



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. This issue features a letter from our new President, updates from the society's members on their various activities, and summaries of recent conference panels sponsored by the society.

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:

<http://www.iscwp.org>

Any inquiries or feedback regarding this issue are welcome. Please send them to Mathew Foust:
foust@ccsu.edu

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Letter from the President

I am honored to succeed the presidency of the ISCWP. Under the leadership of my predecessors, the ISCWP has increasingly played an important role since its founding in 2002. I have been privileged to serve as Vice-President of the ISCWP for the last three years, working with Yang Xiao and Sarah Mattice. Now, I am also pleased to work with Alexis McLeod, our new Vice-President, and Mathew Foust, our new Secretary-Treasurer. I am confident that as a good team, we will try our best to work with all our members too for the further development of the ISCWP.

Most of the activities that the ISCWP has participated have taken place in the United States and most of the participants of the activities are our members and interested scholars in the in North America. On the other hand, in the Chinese-speaking world, our members are limited and there is still big room for the ISCWP to play a role. Since the fundamental goal of the ISCWP is to promote intellectual exchanges between the two great philosophical traditions, Chinese and Western, at present and in the near future, one of the most important things we should spare no effort to do, I think, is to create more and various opportunities for the realization of our goal.

Specifically, I hope a few things could be accomplished during my term of office. For example, more Chinese scholars who are interested in comparative studies of Chinese philosophy and Western philosophy could get to know the ISCWP, become our members and participate in our activities; a couple of conferences or workshops could be respectively held in China and the United States.

Last but not least, I hope all our members could continue to support the development of the ISCWP by all means.

With best wishes,

Guoxiang Peng
Qiushi Distinguished Professor
Zhejiang University



Member News and Updates

Stephen C. Angle, Wesleyan University

To begin with, I am very happy to report that the book Justin Tiwald and I have been working on for five years has now been published: *Neo-Confucianism: A Philosophical Introduction* (Polity, 2017). We also put together a website in conjunction with the book, which has information about using the book in teaching, the Chinese texts corresponding to every translated passage in the book, and various other things that might be helpful: neo-confucianism.com.

I spent most of academic year 2016-17 at Tsinghua University in Beijing as a Berggruen Research Scholar, which gave me many opportunities to engage with Chinese Confucians and scholars of Confucianism. Most of the initial fruits of those encounters will be published in Chinese over the next several months; I hope to have things to report in the next Newsletter. I am also planning on editing an issue of *Contemporary Chinese Thought* devoted to "Mainland New Confucianism."

For other published and forthcoming articles, please see the university site at which I archive my work (it is all freely available): <https://works.bepress.com/stephen-c-angle/>. Best wishes to all for the coming academic year!

Mathew Foust, Central Connecticut State University

My research has continued to focus on comparative connections between Confucianism and American Transcendentalism and Pragmatism. This

research has resulted in the publication of a monograph, *Confucianism and American Philosophy* (SUNY, 2017). I have also recently published a co-edited volume, with Sor-hoon Tan, *Feminist Encounters with Confucius* (Brill, 2016). Here at CCSU, I have been promoted to Associate Professor and am Co-Director of the International Studies Program. Finally, I would like to thank the ISCWP membership for recently electing me to the position of Secretary-Treasurer (2017-2020).

Kurtis Hagen, Independent Scholar

Though I no longer have a formal academic affiliation, I'm still working on projects related to Chinese philosophy, as well as other topics. My recent publications in Chinese philosophy are in the area of applied social/political Confucianism:

- (1) "Would Early Confucians Really Support Humanitarian Interventions?" in *Philosophy East and West* (July 2016).
- (2) "Project for a New Confucian Century" in *A Future Without Borders?: Theories and Practices of Cosmopolitan Peacebuilding* (Brill, 2016).

Youngmin Kim, Seoul National University

Much of my writing this year has been aimed toward completing a book that I have been writing in the last few years, to be called *A History of Chinese Political Thought* (Polity, 2017). It is a comprehensive overview of Chinese political thought from the earliest times up to the present day. I hope that this book helps to locate the complexity of Chinese political thought, and the hybrid roots from which it has grown. In writing this volume, I have tried to remember that we still need books for non-specialists who do not already have the kind of knowledge of



Chinese history and thought that established scholars assumed. Therefore, it may serve a textbook as well as a research monograph. Now I have good news about the book. It will be published around 10th November 2017 in the UK and 18th December 2017 in the US.

Sarah Mattice, University of North Florida

I would like to thank the ISCWP board and membership for my time as Secretary-Treasurer (2014-2017). This was a wonderful opportunity and I look forward to continuing as a member. This last year saw many big changes for me, including promotion to Associate Professor and becoming director of the Interdisciplinary Studies Program at UNF. My monograph, *Metaphor and Metaphilosophy: Philosophy as Combat, Play, and Aesthetic Experience*, was released in paperback this year (Lexington, 2017). I published an article titled "A Metaphorical Conversation: Gadamer and Zhuangzi on Textual Unity" in the *Journal of Chinese Philosophy* (Feb 2017), and had three book chapters published: "Daoist Aesthetics of the Everyday and the Fantastical" in *Artistic Visions and the Promise of Beauty*, ed. Higgins, Maira, and Sikka (Springer, 2017); "Methodological Inspiration for Teaching Chinese Philosophy", in *Chinese Philosophy and Methodologies*, ed. Tan (Bloomsbury, 2016); and "Confucian Role Ethics in the 21st Century: Domestic Violence, Same-sex Marriage, and Christian Family Values", in *Feminist Encounters with Confucius*, ed. Foust and Tan (Brill, 2016).

My current research has two main directions: Chinese Buddhism (specifically the *Heart Sutra* in an East Asian context) and women in the history of Chinese and Japanese philosophies.

Justin Tiwald, San Francisco State University

Stephen Angle and I have, at long last, published our book *Neo-Confucianism: A Philosophical Introduction* (2017), the fruit of many years of research and collaboration. Although the book is an introduction, of necessity we had to conduct a great deal of original research to fill in longstanding gaps in the history and defend some novel interpretations of Confucian thinkers from the Song to the Qing. Another work that is the product of wide-ranging historical research is "Xunzi Among the Chinese Neo-Confucians" (*Dao Companion to the Philosophy of Xunzi*, Eric Hutton, ed., 2016). I have also published a piece on the intriguing view—articulated in the *Analects*—that governing people by cultivating a sense of shame in them is preferable to governing by coercion and punishment. That essay is entitled "Punishment and Autonomous Shame in Confucian Thought" (*Criminal Justice Ethics*, 2017). I am currently at work on the *Oxford Handbook of Chinese Philosophy* (to be published in 2018) and a book on well-being and virtue that focuses in particular on the 18th century Confucian philosopher Dai Zhen 戴震 (1724-1777).

Bryan Van Norden, Vassar College

In May of 2016, Jay Garfield and Bryan Van Norden wrote a piece for "The Stone," the philosophy column of the *The New York Times*, criticizing US philosophy departments for failing to teach Chinese, Indian, and other traditions outside the Anglo-European mainstream ("If Philosophy Won't Diversify, Let's Call It What It Really Is" (nytimes.com)). The piece sparked considerable controversy, and led to the publication of a book developing related themes: Bryan Van Norden, *Taking Back Philosophy: A Multicultural Manifesto*, with a Foreword by Jay Garfield (Columbia University Press, 2017). Also in 2016, Van Norden won the American Philosophical Association Public Philosophy Op-Ed Prize for his essay "Confucius on Gay Marriage" (the diplomat.com). Van Norden has recently written a number of other popular



pieces, including "Why the US Doesn't Understand Chinese Thought--And Must" (theconversation.com) and "The Influential Chinese Philosopher You've Never Heard Of" (aeon.co). He has also been interviewed about Chinese philosophy for the syndicated radio show Top of Mind with Julie Rose (www.byuradio.org). For the next two years, Van Norden will be the Kwon Im Thong Hood Cho Temple Visiting Professor at Yale-NUS College (Singapore), and also has a courtesy appointment to supervise graduate students in the philosophy department at the National University of Singapore.



ISCWP PANELS AT THE 113th ANNUAL
APA EASTERN DIVISION MEETING
BALTIMORE, MD, JAN 4-JAN 7, 2017

Session 1: Thu Jan 5, 7:30pm-10:30pm

When Chinese Philosophy Meets Continental Philosophy

Chair:

Guoxiang Peng (Zhejiang University)

Speakers:

Kathleen Wright (Haverford College) "Three Ways of Learning from Chinese Philosophy"

Paul Boshears (Georgia State University) "Physiocracy, Laissez-Faire, Wuwei: Our Chinese Dispositif"

Eric Nelson (Hong Kong University of Science and Technology)

"The Problem of Life in China and Europe: Zhang Junmai's Encounter with German Philosophy"

Commentators:

Sarah Mattice (University of North Florida)

Joseph Harroff (University of Hawaii)

Jin Y. Park (American University)

Session 2: Fri Jan 6, 7:00pm-10:00pm

Moral Psychology in Early Chinese Philosophy

Chair: **Yang Xiao** (Kenyon College)

Speakers:

Colin Lewis (University of Utah) "Ritual Education and Moral Development: A Comparison of Xunzi and Vygotsky"

Bongrae Seok (Alvernia University) "Xunzi's Epistemological and Moral Psychological Theory of Xin 心: Xin as a Meta-Faculty"

Dobin Choi (Towson University) "The Heart of Compassion: Mengzi 2A6 Revisited"

Joseph Harroff (University of Hawaii) "Thinking Through Shendu 慎獨: A Confucian Ethic of Care for the Self as a Practice of Freedom"



ISCWP PANELS AT THE 91st ANNUAL
APA PACIFIC DIVISION MEETING
SEATTLE, WA, APR 12-APR 15, 2017

Session 1: Wed Apr 12, 6:00pm-8:00pm
*Interventions in Early Chinese Philosophy:
Daoism and Confucianism*

Chair: **Stephen C. Angle** (Wesleyan University)

Speakers:

Andrej Feč (Southern University of Science and Technology) “‘Naturalness’ and Gravitation”

John R. Williams (National University of Singapore) “A Zhuangzian Response to the Absolutist Challenge”

Shirong Luo (Simmons College) “Were the Early Confucians Happy?”

Colin Lewis (University of Utah) “*Yu in the Xunzi: Toward a Precise Understanding*”

Session 2: Sat Apr 15, 8:00pm-10:00pm
Adventures in Chinese Realism: Past and Present

Chair: **Henrique Schneider** (City University of Hong Kong)

Speakers:

Jeremy Huang (National University of Singapore) “Applying Hanfei’s Critique of Confucianism to Contemporary Confucian Meritocracy”

Eirik Lang Harris (City University of Hong Kong) “Han Fei and Corporate Ethics”

Gordon B. Mower (Brigham Young University) “Han Feizi and the Presidential Bubble”

Ping-cheung Lo (Hong Kong Baptist University) “Hanfeizi, Realism, and Contemporary International Relations Theories”

The ISCWP will continue to sponsor panels at the 2018 APA Meetings. Calls for Papers and additional announcements will be sent to members by email and posted on the website.

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 Society’s impressive momentum. As you can see from the events reported in this and other newsletters, 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:

Online (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](#)

By check

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

Prof. Mathew A. Foust
Department of Philosophy
Central Connecticut State University
1615 Stanley Street
New Britain, CT 06050 USA

Many thanks,
Mathew A. Foust
Secretary-Treasurer