



## *Mahayana Christian Theology won a Second Prize*

*Mahayana Christian Theology* (published by Logos & Pneuma Press) written by Prof. LAI Pan-chiu, the Chairman of ISCS Academic Committee and Professor of the Department of Cultural and Religious Studies, CUHK, has won the the Best Author Award (Academic books) in the 6th Gold Medallion Book Awards (2013) organized by the Association of Christian Publishers in Hong Kong.

The work was adapted from the Edward Cadbury Lectures 2006 that Prof. Lai delivered in the University of Birmingham. Prof. Lai was the first Asian scholar to be invited as the speaker of this important lecture. Former speakers include Arnold J. Toynbee, James Barr, Keith

Ward, Hans Frei, and others. The book has already won the 2011 "Christopher Tang Christian Literature Award" theological recommendation award, and the Gold Medallion Book Award is its second laurel. We give our heartfelt congratulations to Prof. Lai, and appreciate all the support to the Logos & Pneuma Press.

Apart from *Mahayana Christian Theology*, *Does God really Exist?* by Milton WAN and *Friend or Foe? The Pluralistic Relationship between Science and Religion* by Jason Lam, LAI Pan-chiu and SO Yuen-tai, both published by ISCS, also entered the final lists of the Gold Medallion Book Awards' Best Publication (non-academic) and Best Author (academic) categories.

## Academic Activities

### *Conference of the Koinonia of Chinese Theologians*

In the first half of 2013 the Koinonia of Chinese Theologians organized two conferences. On 14 Jan a conference on "Christian Theology in the Pluralistic Context" was held at the Chung Chi Divinity School, Chinese University of Hong Kong. On 18 Jun another conference on "Justice" was held at the Department of Religion and Philosophy, Baptist University of Hong Kong. Research Fellow Prof. Jason Lam participated in both events and delivered two papers on "From Autonomy back to Theonomy? On the Return of the Sacred in the Post-Enlightenment Era" and "Divine Wrath or Human Passion: reflecting from the debate

between Löwith and Blumenberg on the history of Chinese philosophy/theology".





## *The Visit of San Diego University Scholars*



On 16 Jan 2013, Prof. Lance E. Nelson of the Department of Religious Studies, University of San Diego, visited ISCS with 20 students. Research Fellow Jason Lam introduced them to the history of Tao Fong Shan and the contemporary situation of Christian Studies in China. Buddhist scholar Dr. Dou Yapin was invited to talk about Buddhist-Christian dialogue taking Timothy Richard as an example. The guests were very interested and hoped to strengthen the exchange between institutes in the future.

## *Open Lecture on "Choice of Churches by Christians among University Students in Beijing"*



On 19 Feb 2013 Prof. SUN Shangyan of the Department of Philosophy and Religion of Peking University and ISCS resident professor at the time delivered an open lecture on the "Choice of Churches by Christians among University Students in Beijing". The event was co-organized by ISCS and the Center for the Study of Religion and Chinese Society, CUHK. The discussion atmosphere was heated.

## *The Visit of Prof. Oswald Bayer*

In 2013 Hong Kong Lutheran Theological Seminary is celebrating their centennial anniversary. They invited Prof. Oswald Bayer, the



renowned Luther studies expert and professor emeritus of the University of Tübingen, for a series of public lectures in Hong Kong. During his visit, ISCS arranged for Prof. Bayer to stay at Tao Fong Shan, and he had the chance to dialogue with our visiting scholars. On 26 Mar, Lutheran Theological Seminary hosted a special lecture by Prof. Bayer for local theologians on the topic "Authority and Critique". Our research fellow Prof. Jason Lam was invited to be the respondent. The president of the seminary, Rev. Prof. Simon Chow delivered the welcome speech and ISCS director Daniel Yeung chaired the lecture. Our visiting scholars and students joined the event and there were many participants. The discussion atmosphere was heated.

## *Director visited Heilongjiang University*



During 8-12 Mar 2013 Director Daniel Yeung visited Heilongjiang University to conduct the regular evaluation of the "Tao Fong Shan Scholarship" as every year since 2005. He had a good exchange of ideas with Prof. FAN Zhihui, Prof. CHEN Shulin and Prof. LUO Yaojun on the scholarship program, visiting scholars and students and other joint events. Both sides were satisfied with the present cooperation and hope to continue the partnership. Daniel was happy to know that a new book Russian Philosophical Review was published, which was the symposium of the co-organized conference in 2009 on "Russian Thought and Chinese Culture".



## Conference on “Multiculturalism: Legacy and Innovation”



During 26-28 Mar 2013 Director Daniel Yeung was invited to join the conference on “Multiculturalism: Legacy and Innovation” organized by Macau Forum and held at Macau University of Science and Technology. Macau Forum is a very important academic conference in Macau. The opening ceremony was inaugurated by Mr. HO Hau-wah, the former Macau chief executive, and Mr. Xu Jia Lu, Vice Chairman of the 9th and 10th Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress. Over a hundred participants came from different parts of the world including many ISCS cooperating partners such as Prof. YANG Huilin (Renmin University of China), Prof. GENG Youzhuang (Renmin University of China), Prof. ZHAO Lin (Wuhan University), Prof. ZHANG Hua (Beijing Language and Culture University), Prof. ZHANG Zhiqing (Macau University of Science and Technology). Daniel delivered a paper on “Modernity, Social Change and Sino-Christian Theology” and had a good sharing with other scholars.

## Prof. Denis Müller visited ISCS and Tongji Centre



On 3 Apr 2013 Prof. Denis Müller of the Department of Theology, University of Geneva visited ISCS. Director Daniel Yeung and Prof. Jason Lam received him and both sides had a good exchange about their work and explored possibilities of future cooperation. ISCS arranged for Müller to visit Tongji University in Shanghai, and on 10 Apr he delivered a lecture on “Religion and Public Ethics”, discussing the topic with teachers and students from the perspectives of theology and philosophy.

## Open Lecture on “Role Models, Culture and Calvin”

On 17 Apr 2013 our board member Dr. Fredrik Fällman was invited by the Center for the Study of



Religion and Chinese Society, CUHK to deliver a lecture on “Role Models, Culture and Calvin: Contemporary Chinese Intellectual Christians and their Influence”. ISCS Associate Academic Exchange Officer Dr. Angela Liang chaired the event. The participants were interested in the topic and had a very good exchange during the lecture.

## Editorial Meeting of Russian-Chinese Theological Lexicon



During 20-25 May 2013 Director Daniel Yeung was invited to join the editorial meeting on the Russian-Chinese Theological Lexicon. The event was hosted by the Diocese of Khabarovsk, Russian Orthodox Church. Russian and Chinese scholars discussed the items of the lexicon together. The project was initiated by Daniel, and he invited Prof. ZHANG Baichun (Beijing Normal University), Prof. XU Fenglin (Peking University) and Prof. LIN Jinghua (Capital Normal University) to translate and edit 3000 terms. ISCS guest research fellow Rev. Dionisy Pozdnyaev was responsible for coordinating the Russian and American Orthodox scholars. The project started 4 years ago and it is expected to appear in print in 2014. After the meeting, the rector and pro-rector of Khabarovsk Seminary Metropolitan of Khabarovsk Ignatius and Bishop Ephraim of Bigin warmly received the Chinese scholars and appreciated their efforts in promoting studies of the Orthodox church.



## Research Fellow visited Tsinghua University

During 25-28 Jun 2013 our research fellow Prof. Jason Lam visited Tsinghua University. He



met Tao Fong Scholarship students, listened to their needs and research situations, and delivered a lecture on “Ricoeur on Historical Narrative and the Figuring of Identity” at the Philosophy Department. Jason also met the scholars of Beijing Language and Culture University and Renmin University of China during his stay in Beijing.

## Internal Seminar for Visiting Scholars and Students in Spring 2013

From Jan to Jun 2013, a series of seminars was held for 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
Kang Zhijie	Hubei University	Professor	Revolutionaries with Christian Faith: Review of the Participation in the 1911 Revolution of Christians in Hubei and Hunan Anglican Churches
Li Yuehong	Yunnan University of Nationalities	Professor	Chen Duxiu and Sino-theology
QU Xutong	University of Heidelberg	Doctoral student	The Characteristics of Karl Barth's Theology Examining from his Reception of Goethe
Zhou Jiangping	Renmin University of China	Doctoral student	Theological Implications of James Legge's Translation and Introduction of <i>Dao De Jing</i>
Fu Cong	Nanjing University	Master student	Psychological Basis of the Empirical Theodicy in Letters and Diaries from Holocaust
Meng Xia	Yunnan University of Nationalities	Master student	The Awakening of Individual Consciousness in Modern Society: On Sartre's <i>Nausea</i>
Zou Xiaojuan	Peking University	Doctoral student	Salvation and Deification: Perspective on “the Economy of the Son”

# Academic Exchange



## Visit of Prof. Thierry Meynard

On 31 Jan 2013 Prof. Thierry Meynard of Sun Yat-sen University visited ISCS. We discussed on the possibilities of future cooperation including the training of scholars in Latin church fathers and the publication of Augustine's works.

## Visit of Prof. Günther Thomas

During 18-21 Mar 2013 Prof. Günther Thomas of Universität Bochum in theology and ethics visited Hong Kong to deliver lectures. ISCS arranged him to stay on Tao Fong Shan. Prof. Oswald Bayer was visiting Hong Kong at the same time and they had a very good dialogue with our visiting scholars. Research Fellow Prof. Jason Lam shared with them the work of ISCS and the contemporary situation of Sino-Christian studies.



## Visit of Dr. Peter S. Heslam



In May 2013 Dr. Peter S. Heslam, director of Transforming Business, University of Cambridge visited Hong Kong to have ideas exchange with local theologians and business sector. ISCS arranged him to stay on Tao Fong Shan so to have chance of visiting different organizations there. Research Fellow Prof. Jason Lam received him on 6 May and both sides shared their works and explored possibility of future cooperation.



## Visit of Prof. Andreas Nehring



On 24 May 2013 Prof. Andreas Nehring of Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg and Dr. Claudia Jahnel from Mission EineWelt visited ISCS. Prof. Nehring established the cooperation between Hong

Kong Lutheran Theological Seminary and Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg to offer a joint doctoral degree program. Our Research Fellow in Germany Dr. Christian Meyer was in Hong Kong at that time. He received the guests with Prof. Jason Lam and Dr. Angela Liang and introduced the work of ISCS and the contemporary situation of Sino-Christian studies in China.

## Visit of Historians from Jinan University

On 17 Jun 2013 the dean of the Department of History at Jinan University Prof. LIU Zenghe and assistant professor Dr. WU Qing visited ISCS. Director Daniel Yeung received them warmly. This visit helped to establish the partnership between both institutions and we explored the possibility of future cooperation.

# Academic Research



## Visiting Scholars

From Jan to Jun 2013, ISCS hosted 6 visiting scholars.

Prof. SUN Shangyang stayed at ISCS from Jan to Feb 2013. Prof. Sun is currently Professor of Religious Studies at Peking University. During his visit he collected materials for the research topic “Survey and Analysis of Church Choice of University Students in Beijing”. He also was the theme editor of *Logos & Pneuma* 39 (2013) and wrote an introduction to the theme. On 19 Jan, he delivered a public lecture on “Choice of Churches by Christians among University Students in Beijing” at CUHK.



Prof. KANG Zhijie stayed at ISCS from Jan to Apr 2013. Prof. Kang is currently Professor of History at Hubei University. During her visit she collected materials for the research topic “Chinese Christian’s Interpretation on Persona of Christ”. On 25 Mar, she delivered a lecture on “The



Cultural Interpretation of Catholic funerals in rural areas in China”. She also finished the articles “Christianity and Christians in Beijing today, the Urbanization of China and Christianity of Migrant Workers”, “Catholic Community Field Study” and “Catholic Chaste Females in China”.

Prof. LI Yuehong stayed at ISCS from Jan to Mar 2013. Prof. Li is currently Professor at the School of Arts in Yunnan University of Nationalities. During his visit he collected materials for the research topic “The course of the west culture communication to China and the development of modern Chinese theology”. He also finished an essay on “Sino-Christian Theology and Chinese Ideology: From Late Qin Dynasty to Contemporary Chinese theology and thought in China”.



Prof. XIE Zhibin stayed at ISCS in Jan 2013. Prof. Xie is currently Professor of Philosophy at Tongji University. During his visit he collected materials for the research topic “Christianity and Theories of Social Pluralism”. He wrote the “Preface” to the “Public Theology Series” of ISCS, and “Chinese Introduction” to