Conference Report

7th UK-China Humanities Alliance for Higher Education Annual Conference 2023, Wuhan, 10-11 November 2023

The seventh annual conference of the UK China Humanities Alliance (UKCHA) was hosted by Wuhan University on 10-11 November 2023, on the occasion of the university's 130th anniversary. It was the first in-person UKCHA conference since the pandemic, bringing together Chinese and British scholars under the theme: "Shared Visions: Humanities in Retrospect and Prospect". At the closing ceremony, it was announced that UCL will host next year's conference on 15-16 November 2024.

UCL is a founding member of UKCHA. Founded in 2016, the multilateral network includes the universities of Tsinghua, Fudan and Wuhan, Beijing Foreign Studies University, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Peking University, and Shanghai Foreign Studies University, among others.

In 2024, the eight annual UKCHA conference will be jointly organised by Dr Xiaofan Amy Li (Lecturer in Comparative Cultural Studies, SELCS) and Prof. Florian Mussgnug (Professor of Comparative Literature and Italian Studies, SELCS, and Vice Dean International in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities).



The UCL delegation to Wuhan consisted of Professor Stephen Hart (Professor of Latin American Literature, Film and Culture, and formerly Vice Dean Research in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities), Professor Seb Coxon (Professor of Medieval German Literature; Director of Teaching and Deputy Head of Department, School of European Languages, Culture, Society), and Dr Anna Ponomareva (Lecturer Teaching in the School of Slavonic and East European Studies).



Prof. Coxon remarked: "The conference in Wuhan was a wonderful event, hosted and organized tremendously well by Wuhan University. Apart from being an incredibly enjoyable experience, I found the event to be really quite inspiring in terms of its vision for the humanities (globally) in the future. On a more practical note, this conference series provides a perfect opportunity for initiating and developing research projects involving universities and academics from the UK and China. I really hope that UCL will use its position as host next year to drive this collaborative work forward".

Florian Mussgnug