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Studies Society Inc

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Newsletter No. 39, June 2019

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1. Report from the NZASIA President

Dear All,

Preparations for the 2019 conference (24-27 November 2019) are coming together well, under Stephen Epstein's guidance. I would like to take this opportunity to thank him and the organising committee for their work, as well as to our sponsors of two of the speakers, the [New Zealand India Research Institute](#) (Professor Mrinalini Sinha) and [New Zealand Contemporary China Research Centre](#) (Professor Timothy Oakes). As keynote speakers, they will be joined by Professor Anthony Reid who will deliver the Nicholas Tarling Lecture. For those of you who haven't yet, please [register](#). One of the benefits of [membership](#) is the significantly reduced registration fees

Recent events in Asia have highlighted the role that NZASIA members can play in drawing attention to the problems and complexities of the region. Much attention has understandably focused on the People's Republic of China. In light of the 30th anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre, on-going internal security issues, particularly in Xinjiang, and increasingly restrictive levels of censorship, and in a context of a bellicose US government, it's more important than ever to have reasoned and rational debate about China. This is particularly the case given the size and complexity of New Zealand's diasporic Chinese communities. In these respects, a number of NZASIA members have recently provided public comment on [New Zealand-China relations](#), and highlighted issues of [academic censorship](#). The PRC's prominence should not diminish in any way the attention that we pay other major regional developments, whether the re-election of Lalit Modi, or the recent elections in Thailand and Indonesia, for example. In an online news sphere dominated by sensationalism, the role of NZASIA members as informed commentators on the region is more pressing than ever.

I look forward to seeing you all at the 23rd Biennial International 2019 in November!

James Beattie

Victoria University of Wellington
President, NZASIA

June 2019

2. The New Zealand Journal of Asian Studies

You should have now received a copy of the December 2018 issue of NZJAS, either electronically or by post. This special issue on Chinese Visual Culture and Modernity emerged out of a workshop hosted last year by Yiyan Wang at Victoria University. Quoting from Yiyan's introduction, the issue seeks "to discern changes and continuities in modern and contemporary Chinese art practice resulting from and interacting with China's social and cultural change." I hope you enjoy the excellent articles and the many images.

We have two new book review editors, both of Victoria University. Philip Fountain, senior lecturer of religious studies, is our new editor for books on South and South-East Asia. Philip's own research is on development and religion, with a geographical focus on Asia and the Pacific, with attention to connections to North America and New Zealand. Dennitza Gabrakova, senior lecturer of Japanese Studies, is our new editor for books on East Asia, including China, Japan, and Korea. Dennitza's research is on modern and contemporary Japanese literature and cultural history. If there are specific books you would like to review, please do contact either Philip or Dennitza.

About half of our individual subscribers are now receiving electronic copies of NZJAS. Please send me an email if you would like to receive an electronic copy rather than a printed one.

Rick Weiss
rick.weiss@vuw.ac.nz
Editor, NZJAS

3. Regional Updates

3.1 University of Auckland

Staff news

On 10 April, **Lawrence Marceau** gave a presentation at the University of Auckland's School of Cultures, Languages & Linguistics (CLL) Seminar Series. His seminar title was, "Additions to *Aesop*: A Latin American connection in 17th-century Japan?" In this seminar, he examined one episode from the "Life of Aesop" that is found only in the Japanese translation first published c. 1615, Similar anecdotes surprisingly appear in Spanish-language accounts of life in the New World that date to this period, leading to speculation that the Portuguese Jesuit missionaries who first translated the *Fables* also drew from other unrelated texts in order to enhance their collection.

Paul Clark presented a paper on re-thinking China's Fifth-Generation filmmakers as a keynote address at an international conference on Chinese film art and industry in October 2018 at the Beijing Film Academy. He chaired a review panel of the Department of History and Chinese Studies at Hong Kong City University in September 2018. Clark served on the Humanities and Law Panel for a fourth time in the latest PBRF round in 2018 and joined the Humanities panel for the RSNZ's Marsden Fund in early 2019. Having also become part-time Director of the North Asia Centre of Asia-Pacific Excellence (CAPE) in July 2018, he continued to work on delivering business and educational programmes designed to increase New Zealanders' skills in engaging with the cultures and economies of greater China, Japan and Korea. These programmes are a means of applying university-based Asia skills and knowledge to New Zealand's wider needs. The CAPEs consortium includes Waikato, Victoria and Otago universities.

Changzoo Song has advised that a "Symposium on Korean and Japanese Youth in New Zealand" was held on March 7-8, 2019 at the University of Auckland. Over 10 speakers including two PhD students, invited guests from the US and South Korea, and seven

academics from the University of Auckland presented their papers at the seminar. Papers covered various issues of Korean and Japanese youth in New Zealand in terms of the identity, language, popular cultural consumption, and school life. This was accompanied with Professor Alan France's keynote lecture on the general challenges for young people today.

Ellen Nakamura

News from the Confucius Institute in Auckland

The Confucius Institute (CI) started the year with the arrival of 47 Mandarin Language Assistants (MLA) from China who, after a week of induction, were placed in various schools to help develop Chinese programmes. Three full time and one part time MLA have been placed at the University of Auckland - one at School of Cultures, Languages and Linguistics (SCLL) and the other 2.5 at the Confucius Institute - and another at the University of Otago's Chinese department.

Embraced as members of staff in their respective placements, all have a huge impact as they are in New Zealand full time for a full academic year. They are half way through their internship learning and sharing with students, teachers and wider communities.

Coinciding with the arrival of the language assistants was the arrival of the Chinese Year of the Pig. As in previous years, CI was involved with a number of events, from showcasing culture at the Auckland Lantern Festival and various other venues including TVNZ's breakfast show, to hosting morning tea for neighbouring and affiliated UoA staff at CI's premises in Pembridge House, Princes Street.

In March and May, CI also hosted three visiting professors from Fudan University, Shanghai to share their expertise to various groups in Auckland.

CI also had calligraphy students from Shaoxing University who held classes at lunch time and early evening for UoA staff. Another group of calligraphy students will arrive in July and hopefully, will be able to provide more free classes.

More Chinese was showcased at the Institute's annual speech competition in May with secondary school winners heading to the national final in Christchurch, in August. Tertiary winner, Annabelle Jessop from University of Auckland will represent New Zealand at the international finals, in China, in July.

Janine Chin

3.2 Auckland University of Technology

We have been busy with the Indonesia Centre. We are now running weekly free Gamelan classes open to the public.

AUT, in conjunction with University of Auckland, is offering its next round of Bahasa Indonesia courses.

There are also various Japanese language extracurricular events on offer.

We have a number of NZAid PhD students who are close to completing their PhD, including Najmah whose research on mothers with HIV should result in positive policy changes for women in Indonesia.

Like all Kiwis, we are still rocked by the attacks in Christchurch, with police still keeping a vigil outside our mosque. The tragedy has brought our Muslim community closer together.

Sharyn Graham Davies

3.3 University of Canterbury

Asian Research Collections, Macmillan Brown Library

Two student interns have been working on Macmillan Brown Library projects which are aimed at making some key Asian research collections more accessible. They have shared with us how the experience has enhanced their university experience:

“My name is Matthew Croft and I am a third-year student at the University of Canterbury. I am studying towards a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Japanese and Chinese. Late last year, I was asked if I would be interested in cataloguing some photos collected by John Macmillan Brown on his trip to China in 1908. Given my interest in the area, I naturally

jumped at the opportunity. I have spent the semester cataloguing the 394 photos, negatives and postcards from the collection. This process began with sorting the photographs from China and Manchuria (now a part of modern-day China) from those taken in other countries. I then spent time inputting details from the photographs into a spreadsheet and then scanning the collection. This is for the purpose of publishing these pictures and making them publicly available on Kā Kohika - the Macmillan Brown Library online



MB 25300-142 - Boxer forces (Macmillan Brown Library)

archives website. Getting access to these glimpses of the past has been an incredible experience. Trying to extract as much information from each photograph as possible has certainly been a challenge. But having the chance to solve the little mysteries behind each photo has been a highly rewarding experience. The China and Manchuria collection includes some incredible photographs and it has been a privilege to work with such history.”

Dannii Quick is completing her honours in Art History at the University of Canterbury. She was interested in gaining practical experience in collection management and requested an internship with the Macmillan Brown Library to develop these skills. Dannii was assigned an uncatalogued collection of paintings, sketches, sketchbooks and prints donated by the family of artist, teacher and UC alumni, Florence Akins. This included a

suite of Japanese prints dating back to Florence's time as a lecturer at UC. The prints are regularly used for teaching and so to formally identify, catalogue and make them accessible via the Heritage Collections online database, Kā Kohika, is of immense benefit. Dannii has thoroughly enjoyed the practical, hands on nature of the project as well as the research and writing up of individual entries. Of her experience Dannii says "I am having so much fun, it is really interesting cataloguing and researching all of these amazing artworks. I am grateful for the opportunity this internship has given me. It has been one of the best experiences of my life!"

Joanna Condon

Confucius Institute at the University of Canterbury

The Confucius Institute (CIUC) principals' delegation returned from China last month. Three staff members from the University of Canterbury (UC) attended: Evgeny Pavlov (Head, Department of Global, Cultural and Language Studies), Sarah Caseley (Academic Business Development Manager, College of Science) and Jocelyn Howard (Senior Lecturer, College of Education, Health and Development). The delegation met with senior leaders from Huazhong University of Science and Technology to further develop UC's relationship with the university. This will hopefully lead to greater opportunities for students from both universities to do exchanges.



CIUC Principals' delegation to Huazhong University of Science and Technology

CIUC also took a group of 41 students to China for a cultural camp. This camp is designed to foster interest in the Chinese language, and the students came back with a much greater understanding of China, and many have expressed the desire to study Chinese at the tertiary level.

In January, 31 Mandarin Language Assistants arrived in Dunedin. The Confucius Institute (CIUC) held an orientation for them, where teachers from local schools gave seminars on New Zealand education and the teaching of Chinese. The language assistants will teach in schools around the South Island, including the Nelson and Marlborough Institute of Technology, Tai Poutini Polytechnic and the Southern Institute of Technology.

CIUC held the first rounds of the Chinese speech competition in Dunedin and Christchurch. The South Island finals and national finals will be held in Christchurch this year.

Departmental News

The **Japanese Programme** is currently preparing to host its 7th annual NCEA workshop in collaboration with Canterbury secondary schools. Scheduled for Thursday, 6 June, current estimates indicate that participants are likely to surpass last year's record numbers. **Alistair Swale (Japanese)** will be heading to Japan on a year's sabbatical leave from July this year. He will be based in Kyoto as a Visiting Research Scholar, and Project Leader, at the International Research Center for Japanese Studies (Nichibunken). He will be leading a project titled, Popular Culture and 'Civilization and Enlightenment': The Position and Role of Mass Media in the Turbulent Transition from Edo to Meiji. **Susan Bouterey (Japanese)** has been appointed, by invitation, to sit on the Board of Editors of the *International Journal of Okinawan Studies*.

Richard Bullen (Art History) recently co-edited with James Beattie (Victoria) and Maria Galikowski (Waikato) *China in Australasia: cultural diplomacy and the Chinese arts since the Cold War*, which has been published by Routledge in its 'Modern History of Asia' series. The book deals with the loan, exchange, and gifting of Chinese art, museum exhibitions—and the use of Chinese arts more broadly—in growing diplomatic relations with Australia and New Zealand, from 1949 to the present day. Its scope includes pre-modern, modern and contemporary sculpture, painting and peasant art, as well as ancient artefacts, performance arts and gardens. The book is a result of the symposium held at UC in 2016 on Chinese art and cultural diplomacy, convened by Richard and James, and funded by their Marsden grant. In February, Richard attended the College Art Association Conference in New York as a CAA Getty International Scholar, and presented a paper on the art made by Japanese POWs held in Featherston during the Pacific War.

Pascale Hatcher (Political Science & International Relations) attended a small international workshop on *The Political Economy of South-East Asia*, organised by Murdoch University's Asia Research Centre (Australia) in December 2018. The purpose of the event was to bring together scholars from the Murdoch School of thought in order to prepare the 4th edition of the Handbook, *The Political Economy of South-East Asia* (forthcoming, eds. Carroll, Hameiri and Jones). Additionally, she had the opportunity, to co-chair the committee for the DevNet Biennial International Conference, which was held at the University of Canterbury, in December 2018. 'DevNet' is New Zealand's largest network in Development Studies, making the conference the country's leading international event in the field. In 2018-19, she supervised one MA dissertation on Southeast Asia: 'The impact of nationalism in Malaysia's refugee legal framework' by Farahiah Aminuddin.

Jim Ockey's (Political Science & International Relations) research on civil military relations in Thailand since the 2014 coup was published as "Order and Chaos: Military Government and the Middle Classes in Thailand," in Ratuva, Steven, et. al. eds. *Guns and Roses: Comparative Civil-Military Relations in the Changing Security Environment*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2019, pp. 153-177. He went on field research during January and February, to observe campaigning for the Thai election. He has since written a series

of analyses of the election, published by the East Asia Forum (ANU), the Asia New Zealand Foundation's Asia Media Centre, and Channel News Asia in Singapore. He was also interviewed (live) by Channel News Asia on the election outcome, and has been invited to write an article for *Southeast Asian Affairs*.

Wei Teng (Chinese) published the following article earlier this year;

Teng, W. (2019) "When pragmatic equivalence fails: Assessing a New Zealand English to Chinese health translation from a functional perspective," in Ji, C., Taibi, M., and Crezee, I. H. M. (eds) *Multicultural Health Translation, Interpreting and Communication*. London and New York: Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group.

Naimah Talib

3.4 Massey University

Staff Activity

Rosemary Haddon (retired) has published an article "Embodied Modernity: The Gendered Landscape of Contemporary Chinese Art" in the *New Zealand Journal of Asian Studies*. 20, 2 (December 2018): 115-136. This was a special issue on "Chinese Visual Culture and Modernity" edited by Guest Editor Yiyang Wang .

Robyn Andrews spent from December until May on long leave in India working on publications, presenting on research and running workshops at institutions hosting her. The papers included: "Pondicherry Anglo-Indians: Back into the Fold" at Calcutta University, "Roots Tourism: Anglo-Indian Returnees to India", IIT Madras. At Kazi Nazrul University, Asansol, "Asansol's Anglo-Indians: Home Ownership and Citizenship. She co-convened (with Brent Otto from UC Berkeley) an Anglo-Indian studies research symposium at Calcutta University on 21 December, and a research showcase in Chennai on 11 January at the 11th World Reunion of Anglo-Indians. Before leaving for India she presented "Pilgrimages of Return: Anglo-Indians, Migration, and Indian Marian Shrines" at NZASR (NZ Association for the Study of Religions) conference.

Imran Muhammad published a book in March this year: *Moving the Masses: Bus-Rapid Transit (BRT) Policies in Low Income Asian Cities: Case Studies from Indonesia*. Springer Singapore.

Penny Shino had an article published by the Asia Media Centre on May 2: "Japan's New Reiwa Era: What's in a Name?" <https://www.asiamediacentre.org.nz/opinion/japans-new-reiwa-era-whats-in-a-name/> She was also interviewed on Radio New Zealand on the abdication of Emperor Akihito and accession of Emperor Naruhito on May 27 <https://www.rnz.co.nz/national/programmes/nights/20190527>

Penny Shino

3.5 University of Otago

Recent Doctoral Completions

Chao Guo (History, Supervisors: Brian Moloughney and Stuart Young)
Theatre and society: male dan in classical Chinese theatre.

A study of the male dan from the Ming dynasty to present times—and their complex interrelations with the broader social, cultural and political discourses that have moulded the transforming Chinese politics of gender and class, and the hierarchies of power in China, in a period of approximately 400 years.

Naoko Inoue (Higher Education Development Centre, Supervisors: Vivienne Anderson, Ben Daniel)

The experiences of native English speaking teachers who work and live in Japan

This research aims to explore how native English speaking teachers working for universities in Japan negotiate their identities as native English speakers. The project will involve interviews with native English speaking teachers who work in Japanese higher education institutions and analysis of internationalisation policy documents, in order to investigate how higher education in Japan is being 'internationalised' in policy and practice.

Balazs Kiglics (Languages and Cultures, Supervisors: Roy Starrs, Paola Voci)

The role of values in Japanese elite views of contemporary Japan-China relations.

Drawing on a qualitative text analysis of Japanese scholarly articles, documents and statements issued by the Japanese government, and recently implemented and proposed legislation in Japan, this research sought to understand the role values play in Japanese political and academic thought when explaining contemporary Japan-China relations. The thesis argued that not only are Japan-China relations problematic, but so are the contexts in which the Japanese academic and political elite view and explain them. It also revealed a significant tension between Japan's upholding of universal values vis-à-vis China and the values the Japanese government tend to emphasize domestically. It demonstrated that, to achieve progress in its relations with China, Japan needs to have a deeper understanding of universal values, as well as a stronger commitment to them.

Yulia Taylor (Management, Supervisors: André M. Everett & Fiona Edgar)

One Size Does Not Fit All: Longitudinal Research into Immigrant Professionals' Perceived Lived Experience of Cross-Cultural Adjustment: A Comparative Study of Three Ethnic Groups in the New Zealand Context

Despite their perceived significance for national economies (based on various countries' immigration policies), the adjustment of immigrant professionals to their host culture - with an eye to understanding their own, dynamic, perspective - has not been examined in depth. In particular, how do immigrant professionals from different ethnic groups differently experience adjustment, over time, within a single host country? To address the gap, this qualitative study builds on an Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis (IPA) of sequential (phased) in-depth interviews to investigate the lived experiences of similar groups of participants (immigrant professionals) in a similar life situation (within

one national context), focusing on their adjustment overall and their work adjustment specifically. By examining longitudinally the personal narratives of three strategically selected sets of recently arrived professionals from the British Isles, China, and the former Soviet Union who are employed in New Zealand, this study overcomes several past limitations affecting research into cross-cultural adjustment to conclude that although there are similarities, attention to differences is also warranted as these impact the perceived degree of adjustment. In terms of practical implications, this research demonstrates that one size cannot fit all, and even groups of people exhibiting similar cultural characteristics are still influenced by a variety of factors. Such awareness is relevant not only for policymakers targeting specific cohorts of migrants, but also for their future employers, and especially for the potential immigrants themselves, so that they can better prepare for and enjoy their life experience in their new home.

Keziah Wallis (Anthropology, Supervisors: Ben Schonthal, Greg Rawlings)
The Bonds of Water: Strings of Connectedness in Bamar Buddhist Life

Yeseq, or the connections of kan (P. kamma) formed between people who pour water together as part of shared merit-making, is a fundamental part of Bamar inter-personal relations. Based upon ten months of immersive fieldwork across two main fieldsites---Yangon, the largest city and former colonial capital, and Shwe Tan, a medium-sized village in the Bago region to the north of Yangon---and with multi-sited research at other nearby locations in Myanmar, this project examines the multiple dimensions of yeseq, including its aspirational, performative, affective, and political dimensions. In so doing, this project examines how Bamar actors draw upon yeseq, both explicitly and implicitly, in building and articulating feelings of connectedness.

Drawing upon current trends in phenomenological and experiential anthropology as well as lived and feminist approaches to religion, this thesis argues that yeseq as the foundation of Bamar notions of connectedness, needs to be taken into account when examining connectedness in the Bamar context. It illustrates how the adoption of yeseq as a framework of analysis allows for a significant reimagining of the nature of Bamar bonds of kinship and community, the connections between people, supernatural beings and the spaces both inhabit, and the connections between the past, present, and future. In so doing, it also emphasises the often-underrecognised role of women in building and performing connectedness in Myanmar.

Publications

Johnson, H. M. and S. Kuwahara. North Meets South: Eisā and the Wrapping of Identity on Okinoerabu Island, Japan. *Shima: The International Journal of Research into Island Cultures* 11 (2) (2017): 38-55 [ISSN 1834-6057]

Johnson, H. M. Triangulations: Musicalized Drama, Folklore and Identity Construction in Nakae Yūji's A Midsummer's Okinawan Dream. *Perfect Beat* 18 (1) (2017): 7-28 [ISSN 1038-2909]

Rogers, T., & Anderson, V. (2019). Exploring Cambodian schoolgirls' educational persistence: A community cultural wealth perspective *Gender, Place & Culture*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/0966369X.2018.1555517>

Schonthal, B. Buddhist Law Against the State: Thinking Again About Religion, Law and Conflict. *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* (2019)

Schonthal, B. Buddhists' Perspectives on Religious Freedom. *Routledge Handbook to Freedom of Religion and Belief*. Edited by Silvio Ferrari, Mark Hill, Arif A. Jamal and Rossella Bottoni. New York: Routledge (2019)

Shaver, J., Lang, M. Krátký, J., Kundtová Klocová, E., Kundt, R., and Dimitris Xygalatas. The boundaries of trust: Cross-religious and cross-ethnic field experiments in Mauritius. *Evolutionary Psychology*. 2018: 1-15.

Highland, B. R., Troughton, G., Shaver, J., Barrett, J. L., Sibley, C. G., & Bulbulia, J. (2019). Attitudes to religion predict warmth for Muslims in New Zealand. *New Zealand Journal of Psychology*, 48 (2018), 122-132.

Sweetman, W. and Županov, I.G. Rival Mission, Rival Science? Jesuits and Pietists in Seventeenth- and Eighteenth-Century South India, *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, 61/3 (2019)

Will Sweetman

3.6 University of Waikato

Books

China in Australasia: Cultural Diplomacy and Chinese Arts since the Cold War (ed. by James Beattie, Richard Bullen, Maria Galikowski) (Routledge, 2019)

Book chapters

Maria Galikowski, "China and the Art of Cultural Diplomacy" (with James Beattie and Richard Bullen) in *China in Australasia: Cultural Diplomacy and Chinese Arts since the Cold War* (ed. by James Beattie, Richard Bullen, Maria Galikowski) (Routledge, 2019) pp. 1-17

Maria Galikowski, "Imparting Experience': The Huxian Peasant Painting Tour in New Zealand and Australia", in *China in Australasia: Cultural Diplomacy and Chinese Arts since the Cold War* (ed. by James Beattie, Richard Bullen, Maria Galikowski) (Routledge, 2019) pp. 85-106

Maria Galikowski, "Kiwi Dragons in Love: The Chinese Diaspora and New Zealand Interracial Screen Romance" in Arezou Zalipour (ed.) *Migrant and Diasporic Film and Filmmaking in New Zealand* (Springer, 2019), pp. 51-69

Fumiko Nishimura (2019). "Lying in different cultures". In J. Meibauer (Ed.), *The Oxford Handbook of Lying* (pp. 565-577). Oxford University Press. doi:[10.1093/oxfordhb/9780198736578.013.45](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780198736578.013.45)

Maria Galikowski

3.7 Victoria University of Wellington

First and most importantly in news from Victoria: planning is proceeding apace for the NZASIA 23rd Biennial International 2019 Conference, which we will host here in Wellington from Sunday, Nov. 24, to Wednesday, Nov. 27, 2019. We would like to remind everyone to look at the CFP and other conference webpages: <http://www.nzasia.org.nz/conference.html>. Registration is now live.

Please note that the deadline for submission of abstracts is **June 30**. We've already received several dozen abstracts, many from overseas, which is very promising, and we look forward to seeing colleagues from throughout Aotearoa New Zealand!

Our keynote speakers will be Timothy Oakes of the University of Colorado, Mrinalini Sinha of the University of Michigan and Anthony Reid of the Australian National University, who will deliver the Nicholas Tarling lecture. For profiles of the keynote speakers, see: <http://www.nzasia.org.nz/keynotespeakers19.html>

[Call for Papers, NZASIA, The New Zealand Asian Studies Society](#)

www.nzasia.org.nz

The New Zealand Asian Studies Society (NZASIA) is a wholly independent body that since its establishment in 1974 has sought to encourage the spread of knowledge about Asia, its history, its culture and its role in international affairs.

Just before the NZASIA conference, from November 21-24, Dragon Tails 2019, the 6th Australasian conference on Chinese diaspora and heritage will also be held here at Victoria. For more information, please see <https://www.dragontails.org.au/>



[DragonTails Conferences](#)

www.dragontails.org.au

The call for papers for Dragon Tails 2019 - an Australasian conference on Chinese diaspora history and heritage (20-23 November 2019) is now open. Deadline extension - Proposals were due by Friday 31 May 2019. Theme: Translation and Transformation Location: Hunter Building, Victoria University of Wellington, Wellington, New Zealand Date: Wed 20 - Sat 23 November 2019

At Victoria University, we have been fortunate to maintain a large and even growing number of academics who specialise on the Asia-Pacific, and thus activities and publications are too numerous to be listed in full, but we wish to highlight a few special items in this report. Below we simply also wish to highlight a few recent arrivals and departures, two particularly notable publications and the activities of the research centres based here.

Since the previous NZASIA newsletter, Victoria University has experienced several staff movements, including the arrival of Shin Takahashi and Yoko Yonezawa in the Asian Languages and Cultures Programme and Patrick Flamm in the Political Science and International Relations Programme, and Janepicha Cheva-Isarakul of the School of Cultural and Social Studies. For fuller biographies of each, see web links below:

<https://www.victoria.ac.nz/slc/about/staff/shin-takahashi>

<https://www.victoria.ac.nz/slc/about/staff/yoko-yonezawa>

<https://www.victoria.ac.nz/hppi/about/staff/patrick-flamm>

<https://www.victoria.ac.nz/sacs/about/staff/janepicha-cheva-isarakul>

During this period, we have also bid farewell to human geographer Phil Morrison, who has retired, and Catherine Churchman, who has resigned to take a position with the New Zealand government.

Of particular note among publications are the just released special issue of our society's journal, *New Zealand Journal of Asian Studies*. The issue focuses on Chinese visual culture and modernity and was edited by Professor Yiyang Wang of the Asian Languages and Cultures Programme, and contains articles by several other colleagues from Victoria University and elsewhere in New Zealand. Likewise drawing together several NZASIA members from around the nation is *China in Australasia: Cultural Diplomacy and Chinese Arts Since the Cold War*, edited by NZASIA's president James Beattie, now based here at Victoria, together with Richard Bullen and Maria Galikowski. The description and link is as follows:

"Drawing on expertise in art history, exhibition studies and cultural studies as well as politics and international relations, *China in Australasia* presents significant new perspectives on the role of art in the cultural diplomacy of the People's Republic of China.

The book tells the forgotten story of the loan, exchange, and gifting of Chinese art, museum exhibitions—and the use of Chinese arts more broadly—in growing diplomatic relations with Australia and New Zealand, from 1949 to the present day. Its scope includes pre-modern, modern and contemporary sculpture, painting and peasant art, as well as ancient artefacts, performance arts and gardens. In considering the geopolitical connections opened by the arts, this book presents new insights into some of the ways in which China, often in conjunction with local supporters, sought to present itself to the people of Australia and New Zealand. It also considers how, for their part, New Zealanders and Australians worked to expand understandings of their powerful northern neighbour within changing political contexts.

The first of its kind, this book-length interdisciplinary study of Chinese soft diplomacy in Australasia will be invaluable to students and scholars of Chinese studies, cultural diplomacy, museum studies and art history."

<https://www.routledge.com/China-in-Australasia-Cultural-Diplomacy-and-Chinese-Arts-since-the-Cold/Beattie-Bullen-Galikowski/p/book/9780815384786>

Events of the last several months include the following:

The New Zealand India Research Institute (NZIRI) and the New Zealand Contemporary China Research Centre (NZCCRC) co-organized a one-day academic workshop titled "New Engagements: China, India, and the South Pacific" in May 2019 to discuss the implications of the rise of China and India for the South Pacific along three themes -

geopolitics, economics, and non-traditional security issues. A total of 8 papers were presented by some of the leading and rising scholars from New Zealand, Australia, and Canada. <https://www.victoria.ac.nz/chinaresearchcentre/programmes-and-projects/china-symposiums/academic-workshop-new-engagements-china,-india-and-the-south-pacific>

NZIRI and the Centre for Strategic Studies co-organized a public lecture on the Sino-Indian rivalry delivered by Professor T.V. Paul, James McGill Professor of International Relations, McGill University. Professor Paul is a former President of the International Studies Association.

The NZCCRC also hosted:

Gudrun Wacker from the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, SWP) in Berlin for a talk on 'Europe's changing debate on China' (5 March). <https://www.victoria.ac.nz/chinaresearchcentre/programmes-and-projects/seminars/2019/europes-changing-debate-on-china>

Richard McGregor of the Lowy Institute for a talk on 'Fighting with China' (13 March). <https://www.victoria.ac.nz/chinaresearchcentre/programmes-and-projects/seminars/2019/fighting-with-china>

Jane Golley and Lili Song from ANU (CIW) and Otago for a launch of the China Yearbook 'China's Rise: Prosperity, Power, Pushback' (27 March). <https://www.victoria.ac.nz/chinaresearchcentre/programmes-and-projects/seminars/2019/chinas-rise-prosperity,-power,-pushback>

Geremie Barme, Emeritus Professor at the ANU and co-founder of the Wairarapa Academy for New Sinology for a conversation and screening of the Gate of Heavenly Peace. <http://tsquare.tv>

The NZCCRC also delivered one masterclass and four speakers for the China Capable Public Sector Programme. <https://chinacapable.org.nz/about>.

Finally, another special and very successful event was a symposium on subtitling entitled **The Future of Film and Video Localisation**. On May 8th, the New Zealand Centre for Literary Translation, Confucius Institute and the Embassy of Spain co-presented a symposium on audiovisual translation, highlighting a new direction of research at Victoria University. Professor Jorge Diaz-Cintas, the world's leading authority in this field, delivered the keynote lecture to a packed audience at the Wellington City Gallery. The lecture was followed by the screening of two short films by Miya Wang and Huanhuan Zhang, two recent MFA graduates from the Miramar Creative Centre.

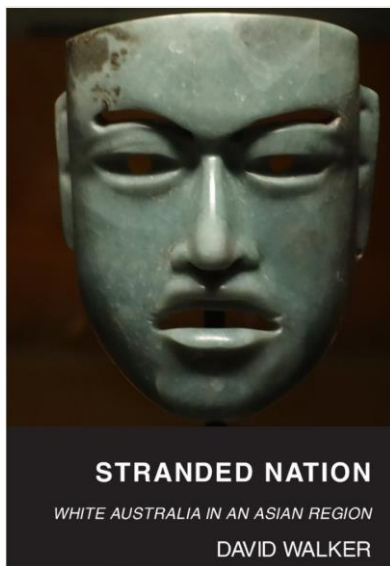
In a wide-ranging, informative and highly entertaining lecture, Professor Jorge Diaz-Cintas delivered a tour-de-force about how this often over-looked area of translation is in fact at the leading edge of how video is changing the world. Any sense that subtitles aren't very interesting was dispelled in the opening slides of this masterclass, as we learnt that in a globalized world increasingly dominated by video, the art of and technology around subtitling has become the most dynamic area of literary translation. With 300 hours of video being uploaded to Youtube every minute and 5 billion hours watched on Youtube alone every single day, and video increasingly being used in

professional communications, the demand for subtitling is growing exponentially, is likely to continue unabated for the foreseeable future. China, the largest single country market for video and gaming, is developing its own particular set of sub-titling characteristics, such as “danmu” in which an audience will add their own sub-titling or commentary (via mobile phones) at film screenings.

The NZCLT lecture was followed by the screening of two short subtitled films written, directed and produced by two promising young Chinese filmmaking graduates from the VUW Miramar Creative Centre Master of Fine Arts, Miya Wang (“The Other Side of the World”) and Huanhuan Zhang (“How to Break Out of Prison”). The films were very well received by the audience, as was the fascinating panel discussion at the end, involving Prof Diaz-Cintas and the young filmmakers. Many thanks to NZCLT President (and VUW lecturer in Chinese) Luo Hui for his expert emceeing of this memorable evening.

Stephen Epstein

4. Featured Book: *Stranded Nation: White Australia in an Asian Region*



“For well over a century Australia’s place in Asia has been at the forefront of public discussion and controversy. *Stranded Nation* is a searching examination of how a ‘white’ nation, harbouring deep anxieties about rising Asia, sought to convince both itself and its neighbours that it belonged within the Asian region. This is the strange story of Australia’s momentous turn to the East.” (From book poster) For more details see: <https://uwap.uwa.edu.au/products/stranded-nation>

James Beattie

5. Membership

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US\$5 (\$US15 for 3 years); students free (students must include a photocopy of a currently valid Student ID with their application).

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Naimah Talib
NZASIA Treasurer
Department of Political Science
University of Canterbury
Private Bag 4800
Christchurch 8140
Email naimah.talib@canterbury.ac.nz

NZASIA Newsletter No 39, June 2019© NZASIA
New Zealand Asian Studies Society (www.nzasia.org.nz)

Robyn Andrews
NZASIA Newsletter Editor
School of People, Environment and Planning
Massey University, New Zealand r.andrews@massey.ac.nz
Private Bag 22111, Palmerston North, New Zealand

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