China’s Engagement with the Modern World
Historical Society for Twentieth-Century China (HSTCC) Biennial Conference, August 14-17, 2020

Owing to the Covid-19 pandemic, this conference will be conducted remotely

Please note: the times listed below refer to Mountain Standard Time (MST) in the United States.

Friday, August 14

8:00 – 8:10 Introductory remarks – Tim Weston, President, Historical Society for Twentieth-Century China

8:15 – 10:30 Paradigm Transformation and Academic Practice of Modern Chinese Social History

Li Chang-li, Transformation of Research Paradigms in the Study of Modern Chinese Social History
Zhang Fang-lin, Local Integration and Industrial Organization of Hubei’s Jiangyou Merchants in Modern Times
Luo Guilin, The Rise of the “Ju” and the Transformation of Local Politics in the Qing Dynasty: Centered on Wenchang Bridge Ju in Fuzhou
Wang Kang, Gearing the Imperial Court, Life Experience of “Bagong” in Late Qing Beijing
Li Junling, Politics of Forbidden Publication: Push him Out and Social Mentality in the Late Qing and Beiyang Period
Wang Yi, The Revolutionary Road and the Influence of Left-wing Professional Journalists
Chair: Wang Yi

11:00 – 12:30 HSTCC New Books

Robert Cliver, Red Silk: Class, Gender, and Revolution in China’s Yangzi Delta Silk Industry (Harvard University Asia Center, 2020)
Margherita Zanasi, Economic Thought in Modern China: Market and Consumption, c.1500–1937 (Cambridge University Press, 2020)
Elisabeth Koll, Railroads and the Transformation of China (Harvard University Press, 2019)
Chair: Tim Weston

1:15 – 3:15 Political Campaigns as Experience: Disaggregating Political Campaigns in Mao’s China

Ben Kletzer, Building Maoism in Beijing: The Great Hall of the People and the Projection of the Maoist Development Model
Chuchu Wang, Political Campaigns and Fiscal Extraction: A Case Study of the County-level Fiscal System
Thomas Chan, Rendering Flesh: State and Clinical Efforts to Reify and Discipline Drug Offenders in 1950s China
Chair and discussant: Emily Honig
**Saturday, August 15**

9:00 – 10:30 Chinese Intellectuals between State and Market during the Long Twentieth Century (roundtable)

- Robert Culp, Bard College
- Fa-ti Fan, SUNY Binghamton
- Eugenia Lean, Columbia University
- Eddy U, UC Davis
- Sebastien Veg, EHESS, Paris, France
  
  Chair and discussant: Fa-ti Fan

10:45 – 12:15 Foreign Relations

- Cyril Cordoba, Switzerland as a Hub for the Spread of Maoism (1960s)
- Ariane Knüsel, Tibetan Refugees and Switzerland’s Political Relations with China, 1960-1990
- Xuening Kong, Who were “Chinese Immigrants?”: China’s Response to the Anti-Chinese Movement in Mexico, 1928-1937
- Selda Altan, A French Muslim in Qing China: Gervais Courtellemont’s Travels in Yunnan and Chinese Muslims in French Colonial Policy Making, 1900-1911
  
  Chair: Margherita Zanasi

1:00 – 2:30 Representing Childhood: Children, Gender and Labor in Republican China

- Margaret Mih Tillman, Proving Childhood Vulnerability: Shanghai’s Child Labour Commission, 1921-1925
- Isabella Jackson, Changing representations of child slavery in Republican China
- Jennifer Bond, ‘How I am brought into the Light’: Representations of Female Childhood by Missionary Schoolgirls in Republican-era East China, 1917-1939
  
  Chair and discussant: Helen Schneider

3:00 – 4:30 From Without and Within? Alternative Histories of China: Three Approaches

- Matthew Foreman Wong, Chinese Identities in Fin de Siecle Hong Kong
- Niuniu Teo, Believing Chinese Women: The Rise of the Red Guard Memoir
  
  Chair, Margherita Zanasi

4:45 – 6:15 Shifting Public Opinion

- Sophia Lee, How to Promote a Japanese Product in Occupied North China
- Luo Zhixin, Die A Noble Death: The Suicides of Chinese Royalists, 1870s-1920s
- Xia Shi, Associating with Concubines: Virtue, Vice and the Politics of the Private in Republican China
  
  Chair, Shellen Wu

**Sunday, August 16**

9:00 – 10:30 Close Encounters of the Modern Kind: Reevaluating Modern Chinese History Through Speculative Fiction

- Wang Kanyu, The Chinese Application of Daoism and Ecofeminism: Reading Hao Jingfang’s Vagabonds
- Cara Healey, Reimagining China’s Colonial Encounters in R.F. Kuang’s Poppy War Trilogy
- Bo. Ærenlund Sorensen, Sincerity under Surveillance: Silence, Speech, and Suffering in Liu Cixin’s Three-Body Trilogy
  
  Chair and discussant: Li Guangyi
10:45 – 12:15 Media, Propaganda, and Persuasion

Mengning, 共谋 隐喻 策略: 南京国民政府时期国货标语的意义建构
Lei Duan, Mobilization the Masses: Peng Xuefeng and the Communist Mobilization in Central China, 1938-1944
Huang Gelin, News-theater: Ritualization, Exhibition, and Performance of News During Mao Era
Liang Luo, Profound Propaganda: Joris Ivens, Paul Robeson, and Modern China
Chair, Tim Weston

1:00 – 2:30 Out of Synch: Temporal Disruptions in thinking ‘Modern China’ (Roundtable)

Eileen Chow, Duke University
Fabio Lanza, University of Arizona
Timothy Weston, University of Colorado Boulder
Shellen Wu, University of Tennessee
Chair, Shellen Wu

2:45 – 4:15 Culture and Exhibition

Yue Liang, The Construction and Exhibition of the Jingjiang Flood Diversion Project in Early Communist China
Emily Wilcox, Cold War Counter-Publics and the Ghosts of Pan-Asianism: The Japanese Matsuyama Ballet’s 1958 White-Haired Girl Tour in China
Joshua Howard, Creating the “People’s Musician”: Socialist Construction and the film, Nie Er
Eva Shan Chou, Ballet Restarts, 1979-86
Chair, He Qiliang

Monday, August 17

8:00 – 10:00 New Sources and Perspectives on the Researches of Chinese Resistance War against Japan

Jiang Tao, Digital Data and Historical Studies: An Introduction to the Data Platform of the Resistance War against Japan and Modern Sino-Japanese Relations
Su Sheng-hsiung, From Military to Academic Circles: The Studies on the Military History of the Second Sino-Japanese War in Taiwan
Ma Siyu, Recent Developments on Researches of Resistance War against Japan in China over the Past 10 Years: Centering on Papers in Young Scholars Forum on the History of the Anti-Japanese War
Tian Wuxiong, China’s Transformation of Time during the Anti-Japanese War
Chair, Liu Wennan
Discussants, Zhao Yanjie and Zhang Yiming

10:15 – 11:45 Expanding power and state building

Martin Wagner, Reviving the Revolution, Rediscovering the Collective: How China’s post-Maoist Reformers learned from the Soviet post-Stalinist Transition
Patrick David Buck, Study, Evaluation, Criticism, and Unity: Small Study Groups as Sites of Knowledge Production
Jeremy Tai, Assisting the Great Northwest: The Limits of Socialist Cooperation in 1950's Xi'an
Bin Chen, The Chengda Teachers' School and the Frontier Policies of the Nationalist Regime
Chair, Cong Xiaoping

12:30 – 1:45 Featured talk by Kate Mason

The Long Aftermath of the 2003 SARS Epidemic: How the Pandemic that Wasn’t Presaged the Pandemic that Was

1:45 – 2:00 Closing remarks by Tim Weston, outgoing HSTCC President, and Cong Xiaoping, incoming HSTCC President