



**European Association of
Chinese Studies
Association européenne
d'études chinoises**

EACS Newsletter

No. 33, December, 2004

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Change of address information and all membership payments should be sent to the Treasurer.

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EACS NEWSLETTER

The EACS Newsletter is published twice a year: in spring, and in autumn. All contributions should be sent to the Editor by E-mail or on a diskette. Please remember to check your copy carefully before sending it. Workshop and conference reports should not exceed 600 words. Calls for papers should not exceed 100 words. Remember to include all relevant information when contributing new book titles (author, title, publication place, publisher, year, pp., price in EURO and ISBN). Names and titles in non-Latin script such as Cyrillic are welcome provided that the author's name is in transcription and a short content summary in English is included.

Every effort is made to include all relevant news, but the Editor reserves the right to edit all contributions for publication.

Newsletter Editor

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REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT (2002-2004)

Dear colleagues and friends,

I would first like to thank you all for the confidence you have placed in me by electing me as your President for the years 2002-2004.

We are meeting here in the beautiful city of Heidelberg for the 15th biennial conference of the EACS, some of us for the second time, after the Board Members meeting of last year. I am in fact doubly pleased to be here, as circumstances beyond my control prevented me from being present at the Moscow 14th conference two years ago.

On the behalf of the EACS, I would especially like to express my gratitude to the following scholars: Prof. Rudolf Wagner, Dr. Andrea Janku, Dr. Thomas Kampen, Mr. Matthias Arnold, Ms. Sven Eigler, Ms. Sarah Luedeke, and the entire team of the Conference Organising Committee, not only for their warm hospitality, but also for the enormous energy they have put into organising the conference, and for the strictly academic professionalism which has characterised preparations for these four coming days. I am sure this event will be of a very high scientific standard and consequently crowned with success.

Members generally receive a report from the President every two years, as the elected Board's term of office comes to a close. Today, we are parting with a group of colleagues

who have been running the Association's affairs on your behalf for either two, four or six years. Hence, in the name of the Association and on your behalf, I would like to express our thanks for the time and effort that these colleagues have placed at the disposal of our Association during these years. We owe a large and special debt of gratitude to our Treasurer Hans van Ess for his energy and skill in handling financial aspects of our work during the last six years; to Mette Thunoe for her major role and work as editor of the Newsletter, a responsibility which has been handed over to Ann Heirman after the Board meeting last year.

As I, myself, will retire from office in a few days, I would also like to express my warm and personal thanks to Olga Lomova, our General Secretary, to Hans van Ess, the Treasurer, to Mette Thunoe and Ann Heirman for the Newsletter, and to Daria Berg, our Webmaster. I have spent hundreds of hours with them, either face-to-face or through thousands of e-mail messages, discussing the problems that have come up in our Association's affairs. I have constantly appreciated their availability and their understanding of situations, especially when it was a case of resolving problems which were not always straightforward.

I would now like to look back on the two last years of the administration of the EACS and share some thoughts with you on what has been achieved and what remains to be done for promoting and developing Chinese

Studies in Europe, our main aim in fact.

At the Moscow conference in 2002, my predecessor Glen Dudbridge presented a very detailed Presidential Report on all activities and interests of the Association. Having read it again, I think that our Board and Executive Committee have been remarkably successful in having carried out the quantity of work they did in the pursuit of their duties. This work is apparent in the following list of items:

Membership remains at a stable level, as the Treasurer's statistics will reveal. It has now reached more than 700 members (we were 675 in 1998) which represents indeed a very sizeable proportion of all the active sinologists in Europe. To enable our members to be fully in touch with one another, the main method has been the traditional newsletter. This has now been supplemented by our website. Consequently, I would like to thank those of you who have sent in contributions to the Editor or the Webmaster. Of course, much more goes on in the world of sinology than is published in the Newsletter or put on the website. I would like to encourage all of you to provide us with any relevant information on academic and professional activities in Chinese Studies throughout Europe. It is only with your help that these tools can remain important media for EACS members.

The relations with external bodies have certainly continued as in the past. I begin with the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation, our most generous

benefactor for many years. Its President, Chu Yun-han, and Vice-President, Wang Ch'iu-kuei, have always shown the greatest interest in our activities and have continued to generously finance many of our initiatives, for example, providing direct support for our conference, not to mention the CCK Sinological Center at Charles University, Prague, under the direction of Olga Lomova. I would like to express once again, on behalf of us all, our sincere gratitude to both of them on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the CCK Foundation and also to acknowledge the contribution of Wang Ch'iu-kuei, who has just stepped down as the Vice-President of the Foundation, for having taken so much interest in our activities. I am certain that Angela Kiche Leung (Liang Ch'i-tzu), who replaced him on the 1st August this year, will show the same benevolence and concern for Chinese Studies which are carried out in Europe.

As Glen Dudbridge already noted in his report for 2002, the most well-established item in the CCK Foundation's support for our Association is the Library Travel Grant (LTG) programme, which has helped some 75 students and scholars from 1994 to 2003, especially those from Russia, Eastern Europe and Central Europe, to make research visits to various libraries in Western Europe (Cambridge, Heidelberg, Leiden, Munich, Oxford, and Paris). There is no doubt that the LTG programme has been one of the most publicly visible enterprises of the EACS for the last ten years. Furthermore, it has furnished excellent

results. The running of this scheme has depended on the good offices of four senior members, Marianne Bastid-Bruguière, Brunhild Staiger, Michael Loewe (until 1997), and Roderick Whitfield (from 1997 onwards). The success of this operation owes much to their hard work.

During the annual meeting of the Board at Heidelberg in September 2003, a new team headed by Olga Lomova, volunteered to take over the responsibility for the LTG scheme, with the full agreement of the CCK Foundation. It is now directly linked to the Executive Committee and the Board. For the first half of 2004, thirteen new grants have already been approved for students and young scholars from Russia, Slovenia, Slovakia, Lithuania, and Italy. The LTG program will certainly continue to be reinforced and developed.

Two years ago, Glen Dudbridge also informed you that the Asia Committee's activities were discontinued in 2001 by the European Science Foundation (ESF). The financial support which this committee brought to the EACS thereby ceased. A new project entitled "European Alliance for Asian Studies (Asia Alliance)" was submitted again this year to the ESF by W. A. L. Stokhof, from the Leiden IAS to restore such a network. In actual fact, the Asia Alliance is already a co-operative framework linking together a number of European institutes specialising in Asian Studies (the IAS in Leiden, the Nordic Institute for Asian Studies in Copenhagen, the

Institute of Asian affairs in Hamburg, the European Institute for Asian Studies in Brussels, the Asia-Europe centre in Paris, and the Centro de Estudios de Asia Oriental in Madrid). It was created to improve and optimise existing expertise on Asia within Europe. The application to ESF was unfortunately rejected because there was no scientific programme in the proposal. After this, the Executive Committee decided to establish direct links with the ESF without the medium of the Asia Committee. As you will see in a moment, this initiative has been fruitful.

Relations with the International Convention on Asian Scholars (ICAS) have also been maintained, all the while paying close attention to this matter as my predecessors did. This carefulness explains why our Association did not send an official delegate to the ICAS-3 conference in Singapore in August 2003. I would like to remind you that representatives of the EACS took part in ICAS-1 at Leiden in the Netherlands in 1998 and in ICAS-2 in Berlin in 2001. I have been informed by W. A. L. Stokhof, Secretary-General of IACS, that 1200 participants attended ICAS-3. Almost 1000 papers were delivered distributed across 250 sessions. The next conference, ICAS-4, will be hosted by the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences (SCASS), during the third week of August, 2005. The new Board to be elected tomorrow will have to decide on the Association's policy towards ICAS.

Finally, we maintained links with the European Association of Sinological

Librarians (EASL), but the relationship between EACS and EASL clearly needs to be improved. This was already the wish of Rudolf G. Wagner in 1998 in his President's report. Representatives of EASL attended the Torino conference in 2000 and reported on library developments, especially new and very interesting plans for online union catalogue access to materials in sinological libraries. They did not attend the Moscow conference in 2002. They will not be with us either this year.

New initiatives have also been taken during the last two years by the outgoing executive team which should be renewed in the future.

First of all, I would like to talk about the creation of a Young Scholar Award (YSA), which will have its debut this year. In order to encourage young scholars in Chinese Studies, the Board of our Association, upon the suggestion of the Executive Committee, decided to establish a special EACS Young Scholar Award (YSA) to be awarded every two years, during the biennial conferences. For this purpose, we have received again the generous support of 5,000 Euros from the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation, for which I express my deepest thanks. After issuing the standard call for papers, the Secretariat has received thirteen applications.

All papers submitted have been evaluated by external reviewers selected by a special committee appointed by the Board and consisting

of Glen Dudbridge, Hans van Ess, Mette Thunoe, Rudolf Wagner, and myself. The three best papers were selected after this, on the basis of the assessment of the external reviewers. Their authors have been given subsidies to attend the conference. They will present their papers the day after tomorrow, and one of them will be awarded the YSA.

Next I would like to mention a project for a Summer School in Chinese Studies. This project has been drawn up and submitted to the European Science Foundation (ESF) in April this year. The project was evaluated very positively and has finally been accepted by the ESF in June. The Summer School will thus be held in Braga, Portugal, from September 5 to September 15, 2005. The entire funding requested (around 15,000 Euros) will be granted by the ESF. We owe many thanks to Sun Lam who agreed to be responsible for this project, when we first discussed it in Heidelberg, last year. She has also agreed to be in charge of the organisation of this Summer School under the auspices of the Centre of Oriental Studies of the Institute of Letters and Human Sciences of the University of Minho. Sun Lam, in fact, wrote the final version of the application in liaison with the Executive Committee.

The following topics concerning Chinese studies will be taught at the Summer School: Linguistics, Classical Literature, Modern Literature, Pre-modern History and Society, Modern History and Society, Religion and Philosophy, Arts and Musicology,

Anthropology and Ethnology, Methodology and Research Tools, The European Discovery of China – the Portuguese case. If this Summer School is crowned with success, it should lead naturally into a a-la-carte programme of the ESF, financially supported to the tune of 200,000 or 300,000 euros.

Finally, I would like to mention the role which the EACS is going to play in the ESF project for building a European Citation Index in Humanities. Some years ago, the Standing Committee for the Humanities (SCH) in the ESF opened up wide consultation and reflection on what should be the basic criteria used to evaluate the research productivity of researchers and research teams. The conviction, which became firmly entrenched, is that it is necessary for an appropriate evaluation to include both qualitative and quantitative criteria. The decision taken was to assume that the first step needed would be to work on quantitative criteria and to advance an evaluation of the research productivity in terms of bibliometrics. In fact, the European situation in this respect is unsatisfactory at the moment.

There is one database produced by the Institute of Scientific Information (ISI) of Philadelphia for the Humanities domain, called AHCI (Arts and Humanities Citation Index). However, there is a general consensus that the database – unlike the SCI (Science Citation Index) used for natural sciences for which there is now substantial support – is clearly deficient. Even if it is possible to find

the major US Humanities journals in such indexes, they rarely include the best journals published outside of the US, especially those in languages other than English. Although, they do, surprisingly, list several non-English journals (published in French, German, Italian, Spanish, and other languages), these definitely do not belong to the genre of research journals.

To improve this situation, the SCH of the ESF decided to compile its own database of scholarly journals, discipline by discipline, in the domain of Humanities. The belief is that the new database could easily become an international reference, assuming that the AHCI is not seen as the standard reference work. The senior administrators of the ESF member organisations had already decided there was definitely an urgent need for a European Science Index for the Humanities. In May 2002, they approved the proposal and encouraged the SCH to go ahead with the compilation. The Executive Committee of EACS, contacted by the ESF, has sent a list of scholarly journals in the domain of Chinese Studies, and two of its members, Hans van Ess and Olga Lomova, have been appointed to be a member of the experts' group of five persons to work on the final proposal of scholarly journals for the section "Asian and African Studies".

In conclusion, I would like to make several suggestions which might make the Association more dynamic and perform even better, before handing over the baton to the new President.

To remain at a European level, even if relations with the ESF have been greatly consolidated in spite of the cessation of activities of the Asia Committee, there remains much to be done to make some of the other programmes successful in the 6th Framework Programme of the European Union, including the COST actions (European cooperation in the field of scientific and technical research), now open for the Humanities and thus no longer specifically directed towards the Social Sciences. It has not been a possibility, up to now, to submit a European research project in sinology, because of the lack of time to write a proposal for the first round of applications, the deadline for which was April 15th, 2003.

We should definitely be prepared to take action for the second call of proposals which will be announced in a few months. The new Work Programme of the Priority 7 (the one open for Humanities and Social Sciences, entitled “Citizens and governance in a knowledge-based society”) is currently in preparation. However, we already know that the Commission will encourage potential candidates to propose projects in collaboration with countries outside of the EU, notably with China. It will certainly be quite difficult to compete for the new type of instruments (network of excellence or integrated project), financed with 5 million Euros, but, unquestionably, we need to be ready to respond to the announcement for the older type of instruments (STREPs, specific targeted research projects and CA, co-

ordination actions) financed with one million Euros.

I would like also to suggest engaging more members of the Board in the management of the Association. As the activity of EACS has greatly increased in the last decade or so, an executive committee of three members for co-ordinating the Association, plus an editor for the Newsletter and a webmaster is probably not sufficient to deal with all the activities. Other members of the Board should assume specific duties, such as relations with librarians or links with other bodies, or simply assist the Secretary General and the Treasurer. The new Board to be elected should think seriously about this. It should also consider the possibility of re-establishing a “Political Sciences” section for the next conference in Ljubljana in 2006. This has been requested by several members as well as by the Local Organising Committee this year in Heidelberg.

Finally, the new Board will have to conduct a thorough discussion with respect to the organisation of panels during the biennial conferences, especially concerning the issues of how many papers and which papers are to be accepted for presentation. Do we want to follow the example of real scholarly conferences with quite a high rejection rate and so ensure a conference of high quality? In other words, do we want to secure a selection of the best submissions in terms of scholarly quality, applying of course the same standards for every section with a fixed time slot for each? Or do we want to have pleasant and

friendly gatherings of members of the Association, accepting most of the papers proposed by our members, knowing that without having a paper accepted, most of them will be unable to participate in what is assuredly the most important event of the Association? We need guiding principles on this matter and also for outlining a good articulation between the tasks of the local Organising Committee and the tasks of the EACS officials (Board and Executive committee members).

As you probably know, a divergence of opinion arose this year between the local Organising Committee and the conveners in charge of one section. All the conveners selected by the Board for the other sections have been fully informed of the issue and have helped us to solve it by finding a compromise. Most of them also expressed the opinion that the problems generated by the issue should be carefully discussed during the next Board meetings in order to avoid similar discord in the future. This issue will also be discussed during the General Assembly.

I would like to conclude this report by reiterating my belief that the EACS is a solid and well-established association. Benefiting substantially from generous sponsors and a sound financial situation, it will certainly have great possibilities in its further development for mounting ambitious research projects, and in making Chinese studies in Europe radiate throughout the world.

I thank you for your attention.

Alain Peyraube

GREETINGS FROM THE INCOMING PRESIDENT

Dear EACS Members, dear Colleagues and Friends,

As the new president of the EACS I should like to address a few words to you. First of all let me thank you for the confidence you put in me by electing me as president at this year's General Assembly in Heidelberg. I shall try my best to serve our Association and hope to be able to come up to your expectations.

During my term of office I want to put the main emphasis on two tasks. The first one concerns communication among our members. Although the previous boards have tried to improve the situation and a lot has been accomplished, there still is need to intensify communication among China scholars in Europe. As a first step we are going to redesign and improve our website which together with our Newsletter we hope will help in forming networks of contacts and cooperation.

The second task is more difficult to accomplish, because it requires the commitment and concerted efforts of a greater number of our members. In order to position ourselves academically, we have to organize research projects as we did in the late 1970s and early 1980s. For funding we could apply either to the ESF or to the EU. Given the high level of competition nowadays, as you all know, applications have to be of high quality.

To begin with, we should like to apply to the ESF for funding for a workshop to bring together China scholars from different European countries across a broad spectrum of China studies. Our new vice-president Stefania Stafutti of the University of Torino has made a wonderful proposal for such a research project. The topic is "Humour in China". A short presentation of the project is published in this Newsletter. I appeal to all those of you interested in the topic to contact Stefania Stafutti and to submit proposals for papers or simply any ideas that would help to realize this worthwhile project.

Furthermore, it would be good for our standing to place an application with the EU's Sixth Framework Programme 2002-2006, Priority 7: Citizens and Governance in a knowledge-based society (for details cf. our Newsletter No. 29 of Nov. 2002). I understand that for a China project to gain funding in this Programme it must deal with China in relation with Europe. The Board is going to find out ways and means to develop possible applications. Proposals for relevant topics are welcome.

Hoping for your cooperation,

Brunhild Staiger

REPORT FROM THE TREASURER (2004)

This is my last report as your treasurer. I am glad that overall the finances of EACS have improved substantially over the last six years. Again we are about 4000 EURO richer than we were in summer 2002. The bulk of our expenditure was, as every year, spent in publishing the newsletter, and this will remain our most expensive item in the future, though next year the figure should be a little lower than it was this year.

Because of some unspecified legal problems, in Germany credit card payments cannot any longer be handed in manually to the companies, as was done in the past, but have to be sent electronically. This, of course, has to be paid for. I had to sign a contract with a company early this year. Therefore, we are now paying 29 EURO per month to this company, in addition to the charges which we are paying to the credit card companies. Sending money by credit card, which once was a much cheaper way than the ordinary bank transfer, has become much more expensive now. Can I repeat my request for those who live within the EURO zone to pay your money by ordinary bank transfer to the account of your treasurer. It is really much cheaper!

One item in my estimates for 2004/05 with the high figure of 5000 EURO is the money for the Young Scholar Award which was awarded for the first time during the EACS conference in Heidelberg. The Association advanced the money, but we have

received a very generous grant from the CCK foundation for this, so the 5000 EURO appear on the income side as well.

As usual we will probably get slightly more money from membership subscriptions in 2004/05 than we got last year since we always earn more in years when the conference is being held. What I conservatively call "interest" here is actually the annual return on the bonds and funds which I bought for EACS.

The assets of EACS are invested partly in a so-called "Foundation Fund" which guarantees that 100% of the capital will be returned minus a 3 % entry fee. It also guarantees an annual interest equal to the annual yield of the German bond market minus 2 %. Most of the rest of the money is invested in ordinary bonds. The remainder of our funds, about 9000 EURO, is invested in the money market, and is more easily accessible. In addition, we had about 8385 EURO on our current account in August.

The money for the library travel grant still lies in the hands of Brunhild Staiger who is the new EACS president. It did not seem necessary to us to transfer these funds to Munich for just a few months and retransfer them to the account of my successor afterwards.

Two auditors, Leif Littrup from Copenhagen and Luca Pisano from Torino who were elected at the Moscow conference by the General Assembly, have checked my accounts. In the past, the accounts were usually

checked in an ad hoc way during the EACS conference before the General Assembly took place. This time the auditors have taken more time and looked at the files before the conference. By way of a written statement which is now in the EACS archive, they have approved of my handling of the EACS finances.

After my six years of serving as treasurer, Matthias Richter will take over the duties as the new treasurer of EACS. He recently opened a new account with the Dresdner Bank Hamburg, account number 400995201, bank code 200 800 00. If you are living within the EURO zone, please help him by transferring your money via ordinary bank transfer. Do not forget to send your fees to „Matthias Richter/EACS“, not just to „EACS“.

Just one personal remark in the end. Although the duties of treasurer have been quite time-consuming, being a member of the EACS board has been a wonderful experience to me. I have had the chance to get to know many of you much better than I would have been able to otherwise. I was overwhelmed by the confidence which has been expressed to me over the years. Let me thank you all for this!

Hans van Ess

Budget Statement for 2004/2005

Income	2002/2003	2003/2004 (actual)	2004/2005 (estimated)
Membership subscriptions (gross)	11.228,22	8.104,05	10.000,00
NL Advertising	xxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	250,00
NL left overs		435,22	xxxxxxxx
Interests	1.121,72	843,28	850,00
Tax refund	256,23	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx
Grants			5.000,00
<i>Total</i>	12.606,17	9.382,55	16.100,00

Expenditure	2002(2003	2003/2004	2004/2005
	Euro	(actual)	(estimated)
Tax on interest	352,44	266,89	275,00
Membership subscription bank charges	280,43	294,00*	350,00
Other membership subscription costs (electr. payment system)		207,94	400,00
other bank charges	98,70	135,13**	150,00
Office expenses			
Photocopying	30,20	27,35	30,00
Stationary	39,50	---	20,00
Postage	16,15	25,50	25,00
Staff	1.109,01	1.390,80	1.500,00
Travel accomodation	964,50	590,00	1.000,00
Newsletter			
Total costs of production (incl. Bank charges)	3.017,50	5.000,00	4.000,00
Postage	13,00	16,50	25,00
Stationary	37,70	37,70	50,00
Special grants/activities	0.000,00	---	5.000,00
Surplus/deficit			
Total	5.959,13	7.991,81	12.825,00
Carried forward to following year			
Depot	38.151,84	38.440,83	38.500,00
Current account	7.277,61	8.385,96	7.000,00

* 7 % of- estimated – 4.200,00 EUR, via Credit Card and cheques

** charges for bank account and deposit

EACS ELECTIONS OF NEW PRESIDENT AND BOARD

The EACS Board is made up of 24 members, including the President. Since several members had completed their full period of service this year, a new President and seven new Board members were elected at the General Assembly held in Heidelberg. However, at the subsequent Board meeting, Achim Mittag tendered his resignation. In this situation, the Board felt that appropriate action would be to fill the resulting vacancy with the candidate with the highest number of votes among those not originally elected, Matthias Richter (56 votes). The President immediately contacted Matthias Richter, who agreed to replace Achim Mittag as a new Board member. Matthias Richter was also elected as our new Treasurer.

At the General Assembly, **Brunhild STAIGER**, Institute of Asian Affairs Hamburg, Germany was elected as President with 87 votes
staiger@ifa.duei.de

The following board members were elected:

Joel BELLASEN, INALCO, France, 74 votes (2004)
joel.bellassen@inalco.fr

Jana BENICKÁ, Comenius Uni., Bratislava, Slovakia, 85 votes (2002)
Jana.Benicka@fphil.uniba.sk

Daria BERG, Uni. of Durham, U.K., 67 votes (2002)
d.d.berg@durham.ac.uk

Carine DEFOORT, Catholic Uni. of Leuven, Belgium, 70 votes (2002)
Carine.Defoort@arts.kuleuven.ac.be

Halvor EIFRING, Oslo Uni., Norway, 85 votes (2004)
halvor.eifring@east.uio.no

Stéphane FEUILLAS, Université Paris 7, France, 73 votes (2004)
sfeuillas@wanadoo.fr

Denise GIMPEL, Uni. Of Copenhagen, Denmark, 70 votes (2004)
denise@hum.ku.dk

Imre HAMAR, Eotvos Lorand Uni., Budapest, Hungary, 82 votes (2002)
hamar@ludens.elte.hu

Ann HEIRMAN, Ghent Uni., Belgium, 79 votes (2002)
Ann.Heirman@UGent.be

Anna KHAMATOVA, Far Eastern State University, Vladivostok, Russ. Fed., 62 votes (2002)
khamatov@raf.dvgu.ru

Olga LOMOVÁ, Charles Uni., Prague, Czech. Rep., 87 votes (2000)
lom@ruk.cuni.cz

Cecilia MILWERTZ, NIAS, Denmark, 65 votes (2004)
milwertz@nias.ku.dk

Achim MITTAG, Kulturwissenschaftliches Institut Essen, Germany, 63 votes (2002) (resigned)

Andrey OSTROVSKIY, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russ. Fed., 60 votes (2000)

ostrovski@ifes-ras.ru
Lauri PALTEMAA, Uni. of Turku,
Finland, 81 votes (2004)
lauri.paltemaa@utu.fi

Irina POPOVA, Russian Academy of
Sciences, St. Petersburg, Russ. Fed.,
79 votes (2002)
popova@mail.convey.ru

Jana ROŠKER, Uni. of Ljubljana,
Slovenia, 89 votes (2002)
jana.rosker@guest.arnes.si

Guido SAMARANI, Ca' Foscari Uni.,
Venice, Italy, 80 votes (2002)
samarani@unive.it

Stefania STAFUTTI, Uni. of Torino,
Italy, 81 votes (2000)
stafutti@cisi.unito.it

SUN Lam, Uni. of Minho Braga,
Portugal, 84 votes (2002)
slc@ilch.uminho.pt

Marina SVENSSON, Lund Uni.,
Sweden, 90 votes (2002)
marina.svensson@ostas.lu.se

Maghiel van CREVEL, Leiden Uni.,
Netherlands, 78 votes (2000)
m.van.crevel@let.leidenuniv.nl

Tim WRIGHT, Uni. of Sheffield,
U.K., 89 votes (2002)
T.Wright@sheffield.ac.uk

Matthias RICHTER, University of
Hamburg, Germany, 56 votes (2004)
matthias.richter@uni-hamburg.de

The following account auditors were
elected by the General Assembly by
direct vote:

Luca Pisano, University of Torino,
lupisano@inrete.it
Bart Dessein, University of Ghent,
Bart.Dessein@UGent.be

At the first meeting of the new Board
on 28 August 2004 in Heidelberg, a
new executive committee was elected:

President: Brunhild Staiger, Institute
of Asian Affairs Hamburg
staiger@ifa.duei.de

Treasurer: Matthias Richter, Uni-
versity of Hamburg
matthias.richter@uni-hamburg.de

Secretary: Olga Lomova, Charles
University
lom@ruk.cuni.cz

Stefania Stafutti (University of Torino,
stafutti@cisi.unito.it) was elected as
Vice-President

Our new webmaster will be Luca
Pisano, University of Torino,
Dipartimento di Orientalistica –
Sezione Sinologica, Via Giulia di
Barolo 3/a, 10124 Torino, Italy. Fax
(to be addressed to both Luca Pisano
and Stefania Stafutti) +39 011
6703858. E-mail: lupisano@inrete.it

The newsletter will continue in the
hands of Ann Heirman, University of
Ghent; Ann.Heirman@UGent.be

The President and Board of EACS
would like to express their thanks to
Hans van Ess for his sterling efforts
over 6 years as Treasurer of the
Association. He has worked tirelessly
to put our finances and procedures on
a firm footing. Thanks also to Alain
Peyraube, whose achievements during

his two years as President included the initiation of the Young Scholar Award.

As for the next conference venue in 2008:

There was only one proposal for the next conference venue submitted during the General Assembly – **Lund, in Sweden**. A majority of EACS members present at the General Assembly voted for this proposal and the Board meeting afterwards approved this vote. This means that our XVIIth biennial conference will be held in 2008 in Sweden, in Lund.

YOUNG SCHOLAR AWARD THE RESULTS

In 2003, upon the suggestion of Alain Peyraube, we announced a competition for the first EACS Young Scholar Award (see Newsletter No. 31, December 2003). We received altogether thirteen applications from students and young scholars active in seven different countries. The papers covered a wide range of topics, including various aspects of Chinese philosophy, Chinese social structure, modern history and social habits, gender related topics, cultural stereotypes related to Taiwan, literature, as well as linguistics. One applicant withdrew his paper in the last moment and another application could not be taken into consideration, since the paper did not meet the formal requirements. Thus, eleven papers were evaluated, each by two external reviewers, leading specialists in the respective field. On the basis of these evaluations, the committee

selected the three best papers (Chao-Jan Chen: *Character-Sense Association: A Study on Automatic Sense Determination for Chinese V-V Compounds*; Xavier Paules: *A Study of Canton Opium Smokers in the 1930's*; David A. Palmer: *Body Cultivation in Contemporary China*). The authors were invited to present the results of their research during the biennial conference in Heidelberg. After the presentation the committee discussed the papers again. The final decision was not easy to make in part because of differences in the topics and in the methodologies used. That is why the committee decided in the end to award the 2004 YSA to two papers:

Chao-Jan CHEN (Université Paris VII): *Character-Sense Association: A Study on Automatic Sense Determination for Chinese V-V Compounds*

Xavier PAULES (Lyon): *A Study of Canton Opium Smokers in the 1930's*

The competition proved to be a success and we hope to receive even more excellent papers for the next competition to be held in 2006 in Ljubljana. Many thanks to all the participants, and congratulations to the YSA winners!

The members of the committee:

Alain Peyraube (CNRS, Paris, France)

Rudolf Wagner (Heidelberg)

Glen Dudbridge (Oxford)

Hans van Ess (München)

Mette Thunoe (Copenhagen)

RESEARCH PROJECT ON 'HUMOUR' IN CHINA

Below I am presenting a proposal for a research project to be carried out on a Europe-wide basis and to be submitted to the European Science Foundation for funding for a workshop. The project is open to all EACS members who are working on or are interested in the topic.

“Humour” as a research topic has aroused wide interest into Western cultures, but, with a few exceptions, is not widely investigated with reference to China. What C.T. Hsia, back in the 1950s, wrote on the Chinese being “a noisy people supremely gifted with the sense of the ridiculous...” whose “various forms of ridicule and laughter...do not have the dignity or charity of humour” is somehow provocative and even challenging but, half a century later, deserves some additional reflection.

Nowadays, we have a wide choice of examples of Chinese humour on the Net, both in Chinese and in English, with very interesting hints on the self-perception and the self-depiction of Chinese communities overseas, but these materials have been very little exploited by scholars; nor have they been used in the course of scholarly reflection on what humour is in China and among the Chinese, and on which are its specific features.

Chinese scholars have continued to consider the question of humour in Chinese culture mainly on the basis of literary sources. Attempts at classifying different kinds of humour in Chinese traditional

literature have been carried out (for instance by Lin Yutang), their conclusions are open to questioning and rethinking, for example with regard to their specific definition of different forms of “feminine” and “masculine” humour.

The view of the love of self-denigrating humour resulting from the influence of Confucian culture (as developed by Chao-chih Liao) may need to be revisited when we take into consideration Taiwanese society as well as Mainland China's. The problem of the “regional” characteristics of Chinese humour becomes crucial when one takes into account the so-called “referential humour” (see the work of Chlopicki), whose technique of the “satirical edge” is strongly situational and tightly connected to the peculiarities of a given society, often within a specific time period. All the Chinese, no matter where they were born and live, do probably share some features of the so-labelled “Chinese sense of humour”, but also develop different and specific perceptions of humour and responses to it, depending on the different societies they are part of.

The topic of Chinese humour is very wide. It offers the opportunity to scrutinize a great quantity of different source materials. It opens the possibility of using different approaches and different disciplines. Being intimately interwoven with social prescriptions and taboos, it can be investigated from the anthropological and the sociological point of view. In its satirical expression it is often used to mock the rulers and the paraphernalia of power, and it cannot but be read in connection

with the political and historical development of China. Cinema and performing arts are privileged means to give vent to any sort of social criticism under highly formalized patterns, which include the exploitation of all the techniques of humour and of the grotesque. Thanks to the specific characteristics of the Chinese language (for example the high degree of ambiguity and ambivalence offered by the large number of the homophones, as exemplified in riddles and *xiangsheng*, linguists are provided with plenty of material for investigation. Also traditional and contemporary literature are, of course, prominent fields on which research could be carried out.

Laughter is said to have been offered by gods to the sons of the Mediterranean sea, while in the third century the anonymous author of the papyrus of Leiden states that the Universe took shape after one week's laughter by God. Different views of the relationship between human beings, the Cosmos and the realm of the divine involve different ideas on the function of humour within society, which can lead to fruitful comparative approaches.

The basic schedule of the project is as follows:

1. 1 February 2005, deadline for proposal of papers
2. 1 May 2005, submission of application to the ESF
3. Spring 2006, Workshop
4. August 2006, Panel on "Humour" during the EACS Conference in Ljubljana
5. 2007, publication of a collective volume

Individual as well as group proposals are welcome. Please contact me at my e-mail address:

stefania.stafutti@unito.it

A website will be developed in order to facilitate communication among those participating in the project.

Stefania Stafutti - University of Torino

**CONFERENCE
ANNOUNCEMENT**

CALL FOR PAPERS: EXPLORING
CHINA'S MUSICAL PAST: 10TH
INTERNATIONAL CHIME MEET-
ING, 6-9 OCTOBER 2005, AM-
STERDAM

Two themes will feature in the 10th international CHIME (European Foundation for Chinese Music Research) meeting, which will be held in Amsterdam in The Netherlands from 6 to 9 October 2005, in conjunction with a major festival of Chinese music: 1) Exploring China's musical past (focussing on the reconstruction and reinvention of recent and older genres of music in China); 2) Audiovisual materials of recent fieldwork on (any kind of) music in China or among Chinese-speaking communities.

The meeting will be held at the KIT Theater (the Royal Tropical Institute), and is organized in co-operation with the Music Department of the University of Amsterdam and the International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS).

For this meeting, we welcome papers which focus on wider (contextual and

musical) implications of the first theme on the basis of concrete examples. For the second theme (recent fieldwork), we welcome scholarly presentations of audiovisual materials in any genre or area of Chinese music. Abstracts of up to 300 words for individual (20-minute) papers should be sent by mail, fax or e-mail to:

Programme Committee of the 10th CHIME Meeting, c/o P.O.Box 11092, 2301 EB Leiden, The Netherlands, e-mail: chime@wxs.nl, fax: +31-71-5123.183.

Panel proposals (for three or four speakers) are also welcomed. We ask for a short description of the panel topic as well as for individual abstracts by the panel participants.

Abstracts must have reached us by the 15th of April 2005. Possibilities exist for early acceptance for those who need to rely on this for grant applications.

Participating in this meeting is also possible without giving a presentation. If you are interested, please notify the organizers (same address as Programme Committee), and let us know your e-mail address, so that we can keep you posted. More news on the meeting and on possibilities for pre-registration and booking of accommodation is available on the CHIME website at <http://home.wxs.nl/~chime>

CHIANG CHING-KUO FOUNDATION LIBRARY TRAVEL GRANT

In 2004 the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation continues its generous support to the EACS with a grant to support one-week visits for specialised research in Sinological libraries in Cambridge, Heidelberg, Leiden, London, Oxford, Paris or Munich.

Applicants should be Sinologists based permanently in Europe and preferably paid-up members of the EACS. Applications from non-members will be considered, however, especially in case of students and young scholars (up to 35 years), if accompanied by a recommendation letter from EACS member.

PRIORITIES for the applicants are as follows:

- a. Central and Eastern Europe students
- b. Western Europe students
- c. Central and Eastern Europe scholars
- d. Western Europe scholars

APPLICATIONS must include:

- 1) a letter stating the library to be visited and intended dates of travel;
- 2) a statement of purpose, with a short description of the research project, including precise indication of the sources and material to be used (the easiest way to obtain this information is to go to electronic catalogues of the respective libraries accessible also through the EACS website at www.soas.ac.uk/eacs);
- 3) a written statement obtained from the Librarian of the institution where the proposed visit is to take place confirming that the research materials

that are required are available for consultation;

4) a one-page curriculum vitae with a list of main publications (in case of more advanced scholars);

5) a budget including the travelling and living expenses (Apex economy airfare or 2nd class rail fare, a reasonably priced accommodation);

6) in the case of Ph.D. students, a letter of recommendation from their supervisor;

7) in the case of non-members, a letter of recommendation from an EACS member;

8) address for correspondence, including fax and E-mail where possible.

APPLICATIONS should be sent by mail or fax to the secretary general (Olga Lomová, Institute of East Asian Studies, Charles University, Celetna 20, Prague 1, Czech Republic; fax: +420 224491423; e-mail: lom@ruk.cuni.cz) **and** to one of the following:

1) for research on pre-modern China (i.e. before 1840) to Dr. Bernhard Fuehrer, School of Oriental and African Studies, London, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG, United Kingdom. Fax: +44 (0) 20 7898 4239. E-mail: bf3@soas.ac.uk

2) for research on modern China (i.e. from 1840) to Prof. Guido Samarani, Universita Ca' Foscari di Venezia, Department of East Asian Studies, Palazzo Vendramin, Dorsoduro 3462, 30123 Venezia, Italy. Tel. +39 041 2349511, Fax. +39 041 2349596. E-mail: samarani@helios.unive.it

3) for research, which straddles the 1840 limit: either to Prof. Fuehrer or to Prof. Samarani.

It is advisable to apply at least three months before the visit is planned to take place.

APPROVAL PROCESS

There are four deadlines for application every year: March 15th, June 15th, September 15th and December 15th. A special committee will evaluate the applications received and the results will be announced before the end of that month.

PAYMENT OF GRANTS

1) If applications are approved, grants will be made to include travelling expenses and a per diem allowance, which will vary from place to place. The maximum amount given for one grant is 1000 Euro.

2) The grants will be paid on completion of the visit only.

3) In special cases when the applicant for serious reasons has to receive the grant in advance, please indicate it in the application.

4) On completion of their visit, all scholars should obtain a letter signed by the Librarian, certifying that the visit has been made and specifying the dates when it began and ended.

5) All scholars should send the Librarian's letter directly to the EACS President, Prof. Brunhild STAIGER: Institut für Asienkunde Rothenbaumchaussee 32, D-20148 Hamburg, Germany. E-mail: staiger@ifa.duei.de

6) Upon completion of the visit, a brief report should be sent to Olga

Lomová (see her address above). Any publication using material collected under this program should include acknowledgement of help received from the CCK Foundation.

LIBRARIANS

(For further details about the libraries see our web-site or the web-site of the European Association of Sinological Librarians at: <http://www.easl.org>)

FRANCE: Delphine Spicq,
Bibliothèque de l'Institut des Hautes
Etudes Chinoises, Collège de France,
52 rue du Cardinal Lemoine, 75231
Paris Cedex 05, France. Fax: +33-1-44
27 18 79. E-mail:
delphine.spicq@college-de-france.fr

GERMANY: Ms A. Labitzky-
Wagner, Sinologisches Seminar,
Universität Heidelberg,
Akademiestrasse 4-8, D-69117
Heidelberg, Germany. Fax: +49-6221-
54 24 39. E-mail: alw@gw.sino.uni-heidelberg.de

Ms. Renate Stephan, Bavarian State
Library, Section East Asia, Fax + 49-
89-28636-2805. E-mail: stephan-bahle@bsb-muenchen.de

NETHERLANDS: Hanno Lecher
M.A., Sinologisch Instituut,
Arsenaalstraat 1, 2311CT, Leiden, The
Netherlands. Fax: +31-71-27 226 15.
E-mail: bibchin@let.leidenuniv.nl

UNITED KINGDOM: Charles
Aylmer, Chinese Section, University
Library, West Road, Cambridge CB3
9DR, United Kingdom. Fax: +44-
1223-333 160. E-mail:
caa@ula.cam.ac.uk

Sue Small, School of Oriental &
African Studies, University of
London, Thornhaugh Street, Russell
Square, London WC1H OXG, UK.
Fax: +44-171-436 38 44. E-mail:
ss8@soas.ac.uk

Frances Wood, British Library,
Chinese Section, Oriental & India
Office Collections, 96 Euston Road,
London NW1 2DB, UK. Fax: +44-
171-412 78 58. E-mail: oioc-chinese@bl.uk

David Helliwell, Bodleian Library,
Oxford, OX1 3BG, United Kingdom.
Fax: +44-1865 277132. E-mail:
djh@bodley.ox.ac.uk

Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation Library Travel Grant – 2004 Report

In the first half of 2004, 12 grants were received by students and young scholars. Among the grantees 3 were from Russia, 4 from Slovenia, 1 from Slovakia and one Lithuanian. Besides, the stipend was given also to two Italian students.

name and status	project	institution	visited library
Agaronova, Maria assistant/PhD.student	<i>Chinese Avant-garde fiction</i>	St. Petersburg University	London
Almametov, Alan PhD. student	<i>Chinese influences on medieval art of Central Asia</i>	The Hermitage, St. Petersburg	London
Gamsa, Mark research fellow	<i>Three Russian Writers in China: The Translation and Reception of Boris Savinkov, Mikhail Artsybashev and Leonid Andreev in the Republican Period (1911–1948).</i>	at present at Oxford University	Leiden
Gregusova, Gabriela PhD. student	<i>Problems of Slovak companies exporting to the Peoples' Republic of China</i>	Bratislava, Slovak Academy of Sciences	Heidelberg
Istemic, Sasa PhD. student	<i>Drawing Parallels between Nationalism and Environmentalism in Taiwan</i>	University of Leeds/Ljubljana University	Heidelberg
Pochagina, Olga research fellow	<i>The Person in Chinese Civilization</i>	Moscow, Russian Academy of Sciences	London
Petrovic, Mateja R. PhD. student	<i>The features and usage of the particle le in Mandarin</i>	University of Ljubljana	Heidelberg
Sabattini, Elisa	<i>Concept of yue/le</i>	Padova	Leiden

PhD. student	<i>(music/joy) in pre-Han texts</i>		
Togni, Monica de post doc.	<i>Sichuan county governement in the early Republican period</i>	Venice	Paris
Urbanija, Mastic	<i>Yijing and correlative thinking</i>	University of Ljubljana	Heidelberg
Vampelj Suhadolic, Natasa junior researcher/PhD. student	<i>Reflection of the cosmological perception and the understanding of the world through the arrangement of the places, grave architecture and art in the imperial tombs of the Qin and Han dynasties</i>	University of Ljubljana	Heidelberg
Wolf, Natasa PhD. student	<i>Confucianism and it's influence on contemporary East Asian society</i>	University of Ljubljana	Heidelberg
Lauri Paltemaa Ph. D. Student	<i>Chinese Democracy Movement in late 1970's</i>	Ph. D. Student Finnish Graduate School of East and Southeast Asian Studies Department of Contemporary History University of Turku, Finland	

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Е. Боровская (N.Ye. Borevskaya), Государство и школа [The State and the School: Chinese Experience at the Turn of the IIIrd Millennium]. Moscow: Vostochnaya literature, 2003. 272 pp. In Russian (English summary included). ISBN 5-02-018318-0.

Michael Dickhardt and Vera Dorofeeva-Lichtmann (eds.), *Creating and Representing Sacred Spaces*. Göttinger Beiträge zur Asienforschung, Vol.2-3 [Special Double Issue with papers by Rudolf Brandl on the creation of ritual space in the Nuo ritual in Guichi, Anhui province (pp. 99-111); Maria Khayutina on the sacred space of an aristocratic clan in Zhou China under transformation (pp. 113-144); and Vera Dorofeeva-Lichtmann on text as a device for mapping a sacred space, the case of the Wu Zang Shan Jing (pp. 147-210)]. Göttingen: Peust & Gutschmidt Verlag, 2003. ISSN 1618-310X. 40 €

Extrême-Orient, Extrême-Occident is published annually. The latest issue (Vol. 26) is entitled *De la difficulté de juger. Quelques ressources du mode critique en Chine et au Viêt Nam*, and is edited by Stéphane Feuillas and Rainier Lanselle. It deals with various expressions and functions of critical discourse in social and intellectual practices of ancient China and Viêt Nam. It includes an introduction by Stéphane Feuillas, and papers by

François Martin, Valérie Lavoix, Romain Graziani, Stéphane Feuillas, Emmanuel Poisson, Rainier Lanselle and François De Gandt. This issue also gives an overview of the tables of content of all previous issues. 178 pp., 15 €.

For further information and subscription details, please contact: Presses Universitaires de Vincennes, Université de Paris VIII, 2 rue de la Liberté, 93526 Saint Denis Cedex 02, France. Tel. +33-149406788; Fax +33-149406753;

E-mail: Presses-universitaires.Vincennes@univ-paris8.fr

António Graça de Abreu, *D. Frei Alexandre de Gouveia, Bispo de Pequim (1751-1808), Contribuição par o Estudo das Relações entre Portugal e a China* [a biography of the Franciscan D. Alexandre de Gouveia, the Portuguese bishop of Peking from 1783 to 1808]. Lisboa: CEPCEP, Universidade Católica, 2004. 254 pp. ISBN 972-9045-13-5. 15 €

А.Г. Ларин (A.G. Larin). Китайцы в России вчера и сегодня [Chinese Community in Russia: Past and Present]. Moscow: Muravei, 2003. 223 pp. In Russian (English summary included). ISBN 5-84630092-8.

Georg Lehner, *Der Druck chinesischer Zeichen in Europa. Entwicklungen im 19. Jahrhundert*. Wiesbaden: Harrasso-

witz, 2004. 307 pp. ISBN 3-447-05005-5. 78 €

Harro von Senger, *36 Strategeme für Manager*. München: Verlag Carl Hanser, 2004. 222 pp. ISBN 3-446-22844-6. 9.90 €

EACS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Surname: Given name: Title:	Corporation (Corporate membership applicants only):
Date of birth:	Nationality:
Institutional mailing address: Tel: Fax: E-mail:	Private mailing address: Tel: Fax: E-mail:
What is your field of study in Chinese studies (if any)?	
In what capacity are you engaged in Chinese studies (if any)?	
Date:	
Signature:	

Membership application form is to be sent or faxed to the EACS Secretary Olga LOMOVÁ, Institute of East Asian Studies, Charles University, Celetná 20, 116 42 PRAHA 1, Czech Republic. Tel. +420 24 49 14 21; fax: +420 24 49 14 23. E-mail: lom@ruk.cuni.cz

EACS MEMBERSHIP PAYMENT

EACS membership fee is at present €20 per annum for individual and corporate members (for members from countries of the former Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Romania the cost is € 10.00), and €10 per annum for student members (remember to send in student-ID). Fee payment for two or three years is recommended to save transfer costs. The EACS Newsletter is sent free of charge to all members.

Please send payment to the EACS Treasurer Matthias Richter, Universität Hamburg, Asien-Afrika-Institut (ChinA), Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1 Ost, D-20146 Hamburg, Germany. For members living in the EURO zone the most convenient way of payment would be by bank transfer to the EACS account: Dresdner Bank, bank code 200 800 00, account 04009 952 01. Please use standard international transfer with IBAN: DE 29 20080000 0400995201; SWIFT-BIC: DRES DE FF 200. Remember to add the name of the Treasurer when making this type of transfer.

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