The year 2047 marks the 50th anniversary of the Hong Kong handover. The forum “2047 New Voices in Politics”, co-organized by Initium Media, SMLC’s Hong Kong Studies Programme and the Faculty of Arts, the University of Hong Kong, gathered representative voices from a diverse political spectrum in town and attracted over 100 participants.

It was hosted by Dr. FONG Chi-hang, Brian 杨志恒 with six guest speakers including AU Nok-hin 卢诺轩 (The Democratic Party), Dr. CHENG Chung-tai 郑松泰 (Civic Passion), Holden CHOW Ho-ding 周浩鼎 (The Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong), HO Kwan Yiu Junius 何君尧 (District Councilor(Tuen Mun)), Dominic LEE Tsz King 李梓敬 (The Liberal Party) and Baggio LEUNG 梁颂恒 (Youngspiration) invited to share their views on different political topics in regard to Hong Kong’s future such as nonviolent resistance, localism, post-2047 issue, etc.
The Critical Dialogues series
China Studies, 10 Mar – 06 Jun, 2016

The Critical Dialogues series, jointly organized by SMLC and the Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences, brought together six clusters of speakers to explore significant problems about China Studies. The key feature of these events, held from March to June, was that they were conducted in the format of extemporaneous conversations rather than as conventional single-speaker lectures or pre-arranged panel discussions. The participants were all distinguished scholars in various sub-fields, including digital humanities, ethnic studies, gender studies, Hong Kong studies, international relations, and war studies. They engaged with one another and with audience members about complex issues in research methodology and paradigms, and also explained the state of the China Studies field in North America, Europe, and Asia. The dialogue format facilitated the exploration of diverse topics within one session, and demonstrated how scholarly ideas are generated through collaborative debates.

March 10, 2016
Digital Humanities in China Studies
Peter BOL (Harvard) and James Z. LEE (HKUST), Moderator: Michael NG (HKU)

March 21, 2016
Gender in China Studies
Louise EDWARDS (UNSW) and Harriet ZURNDORFER (Leiden), Moderator: Clara HO (HKBU)

April 29, 2016
War Memories in China Studies
Michael SZONI (Harvard) and LIN Wei-ping (National Taiwan University), Moderator: CHING May-bo (CityU)

May 20, 2016
Ethnic Studies in China
Mark C. ELLIOTT (Harvard) and LIU Xiaomeng (Jilin Normal University), Moderator: XIANG Biao (Oxford)

June 1, 2016
China in the World
Alka ACHARYA (Jawaharlal Nehru University) and Arif DIROLIK (Duke emeritus), Moderator: XU Guoqi (HKU)

June 6, 2016
Hong Kong in China Studies
John CARROLL (HKU), Stephen Y.W CHU (HKU), and FU Poshek (University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign)
Movie Screening: Timbuktu
And discussion with the film director, Mr. Abderrahmane Sissako

French Programme & African Studies, 21 Mar 2016 (Mon)

On the 21st March 2016, award winning film director, Abderrahmane Sissako was in HKU for the screening of his film Timbuktu.

Timbuktu (2014) looks at the brief occupation of the city of Timbuktu in Mali by a radical Islamic group and the imposition of strict Sharia law on its population. The film tells the story of Kidane, a cattle herder who lives peacefully in the dunes with his wife and children outside Timbuktu, now ruled by religious fundamentalists. In town, the inhabitants suffer, powerless, from the regime of terror imposed by the Jihadists determined to control their faith. Every day, the new improvised courts issue tragic and absurd sentences. Kidane destiny changes when he accidentally kills a fisherman who slaughtered “GPS,” his beloved cow.

The film was part of the official selection of the 2014 Cannes Film Festival. It was nominated for the 87th Academy Awards and the 69th British Academy Awards and it received seven awards at the 2015 national film awards in France including the award for the best film and for the best director.

The screening was followed by a one hour discussion between Mr. Sissako and the audience. During this discussion Mr. Sissako told the audience about his motivation to make this film and described the conditions in which the movie was shot.

This event was part of the 2016 HKU- Francophone Film Festival organized by the Consulate General of France in Hong Kong and Macau, The HKU French programme and the HKU French Society and was co-organized by the HKU African Studies Programme with the support of the Faculty of Arts. Mr. Eric Berti, Consul general of France in HK and Macau delivered the opening speech.
Take a Photo in a Kimono: Traditional Japanese Inns and their Great Female Managers
Japan Month @HKU 2016
Japanese Studies, 05-29 April, 2016

April is Japan Month in the School of Modern Languages and Cultures, and this year's program saw the popular return of Okami-san, or female Japanese traditional inn managers, from Hokkaido, Fukushima, Hakone and Kagoshima.

This year, the four Okami-san appeared in two events that were held at the University Museum and Art Gallery on April 19. They brought in the beautiful silk kimonos from Japan especially for the first event, “Take a Photo in a Kimono”. They were furisode, the most formal kimonos with long sleeves with brightly colored patterns. They were paired with elaborate obi bows. In the course of 90 minutes, Okami-san dressed 19 HKU students who had their picture taken by a professional photographer from Canon.

This was followed by “A Dialogue with Okami-san”, in which they explained their multiple duties and responsibilities to HKU Foundation members, alumni and staff who packed the gallery in Fung Ping Shan Building. Okami-san explained that Japanese traditional inn is usually a family business, and they play an active role in customer relations, staff training, and interior decoration including flower arrangements.

These events coincided with a fabulous exhibition “The Art of Takashi Wakamiya: Contemporary Japanese Lacquer”. Thus, the afternoon concluded with a guided tour by Dr. Florian Knothe, the Director of University Museum and Art Gallery.

The Okami-san events were organized with the kind support of Japan Airlines International Co., Ltd., Canon Hongkong Co., Ltd, The Japan Society of Hong Kong, and HKU’s Development & Alumni Affairs Office.

In April 2006, the Department of Japanese Studies and a student association and the Japanese Society, A.A.H.K.U.S.U. began co-organizing Japan Month at HKU. Eleven years later, it continues to provide an effective means of networking and of generating the publicity essential to creating off-campus learning opportunities.
Panorama of Contemporary Cinemas from Latin America and Spain at HKU

Spanish Programme, 31 Mar - 16 Apr 2016

In March and April 2016, the Spanish programme organized a series of film screenings in collaboration with SMLC’s American Studies and African Studies programmes, the Department of Comparative Literature, the Center for the Study of Globalization and Cultures at HKU, and the Spanish Chamber of Commerce.

SMLC has been promoting Spanish-speaking movies among students for a number of years but it was the first time to organize and widely promote them to our teachers, students as well as the public at large.

All the screenings were well attended and the post-screening discussions were informative and extremely engaging for our students as well the general public. Special thanks to the governmental and non-governmental institutions in Hong Kong, the USA, the film distributor PRAGDA, and the Consulates of Argentina, Mexico and Spain for their sponsorship and support.

Award of RGC funding (GRF/ECS)

The Research Grants Council (RGC) has announced the results for the General Research Fund (GRF) and Early Career Scheme (ECS) of the 2016/17 exercise and some of our teachers have been awarded the above research funds.

Warmest congratulations to all of them!

<table>
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<tr>
<th>General Research Fund (GRF) Awardees</th>
<th>Early Career Scheme (ECS) Awardees</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. S. Auer</td>
<td>Dr. T. Gruenewald</td>
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<td>Dr. C.R. Vogt</td>
<td>Dr. D.T. Poch</td>
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<td>Dr. T.U. Goddard</td>
<td>Dr. D.M. Trambaiolo</td>
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<td>Dr. S.K. Cha</td>
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Conferences

Teacher Training Conference for Teachers of Spanish as a Foreign Language
Spanish Programme, 11-12 Mar, 2016

On the 11th and 12th of March 2016, for the fourth year in a row, the annual Teacher Training Conference for Teachers of Spanish as a Foreign Language, organized by the Spanish Programme together with Edinumen publishing house, and hosted by HKU, attracted more than a hundred people with four plenary talks and twenty workshops given by academics, experts and educators from around the world. You can visit the official website of the conference for more information.

Multilingual Hong Kong as Seen through the Eyes of Japanese
Japanese Studies, 25 June, 2016 (Sat)

The Japanese Language Programme hosted an open symposium titled “Multilingual Hong Kong as Seen through the Eyes of Japanese” on June 25. The symposium was held in collaboration with the team of a Japan-based project “Constructing Plurilingual Communities in East Asia: Implications from Hong Kong” in which Dr. Miho Yorozu of the Japanese programme serves as an overseas collaborator. The event, featuring 6 invited speakers, was in part sponsored by the Japanese Government’s Grants-in-aid for Scientific Research from the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. The audience of the symposium mainly included educators and parents from Japanese and International Schools in Hong Kong and researchers and practitioners in the field of Japanese language education. The participants actively exchanged their views and opinions after each presentation.
29 Jan 2016 (Fri)
Bridging Korea Old and New: Re-Periodizing the History of Korea for a Global Age

27-29 May 2016
Connected Histories, Mirrored Empires: British and French Imperialism from the 17th through the twentieth centuries

26-27 Apr 2016
Propaganda, Persuasion, the Press and the American Revolution, 1763-1783

23-25 Jun 2016
World Studies: Approaches, Paradigms, and Debates

18 Jan 2016 (Mon)
Workshop: A Re-examination of the Records by the Iwakura Mission in Meiji Japan

21 Apr 2016 (Thu)
Workshop and Film-screening: China in foreign eyes

07-08 June 2016
Hong Kong Keywords: A Vocabulary of Hong Kong Theory
Academic Talks

**American Studies**

SMLC Seminar; 22 Jan 2016 (Fri)

**Migration and the Great Divergence: The Euro-Atlantic world and East/South Asia, 1800-1930**

By Prof. José C. MOYA

**Hong Kong Studies**

SMLC Seminar; 24 Feb 2016 (Wed)

**Maided, Mistresses, and Wives: Rethinking Kinship and the Domestic Sphere in Twenty-First Century Global Hong Kong**

By Prof. Nicole CONSTABLE

**African Studies**

14 Mar 2016 (Mon)

**Transforming the Industrial Sector in Ethiopia: A path to sustainable Development**

By Dr. Arkebe OQUBAY

**Japanese Studies**

SMLC Seminar; 17 Feb 2016 (Wed)

**Language Ideology and Literature in Imperial Japan and Beyond**

By Dr. Christina YI

**American Studies**

SMLC Seminar; 02 Mar 2016 (Wed)

**Empire, Rebellion, and the Politics of Surf Tourism**

By Prof. Scott LADERMAN

**African Studies**

17 Mar 2016 (Thu)

**Micro & SME Financing in Africa and in China: A French Approach**

By Mr. Arnaud VENTURA

**Japanese Studies**

17 Mar 2016 (Thu)

**Yasukuni Shrine and mourning the war dead in Japan**

By Prof. Haruko SATOH
American Studies

SMLC Seminar; 23 Mar 2016 (Wed)
Sexual Abuse of Black Men Under American Slavery
By Prof. Thomas A. Foster

SMLC Seminar; 13 Apr 2016 (Wed)
An Orgy of Cheerful Giving: American Humanitarian Aid to Disaster-stricken Japan
By Prof. Charles Schencking

SMLC Seminar; 25 Apr 2016 (Mon)
Approaches to women’s or gender history: A Dialogue between Elaine Crane and Mary Beth Norton
By Prof. Mary Beth Norton & Prof. Elaine Forman Crane

Hong Kong Studies

13 Apr 2016 (Wed)
Floating Mountain: A comparative approach for the understanding of an oyster farming community in Hong Kong
By Prof. Sidney C.H. Cheung

Chinese Studies

31 Mar 2016 (Thu)
Chinese Suffragette: Tang Qunying (1871-1937) and a ‘Woman’s Republic
By Prof. David Strand

European Studies

05 Apr 2016 (Tue)
Europe, Germany and the Refugee Crisis
By Mr. Karsten Tietz

Korean Studies

SMLC Seminar; 20 Apr 2016 (Wed)
Art in Southeast Asia: Curatorial and Archival Projects
By Dr. Chuong-Dai Vo

African Studies

SMLC Seminar; 19 May 2016 (Thu)
Brokering China’s extroversion: Intermediaries in the Sino-African transborder trade
By Heidi Østbø Haugen
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“The new intergovernmentalism: states and supranational actors in the post-Maastricht era”
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Manchu Studies, 2015, v. 61 n. 2

LEE, Pui Tak
“The split of the Jiangnan Arsenal and the Jiangnan Shipyard as analyzed from the perspective of Chinese business history”

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Will the centre hold? Germany, Ireland and Slovakia and the crisis of the European project, In: José M. Magone, Brigid Laffan and Christian Schweiger
Core-periphery Relations in the European Union: Power and conflict in a dualist political economy
Abingdon, Oxon ; London ; New York : Routledge, 2016, Routledge/UACES contemporary European studies ; 32, pp. 72-86

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Reshaping the Boundaries: The Christian Intersection of China and the West in the Modern Era. Gang Song (Eds.)
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“Flying with Madame Butterfly: Japan Airlines’ Kimono-Branding in the 1950s
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Research and Information Center for Asian Studies, The University of Tokyo (東洋学研究情報センター, 東京大学), Asian Studies Watching, 2015

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TEO, Victor EL
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Toward A More Amicable Asia-Pacific Region: Japan’s Roles. Sugita, Yoneyuki (Ed.)
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WONG, Dixon HW
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Studying Cross-Cultural Migration of Cultural Goods as A historical Event: Reflections on Yaohan’s Venture in Hong Kong
Anthropological Studies in China, 2015, v. 6
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# In the Media

**Dr. Facil TESFAYE**  
**The Future of Africa**  
Radio 3, RTHK; The Big Idea  
17 Jan 2016

**Dr. Dixon WONG**  
【我知我肥】我係要玩cosplay  
Apple Daily  
19 Jan 2016

**Prof. Stephen CHU**  
《太陽的後裔》熱爆亞洲 韓正統文化獲認同  
EPOCH TIMES  
13 Apr 2016

**Dr. Stefan AUER**  
**Brexit and EU Referendum**  
Radio 3, RTHK; Backchat  
27 Jun 2016

**Dr. Max WONG**  
Column in 《星期日生活》  
Mingpao

**Weekly Column《真假政經》**  
AM730

**港式K歌之死**  
Initium Media  
09 Aug 2016
Cultural and Other Events

Spanish Programme

29 Feb 2016 (Mon)
Presentation: Study in Spain
by Ms. María Luisa Ochoa

14-24 Mar 2016
HKU Francophone Film Festival 2016
Organized by the Consulate General of France in Hong Kong and Macao, the French Programme of SMLC at HKU, and French Society, A.A.H.K.U.S.U.

19 Mar 2016 (Sat)
French Speech Competition

American Studies

17 Mar 2016 (Thu)
Pulitzer Prize winning novelist Adam Johnson reads from his short story
by Prof. Adam Johnson

22 Mar 2016 (Tue)
Film Screening & Panel Discussion: Finding Samuel Lowe - From Harlem to China
by Ms Paula Madison

28 May – 04 Jun 2016
Educational Field Trip to Ethiopia

14 May 2016 (Sat)
Teacher Training Workshop

24 Jun 2016
Hong Kong Japanese School Visit

Spanish

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24 Jun 2016
Hong Kong Japanese School Visit
Staff News

Long Service Awards

Dr. Yoshiko NAKANO (Associate Professor of Japanese Studies) and Ms. Rocio BLASCO-GARCIA, (Director of Spanish Programme) received the 15-year award in recognition of their dedication, commitment and loyalty to the University. Mr. Au, Simon W.N. (Technician-AV and Computer) was also awarded the 35-year award.

Heartiest congratulations to all of them!

New Staff

Mr. José Daniel DE LAS HERAS SALDAÑA
Visiting Lecturer (Spanish Programme)

Dr. Isaac Thomas GAGNE
Temporary Assistant Professor (Japanese Studies)

Dr. Grace WANG
Fulbright Visiting Associate Professor (American Studies)

Departing Staff

Mr. Abel Pérez ABAD
Visiting Lecturer (Spanish Programme)

Miss Lilian Ka Man CHAN
Laboratory Assistant

Dr. Üner DAGLIER
Post-doctoral Fellow (European Studies)

Ms. Hyacintha Olaitan FAUSTINO
Teaching Assistant (African Studies)

Prof. Scott LADERMAN
Fulbright Visiting Professor (American Studies)

Mr. Eric Chun Kau LEE
Senior Technician

Dr. Georgios REPOUSIS
Programme director/ Lecturer (Greek Programme)

CONTACT

For more details on all of the above events, please visit http://www.smlc.hku.hk/news/

If there is any information you would like to see featured in future issues of the e-newsletter or if you have any comments or suggestions related to the current issue, please don’t hesitate to contact the Outreach and Development committee

Staff taking up new positions

Dr. Samuel Chi Hang WONG
As Temporary Assistant Professor (China Studies)