

Call for Papers
徵稿通知

2013 Term / Wuhan
“Beijing Roundtable on Contemporary Philosophy”
2013屆-武漢“北京當代哲學國際圓桌學術研討會”
Wuhan University/Philosophy School
“Advanced Forum in Comparative Philosophy”
武漢大學哲學學院“比較哲學高峰論壇”

Theme / 討論主題
“Philosophical Issues Concerning Chinese Language
and Development of Contemporary Philosophy of Language”
“關於漢語的哲學問題與當代語言哲學發展”

(January 2013 version / 2013年1月)

Academic Organizer for the “Beijing Roundtable” Workshop Series: International Society for Comparative Studies of Chinese and Western Philosophy (ISCWP)

“北京當代哲學國際圓桌學術研討會”系列學術組織方: 國際中西哲學比較研究學會

Host & Sponsor: Philosophy School & Center for Comparative Chinese-Western Philosophy, Wuhan University, China

主辦方: 武漢大學哲學學院及中西比較哲學研究中心

Co-sponsor: Center for Comparative Philosophy, San Jose State University, USA

協辦方: 美國加州聖荷塞州立大學比較哲學研究中心

Time: 8-9th June 2013 (Saturday & Sunday)

時間: 2013年6月8-9日(星期六/星期日)

Location: Philosophy School, Wuhan University, Wuhan, China

地點: 武漢大學哲學學院, 武漢/中國

Discussion language: English and/or Chinese

學術討論語言: 英文/中文

The 2013 Term/Wuhan of the ISCWP’s “Beijing Roundtable on Contemporary Philosophy” workshop /symposium series & Philosophy School/Wuhan University “Advanced Forum in Comparative Philosophy” is a two-day symposium on the theme “Philosophical Issues Concerning Chinese Language and Development of Contemporary Philosophy of Language”, which will be held in Wuhan University, Wuhan, China, 8-9th June 2013.

[Note*: As it has been planned before, the “Beijing Roundtable” workshop series might be held in some other locations than Beijing in case relevant conditions would allow, for this effective academic-exchange/co-operation opportunity and engaging critical-discussion forum is intended to expand its coverage instead of its prospective hosts being limited to the academic institutions in one geographic area in China (though typically still in Beijing for some substantial considerations); in this situation, the label ‘Beijing Roundtable’ is thus rendered symbolic and still kept for its constructive emblematic use in relevant ISCWP documents, though host parties can choose their own preferred workshop titles.]

It is known that the development of philosophy of language has played its significant role in the development of contemporary philosophy; it has also made substantial contribution to the contemporary studies of Chinese and Chinese-Western comparative philosophy, not only in those directly related areas like language, mind and logic but also in other areas like ethics. Largely due to historical reason, reflective elaborations of relevant phenomena of natural languages in studies of philosophy of language have typically pointed to relied on the observation of the apparent semantic, syntactic and some other relevant phenomena of phonetic languages like English, which are usually supposed to be universally (at least at a deeper level) shared by all natural languages. However, in quite a few connections or cases (such as the semantic-syntactic structure of names, the way of predication, the structure of logical inference as presented in natural language, the propositional-attitude expressions, the structure of sentences, the metaphors, ...), the distinctions between apparent linguistic phenomena of a phonetic language like Greek or English and those of an ideographic language like Chinese are reflectively interesting; their elaborations might guide or bear on our philosophical reflections on relevant issues in distinct directions or manners.

In this symposium, we will discuss: (1) on the one hand, how reflective elaboration of some features of Chinese language can bear on and promote the development of philosophy of language and deepen our understanding and treatment of some issues of the philosophy of language; (2), on the other hand, how relevant resources in contemporary philosophy of language can contribute to our philosophical elaborations of reflectively interesting issues concerning Chinese language. The relevant issues include but not limited to these: the issue of semantic-syntactic structure of nouns and its related ontological issues, the issue of reference, the issue of truth [concerning the relation between language, thought and objects] as presented in Chinese classics, the issue of predication, the issue of logical inference as presented in Chinese language, the issue of propositional attitudes; the issue of the nature of language, the issue of metaphors – or other relevant engaging issues.

As the Beijing Roundtable workshop/symposium series has emphasized in-depth critical discussion on well-prepared research fruits on the target issue, submissions (see “Special Note” below) are expected to address the relevant issues with rigorously-argued and clearly-presented approaches. Papers (up to 5,000 English word equivalents in English or Chinese) together with 150-250 word abstracts (in English) may be submitted electronically (MS Word file) by 1st April 2013 to the review team c/o Bo Mou, ISCWP coordinator for the 2013 “Beijing Roundtable” symposium, at bo.mou@sjsu.edu. The authors of the submitted papers will be notified by 10th May 2013 of whether the papers will have been accepted for their presentation at the symposium. [The accommodations of the speakers of the accepted papers during the symposium period will be covered by the symposium host party.]

Any interested ISCWP members and other interested colleagues are welcome to participate in this symposium. For further information concerning its academic coordination on the ISCWP side, contact Bo Mou; for further information concerning its host organization, contact Prof. Zhaohua Chu, the Host representative, at chuzhaohua80@yahoo.com.cn.