



ISCWP

国际中西哲学比较研究学会

International Society for Comparative Studies of
Chinese and Western Philosophy

From the editor

Greetings fellow members of ISCWP. Contained within this issue are announcements and summaries of a number of newsworthy events with which the Society is associated. As you will see, ISCWP has become a major sponsor of comparative philosophy worldwide. We welcome your continued support and participation (to this end, please see the end of this newsletter for information on dues and donations). This and past newsletters are available on our web site at the following address:

www.iscwp.org/news.html

Any inquiries or feedback regarding this issue are welcome. Please send them to Sarah Mattice:
<mailto:s.mattice@unf.edu>

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A Letter from the President of the ISCWP

In my first “Letter from the President,” I have said that ISCWP has become an increasingly important force since its founding in 2002. Our strong presence at the American Philosophical Association (APA) has been maintained through excellent panels at both Eastern and Pacific Division meetings. In addition, the “Beijing Roundtable” has been held every year since 2005, and four international conferences have been held since 2004, with three excellent edited volumes following the meetings. Throughout these events, we have successfully engaged in fruitful dialogues between Chinese philosophy and analytic philosophy. It seems to me that we might want to expand it to conversations between Chinese philosophy and continental philosophy, as well as the history of philosophy, and other traditions and disciplines in the humanities in general.

I am happy to report that we are making good progress with this initiative. At the APA Pacific Division Meeting in April 2015, we had one panel on Chinese philosophy and continental philosophy, with excellent papers dealing with topics such as Sima Guang and Cornelius Castoriadis; Sartre, care ethics, and Confucianism; and Confucius and Josiah Royce. For the coming Eastern Division Meeting in January 2016, we will have two panels devoted to the Chinese and continental philosophy theme. I am very impressed by the wide range of topics in these two panels: Max Scheler and Confucius; Zhuangzi and Nietzsche; Kant and Zhuangzi; Frankfurt School and Confucianism; and the *Yijing* and Ernst Cassirer’s philosophy of symbolic forms.

Although I use the terms “analytic philosophy” and “continental philosophy” here, I am using them with some reluctance. Bernard Williams

once had the following equation posted on his office door at UC Berkeley: “Post-Analytic Philosophy = Post-Continental Philosophy.” If we read this as a description, it might have been too optimistic. I think Williams intended it to be read as a thick slogan, aiming to guide and inspire actions. Indeed, I believe the divide between analytic and continental philosophy is both real and bridgeable, especially in our increasingly global and pluralistic age. I believe Chinese philosophy – and comparative philosophy in general – can help us bridge the divide, and your contributions indeed have resonances and significances beyond the field of Chinese philosophy.

With best regards,

Yang Xiao

Kenyon College

**REPORT:****Beijing Roundtable on Contemporary
Philosophy 2015****2015年“北京當代哲學國際圓
桌學術研討會”****“Philosophy of Language, Chinese
Language, and Chinese Philosophy
Further Engagement”****“語言哲學、漢語、中國哲學”**

The 2015 “Beijing Roundtable” is a small half-day workshop, held at Capital Normal University (首都師範大學), Beijing, China, on 25th July 2015 afternoon, whose format is quite informal for the sake of effective critical discussion of some interesting engaging topics on the theme. It is essentially a follow-up critical discussion to the Wuhan conference two years ago (2013 Beijing Roundtable). It is a self-supported event in the same spirit of the past Beijing Roundtable events emphasizing effective critical discussion with less academically-irrelevant-thing involvement. It focuses on two closely related issues: (1) on the one hand, how reflective elaboration of some features of Chinese language and some philosophically interesting insights concerning the relation between language, thought and reality, and they can contribute to our understanding and treatment of some fundamental issues in philosophy of language; (2) on the other hand, how relevant resources in contemporary philosophy of language can contribute to our philosophical elaborations of interesting issues concerning Chinese language and our treatment of some insights in Chinese philosophy on the relation between language, thought and reality. The speakers includes the

following colleagues: LIU, Yi (劉益 China West Normal University): “Zen Master’s ‘A is A’ and Heidegger’s ‘A is A’ ”, MEI, Jianhua (梅建華 Capital Normal University) “The Theory of Reference and Empirical Data”; MOU, Bo (牟博 San Jose State University): “An Expanded Collective-Name Hypothesis Concerning Semantic-Syntactic Structure of Common Nouns: How the Reference of Common Nouns is Possible”; ZHOU, Yuncheng (周允程 Tsinghua University) “Inference and Understanding”. The discussants include YE, Chuang (葉闌 Peking University) and ZHU, Qinghua (朱清華 Capital Normal University); all the speakers were each other’s discussants making critical commentary. With the presentation paper drafts sent to all the core participants well in advance for warming-up reading, we had a very effective, thought-provoking critical discussion on scene; the discussion continued in the subsequent get-together dinner held in the restaurant co-owned by Prof. Mei while enjoying tasting his recommended dishes.

Reported by Bo Mou (August 2015)



ISCWP PANELS AT
APA EASTERN DIVISION MEETING 2016
(Washington D.C. January 6-9th)

Panel 1: Searching for the Source of Morality in
Chinese and Western Philosophy

Chair: Sarah Mattice

Angel OK Ting, “The Genealogy of Morals in the
Zhuangzi”

Sai-lok NAM, “Person and Collective Person:
Dialogue between Max Scheler and Confucius”

Sai Hang KWOK, “Ming and the Other: Rethinking
the Source of Responsibility in Early
Confucianism”

Zhang Rongkun, “Death and Rebirth of
'Morality'—from the Perspective of Zhuangzi and
Nietzsche's Philosophy on Human Nature”

Panel 2: Continental Philosophy and Chinese
Philosophy: Comparative Perspectives

Chair: William Hohenberger

Aaron Creller, “De-Orienting Comparative
Philosophy: Approaching the 'West' From China”

Shuchen Xiang, “The Nature of Chinese
Aesthetics: An Interpretative Analysis of The
Yijing and Ernst Cassirer's Philosophy of Symbolic
Forms”

Lubomir Dunaj, “Social Freedom and the idea of
well-ordered society by Frankfurt School and
Confucianism”

Joanna Guzowska, “The Aesthetic in Kant and
Zhuangzi”

Call for Papers or Panels
APA PACIFIC DIVISION 2016

The ISCWP plans to sponsor one or two panels at the 2016 APA Pacific Meeting, which will take place in San Francisco, March 30-April 2, 2016. We would like to encourage submissions of proposals of individual papers and panels. We encourage papers or panels that promote in-depth engagement between Chinese and Western philosophy.

For the 2016 APA Pacific Meeting, we would especially like to encourage submissions on the following themes: the methodology of doing comparative philosophy; Chinese philosophy and continental philosophy; Chinese philosophy and the history of philosophy; Chinese philosophy and other humanities and social sciences disciplines (such as women and gender studies, anthropology, religious studies, and literature). **Eligibility:** We continue to welcome non-ISCWP members to propose papers to be included on an ISCWP-sponsored panel, or even propose a panel that is related to the ISCWP's aims, so please feel free to send this notice to philosophers who might be interested even if they are not ISCWP members yet. Please send all submissions by **Sept. 15th, 2015** to: guoxiang.peng@gmail.com

1. To submit a paper proposal, please provide a 250-300 word abstract. The abstract needs to include the presenter's name, institutional affiliation, paper title, and email address.
 2. To submit a panel proposal, please provide an overall abstract of the panel topic of 250-300 words, including due justification. It must include the following for each chair, speaker, and commentator on your panel: Name, Affiliation, email, paper title, and abstract.
 3. You may submit a partial panel proposal – the earlier the better - and ask for help in filling it out. We may help build panels based on partial panel proposals received early in the process. We may help you build panels based on partial panel proposals received early in the process.
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Membership Updates Summer 2015:

Yang Xiao, Kenyon College. My essay “Virtue Ethics as Political Philosophy: The Structure of Ethical Theory in Early Chinese Philosophy”, included in *Routledge Companion to Virtue Ethics* (ed. Michael Slote and Lorraine Besser-Jones), has come out in March 2015. I am currently working on an edited volume, *Dao Companion to the Philosophy of Mencius*, which I expect to be published next year.

Mathew A. Foust, Central Connecticut State University. My research has continued to focus on comparative connections between Confucianism and American Transcendentalism and Pragmatism. I have presented related papers in this area at the International Conference on Asian Studies, University of Scranton (March 2015) and the American Philosophical Association-Pacific Division meeting in Vancouver (April 2015). I published the article, “Confucianism and American Pragmatism” (*Philosophy Compass*, June 2015), supplemented by a Teaching and Learning Guide.

Leigh Jenco's book *Changing Referents: Learning Across Space and Time in China and the West* will be out in September from Oxford. It examines a series of Chinese debates dating from 1860-1927 about what and how to learn from the West. The book then “reverse-engineers” their ideas to throw light on contemporary methodologies of cross-cultural interpretation, including those found in comparative and postcolonial scholarship.

Howard J. Curzer, Texas Tech University. My review of *Ethics in Early China: An Anthology* ed. by C. Fraser, D. Robins, and T. O’Leary has just appeared in *China Review International*, vol. 19 (2012), 590-596.

In 2014, **Guoxiang Peng** officially moved to Zhejiang University for his new position as Qiu Shi Distinguished professor while still honorably serve as the director of Center for Cultural China Studies, Institute for Advanced Humanistic Studies of Peking University. In June-August 2014, he went to Goethe University Frankfurt to conduct the research on “Confucianism

and Social Critical Theory” supported by the Awardee Renew Stay Program of Humboldt Foundation. In 2015, three books are forthcoming. The first is an enlarged and revised version of his *The Unfolding of the Learning of the Innate Goodness: Wang Longxi and the Learning of Wang Yangming in Mid-late Ming* by Beijing Sanlian Shudian 北京三聯書店 (traditional Chinese version was published in 2003 and simplified Chinese version was published in 2005). The second is the simplified Chinese version of *Revision and New Discovery: Historical Study of Pre-Modern Confucianism from Northern Song till Early Qing Dynasty*, which is publishing by Zhonghua Shuju 中華書局 (the traditional Chinese version of this book was published in Taiwan in 2013). The third one is *This-worldly Concern of a Contemporary Confucian Philosopher: The Political and Social Thought of Mou Zongsan*, which, as the first comprehensive and thorough monograph on the political and social thought of Mou Zongsan, is publishing by Linking Publishing 聯經出版公司在 Taiwan.

Steven Angle, Wesleyan University. One of my main projects over the past academic year has been helping to establish a new academic unit at my university, called the College of East Asian Studies. CEAS is an interdisciplinary department focused on East Asian languages, humanities, and social science; see <http://www.wesleyan.edu/ceas>. In terms of scholarship, I published the following in recent months:

- “美国儒学：在传统与普世价值之间 [American Confucianism: Between Tradition and Universal Values],” in 《傳統与启蒙：中西比较的视野》 [Tradition and Enlightenment: East-West Comparative Perspectives] (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences Press)
- “Virtue Ethics, The Rule of Law, and the Need for Self-Restriction,” in Brian Bruya, ed., *The Philosophical Challenge from China* (MIT Press)
- “World Virtue Ethics,” in Lorraine Besser-Jones and Michael Slote, eds., *The Routledge Companion to Virtue Ethics* (Routledge)

Review of *The Confucian Philosophy of Harmony* by Chenyang Li, in *Frontiers of Philosophy in China*.



Sarah Mattice, University of North Florida. This spring and summer I continued work on several projects:

“The *De* of Levinas: Cultivating the Heart-Mind of Radical Passivity,” co-authored with Leah Kalmanson, *Frontiers of Philosophy in China* 1(2015).

“Daoist Aesthetics of the Everyday and the Fantastical” in *The End of Art and the Promise of Beauty: Cross-Cultural Perspectives*, ed. Kathleen Higgins, Shakti Maira, and Sonia Sikka, Springer Press (Forthcoming 2015).

“Methodological Inspiration for Teaching Chinese Philosophy” in *Chinese Philosophy and Methodologies*, ed. Sor-hoon Tan, Bloomsbury Press (Forthcoming 2015).

“Perspectives from China: Social Media and Living Well in a Chinese Context,” in *Social Media and The Good Life*. Edited by Mitch Haney and Berrin Beasley. Lexington Press, 2015.

“‘Interrogating’ Comparative Philosophy: The Prevalence of the Combat Metaphor” in *Conflict and Harmony in Comparative Philosophy*, Edited by Aaron Creller. Cambridge Scholars Press (Forthcoming 2015).

I have also been active with our Department’s initiative with Philosophy for Children, and continue to serve as the President of the Society for Teaching Comparative Philosophy. The STCP had our second annual workshop July 23-25th at Drake University.



Dues and Donations



ISCWP's dues are voluntary but much needed. The suggested contribution is \$20 for regular members and \$5 for student members. Larger contributions are welcome. Regular contributions of dues are crucial if we are to maintain the impressive momentum the Society has built heretofore.

As you can see from the events reported in this newsletter, the Society has managed to use its modest budget to great effect, having sponsored some of the most high-profile events in comparative philosophy.

The Society stands out in having cross-regional philosophical exchange as its basic mission, and in pursuing this with great success.

If you wish to support this distinctive mission we hope you will contribute. Donations from academic centers and foundations are also welcome.

We offer two ways of contributing dues:

By check

Please make your check payable to ISCWP and send it to the following address:

Prof. Sarah Mattice
Department of Philosophy
University of North Florida
1 UNF Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32224 USA

On-line (preferred)

For the convenience of our members, we have established a Paypal account, which enables members to contribute dues by credit card. To use this method, please go to the Member page of ISCWP's website and click on the appropriate button.

Link for Dues and Donations: [ISCWP Member Page](#)

Many thanks,
Sarah Mattice
Secretary-Treasurer



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