

Preface

Foreword

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In the long tradition of the annual meetings of SCIEA the Friedrich-Alexander University of Erlangen-Nuremberg had in 2019 the honor of holding the 11th conference for the first time outside of East Asia. Taking place from 11 to 12 May 2019 the annual meeting was dedicated to the topic of “Moving Knowledges in East Asia and Beyond—Global Networks in the History of Science and Technology.”

Its more than 150 participants discussed issues related to the global histories of circulating knowledges by focusing on transnational networks in knowledge production and dissemination, questioning the role of rationality and objectivity in knowledge making and pointing to the important role of bureaucracy and institutions in the transformations of 19th and 20th century East Asia. In nearly 30 panels did participants from China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Germany discuss the various paradigmatic changes in the history of science, ranging from the postcolonial and poststructuralist turn to the cultural and social turn. These changes considerably shifted our understanding of the social, political and cultural function of knowledge in a rapidly globalizing world, as the panels proved during the conference.

The title of the panels organized and presented by senior scholars as well as PhD candidates were International Peace after World War I: Shibusawa Eiichi’s Philanthropic Activities and his Foresight, Sinology as a Medium of Knowledge Sharing in Nineteenth Century East Asia, Digital Archive and Humanities, Modern Concept of the Space in East and West, Historical Development of Concept/Cross-Cultural Acceptance and Language, The Impacts of Entrepreneurs’ Activities on Modern East Asia, Science, Scholarship and Popularization in Late Imperial and Republican China: The Vulnerability of the History and the Knowledge, Chinese Writing and Knowledge Sharing in Global History, Modern Travelers and Their Memoirs,

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Cultural Interaction in the field of Art, Modern East Asia and the Role of Industrialist, The role of political, cultural, and academic institutions in knowledge transfer and exchanges, Literature and scientific approach, Knowledge, Value and Society in Modern China, Study of Language Contact between East and West, A Comparative Study of Private Business in the Bakumatsu Meiji Era – Focusing on Eiichi Shibusawa, Foreign Travelers and Their Records, The Cross-Cultural Experience of Missionaries, Modern Asian Practical Books and Global Circulation of Knowledge, Literature and Cultural Exchange, Different Aspects of Cultural Interaction on Language in Modern East Asia, Acceptance of Foreign Thoughts, Study on the Language Contact and Language History, Literature and Cultural Exchange, Different Aspects of Cultural Exchange, Acceptance and Transition of Western Philosophy in Modernization of Japan, Modern Sino-Japanese Social Network of Literati, and Different Aspects of Cultural Exchange.

The two keynote speeches were given by professor Thomas Mullaney (Stanford University) on *Forget Everything You've Heard about 'Character Amnesia': Chinese, Electronic Writing, and the Birth of the Hypograph* and professor May Bo Ching (City University of Hong Kong) on *Rethinking Media History in Modern China*. Both keynotes, accidentally but wonderfully, interacted with each other and demonstrated to the audience how media and technology impact knowledge production and vice versa in 20th century Chinese history.

The upcoming 12th annual meeting of SCIEA will be held at the Research Center for the Civilization of Chinese Characters at Zhengzhou University in China. The conference with the title “The Chinese Character as a Medium of Cultural Interaction: Its Dissemination and Influences” is dedicated to the dissemination of Chinese characters and classical texts and their influences on East Asia civilization and beyond.