



## Highlights

### Congratulations to Prof. Angela Leung and Dr. Fung Kam Wing



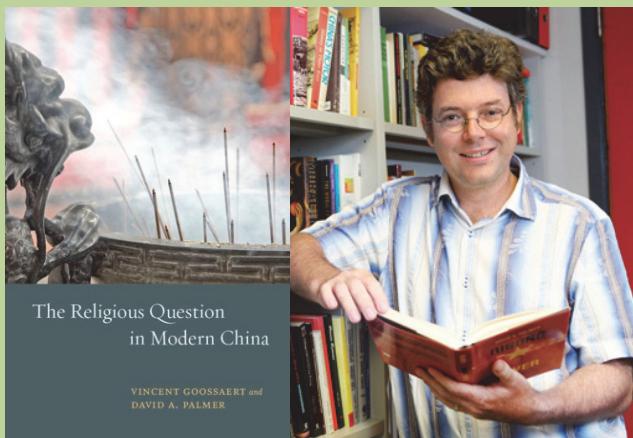
Prof. Angela Leung, Director of the Institute, and Dr. Fung Kam Wing, Honorary Associate Professor, have obtained grants from the General Research Fund (2013-14) for their projects. These grants are always highly competitive.

**Prof. Leung** received HKD 731,500 for three years on her project "*The Construction of Nutritional Knowledge in Modern China (ca.1850-1950)*". She will examine how nutritional knowledge was collected and compiled in the past, and how this process may be adapted to modern China. The process of knowledge construction has always been a multi-layered one, spanning many networks and involving various agents. Studying this process will shed light on the challenges that China faced in its quest for modernity, and on China's options in a time when the keen pursuit for Western science was often checked by the weight of tradition.

**Dr. Fung** has been awarded HKD 774,710 for two years on the project "*Imperial Patronage and Transfer of Islamic Astronomical-astrological knowledge in Ming China (1368-1644)*". Dr. Fung will study the relationship between "imperial patronage" and the advancement of exact science (astronomy in particular) in the Ming Dynasty in the late 16th century, at a time prior to the arrival of the Jesuits.



### Dr. David A. Palmer won the Levenson Prize for Books in Chinese Studies (2013)



Congratulations to Dr. David A. Palmer, Honorary Associate Professor and Sin Wai-Kin Junior Fellow, for winning the Association of Asian Studies (AAS) China and Inner Asia Council (CIAC) Levenson Prize for Books in Chinese Studies in March 2013 for the book *The Religious Question in Modern China* (Chicago University Press, 2012) that he co-authors with Vincent Goossaert.

## Featured News

### Mok Hing-Yiu Distinguished Lecture “A Second Fanshen: Village Real Estate and Cultural Belonging in Urban South China” by Prof. Helen Siu (March 7, 2013)



Prof. Helen Siu, Professor of Anthropology, Yale University, and HKU Mok Hing-Yiu Distinguished Visiting Professor gave a lecture at HKU. Her talk identified key features in China's expanding urbanities. It challenged linear categories of development and playfully engaged James Scott's idea of "Zomia." Also highlighted was the use of history and multiple cultural-referencing by local agents as they faced global restructuring, embrace nationalist aspirations, and confront state-market interface in their daily lives. The lecture was followed by an animated discussion between Prof. Siu and an audience of more than 100.

### Distinguished Lecture “Utopia, Dystopia, Heteropia: A Hong Kong Perspective” (烏托邦，惡托邦，異托邦：一個香港觀點) by Prof. David Der-wei Wang (June 13, 2013)



Prof. David Der-wei Wang (王德威), Edward C. Henderson Professor of Chinese Literature at Harvard University and Academician of the Academia Sinica, gave a highly enlightening lecture entitled “烏托邦，惡托邦，異托邦：一個香港的觀點”. The lecture was generously supported by the Development & Alumni Affairs Office of HKU and the “Hung Leung Hau Ling Distinguished Fellow in Humanities” Scheme.

The lecture illuminated the dialogism between contemporary Chinese literature and politics with a focus on how Hong Kong had been portrayed and perceived in modern times, from “utopia” to “dystopia”, from “heterotopia” to “supertopia”. Prof. Wang reflected upon the dynamics of these representations in light of a changing political scenery in China.

A Q-and-A session followed the lecture with Prof. Angela Leung as facilitator. Prof. Wang discussed and interacted passionately with an audience of 300 people.

(From left) Prof. Helen Siu, Prof. Angela Leung, Prof. David Der-wei Wang, Ms. Belinda Hung, Ms. Kitty Wong, and Prof. S. P. Chow



## Welcome to Our Newly Admitted Postgraduate Students

Our warmest welcome to three postgraduate students admitted to the Institute's programs in the coming fall semester. They are:

### **Carolyn Hou (侯可玲) (4-year PhD), Awardee of the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme**

Carolyn Hou has been awarded the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship by the Research Grants Council (RGC) of Hong Kong and the University Postgraduate Fellowship to pursue doctoral studies at the Institute. Carolyn graduated on the Dean's List from Smith College in 2012 and was then admitted to Oxford University's Master's program in social anthropology. She has received numerous coveted scholarships in the United States and has published her work several times. Her PhD project, "Coming of Koran: Female Students' Education in the Mosque", will be supervised by Dr. David A. Palmer and Dr. Izumi Nakayama.

### **Sun Qi (孫琦) (3-year PhD)**

Sun Qi obtained her Bachelor's degree in History from Fudan University (Shanghai) in 2007 and Master's degree in History from Shanghai Jiaotong University in 2009. She then went on to complete an MPhil in Social Science at HKUST in 2011. Qi's planned research topic is "The Dilemma of the Medical System at the Beginning of PRC – Focus on Wenzhou Region in Zhejiang Province (1949-1966)". Prof. Angela Leung will supervise her thesis with Dr. Izumi Nakayama.

### **Peter Kwai Hin Tam (譚貴軒) (MPhil)**

Peter Kwai Hin Tam obtained his Bachelor's degree in history from Hong Kong Baptist University in 2012. Peter has great passion and potential in history. His research interest is in the adoption of dairy foods in traditional Chinese diet in Republican China. His work will be supervised by Prof. Angela Leung and Dr. Izumi Nakayama.

## **Applications for Admission to Postgraduate Programs 2014-15**

The Institute now invites applications for admission to MPhil and PhD programs in 2014-15. Our programs are designed to accommodate a wide range of research interests in the humanities and social sciences with a focus on medicine, science and technology in East Asia. The Institute offers exciting opportunities for our students to participate in overseas fieldwork and short-term programs.

### **Application Period for Hong Kong PhD Fellowship (HKPF) Scheme and HKU Main Round**

#### **Application for HKPF Scheme**

**Initial Application** to the HK Research Grants Council: Early September to December 2, 2013, 12 Noon

**Full Application** to HKU: Early September to December 2, 2013

#### **HKU Main Round Application**

**Full Application** to HKU: Early September to December 2, 2013

*Enquiry: ihssrpg@hku.hk*

## **New Collaboration**

The Institute recently reached an agreement with Sun Yat-Sen University, Guangzhou, to conduct a training program on the history and development of Guangzhou. The program is designed for HKU students and will be run in the coming fall semester. The training is part of the **HKU-China 1,000 Exchange Scheme**. Further details will be announced by the Institute.

## Upcoming Activities

### Distinguished Lecture “A Reflection on Landscape Painting in East Asia” (東亞的奇觀山水) (October 28, 2013, HKU)



By Prof. Shih Shou-chien (石守謙),  
Academician of the Academia  
Sinica and former Director of the  
National Palace Museum, Taipei

### Lunchtime Series on Interdisciplinary China Studies

This year's series is coordinated by Dr. Ji Li and Dr. Lawrence Zhang, two young researchers of the Institute. Eight guests and colleagues will speak in the fall semester of 2013:

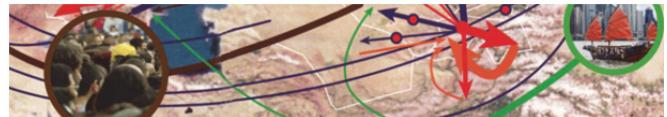
- September 10: Prof. Teresa Kuan, CUHK Anthropology
- September 24: Dr. Robert Peckham, HKU History
- October 8: Dr. Tang Ling-yun, HKU Sociology
- October 22: Dr. Tian Hongping, Yale-China Association
- November 5: Dr. Zheng Jing, CUHK Architecture & HKIHS
- December 3: Dr. David A. Palmer, HKU Sociology & HKIHS
- December 17: Dr. Jennifer Wan, HKU Biological Sciences

### Contemporary Chinese Documentary Series -- Meeting the Director: Sock' N Roll (台灣黑狗兄) Directed by Ho Chao-ti (賀照緹) (October 11, 2013, HKU)

Hosiery is the economic backbone of Shetou (社頭), a small rural township in Changhua County, Taiwan. Here one in two people's livelihood depends on the production of socks. Toiling day and night is one such individual known as "Brother Black Dog". When on a day in spring, sock orders from abroad suddenly cease, he finds himself facing enormous life challenges. Ho's film follows Brother Black Dog's struggles and unfolds a story of resilience in a time of crisis.

The director will engage in a discussion with the audience after the screening of the film. Mr. Chang Tie-chi (張鐵志), Editor-in-Chief of *City Magazine* (《號外》) has been invited to serve as discussant and facilitator of the discussion session.

### Conference on “Inter-Asian Connections IV: Istanbul” (October 2-5, 2013, Istanbul)



The conference is the third event of the Institute's multi-year collaboration with the Social Science Research Council (New York) and National University of Singapore. Yale University and Göttingen University have since joined in this collaboration.

The four-day conference is to be hosted by Koç University and will include plenary sessions and seven concurrent workshops, showcasing innovative research from across the social sciences and related disciplines. The workshops' focus is on Asia, which has been re-conceptualized as a dynamic and interconnected historical, geographical, and cultural formation, stretching from the Middle East, through Eurasia and South Asia, to East Asia. There will be 71 presenters to join the workshop directors, auditors and other invited scholars. Prof. Willem van Schendel from the University of Amsterdam is set to give the keynote speech.

More details on the conference are available on the website of the Social Science Research Council ([www.ssrc.org](http://www.ssrc.org)).

The screenshot shows the SSRC website header with links for Events, Programs, Fellowships & Grants, Publications, and Forums. A search bar is at the top right. Below the header, there is a large image of the Bosphorus Bridge at night. The main content area features a section titled "Conference on Inter-Asian Connections IV: Istanbul (October 2-5, 2013)" with a "CALL FOR WORKSHOP PAPERS" and a "Deadline: Monday, February 11, 2013". It includes a brief description of the conference's focus on Asia and its interdisciplinary nature. A sidebar on the right lists "Related Content" and "Workshop participant applicants must submit an on-line application. Access the application form." At the bottom, there are sections for "Deadlines/Timeline" and "February 11, 2013 – Workshop paper proposals due".

## Recent Activities

### Distinguished Lectures

Three other distinguished lectures also took place in the spring. All of them generated very positive response from colleagues and students. These lectures were:

#### **"China in the Early Modern World"** (April 5, 2013)

**Prof. R. Bin Wong** (University of California, Los Angeles) presented his ways of looking at China in the early modern world, giving a comparative perspective to facilitate the understanding of emerging modernities in different regions of the world.

#### **"Corporate Social Responsibility in China: from Labor Rights to Personal Development"** (April 24, 2013)

**Prof. Ellen Hertz** (Institut d'ethnologie Université de Neuchâtel) shared her findings on a particular innovation in the area of "capacity building" for "corporate social responsibility" in Chinese cities like Beijing, Shenzhen and Guangzhou.

#### **The Eighth Joseph Needham Memorial Lecture "The Growth of Chinese Civilisation: An Archaeo-metallurgical Perspective"** (May 8, 2013)

The lecture was organized by the Institute with the East Asian History of Science Foundation. **Prof. Mei Jianjun** (Director designate, Needham Research Institute) argued that the interaction between China and the outside world had always been a crucial factor in the formation of Chinese civilization since its very beginning. He furthered that the institutionalized development of technological innovations in ancient China could have been a major driving force behind this process.

*(From left) Prof. R. Bin Wong, Prof. Ellen Hertz and Prof. Mei Jianjun*



### Lunchtime Series Interdisciplinary China Studies

Five sessions were given by colleagues since February. In March, Dr. Ng Wing Chung of HKBU History spoke on his findings on "Chinatown Theater and the Immigrant Public in the Early Twentieth Century" and Dr. Cole Roskam of HKU Architecture gave a talk titled "Non-aligned architecture: China's designs on/in Africa, 1955-1989".



*(From left) Dr. Ng Wing Chung, Dr. Cole Roskam, Dr. Song Gang, Prof. Wu Ka Ming and Dr. Lawrence Zhang at the lunchtime seminar series*

In the following month Dr. Song Gang of HKU Chinese presented a talk on "Chinese Transformation of Mary in the 17th Century" and Prof. Wu Ka Ming of CUHK Cultural & Religious Studies shared her findings on "Miss Etiquette, Hyper Femininity and National Performance in Post-socialist China". In May, Dr. Lawrence Zhang of the Institute spoke on the topic "Pass Me the Cup: Taiwan as Conduit in the Transmission of Tea Practices in East Asia".

These attracted much interest from HKU faculty members and students.

## Departmental Seminar Series



Mr. Leo Goodstadt gave a talk titled "**A World without Welfare**" in April. He spoke on how deterioration in the community's wellbeing was a direct outcome of the Hong Kong government's belief that welfare was a luxury Hong Kong could hardly afford.



In June Dr. Nanlai Cao gave the talk **"Business as Mission: Christian Agency and the Making of a Chinese Merchant Diaspora"**. Dr. Cao shared his findings on transnational Christian networks originating in rural Wenzhou, Southeast China, and how these networks linked China to Europe.

## Contemporary Chinese Documentary Series -- Meeting the Director: One Nation, Two Cities (一國雙城) directed by Cheung King Wai (張經緯) (March 22, 2013, HKU)

Part three of this semester's Contemporary Chinese Documentary Series was held on March 22. Mr. Cheung King Wai (張經緯), a talented Hong Kong director, was invited to a screening of his latest work **"One Nation, Two Cities"** (一國雙城) with renowned cultural critic Mr. Leung Man Tao (梁文道) as commentator. The event was attended by an enthusiastic audience of over 130, which included faculty staff, members from the general public and students. During the discussion that followed, the audience was eager to ask questions regarding such issues as cross-border marriage and challenges in Hong Kong due to integration with mainland China.



Director Mr. Cheung King Wai (middle), Mr. Leung Man Tao (right) and Dr. Jascha Yu

## Workshops

### Workshop "Anatomical Modernity: Gender and Health in East Asia" (June 3-4, 2013, HKU)



Eight scholars from Taiwan, South Korea, UK, USA and HKU participated in this small workshop convened by Prof. Angela Leung and Dr. Izumi Nakayama. This was a follow-up meeting of the international conference titled "The Making of Asia: Health and Gender" held back in March 2012. Eight papers were presented and publication plans for the conference's book volume were specified after fruitful discussions. Prof. Francesca Bray from the University of Edinburgh served as the general discussant of the workshop.

### Planning Workshop for the International Conference on Food and Health (June 5, 2013, HKU)

With sponsorship from the D. Kim Foundation, a one-day planning workshop convened by Prof. Angela Leung was held at the Institute for the organization of the Food and Health Conference to be held in December 2014. The Planning Committee Members from Taiwan, UK and USA flew in for this one-day meeting on the main themes and publication plans. The conference will be organized jointly with the Asian Society for the History of Medicine. Details about the conference will be announced by the Institute.

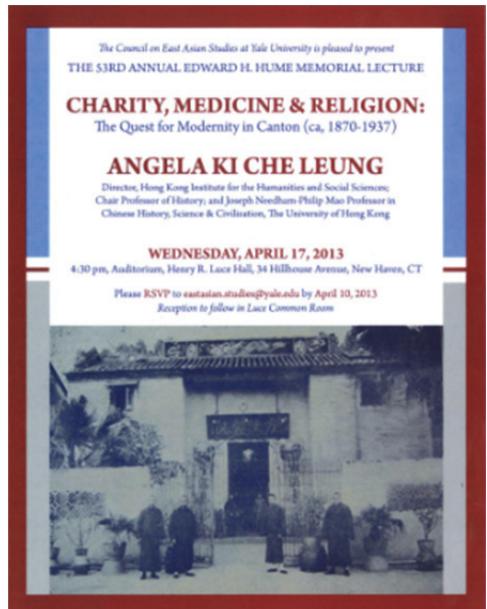
## Recent Activities by Staff & Fellows

### Edward H. Hume Memorial Lecture by Prof. Angela Leung at Yale University

The 53rd Edward H. Hume Memorial Lecture “**Charity, Medicine & Religion: The Quest for Modernity in Canton (ca. 1870-1937)**” was given by **Prof. Angela Leung**, Director of the Institute, on April 17, 2013 at Yale University.

The lecture focused on the historical experience of Canton through examining charity halls in major Chinese metropolises established after the Taiping Rebellion. Prof. Leung illustrated how leaders of these halls viewed themselves not only as philanthropists but also as social reformers. The introduction of Western values, including science, medicine and technology, first by Christian missionaries, contributed to this change. This new influence from the West was particularly evident in the founding of charitable hospitals. Prof. Leung examined how such charitable establishments of the post-Taiping Rebellion era played an important role in moving forward the public sphere of Canton in the late 19th century.

The annual Edward H. Hume Memorial Lecture commemorates Dr. Edward H. Hume, who devoted much of his life to health care and medical training in China. Sponsored and presented by the Council on East Asian Studies (CEAS) at Yale University, the lectures honor distinguished scholars who have contributed tremendously to the study of East Asia.



### “Documenting the Oral History of Overseas Chinese in Cuba” by Dr. Louie Kin Shuen

**Dr. Louie Kin Shuen**, Honorary Research Associate embarked on a journey to Cuba in January 2013 to conduct research on the project “**Documenting the Oral History of Overseas Chinese in Cuba**”.



The Cuban Chinese community numbered between 60,000 to 80,000 before the revolution of 1959. Most of them had come from the “four counties” in Guangdong and spoke the Toi-shan or Hoi-ping dialect. Today, fewer than 200 of these pre-revolution Chinese immigrants remain. They have lived in relative isolation for five decades, and until now, have largely been neglected by the outside world. As a result, many of their early Chinese migrant characteristics have been preserved.



Recognizing that first-hand accounts of these migrants will be lost forever as their generation gradually passes away, Dr. Louie wishes to collect their stories through a series of interviews and save them in a comprehensive data bank. His project is generously funded by the Lee Hysan Foundation.

#### Photo captions:

(Left) Sociedad Chung Shan: One of the clan societies in Havana. These societies were closed down for a few decades and have resumed activities since the 1990s.

(Right) Dr. Louie Kin Shuen (standing) and his interviewee Mr. Ma. Mr. Ma fought against the Japanese during the war. He came to Cuba alone in 1949, one month after getting married in Guangzhou. He has never returned to China since.

## Institute's News

We are delighted to receive generous gifts from various organizations in support of the institute's programs:

- \* A donation of HKD 3 million from the Kowloon Investment Co. Ltd. in support of the Institute's research and research-related activities (March 2013).
- \* A donation of HKD 2 million from the Hong Kong Foundation for the Humanities and Social Sciences in support of the Institute's programs and development (March 2013).
- \* A donation of HKD 6 million from the Lee Hysan Foundation through the Hong Kong Foundation for the Humanities and Social Sciences in support of the Institute's three-year enhancement scheme for nurturing HKU postgraduate students.

## Personalia

### Honorary Staff appointments

Dr. James Hayes, Honorary Institute Fellow, from April 1, 2013.

Dr. Zheng Jing, Honorary Research Associate, from July 1, 2013.

### Staff Appointments

Miss Cherie Ho, Research Assistant (Hong Kong Memory Project), from May 1, 2013.

Miss Lau Yuk Ki, IT Officer (Hong Kong Memory Project), from June 19, 2013.

Miss Haldis Lin, Technical Assistant (Hong Kong Memory Project), from May 1, 2013.

### Visiting Appointment

Dr. Wang Linlan, Beijing Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing, from June 30, to December 30, 2013.

### Staff Departure

Miss Cheng Lam Sing, Research Assistant (Hong Kong Memory Project) and Ms. Venus Lee, Executive Officer, left the Institute in April and May 2013 respectively. We wish them every success in their future endeavors.

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If colleagues have news to share with the Institute, please email your materials to [sycheng2@hku.hk](mailto:sycheng2@hku.hk).

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