Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange

2007-2008 Annual Report

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The international conference "Sound in Chinese Literature and Culture" was held at Harvard University on April 25 and 26. Fourteen scholars from Taiwan, Hong Kong, China, the United States, and Europe gave inspiring presentations, examining the significance of "sound" in Chinese literary and cultural studies in broad terms. On May 3, 2008, the Fifth Annual Chinese Medieval Studies Workshop was held at Columbia University. This year the workshop brought together ten scholars from different parts of the United States, resulting in many fruitful dialogues and laying the foundation for future exchange and collaboration. The University of California, Santa Barbara hosted an international conference, "Modernism Revisited: Pai Hsien-yung and Chinese Literary Modernism in Taiwan and Beyond", which focused on the Chinese modernist movement of the late fifties and early sixties in Taiwan. The event not only brought together a dynamic group of writers, critics, and filmmakers to reflect upon this path-breaking literary movement from a historical perspective, but also attracted a considerable local crowd.

(3) The Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation Asia-Pacific Center for Chinese Studies at The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CCK-APC)

The Board of Directors approved the establishment of the Asia-Pacific Center for Chinese Studies (CCK-APC) in December 2005. The Center has an annual budget of US\$135,000, of which \$120,000 comes from the Foundation and \$15,000 from The Chinese University of Hong Kong. It operates under the supervision of a steering committee consisting of eleven scholars. The chairman is Professor Ambrose King, a CCKF Board member and former Vice-Chancellor of CUHK. The Center launched its operations on April 26, 2006. The following activities took place in 2007-2008:

- 1. International Conference on "Cultural Identity from an Interdisciplinary Perspective" The International Conference on "Cultural Identity from an Interdisciplinary Perspective" was organised by the Humanities Institution of Nanjing University, and co-organised by National Taiwan University. It was held from October 19-22, 2007, at Nanjing University. Five eminent scholars, including professors Jian Dong (Nanjing University), Hsinkang Chang (City University of Hong Kong), Shu-hsien Liu (Academia Sinica, Taiwan), Nan Lin (Duke University, USA), and Yu Xie (University of Michigan, USA), were invited to be keynote speakers. Thirty other scholars from all over the world presented papers on various themes of cultural identity and engaged in vigorous discussions. The conference succeeded in encouraging scholarly exchange and in promoting interdisciplinary studies on both national and international scales.
- 2. The Fourth Annual Graduate Seminar on China The Seminar was held on January 8-12, 2008. There were 74 Ph.D. candidates participated. A majority came from mainland China, with the others coming from the United States, Australia, the United Kingdom, Poland, Canada, Korea, Taiwan and Hong Kong. A total of 9 senior scholars in the field were invited to give keynote lectures. During the

panel sessions, participants were required to present their papers and comment on others'

presentations, while invited scholars who chaired the sessions would lead the discussion and gave comments too.

3. Seminar Series on Chinese Studies

The Center has started sponsoring a series of seminars held by four thematic multidisciplinary research teams formed under the initiative of Chinese Studies as a Major Area (CSMA) at CUHK. The disciplinary backgrounds of the members in each team are diverse, but they share common concerns in a particular theme related to Chinese Studies. Through regular informal gatherings and seminars, these teams aim to create an interdisciplinary platform for academic exchange and intellectual stimulation, and ultimately scholarly synergy. These four thematic teams are: Ethics and Human Values Team; Health and Society Team; Local Communities and the State Team; and Language and Communication Team. Seminars conducted at the Center included "How Constitutionalism and Weiquan Shape Attitudes toward the Party-state in Present-day China", "Taoist Ritual Manuscripts in Hong Kong", "Integration of Chinese and Western Medicine in Contemporary China: Social Science Perspective", "Civil Society in Contemporary China: NGOs Strive to Survive", "History of Public Health in Hong Kong: A Project Report", "Love and Disease: Women's Literature and Health Care in Republican China", "Narratives of Illness in the Chinese Literature of the Early 20th Century", "Symbols and Values in Chinese Law - Tradition, Transplantation and Imagination", "Values: Competing or Accommodating - A Daoistic Observation", "A Political Economic Analysis of the Housing Shortage for the Working Class Population in Tianjin", and "Political Economy of Corporate Law in China: Corporate Board Reform as a Case Study".



discussion group in seminar series at CCK-APC

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