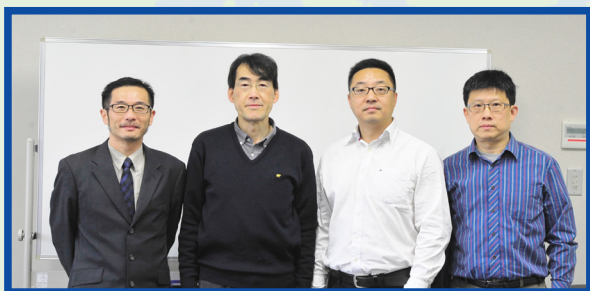


Overseas Visiting Scholar: QU Xutong in USA



Invited by Prof. Diane Obenchain at Fuller Theological Seminary (Los Angeles, USA), Prof. QU Xutong, our guest research fellow in Mainland and associate professor of the School of Philosophy at Beijing Normal University, visited the seminary during 10 January to 10 February 2017. On 31 January and 6 February, he delivered two lectures on Karl Barth's theology titled "Gleichnis wagen: Karl Barth's Political Theology and Its Meaning for the Church-State Relationship in Mainland China" and "Karl Barth on Religion, Christian Faith, and Implications for future Possibilities of Chinese Culture" respectively. In different meetings with Prof. Diane Obenchain, Prof. QU introduced ISCS and the Sino-Christian Theology Movement, and discussed the project of studying Karl Barth and the project of translation as well as the possibility of co-operating with Fuller Theological Seminary, such as assisting Chinese students to study M.Phil. and Ph.D. programmes. On 20 January, Prof. QU visited Prof. Amos Yong, who is a well-known Pentecostal theologian teaching at Fuller Theological Seminary. They had in-depth exchanges at ISCS about the Sino-Christian Theology Movement, the comparison between Barth's and Tillich's theology, and other theological topics.

Academic Officer's Visit to Japan



During 23-25 February 2017, our academic officer, Prof. Jason LAM, was invited by the University of Kobe to participate in a seminar on Sino-Christian theology. The event was initiated by Prof. OGATA Yasushi, who is an expert in modern Chinese thought at the Faculty of Letters. In recent years he has been researching in "Sino-Christian Theology and the Formation of Chinese Public Cultural Circle". For the sake of understanding the trends of Sino-Christian theology in Mainland China, Taiwan and Hong Kong, he invited Prof. LAM, Prof. CHIN Ken-pa from Fu Jen Catholic University and Prof. HUANG Jianbo from East China Normal University to the University of Kobe for an in-depth discussion.

They presented papers on the concept, history, development and cases of Sino-Christian theology and made comparisons with Christianity in Japan. They hoped to extend the research in the future.



Prof. LAM also took this opportunity to visit Nansan Institute for Religion and Culture, Nansan University in Nagoya during 20-22 February. Several years ago their academic team visited Tao Fong Shan and their director KIM Seung Chul had been our visiting scholar. Prof. LAM enjoyed the meeting with their academic staffs and participated in their internal seminar. The seminar is similar to that hosted by ISCS in which visiting scholars from all around the world present their research topics and exchange ideas. Apart from sharing with the scholars the development of Sino-Christian theology in recent years, Prof. LAM also discussed with Prof. James W. Heisig, who is responsible for academic publication. They had very useful exchanges on translating and publishing classics in Asian languages.

Sino-British Pastoral and Academic Exchange Program



ISCS cooperated with the University of Glasgow and had successfully held the first Sino-British Pastoral and Academic Exchange Program from 19 May to 16 June 2017. Four Chinese pastors were selected to participate in this program. They are CAI Jianwei (Vice-President & Dean of Guangdong Union Theological Seminary), WANG Wenjun (Vice-Principal of Hunan Bible Institute), XUE Jing (Lecturer of Northeast Theological Seminary) and DU Nana (Lecturer of Shandong Theological Seminary).

During the visiting period, they finished various courses at the University of Glasgow on the practice and practical theology of the Western Church in the Post-Christian period. Led by Prof. David Jasper, they also visited churches belonging to different denominations and backgrounds, including the Church of Scotland, the Roman Catholic Church and the Scottish Episcopal Church to gain first-hand knowledge of contemporary church practice in

the west. They met John Keenan, Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Paisley in the Province of Glasgow to understand the development and current situation of Catholicism in Glasgow. They also met the Right Revd. Dr. Gregor Duncan, Bishop of Glasgow and Galloway, and realized that being a good pastor meant cooperating with the entire congregation. Besides, they participated in various conferences organized by the Scottish Episcopal Institute of the Scottish Episcopal Church, and the seminar held by the New College of the University of Edinburgh and the Church of Scotland. The two seminaries (Scottish Episcopal Institute and New College) have their own characteristics, and concern about the balance between spiritual formation, academic development and ministry training.



A part from learning through lectures, seminars and visits, they also gave feedback from the perspective of Sino-Christian theology and

enriched the exchange. Prof. Jasper organized a special seminar for them entitled “Introduction to the Protestant Church in Mainland”. They introduced the development of the church in China and theological education in recent decades in this seminar. In the entire program, they entered into deep academic and cultural exchange, which furthered cooperation in practical theology and pastoral experience between Chinese and Scottish Churches.

2017 Tao Fong Research Students Forum



ISCS has been running “Tao Fong Scholarship” and “Best Dissertation Award” for many years in order to nourish a new generation of scholars in Christian studies. In order to strengthen the programs and provide exchange opportunity for young scholars, we combined the two programs to become “Tao Fong Research Students Forum” in 2017. The first meeting was successfully held in June this year.

There are several rounds of selection in the forum. 40 participants are first selected from more than 60 applicants at 40 universities. They have to complete their papers in 4 months before joining the two and a half day event. During the forum the participants presented their papers and received evaluations from more than 20 experts from different fields. 10 outstanding participants were awarded the merit prizes at the forum: CHEN Long (Renmin University of China), CHEN Tuo (Fudan University), HUANG Hangxi (Nankai University), LI Jingcheng (Tongji University), LIU Dawei (East China Normal University), LIU Shurong (Tsinghua University), PAN Shaoduo (Minzu

University of China), REN Yichao (Shandong University), David TAM (Tsinghua University), XUE Lijie (Minzu University of China).

After the event, another group of experts examined the 10 revised outstanding theses and selected the 4 best as listed below:

CHEN Long	Renmin University	Theological Aesthetics of Liang Zongdai
CHEN Tuo	Fudan University	Taking <i>Qike</i> as an Example of Chinese Work by Westerners in Late Ming and Early Qing Dynasties
PAN Shaoduo	Minzu University of China	Theology of Maximus the Confessor and the Ecological Thought in <i>Laudato Si</i> .
David TAM	Tsinghua University	The Name “Shizun” in Tang Christian Document “On the Ministry of Shizun”

Each winner will be awarded a certificate and cash prize, a chance to become our visiting student in Hong Kong and their papers may be published in our journal *Logos & Pneuma*.

Conference of “Public Theology in Plural Contexts”



During 15-18 June 2017, Prof. XIE Zhibin, ISCS Guest Research Fellow in Mainland and Professor of Philosophy at Tongji University,

was invited to participate in the conference of “Public Theology in Plural Contexts” held at Hong Kong Lutheran Theological Seminary. He delivered a paper on “Christian Encounter with Religious Pluralism and Public Life in the Chinese Context: A Contribution of Abraham Kuyper’s Common Grace” as one of the keynote speakers. The event was organized by the International Reformed Theological Institute (IRTI), which is affiliated to the Protestant Theological University in the Netherland and VU University Amsterdam. Both ISCS and Hong Kong Lutheran Theological Seminary are co-organizers. The conference focuses on the religious, economic, social, cultural and ethnic issues in a plural context from a (Reformed) public theological perspective. Around 70 participants came from different parts of the world. The papers were about the contents and approaches of public theology, Reformed doctrines and public issues, the church-state relationship, theology and the development of society, public theology in different contexts, etc. Apart from Prof. XIE, other keynote speakers included Prof. Richard Mouw from Fuller Theological Seminary, Prof. Tinyiko Maluleke from the University of Pretoria, Prof. Mery Kolimon from Artha Wacana Christian University in India, and Prof. Carver YU from the China Graduate School of Theology.

Academic Activities

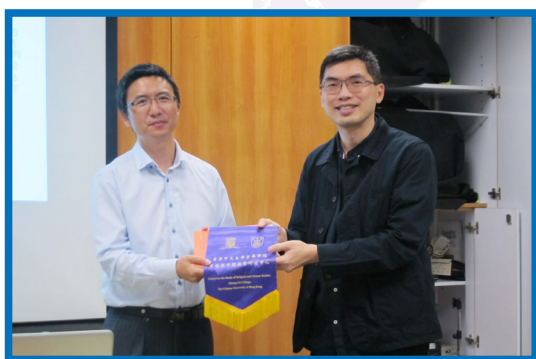


Academic Officer's Visit to Sun Yat-sen University



Academic Officer Prof. Jason LAM visited the department of political science at Sun Yat-sen University on 3 Jan 2017. He presented a paper on “Engaging Carl Schmitt and Dietrich Bonhoeffer in the Contemporary Chinese Context” and received a warm reception. ISCS has been cooperating with Sun Yat-sen University for many years. Prof. LAM met the professors from different departments the next day and enjoyed the meeting.

Lecture on “The Trends of the Development of Chinese Protestantism in the Coming Years”



ISCS and The Centre of the Study of Religion and Chinese Society at the Chinese University of Hong Kong co-organized a lecture on 25 April 2017 delivered by our visiting scholar Prof. TANG Xiaofeng, research fellow of the Institute of World Religions, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. He delivered a lecture on “The Trends of the Development of Chinese Protestantism in the Coming Years”. The moderator was Prof. YING Fuk Tsang, director and professor of the Divinity School of Chung Chi College. The participants included local and Mainland China scholars and students. They had a very good time exchanging ideas.

Academic Officer's Visit to Wuhan



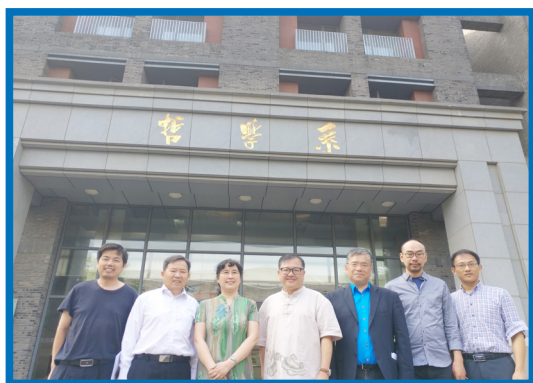
Academic Officer Prof. Jason LAM visited the higher institutes in Wuhan during 7-11 April 2017. He first visited the department of philosophy at Huazhong university of Science and Technology on 7 April and delivered a lecture on “Heidegger on Paul”. On 10 April he visited Wuhan University and lectured on “Can Texts from Different Worlds be Read Comparatively?” ISCS has been cooperating with these two schools for years. Prof. LAM was received warmly by the teachers and students.

Academic Officer's Visit to Shanghai and Shandong



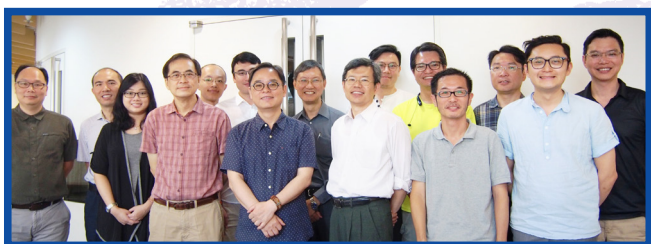
Academic Officer Prof. Jason LAM was invited to visit Shanghai and Shandong during 4-10 May 2017. He first visited East China Normal University in Shanghai on 4 May and lectured on “Can Texts from Different Worlds be Read Comparatively?” the next day. Afterwards Prof. LAM visited Shandong University and delivered the same topic at the department of religious studies. ISCS has been working closely with these two universities. Prof. LAM enjoyed meeting with the scholars and friends in these places.

Director's Visit to Nanjing University



On 7 June 2017 our director Daniel YEUNG visited the Institute for Jewish and Israel Studies at Nanjing University with Prof. Joshua CHO, our board member and President of Hong Kong Baptist Theological Seminary. Mr. YEUNG delivered a lecture on “Tao Fong Shan and Sino-Christian Theology” and received warm appreciation from Prof. XU Xin, Prof. SUN Yiping, Prof. MENG Zhenghua and other friends.

Seminar of the Koinonia of Chinese Theologians



On 24 June 2017 the Koinonia of Chinese Theologians held a seminar on the 20th anniversary of the Handover of Hong Kong at the Pastoral Continuing Education Center of Hong Kong Baptist Theological Seminary. Our research fellow Prof. Jason LAM is the secretary of the association and chaired part of the program. There were more than 20 participants from the churches and academia of Hong Kong.

Research Fellow's Visit to Fujian



On 27 June 2017 our research fellow Prof. Håkan Granberg was invited to visit Fujian Theological Seminary and delivered a lecture on “Towards harmony with nature”. Prof. HUANG Yongfeng from Xiamen University responded from a Taoist perspective and the participants from the seminary responded very positively.

Internal Seminar for Visiting Scholars and Students in Spring 2017



From January to June 2017 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
Christian Meyer	Freie Universität Berlin	Professor	Globalization and the Making of Religious Modernity in China: Transnational Religions, Local Agents, and the Study of Religion, 1800-Present
Naomi Thurston	Sichun University	Lecturer	G. E. Lessing and Sino-Christian Studies
HONG Xiaochun	Chinese University of Hong Kong	Postdoctoral Fellow	The Destruction of the Temple & the Anxiety concerning the Identity of Johannine Community
XUE Lijie	Minzu University of China	Doctoral Student	From “Repairing Semiotics” to “Scriptural Reasoning”: A Semiotic Hermeneutics as the Philosophical Ground of “Scriptural Reasoning”
HUANG Hangxi	Nanjing University	Doctoral Student	A Study of Polyphonic Narrative in the Book of Ruth
JIANG Bin	Henan University	Master Student	On Dante Alighieri’s Ideal of World Empire from <i>The Divine Comedy</i>

Academic Exchange



Director's Visit to Shaanxi Normal University

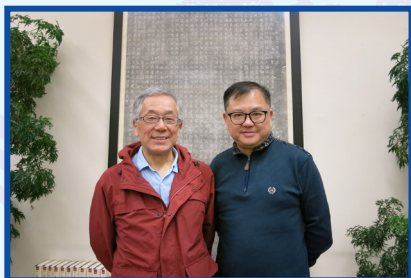


On 23 January 2017 our director, Daniel YEUNG, visited Shaanxi Normal University to explore the possibility of more collaboration. Prof. SU Zhongle and Prof. YANG

Guoqing from Chengwen College (承文學院) gave a welcome. Both reached a collaborative consensus on delivering publications and professors and postgraduates' exchange visits. After the meeting, Prof. SU arranged an eye-opening visit to Xi'an Nestorian Temple Tower and the Nestorian Cultural Theme Park on the mountain, which was under construction.

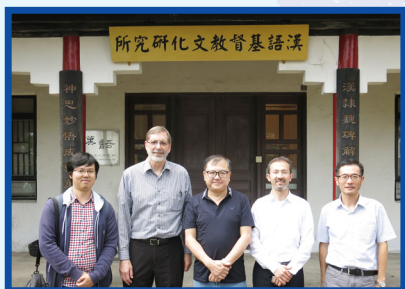
Visit of Prof. Ken Sekine

On 15 March 2017 Prof. Ken Sekine from Keio University visited ISCS. Our director, Daniel YEUNG, gave a welcome and introduced Tao Fong Shan's history



and Sino-Christian theology. Prof. Ken is a renowned scholar of Chinese and Japanese literature studies, who works specially on Lu Xun, Yu Dafu, Ba Jin and Bing Xin. He studied the Christian sentiment of recent Chinese Literati in his recent studies.

Visit of Jingjiao Scholars



On 3 April 2017 two Jingjiao and patristic scholars visited ISCS. They were Dr. Matteo Nicolini-Zani from Comunità di Bose and Prof. Glen Thompson,

academic dean of Asia Lutheran Seminary in Hong Kong. Our academic officer, Prof. Jason LAM, received them and shared with them the recent development of Sino-Christian theology and its interest in Jingjiao studies.

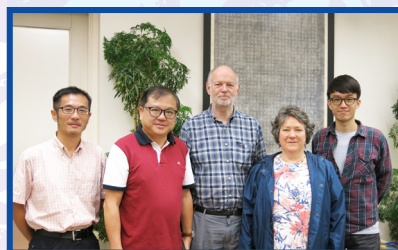
Fujian Center of Minzu University of China

On 16 May 2017 our director Daniel YEUNG was invited to attend the ceremony for the establishment of a joint research center by Fujian Seminary and Minzu University of China. Mr.



YEUNG represented ISCS to deliver a congratulation speech, hoping that seminaries and Christian institutes in the university system can support and complement each other. In the meeting, Mr. YEUNG with other keynote speakers, including Prof. YOU Bin, Prof. LI Xiangping and other scholars and pastors, gathered joyfully. After the meeting, the Dean of Fujian Seminary, Rev. YUE Qinghua, invited them to visit Fuzhou suburbs Ku Leng (鼓嶺) to investigate the establishment of churches by the 20th century Chinese and Western missionaries.

Visit of Prof. Oliver Davies from London



On 4 May 2017 Prof. Oliver Davies from King's College London visited ISCS with his wife Fiona. Prof. Davies has been enthusiastic about the Christian

studies of Chinese academia in recent years and was appointed adjunct professor at the Renmin University of China. Director Daniel YEUNG and Prof. Jason LAM introduced them to the recent development of ISCS and invited him to become our guest professor. Prof. Davies gladly accepted and will deliver lectures on behalf of our institute in 2017.

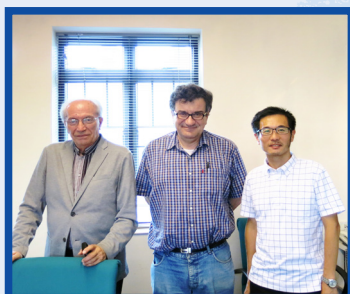
Union Theological Seminary Anniversary Celebration

On 6 June 2017 our director Daniel YEUNG was invited to attend the Union Theological Seminary anniversary of church dedication and "Theological Education and Chinese Christianity" theological seminar. At the meeting,



Mr. YEUNG with other keynote speakers Prof. YANG Huilin, Prof. ZHANG Zhigang, Prof. XU Yihua and other scholars and pastors gathered joyfully. After the meeting, Mr. YEUNG visited the Associate Dean Rev. CHEN Zemin to congratulate him on his hundredth birthday and presented him with the 2016 6th Karl Ludvig Reichelt Best Translation award.

Visit of Italian Scholars



On 12 June 2017 two Italian scholars, Prof. Ermis Segatti from the Theological University of Northern Italy and Prof. Gianni Criveller from Hong Kong Holy Spirit Seminary, visited ISCS. Prof. Segatti had just finished a lecture trip to Kaifeng and

Wuhan as our guest professor. He has taken part in this program for many years and had much experience to share with us. Prof. Criveller has been working in Greater China and closely and working with ISCS for many years. He told us that he was leaving to teach in Milan afterwards. We thank them both so much for their kindness and helpful cooperation and hope to stay in contact.

Board Meeting of the School of Liberal Arts, Tongji University



On 27 June 2017 our director, Daniel YEUNG, participated in the temporary board meeting of the School of Liberal Arts, Tongji University held in Anqing, Anhui province. Mr. YEUNG discussed with other board members and school leaders the reformation of university disciplines. He shared the idea and related practice of interdisciplinary studies adopted by Sino-Christian studies in recent years. After the meeting one of the members, Ms. HAN Zaifen, introduced the local traditional culture Yellow Plum Drama and they also visited the Anqing Normal University.

Academic Research

Visiting Scholars

From January to June 2017, ISCS hosted 15 visiting scholars.



Prof. LIU Ping stayed at ISCS from January to February 2017. Prof. LIU is currently associate professor at Fudan University. During his visit, Prof. LIU collected materials for his research topic “Cultural Revolution Theology: A Possibility for Chinese Theology”.

Prof. YANG Junjie stayed at ISCS in January 2017. Prof. YANG is currently associate professor at Beijing Normal University. The major aim of his visit was to collect materials for his research on “Finding the Uncollected Works of T. C. Chao”.



Prof. XU Fenglin stayed at ISCS from January to February 2017. Prof. XU is currently a professor at Peking University. The major aim of his visit was to collect materials for his topic on “Translating ‘The Mystical Theology of the Eastern Church’”.

Dr. HONG Xiaochun stayed at ISCS from April to June 2017. Dr. HONG was a post-doctoral fellow from the Chinese University of Hong Kong. During her visit Dr. HONG collected materials on “Interaction between Literature and Theology: Tendency of Biblical Studies and Significance for Comparative Scripture”.



Prof. Christian Meyer stayed at ISCS from March to April 2017. Prof. Meyer is currently a professor at the Free University of Berlin. The major aim of his visit was to collect materials for his topic on “The Change of Religion-related Terminology in Modern China”.

