

Prof. Dr. Axel Schneider  
Centre for Modern East Asian Studies  
Heinrich-Düker-Weg 14  
37073 Göttingen  
Germany  
T -49-(0)551-39 27033  
F -49-(0)551-39 27048  
axel.schneider@phil.uni-goettingen.de  
<http://cemeas.uni-goettingen.de>

Göttingen, February 25, 2013

**Questioning Modernity:  
Critical Engagement with Western Knowledge in Late Imperial and Republican  
China**

November 22 to 24, 2013

**Preliminary Program**

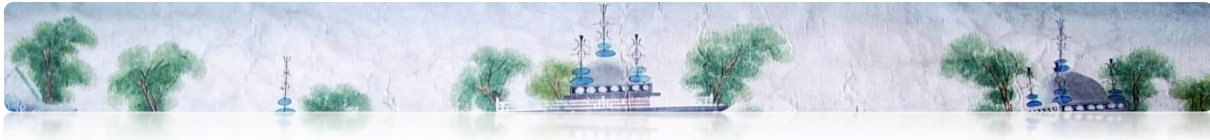
Participants will arrive on Nov. 21 followed by two and a half days of keynote speeches, panel work, and plenary sessions. Each panel consists of two to three participants, who each will have 20 minutes to summarize the core argument of her/his contribution. They will be commented upon in a 15-20 minutes synthesizing comment followed by 40-45 minutes of discussion.

**Friday, 22 November 2013**

09:00 – 10:15 **Opening Remarks:** Prof. Chang So-an (Academia Sinica, Taipei)  
Prof. Axel Schneider (University of Göttingen)

**Keynote**

Soang Chang: “Literature or Philosophy?: Different Approaches between  
Zhang Xuecheng and Gong Zizhen on Ancient Philosophers”



10:15 – 12:30 **Panel 1: From local to global: Concepts of Nation State and History in Late**

**Qing and Early Republican China**

Xu Jilin (Shanghai): Modern China and the concept of nation-state

Liu Long-hsin: “Indigene, sojourn and identity: local knowledge and the writing of local history in modern China”

Marc Matten (Erlangen): “Producing Harmony all under Heaven (he tianxia) – Confucian political philosophy and world order conceptions in 20th century China”

12:30 – 14:30 *Lunch Break*

14:30 – 17:00 **Panel 2: Territory, Nation and Geographical Imagination in Modern East Asia**

Tong Lam, University of Toronto-Mississauga: “Sighting the Nation: Images and Imaginations of the Emerging Chinese Geobody”

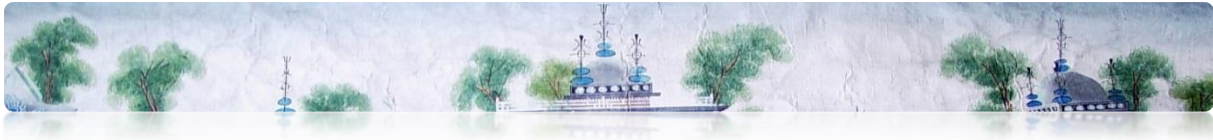
Kuang-che Pan: “The Production, Circulation and Transformation of ‘Geographical Imagination’ in Modern East Asia: Knowledge of Global History and Geography and International Law”

Tze-ki Hon: “Joining the Global System: Geography in Early Twentieth Century China”

16:3– 16:45 *Coffee Break*

19:00

*Dinner*



**Saturday, 23 November 2013**

09:00 – 10:45 **Panel 4: Media, Dissemination and Popularization of Knowledge**

Zhang Qing (Shanghai): “New Media and the ‘Knowledge Dissemination’ and ‘Knowledge Production’ in Modern China

Ivo Amelung (Frankfurt): “Popularizing science and technology in late Imperial and Early Republican China”

Peter Zarrow: Education in Critical Moderinty: Guomindang Textbooks, 1928 - 1937

*10:45 – 11:00 Coffee Break*

11.00 – 12:30 **Panel 5: Gender and Modernity**

Rebecca Karl: “Anarcho-Feminism in early Twentieth-Century China”

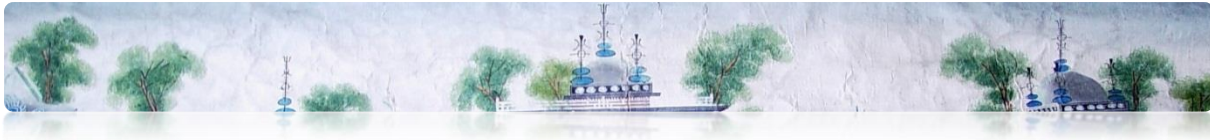
Weijing Lu: “Shifting Discourse on Marriage and the Quest for Modernity”

*12:30 – 14:00 Lunch*

14:00 – 17:00 **Panel 5**

**I : Science and Natural History**

Jiang Sun: “肤色的现代性——人种概念在东亚的旅行” Skin colour and Modernity– The concept of race and its development in East Asia.



Fa-ti Fan, Binghamton University: "The Study of Nature in Early 20th-Century China"

15:30– 15:35 *Short Coffee Break*

**II: Scientific Thought, Missionaries and the West**

Ming-hui Hu: "Before Western Learning: Xu Youren (1800-1860) and His Network of Mathematical Astronomers"

Che-chia Chang: "Germany and the Founding of Modern Forensics in East Asia: A Comparison between Japan and China (Tentative)"

**17:15 – 19:00 Panel 6: Concepts of Law and Legal History**

Britta Büermann (Göttingen): "Concepts of Law in Late Qing and early Republican China"

Chiu Peng-sheng: "Reality and Myth: Constructing Commercial Law in Late Qing China"

19:00 *Dinner*

**Sunday, 24 November 2013**

**9:15 – 12:30 Panel 7: Forms of Resistance against the New**

Wu Chan-liang: "Non-Enlightenment and Counter-Enlightenment of The Chinese Nationalists' Thought"

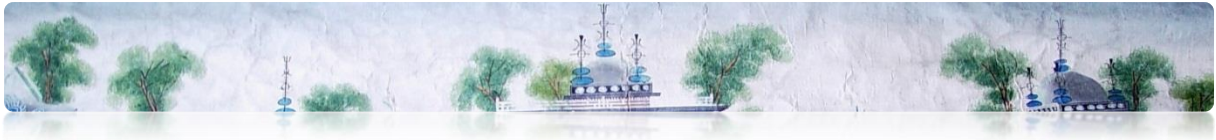
Axel Schneider (Göttingen): "Chinese critical engagement with modern concepts of time and progress"

10:45 – 11:00 *Short Coffee Break*



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Viren Murthy: “Imagining Chinese Modernity as Resistance: The Cases of Nishi Junzō,  
Mizoguchi Yūzō”

Leigh Jenco: “The Contingency of Context: Totalistic Westernization versus ‘Culture on a Chinese Base’,  
circa 1930 – 1937”

12:30 – 13:30 *Lunch*

13:30 – 15:00 **Panel 8: Religion and Modernity**

Ke-wu Huang: “‘Mix/superstition’: A Keyword in Modern China”

John Makeham (Canberra): “Revival of Yogācāra thought”

15:00 – 16:00 **Concluding Remarks:** Prof. Chang So-an, Prof. Axel Schneider

18:00 *Farewell Dinner*