Department News

Prof. Zhang Meifang Visits Cambridge

Last semester, Prof. Zhang spent her Sabbatical at Cambridge University as a visiting scholar in the Department of Theoretical and Applied Linguistics. She participated in different academic activities organized by the host department and by other faculties. She also visited residential colleges in Cambridge and attended a High Table Dinner at St. John’s College at the invitation of Professor McMullan, (Professor Emeritus of Chinese at Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, and Fellow under Title A at St John's College).

During her stay at Cambridge, Prof. Zhang had two research trips, one to University of Leeds and the other to University of Leicester. At Leeds, Prof. Zhang collaborated with Prof. Jeremy Munday in organizing the follow-up Round Table Seminar on Discourse analysis and Translation Studies, (the first Round Table was held in Macao). She collaborated with Professor Kirsten Malmkjær (University of Leicester) in the AHRC Research Project “Key Cultural Texts in Translation”, for which they co-organized the project conference at Leicester in April 28-30.

Pictures of Nothing at All | Experimenting with words and image

Australian professor and poet Christopher (Kit) Kelen has long been experimenting with words and images, looking to create a dialogue between these two forms of expression. With his exhibition “Pictures of Nothing at All,” currently on display at the Macau Museum of Art (MAM), Kit Kelen takes his audience on a journey through “the idea of abstraction.”

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A book with English poems translated into Portuguese, Chinese, French, and Indonesian, as well as a set of mixed media panels, might evoke unfamiliar landscapes in our minds or even resemble some of Macau’s landscapes, but the journey is all ours. As viewers and readers, we are encouraged to draw on a story that can be built by
our own minds, with the help of the artist. “The pictures suggest a story. You have to make your own journey here. You have to be lost to find a way. You have to take the time to do it,” Australian poet Andrew Burke and Visual Arts professor Carol Archer, who currently teaches at Lingnan University, wrote in the book’s preface.


Dr. Katrine Wong earns High Praise

Dr. Katrine Wong from the University of Macau (UM) Department of English has won high praise for her recent book Music and Gender in English Renaissance Drama (New York: Routledge, 2013). This ground-breaking study explores the ways in which the music and song used in a wide variety of plays by Shakespeare and his contemporaries expressed the social roles performed by women and men. A review in the prestigious journal, Renaissance Quarterly, states that Dr. Wong’s study “substantively adds to the understanding not just of early modern songs, but of Renaissance drama overall” and that it is “a particularly valuable addition to the study of Renaissance literature”.

The negotiation between the dichotomous qualities with which music in Renaissance theatre is associated – the heavenly and the demonic – finds extensive application in recent studies of music in early modern English plays. However, although ideological dualities identified in music in traditional Renaissance thinking may seem unequivocal, various musical representation of characters and situations in Renaissance drama would prove otherwise. Through a survey of how non-Shakespearean male and female characters participated and interacted in musical activities both inside and outside the contemporary societal decorum, Music and Gender in English Renaissance Drama explores how playwrights at the time both conformed to and challenged conventional beliefs about music practice for each gender. The examination of music-making men, in particular, will open up an exciting discourse in the field of early modern masculinity. This book will broaden the reader’s understanding of the general theatrical representation of music, as well as complicate the current discussion of musical portrayal and construction of gender in English Renaissance drama.

UM students win prizes at national interpreting contest

Two master’s students from the Department of English, Faculty of Arts and Humanities, namely Qiao Liangyu and Wang Qiyue, won the second prize and the Excellence Award at the Third CTPC Cup All China Interpreting Contest held in Beijing. Their instructor Dr Victoria Lei received the Distinguished Teacher Award. During their trip to Beijing, Qiao and Wang also took part in the Simultaneous Interpreting Invitational Tournament, and each won an Excellence Award.

Organised by the Translators Association of China, the biennial CTPC Cup is considered the most prestigious interpreting contest in China. This year, close to 1,000 contestants from more than 100 universities and colleges in the Greater China region took part in the qualifying rounds, which began in September 2013. 25 made it to the final, which was held at Beijing University of International Studies.

Simulating real-life situations, the contest was a comprehensive test of the contestants’ interpreting skills. The intense schedule also put the contestants’ mental toughness and physical strength to the test. The two students demonstrated good sportsmanship throughout. Their morale was significantly boosted by encouragement from the UM community. A couple of their classmates went all the way to Beijing to show support. Many students, teachers, administrative staff members and alumni were cheering them on through social media both before and during the contest.
Academic Activities of Department Faculty

Prof. Zhang Meifang

Prof. Zhang also travelled to the University of Cardiff as an invited keynote speaker to the PhD Conference on Competence, Credentials Creativity, which was organized by the Faculty of Modern Languages and Translation, University of Cardiff, U.K. May, 2014.

Chair Professor Montgomery, Dr Maria José Coperias Aguilar, and Professor John Corbett at the ESSE Conference in Slovakia.

Prof. John Corbett

In October 2014, Professor Corbett undertook a mini-lecture tour in Taiwan: he participated in the Cross Straits ESP Conference at Asia University, Taiwan, presenting a session on Language, Values and Medical English, with Dr Peih-ying Lu of Kaohsiung Medical University. He was also invited to present a plenary lecture at a conference on ESP and Professionalism at Tainan Technical University, and to give a talk on Scottish Literature and Translation at National Sun Yat Sen University in Kaohsiung.

Prof. Martin Montgomery & Prof. John Corbett

Chair Professor Martin Montgomery and Professor John Corbett attended the biennial conference of the European Society for the Study of English (ESSE) in Košice, Slovakia, in September 2014. Chair Professor Montgomery was an invited plenary speaker, presenting ideas on 'new literacies' that have arisen from his work in Macau. Professor Corbett contributed to a panel on the poetry of Edwin Morgan, and co-chaired a panel session by doctoral students with Dr Maria José Coperías Aguilar, of the University of València. He also conducted an interview with the distinguished Scottish novelist, James Robertson, and this interview will shortly appear in the ESSE newsletter, The European English Messenger, Volume 23.2 – Winter 2014.

Edited Books

Prof. Christopher (Kit) Kelen

Journal Articles

Dr Damian Shaw


Ms. Pan, Hanting (Doctoral Candidate)


Ms. Chen Xi (Doctoral Candidate)


Prof. Zhang Meifang


Books

Prof. Christopher (Kit) Kelen


Book Chapters

Prof. Matthew Gibson


Dr Wang Xian, Vincent

Prof. Zhang Meifang


Doctoral Research Scholars


Conference Presentations.

Prof. Zhang Meifang

Zhang M. “Teaching Translation with a Model of Multimodality”, at the FIT XXth World Congress, Berlin, Germany, August, 2014.


Zhang M. & Pan H. “From Gambling to Gaming: a corpus-based study of the Macao gaming discourse”, at the Round Table Seminar on Discourse analysis and Translation Studies, University of Leeds, April, 2014.

Doctoral Research Scholars

Pan H. (with Prof. Zhang). “From Gambling to Gaming: a corpus-based study of the Macao gaming discourse”, Round Table Seminar on Discourse Analysis and Translation Studies, University of Leeds, the U.K. April 25-26, 2014. (Funded via Prof. Zhang’s MYRG project.)

Pan, H. “The Immigration of Key Cultural Icons: A case study of church name translation in Macao”, Conference on Key Cultural Texts in Translation, University of Leicester, the UK. April 29-30, 2014. (Funded via Prof. Zhang’s MYRG project.)

Chen, X. “Representing Culture through Images: A Multimodal Approach to Translations of the Chinese Classic Mulan”, Conference on Key Cultural Texts in Translation, University of Leicester, the UK. April 29-30, 2014. (Funded via Prof. Zhang’s MYRG project.)

In Photos

The DoE Family at a Retreat

Prof. Zhang with Prof. Malmkjaer at Leicester Conference

Halloween at the Black Box Theatre
STUDENTS’ SECTION

On Exchange in Malmo
by Zephyr

It’s my first time to go abroad. Malmo, a fascinating city, fulfilled my dream of studying in a European city. What enchants me most is the interaction between modernity and tradition there. Classic churches and glass-wrapped buildings coexist harmoniously in this 700-year-old city. Malmo is also renowned for its cultural diversity. I got to know from one of my friends in Malmo that it is Sweden’s most multicultural city-150 nationalities make up Malmö’s headcount.

During last semester, especially my two courses—Children’s Literature in a Global Perspective and Children’s rights, I got plenty of classmates from various countries to work with. Students with different culture backgrounds joined together in a same class, which created an inter-cultural circumstance. This valuable diversity inspired me a lot and helped my creative thinking particularly when I did projects cooperating with other guys from Europe and Africa, like Sweden, Netherlands, France, and Kenya. What’s more, professors in Malmo University are very approachable and warm-hearted. They were always willing to help my study. Professor Sundmark kindly invited our classmates to his house. We had a fun barbecue and tea party there. In extra-curricular life, I made a lot of foreign friends as well. It gave me the opportunity to learn and understand other cultures during our communication and it did expand my outlook. Thank you for every minute you gave to me, Malmo! Tack så mycket!

I want to express my great gratitude to our English Department for this meaningful and valuable exchange semester in Malmo University. Thanks a lot!

Faces of Java

A DoE student, Chrysogonus Siddha Malilang, led a discussion of poetry translation in the launching of Faces of Java. The discussion was held at Balai Seni Candrarana, Yogyakarta, Indonesia in August 15, 2014. Chrysogonus himself translated the book—which is published by ASM Macao— together with Professor Kit Kelen. Faces of Java is a poetry anthology by Iman Budhi Santosa, a senior poet in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. This discussion—attended by local government representatives—sees a result in possible upcoming translation projects for more poets from Yogyakarta.