Standards of Validity in Late Imperial China

Workshop Program

Venue: Karl Jaspers Centre, Conference Room (212), Voßstr. 2, 69115 Heidelberg

Friday, April 27

9:00 – 9:30 Welcome and General Introduction (Joachim Kurtz)

Section 1: Writing Valid Histories

9:30 – 9:40 Introduction to the Theme (Ari D. Levine)
9:40 – 10:30 Richard Davis: “Materialism, Rationalism, or Simply Common Sense: The Historical Writings of Ouyang Xiu” (introduced by Ari Levine)
10:30 – 11:20 Naomi Standen: “Standards of Validity in Histories of the Tenth to Twelfth Centuries: Very Preliminary Observations” (M. Hofmann)
11:20 – 11:40 Coffee Break
11:40 – 12:30 Ari D. Levine: “Metalanguages of Song Official Historiography: Discourses and Practices of Veracity and Verification in Li Tao’s Long Draft” (J. Kurtz)
12:30 – 13:30 Lunch

Section 2: Visual Arguments

14:20 – 15:10 Dominic Steavu: “Arguing about Nothing: Form as Content in Revealed Talismans and Cosmic Diagrams” (R. Magone)
15:10 – 15:30 Coffee Break

Section 3: Questions of Style

15:30 – 16:20 Ori Sela: “‘Not to Err’: Qian Daxin and the Philological Zeitgeist of the Mid-Qing” (I. Amelung)
16:20 – 17:10 Joachim Kurtz: “Style and Reasoning: As-yet Random Notes on the ‘Logical Style’ of Yan Fu and Zhang Shizhao” (O. Sela)
19:00 Dinner at Essighaus (Plöck 97, 69117 Heidelberg)
Saturday, April 28

Section 4: Examination Standards

9:30 – 9:40  Introduction to the Theme (Rui Magone)
9:40 – 10:30  Hilde De Weerdt: “Thinking in Time: The Uses of Historical Analogy in Examination Writing” (N. Standen)
10:30 – 11:20  Rui Magone: “The Empire and the Empire: Standards of Validity in Late Imperial Civil Examinations” (D. Steavu)
11:20 – 11:40  Coffee Break
11:40 – 12:30  Iwo Amelung: “Arguing with Western Knowledge: Policy Essays during the Last Years of the Examination System” (H. De Weerdt)

12:30 – 13:30  Lunch

Section 5: Arguments by Numbers

13:30 – 14:20  Catherine Jami: “Evidence and Authority in Mathematics: From Western Learning to Imperial Scholarship (1607–1723)” (A. Bréard)
15:10 – 15:30  Coffee Break
15:30 – 16:00  Final Discussion

19:00  Dinner at Bootshaus (Schurmanstr. 2, 69115 Heidelberg)