



# 神學院通訊

## Divinity School Newsletter



Theology Day 2019 Page 05



The Pride of Myanmar Page 06



Term Commencement Camp Page 08



New Student Orientation Day Page 10



Institute for Advanced Study in Asian Cultures and Theologies (IASACT) Page 12

# Total Archaeology at Tel Akko: OUR LEARNING JOURNEY

By Prof. Nancy Tan

On 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019, six students and I embarked on our new adventure to be part of the archaeology project at Tel Akko. We joined a larger team comprising students researchers, and professors from Penn State University and Claremont Graduate School, as well as a few other local archaeologists and researchers. We were based at Nautical College, a naval college in the region.

I have taught archaeology in my classes but only in a limited way — from what I have studied in books. I usually introduce what it is, and crucial discoveries that had changed the knowledge of the Hebrew Bible, impacting theories and facts about her origins, history, contexts, and culture, as well as information about the larger backdrop where ancient Israel was located, of the ancient Near East. I had visited archaeology sites, and learned about what was done at a site, but I had never been part of an archaeological dig before. This trip has bridged the gap of knowing and experiencing. The most invaluable treasure that I took away from this trip was that I did not go to learn all about the subject on my own, but together with six students. We learned about Total Archaeology from scratch together. We shared and learned from each other as our field supervisors guided us at the excavation site and the pottery-washing field. Together, we shared the marvels and joys of uncovering new experiences as we engaged with the earth of past civilizations. We were covered in dirt and under the merciless, scorching heat most of the time and under the merciless scorching heat — an entirely different classroom arrangement that I think any of us has ever had!

### Total Archaeology

The students from the above-mentioned institutions were taking credit-bearing undergraduate courses on archaeology. Therefore, the day's schedule included late afternoon lectures and also some workshops, depending on the modules the

students have chosen. As our team only participated for the first week of the project, we attended all the introductory lectures, workshops and field trips that helped us orientate the local region — their history, context, purposes, as well as aspirations of the possibilities of future archaeological projects in the region.

Prof. Ann Killebrew at the introductory lecture says, “Archaeology is a celebration of humanity.” She goes on to explain it is about how we, the diggers of today, interact and engage with the humanity in history and early civilizations.

At the same time, archaeology is not simply excavation for ancient artifacts of ceramics, figurines and inscriptions, but it also includes other sciences such as archaeometallurgy (i.e., the study of how humans used metals in early civilization), archaeozoology (i.e., the study of animals in the contexts of the archaeological sites), and archaeobotany (i.e., the study of plants and how they co-exist with other living beings in the contexts of the archaeological sites).<sup>1</sup> There are also other crucial sciences involved, such as geophysical sciences, ceramics and pottery analysis, 3-Dimensional photo-imaging, etc. What makes archaeology at Tel Akko different from other archaeology projects is its commitment to “Total Archaeology”, i.e., the task of conservation and community outreach.

It is undeniable that excavation is destructive in nature. As we plough through the layers of earth that have been embedded for many centuries, we inevitably disturb and even destroy the many habitats of the living beings that have made these soil their homes. Every year while the excavating is going on at the tel, groups of students work with the local community to preserve the buildings in the old city. Some of these buildings were ruins of the Crusaders period, and most of the buildings were reconstructed or built by the Turks in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The old city was declared a World Heritage by UNESCO in 2001. Led by the locals, they would embark on projects such as reinforcing the disintegrating old mortar that hold the old stones together, etc. This is the conservation part of Total Archaeology.

In one of the introductory lectures, the local social worker in Akko, Ory Rosin, presented on the social fabric of the community in Akko — the religious and ethnic tensions and how projects are geared to help and encourage the community to learn to respect and live harmoniously with each other. Total Archaeology strives to make a connection with the local communities. The local residents are invited to be part of the excavation, and there is always a team, especially the youths who join the students in excavating to excavate at the tel. The local community is constantly updated on the progress of the excavation. This is a shared project with the locals, and open communication is kept to its best integrity. Thus, students are involved in a few of the community buildings or outreach projects in the city. In other

<sup>1</sup> Much of the information mentioned here can be found at their website: <http://www.telakko.com> Please browse this website for further information on how you can be part of Total Archaeology at Tel Akko.

words, total archaeology, as Ann Killebrew said at the start, is a celebration of humanity in the past and at present. The engagement is a dynamic one. As it acknowledges the destructive component in excavation, it seeks to build the present from its past — through all means and as much as creativity and its local authorities permit.

## Why Akko?

In the Hebrew Bible, there is only one occurrence of its mention in Judges 1:31: Asher did not drive out the inhabitants of Acco, or the inhabitants of Sidon, or of Ahlab, or of Achzib, or of Helbah, or of Aphik, or of Rehob. Here it states here clearly that Akko never became part of Israel. It was occupied by the Phoenicians during the biblical period. Indeed, there is no direct bearing of Akko to the Hebrew Bible in this sense, but its significance in the region cannot be trivialized to our appreciation of the Levant area, especially during the biblical periods.

There was settlement in Akko in the 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium for a few centuries, after which it was abandoned for a period of time, but from the middle Bronze Age (approximately 2000 BCE) onwards, it has had an unbroken record of settlement. While its significance to ancient Israel seems trifle, it is mentioned in several inscriptions and also well-known ancient Near East manuscripts: the Ebla texts (c.a. 25<sup>th</sup> century BCE); and in Akkadian cuneiform — the Amarna Letters (14<sup>th</sup> century), and other letters in ancient Mesopotamia. It had been an important port way before Israel was on the map in the Levant, and archaeological discoveries from the Tel Akko since its first excavation in 1970s, led by Moshe Dothan, prove the city prosperous and important. Prof. Michal Artzy explained to us, during the tour on site, that the port was originally outskirts of Tel Akko where we were excavating. However, due to inundation and erosion of the River Na’aman, the city moved from the Tel Akko site to the bay area, which we now call the “Old City”. This probably took place in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BCE.<sup>2</sup> The tel became an agricultural plot and the significance of its name as Akko shifted to the bay area where fortresses and buildings were raised. Evidence from the archaeology digs of Tel Akko supports this theory.

A recent article on Killebrew’s discovery of large amounts of iron slags on the 6<sup>th</sup>–4<sup>th</sup> century BCE strata, and further research indicates blacksmithing, specifically iron, was one of its major industries then. Her research also traces the origin of the iron ore to the modern Ajloun in Jordan.<sup>3</sup> These discoveries inform us a lot about the civilizations of the ancient world that our Hebrew Bible was part of.

2 Martha Risser, “What’s in a Name?” *Complutum* 26.1 (2015): 205–12.

3 Cherie Winner, “Forging History: Archaeologists Recreate an Iron Age Smithy in Northern Israel,” *Penn State News* (Pennsylvania), published 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2019.

### Akko, Akka, or Acre?

You might have noticed now that this city's name has many different spellings today, and it has been so since the ancient times. We have called the city "Akko" from the start in this article and we shall explain why here. Throughout Akko's history, it has been spelled in various ways but generally, its guttural for its first letter and its Hebrew equivalent "kaph" following is retained. Hence, we have Akka, Akko, and Aka found throughout the Mesopotamian and Egyptian texts.<sup>4</sup>

Under the Grecian rule, it was named as Ptolemais (Acts 21:7, which Paul visited), and apparently referred to as "Ace-Ptolemais", and later as "Antioch in Ptolemais". Coins discovered in the region that dated to the mid-first century found "AKH" minted on them. Thus it was concluded that the variation of forms "Ak-" was never abandoned until the Roman period, during which they renamed it as Germanica.<sup>5</sup>

It was only until the 7<sup>th</sup> century CE when, the Arabs conquered Akko that its original name Akka was restored. Then from the 12<sup>th</sup> century when the Crusaders first took hold of the city from the Muslims and made it their base, it was renamed Saint Jean d'Acre in honor of the Hospitalier of Saint John in Jerusalem. When the Crusaders were defeated in 1187 by Saladin, the city of Akko fell into ruins for about 450 years. During the period of the Crusades, it became clear from relevant texts that when referring to this city, "Acre" became its westernized version and "Akka" its Arabic counterpart. This tendency continues to today.

The tel, however, was given the name "Tell of Foukhar", meaning "Tell of sherds (or clay)" — noted by M.E.G. Rey's accounts in 1889 of the Crusaders period.<sup>6</sup> Moshe Dothan took this name. Today the locals call it "Napoleon's Hill" or "Tel Napoleon" because of the erroneous idea that in 1799, Napoleon's troops were there when they besieged the city. There is a metal portrait of Napoleon on his horse erected on the tel today. "Tel Akko" is used by archaeologists and in accordance to an 18<sup>th</sup> century map and referenced elsewhere, which were mentioned by Rey. Following the archaeologists today, we call it "Tel Akko" in this article.

4 Risser, 207.

5 Arie Kindler, "Akko: A City of Many Names," *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research* 231 (1978 Oct): 51–55.

6 Risser, 210. Cf. 211 for the possible theories of origin of this name. Risser is referring to the following two publications by Rey: 1. "Topographie De La Ville D'acre au XIII Siècle," *Société Nationale des Antiquaires de France* XXXIX (1878): 115–45; and 2. "Supplement: L'étude sur la topographie de la Ville d'Acre au XIIIè siècle," *Mémoires de la Société Nationale des Antiquaires de France* XLIX (1889):1–18.

# THEOLOGY DAY 2019



Theology Day Celebration 2019 was held on 2 November 2019 at Chung Chi College Chapel. Theology Day Celebration for Degree Programmes and Diploma Programmes were combined. More than 500 people including guests, friends, pastor workers, teachers, alumni, students and their family members participated in the Thanksgiving Service. It was our honor to have our alumnus, Rev. Dr. Benjamin S. L. Chan, Area Director of East and South Asia of American Baptist International Ministries to deliver the sermon. In the Service, 72 graduates obtained degrees and 19 graduates obtained diplomas. A total of 76 new students admitted in degree programmes and 15 new students admitted in diploma programmes were welcomed. The Thanksgiving Dinner after the Service was held at Chung Chi College Staff Club and a total of 19 tables were arranged for more than 200 participants to enjoy the dinner.



# The Pride of MYANMAR

## Aye Nwe (07' MTheol; 17' DTheol)

With the aim to further her studies in theology and better serve her people and the Lord, Awe Nwe left her homeland for the first time in 2005 and travelled all the way to the Divinity School of Chung Chi College, CUHK. In 2007 and 2017, she obtained her Master's Degree and Doctoral Degree in Theology respectively. Currently, she is an Assistant

Professor at the Myanmar Institute of Theology, where she teaches feminist theology and views biblical, theological, ecclesial and gender issues from the female perspective. At the same time, she is also the first female president of the Wa State Baptist Convention, Myanmar, as well as a volunteer pastor at the Wa Baptist Church.



Aye Nwe is thankful to all teachers of Divinity School.

Aye Nwe feels regret about the absence of her father in the graduation ceremony.

### A Rose That Comes with Thorns

Looking back, Aye has mixed emotions towards her days at the Divinity School of Chung Chi College. Coming from a remote area in Myanmar, she pointed out that her studies would not have been possible without Chung Chi's financial aid, for her parents, being farmers, were incapable of supporting her financially. As a result, her life in Hong Kong solely depended on the Divinity School's financial aid. Leading a frugal lifestyle, she paid for her meals with scholarships and always preferred cooking to eating out in an attempt to save money for books and air tickets.

Upon arrival in Hong Kong in 2005, Aye was dismayed by the highly developed metropolis. Compared with Myanmar, Hong Kong had more advanced technology -- theses, for one, had to be typed and printed, yet Aye was not accustomed to saving word documents and had, tragically, lost her finished theses many a time. Credit cards and ATM cards were a flummoxing mystery themselves; worse still, she had learnt the hard way not to insert one's credit card into the ATM. The language barrier was another major hindrance -- she had, on various occasions, made a fool of herself in restaurants, and had struggled to grasp the lectures' content (mostly in Cantonese) despite her classmates' translation. On one occasion, just as she was leaving the Chung Chi Library with an intriguing page-turner, she nearly jumped

out of her skin at the piercing cries of the alarm, only to realize that the book had not been successfully loaned. But the worst of all came when she strolled the Tai Po Market to buy her food for the week; as she reached for her wallet, she discovered that the only \$200 she had, which was her pocket money for the entire month, had been nicked by a pickpocket. Frustrated and helpless, she had no choice but to return the goods. For countless nights in the hostel, she had been cramped up in her miniature bed, overwhelmed by an emotional tide of homesickness. Later, with her daughter severely suffering from dengue, Aye worked her fingers to the bones to write up her Masters thesis and hurried back to Myanmar; regrettably, at the end of her long academic journey, her father was unable to witness her graduation.

### Guidance in a Labyrinth

Living in Hong Kong was not easy, but neither was studying in the city. For all the teachers who have supported and heartened her along her journey, Aye would like to express her most profound gratitude. "Rev. Lo Lung-kwong the names of all non-locals in mind and cared a lot about us; talking to him warmed our hearts and made us feel secure. His enthusiasm to serve the Lord and his caring way of treating international students motivated us a lot. Apart from that, he also taught us how to maintain cordial relationships with our classmates. Dr Kung Lap-yan was



She joined the exchange programme in Princeton and New Haven of the US.



Aye Nwe became the first female pastor to be ordained in Wa State Baptist Convention.

my instructor when I studied for my Master's and Doctoral degrees. He was very kind; but for him, I could not have become who I am today. He was always patient with his students, understanding our situation and counselling us in adversities; his wife Ming Yee also supported me in all aspects. Professor Brandner from Switzerland, who conducted Christian services for Hong Kong prisoners, was fluent in both Cantonese and English, and he used to invite us over for dinner all the time. During dinner, he would share with us Western and Asian delicacies, as well as his bountiful experiences in life. Miss Rose Wu, who specialised in feminism and sexual minorities, taught me feminist theology. She has a strong sense of responsibility and commitment towards sexual minorities — She told

me a lot about them so that I may listen to their voices and understand how the spirit of theology lives among us."

With the support of her teachers and classmates, Aye Nwe surmounted all obstacles and eventually completed her education. She felt fortunate to have deepened her theological knowledge in Hong Kong -- Through Chung Chi College and overseas contacts, she was granted the opportunity to study in Western countries; in 2012, she even pursued higher education at the Yale Divinity School, where she met numerous renowned theologians and learned from them. Such experiences not only broadened her horizons but also induced inner-reflection and encouraged her to shoulder the hefty responsibilities that come with her religion.



## The Pride of Myanmar

Living in a Patriarchal society, Myanmar's women are believed to be inferior to men and incapable of serving leadership roles; for this reason, Aye had had difficult times. "I strive for female rights so that they may be treated equally in Christian services — The participation and contribution of women are an indispensable element in the Kingdom of God and Myanmar."

Currently, Aye Nwe is an Assistant Professor at the Myanmar Institute of Theology, as well as the President of the Wa State Baptist Convention, Myanmar. Having come all the way, her journey was never smooth nor easy; quite the opposite, it was a bumpy road filled with hindrances. Yet, she remained unshaken. Ever since she embarked on her academic journey, her parents had stopped funding her, and her father, who believed that she had already studied enough, even implicitly suggested discontinuing her studies after high school. As a result, she was financially independent during high school, making a living by serving as a domestic helper at a Myanmar Buddhist's home.

In 1994, she completed her Bachelor of Theology degree at the Myanmar Institute of Theology, after which she was invited to help at a local orphanage. Yet, upon arrival, her male colleague, who was to become her assistant, resigned from his job because he found a female boss unacceptable. At a later stage, Aye continued her studies and obtained her Master's Degree at the Divinity School. In 2000, she worked at the Wa State Youth Centre, only to discover that her male colleague who was less inexperienced was paid one-third more than her salary. Eventually, she rejected the pay, but she remained at the Centre as a volunteer because she wanted to serve the local youths.

Despite having served in the Wa Church for a long time, in the beginning, her identity was not publicly recognized by the Church. Not only were business cards not prepared for her, but her name was also absent from the list of pastors. It was not until 2016 that the Church finally printed business cards for her and recognized her officially. After years of toil, she was finally elected as the President of the Wa State Baptist Convention, and she became the first female pastor to be ordained at that Church, earning the deacon's approval and appreciation through her selfless contributions.

As of now, Aye Nwe is also the voluntary Person-in-Charge of the Wa State Youth Education Centre. It is of her wish that youths can receive education, and hence be freed from the shackles of child labour. With the aim to remedy the local government's shortcomings, she is channelling her efforts into providing junior and senior secondary education for the local youths.

Since 2018, the Myanmar regime has had misunderstandings towards Christianity, resulting in the closure of more than 200 churches, as well as the arrest and imprisonment of pastors, church officers and followers. Despite the fact that all local pastors were released on 10 January 2020, Aye Nwe is still filled with ineffable apprehension. Even as a Professor at a seminary, a pastor and the Person-in-Charge of a local centre, she is still only receiving a small payment from the seminary. "I hope that through education and services, people will be able to see the light of God. May God grant me the strength, stamina and resources required to fulfil my vision, so that the Myanmar people may worship the Lord freely."

*Written by Li Kwong-ping; Translated by Ivy Chan*

# Term Commencement CAMP



A camp on the theme "Reflections & Insights" was held from 28 to 30 August 2019. There was a total of 103 students and lecturers who joined the camp. The camp took place in the Theology Building.

## Term Commencement Service



Term Commencement Service was held on 5 September 2019 at the Divinity School Chapel. Rev. Leung Yuen Yiu, our alumnus (96' BD), Chairperson of the Theology and Ministry Department of the Hong Kong Council of the Church of Christ in China was invited to deliver a sermon "Three Stories About Burying". More than 230 participants joined the service.

## Workshop on Preventing Sexual Harassment

Workshop on Preventing Sexual Harassment was held in the afternoon of 30 August 2019. All B.D. and M.Div. new students who applied for the internship are required to have sexual harassment preventing training before the commencement of internship. The workshop was co-organised by the Hong Kong Christian Council and a certificate of attendance was issued to the participants. The speaker was our alumna, Ms. Jessica H. T. (13' MACS) Tso from the Gender Justice Group of the Christian Council.

## Summer Camp

A Summer Camp for Sacred Music and Worship jointly organized by Hong Kong Church Music Association and the Divinity School was held from 28 July to 2 August 2019 at the Divinity School Chapel with around 280 participants.

## HONG KONG / CHINA Summer School 2019

23 Scholars from Switzerland, Germany, South East Asia, Africa and China participated in "Hong Kong / China Summer School 2019" on "Currents in Global Christianity" from 17-31 August 2019. 5-day lectures and a 9-day visit to Macau and Mainland were conducted. Prof. Kung Lap Yan, Prof. Tobias Brandner, Dr. Yam Chi Keung from Divinity School and Prof. Andreas Heusser from University of Basel delivered lectures on Public Theology, Contextualization in China, Christianity and popular culture and Pentecostalism and wealth. Pastor Roy Njuabe shared his view on "Migration as Challenge for Churches".

# New Student Orientation Day

New Student Orientation Day was held on 31 August 2019 at CUHK. The Orientation Day is designed to help new student know more about our School, get familiar with the new environment and make new friends. The Orientation Day consists of various activities such as orientation talks, library workshop and plagiarism workshop. There were 41 students (over 50% of the new students enrollment) who joined the Orientation Day.



# The 13th Annual Pastoral Conference

The 13th Annual Pastoral Conference with the theme "The Church PR and Justice" was held on 15 October 2019. We were honoured to have Prof. Kaman Lee (Associate Professor of the School of Journalism and Communication, CUHK) as our keynote speaker. Scholars, experts and practitioners of the related field and local church pastors were invited to share their feedbacks and views with the participants. Over 180 participants joined the conference.



## Institute for Advanced Study in Asian Cultures and Theologies (IASACT):

Funded by the United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia, the Institute for Advanced Study in Asian Cultures and Theologies (IASACT) has been administered by the Divinity School of Chung Chi College since 2015. An Academic Conference cum 15th Anniversary Celebration with the theme "Re-imagining Hospitality and Spirituality in Asia" was successfully accomplished from 3 to 7 July 2019. More than 50 alumni, 11 mentors and Advisory Committee members and the founder of IASACT, Professor David Suh were here to celebrate and evaluate the success of IASACT together with the 9 representatives of various professional theological associations.

IASACT Conference this year kicked off with by an Opening Worship which was led by Rev. Wong Kai-fai, our School Chaplain in the Divinity School Chapel on 4 July 2019. During the 3-day conference, 43 alumni were assigned according to their relevance to the sub-themes to deliver paper presentations. 3 parallel panels were coordinated for each sub-theme while there were totally 7 sub-themes including Living with Multi-faith Traditions, Marginalised Communities, Engaging with Asian Cultures, Ecology and Sustainability, Glocalization, Religion and Gender, Gender and Sexuality and Economic Disparity.

There was one plenary session hosted by our Divinity School on 4 July afternoon and the topic was "Re-imagining of Theological Education in Context". Professor Kwan Shui Man Simon, Dr. Wong Wai Yin Christina and Professor Yip Ching Wah Francis respectively delivered 3 short presentations about "Global Institute", "Pedagogy in Arts" and "Vision on Theological Education".



## Kairos Academy for Theology and Life Formation (Kaairos):

Applications for the Diploma/ Certificate Programme in Christian Thought and Practice are accepted all year round. For the admission in September 2019, a total number of 8 students were admitted to these programmes. As of October 2019, 29 students are studying the programmes.

## The Centre for QUALITY-LIFE EDUCATION

A Diploma Programme in Christian Life Education has been introduced since 2010. The programme has 6 graduates this year. Two of them are eligible for obtaining the Distinction Award.

## Resource Centre of the Contemporary Christian Studies (RCCCS):

The consultation meeting on discussing the prospects and challenges of Christian studies in Mainland China was held from 11 to 14 June 2019 at Theology Building. The RCCCS has been running the Summer Academic Exchange Programme for Christian and Religious Studies scholars in China for 16 years since 2003. In order to have a comprehensive review for the programme revamp, 9 senior and distinguished scholars were invited to deliver lectures on the development and current state of the following fields: history of Christianity in China, Christianity and social sciences (e.g. sociology, anthropology and political science), Christianity and literature, Christian theology and culture, bible and literature, and Christian art. 12 alumni presented their own research and gave advices on the programme.

## The Christian Study Centre on Chinese Religion and Culture (CSCCRC)

Prof. Ying Fuk-tsang delivered a book launch lecture on "Christianity and Chinese Religious Order in the New Era" on 18 July 2019. He mentioned that the government has increased the restrictions on Religious Policy in mainland China rapidly in recent years. It aroused the anxiety of Christians in China and Hong Kong.



## Pastoral Programme

Teachers and students of the Divinity School visited 22 Methodist churches in June to promote the "Theology Sunday 2019".

Teachers and students of the Divinity School were divided into 3 groups and visited 3 local congregations (CCC Tuen Mun Church, Faith Methodist Church and Gideon Organic Church) on 29 September 2019.



# PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

## Teacher in News

### Prof. Yip Ching-wah Francis

Prof. Yip Ching-wah Francis is on sabbatical leave until May 2020.

### Prof. Kung Lap-yan

Prof. Kung Lap-yan was invited by the Perkins School of Theology, South Methodist University for a forum on "Hong Kong Protests: A Messianic Movement?" on 22 October 2019 in Dallas.

### Prof. Wong Wai-yin Christina

Prof. Wong Wai-yin Christina was appointed as Assistant Professor jointly in the Department of Cultural and Religious Studies and the Divinity School of Chung Chi College starting from 15 August 2019. She teaches courses in Feminist Theology and Missiology.

### Dr. Yam Cheuk-yin Colten

Dr. Colten Yam was appointed as Adjunct Assistant Professor jointly in the Department of Cultural and Religious Studies and the Divinity School of Chung Chi College for two years starting from 12 August 2019. He teaches courses in Systematic Theology and New Testament Greek. Dr. Colten Yam attended the XVIII. International Conference on Patristic Studies from 19 to 24 August 2019 in Oxford, and Presented a paper with the title "Basil on the Souls".

The dissertation written by Dr. Colten Yam, *Trinity and Grace in Augustine: An Analysis of De trinitate 8-10 in Light of De spiritu et littera. Augustinus - Werk und Wirkung, Volume 10 (Schöningh / Brill, 2019)* was published in August 2019.

### Prof. Tobias Brandner

Prof. Tobias Brandner attended the annual conference of the European Association for the Study of Religions in Tartu, Estonia from 25 to 29 June 2019. He presented a paper on Religion in an oppressive context. Experiences of normality in the life of incarceration – the case of inmates in the Philippines. The Sogang University in Seoul invited Prof. Tobias Brandner to a workshop conference on "Modern Religious Movements in East Asia" (3 to 6 November 2019). He presented a paper on "Emerging Trends of Christianity in Greater China." With the support of Bamboo Grants, Professor Tobias Brandner and Dr. Sonia Wong will travel to Yogyakarta and Malang, Indonesia in December for a pre-trip in preparation for the Study Tour of the Global Summer Institute of Theological and Intercultural Studies (2021).

## News on Selection of Next Director of Divinity School of Chung Chi College

By a letter dated 16 September 2019, the Vice Chancellor of the Chinese University of Hong Kong has officially appointed Prof. Yip Ching-wah Francis to be the next Director of Divinity School of Chung Chi College for three years starting from 1 August 2020.

## Director in News

Prof. Ying Fuk-tsang attended the 11th International Symposium on the History of Christianity in Modern China: Chinese Churches in World Christianities in Hong Kong Baptist University on 14 June 2019. He presented a paper with the title "Left-wing Literature and Hong Kong Christianity before and after the 1967 Riots: Case Study of Youths' Garden." Professor Ying was invited to attend the Oral History of Chinese Religions: International Conference, organised by Center on Religion and Chinese Society, the Research Center for Chinese Cultural Subjectivity in Taiwan and the Center for the Study of Chinese Religions at National Chengchi University in Taiwan from 29 to 30 June 2019. He presented a paper with the title "Study of Christianity in Contemporary China and Oral History."

The School of Theology, Chang Jung Christian University in Tainan invited Professor Ying to deliver a series of public lecture on state-church relations in Hong Kong from 28 to 29 October 2019.

Professor Ying was invited to attend the 15th Annual International Conference on the History of Cultural Exchange: Religion, Rationality and the Passions from 8 to 9 November in Taiwan. He presented a paper on "The Entanglement of Religion and Politics: Christianity and Social Movement in Hong Kong."

### Dr. Wong Kwok Sonia

Dr. Sonia Wong was invited by the Queer Theology Academy to give a talk on "Different Methods of Biblical Interpretation" on 10 July in their Queer Theologies Summer Workshop 2019. Dr. Sonia Wong will present a paper "Being Angry with God: Radical Suffering, Radical Doubt, and Emotional Catharsis in Lamentations" at the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting (San Diego, 2019) on 24 November 2019.

### Dr. Wang Xiaojing Marina

Dr. Wang Xiaojing Marina was appointed as Adjunct Assistant Professor jointly in the Department of Cultural and Religious Studies and the Divinity School of Chung Chi College starting from 15 August 2019. She teaches courses in the history of Christianity in China from the eighteenth to the twentieth centuries, the history of Christian missions and world Christianity.

Dr. Marina Wang was invited to attend the 11th International Symposium on the History of Christianity in Modern China: Chinese Churches in World Christianities in Hong Kong Baptist University and to serve as panel chair and discussant on 14-15 June 2019.

She also attended AAS-in-Asia Conference 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand and presented paper titled "Chinese Churches, Unequal Treaties and Historical Memory of 'National Humiliation' in the 1920s" from 1 to 3 July 2019. She was invited to serve as panel chair and to present paper titled "Ready to Receive the 'Grace of the Spirit'? Two Chinese Theologians' Encounter with the Shantung Revival of 1927-1937" at Ecclesiastical History Society Summer Conference 2019 from 16 to 18 July in Durham University, UK. Dr. Marina Wang was invited to attend "Retrospect and Prospect: The International Symposium on Thirty Years' Research on History of Christian Colleges in China," to serve as panel chair and to present paper titled "'More Christian, More Chinese, and More Efficient': Herman C. E. Liu and the University of Shanghai (1928-1938)" from 11 to 14 October 2019 in Central China Normal University, Wuhan, China.

She was invited to attend and to present a paper at "Christianity and Agriculture in China" Workshop from 15 to 17 November 2019, Hangzhou.

### Prof. Nancy N. H. Tan

Prof. Nancy Tan led a study tour with 6 students to Israel from 30 June to 8 July 2019. They participated in at an archaeological dig at Tel Akko, in cooperation with Penn State University, U.S. and Haifa University, Israel. The team also visited archaeological sites at Galilee, Masada and Jerusalem.

Prof. Nancy Tan joined Divinity School since 2005. She has resigned and left her position on 14 January, 2020. We appreciate her valuable contribution for the last 14+ years. We will surely miss her.

## Alumni in News

### Rev. Po Kam-cheong

From Conflict to Communion- My Days of Service in the Hong Kong Christian Council authored by Rev. Po Kam-cheong was published by our School in October, 2019.

## Special News

Due to the novel coronavirus outbreak in Hong Kong, some of our school events were cancelled and postponed. The 24th Chuen King Biblical Lectureship, Open Week activities and a study tour to Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia were cancelled. Devotional camp was also cancelled. Instead, online lesson and personal sharing were arranged through internet on 29 February, 2020. The yearly fundraising walkathon, which was originally scheduled in March, will be postponed to 31 May.