

## **CALL FOR PAPERS**

### **UK China Humanities Alliance Conference**

#### **Our Cultures, Our World**

#### **---UKCHA 6th Summit on Transcultural Studies**

The China-UK Humanities Alliance is pleased to announce a call for papers for the 2022 annual conference. The event will take place both offline and online in December 2022.

The UK China Humanities Alliance aims to build dialogue between academics and students in the UK and China. The annual conference is an opportunity for British and Chinese scholars to come together and discuss issues related to major global challenges and the higher education. The fact that all human cultures are situated in, and preconditioned by, specific time-and-space junctures should not prevent us from seeking out a set of universal presumptions upon which all human minds can thrive together out of diversity. The future of our civilization depends upon a creative and cooperative response that overcomes distance and division. Hence, the 2022 conference will specifically explore the theme of 'Our Cultures, Our World'. This conference is open to academics at all levels, but PhD students and Early Career Researchers are particularly encouraged to apply.

#### **Conference Themes**

The Conference will feature panels focused on four themes. These are:

a) Universities in a Post-pandemic World 后疫情世界中的大学角色

One of the essential missions of universities is to prepare for the future. As the world is facing challenges and crises on multiple fronts, such as climate/environment/pandemic issues, how to envision a changed, better world after the pandemic is the question with which university scholars and researchers are invited to confront in a thoughtful and creative way.

b) Global Circulation of Ideas and Objects 跨越疆界的观念

Ideas and physical objects tend to travel across borders and impact our understanding of the world. This panel will examine the ways concepts and things adapt to new social and intellectual environments and become resources for solving new problems, especially problems related to the environmental crisis or transcultural praxis of community building, with innovative approaches.

c) Cultural Heritage and Social Transformation 传统与当代世界

This panel will explore how engagement with past human experiences and historic artefacts can equip us to better approach present day challenges to our physical environment and social order. Subjects may include, but are not limited to, understandings of cultural heritage and its transformation, the role of educational and cultural organisations, cultural policy, and public engagement, particularly in the international sphere.

d) The Future of Arts and Humanities 人文教育的未来

At a time when utilitarian thinking is increasingly questioning the purpose of the arts and humanities, this panel will assert the importance, relevance and vitality of academic scholarship and a liberal arts education. Papers are invited that propose new strategies and reaffirm, in a creative and original way, the basic values of a humanitarian vision of the world.

#### **Conference Format**

It is hoped to get a balance of academics from the UK and China for each session. The language of the academic discussions will be English. The conference will be hosted both onsite in Shanghai and online via Zoom and will

be spread over a period of 1-2 days. Sessions will be held between 9:00 – 13:30 UK time / 17:00 – 21:30 China time. Attendees are welcome to attend selected sessions, or the whole conference.

In order to maximise participation in the session, presentations will be kept short, with speakers asked to present for approximately 10 minutes. Participants will be asked to circulate papers 1 week in advance to facilitate discussion.

### **Submission of Abstracts**

Interested scholars are invited to submit abstracts of no more than 250 words to [ogp@fudan.edu.cn](mailto:ogp@fudan.edu.cn) by 5pm GMT on May 1<sup>st</sup> 2022. Please entitle your email 'UKCHA conference proposal'. Your submission should include:

- An abstract of no more than 250 words aligned to one of the four themes described above (please specify).
- A biography of no more than 150 words that includes your home University and department, and your job title / career stage.
- A contact email address.

Successful applicants will be contacted by the end of May 2022 to let them know if they have been selected to participate in the conference.