

Lan-Tang Series". Among them are extant copies and other historical items that were selected and included in the exhibition. All these enable us to see the criteria and vision in the selection of books during that period. One can also understand the importance and the quality of the Rare Books Collections of the NCL.

CCS News and Activities

■ CCS Seminars

Visiting scholar Associate Prof. Olga Lomová presented a paper at a seminar held by the Center for Chinese Studies (CCS) on June 24, 2008. Prof. Lomová, a CCS scholarship recipient from the Institute of East Asian Studies at Charles University in the Czech Republic, delivered her paper in Chinese on the topic of "Translating Sima Qian—An Attempt at a Cross-cultural Communication." The seminar was presided by Prof. Fang Yu of the Department of Chinese Literature at National Taiwan University.

Prof. Lomová, who also serves as director of the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation International Sinological Center at Charles University, is an expert on ancient Chinese poetry and literature. She noted that the translation of Chinese documents has always been a focal task of Sinology in Europe. Prof. Lomová has translated the Classic of Tea, Three Heroes and Five Gallants and other Chinese classics. She also continued the translation started by Czech Sinologist Dr. Timoteus Pokora (1928~1985) of Sima Qian's Records of the Grand Historian and

plans to publish a selected translation into Czech. When translating classical works of different cultures, Prof. Lomová notes that it is important to closely study the methodology issues involved and also consider changes to the meaning of the document resulting from translation into a new language removed from the work's original cultural and historical context. The interpretive role of the translator as well as the intended readership must also be considered. Prof. Lomová said she hopes to convey in her translation Sima Qian's concept of the fading away of historical events, as well as the literary beauty of the Records of the Grand Historian. She believes that the reworking of the meticulous academic style of rendering Dr. Pokora's translation into a fluent form will contribute greatly to cross-cultural communication.

Prof. Lomová illustrated her views with specific examples, noting that this work is positioned between early and modern western translation and research of the Records of the Grand Historian.

■ "Beyond Text" Forum Explores Material Culture

An international forum on "Beyond Text: Multicultural Historic Perspectives on Material Culture" was held at the NCL on September 19, 2008. The forum was organized by the Research Center for Humanities and Social Sciences at Tsing Hua University and the Center for Chinese Studies (CCS) at the NCL with support from the Cabinet-level National Science Council (NSC). Guest speakers at the forum included Prof. Evelyn Welch and Prof. Frank Dikotter of London University. They spoke, respectively on the topics of "Touching the Past: A Study of Material Culture in Early Modern Europe" and "Tangible Worship: A Study of Modern Material Culture." Participants from Taiwan included National Central University Prof. Kang Lai-si, who spoke on "Material Culture in the Dream of the Red Chamber"; and National Tsing Hua University Associate Prof. Chen Chueh, who spoke on "Material Culture in Overseas Travel Notes from



Prof. Olga Lomová (front row, second from left), Prof. Fang Yu (front row, second from right), and seminar participants (Photo by Caesar Tsai)

the Late Qing Period." Academia Sinica fellow Huang Yi-long delivered the forum's closing speech.

■ *CCS Visiting Scholars in 2009*

The Center for Chinese Studies finalized its list of visiting scholar research grant recipients for 2009. A total of 90 grant applications was assessed by selection committee that convened on August 18, chaired by NCL Director and joined by six experts. After enthusiastic debate and careful selection, 20 grant recipients and 7 alternates were selected as follows (arranged alphabetically by country name):

1. Severina Angelova Balabanova: Female; Bulgaria; Post doctoral studies, Chinese Philosophy, University of Montreal, Canada; Research topic: Aesthetic Implications in the Philosophical Text "Liu zi xin lun"; Research period: Four months.
2. Poul Andersen: Male; Denmark; Associate Professor in Department of Religion, University of Hawaii at Manoa, USA; Research topic: The Yushu Jing and Daoist Iconography; Research period: Four months.
3. Vanessa Frangville: Female; France; Post doctoral studies in Chinese Department, Jean Moulin University of Lyon 3, France; Research topic: Cultural Display of Taiwanese Aborigines in the Context of Taiwan's National Construction; Research period: Six months.
4. Ingmar Heise: Male; Germany; Ph.D. Candidate of Department of Theology & Religious Studies, University of Bristol, UK; Research topic: Buddhist Death Rituals in Fujian; Research period: Three months.
5. Ju LanThung: Female; Indonesia; Professor in Research Center for Society and Culture, The Indonesian Institute of Sciences, Indonesia; Research topic: "Chinese" Identity and the Cultural Rights of Taiwan Minorities; Research period: Three months.
6. Federica Casalin: Female; Italy; Assistant Professor in Faculty of Oriental Studies, University of Rome, Italy; Research topic: Rome Presented to the Chinese; Research period: Three months.
7. Nagatom Hiramamai: Male; Japan; Ph.D. Candidate in Department of History, University of Pennsylvania, USA; Research topic: The Ideas and Politics of "Youth": The Young China Association and the Chinese Youth Party; Research period: Three months.
8. Daisuke Wakamatsu: Male; Japan; Ph.D. candidate of the Department of Area Studies at the University of Tokyo; Research topic: From Modernization to Indigenization: The Continuity of Historical Subjectivity in Post-war Taiwan; Research period: Six months.
9. Min-Ho Kim: Male; Korea; Associate Professor in the Department of Chinese Studies at Hallym University; Research topic: Korea Impressions of China in Yanxinglu; Research period: Three months.
10. Leikuan Rongdao Lai: Female; Malaysia; Ph.D. Candidate of Faculty of Religious Studies, McGill University, Canada; Research topic: Nationalistic Thoughts in Taixu's Reform; Research period: Four months.
11. Dugarjav Naran: Male; Mongolia; Professor in School of Foreign Languages and Culture, National University of Mongolia, Mongolia; Research topic: The Key Issues of Trilateral Relations Between Mongolia, Manchu's Jin State and Ming Dynasty in Early 17th Century; Research period: Four months.
12. Gerald Chan: Male; New Zealand; Professor in Centre for Contemporary Chinese Studies, School of Government and International Affairs, University of Durham, UK; Research topic: Taiwan: National Renewal and International Survival; Research period: Three months.
13. Anna Rudakowska: Female; Poland; Ph.D. Candidate of Vrije University, Political Science, Brussel, Belgium (VUB); Research topic: Normative Power Europe: The Role of Norms and Values in the European Union Policies towards China and Taiwan; Research period: Six months.
14. Ekaterina Zavidovskaya: Female; Russia; Assistant Professor in Centre of Comparative Studies of Far Eastern Civilizations, Institute of