

## **Report of the ICLA Research Committee**

### **“Scriptural Reasoning and Comparative Studies”**

At the executive council meeting of ICLA organized by the University of Chicago last summer, I briefly reported the specific research purposes of the Research Committee and our achievements:

1. Three special issues of *Journal for the Study of Christian Culture* related to the discussion of Scriptural Reasoning.
2. The summer institute in 2011 focused on “Translation, Interpretation and Scriptural Reasoning” and its continuation in the year of 2012 on “Scriptural Reasoning: Its Meaning and Context”.
3. A series of dialogues on “Scriptural Reasoning” with the representative scholars Prof. Peter Ochs from the University of Virginia, Prof. David Ford from the University of Cambridge and Prof. Oliver Davies from King’s College London, some outcomes of which have been included in the Journal of my University.
4. The project of “A Collected Exegetical Interpretation of English Translations and Commentaries of Chinese Classics” financially supported, with 800,000 RMB (about 130,000 \$), from 2011 to 2013 by China National Fund for Social Sciences (NFSS).

Please allow me to list what is new or what is continued in the past year as follows.

1. With the help of the *Journal for the Study of Christian Culture* (biannually published in Beijing and Hong Kong since 1998), we published two more issues, the 27<sup>th</sup> issue entitled “Cultural Identities” published in the autumn of 2012, and the 28<sup>th</sup> issue “The Rhetoric of Icons” published in this spring. And the 30<sup>th</sup> issue will be born very soon.
2. The summer institute is also continued, co-sponsored by Renmin University of China, the United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia, Chinese University of Hong Kong, and Sino-Christian Studies Center of Hong Kong, which would open in the beginning of next month, with some of the research committee members as keynote speakers.
3. In order to enlarge the influence of the established dialogues between China and the West, we

invited Prof. David Ford from Cambridge to my University on October 19, 2012 and he offered a public lecture on “Imaginative and Practical Christianity”. By the way, Prof. David Ford will participate in our roundtable on “Scriptural Reasoning and Comparative Literature” at Paris in this July with other scholars like Prof. Peter Ochs from Virginia, Prof. Oliver Davies from King’s College, Prof. David Jasper from University of Glasgow, Prof. Chloe Starr from University of Yale, Prof. Trevor Hart from University of St. Andrews and several important Chinese colleagues.

4. The project of “A Collected Exegetical Interpretation of English Translations and Commentaries of Chinese Classics” has got 600,000 RMB (about 98,000 \$) this year as the second-round research fund. All standing members of our Committee have been included in the research team of the mutually promoted project.

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