

ALL ABOUT the International Society for the Study of Chinese Overseas 世界海外华人研究学会 1992-2010

A brief report by Teresita Ang See, Secretary-Treasurer, ISSCO

ISSCO, the International Society for the Study of Chinese Overseas, is a scholarly, non-political, non-profit professional society of individuals and institutions interested in and committed to the study of Chinese overseas.

The primary purposes of the society are to advance research and scholarly exchange in the study of Chinese overseas, to promote avenues for research and publications, and to organise and support national and international conferences.

ISSCO was established in 1992 at the culmination of the first ISSCO international conference convened jointly with the Department of Ethnic Studies of the University of California at Berkeley, U.S.A. Professor Wang Gungwu, then Vice-Chancellor of Hong Kong University and now with National University of Singapore, was appointed President; Professor Wang Ling-chi, Department of Ethnic Studies, UC Berkeley, as Secretary-Treasurer; and Teresita Ang See, of Kaisa Para Sa Kaunlaran in Manila as Vice President.

Aside from the three officers, ISSCO by-laws provide for the election of 12 other Board members representing Southeast Asia, Northeast Asia, Europe, North America, Latin America, Africa, Oceania, China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and two at large representatives.

ISSCO holds one major international conference every three years and two regional conferences in between. The regional conferences are usually held in cooperation with other institutions.

Officers and directors for 2007- 2010

Elections are held every three years during the triennial international conferences. The last international conference was held in Beijing, China and the following officers and directors were elected for 2007- 2010:

President: Leo Suryadinata, Chinese Heritage Centre, Singapore

Vice President: Peter Li, University of Saskatchewan

Secretary/Treasurer: Teresita Ang See, Kaisa Para Sa Kaunlaran, Philippines

Southeast Asia: Teresita Ang See, Kaisa Para Sa Kaunlaran, Philippines

Northeast Asia: Cheong Young-Rok, Seoul National University

Europe: Mette Thunoe, University of Copenhagen

North America: Ling-chi Wang, USA

Latin America: Juan Tam, Panama

Africa: Karen Harris, University of Pretoria

Oceania: Manying Yip, University of Auckland

China: Wu Xiaoan, Peking University

Taiwan: Tang Shi-yeoung, National Taiwan University

Hong Kong: Khun Eng Kuah Pearce, Hong Kong University

At-large Representatives: Li Minghuan, Xiamen University; Evelyn Hu Dehart, Brown University

Ex-officio Members of the Board: Wang Gungwu, Tan Chee Beng

ISSCO International Conferences 1992-2010

- ISSCO I: *“Luodi shenggen: The Legal, Political, and Economic Status of Chinese in the Diaspora,”* convened jointly with the Department of Ethnic Studies the University of California, Berkeley, in California, United States of America in 1992.
- ISSCO II: *“The Last Half Century of Chinese Overseas: Comparative Perspectives,”* convened jointly with the Hong Kong University in Hong Kong in 1994.
- ISSCO III: *“Intercultural Relations, Cultural Transformation of ethnic Chinese Communities,”* convened jointly with Kaisa Para Sa Kaunlaran Inc. and Ateneo de Manila University and held in Manila, Philippines in 1998.
- ISSCO IV: *“New Frontiers for Chinese Overseas Research,”* convened jointly with the Academia Sinica in Taipei, Taiwan, in 2001 with 134 participants.
- ISSCO V: *“New Chinese Migrants: Globalization of Chinese Overseas Migration,”* held at LO-School in Elsinore, Denmark in 2004.
- ISSCO VI: *“Recent Trends in the Relations between Chinese Abroad and their Ancestral Homeland,”* convened jointly with Peking University, Beijing, China in 2007.
- ISSCO VII: *“Migration, Indigenization and Exchange: Chinese Overseas from Global Perspectives to be held in May 7-9, 2010 in Singapore jointly by ISSCO, the Chinese Heritage Center and the Nanyang Technological University.*

Regional Conferences have also been held:

- “Rising Dragons, Soaring Bananas” International Conference held jointly with the New Zealand Chinese Association and the University of Auckland on July 18-19, 2009 in Auckland, New Zealand.
- `Diversity in Diaspora: The Chinese Overseas, held jointly with the University of Praetoria, 4-6 December 2006 in Praetoria, South Africa.
- Regional conference in Australia held jointly with the Ninth Biennial Conference of the Chinese Studies Association of Australia (CSAA) June 19 – July 4, 2005 in Bendigo, Australia.
- "Kaihua Jieguo Zai Haiwai:An International Conference On Literatures Of The Chinese Diaspora" jointly held with the Asian American Studies at the University of California, Berkeley, November 28-December 1, 2002, in San Francisco, California
- Regional conference in Korea, held jointly with Yonsei University June 13, 2000, in Yonsei, South Korea.
- Regional Latin America Conference, held jointly with the University of Havana December 10-12, 1999, at the Habana Libre Hotel, in Havana, Cuba.

Journal of Chinese Overseas

The official journal of ISSCO is *The Journal of Chinese Overseas* which is published twice a year in May and November. This cross-disciplinary journal publishes research articles, reports, and book reviews on Chinese overseas throughout the world, and the communities from which they trace their origins. Moving across regions and disciplines, the Journal will examine “Chineseness” in its many diverse settings.

Dr. Tan Chee Beng of the Chinese University of Hong Kong has served as its editor-in-chief and Dr. Wang Gungwu as Chairman of the Editorial Board since its inception in 2005. With a Board of Editors drawn from fields as diverse as history, anthropology, sociology, geography, cultural studies, and political science, the Journal contributes to transnational studies, as well as the study of Chinese communities in specific national settings.

Journal of Chinese Overseas was published by Singapore University Press (NUS Press) from 2005 to 2008. Since 2009, JCO has been published by Brill for the Chinese Heritage Centre under the auspices of the International Society for the Studies of Chinese Overseas, with the sponsorship of the Lee Foundation.

<http://www.brill.nl/jco>

Major Conference publications

- *The Chinese Diaspora, Volumes I and II* Wang Ling-chi & Wang Gungwu, ed. (Singapore: Times Academic Press, 1998) – Selected papers presented at the 1992 ISSCO Conference in San Francisco, California.
- *The Last Half Century of Chinese Overseas* Elizabeth Sinn, ed. (Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 1998). – Selected papers presented at the 1995 ISSCO Conference, Hong Kong.
- *Intercultural Relations, Cultural Transformation, and Identity – The Ethnic Chinese* Teresita Ang See, ed. (Manila: Kaisa Para Sa Kaunlaran, Inc., 2000).– Selected English papers presented at the 1998 ISSCO conference.
- 华人的文化适应和文化改造。吴文焕编(Manila: Kaisa Para Sa Kaunlaran, Inc., 2000)– Selected Chinese papers presented at the 1998 ISSCO conference.
- *Beyond Chinatown: New Chinese Migration And the Global Expansion of China* edited by Mette Thunoe. (Copenhagen, NIAS 2007) – selected papers presented at the 2004 ISSCO conference, Copenhagen, Denmark.

Membership Application

To apply as an ISSCO member, log on to the ISSCO membership list at the ISSCO webpage, www.issco.info. For payment of membership dues and subscription to the Journal of Chinese Overseas, contact the ISSCO secretariat address below:

ISSCO Secretariat address:

c/o Kaisa Heritage Center 32 Anda cor Cabildo Sts., Intramuros, Manila 1002, Philippines

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