach their work and how does innovation occur in universities, and what is the aftermath of that."

Through her research and her background in the natural sciences, Gayathri realised that there are divergent definitions of innovation. She aims to synthesise these multiple perspectives while acting as a bridge between the different stakeholders. She explained, "My work aims to help policy-makers craft better policies to aid academics and achieve state goals. How can the state achieve its goals without impeding academics and restricting their creativity, or enhancing their research?"

HASS INTERNATIONAL PHD/POST-DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIP (HIPS)

In addition to public and private funding for research students, NTU also provides scholarships for PhD candidates in the humanities and social sciences. One such scholarship is the HASS International PhD/Post-Doctoral Scholarship (HIPS) awarded by the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (CoHASS). Scholarship recipients receive funding and support for their PhD/post-doctoral studies, after which they will join their respective Divisions/Programmes in tenure-track positions. For PhD candidates, not only can they complete their entire programme overseas, they also have the option to pursue their studies at HSS.

During the period of their scholarship, a HSS faculty mentor will be appointed to each recipient (whose PhD is in one of the core disciplines of the School). The mentor will provide regular guidance and ensure that the latter engage in the teaching and research activities of HSS. In other words, while these HIPS awardees graduate from overseas universities, part of their candidature

comprises a local component at HSS, and they will be mentored by HSS faculty members as well.

Cheryl Julia Lee, a HIPS scholar pursuing her PhD at the University of Durham, spent a month as a teaching assistant in the Division of English. She said, "I really enjoyed the interaction with students and that experience strengthened my desire to be a part of the academic community at HSS."

(cont'd on page 15)



Cheryl Julia Lee

“ This scholarship is a reflection of the University's values and ethos. An institution that dares to offer a generous humanities and social sciences scholarship—in times when the significance of these disciplines continue to be debated—is one that seeks to protect against the decline of academic institutions by investing in and grooming thinkers, and that believes in the importance and the necessity of the humanities and social sciences through this project. As an academic, I cannot think of a more desirable place to be in. ”

– Cheryl Julia Lee

(cont'd from page 14)

AVENUES FOR PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Other than participating in events and undertaking field work, HSS students also have other avenues to enhance their learning beyond the classroom. One such option is joining the HSS Graduate Students Committee (GSC) which represents graduate students and facilitates communication with the School. Lin Chia Tsun, a PhD candidate in History, joined the GSC because she believed that several GSC-initiated activities, such as the Nanyang Graduate Student Colloquium, had “potential to develop into nation-wide or internationally well-known events.”

Chia Tsun, who is researching on the globalisation activities of Chinese Migrant Voluntary Associations, said, “Joining the HSS GSC has expanded my professional network tremendously as I had to work closely with graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, staff and professors both within and outside NTU. This has opened several opportunities for me in the long run. The experience also allowed me to learn how to negotiate and communicate professionally with other scholars and sponsors, as well as picking up the skills necessary to organise a successful event. This is something that I would not have been able to learn if I had not joined the GSC.”



Lin Chia Tsun.

COLLABORATIONS: ENHANCING LEARNING AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES



Dr Li Jifen

HSS has been actively seeking partnerships with other leading universities to build academic linkages as well as cultivating interdisciplinary dialogue. Some initiatives include the Campus East Asia University Institute (EAUI), the Consortium for Southeast Asian Studies (SEASIA) and other collaborations with prestigious institutions such as the University of Tokyo and Korea University. These fruitful collaborations, along with various international conferences and seminars, have also provided opportunities for HSS students to network and exchange ideas with professors and peers from other institutions.

Graduating from HSS with a PhD in Philosophy in 2015, Dr Li Jifen, who is currently an Assistant Professor at

the prestigious School of Philosophy in Renmin University, shared that being an NTU student “opened more doors for her”. She said, “I found that my PhD background in NTU improved my chances of securing interviews. I also realised that from attending several overseas conferences, an increasing number of philosophy scholars were paying attention to research developments in Singapore, especially for NTU-HSS. Their attention and interest in our research provides opportunities for beneficial academic exchanges with them in the future”.

For Jifen, these experiences provided valuable insights into her thesis which explored the concept of the human being in Xunzi’s thought, as well as enriching her learning.

NURTURING RESEARCHERS FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

As described by many students, graduate studies is “a lonely journey that is filled with many challenges”. At HSS, although the path is no less daunting, it is also one that is filled with opportunities for researchers to pursue their interests and bring their ideas to fruition. With committed and knowledgeable faculty members who will guide and support students, HSS provides a conducive environment for ideas to bloom.

Augmenting the scholarly milieu at HSS is the availability of adequate resources

to conduct high-quality research, and the opportunities for students to experience a holistic education through academic events and partnerships with other universities. Students not only graduate as critical thinkers who challenge norms and think out of the box, but also as researchers that aim to find solutions to complex issues confronting Singapore and beyond.

In a day and age when the relevance of the humanities and social sciences are constantly challenged, the University is still committed to offering a robust and

rigorous learning experience in these disciplines, with HIPS’ symbolising this undertaking. This sentiment was expressed by Cheryl who said, “This scholarship is a reflection of the University’s values and ethos. An institution that dares to offer a generous humanities and social sciences scholarship—in times when the significance of these disciplines continue to be debated—is one that seeks to protect against the decline of academic institutions by investing in and grooming thinkers, and that believes in the importance and the necessity of the humanities and social sciences through this project. As an academic, I cannot think of a more desirable place to be in.”

FROM CHESS CHAMPION TO HISTORIAN

By Lavisha Punjabi

As a child, he was a national scholastic chess champion. At the tender age of 14, he entered the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). While he enjoyed the cognitive challenge associated with pursuing a degree in Philosophy, his peers of the same age might not have even heard of Socrates, or any other philosopher, for that matter. A prodigy of this nature would be hard to come by, no?

Meet Assistant Professor Justin Clark from the History Programme of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS). In addition to his impressive accomplishments as a teenager, Assistant Professor Clark possesses a wisdom gleaned from a diverse range of life experiences.

In addition to his Bachelor of Arts from UCLA, he holds a Master of Fine Arts (Critical Studies) from the California Institute of the Arts, a Master of Science (Journalism) from Columbia University and a PhD in History from the University of Southern California. Prior to joining the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, he was a faculty member at other universities, both local and overseas.

Assistant Professor Clark will be teaching an ethics module in the University Scholars Programme this spring. On this note, he said "I'm looking forward to dusting off my philosophy training and rethinking it from the historian's point-of-view."

He added, "Scholarship and journalism are, or should be, ethical pursuits. People have a right to know the truth, even when it's inconvenient for the powers that be. As the old expression goes, the job of the journalist is to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable. The historian gives the journalist some of the facts needed for him/her to do just that."

Assistant Professor Clark became interested in history through travelling and his independent reading. When he was 20, he took a gap year to travel across



the various countries in Europe and South East Asia. The differences between these nations raised the question in his mind about why the development of these states diverged so much.

He shares, "I had this realisation as I was visiting the museum located at the former S-21 facility, where the Khmer Rouge interrogated and tortured political prisoners. There are thousands of pictures of the victims on the walls, each of whom had his or her own story. Most will never be told."

Presently, Assistant Professor Clark is completing his first book on a history of visual culture in Boston in the decades before the US Civil War (1820-1860).

He explains, "In many ways, this is the period in which the modern spectator is born. The lithograph and photograph were invented, and for the first time, large portions of society could easily consume and commission images, attend the theatre and patronise museums. My book talks about how the popularity of urban spectatorship influenced the

“ I’m looking forward to dusting off my philosophy training and rethinking it from the historian’s point-of-view. ”

development of various subcultures, such as Transcendentalism and Spiritualism, that were interested in the invisible world.”

While people often think that history is largely to do with the study of important battles and the lives of political leaders, Assistant Professor Clark, an intellectual and cultural historian, is instead interested in understanding how the habits and beliefs of ordinary people change, often for reasons they are not very conscious of.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION ACADEMIC RESEARCH GRANT AWARDS

TIER 2 GRANTS



ECONOMICS

Title: Cultural Orientations and Long-term Comparative Economic Development

Principal Investigator:
Associate Professor James Ang

Description: The main objective of this project is to explore the role of culture as a central mechanism through which historical development influences current economic outcomes. By doing so, it enables us to gain a better understanding of the origins of cultural differences and how they are related to current economic performance. This proposed study is more closely related to a burgeoning literature seeking to understand the deeper and more fundamental causes of economic growth, originated from parameters such as the early adoption of technology, genetic and population composition, state antiquity, and agricultural transition (Spolaore and Wacziarg, 2009; Comin et al., 2010; Ang, 2013). This research will also analyse how historical forces, predating European settlement, shape cultural development. By examining whether the relationship between early development and current economic performance works through the channel of culture and whether cultural development can be traced back to these historical factors, the results of this study will significantly enhance our understanding on the deep determinants of economic development.



PSYCHOLOGY

Title: A Multicentre Randomised Controlled Trial of a Novel Family Dignity Intervention

Principal Investigator:
Assistant Professor Andy Ho Hau Yan

Description: In Singapore, demand for palliative care has surged over the past decade and will continue to rise in the future under the context of population ageing. The Government and the Ministry of Health have aspired to enhance the provision of holistic care to patients and families facing chronic and terminal illnesses. However, most interventions for the end-of-life still focus predominately on pain control and symptom management without addressing individual and familial psycho-socio-spiritual concerns. To date, there is no available palliative care intervention for dignity enhancement in Singapore, and little has been done with the Asian population. Building on the research team's empirical foundation and expertise in dignity research and dignity therapy, this 3-year Multicentre Randomised Controlled Trial (RCT) will develop and test a novel, cultural-specific "Family Dignity Intervention" for older Asian terminally-ill patients and their family caregivers, and provide direct psycho-socio-spiritual support to 252 family dyads challenged by death, dying and bereavement. The expected outcomes of this pioneering and first-of-its-kind study will generate new knowledge contributing to advancement in both clinical theories and practices in palliative end-of-life care for local society and all Asian communities around the world.

TIER 1 GRANTS

Division/Centre	Principal Investigator	Project Title
Centre for Modern Languages	Dr He Xueqing	Incidental Vocabulary Acquisition in Foreign Language Learning: The Effectiveness of Paper-Based Glosses, Computer-Based Glosses and E-dictionary Use
Economics	Associate Professor James Ang	State Capacity and Cultural Heterogeneity
Economics	Assistant Professor Bao Te	Experimental Study on Learning and Expectation Formation in Macroeconomics and Finance
Economics	Associate Professor Chia Wai Mun	Asymmetric Responses to Oil Price Shocks and Open Economy Dual-instrument in a DSGE Framework
Economics	Assistant Professor Wu Gulying Laura	Is Public Investment Productive and Efficient?
English	Associate Professor Daniel Keith Jernigan	Narrating Death on Stage: Theatrical Illusion and the Suspension of Disbelief
History	Assistant Professor Els Van Dongen	Education Diplomacy and Soft Power: De-centering Diaspora Policies in the People's Republic of China
LMS	Professor Kingsley Bolton	An investigation into the English-language Communication Skills of University Students in Singapore
LMS	Associate Professor Alexander Robertson Coupe	Archaeological Linguistics and the Prehistory of Northeast India: Reconstructing the Past through Ancient Technologies and Practices, and Correlating the Results with Migration Histories
Philosophy	Professor Li Chenyang	Thome Fang's Philosophy of Comprehensive Harmony
Philosophy	Assistant Professor Andres Carlos Luco	Evolutionary Moral Realism: Objective Moral Truth and the Evolution of Moral Judgment
PPGA	Assistant Professor Chen Chung-An	Preparing Public Affairs (PA) Students for Future Public Service: Examining a Long-Term Change of Students' Public Service Perceptions, Values, and Propensity in Singapore and the World
Sociology	Associate Professor Teo You Yann	Work-Life Balance in Contemporary Singapore: Cross-class Comparisons
Sociology	Assistant Professor Zhan Shaohua	Initial Spinal Fix and Grain Production in China: National Policy, Local Processes and Global Implications

BOOKS



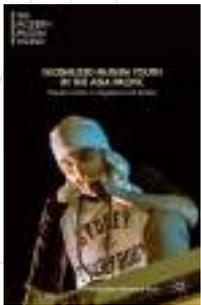
READINGS IN JAPANESE NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING CSLI STUDIES IN COMPUTATIONAL LINGUISTICS

Edited by Associate Professor Francis Bond (Linguistics and Multilingual Studies Division), Timothy Baldwin, Kentaro Inui, Shun Ishizaki, Hiroshi Nakagawa and Akira Shimazu. 2016. CSLI Publications: Stanford.

Readings in Japanese Natural Language Processing surveys a wide range of texts that explore Japanese morphology and syntactic analysis, discourse, and natural language

processing applications. Presenting such techniques in a manner accessible to those with little or no familiarity with Japanese, these carefully selected papers will broaden the scope

of our study of Japanese linguistic phenomena, making this collection indispensable in the field.



GLOBALISED MUSLIM YOUTH IN THE ASIA PACIFIC: POPULAR CULTURE IN SINGAPORE AND SYDNEY

Assistant Professor Kamaludeen Bin Mohamed Nasir (Sociology Division). 2016. Springer.

This book is a sociological study of Muslim youth culture in two global cities in the Asia Pacific: Singapore and Sydney. Comparing young

Muslims' participation in and reflections on various elements of popular culture, this study illuminates the range of attitudes and strategies they adopt to

reconcile popular youth culture with piety.



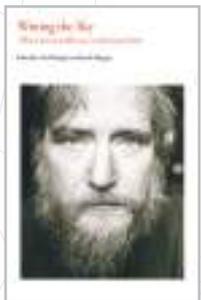
UNITY OF JUN DAO AND SHI DAO: THE DISCOURSE OF "UNITY OF THREE TEACHINGS" IN LATE MING PERIOD 《君師道合：晚明儒者的三教合一論述》

Assistant Professor Ngoi Guat Peng (Chinese Division). 2016. Taiwan: Linking Publisher (台灣聯經出版社).

This book analyses the discourses on the Three Teachings demonstrated by Confucian scholars, namely Guan Zhidao, Yang Qiyuan and Zhou Rudeng of the late Ming period. They argued that the concept of "three teachings in one" could be explained as a solution to

the intellectual crisis that Confucianism failed to respond to from Buddhism and Daoism challenges, and at the same time, search for meaningful ideas from these thought systems to rebuild the political and social orders of the late Ming period. Furthermore, they responded positively to the Ming

founding emperor Zhu Yuanzhang's three teaching policies and his effort in combining the three teachings with ruling and cultivation. Obviously, Guan Zhidao, Yang Qiyuan and Zhou Rudeng tried to combine "Jundao" and "Shidao" in their oneness thought.



WRITING THE SKY: OBSERVATIONS AND ESSAYS ON DERMOT HEALY

Edited by Associate Professor Neil Murphy (English Division) and Keith Hopper. 2016. Dalkey Archive Press.

Writing the Sky: Observations and Essays on Dermot Healy is a comprehensive collection of critical essays, memoirs, poetry, and other writerly responses devoted to the life and work of the late Dermot Healy (1947–2014). Healy was an accomplished poet, short story

writer, novelist, playwright, and editor, and so these essays and observations address the entire range of his eclectic and exciting oeuvre. The collection primarily seeks to establish a series of important critical perspectives through which Healy's writings can be properly viewed and assessed. Contemporary

writers and poets offer creative reflections on Healy's work, while literary critics provide a wide-ranging foundation for future Healy scholarship. In total, over forty contributors from more than a dozen countries provide insight into one of Ireland's most powerful and unique literary voices.



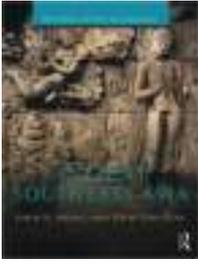
DERMOT HEALY, THE COLLECTED PLAYS

Edited by Keith Hopper and Associate Professor Neil Murphy (English Division). 2016. Dalkey Archive Press.

Although Dermot Healy (1947-2014) is probably best known as a novelist and poet, he was also a prolific playwright, screenwriter, and actor. Healy's interest in drama was long-standing, and was central to

his development as a writer. Between 1985 and 2010 he wrote thirteen stage plays, all of which are gathered here for the first time. Although the settings of Healy's plays are often local and regional by design, their energy and

vision transcend those boundaries. In this respect, the publication of *The Collected Plays* will be of interest to all scholars and practitioners of contemporary drama.



ANCIENT SOUTHEAST ASIA

John Miksic & Associate Professor Goh Geok Yan (History Programme). 2016. London: Routledge.

Ancient Southeast Asia provides readers with a much needed synthesis of the latest discoveries and research in the archaeology of the region, presenting the evolution of complex societies in Southeast Asia from the protohistoric period, beginning around 500BC, to the arrival of British and Dutch colonists in 1600. Well-illustrated throughout, this comprehensive account explores the factors which established

Southeast Asia as an area of unique cultural fusion. Miksic and Goh explore how the local population exploited the abundant resources available, developing maritime transport routes which resulted in economic and cultural wealth, including some of the most elaborate art styles and monumental complexes ever constructed. The book's broad geographical and temporal coverage, including a chapter on the natural environment, provides

readers with the context needed to understand this staggeringly diverse region. It utilises French, Dutch, Chinese, Malay-Indonesian and Burmese sources and synthesises interdisciplinary theoretical perspectives and data from archaeology, history and art history. Offering key opportunities for comparative research with other centres of early socio-economic complexity, *Ancient Southeast Asia* establishes the area's importance in world history.



INTIMACY AND REPRODUCTION IN CONTEMPORARY JAPAN

Assistant Professor Genaro Castro-Vazquez (Sociology Division). Routledge.

Castro-Vazquez adopts a new approach in studying the decreasing fertility rates contributing to ageing population in modern Japan. Based on the accounts of 57 married Japanese women, he employs symbolic interactionism as

a framework to examine the various factors affecting decision-making on childbirth. With strong contextual information as the foundation, he offers fresh insight as to how Japanese women today perceive the idea of childbirth in a modernised

society which will assist the readers in understanding the factors causing Japan's ageing population.



OLD AGE, NEW SCIENCE: GERONTOLOGISTS AND THEIR BIOSOCIAL VISIONS, 1900-1960

Assistant Professor Park Hyung Wook (History Programme). 2016. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press.

This book focuses on the "biosocial visions" shared by early gerontologists in American and British science and culture from the early to mid-twentieth century who believed the phenomenon of aging was not just biological, but

social in nature. Advancements in the life sciences, together with shifting perspectives on the state and future of the elderly in society, informed how gerontologists interacted with seniors, and how they defined successful aging. Park shows how these visions shaped

popular discourses on aging, directly influenced the institutionalisation of gerontology, and also reflected the class, gender, and racial biases of their founders.



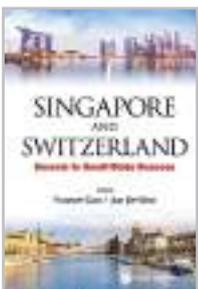
SINGAPORE AS AN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE: HISTORY, POLICY AND POLITICS

Assistant Professor Woo Jun Jie (Public Policy and Global Affairs Programme). 2016. Palgrave Macmillan.

This book provides an analysis of Singapore's development and success as an international financial centre (IFC). It illustrated how Singapore plays a critical role in both Asian and global financial markets,

despite its relatively small geographic size. The author focuses specifically on the factors that have contributed to the city-state's success and discusses the policy lessons that can be derived from it. The book describes the

historical, spatial, political and policy factors that contributed to Singapore's development as a leading Asian financial centre and global city, and will be of interest to both policy scholars and practitioners.



SINGAPORE AND SWITZERLAND: SECRETS TO SMALL STATE SUCCESS

Edited by Yvonne Guo and Assistant Professor Woo Jun Jie (Public Policy and Global Affairs Programme). 2016. World Scientific.

The cases of Singapore and Switzerland present a fascinating puzzle: how have two small states achieved similar levels of success through divergent pathways? Are both approaches equally sustainable, and what lessons do they hold for each other? While Singapore is the archetypal developmental state, whose success can be attributed to strong

political leadership and long-term planning, Switzerland's success is a more organic process, due to the propitious convergence of strong industries and a resilient citizenry. Yet, throughout the course of their development, both countries have had to deal with the dual challenges of culturally heterogeneous populations and challenging regional contexts. With forewords from Ambassadors

Thomas Kupfer and Tommy Koh, *Singapore and Switzerland: Secrets to Small State Success* features contributions from distinguished scholars and policymakers who explore the dynamics of two small states which have topped international rankings in a many policy areas, but whose pathways to success could not be more different.

BOOK CHAPTERS

G. BALLARD AND THE DROWNED WORLD OF SHANGHAI

Assistant Professor Graham John Matthews (English Programme). 2016. In Richard Brown, Chris Duffy and Elizabeth Stainforth (Eds.), *J.G. Ballard: Landscapes of Tomorrow*. Brill.

G. Ballard's *The Drowned World* (1962) presents a panorama of department stores and skyscrapers emerging out of water that evokes the landscape of Shanghai where Ballard lived until he was sixteen. Drawing on historical representations of China in the 1930s and 1940s this

chapter reveals the ways in which Ballard incorporated elements of his childhood experience of China into the fictional landscape of *The Drowned World*. Writings about China by Elizabeth Enders, Carl Crow, C.F. Gordon Cumming, Liu Eh, Ruth Hsu and others are compared to Ballard's

novel. By investigating the influence of the Shanghai landscape on Ballard's portrait of the submerged London in *The Drowned World*, this essay indicates the ways in which space and memory influence the fashioning of imaginative truth.

WHAT WE THINK ABOUT WHEN WE THINK ABOUT TRIFFIDS: THE MONSTROUS VEGETAL IN BRITISH POST-WAR SCIENCE FICTION

Assistant Professor Graham John Matthews (English Programme). 2016. In Dawn Keetley and Angela Tenga (Eds.), *Plant Horror: Approaches to the Monstrous Vegetal in Fiction and Film*. Palgrave Macmillan

John Wyndham's *The Day of the Triffids* and John Christopher's *The Death of Grass* portray the submerged interdependencies between plant and human in ways that question the complacency of human self-conceptions and the logic of cynical reason. Wyndham

and Christopher signal the necessary limits of anthropomorphism and indicate that plant thought can only be known through the rejection of metaphysical categories, dialectical thought, and traditional ways of seeing. A reading attentive to anthropomorphic language and the logic

of cynical reason offers an appreciation of plant life presented as an alternative ontology to instrumental reason, which appropriates nature as a collection of resources and raw materials to be managed and consumed by humans.

CONNECTING PERSONAL TROUBLES AND SOCIAL ISSUES IN ASIAN SUBCULTURE STUDIES

Associate Professor Patrick Williams (Sociology Division). 2016. In Shane Blackman and Michelle Kempson (Eds.), *The Subcultural Imagination: Theory, Research, and Reflexivity in Contemporary Youth Cultures*, pp 167-177. Abingdon, UK: Taylor & Francis.

Rare in the Asian subculture literature are discussions of reflexivity regarding the relations between researchers and what they study. In most cases, scholars treated subcultures with a mixture of anthropological reverence for the exotic and parochial concern for the disenfranchised. Since the 1990s, more "insider" as well as critical and evaluative

work has been published, yet this kind of introspection cannot be easily found in studies of Asian youth subcultures. This chapter attempts to fill this gap by reporting on the process of writing with, rather than about, youths and their cultural interests. Drawing from two research projects with Singaporean university students, I reflect on doing collaborative

ethnographic subcultural studies in Asia. By framing student interests in terms of C. Wright Mills' "sociological imagination," I look at how research functions in part to validate youth cultural experiences. I end by considering the significance of teacher-student collaboration and reflexivity in-and-around the classroom.

PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF CHINESE OLDER PERSONS IN NEED OF RESIDENTIAL CARE: THE SOCIAL JUSTICE AND HEALTHY EQUITY DILEMMA IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

Michelle H.Y. Shum, Assistant Professor Andy H.Y. Ho (Psychology Division), Hao Lui, Jun Fang Wang, Wing Wang, and Terry Y.S. Lu. 2016. In Helen Meenan, Nicola Rees, and Israel Doron (Eds.), *Towards Human Rights in Residential Care for Older Persons: International Perspectives*, 66-84. New York: Routledge.

This paper examines the various developmental challenges of China's long term care system in the context of an ageing population and rapid demographic change. It critically discusses the constitutional and legal regulatory frameworks for the provision of residential care, and investigates the

violation of human right cases in Chinese residential care homes are facilitated by an underdeveloped legislation system. Since the quality of care for older persons hinges to a great extent on the balance between social justice and health equity, the authors argue that the only way to protect the dignity and personhood of

Chinese older persons in residential care is to strengthen the foundation of human rights, enhance regulatory monitoring and compliance, and cultivate professional responsibility and competence.

PLAYING GAMES

Associate Professor Patrick Williams (Sociology Division). 2016. In Dennis Waskul and Phillip Vannini (Eds.), *Popular Culture as Everyday Life*, pp.115-124. New York: Routledge.

This is a chapter about fun and games, and in particular about certain kinds of gameplay—card games, board games, role-playing games (RPGs), and video games which have become popular over the last couple of decades. When we closely observe the experience of gameplay, we find things going on that are not fun: frustration, anger, and jealousy are

just a few of the unpleasant emotions that people feel when playing games. In some cases, people lose sleep, money, even loved ones because of the games they play. So how is it that so many people love playing games when they are equally likely to be not fun as to be fun? In the chapter, I consider the structure of fun, how fun is linked to games and gameplay, and to

some of the non-fun aspects of gameplay. I argue in short that people play games because they are so much like the rest of everyday life. So while traditional game scholars suggest we play games because we enjoy them, it is the sociological point, that we enjoy playing games because of their likeness to everyday life, that seems more significant.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

MICROFOUNDATIONS FOR SWITCHING BEHAVIOR IN HETEROGENEOUS AGENT MODELS: AN EXPERIMENT

Assistant Professor Bao Te (Economics Division). 2016. *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 129, 74-99.

We ran a laboratory experiment to study how human subjects switch between several profitable alternatives, framed as mutual funds, in order to provide a microfoundation for so-called heterogeneous agent models. The participants in our experiment have to choose repeatedly between two, three or four experimental funds. The time series of fund returns are exogenously generated

prior to the experiment and participants are paid for each period according to the return of the fund they choose. For most cases, participants' decisions can be successfully described by a discrete choice switching model, often applied in heterogeneous agent models, provided that a predisposition toward one of the funds is included. The estimated intensity of choice parameter of the discrete choice

model depends on the structure of the fund returns. In particular, it increases with correlation between past and future returns. This suggests human subjects do not myopically chase past returns, but are more likely to do so when past returns are more predictive of future returns, a feature that is absent in the standard heterogeneous agent models.

NON-RECOURSE MORTGAGE AND HOUSING MARKET BOOM, BUST AND REBOUND

Assistant Professor Bao Te (Economics Division). 2016. *Real Estate Economics*, 44(3), 584-605.

This paper investigates the impact of nonrecourse vs. recourse mortgages on housing price dynamics in major U.S. metropolitan statistical areas for the period from 2000 to 2013. We find evidence that

nonrecourse states experience faster price growth during the boom period (2000-2006), a sharper price drop during the bust period (2006-2009) and faster price recovery in the rebound period after a

crisis (2009-2013). Moreover, the volatility of housing prices is higher in nonrecourse states than in recourse states, particularly during the rebound period.

GENETIC PREDISPOSITIONS AND PARENTAL BONDING INTERACT TO SHAPE ADULTS

Nanyang Assistant Professor Gianluca Esposito (Psychology Division), Anna Truzzi, Assistant Professor Setoh Peipei Setoh (Psychology Division), Diane L. Putnick, Kazuyuki Shinohara and Marc H. Bornstein. 2016. *Behavioural Brain Research*.

Parental bonding and oxytocin receptor (OXTR) gene genotype each influences social abilities in adulthood. Here, we hypothesized an interaction between the two—environmental experience (parental bonding history) and genetic factors (OXTR gene genotype)—in shaping adults' social sensitivity (physiological response to distress). We assessed heart rate and peripheral temperature (tip of the nose) in 42 male adults during presentation of distress vocalisations (distress cries belonging to female human infants and adults as well as bonobo). The two

physiological responses index, respectively, state of arousal and readiness to action. Participants' parental bonding in childhood was assessed through the self-report Parental Bonding Instrument. To assess participants' genetic predispositions, buccal mucosa cell samples were collected, and region rs2254298 of the oxytocin receptor gene was analysed: previous OXTR gene findings point to associations between the G allele and better sociality (protective factor) and the A allele and poorer sociality (risk factor). We found a gene * environment interaction

for susceptibility to social distress: Participants with a genetic risk factor (A carriers) with a history of high paternal overprotection showed higher heart rate increase than those without this risk factor (G/G genotype) to social distress. Also, a significant effect of the interaction between paternal care and genotype on nose temperature changes was found. This susceptibility appears to represent an indirect pathway through which genes and experiences interact to shape mature social sensitivity in males.

BOYCOTTS AS MORAL PROTESTS IN MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE**Assistant Professor Kamaludeen Bin Mohamed Nasir (Sociology Division). 2016. *International Sociology*.**

This article examines boycott movements in Malaysia and Singapore as expressions of popular Islam, with the Israeli–Gaza conflicts of 2008 and 2014 as case studies. This study highlights the complexities of the global discourse on boycotting among Muslim communities. It not only shows the degree of the Muslims' collective action on the ground, but also

the conversations among the elites. The author also demonstrates the diverse manifestations of religiosity within differing socio-political conditions. Owing to their unique position as a minority population in a Sinicised environment, located in between Malay and Muslim dominated countries, Malaysia and Indonesia, Malay Muslims in Singapore are often

juxtaposed against a barometer of the Malay Other. Music, movies, popular trends and terminologies coined across the Causeway often find their way into the everyday lexicon of Muslims in Singapore. While these popular cultural expressions might seem free flowing and amorphous, one cannot neglect the roles of states in influencing the practice of popular Islam.

ANTIPODAL TATTOOING: MUSLIM YOUTH IN CHINESE GANGS**Assistant Professor Kamaludeen Bin Mohamed Nasir (Sociology Division). 2016. *Deviant Behavior*, 1-10.**

The relationship between Muslims and body art has not been a subject of academic inquiry. This is strange since tattooing has become more prevalent in many urban cosmopolitan cities. This article examines the tattooing practices of

Muslim men in Singapore. These practices are sociologically interesting because they involve Malay men who are predominantly Muslims, tattooing themselves as part of their membership in gangs that are mostly Chinese-dominated. This article presents

the concept of “antipodal tattooing,” which can be instructive in understanding the relationships between tattooing and identity formation as expressions of the fragile and fragmented character of minority youth identities in urban life.

THE CASE FOR SOCIOLOGY OF DYING, DEATH AND BEREAVEMENT**Neil Thompson, June Allan, Philip A. Carverhill, Gerry R. Cox, Betty Davies, Kenneth Doka, Leeat Granek, Darcy Harris, Assistant Professor Andy H.Y. Ho (Psychology Division), Dennis Klass, Neil Small and Joachim Wittkowski. 2016. *Death Studies*, DOI: 10.1080/07481187.2015.11093710.1080/07481187.2015.110937**

Dying, death, and bereavement do not occur in a social vacuum. How individuals and groups experience these phenomena will be largely influenced by the social context in which they occur. To develop an adequate understanding of dying, death,

and bereavement we therefore need to incorporate a sociological perspective into our analysis. This article examines why a sociological perspective is necessary and explores various ways in which sociology can be of practical value in both

intellectual and professional contexts. A case study comparing psychological and sociological perspectives is offered by way of illustration.

ON MEMORY CONSTRUCTION AND FICTIONALISATION**Assistant Professor Ngoi Guat Peng (Chinese Division). 2015. *Inter-Asia Cultural Studies*, 16(4).**

As a response to Ashis Nandy's article about memory construction, this article argues that memories are closely linked to recognition, identity and historical construction while closely connected

with local discourse based on post-colonial experiences. In some cases, the construction of memory involves mythical images. The article also addresses the tension between history construction and

fictionalisation, and attempts to indicate that forbidden memories such as those about revolution can be reconstructed in literary writing.

IDENTITY DISINTEGRATION: “MALAYSIAN CHINESE COMMUNITY” AND THE INTELLECTUAL DISCOURSES OF CHINESENESS AND CHINESE EMPIRE. 《崩解的認同：「馬華」與中國性、中華帝國的知識論述》**Assistant Professor Ngoi Guat Peng (Chinese Division). 2015. Special Issue of Imagination of Post-colonialism, Router: *A Journal of Cultural Studies* 《文化研究》, 226-232.**

This article examines the methodology of identification on Chineseness and Chinese Empire explored by Shirley Lim Geok Lin in her article entitled “The China Coda: Hegemons, Empires and Gaps in a

Postcolonial Imaginary”. Lim was born in Malacca and is now based in the United States. This article also examines Lim's discourses, especially related to the

relationship of self and post-colonialism consciousness, as well as the identity of “Peranakan” from the perspective of Chinese diaspora.

ARTS, CUISINE, ET DESIGN: LA GENERATION 1.75 DE LA DIASPORA CHINOISE A MILAN ET LA CREATION D'ENTREPRISES TRANSNATIONALES [ARTS, CUISINE, AND DESIGN: THE 1.75 GENERATION OF CHINESE DIASPORA IN MILAN AND THE MAKING OF TRANSNATIONAL ENTERPRISES]

Professor Liu Hong (History Programme) and Giuseppina Merchionne. 2016. *Hommes et Migrations*, 1314, 44-51.

This article focuses on the experiences and perceptions of the younger generation of Chinese immigrants in Milan who work in sectors that are related to the “Made in Italy” phenomenon. Leveraging on the

growing popularity of everything that falls under this label, they have structured their businesses to operate between two or more countries through continuous exchanges of products, capital and

know-how. We argue that a new breed of young Italian-Chinese entrepreneurs has emerged, whose socio-cultural identities are characterised by a mixture of Italo-Chinese, with a clear inclination toward Italia.

DANCING WITH A RISING CHINA: OPPORTUNITIES AND ANXIETIES FOR THE CHINESE DIASPORA IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

Professor Liu Hong (History Programme). 2016. *Current History: A Journal of Contemporary World Affairs*.

This article argues that although China's growing engagement with Southeast Asia has presented opportunities for local Chinese communities, it has also led

to socio-cultural discontents and new patterns of politico-economic realignments in the region. Sinicisation and De-Sinicisation have been formulated by the

Chinese diaspora (and local elite) as creative strategies to take advantage of China's rise while coping with the anxieties it produces.

CHINA'S DIASPORA POLICIES AS A NEW MODE OF TRANSNATIONAL GOVERNANCE

Professor Liu Hong (History Programme) and Assistant Professor Els Van Dongen (History Programme). 2016. *Journal of Contemporary China*, 25, 1-18.

Against the backdrop of China's increasing integration into the global economy, as well as its expanding interests abroad, this article goes beyond the existing frameworks in the studies of both domestic Chinese politics and diaspora relations by analysing China's diaspora

policies from the angle of transnational governance. Relying on policy documents, relevant data from institutions involved, and interviews and participatory observation at both central and provincial levels, the article argues that a state-centered approach, in which the Chinese overseas are ‘co-

opted’, neglects how the engagement with transnational social actors, especially the new migrants, alters existing state structures and how the actions of Chinese overseas are driven by various motives and interests.

THE QIAOPI TRADE AND ITS ROLE IN MODERN CHINA AND THE CHINESE DIASPORA: TOWARD AN ALTERNATIVE EXPLANATION OF ‘TRANSNATIONAL CAPITALISM’

Professor Liu Hong (History Programme) and Gregor Benton. 2016. *Journal of Asian Studies*, 75(3), 1-20.

The essay aims to identify alternatives to modern capitalism that are, at the same time, robustly cosmopolitan, and for which modernity is multiple rather than modular. Ethnicity and identity matter greatly in diasporic Chinese business culture, as sources of entrepreneurial resilience and

creativity, especially in the early stages of diaspora formation. Far from forming an obstacle to economic growth and technological innovation, business familism, social networks, and their associated cultural values can be shown, at least in some periods and contexts, to

have assisted economic development in Chinese societies at home and abroad, by enabling social mobility, furthering family interests, building partnerships, facilitating contracts, and promoting other practices proper to a modern market economy.

QIAOPI AND POLITICS. <侨批与政治>

Professor Liu Hong (History Programme), Zhang Huimei and Gregor Benton. 2016. *International Journal of Diasporic Chinese Studies* 《华人研究国际学报》, 8(1), 1-36.

This article examines the relationship between *qiaopi* (remittance) and politics from various angles. These include the political impact of *qiaopi* and the *qiaopi* trade on local power relations, regional politics, Chinatown politics, and China's

national politics. The paper explores the relationship between postal and print culture and the significance of these two concepts for *qiaopi* studies. It concludes that the political culture associated with the *qiaopi* phenomenon differed in vital

respects from that posited by existing studies on the relationship between post and print on the one hand, and politics on the other.

SASAENGAEN' OR K-POP FAN? SINGAPORE YOUTHS, AUTHENTIC IDENTITIES, AND ASIAN MEDIA FANDOM**Associate Professor Patrick Williams (Sociology Division) and Samantha Xiang Xin Ho. 2016. *Deviant Behavior*, 37(1), 81-94.**

Since the late 1990s, the Korean pop-culture wave has had a huge impact, achieving immense popularity and sustaining a global community of consumers and fans. In Singapore, a significant K-pop fan culture has emerged among youths. In this article, we study

the emergence of the sasaeng fan—a stigmatised fan identity that refers to individuals who are unhealthily interested in the personal lives of K-pop idols. Drawing on data from mass and social media, participant-observation, and interviews, we map the significance of the sasaeng fan

identity for Singapore K-pop music fans and focus specific attention on how fans negotiate an understanding of their own “authentic” identities vis-à-vis the mediated identity of the sasaeng fan.

RUDE BOY SUBCULTURE, CRITICAL PEDAGOGY, AND THE COLLABORATIVE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ANALYTIC AND EVOCATIVE AUTOETHNOGRAPHY**Associate Professor Patrick Williams (Sociology Division) and Muhammad Kamal Jauhari bin Zaini. 2016. *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*, 45(1), 34-59.**

This article theorises and performs an analytic and evocative auto-ethnography about participation in the Rude Boy subculture in Singapore in the 2000s. Relying on critical pedagogy and a performative conception of subcultural theory, we analyse the second author's past self as a Rude Boy through a collaborative narrative that emerged out

of a university course-based research project on youth subcultures. Our narrative, which includes the reproduction of field notes, reflective journals, interviews, and dialogue between the authors, is intended to simultaneously question the assumed dichotomy between analytic and evocative autoethnographic forms and to highlight the potential for a critical pedagogy that

brings teachers and students together to create new understandings of the self. The article also highlights the personal and pedagogical outcomes of dealing academically with a subcultural past and extends a dialogic approach to studying subcultural participation and experience.

DEVELOPING SMART CITIES IN CHINA: AN EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS**Assistant Professor Yu Wenxuan (Public Policy and Global Affairs Programme). 2016. *International Journal of Public Administration in the Digital Age*, forthcoming.**

Pushed and pulled by a variety of external and internal factors, the Chinese government had begun to adopt and implement its smart city initiatives. Despite the strong financial and institutional supports from the central government, the performances of smart city initiatives significantly vary across pilot sites. Considering smart city initiatives as

government innovation and drawing on government innovation diffusion theories, we developed an explanatory model to examine their variance and test it with a cross-sectional dataset using multiple regression methods. We found that although environmental pollution was a key driver for the development of smart cities in China, environmental pollution like

air pollution in particular had a curvilinear relationship (bell-shaped) with smart city development. In addition, we also found smart city initiatives in China were driven not only by technical rationalities but also political rationalities. Political support from local ruling party secretaries made a difference.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INTERRACIAL DYNAMICS: A CASE STUDY OF SELF-EMPLOYED AFRICANS AND CHINESE IN GUANGZHOU, CHINA**Professor Zhou Min (Sociology Division). 2016. *Ethnic and Racial Studies*.**

African migration to China has emerged as a significant sociological phenomenon only very recently. Unlike the stereotypical immigrant, African migrants in China are predominantly owners and expatriate employees of African import-export firms or self-made entrepreneurs. They do business face-to-face with local Chinese merchants and live amongst local Chinese residents. Africans' encounters

with Chinese in local markets, residential neighborhoods, and on the street offer a rare opportunity for studying interracial dynamics beyond the classic black-white paradigm. In this paper, we draw from surveys, in-depth interviews, and field observations to examine patterns of interactions of African entrepreneurs with Chinese entrepreneurs and residents. In particular, we explore how migrant

entrepreneurship intensifies or mediates interracial relations in an emerging global city. Our analysis suggest that interactions between Africans and Chinese are both economically interdependent and socio-culturally contentious processes, leading to paradoxical consequences of social exclusion and inclusion. We discuss the theoretical and policy implications of these findings.

SOUTHEAST ASIAN IMAGES OF HELL: TRANSMISSION AND ADAPTATION**Associate Professor Goh Geok Yian (History Programme). 2016. *Bulletin de l'Ecole française d'Extrême-Orient*, 101.**

Although it may seem that art historians working on the Buddhist murals of Bagan have exhausted all possible avenues for research on the narrative content, organisation, and distribution of the panels in the temples, this paper proposes a new line of inquiry. We begin with the search for

possible influences which contributed to the introduction of images of hell as part of a Three-World cosmology in a small temple in Bagan, and go on to place these images in the context of transregional interactions. This paper demonstrates that depictions of hell (*nga yei/naraka/niraya*)

arose either as an independent concept or as part of a three-world cosmology produced via a complex process which reflects the complex interconnection between independent local development and external influences from countries beyond Myanmar and Thailand.