

communication while neglecting the cultural characteristics, or shall we focus on the interferences of cultural elements? There are truly cultural hindrances in translating this book. It is difficult to translate the Chinese term “ren” (仁) into German; likewise in Der Römerbrief terms like “Treue” and “Gerechtigkeit” if translated into “xin” (信) and “yi” (義) may lead toward too much interpretation in the Chinese readers’ mind, not complying with the original meanings. It is really difficult for a translator to repeat the original meaning of an ambiguous term with its context.

In the translation process I have tried hard to overcome these problems, but many are still unresolved. There are many imperfections in this work and it is not worthy of a prize. These are not words of humility but from my heart. Although in translating this theological classic there were difficulties, I enjoyed the spiritual happiness. I hope to continue make a contribution in this enterprise. Thanks to your positive responses and the encouragement of ISCS!

# Academic Programs



## Seminar for Biblical Studies

One recent focus in developing Sino-Christian theology is on biblical studies. For the sake of nourishing new scholars, ISCS invited Prof. YEE Tet-lim as visiting scholar. Prof. YEE is a New Testament scholar, who obtained his Ph.D. from Durham University, UK under the supervision



of James Dunn. Apart from doing research, Prof. YEE conducted two New Testament seminars for our visiting students. They provided an introduction to academic studies on NT and a survey of recent advanced topics. These seminars lasted for four months and are the first and important step towards the establishment of New Testament studies in Mainland China.

in the 21st Century and the Dialogue with Chinese Culture”. There were one round



table discussion and six seminars on special topics. 20 more participants came from Mainland China and Hong Kong and were veterans and old friends in this field. Daniel held a seminar on “Research Proposals of Sino-Christian Theology” in the event.

## Internal Seminar with Overseas Partners

This seminar was held in 30 October 2008 in Tao Fong Shan. Over 30 guests including foreign professors from Lutheran Theologian Seminary and other scholars from Hong Kong and Macau were invited. Visiting scholars and students also participated in the discussion. Prof. Dr. YEE Tet-lim from Malaysia presented a paper on

“Doing Theology with(out) a Text? The Promise of



## Conference of “The Global Development of Christianity in the 21st Century and the Dialogue with Chinese Culture”

Director Daniel Yeung was invited to participate in the opening ceremony of the “Institute of Religious Culture in Europe and America” at Wuhan University from 9 to 11 December. ISCS cooperated with this institute and the department of philosophy of Wuhan University to hold the conference of “The Global Development of Christianity



Sino-Theology in the Making". In the paper the historical and current situation of Sino-Christian theology were examined and he proposed that integration with classical studies including biblical studies should be done in Sino-theology in the future. Dr. SONG Xuhong from Beijing Central University for Nationalities presented another paper on "Ecological Theology and Aesthetic Daoism". She emphasized the importance of the aesthetic dimension of ecological thinking in Mainland China and asserted that it would be wise for Christian theology to consider the view of Daoist aesthetics when dealing with environmental ethics.

### Meeting of Biblical Studies Textbook



In recent years the humanistic circle of Mainland China has developed

an interest in the Bible from the cultural and literary perspectives as Christian studies advances. Many important universities have offered courses about the Bible in their Christian studies curriculum. Matching with this development, ISCS invited a group of young Mainland scholars to write a series of biblical studies textbooks for the situation of Mainland China. A one-day meeting was held on 10 December 2008 in Beijing. It is for the sake of gathering all the authors and academic advisors, so that they may have a chance to share experiences and exchange ideas

### Program of Mainland China Scholars Visiting University of Toronto

Thanks to our distinguished professor Dr. Milton WAN and his wife, ISCS has cooperated with Emmanuel College, University of Toronto to launch a visiting scholar program. Scholars from Mainland China are selected by ISCS and Prof. Wan each year to visit Emmanuel College for two to three months.

The scholar invited to join this program in 2008 is Prof. WANG Guicai from Zhejiang University. Her research interest is mainly in the theory of religious dialogue. From April to July 2008, Prof. Wang visited Emmanuel College and collected research materials for the topic "Inter-

## Academic Exchange

about writing. The authors submitted their manuscripts of outlines and sample chapters for comments. The discussion atmosphere was very good and all agreed that this meeting is good for getting consensus of writing style and raising the quality of the series of books.

### Annual Conference of Christian Studies organized by CASS

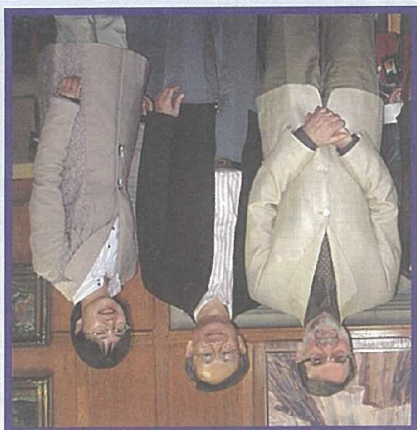


From 11-13 December 2008, the Center of Christian Studies of the China Academy of Social Sciences organized a conference entitled "Christian Religion and Social Change" in Beijing. This conference was co-organized by ISCS, Chung Chi Divinity School of CUHK, Centre of Catholic Studies of CUHK, Centre for Sino-Christian Studies of Hong Kong Baptist University and Center of Christianity and China Studies, Los Angeles. Over 100 scholars and graduate students from Mainland China, Hong Kong and overseas were invited to join this conference. Prof. Paulos Huang of ISCS presented a paper "Sino-Christian Studies in Social Change" on behalf of our institute.



cultural encounter between Christianity and other religions" and finished a paper

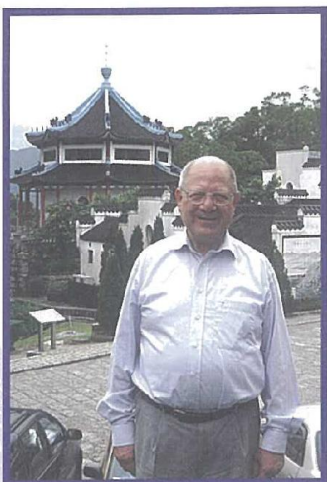
"Towards an Intercultural Hermeneutics" and translated part of Myth, Faith and Hermeneutics. Prof. Wang also visited Prof. Peter Wyatt, principle of Emmanuel College and the banquet arranged for Prof. Isabel Crook.





## *The Visit of Prof. Gerhard Sauter*

In Sep 2008 the well-known theologian Prof. Gerhard Sauter of the University of Bonn was invited by the Lutheran Theological Seminary to visit Hong Kong. Prof. Sauter had a dialogue with local theologians in the Chinese University of Hong Kong on the topic "Protestant Theology in 19th and 20th Centuries". Prof. Sauter also visited ISCS and discussed with director Daniel Yeung about possibilities of future cooperation.



## *World Public Forum on Rhodes Island*

Director Daniel Yeung participated in the World Public Forum on Rhodes Island from 9 to 13 Oct 2008. Over 700 participants, who are experts in various areas and representatives of churches and organizations, from different places joined the discussion on "Dialogue of Civilization". There were eight discussion groups on different sub-topics. Daniel was invited to deliver a speech in the group of "Religious Co-operation", and his title was the "Sino-Christian Theology Movement and ISCS".



## *The Visit of Dr. Fumagalli of Biblioteca Ambrosiana*

On 10 Oct 2008 Dr. Pier Francesco Fumagalli, Viceprefetto of Biblioteca Ambrosiana in Milan, visited ISCS. Biblioteca Ambrosiana is a renowned institution

combining a library, gallery and museum. Dr. Fumagalli is a Sinologist and is in charge of the oriental department.



Our director Daniel Yeung is also appointed as a founding member of its research institute Sezione Cinese. During his visit, he introduced Biblioteca Ambrosiana to the researchers at Tao Fong Shan and talked about the cultural exchange between east and west in a seminar.

## *Academic Conference on "The Function and Influence of the Christian Religion to Contemporary Chinese Society"*

From 19 to 21 Nov 2008, Director Daniel Yeung was invited to participate in the 4th academic conference on "The Function and Influence of the Christian Religion to Contemporary Chinese Society" in Beijing. This conference was jointly hosted by the United Front Work Department of the Communist Party and the China Academy of Social Sciences. The participants were from political, ecclesial and academic realms. The discussion atmosphere was open and sincere. Daniel shared in the event "The Multiple Meanings of Sino-Christian Theology to the Chinese Academia and Churches".

