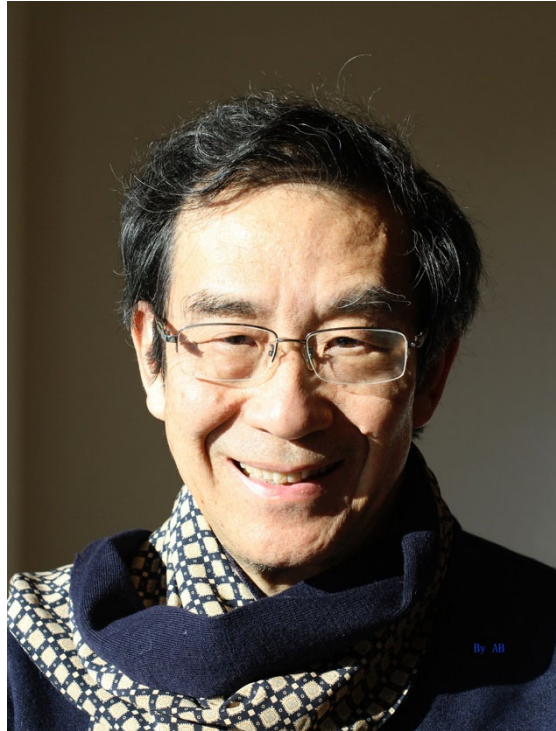


Confucianism in Dialogue with Cultures and Religio

A Conference in Honor of Professor Tu Weiming on his 80th Birthday

February 26-27, 2020



Peking University and Harvard University

Sponsored by:

Georgetown University Department of Theology and Religious Studies

UC Berkeley Institute of East Asian Studies and Center for Chinese Studies

George Mason University Korean Studies Center

Location: Institute of East Asian Studies Conference Room
Rm. 510, 1995 University Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94704-2318

~ ABOUT PROF. TU WEIMING ~

Prof. Tu Weiming (1940-) has played a leading role in the creative development of modern Confucianism as a global intellectual discourse. Beginning his studies of the Confucian classics at the age of 14, Tu has spent more than six decades in ongoing dialogue with other Axial Age civilisations and indigenous spiritual traditions, refining the essence of the Confucian legacy for the modern world. Instead of adopting a narrowly academic approach in his writing, he has forged a pioneering path consonant with Confucian humanism itself, abandoning the academic publication treadmill and the contemporary bandwagon of increasing specialisation in favour of more authentically humanistic discourse.

Tu has lectured at more than a hundred universities around the world, occupied leadership roles in various international organisations, and engaged in dialogues with a broad spectrum of intellectual leaders with the aim of strengthening the flame of Confucianism for future generations. Examining the Confucian tradition in a spirit of critical innovation and intellectual honesty against a backdrop of cultural globalisation, Tu has sought to promote nothing less than a renaissance of Chinese culture. Transcending modern and postmodern secularism, he has achieved international prominence with four open-ended projects:

1. *The Creative Transformation of Confucianism in the 21st Century*

Tu defines Chinese culture as a “culture of learning,” namely an ongoing process of “learning to be human,” highlighting Chinese culture’s traditional ability to absorb foreign wisdom and to engage in self-criticism and reflection.

2. *Cultural China*

This concept transcends geography and politics to offer a common roof to all those who are intellectually and emotionally connected to China and its people.

3. *Evaluating the Legacy of the Enlightenment*

Tu enlists the rich Confucian tradition as an ally in the fight to right the excesses of environmental degradation and anthropocentrism produced by overreliance on the “Enlightenment mentality.”

4. *Dialogue of Civilisations*

Though he can scarcely be credited with initiating this project on his own, Tu has been a leading Confucian voice in the global chorus of opposition to the Clash of Civilisations paradigm.

In 2009, Tu left his Professor’s chair at Harvard University for Peking University’s Department of Philosophy; his mission was to contribute to reform of Chinese humanistic education against a tide of rising nationalism and anti-globalisation sentiment. Over the past decade, enriched by a lifetime of global dialogue, he has brought his broad Confucian perspective to bear, beyond traditional academic boundaries, on a range of challenges facing the real world. His advocacy of reform in the humanities - a reform commensurate with the challenges of the 21st Century - has culminated in his coining of the term “Spiritual Humanism.”

Spiritual Humanism is an attempt to situate the universal call of ethics in an open, integrated and harmonious house in which body and spirit, the individual and society, humanity and nature, the secular and the sacred are all welcome, and to provide human rather than abstract solutions to the many problems we face.

Over the course of his long career, Prof. Tu has offered guidance to thousands of undergraduate students, as well as supervision to hundreds of postgraduates from every corner of the globe. Many of these former students have since assumed leadership positions within the Academy and beyond.

~ CONFERENCE

SCHEDULE ~

Wednesday, February 26, 2020	
3:00 – 3:30 pm	<p>Welcome Greetings Peter Phan, Georgetown University Mark Csikszentmihalyi, UC Berkeley Sophie Volpp, UC Berkeley</p> <p>Opening Remark Tu Weiming, Peking University and Harvard University</p>
3:30 – 5:30 pm	<p>Session 1: Confucianism and Stat</p> <p>Presider: Young-chan Ro, George Mason University</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Peter Bol, Harvard University “Later Imperial Confucianism and Culture Making” ● Sam Yamashita, Pomona College, “Confucianism and Modern Japanese State” ● Peter Phan, Georgetown University “Confucianism in Early Catholic Foreign Missionaries in Vietnam” ● Fred Dallmayr, University of Notre Dame “Confucianism and Democracy: Lessons from Tu Weiming”
6:30 – 8:30 pm	<p>Birthday Celenration and Dinner</p>
Thursday, February 27, 2020	
9:00 – 10:30 am	<p>Session 2: Confucianism and Ecological Awarness</p> <p>Presider: Michiko Yusa, Western Washington Universith</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Michael Kalton, University of Washington, Tacoma “The Anthropocene Turn in New Confucian Governance: Implication for China and the World” ● Mary Evelyn Tucker, Yale University “Confucian Cosmology and Ecology” ● Maria Dakake, George Mason University “Self-Restraint and Human Responsibility to (not for) the Natural World”

10:30 – 10:45 am	Break
10:45 am – 12:15 pm	<p>Session 3: Confucianism and Spirituality</p> <p>Presider: Mary Evelyn Tucker, Yale University</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ni Peimin, Grand Valley State University ““As-if-ism”: On the Nature of Confucian Spirituality” ● So-Yi Chung, Sogang University, Korea “Confucian Spirituality and Human Responsibility” ● Heup Young Kim, Kangnam University, Korea “Perfecting Humanity in Confucianism and Transhumanism”
12:15 – 2:00 pm	Lunch
2:00 – 4:30 pm	<p>Session 4: Confucianism in Dialogue</p> <p>Presider: Peter Phan, Georgetown University</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Robert Neville, Boston University “Tu Weiming and Boston Confucianism” ● Jonathan Keir, Kuaotou, New Zealand and Peking University “The Dialogical East Asian: Tu Weiming's Quest for Shared Meaning” ● Abdulaziz Sachedina, George Mason University “Tu Weiming’s Legacy in Advancing Dialogue of Civilization” ● Michiko Yusa, Western Washington University “In Search of Peace: Intellectual and Interreligious Dialogue by D.T. Suzuki in China, 1934” ● Young-chan Ro, George Mason University “Tu Weiming’s Spiritual Humanism in Dialogue with Raimon Panikkar’s Cosmotheandric Experience”
6:00 – 8:00 pm	Farewell Dinner

The organizers of Confucianism in Dialogue with Cultures and Religions would like to express their deep gratitude to the following persons for their generous financial and other support:

John Borelli
Office of the President, Georgetown University

Shaun Casey
Director, Berkley Center of Religion, Peace and World Affairs, Georgetown University

William Werpehowski
Chair, Department of Theology & Religious Studies, Georgetown University

Peter C. Phan
Department of Theology & Religious Studies, Georgetown University

Young-chan Ro
Department of Religious Studies and Korean Studies Center, George Mason University

Sophie Volpp
Faculty Chair, Center for Chinese Studies, UC Berkeley

