The 3rd Global Creative Industries Conference

Global Creative Industries, Conference & Exhibition, 02-03 Sep 2017 (Sat-Sun)

The Third Global Creative Industries Conference “Where Creative Industries Have Been and Where They Would Go”, co-organised by SMLC’s Global Creative Industries Programme, and Creative Push, a student organization that facilitates creative talents development in Hong Kong, was held in the University of Hong Kong from 2 to 3 September 2017.

Around a hundred scholars and industry practitioners from all around the world, including the US, Japan, and mainland China shared their research findings and insights on topics ranging from financing creative projects, running a private museum to evaluating cultural policies in this conference.

Exhibitions

One有问题的展览: 从一段潮汕旧影像说起
organized by Yuezhong Museum of Historical Images
Venue: Main Library 2/F
Exhibition Area

02-14 Sep 2017
Wanderlust: Fragments of Memory
showcase of Rika Sakai's paintings
Venue: Chi Wah Learning Commons G/F
International Conference on Re-Thinking China’s North
“再談中國北方”國際學術研討會

China Studies, Conference, 04-06 Dec 2017 (Mon-Wed)

The Arts and Social Sciences streams of China Studies held the first joint-stream international conference on the theme of “Re-thinking China’s North” from 4 to 6 December 2017. Speakers were invited from mainland China, Southeast Asia, and Europe to give presentations on various topics that ultimately contributed to a multi-disciplinary debate about what is China’s North and how the China Studies programme at HKU can become a leader in the field of Regional Studies of China.

The conference featured an opening address by Dean of Faculty of Arts, Professor Derek Collins that reflected upon China Studies’ development in the past few years, presentations by pairs of speakers and by individual speakers followed by extensive discussions, two documentary screenings, and an exhibition of items contributed by the invited speakers and curated by the conference organizing committee. The exhibition, co-sponsored by the University Museum and Art Gallery, was available for the HKU community and the general public to view on the ground floor of Chi Wah Learning Commons from 1 to 8 December 2017. China Studies programme staff expect that this conference will be the inaugural event of a future series that explores diverse subjects from a regional studies perspective.

New China Studies courses:

Dr. Till Mostowlansky (SMLC/HKIHS) expanded the teaching-learning scope of the China Studies programme this semester by giving two new courses, SINO2014 Muslim Connections across Asia and SINO 2016 Anthropology of Central Asia. These courses were valuable and unprecedented opportunities for students to explore locales and socio-cultural elements of the Islamic world, and the flows of people and material resources that link the Middle East to East Asia. Students enjoyed learning through field trips to sites in Hong Kong, attending lectures by visiting scholars like Dr. Alexander Morrison (Oxford), and conducting independent research about topics from multidisciplinary perspectives.
Sona Jobarteh @ HKU

10 Nov 2017 (Fri)

Sona Jobarteh, the first female Kora virtuoso, visited HKU on Friday, November 10, 2017 and gave a lecture demonstration to the HKU community. She was invited by the African Studies Programme, while she was in Hong Kong giving two sold-out concerts at the 2017 World Cultures Festival “Vibrant Africa” organised by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department.

Sona was born in one of the five principal griot families from West Africa and is currently based in London. She is composer, producer, musician, and the only young female griot who beautifully blends western musical styles with traditional West African sounds.

During her lecture at HKU, Sona introduced the unique West African musical culture and the distinctive instrument – the kora - used exclusively by griots. She also performed a few extracts from her new album and answered questions from the audience.

The lecture demonstration was held in the F.S. Drake Gallery of the University Museum and Art Gallery.
SMLC at HKU Information Day 2017

This year HKU Information Day was held on Saturday, November 4, 2017. On that day, the School of Modern Languages and Cultures welcomed hundreds of visitors and prospective students to a vibrant display of colors and patterns outside the Grand Hall of the Centennial Campus. Our School was praised for its visual communication as well as for the enthusiasm of teachers and students in promoting the diversity of our programmes.

Evolution of SMLC Information Day posters
Academic Talks

American Studies
12 Sep 2017 (Tue)
The Sacred Fonts of the American Mission Press:
Printing Mongolian in Canton between the Opium Wars
By Prof. Kendall JOHNSON

Hong Kong Studies
24 Oct 2017 (Tue)
The “Hong Kong Week” and the Bombs Parade: A Small Episode in the Year 1967
香港週與菠蘿陣—五十年前的一闋插曲
By Dr. Clement TONG

SMLC Seminar; 01 Nov 2017 (Wed)
Africans in Asia 1500-1900
By Mr. Clifford J Pereira FRGS

Chinese Studies
16 & 18 Oct 2017 (Mon & Wed)
The Fourth Policeman: Reconsidering FDR’s Vision for China’s Postwar Role
By Prof. Erez MANELA

African Studies
27 Oct 2017 (Fri)
The Plurality of African Arts
Panellists: Michele OLOGOUDOU, Victor NYAKAURU, Nathaniel SHEPPARD II, King HONDEPKINKOU, and Serge MOUANGUE
Moderator: Dr. Facil TESFAYE

European Studies
SMLC Seminar
15 Nov 2017 (Wed)
Brexit: where are we?
By Prof. Richard G. WHITMAN
Publications

KIM, Loretta
“From Residency to Citizenship: Chinese Nationalism and Changing Criteria for Political and Legal Interpretations of Hong Kong Identity in the Post-1997 Era”
Abingdon, Oxon, UK ; New York, NY: Routledge, 2018

NAKANO, Yoshiko
“From Dried Seafood to Instant Ramen: ‘Japanese’ Industrial Food and Hong Kong Foodways.”
Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2017

TEO, Victor EL
“Hong Kong and the Senkaku Dispute in Sino-Japanese Relations”
Palgrave Macmillan, 2017

VÁZQUEZ VÁZQUEZ, María Mercedes
“Latin American Cinema.”

WONG, Max W.L.
“Abolition of T’sip in Hong Kong香港廢妾：殖民體制及現代性的暖昧”
香港法律文化研究. Ed. 何志輝 p. 177-195

WONG, Max W.L.
Re-ordering Hong Kong: Decolonisation and the Hong Kong Bill of Rights Ordinance
In the Media

American Studies

Prof. JOHNSON, Kendall
Assassination of John F Kennedy Files
Radio 3, RTHK; Backchat
30 Oct 2017

Donald Trump One Year On
Radio 3, RTHK; Backchat
30 Oct 2017

European Studies

Dr. Stefan AUER
Will Ireland and the UK find agreement on the border?
CNBC; The Rundown
26 Nov 2017

Dr. Roland VOGT
Catalonia Independence
Radio 3, RTHK; Backchat
10 Oct 2017

Brexit Talks Made it to First Phase of Negotiations
CNN International
08 Dec 2017

Visit of French president Macron to China and the state of Franco-Chinese relations
Thomson Reuters
05 Jan 2018

European Commission Announces Brexit Breakthrough
CNN International
08 Dec 2017
Dr. TEO, Victor
US-Japan to hold Security Consultative Committee ("2+2")
CGTN; The Point
17 Aug 2017

Why do China and Russia get along so well?
Australia Broadcasting Corporation
17 Aug 2017

Philippines President Duterte’s upcoming Visit to Japan
CGTN; The Point
31 Oct 2017

What messages have been sent out from the Duterte-Abe meeting?
CGTN; The Point
01 Nov 2017

Donald Trump’s Visit in Asia
Radio 3, RTHK; Backchat
6 Nov 2017

Donald Trump’s Asia Tour (published as Trump’s Statesman Exam in Danish)
Weekendavisen
10 Nov 2017

Ms. BLASCO-GARCIA, Rocio
HONG KONG AHORA - Entrevista con la directora del programa de español de la Universidad de Hong Kong
(Spanish in Hong Kong and the 20th anniversary of Hong Kong handover)
CGTN en Español
29 Jun 2017
Cultural and Other Events

Japanese Studies

01-12 Aug 2017

The 4th HKU-UTokyo Joint Summer Program

The HKU-UTokyo Joint Summer Program was held for the fourth time from August 1 to 12, 2017. It is an experiential learning program involving the Japan-related business community in Hong Kong. Several media organizations, including a web-based Japanese news service Hong Kong Keizai Shimbun, reported on the program. In December 2017, the news site announced that its story on the Summer Program received the highest page view (PV) among over 150 stories that it reported in 2017. Hong Kong Keizai Shimbun provides its stories to the local news section of “Yahoo! Japan”.

The announcement of the highest PV in 2017: https://hongkong.keizai.biz/headline/901/
The story on the HKU-UTokyo Joint Summer Program: https://hongkong.keizai.biz/headline/853/

The HKU-U Tokyo Joint Summer Program 2017 was supported by the Shun Hing College Endowment Fund.

Oct - Nov 2017

German Taster Course @HKU 2017

German Taster Course was back on six Saturdays in October and November! 23 students from local secondary schools came to HKU to learn some basic German/Swiss language and culture. Participants could also understand more about German/Swiss history and society through talks given by guest speakers, including the Swiss Deputy Consul General, current students as well as SMLC alumni.

This course, now in its second year, was organized by Shirly Tang and Tonja Fung of the German Programme, School of Modern Languages and Cultures with generous support by the Swiss Consulate General and Project WeCan.
10-18 Sep 2017  
Exhibition & Talk: The Auschwitz Album and its Historical Significance

Talk by Dr. Roland VOGT

European Studies

08 Nov 2017 (Wed)  
Argentina Festival: ‘Jauja’ film Screening in HKU

In collaboration with the Argentine Consulate General in Hong Kong, the Spanish Programme of SMLC at HKU hosted a screening of the Argentine film: Jauja, an award winning drama directed by Lisandro Alonso and starring Viggo Mortensen and Ghita Nørby.

Popcorn, wine and traditional Argentine pastries were served before the screening.

Thai

10 Nov 2017 (Fri)  
Loy Krathong - Thai Lantern Festival

Italian

08 Sep 2017 (Fri)  
Introduction to the new Major in Italian

By Dr. Nadia CAMPORESE

SMLC

23 Oct 2017 (Mon)  
Award Ceremony 2017

Swedish

20 Nov 2017 (Mon)  
Swedish Rainbow Short Films at HKU

Korean Studies

01-02 Nov 2017 (Wed-Thu)  
HKU Korean film screening nights
Staff News

New Staff

Dr. Nathanel Haim AMAR
Post-doctoral Fellow
(Society of Fellows in the Humanities)

Dr. Estela IBANEZ GARCIA
Assistant Professor
(African Studies)

Dr. LEUNG Shuk Man
Joint Assistant Professor
(China Studies)

Leaving Staff

Dr. Selina LAI HENDERSON
Assistant Professor
(American Studies)

Staff with new positions

Prof. Stephen CHU
Acting School Head

Staff Achievement

Dr. Valérie MARTINEZ is one of the recipients of the UGC funding Scheme for Teaching and Learning Related Proposals (2016-2019 Triennium). Together with Dr. Chaudhuri (Project Leader) and Ms. Ng both from The Hong Kong Baptist University as well as Dr. Lopez from The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Dr. Martinez will co-lead this 3 year-project aiming to enhance students’ learning experience in the target language.

Teachers and researchers across four languages (French, German, Italian and Spanish) will be involved in the development of an online platform allowing students to connect, collaborate and construct knowledge, as well as developing social awareness on healthy and sustainable cities. Students in the final phase of their learning trajectory will get the chance to make an impact on their community by promoting healthy living.

This telecollaborative CLIL (Content & Language Integrated Learning) project aims to facilitate international dialogue on major topics, between students enrolled in UGC-funded institutions in Hong Kong and students enrolled in similar courses at universities in Europe. Outreach and expansion beyond the funding period will be made possible, as the online platform will remain available to future participants. This project also aims at generating rich research data on the role of online telecollaboration in higher education.
**Staff Achievement**

**Mr. Sylvain Holtermann**, Acting Director of the French Programme, was awarded the Faculty Teaching Excellence Award for 2016-17

**Dr. Ji Li**, Joint Assistant Professor of HKIHS and Faculty of Arts, won a highly competitive grant in the 2017-18 exercise of the Early Career Scheme administered by the Research Grants Council. She obtained HK$573,056 for her 36-month project “Negotiating Spirituality and Urban Space in Jiangbeicheng: Local History, Religion and the Making of Modern China” (宗教與城市空間：清代以來“江北城”的地方歷史與城市變遷).

**Dr. Roland VOGT** was awarded the Doris Zimmern HKU-Hughes Hall Cambridge Fellowship and was at Cambridge University in October-November 2017 to conduct his GRF-funded research on reputational diplomacy and the case of the EU’s fight against tax evasion in Asian financial centres.

**Awards**

**Award Ceremony at the Residence de France**

On November 9, 2017, the Consulate General of France organized an award ceremony at the Residence de France for recipients of language scholarships jointly conducted by the Legion d’Honneur Club, Hong Kong Chapter and the Consulate General of France in Hong Kong and Macau.

Eight students from SMLC’s French programme, who spent their summer in France, were awarded these scholarships by the Consul General of France in Hong Kong and Macao, Mr. Eric Berti and Mr. Paul Clerc-Renaud, Vice-President of the Legion d’Honneur Club, Hong Kong Chapter.