Preface

The Fourth Quadrennial International Comparative Literature Conference in the Republic of China, sponsored by The Comparative Literature Association of the Republic of China and hosted by Tamkang University, was held on its Tamsui Campus, August 22-26, 1983. Since 1971 when its first was held, the scale of the conference has grown each time as Tamkang keeps accommodating its size by providing bigger conference rooms.

After the music ceased and guests and hosts dispersed, the editors of the *Tamkang Review* was left with the pleasant labor of savoring each piece spread at the conference tables. In a conference of this scale very few people can have the time and opportunity to peruse the majority of the papers presented. Thus, although belatedly, we are pleased to bring the proceedings to the public as the special issues of the *Tamkang Review*. It goes without saying that, as a journal devoted to Chinese-Western comparative literature studies, the review belongs to every interested scholars, home and abroad. We of the editorial board, however, are indebted in particular to the enthusiastic support of the Comparative Literature Association of the Republic of China.

Under the general theme of Comparative Literature and Chinese Literature, approximately 250 participants and observers gathered to discuss the 84 papers presented over the five-day period. While some longer papers were presented at the seven panel sessions, the majority were discussed in the seven panels, which were: (1) Thematology, (2) Poetics, (3) Genology, (4) Inter-Asian Studies, (5) Translations, (6) Chinese Literature, (7) Literary Reception. We wish we could publish all the papers, but as is usually the case, some have not been brought to a publishable form, and some others simply remain in their "yet-to-continue" status. One unique feature of this conference has been a panel entirely devoted to papers done in Chinese. This is a welcome measure that encourages participation of our Chinese scholars. Unfortunately, we have not yet been able to include them in English translation. Interested readers should find the original versions published as the 1983 October, November, and December issues of the *Chung-Wai wen-hsueh yueh-k'an* 中外文學月刊(Chung-Wai Literary Monthly).

The 58 papers are published in two parts – Part I: Panel 1 & 2, Part II: Panel 3, 4, 5, 6. In the process of editing we have taken pains to attain consistency of format in documentation and bibliography. Some original Chinese characters or texts were supplied, some obvious stylistic blemishes were emendated, but nothing that may harm or alter the content of the original was attempted.

In the capacity of the editor to the review, I beg of your indulgence in the delay of this publication and wish to express my gratitude for the unceasing cooperation of my colleagues Dr. Darel Doty, Dr. William Touponce, Dr. Robert P. H. Hsü, the editorial assistants Mr. Huang I-min and Ms. Lin Li-ch'ing who worked together with the graduate students to accomplish the laborious task of proofreading, and the timely help of all the friends of the *Review*. Special thanks must be given to The Ministry of Education, the Pacific Cultural Foundation, National Arts Foundation, and Tamkang University for their generous financial assistance, without which the conference and publication of its proceedings would not have been possible.

Chi Ch'iu-lang
The Editor

Remarks of Dr. Limin Chu in the Opening Ceremony

Ladies and gentlemen:

As the President of the Comparative Literature Association of the Republic of China, I have the honor and pleasure to announce the opening of the Fourth Quadrennial International Comparative Literature Conference in the Republic of China.

The Board of Directors of the Comparative Literature Association of the Republic of China decided about seventeen months ago to hold its Fourth Quadrennial International Conference in 1983 from August 22 to 26.

The success of the Organizing Committee in assembling a large number of distinguished scholars for the significant occasion is, I believe, evident in the content of the conference program and the papers to follow in the many different sessions.

For their financial or logistic support, we are grateful to the Ministry of Education, the Pacific Cultural Foundation, the Council for Cultural Planning and Development, and the host institution, Tamkang University.

In its preparation for this conference, the Association has experienced little frustration. One of our most rewarding experiences was to have received inquiries about the conference from a number of foreign scholars of international reputation. And we are most appreciative of the warm response to our call for papers. We thank them all.

Minister Chu's Speech

Mr. Chairman, President Chang, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

On this great occasion, the Fourth Quadrennial International Comparative Literature Conference in Taipei, the Republic of China, I would like to express my most cordial welcome, on behalf of the Ministry of Education, to all of you from abroad and from this country.

It is common knowledge that great literature is the very product of the mind and soul; it is the expression of the spirit, thought and sentiment of the nation or race. And Comparative Literature as a literary discipline across national boundaries is the best way to bring together the minds and souls in different areas of the world and thereby enhance mutual understanding and international cultural exchange.

Comparative Literature has history of about 13 or 14 years, in the Republic of China. During these years, however, we have been happy to see the creation of the *Tamkang Review* in 1970, the initiation of a Ph.D. Program of Comparative Literature at National Taiwan University in 1971, the publication of the *Chung-Wai Literary Monthly* in 1972, and the establishment of the Comparative Literature Association of the Republic of China in 1973. With these institutions and journals, the discipline in which you are interested began to take root, grow, and blossom in this country.

The Association began to hold annual conferences some years ago, and Tamkang University served as the host institution to international conference once every four years. From 1971 to last May, we have seen seven national conferences and three international conferences in this country. They all principally focused on promotion of comparative literature studies, research in the field of Chinese literature with an international perspective, and the cultivation of international cultural exchange. I believe they made major contributions to enlivening our domestic academic climate and helped to increase international academic interest in the scholarly efforts in the Republic of China. I believe that all of you in this Quadrennial International Conference will also demonstrate the same enthusiasm displayed by participants of the earlier conferences, so that once again we expect to achieve fruitful results.

As you all know, China has an accumulated treasure house of wonderful writings of thousands of years. The pity is that many parts in this great mansion have not yet been carefully explored or examined with sufficient attention. I earnestly hope that you take full advantage of this occasion, your week-long visit to the Republic of China, to explore that mansion. Many works deserve re-evaluation. Comparative approaches and the use of new critical theories may give us new insight into old books. This conference and its influence may well become part of Chinese cultural renaissance movement.

Confucius said, "Is it not delightful to have friends coming from distant quarters?" Many of you are indeed friends from *distant* quarters. But, despite the strife and discordance in the world today, we are all drawn together through a common and deep interest in Comparative Literature, to understand one another beyond national boundaries, and to enhance international cultural and academic exchange. For your willing efforts in this significant job, you deserve admiration and applause. It makes me feel proud to see such a galaxy of distinguished scholars assemble in this hall of learning.

Ladies and gentlemen, I salute you with respect, I extend to you all my best wishes for the success of the conference.

President of Pacific Cultural Foundation's Speech

Dr. Chu, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

It gives me great honor and pleasure to have this opportunity to extend my sincere welcome to all of you. I am very pleased to see the International Comparative Literature Conference held again in the Republic of China. Two hundred and forty foreign and local scholars in this field will have a chance of frank discussion at this meeting.

Literature exceeds the limitation of ages, and at the same time, it is closely connected to people's life. Regardless of its nature and purpose, it more or less reflects people's ideas and social conditions.

Different cultures and different peoples have developed their own literatures. Liteatures of different areas may inter-influence one another. However, they still preserve and produce some special characteristics. As Chinese literature is unique, so is Japanese literature. Asian literatures and European literatures are also unique in some aspects.

Comparative literature is developed to analyze and compare the similarities and differences among them. Different literary theories in comparative literature enlarge our viewpoints and help us do research work more objectively.

The main theme of this Conference is "Comparative Literature and Chinese Literature." In the following days, you will exchange views on its relations. I hope your presentations and discussion will result in a fruitful conference which provides a direction for further studies.

The Pacific Cultural Foundation has supported the Third and the Fourth International Comparative Literature Conference in the Republic of China. We are pleased to be one of the sponsors again. I wish you all health, happiness and a successful conference.

President Clement C. P. Chang's Welcoming Address

Mr. Chairman, Minister Chu, President Li, distinguished guests, participants from abroad, members of the association, ladies and gentlemen:

As the President of the conference's host institution, and as the publisher of the *Tamkang Review,* which is still the only journal in English devoted to comparative literature studies in Taiwan, I cordially welcome you all to our campus.

When the first number of the *Tamkang Review* appeared in April, 1970. and when my university alone financed the First International Comparative Literature Conference in the Republic of China in July, 1971, Tamkang University gained recognition as the pioneer in the field of comparative literature research in this country.

The encouraging response to the 1971 event made me decide to hold the conference once every four years, so we had the Second Conference in 1975 and the Third in 1979. The Comparative Literature Association of the Republic of China was organized shortly after the First Conference; it has since become the official sponsor of the quadrennial affair, but the CLA/ ROC has always been gracious in giving my university the privilege to serve as the host institution.

Tamkang is the only higher institution of learning and research in this country that does not erect a wall round the campus. In spite of Robert Frost, who has his reasons to mend his neighbor's or his own fence, I always like to think that the absence of an enclosure could be symbolic of my policy of education, that we never shut ourselves in or have our minds made up arbitrarily; nor do we shut people out, or block the influences floating in the outside world.

The previous three conferences were held in a four-story building. Today we have this twelve-story Ching Sheng Memorial Building. My good friend Professor A. Owen Aldridge, who has been a veteran-general of our Comparative Literature Conferences since 1971, is one of the best qualified persons to attest to Tamkang's efforts in promoting the exchanges in this great field of study. I take great pride in being able to provide international comparatists

with a bigger and taller theater of literary war.

Considering the growing intensity of the battles that have raged among scholars on the field of literary criticism in recent decades, Dr. Limin Chu has reassured me that the word *war* I use here is quite appropriate and realistic.

Before I earned a doctoral degree in Education at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, I was an agro-economist. I have learned that a good research project could never have been Procrustean in its process. Experience, no matter how valuable, cannot be an end in itself. Experience, or research, to be worthy of its name, must produce illumination of a certain amount of truth in general accordance with the objective of human understanding.

The Shakespeare Association of America has announced that "Computers will take center stage at the 1984 meeting of the SAA in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The Trustees plan to have a panel of experts discuss present and future uses of computers in Shakespeare Studies, as well as several computer exhibitions and demonstrations running throughout the meeting."

The four computer centers in Tamkang University have gone far beyond simple word processing or data storage and retrieval. We were the first institution in the Republic of China to make administrative, professional, and educational uses of computers. All incoming freshmen, regardless of their disciplines, are required to take an introductory course in Computer Science. Right at this minute, several hundred individuals, including school children, youngsters, high-school teachers and principals, are on our campus for different levels of computer training.

Sometimes called the "Electric Brain" in Chinese, computers have proved to be useful and efficient in certain aspects of humanity studies. My university would be happy to provide advance preparations of computer utilization for Comparative Literature research in the next quadrennial international conference. In deference to the humanists, however, we would not want to let computers take the center stage. The gadgets will *serve* the scholars, their papers and seminars.

Comparative Literature seems like a multi-traffic zone. Broadly speaking, it deals with the question of influence, or the question of affinity. In the long history of China, outside influences, religious, philosophical, cultural, political, literary, have played an important role in shaping some of our celebrated creations in literature and the arts. On the other hand, the influences of Chinese writings have now extended beyond Asia. More

conferences on Comparative Literature deserve support, for they ultimately lead to a better understanding between peoples in different regions of the world.

As you know, Chinese cuisine is famous for its variety and flavors. Our wines and liquors compete with sherry and brandy. As you drive along the streets in Taipei, you must have noticed many American, European, Japanese, and Korean restaurants. We Chinese seem to have a big and strong stomach. We consume all, we digest everything, including foreign literatures, and even foreign critical theories. On your part, you have already found that, like Chinese food and wine, Chinese literature is stimulating, if not always digestible.

Ladies and gentlemen, on this festive note, let me close my remarks by quoting Walt Whitman:

> This hour I tell things in confidence,
> I might not tell everybody, but I will tell you.
> Behold, I do not give lectures or a little charity,
> When I give, I give myself.

Ladies and gentlemen, this campus is yours.