

Zhejiang University

Course Offered	LIANG Hui: The History of Biblical Interpretation (PhD); Seminar on the Hebrew Bible (PhD); Selected Reading on Biblical Hermeneutical Works (PhD)
Academic Publication	LIANG Hui: “Postcolonial Feminist Biblical Interpretation: Musa Dube and Kwok Pui-lan’s Reading of A Gentile Woman’s Story in the Gospels”, <i>Biblical Literature Studies</i> , 2018, Spring(forthcoming). <i>The Biblical Library Series</i> (Co-chief editor with Prof. K. K. YEO)
Research Topic	LIANG Hui: The Material Collection and Hermeneutical Studies on Chin-shan Ho’s (1817-1871) Christian Writings (General Project of Chinese National Social Science Fund)
Conference & Seminar	<p>From Dec 2016 to Dec 2017, CHEN Yuehua was Visiting Scholar at Yale University.</p> <p>In June, LIANG Hui participated in the 2017 Tao Fong Research Students Forum.</p> <p>In June, LIANG Hui gave two public lectures on “Reading the Bible in China: Case Studies on its History of Reception,” and “Thoughts of Christian Socialism in the Republic of China,” at Regent College, Canada.</p> <p>22-24 September, ZHANG Xinzhang organized the “International Symposium on the Theoretical and Practical Issues of Faiths in the Construction of the Community of Common Destiny for All Mankind”.</p> <p>In September, LIANG Hui hosted two seminars, “A Legacy in Question: Uchimura Kanzo (1861-1930)” and “‘God’s Kingdom’ in the Debates of Christian Intellectuals in Modern Japan” by Prof. Mira Sonntag and hosted a series of seminars on “Textual Criticism of the Old Testament” by Prof. Shuichi Hasegaw, Rikkyo University, Japan.</p> <p>In September, LIANG Hui hosted the academic salon “The Current Situation and Reflection of Christianity in China” by Prof. TANG Xiaofeng and Prof. DUAN Qi.</p> <p>In September, LIANG Hui hosted the seminar “Luther’s Early Interpretation of the Psalms and His Contribution to Hermeneutics” by Prof. Hans-Peter Grosshans, Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster.</p> <p>In September, LIANG Hui presented a paper: “Cross-cultural Reading of the Bible in modern China: A Case Study on Karl F. A. Gützlaff’s Biblical Writing, Shengshu Zhushu and His Religious Viewpoints” in “International Symposium on the Theoretical and Practical Issues of Faiths in the Construction of the Community of Common Destiny for All Mankind” at Zhejiang University.</p> <p>On 13 October, CHEN Yuehua lectured at Yale Divinity School, under the title “Sino-Christian Theology in the Contextualization Tradition: A Historical and Disciplinary Rethinking”.</p> <p>In November, LIANG Hui hosted the seminar “Aesthetic Interpretations of Greek and Jewish Canons” by K.K. YEO.</p> <p>In November, LIANG Hui attended “Study of Christianity (2017)” which was held by the Christian Study Center of Graduate School of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) and the Institute of Biblical Literature Studies of Henan University. She presented an article “The Historical Narrative of the Bible in Dong Xi Shi Ji He He (Comparative Chronology): On Gützlaff’s Chinese Writing Categories of Biblical Exegesis” in the sub-symposium “Biblical Studies in Chinese Context”. During this symposium, she was also invited as the English commentater of “Hua Tong Xuan Li (Studies on Nestorian Theology)”, which was the fourth part of the sub-symposium “Nestorian Studies: The Life and Religious Practice of Nestorians in China”.</p> <p>In December, LIANG Hui hosted the seminar “Through Augustine’s eyes. Milan and the encounter with Bishop Ambrose as recalled in Augustine’s ‘Confessions’”.</p>

Wuhan University

Course Offered	<p>Stelios Virvidakis: Western Philosophy of Religion (The Philosophy of Wittgenstein and Contemporary Philosophy of Religion) (Postgraduate Courses)</p> <p>FANG Yong: Augustine on Ethics (Postgraduate Courses); Religious Ethics(Undergraduate Courses)</p> <p>XU Tao: Medieval philosophy: Theological Studies (II) (Postgraduate Courses); Religious Classics Selected Reading (I) (Postgraduate Courses); Philosophy of Religion(Undergraduate Courses)</p> <p>ZHAI Zhihong: Introduction to Religious Studies and Classics Selected Reading (Postgraduate Courses); Comparative Religious Studies (Postgraduate Courses); Introduction to Religious Studies (Undergraduate Courses)</p> <p>HUANG Chao: Religious Sociology (Undergraduate Courses)</p>
Academic Publication	<p>LIAN Fan: "Confucian Doctrine of Benevolence and Its Comparison with the Doctrine of the Church", <i>Journal of Guangzhou Institute of Socialism</i>, 2017(03), pp.31-39.</p> <p>"Ai Rulue's <i>Xing Xue Chu Shu</i> and Communication of Jesuits' Theory of Soul and Confucianism Theory of Nature", <i>Journal of Beijing University of Chemical Technology</i> (Social Sciences Edition), 2017(03), pp.54-59.</p> <p>"Intercultural Talk and Assimilation: Comparative Analysis of Confucian and Christian Human Nature Doctrines from the Four Causes Thought Perspective", <i>Journal of Hubei University</i> (Philosophy and Social Science), 2017, 44(05), pp.23-30.</p> <p>FANG Yong: "The Choice of Matteo Ricci", <i>Comparative philosophy and Comparative Cultural Study Series</i>, 2017.</p> <p>ZHAO Lin: "The Conflict and Integration of Civilization", in <i>JIC Learning & Development College</i> (Beijing: Social Sciences Academic Press, 2017).</p> <p>XU Tao, LI Sifan: "The Implications and Divergences of Human Nature in Christian Soul-body Views", <i>Wuhan University Journal (Philosophy & Social Science)</i>, 2017, 70(06), pp.72-77.</p> <p>DUAN Dezhi: "The Rationality of 'Summa Contra Gentiles' was Named for 'Summa Philosophica'", <i>Wuda Philosophical Review</i> (2017-2018).</p>
Research Topic	<p>ZHAO Lin: Programme for Roman Culture Studies</p> <p>YANG Yunfei: The Ministry of Education of Humanities and Social Science Project: Kant's Moral Theology;</p> <p>ZHANG Yuntao: National Social Science Fund Project: Schleiermacher's Religious Philosophy and Philosophical Theology.</p>
Conference & Seminar	<p>On 23 October, Paulos HUANG and ZHAO Lin participated in the conference "Martin Luther and the Subjectivity of Human Being-An Academic Conversation between Prof. HUANG Paulos and Prof. ZHAO Lin", organized by the Institute of European and American Religion and Culture, Wuhan University.</p> <p>On 24 October, Paulos HUANG participated in the conference "The Freedom in Martin Luther's Theological Anthropology", organized by the Institute of European and American Religion and Culture, Wuhan University.</p> <p>On 9 November, Stelios Virvidakis participated in the conference "Free Will as a Philosophical Problem" at Wuhan University.</p> <p>On 16 November 2017, Stelios Virvidakis participated in the conference "Idealism and its Contemporary Philosophy" at Wuhan University.</p> <p>On 21 December, GUI Qiquan participated in "Lectures on Free Will: Quantum, Necessity and Freedom", organized by the Institute of European and American Religion and Culture, Wuhan University.</p> <p>On 28 December, ZHU Zhifang participated in "Lectures on Free Will: Free Will and Causality" at Wuhan University.</p>

Nanjing University

Course Offered	<p>SONG Lihong: Selected Readings in Judaism</p> <p>YIN Manting: A Study of Faith and Culture</p> <p>MENG Zhenhua: Western Religious Classics and Contemporary World; Biblical Studies</p> <p>XU Xin: "On the Identity of Jewish Culture and Judaism," <i>International Journal of Sino-Western Studies</i> 13 (2017), pp.135-140.</p>
Academic Publication	<p>SONG Lihong: "Sinology, Jewish Identity and Holocaust Memory: Reflections on Israeli Sinologist Irene Eber," <i>International Sinology</i>, 13 (2017), pp.24-32.</p>
Research Topic	<p>SONG Lihong: Project of a Textbook of "Readings in Judaism"</p> <p>MENG Zhenhua: A Cross-textual Study on the Hebrew Scripture in the Chinese Context (Completed)</p>
Conference & Seminar	<p>In August, MENG Zhenhua participated in the International Meeting of Society of Biblical Literature, Berlin</p> <p>In September, SONG Lihong attended a seminar "Akedah: Jewish Variations on a Biblical Archetype," at Shanghai University.</p> <p>In September, MENG Zhenhua participated in the Hebrew Bible Workshop, organized by East China Normal University</p> <p>In October, MENG Zhenhua participated in the Symposium on the 500th Anniversary of the Religious Reform and the Sinicization of Christianity at Shanghai.</p> <p>In November, MENG Zhenhua participated in Forums on Biblical Studies, organized by CASS in Beijing.</p>

Recent Publications

Books published from Jul to Dec 2017

Logos & Pneuma: Chinese Journal of Theology

No. 47

《The Reformation and the Ecumenical Tradition》

Published in July 2017

THEME: The Reformation and the Ecumenical Tradition

Theme Editor: TSENG Shao Kai & Jason T. S. LAM

ZHU Donghua

Thomas Yilun CAI

The Nicene Creed and Jingjiao Theology

“I Loved Jacob, but I Hated Esau”: Thomas Aquinas on the Cause of Predestination and Reprobation

ZHANG Tao

The Changes in the Responsibilities of the Cardinals and the Papal Election in the Middle Ages

HUANG Yi & XIA Wei The Transcendental, Empirical and Historical: A Study of the Christology of F. D. E. Schleiermacher

TSENG Shao Kai Apokatastasis and Final Condemnation: Karl Barth's Dialectical Treatment of Universal Salvation



Thought and Society

HONG Lixing Weeping with Mary under the Cross: On Adaptations of *Stabat Mater Dolorosa* from Chinese Catholic Hymnals during the Early Twentieth Century

ZHANG Xiping The Historical Destiny of the First Latin Manuscripts of the “Four Books” in Europe

PENG Rui The Approval and Rejection of Catholicism by Late Ming Chinese: An Analysis of *Kouduo Richao* and *Poxieji* from the Perspective of Social Cooperation

YANG Junjie Leo Tolstoy and Immanuel Genähr: Venient ad veritatem per fabulam

LAI Pan-chiu

Forgiveness and Reconciliation in the Public Sphere: An Inter-disciplinary and Contextual Theological Reflection

Jason T. S. LAM

Engaging Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Carl Schmitt in the Contemporary Chinese Context

XIAO Yunze

Belief Patterns and Land Rules: A Case Study of Christianity Based on the Land-Control Act in Province A

Reviews and Responses

CHEN Yin-An

The Boundary of Difference or the Boundary of Oppression? Review on *Radical Love: An Introduction to Queer Theology* by Patrick Cheng

SONG Xuhong

HER Monument: A Review on Elisabeth Schüssler Fiorenza's *In Memory of Her*

JIANG Linjing

Hope in Silence: On Henrich Böll's *Und sagte kein einziges Wort*

Chinese Academic Library of Christian Thought: Research Series



Ich und Du



By Martin Buber

Translated by YANG Junjie

240 pages

This Chinese version of the most important work of Martin Buber is translated from the German version published in 1957. Two articles by Paul Tillich on Buber are also included. Buber's thought has absorbed elements from extensive resources: from religions to philosophy and literature, from west to east. The translator has made his academic contribution by producing his critical notes on Buber's eastern source of thought, including Indian Buddhism and poems of LI Bai, an important poet of the Tang dynasty.



Joint Publication

Published jointly by Centre for the Study of Christian Culture, Renmin University of China & ISCS

Published jointly by Institute of Biblical Literature Studies, School of Chinese Language and Literature, Henan University & ISCS

Journal for the Study of Christian Culture

No. 38: “Différence” and “Écart”

Journal for the Study of Biblical Literature

No. 15

Editor: Yang Huilin

Executive editor: YEUNG Hing-Kau

268 pages (Autumn 2017)



Editor: LIANG Gong & CHENG

Xiaojuan

Executive editor: CHENG Xiaojuan

344 pages (Autumn 2017)



Chinese and English Publications on Sino-Christian Public Theology



In recent years, studies in public theology have been integrated into the framework of Sino-Christian theology, which receives certain attention from the international public theology circle. From 2014 to 2016, Prof. XIE Zhibin of the Department of Philosophy at Tongji University (research fellow of ISCS) worked with Prof. LAI Pan-chiu from the Department of Cultural & Religious Studies at The Chinese University of Hong Kong (chairman of the academic committee of ISCS) on a research project on “A Review and Prospect of Sino-Christian Public Theology”, which resulted in the monograph *How Public? Why Theological? A Review and Prospect of Sino-Christian Public Theology* published by the Center for the Study of Religion and Chinese Society, Chung Chi College, The Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2016. Focusing on the methodology of public theology, public theologians, and public issues, this monograph examines the main achievements of Sino-Christian public theology and attempts to reflect on its problems and direction.

In 2017, Prof. XIE and Prof. LAI worked together again to serve as guest editors of the special issue on “Public Theology in the Chinese Context” by *The International Journal of Public Theology* (volume 11, no.4, 2017). This issue studies political, economic, and ecological issues in various Chinese contexts from the Christian theological perspective by scholars from mainland China, Hong Kong and Taiwan. *International Journal of Public Theology* is a journal affiliated with the Global Network of Public Theology.



Interdisciplinary Sino-Christian Theology since 2010

Daniel YEUNG

The feature article for this issue is written by Professor XIE Zhibin, Director of the ISCS Tongji Center, on the theory and practice of interdisciplinary Sino-Christian Theology. Sino-Christian Theology from an interdisciplinary perspective is a topic that the Institute has been engaged with since 2010. In that year, as the Institute entered into its 15th anniversary. We were considering the way forward and became keenly aware of the fact that the “interdisciplinary” way had all along been the only possible way for the Institute, as the universities in China, unlike those in the West, do not have a theological department or a long-standing department of religious studies.

The Institute, from the very beginning, had to find a niche to survive within the departments of humanities.¹ This was how, by necessity rather than by design, the Institute was operating on an “interdisciplinary” mode for its first 15 years. As we were pondering on the way forward, we realized that we had to turn our mind from “being interdisciplinary by necessity”, to “being interdisciplinary by design”.² We wanted to conduct Sino-Christian theology with transformative creativity,³ and such creativity could only be engendered if we stayed on being interdisciplinary, and pursued our goal through being “interdisciplinary”. However, at that time, there was little experience in the academia in Mainland, Hong Kong, or Taiwan to do theology in an interdisciplinary way, and we therefore tried to learn from the West and to make use of their resources. We tried out this strategy at the ISCS Tongji Center with the full support from the Hong Kong headquarter.

Since 2011, ISCS had established contact with the Center of Theological Inquiry at Princeton, the Research Center for International and Interdisciplinary Theology at University of Heidelberg and the Global Network for Public Theology. These renowned institutions had long been recognized internationally for their interdisciplinary research in theology. We struck a good rapport with them from day one. For our Western partners, for what they admired us was a platform of a university network established. For us, exchanges and co-operations with the West in interdisciplinary research was exactly what Sino-Christian theology needed to take shape. From then on, a series of events related to interdisciplinary research have taken place:

- In July 2012, ISCS, Tongji University and East China Normal University jointly held the “5th Roundtable Symposium of Sino-Christian Studies” in Shanghai with theme on “Research on Sino-Christian Studies: A perspective of Interdisciplinary Studies.”
- *Logos & Pneuma: Chinese Journal of Theology*, No.41, published in July 2014, was on the theme: “Sino-Christian Theology, Twenty Years On”, and it clearly defined “the Nature of Sino-Christian Theology” in an inter-disciplinary framework.
- In October 2015, ISCS and Tongji University jointly held a conference in Shanghai with the theme on “Religion and Social Justice”.
- In July 2016, a symposium was held on Hong Kong Tao Fong Shan with the theme on “The Relationship between Religion and Politics in China: a Study on Interdisciplinary integration with Christianity as an Example”.



- During September to December 2017, visiting scholars at ISCS undertook a study and held the International Symposium on “Dignity, Morality and Rights: Christian Theology, Interdisciplinary Studies, and Cross-cultural Dialogue.” (refer to the present issue of the Special Report section)

The above academic events had produced transformative and creative results: some papers delivered in the 5th Roundtable Symposium of Sino-Christian Studies held in 2012, after further screening, were published in *Logos & Pneuma: Chinese Journal of Theology* No. 38 (Spring 2013; Theme: The Development of Sino-Christian Theology amidst Dialogues and Reflections); between 2015 and 2017, a number of papers delivered at international workshops were compiled under the efforts of ISCS and well known scholars in US and UK, and the selected papers were published either as feature articles in periodicals or in the book series. It is expected that in the coming two years, the interdisciplinary Sino-Christian theology will be further in sync with Western academia, thus fulfilling the objective of Sino-Christian theology, which is to promote the dialogue and integration of the Chinese and Western scholarships.

1. Message from the Director, ISCS Newsletter, Fall, 2011, “Although the hottest peiod of cultural and religious studies has passed, Sino-Christian theology/studies is still developing because of its interdisciplinary nature and solid foundation in the humanities. Starting from philosophy, history and literature, it is now progressing to the realms of biblical studies, sociology of religion, public theology, and so on to produce interdisciplinary cooperation and result.”

2. Message from the Director, ISCS Newsletter, Spring, 2012, “Yes” and “No” of Sino-Christian Theology: “The emphasis of creative transformation is not ‘turning to other form’, not to the west or somewhere distant. Nor is it turning ‘back to the old form’, to the ancestors, to Mao Zedong, or to somewhere thousand years ago. It is ‘creating its own form’, a social form based on the existential condition of modern Chinese, confirming and absorbing the universal values but not to some preset western paradigm. It must retrieve the ancient resources of China but deny any preset Chinese model. ‘Creative transformation’ means to explore its own way for modern China.”

3. Message from the Director, ISCS Newsletter, Spring, 2013, “Interdisciplinary, Universal and Contextual Sino-Christian Theology”: Christian studies have a very precise and professional division of labour. For example, there were trends in theological studies (studying the thoughts and trends of different Christian traditions), biblical studies (textual interpretation and cross-textual hermeneutics), cultural studies (post-colonial, feminist and ecological interpretation), empirical studies of anthropology and sociology or religion (study of different regions, nationalities and communities), historical studies (on different denominations, figures, events, issues in the history of missions), religious dialogues (with Chinese religions), public theology (comparison between European and Anglo-American schools). We can see that Sino-Christian theology is becoming professional and taking an interdisciplinary route. See the message from the Director, ISCS Newsletter, Autumn, 2013, “Listen to What One Says and Watch What One Does”: “We do not have a particular system of thought we want to import into China. In contrast, we emphasize an interdisciplinary integration of Chinese and western scholarship in the spirit of mutual respect to achieve a kind of ‘creative transformation’, so as to foster a brand new knowledge system acknowledged by Chinese academia, further enriching its diversity and offering responses to the challenge of the country’s modernization.”