



**Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for
International Scholarly Exchange**

2010-2011 Annual Report



Publications supported by the Foundation

(a) *Writing and Literacy in Early China*

Since 2006, the CCK-IUC has been a leading supporter of the Early China Seminar at Columbia University. This project's research has led to the publication of the volume *Writing and Literacy in Early China*. Edited by Feng Li and David Branner, this volume includes contributions from eleven respected scholars addressing the issue of the origins and social contexts of writing and the spread of literacy in early China, while also serving as a tribute to the study of Chinese civilization from the Early China Seminar. Its publication is further sponsored by the CCK-IUC. It is scheduled to be released by the University of Washington Press in the spring of 2011.

(b) *The History and Study of Modern Chinese Fiction: Essays in Honor of Professor C.T. Hsia*

Under the editorship of David Der-wei Wang, *The History and Study of Modern Chinese Fiction* collects more than twenty-six essays from current scholars and specialists in the field of Sinology from the U.S., Canada, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Mainland China. Each contribution addresses innovations and renovations in the field of modern Chinese literature in the wake of the pioneering work of Professor C.T. Hsia. Taking the achievements of Professor Hsia as a starting point, these selections challenge, reconfigure, and magnify his research, yielding new directions in the study of modern Chinese literature for the twenty-first century. This volume was published by Linking Books in Taiwan in 2010.

(c) *Global Chinese Literature: Critical Essays*

This path-breaking collection of critical essays introduces a diverse range of approaches to open up the field of modern Chinese literature to new cross-regional, local, and global analyses. Inspired by the "Globalizing Modern Chinese Literature" conference held at Harvard University and sponsored by the CCK-IUC in December 2007, the ten essays collected here deal with particular conceptual problems or examine case studies

of different locations and modalities of Chinese-language (or Sinophone) production. Co-edited by David Der-wei Wang and Jing Yuen Tsu, contributors include scholars from Asia, North America, Europe, and Southeast Asia. This volume was published by Brill in 2010.

(d) *Imperialism and Literature*

Collaboratively edited by scholars based in the U.S., Taiwan, and Japan, *Imperialism and Literature* collects twenty essays from academics across Asia dealing with a range of topics related to the cultural production of areas colonized by Japan in the first half of the twentieth century. Grouped into six sections addressing issues such as culture, East Asian political consciousness, literature in Manchuria and Taiwan, film, and theater, the essays gathered here break new ground in the study of the multifaceted effects of imperialism in East Asia. *Imperialism and Literature* was published by Kenbun Publishing in Japan in 2010.

E. Other Activities

On October 23, 2010, scholars, friends, and dignitaries gathered in New York to celebrate the 90th birthday of Professor C.T. Hsia. Professor Hsia, the preeminent critic of modern Chinese literature and Emeritus Professor of Chinese at Columbia University, was honored at a reception by his former students and colleagues. Professor Hsia received special commendations from Ambassador Chen-chun Kao, Secretary-General of the Taiwan Economic and Cultural Organization in New York, and Ms. Mary Hsu, Director of the New York Taipei Cultural Center, including a congratulatory piece of calligraphy from President Ying-jeou Ma.



Professor C.T. Hsia receiving President Ma Ying-Jeou's calligraphic work from Ambassador Kao Chen-chun on October 23, 2010, in New York

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

The Board of Directors approved the establishment of the Asia-Pacific Centre for Chinese Studies (CCK-APC) in December 2005. Professor Billy So served as the Center's Director until his retirement in February 2011, when Professor David Faure succeeded him. 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 originally had an annual budget of US\$135,000, of which \$120,000 came from the Foundation and \$15,000 from The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Owing

to the importance of this Centre in the field of Sinology in the Asia-Pacific area, the former Chancellor of CUHK, Professor Lawrence J. Lau, submitted a five year (2010-2014) proposal last year, according to which the Foundation will grant the Centre \$75,000 every year, with the same amount of matching funds being provided by CUHK. The following activities took place in 2010-1011.

A. Accomplishments

(a) The Seventh Annual Graduate Seminar on China

In view of the success of the Graduate Seminars on China (GSOC) held annually during the past four years, the CCK-APC continued to allot a sum of HK\$250,000 to sponsor the Seventh GSOC, which aimed at promoting research on contemporary China, encouraging national and international exchanges among scholars of Chinese Studies and broadening the perspectives of junior researchers. This year's GSOC lasted for four days (January 5-8, 2011). A total of fifty Ph.D. candidates from various institutions in China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macau and other overseas countries attended.

(b) Focus Area Project – Language and Society Symposium on History and the Present Situation of Written Chinese

Organized by the Department of Chinese Language and Literature CUHK, and co-organized with the CCK-APC, the Symposium was an activity under the Focus Area Project – Language and Society. It was held on May 7-8, 2011 at the Y.C. Liang Hall, CUHK. A total of twenty scholars from the U.S., Germany, Norway, Mainland China, Taiwan and Hong Kong were invited, including Professor Lening Liu of Columbia University, Professor Barbara Meisterernst of Humboldt-University Berlin, Professor Christoph Harbsmeier of the University of Oslo, Professor Pingyuan Chen of Peking University, and Professor Dylan Wei-tien Tsai of National Tsing Hua University. Participants provided in-depth discussions on the function, essence and past, and present and future of written Chinese grammar from different aspects including the history and current situation of Chinese grammar, literature, language teaching, and second language teaching.

(c) Focus Area Project – Research Centre for Ming-Qing Studies

Since its establishment in 2009, the Research Centre for Ming-Qing Studies has organized a variety of events with support from the CCK-APC. There have been seminars, luncheons, informal sessions, exhibitions and so on. An international conference on New Horizons in Ming-Qing Studies was held on December 13-14, 2010, with partial sponsorship from the budget for 2011. In order to enhance academic exchanges, scholars from China, Taiwan, Japan, Singapore, the U.S., and Hong Kong were invited.

(d) Focus Area Project – Regional History and Heritage

Supported by the CCK-APC, the Focus Area Project – Regional History and Heritage



Scholars gather at the “First Symposium on New Perspectives on Traditional Chinese Law and Legal Culture”, a conference sponsored by the CCK-APC

has organized a series of activities in 2011, including lectures held approximately every two weeks during term and workshops led by research team members. Workshops which have already been held this year include the “Conference on ‘Bazi Society,’ Local Society and Culture in the Yunnan-Guizhou Highland” in January, as well as “The Comparative Ethnography of Local Daoist Ritual” and “Religion, History and Documents in the Meishan Area in Middle Hunan” (both in April). In order to fully promote academic exchanges in the field of regional history and heritage, a workshop has been planned on Jiangxi local society and history, to be held at Jiangxi Normal University in May.

(e) Focus Area Project – Law and Society

In view of the success of the First Symposium on New Perspectives on Traditional Chinese Law and Legal Culture, the Focus Area Project – Law and Society will continue to collaborate with other research units at CUHK and other academic institutions in organizing the Second Symposium. Eminent scholars from Mainland China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan and Hong Kong will be invited to this two-day event, with a collection of papers in Chinese to be published.

(f) The Barometer of China’s Development: Potential for Research in China Studies

Organized by the Universities Service Centre for China Studies (USC) and the CUHK, in cooperation with the CCK-APC, this conference was held on May 27-29, 2011 at the Tin Ka Ping Building, CUHK. A total of twenty-seven eminent scholars from U.S., Canada, Mainland China, and Hong Kong were invited to this three-day conference,



Attendees of “The Republic of China’s Urban and Cultural Changes (1910-1940): A Study of Cultural Discourses and Historical GIS Research Dialogue”, a conference sponsored by the CCK-APC

including Professor Deborah Davis of Yale University, Professor Weili Ding of Queen’s University, Professor Gang Cheng of Beijing Normal University, and Professor Shao-guang Wang of The Chinese University of Hong Kong. The conference was divided into five discussion sessions.

(g) Focus Area Project – Digital China Research

On September 18-20, 2010, the Institute of Chinese Studies CUHK held an international academic conference entitled “The Republic of China’s Urban and Cultural Changes (1910-1940): A Study of Cultural Discourses and Historical GIS Research Dialogue.” This conference was organized by the Department of History at CUHK and the Chinese Research Center of Oxford University, and jointly organized by The Chinese University of Hong Kong, East Asian Studies Center, and the Asia-Pacific Centre for Chinese Studies. The conference attracted more than fifty well-known scholars from the United Kingdom, U.S., Japan, Australia, France, Singapore, the Netherlands, Taiwan, Mainland China and Hong Kong. The participants divided into eleven groups according to six research topics for discussion, namely: Governance and the Order of Space in the City, The Urban Culture of the Market Economy, GIS and the Spatial Approach to Urban Culture, The City and the Body, Calamity and City, and Spirituality and the Identity of the City.

The final Forum of the seminar, on the theme of “cultural discourses and historical study of Geographic Information System,” was chaired by Professor Rana Mitter, Centre for Chinese Studies of Oxford University and Professor Billy So, Department of History at CUHK. The seminar was intended to promote interdisciplinary research at home and abroad, and to promote academic exchanges between scholars. Conference proceedings were assembled into three sets: two of them in English were edited by Professor Billy So, Professor Harriet Zurndorfer, and Professor Madeleine Zelin, while

the Chinese version was edited by Professor Billy So. Another set of papers will be published in the *Annals of GIS* journal as a special edition issued by Professor Billy So and Professor David W. Wong.

B. Personnel Matters

- (a) Professor Billy So (former Professor of History, CUHK) retired in February 2011, thereby completing his term as the Director of the CCK-APC. Professor David Faure (Professor, Department of History, CUHK) succeeded Professor So as the new Director.
- (b) Professor Angela Leung (former Professor of History, CUHK) and Professor Samuel Cheung (former Professor of Chinese Language and Literature, CUHK) resigned from CUHK at the end of 2010, thereby completing their terms as members of the CCK-APC Steering Committee. Professor Hua Wei (Professor, Department of Chinese Language and Literature, CUHK; Director, Research Centre for Ming-Qing Studies) succeeded them as a member of the Steering Committee.
- (c) Professor Angela Leung also completed her term as the PI of the Focus Area Project - Language and Society. Professor Shengli Feng (Professor, Department of Chinese Language & Literature, CUHK) succeeded Professor Leung as the new PI.
- (d) Professor Samuel Cheung also completed his term as the PI of the Focus Area Project - Digital Chinese Studies. Professor Mu-chou Poo (Professor, Department of History, CUHK) succeeded Professor Cheung as the new PI.

3. Grant Activities in the Four Regions

The Foundation’s funding programs can be grouped into two broad categories: grants and fellowships. Grants provide assistance to academic institutions and individual professors, while fellowships subsidize doctoral students and postdoctoral researchers.

The Foundation received 197 grant applications in 2010-2011. Of these, 114 came from the American Region, 32 from the European Region, 17 from the Domestic Region, and 34 from the Asia-Pacific Region (including Hong Kong and Macau). The total amount requested was US\$7,584,747. Because of the time-sensitive nature of applications for conferences, publications, and travel grants, applications in those categories have two submission deadlines per year. All other categories have one yearly deadline. To ensure fair and objective treatment of each proposal, all applications are first evaluated by individual reviewers and then reassessed by the regional review committees in a two-tier process. The results of these evaluations are then ranked by priority before the review committees present them to the Board of Directors for final approval.

This year, the four review committees submitted 65 grant applications for the Board’s approval. During the first round of applications, the Board approved 13 grants. Seven proposals were approved in the American Region, including two Conference Grants and five Publication Subsidies