



国际中西哲学比较研究会

International Society for Comparative Studies of Chinese and Western Philosophy

Newsletter

Volume 5, Issue 1, July 2007

From the Editor

Dear all,

Welcome to ISCWP Newsletter, a publication reporting to our all members about the conferences, symposiums, conference panels, and other activities and events related to comparative philosophy happened during January to July of 2007. We would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks to all members for your active participation and multiple supports to our society. In this issue, five sections are included, and the inserted pictures are just for relaxing your eyes. The Newsletter is also put on the ISCWP web site, so you may directly visit our home page to read this issue. For reading the current issue and past issues, please visit our web site <http://sangle.web.wesleyan.edu/iscwp/news.html>. Feedback on this issue, please contact the editor of the current issue , Derong Chen by e-mail at drchen@whu.edu.cn

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Call for Papers

**The 3rd ISCWP International
"Constructive Engagement"
Conference: The Methodology of
Comparative Philosophy**

Zhang Xianglong

Conference: June 6-9, 2008

(Conference Site: either in the Peking University, Beijing, China or in Wuhan University, Wuhan, China; the final decision will be made by January 1, 2008 or earlier)

Call for Papers: June, 2007

Sponsors:

International Society for Comparative Studies of Chinese and Western Philosophy (ISCWP); The Department of Philosophy at Peking University; The Institute of Foreign Philosophy at Peking University.

Working Languages: English, Chinese.

Theme:

Comparative philosophy has recently been developing in

diverse and challenging ways – perhaps more so than other comparative disciplines such as comparative linguistics, comparative literature, or comparative religion.

Comparative philosophy is a very promising and dynamic approach to doing philosophy, but there is still much room for it to mature further. One important reason for this may be found in the methodologies of comparative philosophy. Because such methodologies are closely related to philosophical thinking itself, we meet serious difficulties in overcoming heterogeneities of languages, cultures, and the ways of thinking. Thus at least initially, a dissertation dealing with either Confucius or Aristotle appears to have more possibilities for success than one dealing simultaneously with both thinkers. However, not only have there been significant comparative efforts in philosophy – such as the introduction of Buddhism into China or the cases of Leibniz and Heidegger – but also a

new trend of globalization demands such efforts. We need to inquire therefore, on both a theoretical level and via case analyses, into what methodological inefficiencies may have hindered us from achieving more in comparative philosophy? Why did some comparative efforts become so fruitful? What can we learn from other comparative approaches? Etc.

The following are some possible issues (only for your reference):

- What approaches to the comparability between Chinese and Western philosophy are most constructive?
- Comparative studies and creative thinking in philosophy. How should we think about the relation between doing comparative philosophy and simply doing philosophy?
- Methodological lessons learned from cross-cultural translations.
- Reflection on the methodologies of previous work in

comparative philosophy; possibly including those employed in the ISCWP's two previous major projects concerning Chinese and Western philosophy (i.e., "Davidson's Philosophy and Chinese Philosophy" and "Searle's Philosophy and Chinese Philosophy").

- How can we constructively look at the relation between distinct orientations, focuses, and methodological approaches in comparative philosophy?
- Comparisons between comparative philosophy and other comparative approaches to human knowledge.

Submission of Papers:

Papers (in either English or Chinese, together with abstracts) for consideration may be submitted electronically (as a MS Word attachment) to: Xianglong Zhang:

xlzhang@phil.pku.edu.cn, or

Steve Angle:

sangle@wesleyan.edu, or

Derong Chen:

drchen@whu.edu.cn.

All submitted papers will be judged by the review team. Submitted papers should be approximately 3000 words (10-12 pages), to be presented comfortably in about 30 minutes; their abstracts will be less than 150 words. The

The 2007 Term of ISCWP's "Beijing Roundtable on Contemporary Philosophy"

The 2007 term of ISCWP's "Beijing Roundtable on Contemporary Philosophy" on the theme "Translation, Interpretation, and Cross-Tradition Understanding" has been successfully held at Peking University on 8th June 2007. The 2007 term of "Beijing Roundtable" is an informal half-day workshop focusing on one foundational front in comparative engagement

deadline for submission for consideration is **January 15, 2008**. Notifications of the acceptance decision will be sent out no later than March 15, 2008. If the paper is accepted, the deadline for final version is **May 10, 2008**.

between distinct approaches in philosophical inquiry. This workshop is intended to provide a critical discussion forum for a number of papers that are to present some original ideas on the theme with their careful justifications. The four speakers together with the topics of their talks at the workshop are these:

Speaker 1:

ZHANG, Xianglong 张祥龙
(Peking University, China)

Topic: "On Translatibility of Chinese and Western Philosophical Writings"

(“中西哲理文字的可译性”)

Speaker 2:

HAN, Linhe 韩 林 合
(Peking University, China)

Topic: “On Effability of
Alleged Ineffability”

(“论 所 谓 不 可 言 说
性 可 言 说 性 ”)

Speaker 3:

YE, Chuang 叶 闯 (Peking
University, China)

Topic: “On Synonymy in
Radical Interpretation”

(“论 彻 底 解 同 ”)

Speaker 4:

MOU, Bo 牟 博 San Jose
State University, USA)

Topic: “A Thick-object-based
Double reference Account of
How Cross contextual

Understanding and

Interpretation is Possible: In

View of Gongsun Long’s and

Quine’s Cases”

(“一 个 关 于 跨 语 境
理 解 和 解 释 如 何 可
能 的”)

对 象 -双 重 指 称 理
论 :兼 论 公 孙 龙 与 蒯
因 的 难 题”)

At the workshop there were
very good critical discussions of
the presented papers. The
workshop was well attended.



A Painting of Red Cliff (Section)

By Wu YuanZhi (1100 ad)

(Source: <http://www.chinapage.com/red-cliff.html>)



Bada Shanren (1624-1705)

八大山人

(<http://www.chinapage.com/painting/pata04.html>)

Report on panels at the APA Conference Pacific Division

ISCWP successfully organized two panels for the APA Conference Pacific Division, the

first panel focuses on the issue “How Predication Is Possible: From a Comparative Point of View,” which was scheduled on April 4, 6:00-8:00 pm, and the second one, “Chinese Aesthetics and Metaphysics in Comparative Perspective” was scheduled on April 7 afternoon 6:00-9:00, 2007. At the first panel, Dr. Bo Mou, Dr. Marshall Willman presented their papers, and Dr. Carl Flygt served as the chair and Dr. A.P. Marinich respectively served as the chair and commentator of the panel. At the second panel, Dr. Derong Chen, Mr. Chong Ming Lin, and Chan Lee presented their papers. Dr. Yang Xiao served as chair and Dr. Mark Brasher served as commentator for the panel. At both panels, participants and presenters conducted wide and deep discussion. For details about these two panels, please read the followings:

Wednesday Evening, April 4,
2007

Group Session GI — 6:00-8:00
p.m.

GI-A. International Society for
Comparative Studies of
Chinese and Western
Philosophy, Session 1
6:00-8:00 p.m.

Topic: How Predication Is

Possible: From a Comparative Point of View
Chair: Carl Flygt (San Jose State University)
Speakers: Bo Mou (San Jose State University)
“A Subject-Comment Account of How Predication is Possible”
Marshall Willman (University of Iowa)
“Logical Form and Predication from a Comparative Point of View”
Commentator: A. P. Martinich (University of Texas–Austin)

April 7, 2007
GIX-C. International Society for Comparative Studies of Chinese and Western Philosophy, Session 2
6:00-9:00 p.m.
Topic: Chinese Aesthetics and Metaphysics in Comparative Perspective
Chair: Yang Xiao (Kenyon College)
Speakers: Derong Chen (Wuhan University)
“Metaphor and Abstractness: Metaphysical Terms in Chinese and Western Philosophy”
Chong Ming Lin (LCM Research)
“The Influence of the Chinese Character on the Movie Montage”
Chan Lee (University of Hawaii–Manoa)
“Zhu Xi on Ontological

Reflection of Self-Cultivation”
Commentator: Mark Brasher (TransPacific Hawaii College)

Update Your Personal Information (Reissuing)

Dear members,

When we update the list of members, in addition to updating your contact information, we intend to add on Chinese names for those who have Chinese names. This new item will help our members to contact and communicate with each other more effectively, and it will help our members and readers to access our members' publications, since many of our members publish Chinese books and articles. Thus, if you would like to allow us to add your Chinese names on the list, or if your contact information has been changed, contact to Professor Chen Derong at drchen@whu.edu.cn. If you have already sent your Chinese name to Derong Chen, please ignore this message.

Thanks for your cooperation!

Derong CHEN

Secretary, ISCWP

Voluntary Donations

As you probably know, our society does not impose mandatory membership fees. However, we do have some expenditures associated with our academic activities. Therefore we are hoping that some members will dig into their pockets, not too deeply of course. Our voluntary annual membership fee is US\$10 for regular members and US\$5 for student members. If you chose to contribute, please make your check payable to ISCWP and

mail it to me in the following address:

Department of Philosophy
Wesleyan University
350 High Street
Middletown, CT 06459

Generous donations are always deeply appreciated, and each one will be acknowledged in writing as tax-deductible.

Thank you very much,

Stephen Angle

Vice-President and Treasurer