

SURPRISE CONFERENCE!

Do NOT Leak the news to Professor Peter K. Bol!

Ideas, Networks, Places: Rethinking Chinese History of the Middle
Period

CGIS South Building, Room S020, Harvard University

July 7-8, 2009

Sponsored by

Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations

Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies

Harvard University Asia Center

Harvard-Yenching Institute

Over the past few decades, there have been significant advancements in the scholarship of middle period China (roughly 8th-17th centuries), particularly in the areas of 1) intellectual history, 2) the study of social networks, and 3) local history. Although these approaches have often developed separately and with their own sets of paradigms, connecting them leads to new insights into the patterns of historical change. Professor Peter K. Bol has been a leading figure in the attempt to fuse the historical study of ideas with research on society and culture. On the occasion of Professor Bol's sixtieth birthday this **SURPRISE** conference aims to bring together these various approaches, delineating how the articulation and promotion of ideas influenced social structures, and how intellectual discourse in turn was shaped by historical and social developments. The papers for the conference not only will deepen our understanding of middle period history through the analysis of rarely used sources such as maps, architectural images, and archeological sources, but also will provide new perspectives to the significance of local dynamics within broader geographical and political configurations and the definition and status of the literati.

For questions about the conference, please contact [Song Chen](#).

Tentative Program for the Conference

Ideas, Networks, Places: Rethinking Chinese History of the Middle Period <i>Harvard University, July 7-8, 2009</i> <i>Venue: Case Study Room (S020), CGIS</i>		
TUESDAY July 7 2009		
9:00-9:15	Recollections of a Brash Young Sinologist (in Dutch)	Wilt Idema
9:15-11:45	Defining the Shi in Imperial China	
	Shi Identity in the Warring States	Andrew Meyer
	Who was a Ru?: The Evolution of a Tang Era Intellectual Category	Anthony DeBlasi
	<i>Coffee break</i>	
	Medical Learning, Literati Culture, and the Contested Role of the Physician in the Song (960-1279)	TJ Hinrichs
11:45-12:45	<i>Lunch</i>	
12:45-2:45	Shi Uses of History	
	Celebration as Negation: The "Paradigm of Antiquity" in Tang and Northern Song State Rituals	Stephen Chou
	History as Statecraft: Lü Zhong's Critique of the New Policies (1068-1120s)	Jaeyoon Song
	Hu Sanxing's (1230-1302) Historiography	Lee Tsong-han
	Writing History for <i>Xue</i> : An Analysis of Dynastic History Textbooks in Twelfth- to Early-Fourteenth-Century China	Luo Yinan (*)
2:45-3:00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
3:00-5:00	Shi Networks: Literary, Philosophical and Religious Communities	
	Lineage Construction in Northern Song Ancient-style Learning	Douglas Skonicki
	Placing Ideas: Memory and Forgetting in Tang and Song Theories of Learning, Writing and Art	Curie Virag
	Song Lian's Second Act: Representing the Buddhist Layman in Late Imperial China	Natasha Heller
	Transcendence in Ordinarity: Zhu Xi's Reinterpretation of the <i>Zhongyong</i>	Lee Junghwan
5:00-5:20	Presentation on archeological excavation of an early S. Song paved road and associated drainage / sewer system by Jeff Moser	
6:00	<i>Dinner</i>	
WEDNESDAY, July 8 2009		
9:00-11:30	Shi in the Local Society	
	Recasting Antiquity and the Authority of Local Idiom: Archaeological Evidence of Twelfth to Fifteenth Century Ritual Practice in the Chengdu Basin	Jeff Moser

	Elites, Locality, and the State in Southern Song Mingzhou	Lee Sukhee
	<i>Coffee break</i>	
	Jizhou as Kiln Town: Writing the History of a Forgotten Past	Anne Gerritsen
	Defining New Order through Scholarship: 11th-Century Water Management under Scrutiny in the 15th Century for Hydrological Reform	Li Cho-ying
11:30-1:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
1:00-3:00	Shi and the Empire	
	Relating the Local to the National: From Transformation to Participation	Chen Song
	Contrasts and Continuity in Historical Cartography	Alexander Akin
	The Local and the Imperial in the Thought of Fang Xiaoru	Peter Ditmanson
	Learning to be a sage? Learning to be a ruler?: The problematics of Neo-Confucian " <i>di wang zhi xue</i> "	Min Byounghee
3:00-3:30	<i>Coffee break</i>	
3:30-5:30	The Shi and Politics	
	Regional Disparities and the Controversy over Military Affairs: The Debates between Wang Anshi and Sima Guang	Ong Chang Woei
	Reading Politics in Imperial China: Towards a Multi-Dimensional Analysis of Notebooks	Hilde De Weerd
	Warfare, Public Debts and Capitalism: A Financial Study of the Military Defense in Twelfth-Century Sichuan	Liu Guanglin
	Moral Psychology as Political Psychology	Kim Youngmin
5:30	Concluding remarks	Peter K. Bol