The Historical Society for Twentieth-Century China

June 2011

HSTCC Newsletter #30

The Historical Society for Twentieth-Century China (HSTCC) is the premier international professional organization for modern Chinese studies. Founded in 1983, the HSTCC has held its biennial meetings in Asia, Europe, and North America. The HSTCC has also sponsored and co-organized a dozen symposia and numerous panels at the meetings of the Association for Asian Studies and the American Historical Association. The HSTCC members include many of the most eminent modern China scholars worldwide. The HSTCC is affiliated with the Association for Asian Studies and the American Historical Association.

2010-2012 HSTCC Officers
President: Morris L. Bian, Auburn University, USA
Vice-President: Robert Culp, Bard College, USA
Secretary-Treasurer: Grace Huang, St. Lawrence University, USA
Conference Coordinator: Patrick F. Shan, Grand Valley State University, USA

2010-2012 HSTCC Board of Directors
Morris L. Bian, Auburn University, USA
James Carter, Saint Joseph’s University, USA
Robert Culp, Bard College, USA
Grace Huang, St. Lawrence University, USA
R. Keith Schoppa, Loyola University Maryland, USA
Patrick F. Shan, Grand Valley State University, USA
Dong Wang, University of Turku, Finland

HSTCC Journal
Twentieth-Century China, the official HSTCC journal, is published by Maney, a publisher of learned, scholarly, and professional journals.

HSTCC Website
http://www.towson.edu/hstcc/

HSTCC Website Coordinator
Steven Phillips, Towson University, USA
sphilip@towson.edu

HSTCC Newsletter Coordinator
Sei Jeong Chin, Ewha Womans University, Korea
sjchin@ewha.ac.kr

President’s Memo: The State of the HSTCC Union

It is one year since I assumed the presidency of the Historical Society for Twentieth-Century China (HSTCC) in June 2010. I am happy to report that the HSTCC Union is strong and prosperous. Today, as the annual report by Dr. Grace Huang, our Secretary-Treasurer, reveals, HSTCC membership is the largest in our organization’s history of almost three decades, with members located throughout Asia, Europe, and North America. The journal Twentieth-Century China (TCC) is published by Maney as the HSTCC’s official journal, a fact that is written into the publishing agreement between the HSTCC and Maney Publishing. The HSTCC has also regularly sponsored panels for the annual meetings of the Association for Asian Studies and of the American Historical Association. The HSTCC is currently implementing plans to hold its next biennial conference in Hangzhou of China, which promises to be one of the largest meetings in our organization’s history. I hope many of our members will respond to the call for proposals by submitting proposals either for entire panels or for individual papers (see the call for proposals included in this issue). I wish to thank the current HSTCC Board of Directors, especially Dr. Grace Huang and Dr. Patrick Shan, and HSTCC members for those achievements. I would also like to thank Dr. Steven Phillips, our website coordinator, for the efficiency with which he maintains our website, and Dr. Sei Jeong Chin, for editing our newsletter.

There can be no doubt that those achievements are the result of the sustained efforts of past and current HSTCC Board of Directors and HSTCC members. In what follows, I offer a brief overview of HSTCC’s efforts at institution-building, endeavors that led to the creation of a
new HSTCC Union, with the TCC as an integral and important part of the HSTCC Union. To help newer members understand how and why the HSTCC has grown into a strong and prosperous organization, I reproduce some of the crucial documents from the defining moments of the organization’s recent history.

As some of you know, the HSTCC and the TCC were separate organizations/entities before 2008. Both the HSTCC and the TCC were founded in 1983. The journal first appeared under the title Republican China until 2004, when it acquired its current title Twentieth-Century China. During its general meeting held in Boston in March 2007, the HSTCC decided that “an Exploratory Committee be established to study the possible HSTCC-TCC merger and report back to the HSTCC Board.” By early 2008, the Exploratory Committee had submitted a report to the HSTCC Board of Directors, which then served as the basis of a merger proposal. In a message dated March 18, 2008, then HSTCC President Keith Schoppa informed HSTCC members “an important proposal for a merger between the Historical Society for 20th Century China and the journal Twentieth-Century China” for consideration and subsequent approval by the HSTCC general meeting to be held in Atlanta in April of that year (see #1 in attached collection of documents).

Among other things, the merger document states that “TCC will be placed in the organizational framework of the HSTCC in line with the normal/typical practices of professional organizations (i.e., AAS publishes the JAS, and AHA publishes the AHR)”. “To underscore this new relationship, on the TCC copyright page the following statement will be added: TCC is the official publication of HSTCC and is published on its behalf by the Ohio State University Press.” “In addition, as part of the merger, the HSTCC Executive Board would be responsible for selecting the editor to TCC.” During the subsequent AAS Atlanta meeting, then HSTCC President Keith Schoppa presided over the general meeting and “the merger was approved by the meeting with a voice vote” (see #2 in attached collection of documents). As a result of this merger, which was approved first by the HSTCC Board of Directors and the TCC Editorial Board and then by HSTCC members, the HSTCC was transformed into a Union of the HSTCC and the TCC, with the HSTCC functioning as the governing body of the organization. In the October 2008 HSTCC newsletter (#27), then HSTCC President Jay Carter celebrated this important development, saying that “Keith [Schoppa] and Christopher Reed, the Chief Editor of Twentieth Century China, oversaw the successful merger of these two bodies [HSTCC and TCC], so that TCC is now the official publication of HSTCC”.

Throughout the merger process, Dr. Jay Carter, then HSTCC Vice President, and other members of the HSTCC Board of Directors offered consistent and strong support for the merger. Given the explicit language of the merger document, which indicates that the TCC was clearly now an integral part of the HSTCC, in 2008 and 2009, few disagreements developed among members of the HSTCC Board of Directors regarding the relationship between the HSTCC and the TCC. However, members of the HSTCC Board of Directors began to interpret the relationship between the HSTCC and the TCC under the 2008 Merger Agreement differently when Dr. Jay Carter, in his dual capacity as HSTCC President and TCC Editor, tried to negotiate a publishing agreement with Maney in early 2010. Without going into details, suffice it to say that the differences of opinion led, after much discussion, the HSTCC Board of Directors to adopt unanimously in June 2010 a resolution further defining and clarifying the relationship between the HSTCC and the TCC. This document clearly delineates the institutional framework governing the relationship between the TCC and the HSTCC. Among other things, the resolution provides that the HSTCC Board of
Directors has authority to confirm the appointment of TCC’s Chief Editor, that the TCC is the official publication of HSTCC, that all major TCC policy changes and decisions that significantly affect the HSTCC and its members shall require the deliberation and approval by the HSTCC Board of Directors, and that the TCC Chief Editor shall submit to the HSTCC Board of Directors an annual written report concerning the journal ”(see #3 in attached collection of documents). To put it differently, this resolution confirms that the HSTCC Board of Directors is the sole and exclusive governing body of the organization exercising administrative authority/control over the TCC.

As I explained in my memo published in the previous issue of our newsletter (#29), the current Board of Directors operationalized this institutional framework by approving unanimously a publishing agreement between the TCC and Maney Publishing. Dr. Jay Carter, in his capacity as TCC’s Editor, negotiated a publishing agreement with Maney Publishing over the spring and summer of 2010. Having received the approval of the TCC Editorial Board, this TCC-Maney Publishing Agreement was recently ratified by the HSTCC Board of Directors. Since the journal TCC is the official publication of the HSTCC, the HSTCC negotiated a separate HSTCC-Maney Publishing Agreement so as to protect the interests of the HSTCC and its members. The HSTCC Board of Directors approved the HSTCC-Maney Publishing Agreement in November 2010. Among other things, the TCC-Maney Publishing Agreement and the HSTCC-Maney Publishing Agreement stipulate (a) Maney will be publishing Twentieth-Century China for a minimum period of six (6) years from the first day of January 2011, increasing the frequency of the journal from two (2) to three (3) issues in 2012; (b) the phrase “Official Journal of the Historical Society for Twentieth-Century China” shall appear on each issue of the journal’s front cover; (c) the journal will be identified on the Maney website, promotional material, and on the journal’s front cover as the “Official Journal of the Historical Society for Twentieth-Century China;” and (d), HSTCC members will have online access to the current volume and any back issues online. In addition, HSTCC members will also receive three (3) issues beginning in 2012. Online access for HSTCC members will be provided by a link from Maney’s host site on Ingenta to a password-protected area of the HSTCC website. I am happy to report that Maney Publishing has implemented key provisions of the HSTCC-Maney Publishing Agreement, including identifying the journal Twentieth-Century China as the “Official Journal of the Historical Society for Twentieth-Century China” on the Maney website as well as on the TCC’s front cover (http://www.maney.co.uk/index.php/journals/tcc/). The HSTCC Board of Directors, especially Dr. Grace Huang, our Secretary-Treasurer, and Dr. Steven Phillips, our website coordinator, are currently working with Maney Publishing to create a secure link from Maney’s host site on Ingenta to a password-protected area of the HSTCC website so that HSTCC members will have online access to the current volume and any back issues online.

Because of the sustained efforts by past and current HSTCC Board of Directors and HSTCC members, the HSTCC Union is strong and prosperous. I hope HSTCC members will continue to lend their support to the effort to strengthen the HSTCC, to consolidate the HSTCC’s sound institutional structure, to bring about greater integration of the HSTCC and the TCC, and to work diligently toward the creation of a more perfect HSTCC Union. As HSTCC President, I look forward to working with you all to make the HSTCC even stronger, more prosperous, and more influential in the global academic community.

Morris L. Bian
Dear HSTCC Members:

Attached to this e-mail please find an important proposal for a merger between the Historical Society for 20th Century China and the journal Twentieth-Century China. At our last general meeting in Boston in March 2007 it was decided that an Exploratory Committee be established to study the possible HSTCC-TCC merger and report back to the HSTCC board. The committee
has now submitted this report to the board and the board will make a recommendation on this before our next general meeting in Atlanta on April 5 (please see our latest Newsletter for meeting time and location). The general meeting will then vote on the board’s recommendation. Please read this proposal carefully and I welcome your participation and input at the meeting in Atlanta. Thank you.

Sincerely,
R. Keith Schoppa
HSTCC President

[Text Below]:

HSTCC-TCC Merger

TCC will be placed in the organizational framework of the HSTCC in line with the normal/typical practices of professional organizations (i.e., AAS publishes the JAS, and AHA publishes the AHR). This relationship will be spelled out in the HSTCC bylaws. The advantages for both HSTCC and TCC are significant. It would enhance the reputation of the HSTCC as a major professional organization. It would insure a base of subscribers to TCC since HSTCC membership dues would be increased to cover subscription costs. The journal would then be received as part of the membership in HSTCC. The dues will be the costs of subscribing (a special rate of $25 for HSTCC members) plus our membership dues—for a total of $50 per year. The $25 received as the subscription to the journal would be sent to TCC for its operating expenses. As this will not cover all the operating expenses, the journal will continue to be dependent on its host institution for financial support.

To underscore this new relationship, on the TCC copyright page the following statement will be added: TCC is the official publication of HSTCC and is published on its behalf by the Ohio State University Press. (Note: The TCC relationship with OSU Press is purely a commercial one. They act as the TCC publisher, perform essential accounting, billing, and subscription services, and they intervene with Project Muse. They perform these roles in return for a fee calibrated per subscription. The relationship is defined by annual contract.)

As part of the merger, the TCC editor would automatically become a member of the HSTCC executive board and would give an annual report to the HSTCC board on issues concerning the journal. Entering this merger, the TCC is an independent organization with its own bank account. The TCC editor will retain control of this account and the journal’s finances.

In addition, as part of the merger, the HSTCC executive board would be responsible for selecting the editor to TCC. The editor will select Editorial Board members, subject to the approval of the HSTCC Board.

The merger and these general principles will be discussed and voted on in Atlanta.

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Document #2: Minutes of HSTCC Business Meeting, April 5, 2008, Atlanta

Minutes of Business Meeting, April 5, 2008, Hyatt Regency, Atlanta

Present: R. Keith Schoppa (President), James Carter (Vice-President), Morris Bian (Board Member), Ke-wen Wang (Secretary-Treasurer), and about 15 other members.

Presiding: President R. Keith Schoppa, who called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

1. Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the previous business meeting on March 24, 2007, were approved on a motion.

2. Financial Report. Secretary-Treasurer Ke-wen Wang reported that current balance in the HSTCC
account stands at $11,533.90. The Society has 101 paid-up members, of whom 17 are Lifetime Members. The membership renewal date has been moved from November to June in every year. A renewal reminder will be sent out in May to members whose membership has expired since November 2007.

3. President’s Report

A. President Schoppa submitted the list of new HSTCC board for approval: James Carter (President), Morris Bian (Vice-President), Ke-wen Wang (Secretary-Treasurer), R. Keith Schoppa, So Wai-chor, Sophia Lee. The new board was approved on a motion.

B. Merger between the Society and Twentieth-Century China: At the general meeting last April it was decided that an Exploratory Committee be formed to study the merger proposal. The committee had reported back to the board with a recommendation to proceed with the merger as outlined by President Schoppa’s recent e-mail to all HSTCC members (see attachment). President Schoppa reported that the TCC editorial board had approved of the merger earlier that day. The merger was approved by the meeting with a voice vote.

President Schoppa also reported the HSTCC board decision that while the new HSTCC membership rate will be raised to $50.00 a year to include the subscription fee of TCC, this will not affect the current Lifetime members, and 3-Year members will not need to pay additional fees until their 3-Year terms is up. The new Lifetime and 3-Year rates will be announced by the Board shortly.

C. HSTCC biennial conference in Honolulu: The conference, titled “Chinese Identities: Local, Regional, National, International,” will be held at the East-West Center in Honolulu, Hawaii, in June 16-17, 2008. About 50 papers were accepted from scholars in the United States, Canada, China, Singapore, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, New Zealand and Germany.

4. Incoming President’s Remarks on Future Directions

A. Incoming President Carter reported that the Society plans to organize smaller, more focused conferences/symposiums in the future, probably once a year. A possible approach may be setting up a HSTCC fund to sponsor such projects proposed by members, but the projects may be required to secure matching funds from other sources.

B. Location and theme of the next conference in 2010 - suggestions are welcomed. It is also being considered that participation in the future biennial conferences should be limited to HSTCC members only.

C. Possible change of the name of the Society – still under discussion.

5. Parks Coble suggested that the Society should utilize its affiliations with the AHA and AAS and sponsor more panels/roundtable discussions so as to enhance its presence.

6. The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm.
HSTCC in line with the normal/typical practices of professional organizations (i.e., AAS publishes the *JAS*, and AHA publishes the *AHR*); and

WHEREAS, The *HSTCC-TCC MERGER* document (2008) explicitly stated, “To underscore this new relationship, on the TCC copyright page the following statement will be added: TCC is the official publication of HSTCC and is published on its behalf by the Ohio State University Press”; and

WHEREAS, The *HSTCC-TCC MERGER* document (2008) explicitly stated, “As part of the merger, the TCC editor would automatically become a member of the HSTCC executive board and would give an annual report to the HSTCC board on issues concerning the journal.” “In addition, as part of the merger, the HSTCC executive board would be responsible for selecting the editor to TCC”; and

WHEREAS, The *HSTCC-TCC MERGER* document (2008) explicitly stated, “Entering this merger, the TCC is an independent organization with its own bank account.” In addition, “The TCC editor will retain control of this account and the journal’s finances,”

NOW THEREFORE,

§1 BE IT RESOLVED, That the HSTCC Board of Directors has authority to confirm the appointment of TCC’s Chief Editor. To ensure the representation of TCC’s interests on the Board, at least two members of the HSTCC Board of Directors shall be simultaneously members of the TCC Editorial Board. This does not preclude additional overlap between the HSTCC and TCC Boards.

§2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That TCC is the official publication of HSTCC, and all major TCC policy changes and decisions that significantly affect the HSTCC and HSTCC members shall require the deliberation and approval by the HSTCC Board of Directors;

§3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the TCC Chief Editor, as representative of the copyright holder of *Twentieth-Century China*, has the authority to initiate, conduct, and conclude negotiations with another organization or a third party for the publication of *Twentieth-Century China*. Any agreement negotiated by the TCC Chief Editor and approved by the TCC Editorial Board requires the ratification by the HSTCC Board of Directors;

§4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the TCC Chief Editor shall be a member of the HSTCC Board of Directors. In addition, the TCC Chief Editor shall submit to the HSTCC Board of Directors an annual written report detailing TCC’s publication, submission, subscription, financial health, as well as future plans. As a member of the HSTCC Board of Directors, s/he shall inform the HSTCC Board of ongoing discussion/negotiation involving another organization or a third party. Finally, the TCC Chief Editor shall submit to the HSTCC Board of Directors the names of his/her potential successor six months before he/she steps down.

§5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the TCC Chief Editor shall have complete autonomy on matters of internal TCC operation and management; shall be solely responsible for making editorial policy, including the selection of peer reviewers, publication decisions, and acceptance rates; shall select TCC Editorial Board members; and shall appoint potential candidates to succeed him/her as the TCC Chief Editor, subject to the approval of the HSTCC Board of Directors.

§6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the TCC Chief Editor, as head of an independent business entity, has control and authority (in conjunction with the TCC Editorial Board) over all of TCC’s assets, liabilities, and revenues, including but not limited to revenues from subscriptions, royalties, editorial stipends, and advertising, and costs including, but not limited to,
editorial staff, marketing, production, printing, mailing, distribution, and warehousing.

Action taken: Unanimously adopted by the HSTCC Board of Directors

Date Adopted: Saturday, June 26, 2010

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 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 bianmort@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 Secretary-Treasurer’s Report**

1. This report covers HSTCC finances from June 2010 to June 2011.

2. Current balance in the HSTCC account stands at $13,615.97. No tax was withheld and no interest income needs to be reported for the Tax Year 2010.

3. Paid-up membership currently stands at 123, of whom 3 are life time members (The remaining 15 need to upgrade their membership to maintain life time status). The USA and Canada provide 92 members; overseas members (Europe and Asia) number 31. Membership renewal notice is usually sent out twice a year, the first time in July, the second time at the end of the year.

4. The Society has not yet paid Maney Publishing for a 1-year (2011) subscription of the journal *Twentieth-Century China* for all of its current members.

Respectfully submitted,
Grace Huang

**HSTCC Sponsored Panels at the Joint Conference of the Association for Asian Studies and the International Convention for Asian Scholars**

Professor Sei Jeong Chin at Ewha Womans University put together a panel, "New Perspectives on the Institutional Changes of 1950s China across the 1949 divide: The Sino-Japanese War (1937-1945) as a Critical Juncture," for the Joint Conference of the Association for Asian Studies and the International Convention for Asian Scholars held in Honolulu, Hawaii, March 31-April 3, 2011. See complete panel information below:
Chair: Julia C. Strauss, SOAS, University of London


Paper #2: "Nourishing the People, Feeding the Army: The Impact of Wartime Institutions and Ideology in Grain Supply in Post-1949 Su’an and Taiwan”, Julia C. Strauss, SOAS, University of London

Paper #3: “Historical Origins of Nationalization of the Newspaper Industry in Modern China”, Sei Jeong Chin, Ewha Womans University

Discussant: Parks M. Coble, University of Nebraska

Member News


SEAH, Leander, graduated with a Ph.D. in History from the University of Pennsylvania, and was appointed as tenure-track Assistant Professor of Asian History at Stetson University (DeLand, FL).

SCHNEIDER, Helen is on leave from Virginia Tech and is currently serving as a Research Associate in the China’s War with Japan Programme at the University of Oxford under the direction of Rana Mitter.

WANG, Dong has completed writing her 125,000-word book manuscript entitled United States-China Relations: From the 18th Century to the Present. The book will be published by Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc.

Member Presentations & Publications


WANG, Dong. “China’s Trade Relations with the United States in Perspective” Journal of Current Chinese Affairs 39, no. 3 (October 2010), 165-210.
