

an internal spiritual tension. When a person feels this and inclines to take a certain side or has taken that side from the very beginning, the best attitude is willing to learn from the other. Learning, however, is not for fusion, and certainly not for the lower level of recognition or tolerance, but for stimulating new interpretation of one's own classics due to the attraction of the other side. This is the best way in taking one's stand and learning from others. In saying that this learning is of a deep level is firstly because it requires a deep level of appreciation of the other in the way that the adherents would devote their life. Secondly, this learning will eventually require one to return to his own classics and rediscover its hidden treasures by reflecting on the spiritual resources he has learned from the other.

The deep understanding of the other side and the return to one's own classics in a deep and profound way defines the direction and meaning of this learning model,

i.e., through a new interpretation of one's classics the spirit of the other side is absorbed. Needless to say, the mutual learning at a deep level between Confucianism and Buddhism is a historical event and is the best precedent we can think of when considering the mutual learning between Confucianism and Christianity. We have seen the result that on one hand there was the sinicization of Buddhism, which gave rise to a new religion of great vitality and spreading to all parts of the world. On the other hand, we see the renewal of Confucianism having a broader and deeper scope through this mutual learning. We can therefore have similar expectation for the Confucian-Christian dialogue.■

1. The first example is the dialogue initiated by the Jesuit Matteo Ricci. Confucian scholars, who were also government officials, were important partners.

2. For example, the Global Ethic suggested by Hans Küng also attracted Confucian participants. Cf. Liu Shuxian, *Global Ethic and Religious Dialogue* (Shijiazhuang: Hebei People's Publishing House, 2006).

Special Report

The Institute of Christian Culture at Tongji University joined the GNPT



In October 2016, Prof. XIE Zhibin, our Research Fellow in Mainland and Professor of Philosophy at Tongji University, attended the Global Network for Public Theology (GNPT) meeting on "Democracy & Social Justice in Global Contexts" at the University of Stellenbosch, South Africa and presented a paper on "The Plural Problem in Chinese Society: An Interpretation from Confucian and Christian Perspectives." In the event, Prof. Xie also introduced the academic programs, activities and publications related to public theology conducted by the Institute of Christian Culture at Tongji University (associated with ISCS' Tongji Center). The works of the Institute are recognized by the GNPT members and the Institute is accepted as a new member of the GNPT. Established in 2007, the GNPT is an academic research platform promoting theological contributions on public issues by engaging in dialogues with different academic disciplines. It includes more than twenty research centers, colleges and seminaries from all continents and publishes the *International Journal of Public Theology*. The Institute of Christian Culture at Tongji University is the first institute in Mainland China joining the GNPT.

Consultation of the Establishment of the *International Journal of Asian Christianity*



Between late October and early November 2016, our director Daniel Yeung was invited to attend the consultation of the establishment of the *International Journal of Asian Christianity* convened by the well-known Indian scholar Felix Wilfred. In the conference, Daniel shared the development of *Logos & Pneuma: Chinese Journal of Theology* and got acquainted with some Asian scholars. He also got the opportunity to have in-depth exchange on the theological development of the greater China with the theologian Prof. HUANG Pekho (黃伯和). Before the conference, Daniel visited the seven churches established by Apostle Thomas in Kerala. Introduced by his grace Mar Awa Royel, Bishop of the Diocese of California, Assyrian Church of the East, Daniel was welcomed warmly by Mar Awgin Kuriakose, Bishop of India, to stay in the Archbishop Palace with the Metropolitan Mar Aprem Mookken. In the meantime, Mar Awgin brought him to visit many old Thomas churches and other Indian churches and seminaries. Daniel was glad to have the chance to talk with the two Bishops. Archbishop Aprem was a learned man, very familiar with the history of the Assyrian Church of the East in India. He had been the interim Catholicos-Patriarch during 2015-2016.

Exhibition and Seminar on the “Orthodox Church in China”



In the latter half of Nov 2016, Saint Apostles Peter & Paul Orthodox Church in Hong Kong hosted an exhibition and a seminar on the “Orthodox Church in China”. ISCS has been promoting studies on the ecumenical tradition and keeping good relationship with different Christian traditions. Thus we co-organized this series of event. The exhibition of the “Orthodox Church in China: Past, Present, Future” was held at the Li Hall, St. John’s Cathedral during 22-28 Nov 2017. It presented many valuable photos and information of the history of the Orthodox Church (Moscow Patriarchate) in China, in particular some were related to Hong Kong. In addition, there was an Orthodox choir singing session and a book fair in the opening ceremony. Prof. ZHANG Baichuen, ISCS visiting scholar and professor of philosophy at Beijing Normal University was invited to give a speech. The audience was deeply attracted by the history of culture of the Orthodox church in China.

On 25 Nov ISCS organized a seminar on “Sino-Orthodox Studies: Translation and Interpretation” with the City University of Hong Kong. The event was chaired by our academic officer Prof. Jason Lam, and Prof. Zhang also participated in the event and made responses to the papers. The audience came from different realms and was interested in the topic. The speakers and their corresponding topics are as follows:

Speaker	Topic
Mr. Aleksands Dmitrenko, PhD (candidate) City University of Hong Kong	The Intellectual Approach of Chinese Academia towards Orthodoxy
Dr. LIN Sen, Translator of the Saint Apostles Peter & Paul Orthodox Church	The Standard for a Chinese Translation of Orthodox Terminology in the Field of Theology, Spirituality and Liturgical Practices

Prof. Lauren Pfister, Hong Kong Baptist University	A Fabreg é Sinologist among Russian Orthodox Monks? My Discoveries regarding Iakinf’s (1777-1852) versions of the Four Books
Rev. Kirill Shkarbul, Rector of the Parishes of the Russian Orthodox Church in Taiwan	Some Shortcomings of the Chinese Translations of the Gospel according to Mark and the Need for a New Translation

Overseas Visiting Scholars: Prof. HE Guanghu and Prof. GAO Shining at Kyoto



During 18 October - 24 November, Prof. HE Guanghu and Prof. GAO Shining visited Doshisha University in Kyoto with the sponsor of ISCS. They visited Prof. Shinohe Junya, Director of the Center for Interdisciplinary Study of Monotheistic Religions, sharing different topics such as relationship between Islam and Chinese culture. On 10 November, Prof. HE delivered a lecture on “Macro History, Macro Paradox and Macro Trend of Sino-Christian Theology” in the School of Theology. On 13 November, he gave another talk on “Contemporary situation of the Chinese Church” at Fukuoka Chinese Church. The next day he delivered a speech at Seinan Gakuin University in Fukuoka about his experience of the religious situation in contemporary China, and he also visited Prof. Ichiro Sudo, Prof. Hisato Kato and Prof. XU Yimeng of Seinan Jo Gakuin University. On 16 November, they delivered a speech at the Institute for Christian Studies of Meiji Gakuin University in Tokyo, reflecting on personal belief, Sino-Christian theology, and the target of a state. They also visited Prof. SUH Jeong Min, Prof. Yuko Watanabe, and Murakami Shiho of Ritsumeikan University and the Chinese visiting scholar ZHU Haiyan. They visited Waseda University in Tokyo and studied the present situation of Japanese Buddhism.

Academic Activities



Visit of the Summer School of Chung Chi Divinity School



On 9 Aug 2016 the summer school for Mainland scholars organized by the Chung Chi Divinity School, the Chinese University of Hong Kong visited ISCS under the guidance of our distinguished professor Dr. Milton Wan. Our director Daniel Yeung introduced to the 53 participants the history of Tao Fong Shan and the ministries of ISCS in the last two decades. Then our visiting scholar Prof. ZHANG Xin, professor at the School of Chinese Language and Literature, Beijing Normal University, delivered a lecture on “Can Coleridge’s Concept of Imagination be a Resource for Christian Literature?” and brought about a heated discussion.

Visiting Trip of Prof. Werner Jeanrond



In September 2016, Prof. Werner Jeanrond, master of St. Benet’s Hall, University of Oxford, was invited as our guest professor and delivered a series of lectures in Hong Kong and Beijing (please refer to “Guest Professor” column for details). The two lectures delivered in Hong Kong were “Love and Hope in Christian Life and Thought” and

“Philosophy of Love” at the Chinese University

of Hong Kong and Hong Kong Baptist University respectively. On 19 September Prof. Jeanrond visited Tao Fong Shan and was received by our director Daniel Yeung and academic officer Jason Lam. They shared with him the recent development of Christian studies in Mainland academia and our ministries and discussed about future cooperation.

Lecture on “Icons of God portrayed by the Jesuits in late Ming China”

Center of the Study of Religion and Chinese Society, Chinese University of Hong Kong and ISCS co-organized a lecture on 20 September 2016.



Our visiting scholar Dr. QU Yi, lecturer of the School of Design, Nanjing University of Arts shared the topic on “Icons of God portrayed by the Jesuits in late Ming China”. The respondent was our another visiting scholar Prof. OUYANG Sutong, associate professor of the School of Social Science, Huazhong University of Science and Technology. The participants had a very good time exchanging ideas.

Visiting Trip of Prof. Peter Lampe



During October 2016, Prof. Peter Lampe from the University of Heidelberg was invited to deliver a series of lectures in China and Hong Kong as our guest professor (please refer to “Guest Professor” column for details). In the morning of 3 October, Prof. Lampe visited Tao Fong Shan. Our director Daniel Yeung and Prof. Jason

Lam received him and discussed our future cooperation. In the afternoon, ISCS together with the Centre for Christian Studies of the Chinese University of Hong Kong organized a public lecture for Prof. Lampe and his topic was “Jewish Apocalyptic Literature: Does the Image of a Violent God Necessarily Entail an Ethos Oriented toward Violence?” Prof. CHAN Lung Pun of the Divinity School of Chung Chi College, CUHK chaired the event while Rev. Dr. Eric Lau of HKSKH Ming Hua Theological College was the respondent. There were many attendants from local and Mainland academia and a heated discussion followed.

Research Fellow's Visit to Nanjing



During 7-10 November 2016, our academic officer Prof. Jason Lam was invited to attend the 12th Forum of “The Function and Influence of the Christian Religion on Contemporary Chinese Society” held in Nanjing by the Coordination Department of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong SAR with Nanjing Union Theological Seminary. He presented a report on “Christian Studies in Contemporary Mainland China and the Issue of Sinicization” and exchanged ideas with the participants coming from the political, ecclesial and academic realms of Mainland China and Hong Kong.

After the forum Prof. Lam visited the department of philosophy at Nanjing University during 10-11 November. He delivered a lecture on “Heidegger on Paul” at the Institute of Phenomenology with heated discussion.

Interdisciplinary Seminar by Prof. Oliver Davies



In the mid of November 2016, Prof. Oliver Davies from King's College London visited Hong Kong and delivered lectures at different institutes.

On 18 November Prof. and Mrs. Davies visited Tao Fong Shan. ISCS hosted a seminar for him and he offered a talk integrating natural science, religion, culture and different realms. The event was chaired by our academic officer Prof. Jason Lam. Prof. KWOK Wai Luen from Baptist University and our visiting scholars and students including Prof. ZHANG Qingxiong, Prof. ZHANG Xinzhang, Dr. ZHANG Yuntao joined the seminar and had a very heated discussion together.

Forum on “Sinicization of Christianity and the Construction of Chinese National Community”



During 24-26 November 2016, our research fellow Prof. Håkan Granberg was invited to attend the forum on the “Sinicization

of Christianity and the Construction of Chinese National Community” organized by the Institute of World Religions at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. He presented a paper on “Consumerism and the Meaning of Life”. There were around 70 scholars as well as representatives from Chinese churches and the Government attending the forum. It facilitated a dialogue on the mentioned issue between different realms.

Colloquium on “The Fusion of Hermeneutics and Phenomenology and its Theological Significance”

The Department of Religion and Philosophy at Hong Kong Baptist University and ISCS co-organized a colloquium on 30 Nov 2016. Our visiting scholar Prof. ZHANG Qingxiong



from Fudan University delivered a lecture on “The Fusion of Hermeneutics and Phenomenology and its Theological Significance”. The participants brought about a heated discussion.

Internal Seminar for Visiting Scholars and Students in Autumn 2016



From Jul to Dec 2016 a series of seminars were held for the visiting scholars and students to

provide a chance for academic discussion and supervision. The topics of the presented papers are as follows:

Name	University	Position	Topic
ZHANG Xin	Beijing Normal University	Associate Professor	George Macdonald and the Imagination of Baptism
TANG Kaijie	Sichuan University	Master Student	Studies on the conception of "Japanese Theology"
OUYANG Sutong	Huazhong University of Science and Technology	Associate Professor	Liu Xiaofeng and the End of Romanticism: From the Perspective of the Sociology of Knowledge

ZHANG Yuntao	Wuhan University	Lecturer	Is Schleiermacher an Exponent of Experiential-expressive Model? An Investigation into the Lindbeck-Proudfoots' Classical Critique of Schleiermacher's Theology
QU Yi	Nanjing University of the Arts	Lecturer	The Glory of God: Cologno Cathedral window by Gerhanrd Richter
ZHANG Qingxiong	Fudan University	Professor	The Fusion of Hermeneutics and Phenomenology and its Theological Significance
TIAN Haihua	Sichuan University	Professor	Biblical Interpretation of the Early Church Fathers (2-5 century)
LI Jincheng	Tongji University	Doctoral Student	From "Transcendental Method" to the "Primacy of Praxis": The Change of Methodology in Metz's Theological Thinking
HUA Wei	Huaqiao University	Associate Professor	Holy Spirit and Chinese Rites: On the Failure of the Holy See's Missionary Strategy in Early Qing Dynasty
CHEN Luzhou	East China Normal University	Doctoral Student	Modern People and the Strange Bible
WENG Hua	Tsinghua University	Doctoral Student	An Analysis of the Four Characteristics of John Macquarrie's Theological Language and Logic

Academic Exchange

Visit of Chinese Christian Literature Council



On 23 September 2016, the Chinese Christian Literature Council visited Tao Fong Shan for retreat. Our academic officer Prof. Jason Lam was

invited to be their speaker and they had a good exchange with our publication department and both hoped for a better future cooperation.

Visit of Prof. Christoph Schwöbel



In mid October 2016, Prof. Christoph Schwöbel from the University of Tübingen visited the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Through the

introduction of the chairperson of our academic committee

Prof. LAI Pan-chiu, Prof. Schwöbel visited us on 7 October. Our director Daniel Yeung and Prof. Jason Lam received him. They provided him a guided walk in our historic sites and shared with him the recent development of Christian studies in China and our ministries.

Visit of the State Administration for Religious Affairs



On 28 October 2016 a visiting group from the State Administration for Religious Affairs visited Tao Fong Shan with the guidance of Rev. LEE Chi-kwong, chairperson of the Christian Cultural Society. Our academic officer Prof. Jason Lam received them and shared with them our history and provided a site visit. He also introduced the development of ISCS and our ministries in Mainland China.



Visit of Prof. Hans-Martin Barth



On 3 November 2016, Prof. and Mrs. Hans-Martin Barth from the University of Marburg visited Hong Kong. With the introduction of

our cooperating partner Mr. Thomas Paulsteiner, president of Mission EineWelt, they visited ISCS. Our academic officer Prof. Jason Lam provided them a visit to our historic sites and shared with them the recent development of Christian studies in China and our ministries.

Visit of Pontifical Institute for Foreign Missions (PIME)



On 16 November 2016, 20 guests from the Pontifical Institute for Foreign Missions (PIME) visited ISCS with the guidance of Fr. Mario Marazzi. Since the establishment of ISCS

we have been cooperating with the famous PIME Sinologist Fr. Angelo Sanzoro Lazzarotto as well as his colleague Fr. Gianni Criveller to organize publications and conferences. Our director Daniel Yeung introduced to the guests the origin and development of Sino-Christian theology movement and guided them to the historic sites on Tao Fong Shan. They were very impressed with the tradition of our spirituality.

Academic Research

Visiting Scholars

From Jul to Dec 2016, ISCS hosted 16 visiting scholars.



Prof. ZHANG Qianfan stayed at ISCS in Jul 2016. Prof. Zhang is currently professor at the Law School of Peking University. During his visit Prof. Zhang collected materials for his research topic “Religious Freedom and Its Legal Limitation” and attended

the workshop on “Religion-State Relationship in Chinese Context”, organized by ISCS.

Prof. SUN Lei stayed at ISCS in Jul 2016. Prof. Sun is currently associate professor at Tongji University. The major aim of her visit was to collect materials for her research on “The Relation between Confucianism and Chinese Politics: History, Actuality and Future” and attended the workshop on “Religion-State Relationship in Chinese Context”, organized by ISCS.



Prof. WANG Yunping stayed at ISCS in Jul 2016. Prof. Wang is currently professor at the School of Public Affairs at Xiamen University. The major aim of her visit was to collect materials for her topic on “Early

Confucians’ Perspective of Religion and Its Implication for Religion-State Relation” and attended the workshop on “Religion-State Relationship in Chinese Context”, organized by ISCS.

Prof. XIE Zhibin stayed at ISCS in Jul 2016. Prof. Xie is currently professor of the School of Humanities at Tongji University. During his visit Prof. Xie collected materials on “Between Acquiescence and Resistance: What Theology Needed for Chinese Church-state Structure?” and attended the workshop on “Religion-State Relationship in Chinese Context”, organized by ISCS.



Prof. Robin LOVIN stayed at ISCS in Jul 2016. Prof. Lovin is currently the Director of Research, Center of Theological Inquiry at Princeton. The major aim of his visit was to collect materials for his topic on “Politics, Ethics, and Religion” and attended the workshop on “Religion-State Relationship in Chinese Context”, organized by ISCS.

Dr. Joshua MAULDIN stayed at ISCS in Jul 2016. He is currently research fellow of Center of Theological Inquiry at Princeton. The major aim of his visit was to attend

