**Chinese Phenomenology: History and Future**

**--Meeting Report: 24th Annual International Conference** **of Society of Chinese Phenomenology**

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From Oct 26th to 27th, the 24th Annual International Conference of Society of Chinese Phenomenology was co-held by Research Center for Phenomenology and Thoughts of Mind-nature and Department of Philosophy, Zhejiang University (ZJU) in Hangzhou. The topic of the conference this year was "Chinese Phenomenology: History and Future." There were 202 registered participants, including over twenty international scholars from Germany, Britain, Japan, and Switzerland.

Dean of the Department of Philosophy, Jun Wang, hosted the opening ceremony in the morning of Oct. 26. Zhaohui Wu, President Of ZJU, spoke firstly. He gave a warm welcome to the scholars present, introduced a co-laboring research plan of brain science and artificial intelligence (dubbed as Double Brain Project). The plan was promoted together by academician Zhaohui Wu, academician Shumin Duan of Medical School of ZJU, and Senior Professor in Philosophy Liangkang Ni from the Department of Philosophy of ZJU. The plan focuses on research of interdisciplinarity, including consciences, brain, and AI, in which Ethics, Logic, Foreign Philosophies of Department of Philosophy of ZJU has been actively participating. President Wu pointed out that it is the high time for philosophy to develop, and that philosophical research should focus on the change of our era and newly emerging problems. Also, we should delve potentiality of interdisciplinary, push researches forward. This annual conference and establishment of the Research Center for Phenomenology and thoughts of Mind-nature was also an initiative to push the development of ZJU and its research power even further.

Later, Secretary-general of Chinese Society of Phenomenology, deputy chief editor of Commercial Press, Xiaowen Chen, introduced the prosperous development of phenomenology in China, as well as academic activities on phenomenology in Chinese universities. He then reviewed the history of the department of philosophy in ZJU, and spoke highly of its development, and wished a more independent and glorious future of it.

Mr. Dezhong Chen, Deputy Secretary-General of the Chinese Association of Contemporary Foreign Philosophy, Spokesman and Deputy Editor-in-Chief of Journal *Philosophical Researches*, spoke on behalf of Chinese Institution of Contemporary Foreign Philosophy. He talked about developing trend of phenomenology from an academic journal editor's perspective.

The opening ceremony of the conference also held the unveiling ceremony of the Research Center for Phenomenology and thoughts of Mind-nature. Prof. Liangkang Ni, Senior Professor in Liberal Arts of ZJU, vice president of the Chinese Association of Contemporary Foreign Philosophy, director of the Research Center, clarified two meanings of the word "mind-nature": it initially means "nature of mind", i.e. Husserl's "essence of consciousness", Max Scheler's "the order of mind", or "two kinds of nature" in Buddhism; secondly, it means "mind and nature", which has corresponding concepts in Confucianism and Buddhism as well as Husserl's consciences phenomenology and Heidegger's ontology. This interpretation has opened up a large space and prospects for the study of mind-nature and mind-nature phenomenology.

After the opening ceremony, Prof. Jiaying Chen from Capital Normal University hosted three keynote reports in the morning. Ichiro Yamaguchi from Toyo University reported on *Forming of Kinesthesis Under Inter-monadic Temporization*. He tried to prove there is a co-monadic temporization before the formation of the ego-pole, and from primordial consciences of zero-kinesthesis there forms the distinction of living-body of self and other. Afterward, Georg Stenger from the University of Vienna reported on *A Generalization of Phenomenology between Conceptual Positions and* *Phenomenological Demonstration: the Encounter of China and Europe（Phänomenologische* *Streifzüge‚ im Zwischen‘ konzeptioneller Positionen und Phänomenaufweis - China meets Europe, Europe meets China）.* He began with Husserl's analysis of "foreign world" " foreign experience" and "life-world," discussing the possibility of a cross-cultural phenomenology. In the end, Prof. Qingjie Wang from the University of Macau reported on *Heidegger's Earth/world and Kant's Noumena — A New Perspective on the Second Section of The Origin of the Work of Art*. He believed that Heidegger's earth/world relation and traditional phenomenon/noumena represent two different philosophical ways of thinking. The latter is epistemological, while the former is tightly relevant to our existence.

From Oct 26th to 27th, the conference has set up 13 Sessions, organized a total of 28 units, and 143 keynote reports. There were not only sections on the traditional phenomenological subjects like Contemporary Phenomenology, Husserlian Phenomenology, and Heidegger's Philosophy, but also interdisciplinary sections like Phenomenology and Chinese Philosophy, Phenomenology and Pedagogy, Phenomenology and contemporary science, Remembering and Memory. The conference has set up three English sections, mainly reported by foreign scholars, which enhanced international academic communication.

In the afternoon of Oct 27th, Chaodong Xiao, vice-principal of Northwest Normal University, hosted three keynotes reports. First, Prof. Karl Mertens from University of Würzburg gave a report on *Synesthesia and Attention (*Synästhesie und Aufmerksamkeit*)*. He insisted that synesthesia and attention are the two opposite sides of perception; the former is an ability of synthesizing while the latter is the ability of focusing. It is crucial not to ignore the function of linguistic while thinking of the correlation between the two. Then Prof. Toru Tani from Ritsumeikan University reported on *Pronouns and Culture*, who was trying to clarify the meaning essence and mechanism of personal pronouns under the difference of eastern-western culture and language. He believed that under the ego of pronouns, there exists a primal ego which contains both ego and other-egos. Afterward, Prof. Christian Bermes from Koblenz-Landau University reported on *Rebuild of Opinion—Life-World, and Doxa*. He briefly introduced the concept of life-world and doxa and its original meaning in Husserlian phenomenology and then used the Wittgenstein's ideas to reinterpret the concept of life-world. Deng Zhang from Free University of Berlin, Qinbin Liao from Sun Yat-sen University, and Ge Wang from the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences respectively interpreted three of these reports.

The scale of this conference and the number of academic reports have reached a new high. This annual conference not only brought active trans-generation phenomenologists in China together, but also assembled the most recent influential phenomenologists in Europe and Japan, such as Yamaguchi Ichiro, Toru Tani, Georg Stenger, Karl Mertens, Christian Bermes, Denis McManus. Also, a new generation of young scholars active in the international research community, were present, such as Sophie Loidolt, Michela Summa, Shigeru Taguchi. With the further development of phenomenology, Chinese phenomenology and its original contribution to the international academic community will become increasingly significant.