

International Conference on Translating and Interpreting China

31 May - 1 Jun 2024 Hong Kong Baptist University Hong Kong

Programme Handbook









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International Conference on Translating and Interpreting China

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ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The disciplines of translation and interpreting have experienced rapid growth in China over recent decades, characterised by an expansion in training programmes and a surge in scholarly publications. This growth reflects the increasing importance and recognition of these fields within the academic and professional communities.

The conference serves as a platform to showcase the works of Chinese scholars to an international audience, utilising English as the medium of communication. This event promises to bridge cultural and linguistic divides, offering a unique perspective on Chinese academic contributions.

Keynote presentations will feature distinguished Chinese scholars in translation and interpreting, alongside renowned international scholars who have a deep understanding of these disciplines as practised in China. Their insights are expected to enrich the discourse and foster greater academic exchange.

The conference themes are broad and varied, ranging from Translating Poetry and Classics to Fields, Styles, and Genres; from Intercultural Communication and Dissemination to Translator Training and Technology. This thematic diversity is designed to attract scholars from the Chinese Mainland, Hong Kong, and Macau, creating a vibrant forum for exchange and debate.

A pre-conference workshop will spotlight the practical applications of translation and interpreting by professionals from notable international and regional institutions, including the United Nations and the governments of Hong Kong and Macau. This session aims to provide practical insights into the challenges and successes encountered by translators and interpreters in these high-stakes environments.

We are confident that this conference will be an exceptional event, offering invaluable opportunities for learning, networking, and collaboration among the top scholars and professionals in the field. It is an occasion not to be missed by anyone interested in the evolving landscapes of translation and interpreting.

Dates

31 May - 1 June 2024

Format

Face-to-face (onsite at Hong Kong Baptist University)

Organizers

Centre for Translation (Hong Kong Baptist University)

Department of Translation, Interpreting and Intercultural Studies (Hong Kong Baptist University)

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Wai Ping YAU Hong Kong Baptist University

Jun PAN
Hong Kong Baptist University

Mark SHUTTLEWORTH
Hong Kong Baptist University

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Workshop Schedule

Moderator: Jun Pan

Friday, 31 May 2024

19:30 – 20:00 Workshop 1

Translating for the United Nations Fei Shudong (United Nations)

20:00 - 20:30 Workshop 2

Working as a Simultaneous Interpreter in the Government of the Hong

Kong Special Administrative Region, People's Republic of China

Jacqueline Yin San Fu (The Government of the HKSAR)

20:30 – 21:00 Workshop 3

Translation and Interpreting in Macao's Dynamic Landscape

Victoria Lei (University of Macau)

21:00 – 21:30 Roundtable Discussion

Conference Programme

Saturday, 1 June 2024

09:00 – 09:15 Opening Ceremony

Welcome Speeches

Stuart Christie (Executive Associate Dean, Faculty of Arts)

Mark Shuttleworth (Head, Department of Translation, Interpreting and Intercultural Studies)

09:15 - 10:30 Keynote Session

Moderator: Mark Shuttleworth

09:15 - 09:45

Keynote speech 1

Translating from No or Few Formal Source Texts –

A Discussion of the Translation Processes in the Production of a Book about Shanghai

Chai Mingjiong (Shanghai International Studies University)

09:45 - 10:15

Keynote speech 2

The Long Journey of Renditions

Theodore Huters (University of California, Los Angeles)

10:15 – 10:30 Discussion

10:30 - 10:45 Coffee Break

10:45 – 11:45 Panel 1: Translating Poetry and Classics

Moderator: Nan Zhao

10:45 - 11:00

Translating and Interpreting the Analects:

The Role of the Commentaries

Jackie Xiu Yan (City University of Hong Kong)

11.00 - 11.15

Reframing China by Italian Intellectuals through Translating and Rewriting Chinese Poetry in

Late 19th and Early 20th Centuries Peng Qian (Nankai University)

11:15 - 11:30

Translation and Introduction of Chinese Contemporary Mainstream Poetry in

English-speaking Countries (1978-2020): From Manipulation Theory Perspective

Xiu Wengiao (China University of Petroleum)

11:30 - 11:45

Discussion

11:45 – 12:00 Coffee Break

12:00 – 13:00 Panel 2: Fields, Styles and Genres

Moderator: Clara Chuan Yu

12:00 - 12:15

Translation Need and Inter-Field Reception: A Case Study of 太極

Han Ziman (Shanghai International Studies University)

12:15 - 12:30

Investigating Translator's Linguistic and Functional Styles in English Renditions of Chinese

Literature

Li Defeng (University of Macau)

12:30 - 12:45

Chinese Ethicality and Its Translation in English -

With Reference to a Traditional Genre *Biao* 表 [Memorial]

Xin Guangqin (Shenzhen University)

12:45 – 13:00 Discussion

13:00 - 14:00 Lunch

14:00 - 15:15 Keynote Session

Moderator: Robert Neather

14:00 - 14:30

Keynote speech 3

Translating Chinese Literature for Contemporary English Readers:

Meaning, Imagology and Context

Tan Zaixi (Hong Kong Baptist University)

14:30 - 15:00

Keynote speech 4 (via Zoom)

Translation and Interpreting China for the World:

Challenges and Opportunities

Roberto A. Valdeón (University of Oviedo)

15:00 - 15:15

Discussion

15:15 - 15:30 Coffee Break

15:30 - 16:30 F

Panel 3: Intercultural Communication and Dissemination

Moderator: Luis Damián Moreno García

15:30 - 15:45

"When Two Strong Men Stand Face to Face":

A Review of the CIUTI Issues of East Journal of Translation

Jiang Fan (Shanghai International Studies University) [Presenter] and

Chai Mingjiong (Shanghai International Studies University)

15:45 - 16:00

Researching Translation in Contemporary China:

With Special Reference to Tan Zaixi's Role and Contribution

Lan Hongjun (Guangdong University of Foreign Studies)

16:00 - 16:15

The International Dissemination of Contemporary Chinese Literature:

The Case of English Translations of Mao Dun Literature Prize Winning Works

Shao Lu (Sun Yat-Sen University)

16:15 – 16:30

Discussion

16:30 - 16:45 Coffee Break

16:45 – 18:00 Pa

Panel 4: Translator Training and Technology

Moderator: Marija Todorova

16:45 - 17:00

Embarking upon Careers with a Diploma in Conference Interpreting:

Graduates' Motivations and Self-Perceived Employability

Gao Bin (Beijing Foreign Studies University)

17:00 - 17:15

Exploring Genre Awareness in Chat GPT Translations:

A Case Study of Chinese Tourism Brochures and Museum Descriptions

Li Dechao (Hong Kong Polytechnic University)

17:15 - 17:30

Comparing Translation Students' Engagement with Teacher and Chat GPT's Responses:

Differences in Feed-back, Feed-up and Feed-forward

Su Wei (Xiamen University)

17:30 - 17:45

Exploring a New Training Model for Undergraduate Interpreting Talents

Zhang Jiliang (Shenzhen University) [Presenter] and

Chai Mingjiong (Shanghai International Studies University)

17:45 – 18:00

Discussion

18:00 – 18:15 Closing Remarks

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KEYNOTE ABSTRACTS

Keynote Speech 1

Translating from No or Few Formal Source Texts – A Discussion of the Translation Processes in the Production of a Book about Shanghai

CHAI Mingjiong Shanghai International Studies University, PRC

When we discuss translation or work on translation studies, there are two terms we bound to take into considerations, that is, the source and the target. The source is either source texts in translation or source speeches in interpreting. But is it possible that in translation processes, there is no such thing as source texts but rather an abundant material in text forms, audiovideo forms or even in graphic forms, all of which need to be selected, organized, edited or reedited, or even creatively written before the translators write their target texts?

This talk intends to discuss the production of the English version of the book "Shanghai: Mosaic of Dreams", that witnessed the translation processes in which the target texts were produced without the so-called formal source texts. This, to a large extent, exemplifies the kind of translation being conducted in the source language environment with no or few formal source texts and scheduled to produce the kind of targets text friendly to the target language readers or users.

About the Speaker:



Professor Chai Mingjiong is Professor and Principle Supervisor of PhD students at Shanghai International Studies University. He has held key positions in various organizations and is currently Honorary Dean of Graduate Institute of Interpretation and Translation, Shanghai International Studies University, Member and Director General, Shanghai Committee for Graduate Education of Translation and Interpreting, the Education Commission of Shanghai Municipal Government and Chair, Committee for Professional Translation and Interpreting Title Evaluation of Shanghai.

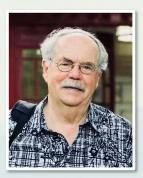
Keynote Speech 2

The Long Journey of Renditions

Theodore HUTERS University of California, Los Angeles, United States

When *Renditions* was founded fifty years ago, it was perhaps not the most propitious time for such a venture: The Cultural Revolution had been going on for some seven years, and while the worst days were over, there were few hints that a stable social, economic, and cultural order was in the offing for China. Nevertheless, George Kao and Stephen Song persisted, creating a journal that was meant to broadcast the best parts of Chinese literary culture, ancient and modern, to the Anglophone world. Never able to pay those who submitted their translations, the journal from the beginning relied on, in the best sense, amateur efforts to fill its pages. And we have over the years certainly attracted the most outstanding translators of our time to our pages. So the journal published things from a wide variety of genres: fiction, poetry, drama, prose essays, and literary and cultural criticism, as well as work from various parts of the Chinese speaking world: initially primarily from mainland China and Hong Kong, then including Taiwan, and more recently making an effort to publish the translated writings of Sinophone writers from Southeast Asia. As the first and still the only journal of its type, we have exerted our efforts to maintaining our position as an important bridge between the Chinese cultural world and the broader West.

About the Speaker:



Theodore Huters is Chief Editor at *Renditions* and Professor Emeritus of Chinese in the Department of Asian Languages and Literatures at UCLA. He has written extensively on late Qing and twentieth-century Chinese literature and literary history, including an early study of Qian Zhongshu's writings. His books include *Bringing the World Home: Appropriating the West in Late Qing and Early Republican China*, and most recently, *Taking China to the World: The Cultural Production of Modernity*. His particular focus of interest is how various key cultural institutions, practices, and ideas of the late imperial

period transitioned into the modern period. His translations include the prose of Bei Dao and the academic writing of Wang Guowei, Wang Hui, and Wang Xiaoming.

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Keynote Speech 3

Translating Chinese Literature for Contemporary English Readers: Meaning, Imagology and Context

TAN Zaixi Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong SAR

Under the country's initiative to make Chinese culture go international, the translation of Chinese texts into English and other foreign languages, including texts in the various fields of literature, culture and academia, has been developing rapidly with government support. Its study has also become a hotspot topic in recent years, which seems a fitting response in TS research in China to the problems and interferences brought about by non-literary factors in the political and economic world at large. This paper offers a discussion of some of the major issues involving how to handle Chinese mother-tongue to English-language translating. These include issues on the linguistic and cultural politics of translingual communication, the intrinsic relations between communication and imagology, and the dynamics of institutional translation in the Chinese context. Hopefully, insights drawn from the study may help promote development of the translation as well as research into the translation by native Chinese scholars of their mother-tongue texts into English and other foreign languages.

About the Speaker:



Tan Zaixi is Emeritus Professor of Hong Kong Baptist University, and was Distinguished Professor of Shenzhen University and Chair Professor of Beijing Foreign Studies University, China (2018-2021). He obtained his doctorate and MA degree from Exeter University (UK), and his undergraduate degree from Hunan Normal University (China). He is author of 20+ books, and 200+ papers (30+ in English) published in major national and international journals, including: *Chinese Translators Journal* (Chi.), *Foreign Languages* (Chi.), *Translation and Interpreting Studies*;

Meta, Neohelicon, The Translator, Perspectives, Across Languages and Cultures, Babel, and Asia Pacific Translation and Intercultural Studies. Some of his major monographs include: Researching the Historiography of Translation in the West (Chi., 2021; prize winner), A History of Translation in the West: Revised Edition (Chi., 11th reprint 2022, prize winner,), The Science of Translation (Chi., prize winner; new edition forthcoming 2024), and his major translations: Kingsley Amis' Lucky Jim (1985; 2008/2013), The Book of Twin Worlds (2019, Chinese-English). His recent representative paper publications include: "On the Chinese and the universalness of the Chinese school of translation theory" (2023), "Communication via translation: Disciplinary positioning and features of application, with special reference to the March 2021 translation events at Anchorage" (2023), "A cross-boundary approach to the generative nature of translation" (2021), "The fuzzy interface between censorship and self-censorship in translation" (2019), "The role of national interests in media production and translation" (2019), "Gender and the Chinese tradition of translation" (2019), "Chinese discourse on translation: Views and issues" (2019), "Reflections on Chinese TS research" (Chi., 2019), "40 years of contemporary translation studies in China: From opening-up to development in future directions" (Chi., 2018), "Translation and national image reconstruction: The case of China narratives and cultural back-translation" (Chi., 2018), etc.

His specialist interests: theories and philosophies of translation; translation and communication, the cultural-politics of translation; historiography of translation; literary and media translation; contrastive English and Chinese language-cultural studies.

Keynote Speech 4

Translation and Interpreting China for the World: Challenges and Opportunities

Roberto A. VALDEÓN University of Oviedo, Spain

This talk will discuss the contribution of Chinese authors to translation studies scholarship drawing on my experience as editor of one of the major journals in the field. Chinese scholars have gradually moved from a peripheral position to a more central and visible one as their work is now widely available in international periodicals and book series. However, they also face challenges pertaining to the specificities and expectations of their academic environment as well as the limitations imposed by institutions and the realities of the publishing world. The talk aims to provide a reflection rather than recommendations, which, ultimately, might not be relevant in an ever-changing academic ecosystem.

About the Speaker:



Roberto A. Valdeón is full professor in English Studies (specializing in translation and pragmatics), editor-in-chief of *Perspectives*, general editor of the Benjamins Translation Library, and member of the Academy of Europe. He has been honorary professor, visiting professor and research associate at universities in the USA, Europe and China, and is the author or editor of around 200 publications. He has recently edited a special issue of the *Journal of Pragmatics* devoted to "The translation of swearwords".

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Workshop

Translating for the United Nations

FEI Shudong United Nations

Translation and interpretation play vital roles in facilitating the daily operations of the United Nations. In his presentation, Shudong will delve into the inner workings of the UN's translation services, outlining the structure, workflow, programming, quality control measures, and the specialized tools used by UN translators. He will elaborate on the requisite skills and expectations for individuals aspiring to become UN translators. He will also shed light on the UN Competitive Examinations for Language Positions, with a special focus on the Competitive Examinations for Chinese Translators, Editors and Verbatim Reporters slated for this year, providing some insights into the application process and tips on how to prepare effectively for the examination.

About the Speaker:



Senior Reviser, Learning Coordinator/Training Officer of the Chinese Translation Service, Documentation Division, Department of General Assembly and Conference Management of the United Nations. Stationed at UN Headquarters in New York, he is responsible for planning and coordinating the professional development of Chinese translators at the UN, revising and finalizing the translations of important documents such as General Assembly and Security Council resolutions, quality control, as well as coordinating recruitment examinations for UN Chinese

translators, verbatim reporters and editors. He passed the UN competitive examinations in 2006 and joined the UN shortly afterwards as a professional translator.

Workshop

Working as a Simultaneous Interpreter in the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, People's Republic of China

Jacqueline Yin San FU The Government of the HKSAR

In line with the status of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) as a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China and as an international city, the official languages of the HKSAR as enshrined in the statute are Chinese and English whereas Cantonese, English and Putonghua are the dialect and languages spoken at meetings of the Government and Legislative Council and other Government functions. The Simultaneous Interpreters (SIs) of the Government of the HKSAR (HKSARG) play a crucial role in bridging the communication gap at trilingual meetings and functions of the Government. This presentation covers the recruitment and professional development of SIs of the HKSARG with the aim of providing quality simultaneous interpreting service at trilingual meetings and functions of the HKSARG.

About the Speaker:



Jacqueline Yin San FU holds a Master of Advanced Studies in Interpreter Training from the University of Geneva. She has been the Chief Simultaneous Interpreter of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSARG) since 1997. She oversees the provision of simultaneous interpretation (SI) service in Cantonese, Putonghua and English to the HKSARG and Legislative Council. She is also responsible for the recruitment and professional development of Simultaneous Interpreters of the HKSARG. The 1997 World Bank cum International Monetary Fund Joint

Meeting, the Fortune Global Forum 1998, the WTO Ministerial Conference 2005, the Equestrian Events of the 2008 Olympic and Paralympic Games and the 2009 East Asian Games were among the major government-hosted conferences and events for which she helped with the organisation of SI service in Cantonese, English and Putonghua.

Workshop

Translation and Interpreting in Macao's Dynamic Landscape

Victoria LEI University of Macau, Macau SAR

This presentation delves into the rich tapestry of Macao's history, a testament to over four centuries of East-West encounters that have fostered a unique heritage, characterized by a vibrant culture of multilingualism and translation. It explores the complex evolution of language, culture, social, and economic dimensions within Macao, particularly highlighting the significant developments in the realm of translation and interpreting since the establishment of the Macao Special Administrative Region in 1999 – a period that marked an acceleration in the development of the translation profession and its practices. This talk aims to shed light on the developmental trajectory of the translation profession and its practices amidst Macao's transforming landscape. Emphasizing the pivotal milestones in Translation and Interpreting within the region, the talk offers a closer look at the adaptation strategies and translation solutions that have emerged in response to the changing demands. By presenting concrete examples, this presentation not only traces the progression of translation and interpreting practices but also reflects on the broader implications for the future of this field in a globally interconnected world.

About the Speaker:



Victoria Lei is an Associate Professor and a member of the Centre for Studies of Translation, Interpreting, and Cognition at the University of Macau, as well as a Council Member of the International Federation of Translators. She earned her PhD in English Literature from the University of Glasgow, UK, and is a life member of Clare Hall, University of Cambridge. Beyond her role in training translators and interpreters, Lei is also a veteran conference interpreter. With a background initially in journalism and literary history, she has worked as a journalist, media translator, and news anchor. In recent years,

her research has focused on cross-disciplinary collaborations, particularly examining the cognitive processes involved in translation and interpreting.

Panel 1: Poetry and Classics

PANEL PRESENTATION ABSTRACTS (In the order of presentations)

Translating and Interpreting the *Analects*: The Role of the Commentaries

Jackie Xiu YAN City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR

The Analects is the single most important source for people to understand the thought of Confucius. For more than 3 centuries, since Jesuits had contacts with Chinese scholars in the 17th century, it has been translated into numerous versions in Western languages. Each rendition stands for an attempt to make this ancient Chinese classic accessible to Western readers. A general consensus can be reached on the meaning of some of the most important terms or concepts, but further confusion can still arise mainly because of the inherited ambiguities caused by fragmented passages and conversations recorded as well as the syntactical flexibility and open-endedness of classical Chinese writing system. A long exegetical tradition with commentaries on the work led to different and sometimes conflicting interpretations. However, the translation usually followed only one instead of the alternating readings of the work through the mounted exegetical explanations. As a result, the rival analytical voices are lost in translation. This situation was improved when Penguin published a new translation of the Analects with commentary by Annping Chin In 2014. Her translation approach was an attempt to draw on the long Chinese exegetical tradition and consider a wide range of choices provided by various classical interpretations. She added commentary after each chapter, and Yan translated her commentary to Chinese in 2019. This study would go through examples of the text and commentaries in both English and Chinese to show how better understanding can be achieved while scholarship of a long exegetical tradition is presented through the efforts of the translators.

About the Presenter:



Jackie Xiu Yan received her PhD from the University of Texas at Austin, USA. She is now Subject Leader of the MA Translation Program in the Department of Linguistics and Translation at City University of Hong Kong. Her research and teaching interests include Classical Chinese translation, interpreter and translator training, audio description and Applied Linguistics.

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Panel 1: Poetry and Classics

Reframing China by Italian Intellectuals through Translating and Rewriting Chinese Poetry in Late 19th and Early 20th Centuries.

PENG Qian Nankai University, PRC

The present research, which focuses on the translation and rewriting of Chinese classical poems during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, process initiated by Italian poets including Carducci, D'Annunzio (Bindi), Govoni, and Onofri; by intellectuals such as Cantu, Canini, Massarani, and Chini, aims to extend and enrich the current discussion on the mechanism of framing realities through translation. Using the notion of reframing as an alternative framework to investigate the Italian conceptualizations of China, the findings illustrate two fundamental frames of China created through Italian translation and rewriting: from Western poetics and esthetic canon, Chinese poetry is represented as delicate and natural but lacking in magnificence; from an ideology perspective, Chinese poetry is portrayed as suitable mainly to female readers and as a mirror that reflects the threat of China. Moreover, this study examines how the translating and rewriting process interacted closely with the single poet or intellectual's literary claims as well as the historical era and political context of the time, specifically the Italian unification movement (Risorgimento) and the depression resulting from the unrealized ideals.

About the Presenter:



Qian Peng is currently working as an associate professor in the Department of Italian at the School of Foreign Languages at Nankai University since 2021. She completed her PhD in Comparative Literature and World Literature from the School of Foreign Studies, Peking University in 2019 and received an MA in Italian Language and Literature from Beijing Foreign Studies University in 2015. She also studied at the School of Liberal Arts and Philosophy of the University of Pisa of Italy from September 2012 to September 2013, majoring in Italian Language and Literature. Her research interests span both

comparative literature and world literature, research on Italian translation and communication of Chinese literature, Italian literary regionalism, and research on national identity in Italian literature. Professor Peng has hosted a National Social Science Fund Youth Project titled Research on Italian Literary Regionalism and National Identity. She has published 10 major CSSCI papers, including pieces in such top-ranking Chinese journals as Chinese Translators Journal, Comparative Literature in China, International Sinology, New Perspectives on World Literature, etc. Some of her notable translated books (a total of 10) include The Travels of Marco Polo (to be released in June 2024), Italian Literary Regionalism and National Identity (to be released in 2025) and The Secret of Machine by Leonardo Da Vinci (to be released in May 2024).

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Panel 1: Poetry and Classics

Translation and Introduction of Chinese Contemporary Mainstream Poetry in English-speaking Countries (1978-2020): From Manipulation Theory Perspective

XIU Wengiao China University of Petroleum, PRC

From the perspective of manipulation theory, this paper provides a specific analysis of the translation, manipulation mechanism, and reader reception of Chinese contemporary poetry in English-speaking countries from 1978 to 2020.

Through an analysis of the translation of Chinese contemporary poetry into English, it is found that the translation activities of Chinese contemporary poetry have continuously expanded since the opening-up and reform policy, with the scale and speed of translation increasing significantly after 2000. In terms of translation selection, the translations from 1978 to 1999 had strong political overtones, while those from 2000 to 2020 were more diverse and no longer limited to a single theme.

In the translation of contemporary Chinese poetry, both internal and external literary systems exert a manipulative influence. Translators rewrite the original works and manipulate the poetic system with a variety of strategies. Poetry translation is also influenced by ideological, economic, and social patronage. Government-led ideological patronage in China helps to increase the quantity and quality of translated works, but its selection bias is inconsistent with the preferences of international markets. Economic patronage spearheaded by international commercial publishers can precisely identify the preferences of target readers and promote the works of conventional poets. Meanwhile, universities and individual publishers have been successful in promoting a large number of translated works of Chinese literature and poetry, thereby contributing to the international dissemination of Chinese culture, by leveraging their academic background, professional expertise, and resource advantages.

Despite attracting a certain number of readers and receiving predominantly positive feedback from English-speaking countries, Chinese contemporary poetry still faces relatively low sales and readership abroad. To enhance its effectiveness in international translation, there is a need to strengthen translation quality, focus on diversity and novelty, and increase promotion efforts. In addition, cultural exchange and cooperation must be strengthened to increase awareness and appreciation of Chinese contemporary poetry.

This article attempts to go beyond and break through the English translation texts of poetry

itself, exploring practical issues related to international publishing and cross-cultural communication, in order to investigate the scale, characteristics, and effects of the translation of contemporary Chinese poetry in English-speaking countries, and provide new research perspectives and ideas for its study.

About the Presenter:



Wenqiao XIU is a Professor at China University of Petroleum (Beijing) and Director of the Center for Master of Translation and Interpreting. She got her doctoral degree in Translation Studies from Beijing Language and Culture University in 2009 and has been working as a teacher of English and translation. Her research interests include Translation History, Translation Theory and Practice, and Translation Teaching. Her papers have been published in academic journals such as Chinese Translators Journal, Shanghai Journal of Translators, East Journal of Translation, Foreign Language Research, Chinese Science & Technology Translators Journal, and so on.

Panel 2: Fields, Styles and Genres

Translation Need and Inter-Field Reception: A Case Study of 太極

HAN Ziman Shanghai International Studies University, PRC

The underlying assumption for translation-based international communication is that the translated text is received in the same field in the target culture as the original text in the source culture. A study of researches on 太極, however, proves otherwise. Whereas most studies in China are done in the field of sports science, studies in the West are mostly in healthrelated areas. The implication of such inter-field reception of 太極 is that "translation need" is far from straightforward in the out-bound translation, especially the English translation of texts of Chinese culture. The three scenarios of translation needs, envisioned by Prof. Wang Yougui, do not invalidate efforts to promote Chinese culture globally, if such inter-field reception is taken into consideration.

About the Presenter:



Ziman Han is Professor of the Institute of Corpus Studies and Applications of Shanghai International studies University. His research interests are mostly in corpus-based translation studies, literary translation studies, and translation and war. He has published articles in Babel and Textlinguistics and Translation, and also several Chinese journals. He is the Chinese translator of several American novels and such academic books as William Raymond's The Country and the City and Jenny Williams' The Map: A Beginner's Guide to Doing Research in Translation Studies. He is also the author of several monographs on literary translation.

Panel 2: Fields, Styles and Genres

Investigating Translator's Linguistic and Functional Styles in English **Renditions of Chinese Literature**

LI Defeng University of Macau, Macau SAR

This talk discusses innovations in corpus-assisted studies of translator's style, using English translations of Chinese literature as a case of example. I will make two arguments: studies on translator style are to expland to focus on translator's functional style; interpretation of the stylistic features is essential in such studies.

About the Presenter:



Defeng Li is Distinguished Professor of Translation Studies and Director of Centre for Studies of Translation, Interpreting and Cognition (CSTIC) at the University of Macao. Previously he taught at School of Oriental and African Studies of University of London, where he served as Chair of the Centre for Translation Studies. He also taught at the Department of Translation, the Chinese University of Hong Kong for a decade. He publishes in cognitive translation studies, corpus-assisted translation studies, translation education, and second language education.

Panel 2: Fields, Styles and Genres

Chinese Ethicality and Its Translation in English — With Reference to a Traditional Genre *Biao* 表 [Memorial]

XIN Guangqin Shenzhen University, PRC

Traditional Chinese culture is closely interwoven with the Chinese language that not only reflects the Chinese culture, politics and society but also is an integral part of all those entities. The translation of Chinese classical works involves not just linguistic transfer between Chinese and the TT in question but a thorough comprehension of the Chinese culture, especially the longstanding and influential Confucian ethics thereof as traditional Chinese society has long been one steeped in Confucian ethics (Liang Shuming 2011).

Biao [Memorial], an official document in terms of genre in ancient China, is largely used by the senior officials to report to the emperor, with a view to showing their loyalty while advancing their political wishes/suggestions. What is conveyed in a memorial is not the seeming servility on the part of the subordinates apart from loyalty, but the reciprocal relationship of ethical responsibility enveloped in human touch between *jun* [emperor/monarch] and *chen* [subject], which is the very first relationship of *wulun* [five relationships], a highly important part of Confucianism or Confucian ethics. Of the extant memorials, Zhuge Liang's 'Memorial to the Emperor before the Northern Expedition' and Li Mi's 'A Memorial to His Majesty' are two typical ones.

A review of their translation in English has revealed a lot of misunderstanding or other problems. For example, the typical way for addressing oneself in a memorial 'chen' \boxminus [subject/] has mostly been translated as "I" or "your (humble) servant" (e.g. the one by David E. Pollard), which has been far away from an accurate or appropriate translation, but produced a distorted image of the official at issue and the Chinese political system *per se* with its unique characteristics. This kind of translation will not further but hinder the promotion of excellent Chinese culture to the world as expected. What is worse, it might further exacerbate the situation concerning an updated comprehension of prime traditional Chinese culture. This study is accordingly an attempt to explore the problems born of English translation of Chinese morality with *biao as* an example.

About the Presenter:



PhD in Translation Studies, Associate Professor of TS and English, supervisor of MPhil candidates, and the coordinator of MPhil Programme in Literature and TS at the College of International Studies, Shenzhen University. He is a peerreviewer of such academic journals as *The World of Translation*, *Interventions* (SSCI/A&HCI), and the winner of championship of the Han Suyin International Translation Contest (aka Han Suyin Award for Young Translators) (Chinese to English). Dr. Xin's research interests include TS, Moral Philosophy and FL Education Studies; he has authored a dozen

of articles and essays on translation studies and translation ethics in CSSCI listed journals like *Foreign Languages in China, The World of Foreign Languages*, etc. He is the contributor of the chapter "Translation Ethics in the Chinese Tradition" in the *Routledge Handbook of Translation and Ethics* and the PI of a Ministry of Education Humanities and Social Sciences Fund research project.

Panel 3:

Intercultural Communication and Dissemination

"When Two Strong Men Stand Face to Face": A Review of the CIUTI Issues of East Journal of Translation

JIANG Fan Shanghai International Studies University, PRC CHAI Mingjiong Shanghai International Studies University, PRC

Since the publication of *East journal of Translation* (EJT) in Shanghai in 2009, the trend of its development during the 12 years of its existence can be summed up as two key words, "unchanged" and "changes". What remained unchanged is the focus on cultural topics. A deeper reason for this focus is that Prof. Xie Tianzhen, the vice executive chief editor of the journal, walks with his western peers in the procession of "Translation Studies", which has brought into full play from 1970s to 1990s the new "descriptive/ systemic paradigm" that merged into a broader trend of the translation studies from cultural and sociological perspectives in the new century. Starting from 2011, Prof. Chai Mingjiong, the executive chief editor of *EJT*, has initiated and highlighted two critical changes of the journal: one is the introduction and reinforcement of the topics related to the professional world and translation industry, like the training of T&I trainers, MTI education and translation technology; the other is the cooperation with international organizations, with the publication of 6 CIUTI issues of the journal as the most fruitful products in this dimension.

The CIUTI issue of EJT made its debut at the 2014 Annual Assembly of CIUTI and was officially designated as the Journal of CIUTI in 2015. Upon its debut, Kipling's Ballad of East and West was quoted at the very beginning of Chief Editors' Note, highlighting the intention and efforts of EJT to bring East and West closer via translation and negotiate the challenges "when two strong men stand face to face". While the unchanged focuses and the latest changes of EJT both find their traits in the CIUTI issues, the latter got their unique pursuits as follows: (1) Facilitating Western readers' understanding of translation studies in China; (2) Providing a platform for all CIUTI members to demonstrate their academic and professional achievements; (3) Strengthening the double link of T&I studies in the international context, one link between research and training and the other between training and the professional world; (4) Reflecting on the roles of T&I practitioners and promoting the status of translators alongside the rapid development of AI technology. (5) Advocating "the core values of translation, like openness, inclusiveness, negotiation, compromise, and eternal faith in the possibility of human communication" in the forms of Chief Editors' Notes, Prefaces by CIUTI Presidents, and introductory remarks by the editor. From 2014 to 2019, the CIUTI issues of EJT were released at each annual assembly of CIUTI and gained high reputation, with the information and data listed and analyzed in the articles chosen for training purposes by colleagues not only in CIUTI member institutes but also in other European universities. As the special issues attached to *EJT* that ceased to publish in 2021, the endeavor of the CIUTI issues has come to a cessation as well, yet a thorough review of the case will hopefully offer some implications for the future practice of international cooperation of journal editing, publication and promotion in the field of translation studies.

About the Presenters :



JIANG Fan (江帆) is Associate Professor at Graduate Institute of Interpreting and Translation (GIIT), Shanghai International Studies University and worked as Editorial Director of East Journal of Translation from 2013 to 2021. Her major publications include eighteen journal articles, a monograph based on her 2007 doctorate thesis, Afterlife of the Stone: A Critical History of Translation and Dissemination of Hongloumeng in English-speaking World (2014, 2019), and two course books, A Course in Oral Interpretation (2004, with YI Honggen, ZHANG Junfeng) and Integrated Skills of English:

A New Course (2012, with CAO Man, YAN Chunmei).

Besides, she has got the teaching and academic honors as follows: First Prize of the 13th and 14th 'FLTRP Cup' National English Debating Competition (2009, 2010); Third Prize of the 15th 'FLTRP Cup' National English Debating Competition (2011); Second Prize of the 16th 'FLTRP Cup' National English Debating Competition (2012); Standard Award of the "Stephen C. Soong Translation Studies Memorial Awards" (2020); "Introduction to Chinese Culture" awarded the title of "Model Courses taught in English Offered to Overseas Students in Shanghai" (2022).

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Panel 3:
Intercultural Communication and Dissemination



Professor Chai Mingjiong is Professor and Principle Supervisor of PhD students at Shanghai International Studies University. He has held key positions in various organizations and is currently Honorary Dean of Graduate Institute of Interpretation and Translation, Shanghai International Studies University, Member and Director General, Shanghai Committee for Graduate Education of Translation and Interpreting, the Education Commission of Shanghai Municipal Government and Chair, Committee for Professional Translation and Interpreting Title Evaluation of Shanghai.

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Panel 3:

Intercultural Communication and Dissemination

Researching Translation in Contemporary China: With Special Reference to Tan Zaixi's Role and Contribution

LAN Hongjun Guangdong University of Foreign Studies, PRC

The past 40 years is a "big era" in the development of translation and translation studies in China. Since the beginning of the reform and opening up, translation has been playing an increasingly important role in social development, and translation studies in China has made significant progress. Academic exchanges at home and abroad have become deeper, and the international influence of Chinese translation scholars is gradually emerging. This talk reviews and summarizes the achievements made by Chinese scholars in the field of translation studies in the past four decades, and takes the researches of Professor Tan Zaixi as an example, in the hope of introducing to the international counterparts the development of Chinese translation researches, as well as the efforts and contributions of Chinese scholars to translation studies.

About the Presenter:



Lan Hongjun holds a doctorate degree in Translation Studies, and is a professor and a Distinguished Scholar of Yunshan at the Guangdong University of Foreign Studies. Presently, he works as Dean of the School of Interpreting and Translation of the GDUFS.

He is Director of the Translators' Association of China and Deputy Director of the Translation Theory and Translation Teaching Committee of the association. He is also Deputy Director of the Translation Research Society of the Chinese

Society for Comparative Literature.

With the concentration of his study on translation theory and translation history, he has published several monographs and over 100 journal papers. And he is among the three persons responsible for the compilation of entries on the subject of translation in the third edition of the Encyclopedia of China.

Panel 3:

Intercultural Communication and Dissemination

The International Dissemination of Contemporary Chinese Literature: The Case of English Translations of Mao Dun Literature Prize Winning Works

SHAO Lu Sun Yat-Sen University, PRC

In the context of the strategic scheme for Chinese culture to "go global", the translation and dissemination of contemporary Chinese literature has become a hot topic. However, existing studies have primarily concentrated on the translation of individual works, thus displaying a somewhat fragmented picture failing to tell the whole story of English translation and distribution of Chinese contemporary literature. This paper aims to address these inadequacies via a specific emphasis on English translations of representative works that have won the Mao Dun Literature Prize. It employs digital humanities technologies to gather quantifiable data and statistics on the publication, overseas library collections, reviews, critiques, ratings and other pertinent metrics on all English translations of the Mao Dun Literature Prize winners, with the aim to uncover patterns and essential characteristics of the translations. The paper then quantitatively compares detailed numerical information on the translation of various works, analysing the overall landscape of the dissemination and reception of the English translations. In addition, it qualitatively explores the internal and external factors influencing diverse dissemination effects of this corpus of English translations. The research finds that the translation and dissemination pathways demonstrate a developmental trend, transitioning from an export-oriented model to an import-oriented model, and further, to a Sino-foreign cooperative model. Translations under different dissemination pathways show significant variations in their dissemination and reception: compared with the exportoriented and Sino-foreign cooperative pathways, translations under the import-oriented model boast relatively higher overseas library collections and more favourable reader assessments, and are mentioned more frequently in professional foreign reviews. Hence, among the three distinct translation pathways, the import-oriented model in particular enhances the international dissemination of Mao Dun Literature Prize works. Furthermore, the factors influencing the international dissemination effectiveness of literary works are numerous and intricate, encompassing internal factors such as the work's social value and literary merit, and external elements such as disseminators, dissemination pathways, and translation receptors. By extensively examining the international dissemination of Mao Dun Literature Prize winners from various dimensions, this paper provides more scientific and comprehensive theoretical support for the globalisation of Chinese contemporary literature and highlights the potential of digital humanities technologies for enhancing research on the translation and international dissemination of Chinese contemporary literature.

About the Presenter:



Dr. Lu Shao is Professor of Translation Studies in the Department of English and Director of the Centre for China Studies Overseas, School of Foreign Languages at Sun Yatsen University. She obtained her PhD from the Hong Kong Baptist University in 2008. Her research interests include literary translation, fuzzy language in literature and translation, translation theory and translation criticism. She is the author of *Fuzzy Language in Literature and Translation* (Chi. version, Commercial Press, 2011; Routledge, 2023), and her recent publications appear in journals such as *Across Languages & Cultures, Journal of Modern Literature, Perspectives, Babel, Meta, Journal of European Studies, SAGE Open*, and *Translation Quarterly*.

Panel 4:

Translator Training and Technology

Embarking upon Careers with a Diploma in Conference Interpreting: Graduates' Motivations and Self-Perceived Employability

GAO Bin Beijing Foreign Studies University, PRC

Institutionalised training of conference interpreters is essential to address the shortage of talent in this most professionalised sector of interpreting. Much effort has been made in China to develop training methods and models for conference interpreting programmes, but little is known about the views of graduates regarding their transition from university to professional employment. To address this under-researched aspect of interpreter training, this paper examines the career motivations and self-perceived employability of graduates from a distinguished conference interpreting programme through a questionnaire survey.

Our research has revealed strong and focused motivations for learning, but less clear career goals during the programme, which continue to evolve in the workplace. In contrast to previous research showing the mismatch between Master of Translation and Interpretation (MTI) programmes and the industry, the vast majority of conference interpreting graduates in this study have built their career profiles largely around the professional skills developed during training. Although career motivations vary by employment type, and individual career choices appear to be influenced by both external and internal factors, interpreting-specific competences have remained central to the formation of career orientations. Interpreting-specific competences have also served as a basis for developing other aspects of employability in the workplace. In contrast to the generally higher levels of satisfaction with the "softer" aspects of employability, respondents saw practical experience as important for career development but insufficiently developed during the programme. Based on the findings, implications for conference interpreting programmes are discussed, and pedagogical suggestions are made to better prepare students for successful careers.

About the Presenter:



GAO Bin is a professor of translation studies at School of English and International Studies, Beijing Foreign Studies University, China. She accomplished the training in conference interpreting in SCIC EU (Brussels). Her research interests include interpreter education and conference interpreting.

Panel 4: Translator Training and Technology

Exploring Genre Awareness in Chat GPT Translations: A Case Study of Chinese Tourism Brochures and Museum Descriptions

LI Dechao Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong SAR

Chat GPT, a large language model, has demonstrated impressive capabilities in producing high-quality translations, particularly when translating from other languages into English, the language that predominantly informed its development. However, when translating different Chinese genres into English, it has been observed that Chat GPT translations often overlook the nuances and conventions that distinguish the original Chinese genres from their English counterparts. This study aims to investigate the genre awareness of Chat GPT translations by focusing on two specific Chinese genres: tourism brochures and museum descriptions.

While acknowledging the overall linguistic quality of Chat GPT translations, this paper identifies and analyzes discrepancies between the original Chinese texts and their English translations from both macro and micro perspectives. At the macro level, the study examines rhetorical features, tone, and overall structures, highlighting how Chat GPT translations may fail to capture the unique characteristics of the target English genres. From a micro perspective, the paper delves into thematic structures, cohesion, coherence, and the use of specific terminology and stock phrases, revealing instances where Chat GPT translations fall short in accurately conveying the genre-specific elements.

By shedding light on the lack of genre awareness in Chat GPT translations, this study contributes to the understanding of the limitations and challenges associated with machine translation across different genres. The findings underscore the importance of considering genre-specific conventions and cultural contexts when evaluating and refining machine translation models. Furthermore, the insights gained from this research have implications for the development of more genre-aware and culturally sensitive translation systems, ultimately enhancing the quality and effectiveness of cross-cultural communication facilitated by artificial intelligence.

About the Presenter:



Dr. Dechao Li is professor of Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. He also serves as the chief editor of *Translation Quarterly*, a journal published by the Hong Kong Translation Society. His main research areas include corpuses-based translation studies, empirical approaches to translation process research, history of translation in the late Qing and early Republican periods and PBL and translator/interpreter training. He has published over 70 articles in journals both published home and abroad. Among his most recent works was *Transcultural Poetic* (co-edited with Yifeng Sun) published by Routledge in 2023.

Panel 4: Translator Training and Technology

Comparing Translation Students' Engagement with Teacher and ChatGPT's Responses: Differences in Feed-back, Feed-up and Feed-forward

SU Wei Xiamen University, PRC

Active student engagement with teacher feedback has long been recognized as crucial for success in translation/interpreting education. Now with the advent of Al-powerd chatbots such as ChatGPT, there is a debate regarding whether teacher feedback would be supplemented, if not supplanted, by chatbot-generated feedback. This presentation reports how students assigned different engagement ratings to comments generated by teachers/GPT on their translation performance. For the cognitive dimension, students' engagement levels with teachers were significantly higher than GPT in the areas of feed-up and feed-forward. Regarding the affective dimension, students' engagement levels were varied: they developed a stronger sense of admiration and emulation towards GPT due to its unlimited error detection capabilities (feed-back), yet they appreciated teachers' feed-up message as it was actionable and relevant to their learning status. The researcher thus recommends a teacher-led, chatbot-assisted hybrid feedback scheme in translation/interpreting education.

About the Presenter:



Professor Su is Head of English Department, Xiamen University, China. He now serves as Vice president of the Network of Assessment and Evaluation in interpreting, Coordinator of Cross-Strait Interpreting Contest, and member of Interpreting committee of Translator Association of China. In the past five years he published articles in key journals like Perspectives, Language and Education, Language Awareness, Assessment and Evaluation in Higher Education, and The Interpreter and Translator Trainer. His main research interests include feedback and learner characteristics in translation and interpreting education.

Panel 4:

Translator Training and Technology

Exploring a New Training Model for Undergraduate Interpreting Talents

ZHANG Jiliang Shenzhen University, PRC

CHAI Mingjiong Shanghai International Studies University, PRC

Since 2007, more than 200 institutions of tertiary education on the mainland of China have established undergraduate translation and interpreting programs to cultivate talents in liaison/community interpreting. However, as liaison/community interpreting falls under the category of non-conference interpreting, many students majoring in English who have received basic interpreter training are also capable of performing such interpreting tasks. As a result, the effectiveness of training interpreting talents in undergraduate translation and interpreting programs does not make much difference. Then, are there any other ways to cultivate undergraduate interpreting talents at a higher level, with a focus on consecutive and simultaneous interpreting? Can undergraduate students receive conference interpreter training?

This article, based on the interpreter training practice at the School of International Studies of Shenzhen University in the past 10 years, introduces an interpreter training model that differs from the mainstream undergraduate translation and interpreting programs. Our approach is to select a small number of third- and fourth-year undergraduate students from various majors who have a linguistic turn of mind, broad knowledge base for a dedicated two-year interpreter training program through a competitive screening test. Our stellar track record shows that with the help of core interpreting courses, proper training materials coupled with intensive in-class and after-class deliberate practice, strict course requirements, and effective supervision, good training results can be achieved.

About the Presenters:



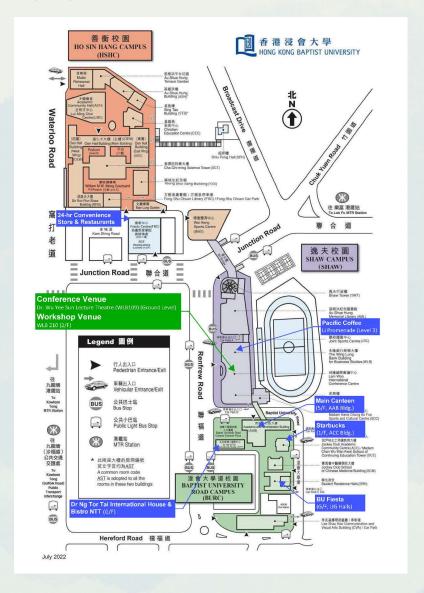
Zhang Jiliang is currently a professor at the School of International Studies, Shenzhen University. He is the vice president of Guangdong Translators Association, the president of Shenzhen Translators Association, and a member of the Interpreting Committee of the Translators Association of China. His major research interests are the Interpretive Theory of Translation proposed by the Paris School and interpreting pedagogy. He is also the founding instructor of the "Advanced English-Chinese Interpreting Program" (now "Advanced English-Chinese Interpreting Micro-Degree Program"), and the instructor of the Nation-level First-class Undergraduate Course "Introduction to Consecutive Interpreting" (offline) at Shenzhen University.



Professor Chai Mingjiong is Professor and Principle Supervisor of PhD students at Shanghai International Studies University. He has held key positions in various organizations and is currently Honorary Dean of Graduate Institute of Interpretation and Translation, Shanghai International Studies University, Member and Director General, Shanghai Committee for Graduate Education of Translation and Interpreting, the Education Commission of Shanghai Municipal Government and Chair, Committee for Professional Translation and Interpreting Title Evaluation of Shanghai.

USEFUL INFORMATION

Campus map



On campus restaurants and coffee shops

Main Canteen	Level 5, Academic and Administration Building (AAB)	Mon to Fri: 07:30-20:00 Sat: 08:00-17:00 Sun & Public Holidays: Closed Payment accepted:
		Cash, Octopus, AlipayHK, WeChat Pay, Payme
Pacific Coffee	Level 3, The Wing Lung Bank for Business Studies (WLB), Shaw Campus (near Li Promenade)	Mon to Fri: 08:00-20:00 Sat: 08:00-18:00 Sun: 08:00-17:00 Public Holidays: Closed
		Payment accepted: Cash, Octopus, Visa, Master, AE, UnionPay, AlipayHK, WeChat Pay, Apple Pay, Google Pay
Starbucks	Level 1, Jockey Club Academic Community Centre, Baptist University Road Campus	Mon to Fri: 08:00-20:00 Sat: 08:00-17:00 Sun & Public Holidays: Closed
		Payment accepted: Cash, Octopus, Visa, Master, AE, UnionPay, JCB, AlipayHK, WeChat Pay, Apple Pay, Google Pay
Bistro NTT	G/F, Dr. Ng Tor Tai International House (NTT)	Mon to Sat: 08:00-22:00 Sun & Public Holidays: 12:00-22:00
		Payment accepted: Cash, Octopus, Visa, Master, UnionPay, AlipayHK, WeChat Pay, Apple Pay
BU Fiesta	G/F, Undergraduate Halls, Baptist University Road	Mon - Sun (incl. Public Holidays): 07:30 - 21:00
		Payment accepted: Cash, Octopus, AlipayHK, WeChat Pay HK

Other facilities:

7-11 Convenience Store	Frankie Centre	24 hours a day, seven days a week
Bottled-water Filling Stations		

About the Centre for Translation, Hong Kong Baptist University https://ctn.hkbu.edu.hk

The Centre for Translation was established in 1994 as a University research unit. Committed both to academic research and to fostering links with the translation profession and the community, the Centre aims to provide a focal point for research in Translation and Interpreting Studies and to promote knowledge transfer through a variety of consultancy projects.

The Centre's research activities include academic publishing, seminars and conferences, as well as research projects of its Fellows. Centre Research Fellows have a strong record of research grant success and have pursued research projects under the auspices of the Centre, covering areas such as Chinese and Western translation theories, museum translation, translation of *Materia Medica*, legal translation, literary translation, drama translation, and interpreting studies from a wide range of perspectives.

In 2001, the "Translation Seminar Series", online since 2020, was launched to provide a platform to facilitate a dialogue among scholars. Over 200 seminars have been organized with over 160 speakers. Throughout the years, the Centre has also held research summer schools and many international conferences, such as the 2018 IATIS Conference, and the International Conference "Understanding Wikipedia's Dark Matter" (2021). In 2017, the Centre launched the HKBU International Conference on Interpreting, dedicated solely to interpreting studies, and has held a total of three conferences on the themes of "History and Interpreting" (2017), "Cognitive Approaches" (2021) and "Interpreting and Technology: Interplay and Transformation" (2022).

The Centre is also dedicated to the translation profession and works in synergy with the Department of Translation, Interpreting and Intercultural Studies to offer students valuable experience in professional translation. The Centre has involved students in large scale translation projects, including the Chinese translation of *The Oxford Children's Encyclopedia* and the English translation of the subtitles of the "HKBU Chinese Medicine Online (《浸大中醫在線》)" for the YouTube channel "Embrace Health".

The Centre has actively engaged in public service, consultancy and collaborative work with the community to provide translation and editing services. The Centre served as partner to various local events, such as the Hong Kong International Poetry Festival, "Eye on Hong Kong", Asian Cultural Co-operation Forum, the Mediterranean Arts Festival, the Hong Kong Photo Festival, the "Hong Kong Memory" website, and Children's Council.

About the Department of Translation, Interpreting and Intercultural Studies, Hong Kong Baptist University

https://tiis.hkbu.edu.hk

The Department of Translation, Interpreting and Intercultural Studies was established in 1990 as the "Translation Programme" and was granted full departmental status in September 2019.

Since its inception, the Department has offered a B.A. (Hons.) in Translation and an M.Phil./Ph.D. postgraduate research programme in the field of translation studies. It also launched a self-funded taught M.A. Programme in Translation and Bilingual Communication in 2008, adding an Interpreting Stream in 2016 and a Technology Stream in 2021.

The Department's curriculum is designed to train bilingual and bicultural communicators to operate in local, national and international markets in the 21st century. The Department closely follows Hong Kong Baptist University's general mission of "commitment to academic excellence in teaching, research and service", and to the development of "whole person" education. More specifically, it is committed to providing professional training in translation and interpreting through a liberal arts university education.

The Department currently has 11 academic staff members, whose research interests include, amongst others, translation and the Web, literary translation, interpreting, and minority regional languages and cultures. Teachers of the Department share with students their expertise in academic research, their experience in frontline fieldwork in interlingual and intercultural communication, and their pedagogic vision. Students are thus prepared to meet the cultural, socio-political and economic needs of the local community, as well as those of a rapidly developing China.

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