

May. In the latter event, Prof. LAM presented the paper “Should Christians Observe the Decalogue? A Reflection on Theological Ethics from the Decalogue”. Other speakers at this conference included Prof. David PAO from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Chicago, Rev. Dr. Joseph CHUNG from St. Barnabas College, Adelaide, Rev. Dr. Justin TAN and Rev. Dr. Teresa LAU from the Melbourne School of Theology, and Rev. Dr. Timothy LAU from Logos Academy for Ministry and Missions in Australia.



During his visit in Australia, Prof. LAM also visited theology faculty members at the Sydney Campus of Charles Sturt University on 5 June, who together with us were the co-organizers and hosts of the “International Conference on Dignity, Morality and Rights” in December

2017. He also delivered a public lecture on “Studying Christianity in Contemporary China” at the Parramatta campus of Western Sydney University. On top of all these activities, during 7-8 June, Prof. LAM participated in the 14<sup>th</sup> Australian Bonhoeffer Conference. The theme of this year’s conference was “Bonhoeffer and Public Theology”. The keynote speakers included Prof. Robert Vosloo and Prof. Juliana Claassens from Stellenbosch University, South Africa, and Prof. Barry Harvey from Baylor University, USA. Prof. LAM presented the paper “Why Chinese Intellectuals are keen on reading Bonhoeffer? Bonhoeffer perceived as a Public Theologian in the Chinese Context”. The audience was interested in this topic. Prof. LAM was warmly received by scholars and students during his visit and afterwards he had a deeper understanding of Christianity and theology in Australia. He also finished a monograph on Heidegger and theology and edited a volume on Moltmann’s thought in China.

## Academic Activities



### Northeast Asia Area Council of WCRC



During 22-24 January 2018, the Northeast Asia Area Council of the World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC) hosted a conference in Hong Kong. About 30 participants from Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan and Korea joined this event. On the morning of 23 January, a theological consultation was held. Rev. Chris Ferguson, General Secretary of the WCRC, delivered the opening speech. Our Academic Officer Prof. Jason LAM, as a local representative, was invited to give the keynote speech entitled “The Calling of the Living God at the Present Time”. This was a contextual theological response to the theme of the WCRC’s General Assembly last year which was “Living God: Renew and Transform Us” commemorating the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation.

### Lecture on “The Other and the Others: Interactions between Christianity and Local Folk Religions in 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century China”



In February 2018, during her visit in Hong Kong, Prof. CHU Xiaobai, our Visiting Scholar and Professor of the Chinese Department at East China Normal University, was invited by the Centre for Christian Studies at the Chinese University of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences at the Hong Kong University to deliver lectures on “The Other and the Others: Interactions between Christianity and Local Folk Religions in 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century China” on 6 and 12 February respectively. Participants included local, Mainland and overseas scholars and research students. They were deeply interested in this topic area.

## Prof. Jason LAM's Visit to Wuhan



In April 2018, our Academic Officer Prof. Jason LAM visited Wuhan, China. He was invited by the Institute for the Study of the Religion and Culture of Europe

and America. On 13 April, he delivered a public lecture on "Heidegger on Paul" at Wuhan University. The event was chaired by Dr. JIN Zhiqian. The audience was interested and there was a heated discussion afterwards.



Later, Prof. LAM visited Zhongnan Theological Seminary on 16 April. There the board members, the principal and many faculty members warmly received him. They visited the new campus of the Seminary and had good discussion on future cooperation and theological development in China.

## Seminar on "Today do we still need to talk about Chinese theology?"



The Christian Study Centre on Chinese Religion and Culture (CSCCRC) celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary and hosted a seminar on "Today do we still need to talk about Chinese theology?" at Sheng Kung Hui All Saints' Cathedral. Our Academic Officer Prof. Jason LAM was invited to address the assembly on the topic "Theology and Context". Other speakers included Rev. Prof. Peter LEE, the first Chinese Director of CSCCRC, Rev. Prof. LO Lung-kwong, former

Director, Dr. WANG Xiaojing, Associate Director, Prof. KWOK Wai-Luen, Board Member of CSCCRC, and Prof. LAI Pan-chiu, Editor of *Ching Feng*. Afterwards a service and a banquet were held. This seminar was attended by theologians of different generations, and there was a very good exchange of ideas.

## Lecture on "An Examination of the Meaning of Religious Freedom" at HKBU

On 5 June 2018, Prof. DONG Jiangyang, our Visiting Scholar, was invited to deliver a lecture on "An Examination of the Meaning of Religious Freedom: With the



American Experience as Background" at the Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU). The lecture was moderated by Dr. QU Li, Lecturer of the Department of Religion and Philosophy, HKBU. About 50 teachers and students attended the lecture. A heated discussion took place immediately after the lecture. Both theoretical issues of religious freedom as well as different social issues in practice were being discussed (such as the controversial same-sex wedding cake case in Colorado).

## Visit of the Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Science, HKU, and the Hong Kong-America Center



On 12 June 2018, a dozen visitors from the Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Science of the University of Hong Kong (HKU) and from the Hong Kong-America Center visited ISCS. Dr. Glenn Shive, Director and CEO of the Hong Kong America Center, was the leader of the group. The visitors were all professors in Religious Studies or the Humanities from North America, India, Pakistan and Mainland China. During their visit, Director



Daniel YEUNG introduced to them the background history of ISCS and its founder Dr. Karl Ludvig Reichelt and his relationship to the Sino-Christian Theology Movement. Prof. DONG Jiangyang, our Visiting Scholar, delivered a lecture on the significance of Christian studies to Chinese academia. Prof. JING Jianfeng, Prof. LU Chengren, and Prof. XIE Zhibin, our Visiting Scholars, joined in the discussions that followed. All of the scholars from both China and the West present at the event had a very good exchange of ideas concerning various issues about religion and society.

## Internal Seminar for Visiting Scholars and Visiting Students from January to June 2018

From January to June 2018, a series of seminars were held for our Visiting Scholars and Visiting Students to provide a chance for academic discussion and supervision. The topics of the presented papers are as follows:

Name	Institution	Position	Topic
HE Weiping	Huazhong University of Science & Technology	Professor	Gadamer on the Hermeneutical Significance of Bultmann's "Demythologizing"
CHU Xiaobai	East China Normal University	Professor	The Image of Jesus Christ and the Discourses on Modernity in the Republic of China
SUN Chong	Odyssey Media and Publishing Co. Ltd.	Executive Editor	A Comparative Analysis of the Reasons Why Germany and Japan Hold Different Attitudes towards World War II: From the Perspective of Religious Philosophy
LIANG Hui	Zhejiang University	Professor	Rereading the Classic: A Re-Examination of Wu Leichuan's <i>Christianity and Chinese Culture</i>
DONG Jiangyang	Chinese Academy of Social Sciences	Professor	The Prequel to the Rise of Evangelicalism
REN Yichao	Shandong University	Doctoral Student	Reason and Existence: On Søren Kierkegaard's <i>Repetition</i>
LIU Dawei	East China Normal University	Doctoral Student	Individual and State: The Generational Dimension of Research on Religion-State Relationship: Centered on Christianity

LIN Hong-hsin	Taiwan Graduate School of Theology	Professor	Relation and Particularity from the Perspective of Personhood
Samuel H. H. Chiow	China Evangelical Seminary	Professor	On Bonhoeffer's <i>Ethics</i>
LIN Huamin	Guangxi University	Associate Professor	Metaphysical Experience and Trans-as(de)-scendence: Levinas's Theory of Transcendence and His Reading on Jean Wahl
LIU Shurong	Tsinghua University	Doctoral Student	On David Tracy's Model of Interreligious Dialogue
LU Chengren	Zhejiang University of Finance & Economics	Associate Professor	1. "Not Being Governed" and Adaptation to the State: A Study of the Christian Belief in the "Zomia" Region: A Discussion Centered on the Nu River 2. How Is a Sociological Study of Church History Possible? A Reading of <i>The Rise of Christianity: A Sociologist Reconsiders History</i>
JING Jianfeng	Inner Mongolia University	Associate Professor	Sophia and Tao: On the Convergence and Divergence of the Core Concept of Eastern Orthodoxy and Taoism
CHEN Long	Renmin University of China	Doctoral Student	A Poetic Turn in Theology? On John D. Caputo's Theopoetics





### Visit of Dr. CHEN Yufeng

On 16 April 2018, Dr. CHEN Yufeng from the Institute of the Sociology of Religion, Jiangnan University, visited ISCS. Dr. CHEN has spent many years in Greece where he studied Orthodox theology at the Faculty of Theology of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. He also visited and studied at other seminaries, including the Mount Athos Seminary. He is well-versed in Greek and Russian Orthodoxy. Director Daniel YEUNG and Dr. CHEN had a good discussion on the translation of classics in Orthodox theology and Orthodox spirituality. Both of them expect that this visit will foster a mutual cooperation between ISCS and the Institute of the Sociology of Religion, Jiangnan University.

### Visit of Prof. KIM Sung Hyun and Prof. Andreas Nehring

In the afternoon of 28 May 2018, Prof. KIM Sung Hyun from the Lutheran Theological Seminary, Hong Kong, and Prof. Andreas Nehring from Friedrich Alexander University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany, visited ISCS. All parties participated in an exchange of ideas on the current situation of Christian studies in Mainland Chinese universities. Director Daniel YEUNG expects that Chinese and German researchers will have more contact and exchange in the future. Prof. KIM was also looking forward to joining the Guest Professors Program of ISCS. Prof. KIM is an ethnic Korean scholar who was born in Germany. He studied systematic theology and ethics, and received his Ph.D. under the supervision of Prof. Eilert Herms at the Faculty of Protestant Theology at the University of Tübingen, Germany.

### Visit by Guang Dong Institute of Ethnic and Religious Studies



In the morning of 28 May 2018, Prof. HUANG Xinyi, Dean of Guang Dong Institute of Ethnic and Religious Studies, together with two researcher fellows, Dr. WU Ning

and Dr. CHEN Yanchao, visited ISCS. Director Daniel YEUNG introduced them to the history and development of Sino-Christian theology. Both sides had a good exchange of ideas on the relationship between Sino-Christian theology and the Sinicization of Christianity and expect to establish mutual cooperation in the coming future.

### Conference of Koinonia of Chinese Theologians



On 23 June 2018, Koinonia of Chinese Theologians hosted their regular academic conference at the Applied Theological Education Centre of the Hong Kong Baptist Theological Seminary. Our Academic Officer Prof. Jason LAM participated in the event as the Secretary. Apart from two formal paper presentations, the conference included a roundtable session on “Do we need new local theological discourses?”. Many local theologians and clergy joined the event. There were many young faces present and there was a heated discussion.

### Chinese Translation of *The Word of a Pastor*, a Book by His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia



On 26 June 2018, Director Daniel YEUNG and Prof. JING Jianfeng, our Visiting Scholar, were invited to attend the presentation of the first Chinese edition of *The Word of a Pastor* (in Russian, *Slovo pastyrja*), a book by His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All



Russia. The event was organized by the Russian Club in Hong Kong, the Consulate General of the Russian Federation in Hong Kong SAR, PRC, and Saint Apostles Peter and Paul Orthodox Church in Hong Kong. The book was presented by Metropolitan of Pskov and Porkhov Tikhon (Shevkunov), Chairperson of the Patriarchal Council for Culture. First published in 2004 in Russian, *The Word of a Pastor* has been reprinted many times, and is now translated and published in fourteen different languages.

It is worth mentioning that His Holiness Patriarch Kirill visited ISCS in 2001. At that time, Metropolitan Kirill was the Chairperson of the Patriarchal Council for Culture.



# Academic Research



## Visiting Scholars

From January to June 2018, ISCS hosted 13 Visiting Scholars.



**Prof. CHU Xiaobai** stayed at ISCS from January to February 2018. She is currently Professor in the Department of Chinese Language and Literature at East China Normal

University. During her visit, she collected materials for her research on “The Image of Jesus Christ and the Discourses on Modernity in the Republic of China” and finished a paper on “The Modern Ideological Myth in ZHU Zhixin’s *What is Jesus?* (1919)”. She also gave a lecture on “The Other and the Others: Interactions between Christianity and Local Folk Religions in 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century China” at the Centre for Christian Studies of the Chinese University of Hong Kong, and at the Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Science of the University of Hong Kong respectively.

**Dr. SUN Chong** stayed at ISCS from January to March 2018. She is currently Executive Editor at Odyssey Media and Publishing Co. Ltd. The major aim of her visit was to collect materials for her research on “The Christian Conception of Original Sin and Confucian Culture in China”.



**Prof. ZHANG Baichun**

stayed at ISCS in January 2018. He is currently Professor at Beijing Normal University. During his visit, he finalized his edition of the *Russian-Chinese Orthodox Theological Dictionary*.

**Prof. HE Weiping** stayed at ISCS in February 2018. He is currently Professor at Huazhong University of Science and Technology. The major aim of his visit was to collect materials for his research on “The Hermeneutical Significance of the Dispute between Karl Barth and Rudolf Bultmann”.



**Prof. LIANG Hui** stayed at ISCS in February 2018. She is currently Professor at Zhejiang University. The major aim of her visit was to collect materials for her research on “The Reception and Propagation of Walter Rauschenbusch’s Social Gospel in the Republic of China”.

**Prof. SUN Shangyang** stayed at ISCS in February 2018. He is currently Professor at Peking University. The major aim of his visit was to collect materials for his research on “A Study on the Main Themes in the Sociology of Religion in America after the Second World War”.

