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PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS

Dear Readers:

Since the distribution of our last newsletter, the Association of Chinese Political Studies (ACPS) time and time again has demonstrated its ability to advance the field of Chinese political studies and to provide rich opportunities to its membership. In June 2011, it co-sponsored, with King’s College-London, a very well received conference in the United Kingdom entitled “100 Years after the 1911 Chinese Revolution.” Four months later, it partnered with the China Foreign Affairs University-Beijing to hold a successful international conference entitled “China’s Accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO) 10 Years Later.” Two months after this, it orchestrated, in collaboration with the Hong Kong Institute of Education, a fruitful workshop entitled “40 Years after Sino-American Normalization.” All of these meetings are yielding edited volumes and/or special journal issues. Concurrently, a number of Association-sparked edited volumes such as New Thinking about the Taiwan Issue (Jean-Marc F. Blanchard and Dennis Hickey, 2012), the Chinese Labyrinth (Baogang Guo and He Li, 2011), and Reviving Legitimacy (Zhenglai Deng and Sujian Guo, 2011) have appeared in print.

The past year also has witnessed the unveiling of a completely revamped ACPS website. It now has a more modern look and feel, contains some new meeting, registration, and member management features, and has a cleaner and more attractive visual appearance coupled with the ability to display more images and graphics. We invite you to “test drive” the new website and welcome your feedback and suggestions about how we can ensure it supports your needs and interests. The website URL remains the same: http://www.acpsus.org.
Some of the ACPS's original summer conference plans are undergoing revision as circumstances in China evolve. Regardless, plans are moving ahead separately for the Association's annual meeting in late September or early October in the San Francisco Bay Area. Since many ACPS members, Association friends and supporters look forward to this exciting event, we plan to circulate date information within a month to be followed by the circulation of a formal call for papers soon afterwards.

Meetings, workshops, and conference panels, such as those listed above, are but some of the myriad rewards of ACPS membership. Aside from these, we maintain the well-regarded *Journal of Chinese Political Science* (http://jcps.sfsu.edu), regularly circulate job listings and funding information to our members, and give our members abundant opportunities to participate in conference volumes and special journal issues, to co-sponsor conferences and workshops, and to build up their professional and personal networks.

We invite all of you to find ways to contribute to the ACPS! Your feedback, ideas, and support are welcome at any time.

Jean-Marc F. Blanchard (白永辉)

**CALL FOR PAPER**

The ACPS will hold its 2012 Annual Meeting in the San Francisco Bay Area in late September or early October. Specific dates will be announced before the end of March with a formal Call for Papers to be circulated not long afterwards. The theme of the conference will be specified at the time that conference dates are announced. The Annual Meeting is important not only because of the opportunities it provides for intellectual exchange and professional networking, but also because the Annual Meeting is a time when the Association membership selects its next generation of leadership and considers other important Association business.

**JCPS BOOK REVIEW SOLICITATION**

Jessica Teets, JCPS Associate Editor, will send out a detailed list of books for review through the ACPS listserv at the end of March. To preview, a few of the books to appear on the list are:

Roselyn Hsueh, *China's Regulatory State*.
Carlson and Ren, *New Frontiers in China’s Foreign Relations*.
Deng Zhenglai and Suijian Guo, eds, *Reviving Legitimacy*.
Beatriz Carrillo and Jane Duckett, *China’s Changing Welfare Mix*.
Rachel Murphy, ed, Labour Migration and Social Development in Contemporary China.

**CONFERENCE REPORTS**

**ACPS-KCL London Conference**
In mid-June, the ACPS, in conjunction with King’s China Institute (London, UK), held an international symposium entitled “100 Years after the 1911 Chinese Revolution: Reflections and Forecasts.” The conference received financial support from the King’s College China Institute as well as a generous grant from the Mr. & Mrs. S.H. Wong Foundation.

The well-attended, three day conference attracted over 55 participants from three continents. Presentations were given by academics, doctoral candidates, and researchers from universities and research centers based in Canada, the Chinese mainland, Ireland, Scotland, England, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and the US. Domestic politics themed papers addressed topics such as Social Assistance in China, 2011, From Minsheng to Hexie Shehui, Grassroots Governance Reform in Urban China, China’s Frontier Politics on the Eve of the Xinhai Revolution, and The Role of the Media on Public Policy Change. International relations oriented papers tackled issues like China’s Security Identity, China’s Power Transition, China’s International Hydro-Politics, China’s Search for an International Order, and China and Soft Power.

Opening remarks for the conference were given by ACPS President Jean-Marc F. Blanchard (白永辉) and King’s College London Vice-Principal Keith Hoggart. For the keynote speech given at the conference banquet on June 18, Professor Deng Zhenglai (邓正来), Distinguished Professor at Fudan University, Dean of the Fudan Institute for Advanced Study in Social Sciences, and Director of the Fudan University Center for Contemporary China Research spoke on “Living Wisdom and the China Model.” Professor Deng received an ACPS Continuous Contribution Award for his ongoing support of and contribution to the Association’s activities and intellectual life.

At the conference closing on Sunday, June 19, Dr. Blanchard expressed his appreciation to Dr. Kun-Chin Lin (林昆瑾), King’s College, for his support and thanked King’s College, King’s China’s Institute, and King’s College faculty, staff, and student volunteers for their excellent work in facilitating an extremely successful conference. He also announced planned ACPS activities for the balance of 2011.

During the ACPS Annual Business Meeting held the evening of June 19, Dr. Blanchard presented three awards. The first, an ACPS Distinguished Service Award, was given to ACPS Treasurer Dr. Yi Edward Yang for his excellent work in coordinating Association banking and financial matters and maintaining and processing Association memberships. The second, also an ACPS Distinguished Service Award, was provided to ACPS Publicity Director Dr. Fujia Lu (陆符嘉) for his significant contribution to the development of the Association’s new brochure, his extensive work liaising with other academic entities, and his strong past support for the ACPS. The third, an ACPS Lifetime Membership Award, was given to Dr. Kun-Chin Lin, for his vital support that enabled the ACPS to bring its first conference in Europe to fruition!

2011 APSA- ACPS Related Group Panel

The ACPS organized and sponsored a related group panel for the 2011 American Political Science Association (APSA) annual meeting held in Seattle in early September. The ACPS APSA related group panel, entitled “Chinese Traditions in International Relations,” provided an opportunity to satiate the rising interest abroad and in China in Chinese traditional concepts and practices in international relations. Among other themes, the panel tackled
issues such as “What were representative Chinese traditional concepts and practices of international relations?” “What were the philosophical bases for these Chinese traditions?” “How unique were Chinese concepts and practices in Asia and the world?” “How did Chinese traditional concepts guide Chinese traditional practices?” “Is it possible at all to build a distinct Chinese approach of international relations based on its traditional concepts?”

The panel had three paper presentations: (1) Baldwin Bon-Wah Wong (London School of Economics), “A Confucian Theory of Justice;” (2) Shaojin Chai (University of Notre Dame), “Neo-Confucian Cosmopolitanism and Chinese Perception of World Order: A Study of Wang Yangming’s virtue Politics and Cultural Pluralism;” and (3) Fei-Ling Wang (Georgia Institute of Technology): “Between Tianxia and Westphalia: China Searches for Its Position in the World.” Ja Ian Chong (National University of Singapore) served as panel chair while Edward Friedman (University of Wisconsin, Madison) served as the discussant. The panel was well attended, with a lively Q & A session and discussion continuing even after the formal conclusion of the panel.

2011 ACPS-China Foreign Affairs University International Conference

Between October 21-October 23, the ACPS and the Institute of International Relations, China Foreign Affairs University (CFAU), held an international conference entitled “China’s Accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO) 10 Years Later: China and the International System” at the Fragrant Hills Empark Hotel, Beijing, China.

This timely and stimulating conference attracted around 40 participants from four continents. Presentations were given by academics, doctoral candidates, and researchers associated with international organizations, research centers, and universities based in Australia, the Chinese mainland, France, Japan, Taiwan, and the US. WTO related papers covered topics as China and the WTO TRIMS Accord, China’s negotiating behavior in the WTO Doha Round, China and intellectual property rights, China’s entry into the WTO and Sino-American relations, and China’s identity change in the process of China’s participation in the WTO. Other presentations delved into topics such as bilateralism and multilateralism in China’s approach to Central Asia, China’s FTA participation, the practice of engagement with Chinese characteristics, the changing ideological sources of Chinese foreign policy, and China’s embrace of globalization.

ACPS President Jean-Marc F. Blanchard (白永辉) and CFAU President and former Ambassador to France Zhao Jinjun (赵进军) gave opening remarks for the conference. At the conference banquet on October 22, Dr. Qin Yaqing (秦亚青), Professor and Executive Deputy President CFAU, gave a keynote speech addressing the security situation in the Asia-Pacific Region with a focus on China-US relations.

At the conference closing on Sunday, October 23, ACPS President Blanchard expressed his appreciation to Dr. Wang Fan (王帆), Professor, Director of the Institute of International Relations, and Assistant President, CFAU; Dr. Zhu Liqun (朱立群), Professor and Vice President, CFAU; and Dr. Lu Jing (卢静), Associate Professor and Deputy Director of the Institute of International Relations CFAU, CFAU staff, and CFAU students for their support and contribution to a smooth and successful conference. He also announced various upcoming ACPS activities.

An intimate dinner for ACPS members remaining after the conclusion of the conference was
held on Sunday, October 23 and hosted by ACPS President Blanchard

2011-12 ACPS-Hong Kong Institute of Education Workshop

On December 3, the ACPS and the Hong Kong Institute of Education (HKIEd), held a workshop entitled “40 Years after Sino-American Normalization: A New Dawn or A New Darkness” on the campus of HKIEd in Tai Po, Hong Kong.

This timely and provocative workshop involved 10 paper presentations and intensive discussions, attracting a multinational audience from Australia, Hong Kong, the People’s Republic of China, the United Kingdom, and the United States as well as distinguished representatives from the Hong Kong Consulates of Japan and the Russian Federation. Papers were delivered by well-known scholars on topics such as the Sino-American power transition, Sino-American relations in the Asia-Pacific, Sino-American environmental relations, Sino-American economic relations, and the Taiwan issue in US-China relations.

ACPS President Jean-Marc F. Blanchard (白永辉) and HKIED Associate Dean, Head of Department of Social Sciences, and Professor Sonny Shiu Hing Lo (卢兆兴) gave opening remarks for the conference. At the conference closing, ACPS President Blanchard expressed his appreciation to Dean Lo, workshop co-organizer and long-time ACPS supporter HKIED Professor Simon Shen (沈旭暐), Mr. Dennis Leung, HKIEd staff, and HKIEd students for their efforts and contribution to an extremely fruitful workshop.

On December 4, ACPS President Blanchard hosted a luncheon for workshop participants.

BEST GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Mr. Sebastian Biba, a doctoral student at National Chengchi University, Taipei, Taiwan, won the best graduate student paper award for his paper "Examining China's International Hydro-politics: Desecuritization as the Leading Concept" which was presented at the ACPS and King's College London international symposium and ACPS 24th annual meeting this summer in London.

The ACPS Graduate Student Best Paper Award Committee consisting of Dr. Kun-Chin Lin (King's College London), Dr. Vanesa Pesque Cela (King's College London), and Dr. Ramon Pacheco-Paro (King's College London) was unanimous in its selection. The committee observed that Mr. Biba's well written paper makes an original contribution to China studies by applying insights from a new literature (the Copenhagen School) to an important and understudied topic; i.e., China's water politics with its neighbors.

As the winner, Sebastian received a $100 prize from Professor Jean-Marc F. Blanchard (the creator of the award and current ACPS President) and a certificate/plaque at the next ACPS meeting.

MEMBER NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS

Blanchard, Jean-Marc F. ACPS President and Associate Director Center for US.-China Policy Studies at San Francisco State University recently published New Thinking about the Taiwan
Issue: *Theoretical Insights into its Origins, Dynamics, and Prospects* (co-edited with Dennis V. Hickey). Routledge, 2012. In February 2012, he presented a paper on China's Sovereign Wealth Fund in Macao at the University of Macao Workshop on China's Grand Strategy and Diplomatic Transformation. In fall 2011, he was a visiting scholar at the School of International Studies, Peking University, where he taught for the China Studies Institute, published a number of Op-Eds in the *China Daily*, and appeared on a number of China Radio International broadcasts.


Wang, Juan was appointed assistant professor at the department of political science, McGill University in Fall 2011.

Womack, Brantly, Cumming Memorial Professor of Foreign Affairs at University of Virginia, was awarded the China Friendship Award in 2011. He was also appointed Visiting Professor (honorary) at Zhongshan University, Guangzhou.


**OTHER MATTERS**

The ACPS Newsletter is free of charges to members. Please feel free to quote with appropriate acknowledgement. We encourage you to visit the ACPS website at [http://www.acpsus.org](http://www.acpsus.org) for the latest news, conference, and organization information.

ACPS is a non-profit, non-political organization for scholarly and professional activities. It was founded in 1986 in the United States to promote academic exchange among Chinese scholars and American scholars of China studies. Please send your newsletter contributions to the Editor Dr. Jin Zeng: jzeng@fiu.edu.