

**Call for Proposals: The Biennial International Conference of the Historical Society for Twentieth-Century China, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China, June 1-3, 2012**

The Historical Society for Twentieth-Century China (HSTCC) and the Center for Chiang Kaishek and Modern Chinese History at Zhejiang University will hold a joint international conference at Zhejiang University in Hangzhou, China, June 1-3, 2012. The Program Committee welcomes proposals from the worldwide community of modern China scholars from various disciplines. The theme for the conference, described in greater details below, is “Reinterpreting Actors, Beliefs, and Institutions: Transformation and Evolution of Chinese Society in a Changing World, 1912-2012.”

The century following the founding of the Chinese Republic has witnessed both transformative and evolutionary changes in Chinese culture, practices, and institutions, all of which involved major historical actors in a changing international environment. Although China scholars have examined these changes in the past, China’s rapid economic transformation and China’s emergence as a major player in international relations have contributed to significant growth in the field of modern Chinese studies and resulted in the publication of a large number of archive-based monographs during the last two decades. The joint international conference of the Historical Society for Twentieth-Century China and the Center for Chiang Kaishek and Modern Chinese History at Zhejiang University, then, aims to discuss the most recent research on modern China and to consider reinterpretations and reassessments of changes in Chinese culture, practices, and institutions since the founding of the Chinese Republic in 1912.

In particular, the Program Committee encourages panel/paper proposals dealing with the following: (1) Important figures of the last century such as Chiang Kaishek and Mao Zedong. The recent release of Chiang Kaishek’s diary and other archival materials has prompted new studies and assessments of his life and activities. As many modern China scholars know already, the Center for Chiang Kaishek and Modern Chinese History at Zhejiang University sponsored a highly successful international symposium on Chiang Kaishek and modern China in 2010. (2) Beliefs ranging from ideas and doctrines to ideologies and belief systems. Examples include Buddhism, communism, Confucianism, and nationalism. (3) Institutions ranging from the political to the socioeconomic and the cultural. Examples include the Chinese administrative bureaucracy, the Chinese state enterprise system, and cultural and educational establishments. (4) China’s foreign relations. Examples include China’s unequal treaties with foreign powers, Sino-Soviet alliance during the 1950s, and the normalization of diplomatic relations between China and the United States during the 1970s. In keeping with longstanding policy, the Program Committee also entertains panel/paper proposals exploring other aspects of Chinese society.

Scholars may submit proposals either for entire panels or for individual papers. A panel proposal should consist of the following: a panel title (no more than 20 words), a panel abstract (up to 500 words), individual paper titles and abstracts (up to 300 words each), a one-page curriculum vitae for each author of a paper, and correct mailing and email addresses for each presenter and panel chair/commentator. The panel abstract should explain the rationale for the panel, summarize the theme of the panel, and indicate the contact person for the panel. A proposed panel should have no more than three (3) presenters and one (1) chair/commentator. By contrast, an individual paper proposal should include a paper abstract (up to 300 words), one-page curriculum vitae, and correct mailing and email addresses. The abstract should summarize the paper’s argument, the sources on which it is based, and its relationship to existing scholarship. Except for panel chairs/commentators, HSTCC membership is required for all those presenting papers. The Program

Committee will only accept panel/paper proposals of those whose current HSTCC membership is confirmed by HSTCC Secretary-Treasurer. Proposal selection will be competitive.

Proposals may only be submitted electronically. Regardless of the type of proposals—panel or individual, all proposals must be submitted in their completed form (that is, with full information concerning all participants and their presentations) by midnight, U.S. Central Standard Time, on December 15, 2011. All panel/paper proposals should be sent to Morris L. Bian at [bianmor@gmail.com](mailto:bianmor@gmail.com) as a MS Word document. Acceptance letters will be sent by February 15, 2012.

Zhejiang University, located in Hangzhou, China, will serve as the host for the joint international conference of the Historical Society for Twentieth-Century China and the Center for Chiang Kaishek and Modern Chinese History at Zhejiang University. The three-day conference includes a visit to Chiang Kaishek's hometown in Xikou. The participants will pay for international travel as well as travel between Shanghai and Hangzhou. Once in Hangzhou, Zhejiang University will cover room and board for participants for the duration of the conference in accordance with the prevailing Chinese practice for scholarly conferences.

All questions concerning the joint international conference of the Historical Society for Twentieth-Century China and the Center for Chiang Kaishek and Modern Chinese History at Zhejiang University should be directed to Morris L. Bian, HSTCC President.

Morris L. Bian  
HSTCC President

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