

Academic Studies



Visiting Scholars

Four scholars visited our Institute as Visiting Scholars in the period from April to September, 2001:

- Prof. Jing Haifeng, who is Deputy Dean at the College of Arts, Shenzhen University, visited our Institute from July to August, in the capacity of



one-month Visiting Scholar. Prof. Jing has made special studies of Chinese philosophy and the subject he studied in this period of time was "The Struggle between Christianity and Buddhism in the Late Ming Dynasty", for

which topic he collected material.

- Prof. Liu Feng, who is Associate Professor at the Department of English at Peking University, has in the same period likewise been a one-month Visiting Scholar, preparing for translations of Western classics. Prof. Liu has translated the *Religiöse Dogmatik und Gesellschaftliche Evolution*

for our Institute as well as other material; subject for his studies this time was "Carl Schmitt's Theories on Catholicism and the Modern



State", and, apart from collecting material for these studies, he also did some Chinese-English translation work for our Institute.

- Prof. He Zhigang, who is Associate Professor at the Guangdong University of Foreign Studies, had a position as a two-month Visiting Scholar during the months of July to September. Prof. He mainly does translation work, and this time Prof. He, apart from collecting material for his studies on "Rousseau's Idea of 'General Will' and Its Paradox", did some Chinese-English translation work for our Institute as well.

- Prof. Zhang Qingxiong from the Center for Christian Studies at Fudan



University, Shanghai, was likewise a one-month Visiting Scholar at our Institute. Prof. Zhang has studied Christian thought and did preparations for translation work; his time at our Institute coincided with the publication of his translation of *Weltethos für Weltpolitik und Weltwirtschaft*. Subject for Prof. Zhang's studies this time, was "Christian Theology: A Historical and Cultural Comparison".

Guest Professor

- Since September 2001, our Institute has initiated a "Tao Fong Academic Exchange Program" in cooperation with Zhongshan University, Guangzhou; this program is mainly meant for undergraduate and master students, as well as young teachers: Once every term, our Institute will invite a guest professor to teach at the Zhongshan University – the first being Dr. Ted Zimmerman. Apart from this, we will invite qualified Tao Fong Shan-student(s) from Zhongshan to come to Hong Kong for a three-month academic visit.

Academic Director

- May 23 to 24: Dr. Liu Xiaofeng delivered lectures at Zhongshan University. His first lecture was "The Conflict Between Poetry (Myth) and Philosophy" – approximately 200 persons attended, including, apart from students, some teachers from the humanities faculty, as well as editors of the Guangdong academic magazines. Dr. Liu's second topic was "Leo Strauss' Critique of Political Philosophy", for a seminar of holders of the Tao Fong scholarship, while other teachers and students were auditing.
- May 27 to 30: Dr. Liu Xiaofeng participated in an international seminar, "Christianity and Modern Times", which jointly held by the Department of Religion at Wuhan University and the American Catholic Philosophical Society, more than 30 people participated. Dr. Liu Xiaofeng read a paper on "The Relation of Christian Study and Political Philosophy in China Today".
- July 23 to 24: Dr. Liu Xiaofeng was invited to attend an academic seminar, "The Hermeneutic Tradition of Classics in Modern Confucianism of East Asia", which held by the Philosophical Department at Zhongshan University. He read a paper on "Weishu and the Hermeneutics of Confucianism". Participants were scholars from the mainland as well as from Taiwan, of whom many, by and by, expressed their deep attraction to the work of our Institute. These scholars were all experts in the research of ancient Chinese classics, and they asserted that the publications of our Institute had already had a remarkable impact on studies of Chinese Classics.
- August 25 to October 15: Dr. Liu Xiaofeng accepted an invitation by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) and went to Japan to lecture and to participate in various exchanges. The JSPS is a Japanese national academic foundation, which each year – following recommendation by experts from outstanding universities in Japan – invites well-known international scholars to come to Japan to lecture. Dr. Liu, then, went to Japan for this period of time, as a visitor and lecturer, visiting eight major universities. The main purpose of this visit was to improve his understanding of the state of Christian studies within Japanese academics as well as furthering the academic exchange with our Institute.



Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Richard X.Y. Zhang, Editor-in-Chief of our Institute, has put forth great efforts to undertake an assessment of the quality of our entire academic output. This work is neither easy nor pleasant. Luckily, Prof. Zhang, as usual, has had sufficient stamina – apart from his originally designated work – to complete articles for the *Logos & Pneuma: Chinese Journal of Theology* and the "Chinese Academic Library of Christian Thought" (CALCT), as well as participating in the academic meetings by Zhongshan University and Alliance Bible Seminary.

Research Fellow

In June, Prof. Zhang Xian participated in a meeting in Chicago, The 6th Annual Meeting of the Chinese Scholars Association in North America: Christianity and China: Society, Church and Culture. He was the keynote speaker on the topic of "Christian Faith of Chinese Scholars in the 90's", in which he analyzed expressions of tensions within the Christian faith of the Chinese intelligentsia, as well as delivered a thorough discussion of possibilities of renewal and remedy. This lecture was followed by a lively discussion.

Prof. Zhang also participated in an international seminar on "Globalization and Philosophy", which held July 1 to 4 at Zhongshan University, lecturing on "Global Tendencies of Culture & Interculturality", in which he attempted to catch present-day trends of cultural globalization, beginning from a fundamental understanding of cultural exchange.

During his time at Zhongshan University, Prof. Zhang furthermore lectured to undergraduate students on "An Introduction to Philosophy of Religion", and to graduate students on "Selected Readings in the Classics of Philosophy of Religion".