

**CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT**

**The Third International Conference of Institutes & Libraries for Chinese  
Overseas Studies, Singapore, 2005**

on

“Maritime Asia and the Chinese Overseas (1405 - 2005)”

第三届海外华人研究与文献收藏机构国际会议

《海洋亚洲与海外华人(1405-2005)》

***Organized by***

Inter-Agency Committee on the Chinese Overseas Databank and Research, Singapore  
and  
Ohio University Libraries, Athens, Ohio, USA

In Association with  
International Zhenghe Society, Singapore

Dates: 18-20 August 2005 (Thursday to Saturday)

Venue: Singapore

**Patron and Keynote Speaker: Singapore, Minister for Foreign Affairs : BG George Yeo**

**Distinguished Advisor: Prof. Wang Gungwu**

Chinese overseas migration began many centuries ago. In the long process, Chinese contacts were established with the vast maritime world in Asia, spreading from the Asia Pacific to the Indian Ocean littoral.

The Third International Conference of Institutes and Libraries for Chinese Overseas Studies with the theme “*Maritime Asia and the Chinese Overseas (1405-2005)*”, scheduled for the year 2005, coincides with the 600<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Admiral Zheng He’s first of the seven voyages to the South Seas and the Indian Ocean. The Zheng He expeditions in the early fifteenth century contributed to the development of the Asian maritime world in which the Chinese diaspora was a key Asian component. The Europeans subsequently entered this maritime world and participated in its trade activities. All these developments contributed to many important aspects of interaction among the Asians themselves, including the Chinese, and between the Asians and the Europeans. There emerged, as a result, the convergence and mutual adaptations of the various civilizations.

The primary objective of the Third International Conference of Institutes and Libraries for Chinese Overseas Studies is to explore the long process of these interactions and the role played by the Chinese overseas. It will trace both the early and modern developments in the various aspects.

The Conference comprises two components:

a) 23 parallel sessions grouped by the following 8 topics:

- Zheng He voyages (one of the sessions is in Malay)
- Assimilation, Integration and Chinese Organizations
- Traditional Chinese Medicine
- Businesses, Trade and Entrepreneurship
- Culture (education, language, religion, gender issues)
- Political Participation
- Migration and Re-migration
- Institutions, Libraries and Documentation

b) five public lectures on “Zheng He voyages / Maritime Asia / Chinese overseas” by the following world renown speakers are:

1. Prof Li Ming Huan, Xiamen University
2. Prof Evelyn Hu-Dehart, Brown University
3. Prof Roderich Ptak, Munich University
4. Prof Wu Jin, National Cheng Kung University
5. Prof Leonard Blusse, Leiden University

Both components consist of sessions conducted in English and Chinese.

### **Conference Registration Fee**

S\$300 for the 3-day conference including public lectures

Registration form is attached and is also available at website: <http://www.huayinet.org>

### **Conference Venue**

RELC International Hotel at: 30 Orange Grove Road, Singapore 258352

## Accommodation

- 1) RELC International Hotel (conference venue)
- 2) Orchard Parade Hotel
- 3) Hotel Asia
- 4) Shangri-La Hotel

## Contact for Conference Information

Ms Liu Wei Ho  
National Library Board  
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Singapore 188064

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## About the Organizers

**(1) The Inter-Agency Committee on the Chinese Overseas Databank and Research** of Singapore comprises 13 institutional members. They are also members of the Singapore Conference Organizing Committee.

- a) Chinese Heritage Centre (<http://www.chineseheritagecentre.org>)
- b) Institute of Southeast Asian Studies Library (<http://www.iseas.edu.sg/library.html>)
- c) Nanyang Technological University, Centre for Chinese Language & Culture (<http://www.ntu.edu.sg/cclc/research/>)
- d) Nanyang Technological University Library (<http://www.ntu.edu.sg/library/home/>)
- e) National Archives of Singapore (<http://www.museum.org.sg/NAS/nas.shtml>)
- f) National Library Board of Singapore (<http://www.lib.gov.sg>)
- g) National University of Singapore, Chinese Library (<http://www.lib.nus.edu.sg/chb/>)
- h) National University of Singapore, Department of Chinese Studies (<http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg/chs/>)
- i) Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry (<http://www.sccci.org.sg>)
- j) Singapore Federation of Chinese Clan Associations (<http://www.sfcca.org.sg>)
- k) Singapore History Museum (<http://www.museum.org.sg/SHM/shm.shtml>)
- l) Singapore Press Holdings, Information Resource Centre (<http://www.sph.com.sg/contact/irc.html>)
- m) Sun Yat Sen Nanyang Memorial Hall (<http://wanqingyuan.com.sg>)

## **(2) Ohio University and Ohio University Libraries, Athens, Ohio, USA**

Founded in 1804, Ohio University is among the oldest universities in the United States. It is one of the top 126 universities over its 3,000 peers in the United States (US News & World Report: America's Best Colleges 2004). The University enrolls more than 27,000 students, including about 1,200 international students from 97 countries.

Ohio University Libraries enjoys high international reputation. It has made particular efforts to collect materials on Chinese Overseas in Southeast Asia and around the world. It launched the Dr. Shao You-Bao Overseas Chinese Documentation and Research Center in 1993. The missions of the Center are to collect, preserve, and make accessible the manuscripts and published resources by and on the Chinese Overseas. Ohio University Libraries also actively promotes international cooperation for Chinese Overseas studies. In March 2000, it initiated and organized the First International Conference of Institutes and Libraries for Chinese Overseas Studies that was held at Ohio University. In March 2003, it co-organised the Second International Conference in Hong Kong with the University Library System of the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

### **The Conference Organizing Committee**

#### **a) Inter-Agency Committee on the Chinese Overseas Databank and Research, Singapore**

Mr Lai Yeen Pong (Chair) (email: yeenpong@nlb.gov.sg)

Ms Ch'ng Kim See (Vice Chairman) (email: chngks@iseas.edu.sg)

Ms Chin Wey Tze (email: weytze@sph.com.sg)

Prof Ng Chin Keong (email: ngck@ntu.edu.sg)

Prof Leo Suryadinata (email:leo@iseas.edu.sg)

Assoc Prof Liu Hong (email: chsliuh@nus.edu.sg)

Mr Lee Ching Seng (email: clbleak@nus.edu.sg)

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Mr Lim Guan Hock (email: lim\_guan\_hock@nhb.gov.sg)

Ms Chung May Khuen (email: chung\_may\_khuen@nhb.gov.sg)

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Mr Cheng Wei Yeow (email: sfcca@singnet.com.sg)

Ms Linda Yip (email: lindayip@iseas.edu.sg)

Ms Liu Wei Ho (email: weiho@nlb.gov.sg)

#### **b) Ohio University Libraries**

Ms. Julia Zimmerman, Dean, Ohio University Libraries

Dr. Hwa-wei Lee, Dean Emeritus, Ohio University, Chief, Asia Division of the Library of Congress, USA.

Mr. Jeff Ferrier, Curator, the Center for International Collections, Ohio University Libraries

Dr. Liren Zheng, Curator, the Dr. Shao You-Bao Overseas Chinese, Documentation and Research Center, Ohio University Libraries

**Academic and Publication Sub-Committee**

Prof Ng Chin Keong  
Prof Leo Suryadinata  
Assoc Prof Liu Hong  
Mr Lee Ching Seng  
Ms Ch'ng Kim See  
Mrs Puah Boon Nia  
Ms Linda Yip

**Hospitality / Venue / Accommodation Sub-Committee**

Mr Cheng Wei Yeow  
Ms Linda Yip  
Ms Chin Wey Tze

**Publicity Sub-Committee**

Mrs Puah Boon Nia  
Mr Cheng Wei Yeow  
Ms Mala Devi Padmanathan

**Finance / Funding Sub-Committee**

Mr Ng Yew Kang  
Mr Lim Guan Hock  
Ms Ch'ng Kim See

**Treasurer**

Ms Linda Yip  
Mrs Long-Lee Phing Phing

**Secretariat**

Ms Liu Wei Ho