



Trinity Centre for Asian Studies

Events Archive 2014/2015, 2015/16

14 June 2016, TCAS Lunchtime Seminar on How Far Can Confucianism Go in the West? by Professor Sam Crane, Williams College, Massachusetts. In recent decades Confucianism has been revived in China and there is a growing expectation in some quarters that it could gain wider prominence as a world philosophy, attaining meaningful influence in various cultural contexts around the globe. But how far can Confucianism go in the West? This lunchtime talk considered sociological and political factors that appear to obstruct the global dissemination of Confucianism. Sam Crane is W. Van Alan Clark '41 Third Century Professor in the Social Sciences at Williams College in Massachusetts. He teaches courses on contemporary Chinese politics, East Asian international politics, and ancient Chinese philosophy. His most recent book - *Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Dao: Ancient Chinese Thought in Modern American Life* (Wiley, 2013) - draws ideas from classical texts of Confucianism and Daoism and applies them to controversial social issues (abortion, same sex marriage, end of life questions) current in the US today.

10 May 2016, TCAS Asian Studies Public Lecture on "Extraordinary and Unaccountable Customs": British Observations on Population, Infanticide, and Footbinding in China by Professor John Carroll, Hong Kong University. From the mid-1700s through the late 1830s, Britons in China were confined to a tiny section of the city of Canton (Guangzhou). This encounter is known best for resulting in the Opium War (1839-42) and the "opening" of China. But it also generated a massive corpus of writings. Frustrated with the restrictions on trade and unable to live or travel elsewhere in China, these Britons devoted thousands of pages in journals, memoirs, and books trying to understand China, its people, and their culture. They discussed almost everything they saw, and speculated about much of what they could not see. This talk examined three interrelated aspects of this enterprise: determining the size of China's massive population, the extent of infanticide, and the origins and meanings of footbinding. These were all part of a larger project of understanding China, and represented some of the difficulties and complications

inherent in doing so. These discussions also coincided with an emerging belief in Europe that a nation or culture's level of civilization depended on the condition of its women. They reveal a sophisticated level of interest in China, admittedly to help open it to foreign trade and Christian evangelization, but also to understand it on its own terms. In the face of ever-increasing publications on China in the West, often based more on speculation than on fact, they were also a way for Britons who spent time in China to distinguish themselves as experts on the Middle Kingdom. John Carroll is Professor of History and Associate Dean in the Faculty of Arts at the University of Hong Kong. He is the author of *Edge of Empires: Chinese Elites and British Colonials in Hong Kong* and *A Concise History of Hong Kong*. His current book project, *Canton Days*, looks at the British community in South China in the late 1700s and early 1800s.

18 April 2016, TCAS Asian Studies Public Lecture on Learning from Talleyrand: Yoshida Shigeru and postwar Japanese foreign policy by Dr Declan Downey, University College Dublin. As the great French statesman, Talleyrand, had saved France from dismemberment through his diplomatic strategies at the Congress of Vienna in 1815; Japan's postwar premier, Yoshida Shigeru, had ensured his country's economic survival and expansion, as well as its international political rehabilitation in his negotiations with the USA that culminated in the Peace Treaty of San Francisco in 1951, and in his direction of Japan's foreign policy. This paper explored the influence of European Classical Diplomacy on Yoshida's professional formation, and on his legacy in the emergence of Japan as a major world player. Declan M. Downey, LL.M. (Leiden), Ph.D.(Cantab.), is lecturer in Modern European & Japanese Diplomatic History, co-director of the BCL Law with History Degree programme at University College Dublin, and Trustee of the Chester Beatty Library. Over the past 20 years, he has taught courses in Japanese History in UCD. A considerable number of his former students have undertaken graduate studies in Japan on the Monbukagusho scholarship and Japan Foundation schemes. In recognition of his promotion of Japanese Studies, he was awarded the Japanese Ambassadorial Commendation in 2010. **Currently, Dr. Downey is working on a biography of Japan's postwar premier, Shigeru Yoshida.**

29 February 2016. Book launch of *Thinking Through China*. This new volume co-authored by Jerusha McCormack and John G. Blair, currently Visiting Academics at the Trinity Centre for Asian Studies, introduces China on its own terms by explaining ten key concepts that frame the way most Chinese people think about the world. Creating a cultural cartography through both text and image, the authors provide readers with a vivid sense of what is uniquely Chinese about China. The volume was launched by His Excellency Declan Kelleher, former Irish Ambassador to the People's Republic of China and to Mongolia and currently Permanent Representative of Ireland to the European Union.

25 February 2016. TCAS Asian Studies Public Lecture on China's Urban Civilization: A Brief History by Dr Toby Lincoln, Lecturer in Modern Chinese Urban History and Honorary Secretary of the British Association of Chinese Studies. Dr Lincoln, from the School of History at the University of Leicester, is the author of *Urbanizing China in War and Peace: The Case of Wuxi County* (2015). This lecture **described the development of China's urban civilization over the past two thousand years, and explained how the world's most populous country has become its newest urban society.** In common with other countries, empires and kingdoms around the world, China was predominantly agricultural for much of its long history. However, after unification in 221 BCE,

an empire-wide urban system emerged, cities took on distinct physical forms, and their inhabitants engaged in activities distinctive to urban spaces. Driven by economic and political forces, and reflecting changes in China's culture and society, this urban civilization grew in complexity over the next two thousand years. Then the emergence of modernity in China in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries was the catalyst for the country's transformation into the urban society we see today. This society is not simply a copy of that in other regions of the world. Instead, Chinese urban modernity has been shaped by Western imperialism, the Japanese invasion, the Communist revolution, and the legacies of its own long history of urban civilization. [Click here to listen to the podcast.](#)

16 February 2016. Dublin Chinese New Year Festival evening talk on Revolutions in the Air: The 1911 Chinese Revolution in the Context of the 1916 Rising by Isabella Jackson, Assistant Professor in Chinese History, Trinity Centre for Asian Studies. In late 1911, the last dynasty of China, the Qing, which had ruled the Chinese empire since 1644, was toppled in a few short months in a relatively peaceful revolution. This ended 2,000 years of dynastic rule and ushered in a transformative period of republican governance, nationalism and anti-imperialism, and the rise of communism. In this centenary year of the Easter Rising of 1916, Dr Jackson reflected on the same revolutionary period in China, revealing similarities and differences between the two anti-imperial revolutionary movements. [Click here to listen to the podcast.](#)

15 February 2016. TCAS Lunchtime Public Lecture on Equality - Common Value? by Kato Takayuki, Visiting Professor, School of Law, Trinity College Dublin. Currently the idea of equality has gained significant influence in political and legal philosophy. The idea has reached the point where it permeates every political, social and private sphere. It has also affected Japanese society. By highlighting equality-relevant cases in both Ireland and Japan, the lectured explored how the two worlds are trying to apply the same idea to distinctive real societies. Kato Takayuki, LL.B., LL.M., Ph.D., Chuo University (Japan), is Professor of Law at Asia University, Japan. His areas of expertise include constitutional law, jurisprudence and administrative law. Selected publications include **“Boundaries of Regulations on Sexually Explicit Materials”** and **“Learning Constitutional Law through Cases on Human Rights”**.

9 February 2016. Dublin Chinese New Year Festival lunchtime talk on The Linguistics of Chinese New Year: Linguistic and Cultural Practices by Adrian Tien, Sam Lam Associate Professor in Chinese Studies, Trinity Centre for Asian Studies. Chinese New Year is not just an important annual event to celebrate on the Chinese lunar calendar, it is packed with traditional linguistic and cultural practices that are highly demonstrative of aspects of the Chinese culture. [Click here to listen to the podcast.](#)

8 February 2016. TCAS Asian Studies Public Lecture on Chinese music and its cultural tradition: An introduction by Adrian Tien, Sam Lam Associate Professor in Chinese Studies, Trinity Centre for Asian Studies. This introductory lecture on Chinese music and its cultural traditions focused on Chinese music as it had been practised before its westernisation. Chinese music is very much an integral aspect of the Chinese culture, with important connections with other genres and domains, including Chinese language.

14 December 2015. From “Mao’s little red soldiers” to the Thinking Generation: Red Guards and the emergence of China’s democracy and human-rights movement. Professor Jackie Sheehan, School of Asian Studies, UCC. Although the Cultural Revolution (1966-76) is routinely spoken of as the worst thing to happen in Mao’s China, in fact it was not even the worst thing to happen there in the 1960s. Other responses to the political fluctuations of 1966-76, such as the Red Guard view often expressed in the late 1970s that it had been a liberating and democratizing experience for their generation, have long since been lost in the dominant narrative of a single mass of Mao-worshipping zealots and thugs egged on to mindless violence by the Gang of Four. In reality, the Red Guards were not one united force, nor were they motivated only by the desire to do Mao’s bidding. **The Rebel faction, in particular, developed a profoundly radical political agenda which they became adept at inserting into different phases of the campaign. As Mao’s manipulation of their movement revealed to them the true nature of the Chinese Communist Party regime, they carried over into China’s democracy and human-rights movement their hard-won conviction that if anyone was to be safe in China, the rights of all had to have legal guarantees which overrode the authority of the ruling party.** Professor Jackie Sheehan joined the School of Asian Studies at University College Cork in September 2013, having spent the previous ten years as Associate Professor in Contemporary Chinese Studies in the School of Contemporary Chinese Studies at Nottingham University, and before that lecturing in Chinese and East Asian history at the universities of Nottingham and Keele.

12 October 2015. Unbound feet: the changing status of Chinese women, c. 1890-1950. Isabella Jackson, Assistant Professor in Chinese History at Trinity College Dublin. For almost one thousand years, most Chinese women had their feet bound to achieve an artificial smallness that corresponded to an ideal of beauty, but restricted movement and caused immense pain and suffering. The eradication of this practice in the early twentieth century was a huge achievement and stands as a symbol of both female emancipation and the end of the old imperial order with the fall of the last dynasty in 1911. But it was just one among many changes in the status of Chinese women, which fluctuated with the political movements of the period. This lecture will trace these changes, from the decline in footbinding, through the social developments in early twentieth-century cities like Shanghai, to the implementation of the 1950 Marriage Law passed in the young People’s Republic. **Developments in the fashion of women’s clothes and shoes provide a striking visual record of these changes in Chinese women’s lives.** Dr Jackson arrived at the Department of History at TCD in 2015, after three years as a lecturer in Modern East Asian History at the University of Aberdeen. Prior to that she taught at the University of Oxford and gained her PhD from the University of Bristol. She researches the modern history of China and the global and regional networks that shaped the treaty ports, which were opened to foreign traders by force, in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. [Click here to listen to the podcast.](#)

28 September 2015. Celebrating the Centenary of So Chongju Korea’s Premier 20th Century Poet. Kevin O’Rourke, Professor Emeritus (Kyunghee University), is an Irish priest (Columban Fathers), who has lived in Korea since 1964. The first foreigner to receive a Ph.D in Korean literature from a Korean university (Yonsei University 1982), he has published many translations of classical and contemporary fiction and **poetry including Choe Inhun’s celebrated Korean War**

novel, *The Square* (Spindlewood 1985), which was the first Korean novel in English translation to be published outside Korea.

23 June 2015. Noh from the past to the present - Noh and Contemporary Music. Ryoko Aoki, Noh performer and Japan Cultural Envoy. Noh is a Japanese traditional theatre and one of the oldest extant theatrical forms in the world. It is a form of drama in which dance and music play an important role. The story is told not just through dialogue but also through utai (singing), hayashi (**musical accompaniment**), and dance. **It's like a musical, which Kan'ami and Zeami, father and son, created in the fourteenth century.** Dr Aoki obtained a BA and a Master of Music from the Faculty of Music at the Tokyo University of the Arts with coursework in Japanese Noh theatre (Kanze school). She obtained a PhD at the University of London, School of Oriental and African Studies for her thesis "Women and Noh". She has performed several traditional Noh plays, and has also challenged collaborations with contemporary composers as a Noh singer (<http://ryokoaki.net/e/biography.html>).

5 May 2015. Hong Kong: Asia's World City. Mrs Carrie Lam, Chief Secretary for Administration, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. Mrs Carrie Lam joined the Administrative Service of the Hong Kong Government in August 1980 upon graduation from the University of Hong Kong. She was Director-General of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in London from September 2004 to March 2006. She was appointed a Principal Official on July 1, 2007 as the Secretary for Development. On July 1, 2012, Mrs Lam was appointed as the Chief Secretary for Administration. As head of the Government Secretariat, she is the most senior Principal Official of Hong Kong Government after the Chief Executive. This special lunchtime talk was chaired by the Vice-President for Global Relations, Professor Juliette Hussey.

20 April 2015. Asian language learning in Europe - **the 'conundrum' of heritage language** speakers. Professor Anne Pauwels, Professor of Sociolinguistics, SOAS. Speakers of a multitude of Asian languages are now a visible part of the (urban) linguistic landscapes in many European countries: wars, natural disasters and globalisation have brought many Asians **temporarily or permanently to Europe. Furthermore, Europe's (renewed) attention for Asia has** been triggered by the rise in Asian economic powerhouses. These developments have had an impact on education, specifically language learning, in many European schools. Firstly, there is a growing number of Asian background students in all levels of education, with many having varying **levels of proficiency in their 'heritage' language. Secondly, a number of Asian languages are now** becoming part of the (foreign) language learning curricula in primary and secondary as well as university education. Although Europe is committed to plurilingualism and to increased (foreign) language learning (at least in policy terms), the presence of (a high number of) heritage language speakers in foreign language education has been left unacknowledged, leaving these learners in a **'conundrum': on one hand, they are seen as a major problem because they do not present as 'typical' language learners, on the other hand, they are seen** as a major resource to fill the growing demand for these languages. This talk examined these contradictions by analysing how these were played out in another western nation - Australia - and to what extent we can draw upon **Australia's experience to address this 'conundrum'. Anne Pauwels is Professor of Sociolinguistics** and former Dean of the Faculty of Languages and Cultures at SOAS. Her research deals with the social and sociolinguistic aspects of language and communication, with particular attention to

multilingual and transnational settings. Her main research foci include multilingualism, language maintenance/shift, language policy in relation to language learning in schools and universities as well as various aspects of the relationship between gender and language. [Click here to listen to the podcast.](#)

27 March 2015. Launch of the Asian Development Outlook 2015: Financing Asia's Future Growth. With Alan Dukes, Chair Asia Matters and former Irish Minister for Finance; Leo Goodstadt, former Chief Policy Adviser to the Hong Kong Government as Head of its Central Policy Unit and Adjunct Professor, School of Business, Trinity College Dublin; Nick McIlroy, Visiting Professor at ESSCA Shanghai; Director at McIlroy Wang; Jim Stewart, Professor of Finance, School of Business, Trinity College Dublin. The growing size and financial power of developing Asia is transforming the **global economic landscape. ADB's flagship economic publication Asian Development Outlook 2015 (ADO)** provides a comprehensive analysis of macroeconomic issues in developing Asia, with growth projections by country and region. The ADO special theme chapter on Financing Asia's Future Growth explores the role of developing Asia's financial system in sustaining its growth, **while also examining ways to make the system more inclusive and stable.** ADB's Deputy Chief Economist Mr. Juzhong Zhuang, presented the key findings of the Asian Development Outlook **2015, including this year's special theme chapter on Financing Asia's Future Growth and this was** followed by a panel discussion. The event was chaired by Professor Louis Brennan of the School of Business at Trinity College.

25 March 2015. Republics Compared: Reflections on Anglo-Indian and Anglo-Irish relations. Sir David Goodall GCMG.

23 February 2015. Comparative Studies of China and the West: How? Why? Professors John Blair and Jerusha McCormack. In this contribution to the Inaugural Asian Studies Lecture Series, Professors Blair and McCormack sought to demonstrate the various pedagogical techniques they have devised over the past ten years of teaching China in the West and the West to China. In doing so, they hoped also to show how and why these techniques can improve on traditional approaches focusing on only one civilization at a time – as well as the gains in cultural literacy that may flow from such an enterprise. For the past dozen years Professors John Blair and Jerusha McCormack, retired from English Departments at the University of Geneva and University College, Dublin, respectively, have moved back and forth between Dublin and Beijing. In the West they teach about China (inaugurating comparative courses at NUIM and DCU over the past two years). In China, they teach about the West: mainly (but not exclusively) at Beijing Foreign Studies University (Beiwai). There they rely on the new sourcebook they have devised: Western Civilization with Chinese Comparisons [WCwCC], published by Fudan University Press in Shanghai (now going into its fourth edition). For use in the West, a re-edited American edition has been issued under the revised title, Comparing Civilizations: China and the West) in 2013. Drawing on its readings, as well as their experience of working in and between these two worlds, they have just finished a joint book (Thinking through China, Rowman and Littlefield, 2015), which seeks to introduce Western readers to dominant Chinese views of the world.

12 January 2015. Why do consumers buy counterfeit brands? Morality vs. emotion. Professor Rosa Chun, Chair in Global Leadership, Reputation and Responsibility, University College

Dublin. Today, business ethics classes are offered as core module on the MBA program in most business schools. The theories used in the classroom are mostly developed from the western countries. However, moral standards differ by time and place. Counterfeit is illegal and unethical and known to be associated with moral values. This empirical research conducted in Hong Kong seeks to identify the differences in purchase motivations behind authentic and counterfeit luxury consumption and to discuss the societal role of counterfeit consumption. In addition, the participants are encouraged to engage in a lively discussion about ethical issues facing global markets in 2015. Professor Rosa Chun is Chair in Global Leadership, Reputation and Responsibility at UCD. Prior to joining UCD, Professor Chun was Professor of Corporate Reputation at IMD, Switzerland, and held a Chair in Business Ethics and Corporate Social Responsibility at Manchester Business School, U.K. and has taught globally at CEIBS, Rotterdam School of Management, Bocconi, Lugano, Fudan, and Yonsei University. Professor Chun's research and consultancy work has focused on developing virtue ethics and corporate reputation as a strategic framework for senior management. Her work on reputation gap demonstrates how firms' performance is linked to reputation, leadership and virtues. These findings are based on extensive empirical work with services (Tesco, House of Fraser), IT businesses (Samsung, Sony), and the governmental and non-profit organizations (Police, Health center, Catholic churches). Her work appears in a wide variety of publications including the Strategic Management Journal, Harvard Business Review among others, and was featured in the Financial Times, New York Times, Economist, Marketing Week, Times of India, Chosun Daily and Donga Daily.

8 December 2014. Dangerous Women and Violent Confucians: Early Catholicism in Korea. Dr Kevin Cawley, Director of the Irish Institute of Korean Studies, UCC. Dr Cawley is the Director of the Irish Institute of Korean Studies. Originally from Co. Armagh, he completed his undergraduate degree at Trinity College Dublin in French and Irish. He took his Ph.D. in Korean Studies from the School of East Asian Studies at the University of Sheffield. Dr Cawley lectures in Korean Philosophy and Korean Religious Traditions, as well as Korean Contemporary Society and Korean History. Dr Cawley researches Korea's intellectual history, both philosophical and religious traditions, using contemporary critical theory. He is also interested in acculturation between traditions, such as Buddhism and Neo-Confucianism, and in particular, between Christianity and Neo-Confucianism in the late 18th and early 19th century.

17 November 2014. China's economic "miracle" falters: Why growth and globalisation are not enough. Mr Leo F. Goodstadt. **After 35 years of unbroken growth, China is now the world's second largest economy. But the "miracle" shows signs of faltering. This presentation discussed how the nation's leaders are seeking to manage a conflict between wealth and welfare now that high-speed growth is no longer enough to meet the public's rising expectations of better living standards and modern housing, hospitals and schools. The Chinese Communist Party has difficult choices to make. It has already started to boost domestic markets and personal incomes and to shrink the role of foreign trade and investment in driving the economy. The policy-makers are also struggling to upgrade the financial and banking systems to meet the needs of a new consumer society and an expanding middle class. "Welfare" issues are daunting. The "economic" miracle was fuelled by the transfer of 250 million individuals from villages to cities, where they have minimal rights to public housing and social services. China's leadership has repeatedly pledged to**

end this potential source of social unrest. The pension and health services cannot cope with a rapidly ageing population, whose families are too small to cater unaided for the 200 million elderly because of strict enforcement of a one-child policy since 1978. Leo F. Goodstadt is an Adjunct Professor in the School of Business at Trinity College. He is an Honorary Fellow of the University of Hong Kong, and he has held five Research Fellowships at the Hong Kong Institute for Monetary **Research since 2005. He has published extensively on China's financial reforms, economic management and its fiscal, demographic and agricultural systems. His books include the pioneering China's Search for Plenty. The Economics of Mao Tse-tung (1973) and Reluctant Regulators: How the West Created and China Survived the Global Financial Crisis (2011), which appeared in a Chinese edition in 2012.**

15 October 2014. Japan in East Asia. His Excellency Mr Chihiro Atsumi, Ambassador of Japan to Ireland. The Inaugural Asian Studies Lecture Series, supported by the Trinity Long Room Hub Research Institute for the Arts and Humanities was opened by His Excellency Mr Chihiro Atsumi, **Ambassador of Japan to Ireland, on the topic 'Japan in East Asia'.**

28-29 May 2014. Peace in the Korean Peninsula: Confrontation or Engagement? Reflections from the Northern Ireland Peace Process. International Symposium, Irish School of Ecumenics, Trinity College Dublin. Co-organisers: Trinity Centre for Asian Studies; Centre for Post-Conflict Justice, Trinity College Dublin; University of North Korean Studies, Seoul.

Guest Speaker, Comedian Des Bishop, March 2015. We would like to extend our thanks to Des Bishop for the captivating Q&A session with our Introduction to Contemporary Asia undergraduate **class on 4 March 2015. We wish him every success with his 'Coming Home' tour.**

Korean Speech Contest. **The Centre hosted Ireland's first public Korean speech contest on 11** October 2014, for Korean language learners in Ireland. The date was selected to mark Hangeul Day (Korean Alphabet Day, held on 9 October in South Korea), a national commemorative day which **marks the invention of Korea's unique writing system by King Sejong. Twenty contestants in four** divisions ranging from Junior Infants to University students and Adults participated in the contest, which was funded by the Korea Foundation. The event was supported by the Korean Embassy, and the Ambassador of Korea to Ireland, H.E. Mr Park, presented the prizes. The speech contest represents an important step in raising awareness of the Korean language in Ireland as well as in encouraging Korean learners to showcase their language skills.