SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

International Workshop

Internationalising the Curriculum and Learning Environment
With a Special Focus on East-West Studies

18 November 2004
Hong Kong Baptist University

David C. Lam Institute for East-West Studies (LEWI)
Wing Lung Bank International Institute for Business Development (IIBD)
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*International Workshop on Internationalising the Curriculum and Learning Environment with a Special Focus on East-West Studies*

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**Preamble**

In today’s increasingly interdependent world, globalisation is influencing national education systems and making new demands on our teaching attitudes and skills. We are becoming more similar to each other than before, voluntarily or not – thus the threat of losing our personal and collective distinctiveness, our authenticity. The tension between becoming similar on the one hand and being different on the other is a real one, hence this paradoxical moment: we are simultaneously similar to and different from each other, than ever before. This is accurately articulated by Hanneke Teekens, Director of the Department of International Academic Relations, Nuffic, and one of the keynote speakers of the workshop:

> Global developments, mainly in the areas of economics and information and communication technology (ICT), are resulting in patterns of living that are becoming increasingly similar in all countries and for all people. From this perspective, globalisation and its impact on education would imply that the very notion of ‘national’ education needs reconsideration…. At the same time, however, there is a threat that a global culture will be imposed on the world, leaving little room for cultural diversity and self-determination, the very values that programmes of international cooperation over the years have aimed to promote. A revised education agenda is needed that responds to the new demands—both opportunities and threats—of globalisation and its implications for national teaching and learning.¹

The challenge in front of us is to develop and nurture an “internationally oriented” curriculum. Central to such a curriculum is a focus on East-West studies, which was defined succinctly by Chan Kwok Bun and Emilie Yeh in an international workshop held at the David C. Lam Institute for East-West Studies two years ago:

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… East-West studies has always been comparative…. Why should one bother to make comparisons at all? The anthropological answer to the question is that comparisons enable one to discover and be fascinated by the richness of the variability of the human experience…. What was formerly held as sacred, inevitable and unchangeable could soon be found during comparisons to be artificial, man-made, and changeable…. A throwback to comparative studies in East-West studies allows us to keep firmly in mind the porousness, permeability, and, indeed, artificiality of cultural boundaries…. Strangers are created by the human mind which feeds on a fear of the unfamiliar and the unknown. Comparison tackles this fear head on.

The East-West binary is a stereotype; the East-West divide produces and organises stereotypes. De-learning these stereotypes in East-West studies marks an epistemological break, and an opening to new knowledge and sensibility.²

This workshop is motivated by a desire to work toward an experiential “discovery of the paradox of differentness and sameness”. Upon encounters with each other, two strangers may soon discover they are more similar than they seem, and less different than they think. The workshop will provide an opportunity for exchange of experiences and ideas. Apart from looking at the curriculum, questions about an international learning environment will also be asked. For instance, how do we define and stimulate an international learning environment? What specific demands on teaching and learning are required from staff and students? Do students and staff have to be re-trained to work within such an environment?

The Workshop

The one-day workshop will address the topic from both an intellectual-philosophical perspective as well as a practitioner’s point of view. Hence, two keynote speakers have been invited to speak on the topic. Their addresses are expected to provide a dual theoretical framework for ensuing discussions. Workshop participants will also be divided into thematic group discussion, and a forum where the keynote speakers, together with the workshop participants, will try to give a description of the specific characteristics of an East-West studies curriculum and an Asian-Western learning environment. The ultimate goal is to formulate a list of recommendations and actions on internationalising the curriculum, with a special focus on East-West studies, so that both our students and staff will gain “new knowledge and sensibility” and will be able to function competently in today’s globalised, interdependent world.

Keynote Speakers

Jonathan Adler is Professor of Philosophy at Brooklyn College and the Graduate School, City University of New York and President of the Association for Philosophy of Education. He is an epistemologist whose areas of research and publication include ethics, informal logic, philosophy of psychology and philosophy of education. His publications include the book Belief's Own Ethics (2002).

Hanneke Teekens is presently Director of the Department of International Academic Relations at Nuffic (Netherlands organization for international cooperation in higher education). In this capacity she also heads the Socrates National Agency. She has conducted many courses on internationalisation and intercultural studies, and has published on various aspects of the internationalisation of higher education. Over the last few years she was a member of the Special Interest Group of the EAIE on “internationalisation at home”. A sample of her work is an edited book entitled, Teaching and Learning in the International Classroom, The Hague: Nuffic.

Information Collection

A questionnaire has been designed to facilitate information collection among participants of the workshop. The questionnaire is divided into three parts; the first part of the questionnaire surveys the contents and objectives of an international/East-West studies curriculum; the second part involves questions of an international/Asian-Western learning environment; and the third part asks about institutional strategies, barriers and solutions, as well as personal and institutional experience in internationalising the curriculum and the learning environment.

Findings of the questionnaire will be presented in the form of a synopsis for discussion at the workshop. The questionnaire can be obtained from the LEWI website: http://www.hkbu.edu.hk/~lewi/conferences/LEWICurriculumWorkshopQuestionnaire.doc or by email to the Workshop Secretary at lewi@hkbu.edu.hk. The completed questionnaire should be returned to the Workshop Secretary before 30 September 2004.
## Preliminary Programme of the Workshop

### Morning Session

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 – 9:30am</td>
<td>Opening ceremony, souvenir presentation and photo-taking</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Professor Ng Ching-Fai</strong>, President and Vice-Chancellor, HKBU</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 – 10:45am</td>
<td>Keynote address</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Professor Jonathan Eric Adler</strong>, Professor of Philosophy,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Brooklyn College, The City University of New York</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00am – 12:30pm</td>
<td>Expert panel response</td>
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<td>Chaired by <strong>Professor Chan Kwok Bun</strong>, Director of LEWI and</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Head of Department of Sociology, HKBU</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Expert Panelists</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Professor Bernard Luk</strong>, Vice President (Academic),</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Hong Kong Institute of Education</td>
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<td><strong>Dr Eva Man</strong>, Head of Humanities Programme, Faculty of Arts,</td>
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<td>HKBU</td>
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<td><strong>Dr Roger Cheng</strong>, Senior Instructor, Faculty of Education,</td>
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<td>The Chinese University of Hong Kong</td>
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<td>12:30 – 1:30pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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### Afternoon Session

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:30 – 2:30pm</td>
<td>Keynote address</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Drs. Hanneke Teekens</strong>, Director, International Academic Relations,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Nuffic, Den Haag</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:30 – 3:15pm</td>
<td>Synopsis of questionnaires and case study on internationalising</td>
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<td></td>
<td>the curriculum and the learning environment</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Drs. Mariette Diderich</strong>, Policy Advisor,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Department of Academic Affairs, Universiteit van Amsterdam</td>
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<td>3:30 – 4:30pm</td>
<td>Group discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:30 – 5:15pm</td>
<td>Group reports and discussion</td>
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<td>5:15 – 5:30pm</td>
<td>Closing remarks by Workshop Co-chairs and Keynote Speakers</td>
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Organisers

*David C. Lam Institute for East-West Studies (LEWI)*

LEWI is an academic consortium hosted by Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU), a public-funded institution with a Christian heritage, and was inaugurated in 1993 in honour of Dr. David C. Lam, former Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia, Canada and a generous benefactor of the institute. With a mission to promote intercultural dialogue, the institute has a global membership of 28 universities and has established research programmes on three continents: The Western Pacific Rim-China Research Programme at Swinburne University of Technology, Australia; the North America-China Research Programme at Simon Fraser University, Canada; and the Europe-China Research Programme at HKBU.

(LEWI’s website: [http://www.lewi.org.hk](http://www.lewi.org.hk))

*Wing Lung Bank International Institute for Business Development (IIBD)*

IIBD, also hosted by HKBU, was established in 1993 and named in recognition of the steadfast support and generosity of The Wing Lung Bank. Its objective is to facilitate growth and development of international business activities and to promote international business education in countries represented by member universities through the cooperation and joint ventures of its various members. The institute seeks to provide knowledge and information appropriate to global business development, making full use of modern networking technologies.

(IIBD’s website: [http://www.hkbu.edu.hk/~iibd](http://www.hkbu.edu.hk/~iibd))

Workshop Co-chairs

**Professor Richard Balme**
Head & Professor, Department of Government and International Studies
Director, Europe-China Research Programme, LEWI
Hong Kong Baptist University

**Drs. Mariette Diderich**
Policy Advisor, Department of Academic Affairs
Universiteit van Amsterdam

**Ms. Wendy Chan**
Director, International Office
General Secretary, Association of Christian Universities & Colleges in Asia (ACUCA)
Hong Kong Baptist University
Enquiries
Ms. Jennifer Law, Workshop Secretary
David C. Lam Institute for East-West Studies (LEWI)
Hong Kong Baptist University
Tel: (852) 3411-5217
Fax: (852) 3411-5128
Email: lewi@hkbu.edu.hk

Language
The official language of the workshop will be English.

Venue
The workshop will be held at Hong Kong Baptist University, Kowloon Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong. Located in the heart of the city, the University provides attractive meeting rooms with the latest audio-visual equipment.

Accommodation
Workshop participants may stay at the University’s NTT International House, which is next door to the workshop venue and within easy access to public transportation, restaurants and shopping. Please make your reservation with NTT via the “GROUP RSVN Form (NTT)”, which can be obtained from the LEWI website: http://www.hkbu.edu.hk/~lewi/conferences/GROUP RSVN Form (NTT).doc.

Registration
Registration for the workshop is free of charge. To register, please provide the following information to:

Ms. Jennifer Law, Workshop Secretary, David C. Lam Institute for East-West Studies
9/F, David C. Lam Building, 34 Renfrew Road, Shaw Campus, Hong Kong Baptist University, Kowloon Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong
Tel: (852) 3411-7273; Fax: (852) 3411-5128; Email: lewi@hkbu.edu.hk

(The registration form can also be obtained from the LEWI website: http://www.hkbu.edu.hk/~lewi/conferences/Workshop Registration Form.doc)
(Please use BLOCK LETTERS or type)

Title: Professor/Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms (Please circle)
Surname: ______________________________ Given name: __________________________
Position/Office: _____________________________________________________________
Institution: __________________________________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________________________________
Tel: _________________________________ Fax: _________________________________
E-mail: __________________________________________________________________

☐ I will attend the workshop
☐ I will present a case study / paper in the workshop
☐ I will not be able to attend, but has passed the information to the following colleague(s),
who might be interested to attend; his/her contact details are as follows:

Title: Professor/Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms (Please circle)
Surname: ______________________________ Given name: __________________________
Position/Office: _____________________________________________________________
Institution: __________________________________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________________________________
Tel: _________________________________ Fax: _________________________________
E-mail: __________________________________________________________________

Title: Professor/Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms (Please circle)
Surname: ______________________________ Given name: __________________________
Position/Office: _____________________________________________________________
Institution: __________________________________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________________________________
Tel: _________________________________ Fax: _________________________________
E-mail: __________________________________________________________________