

Yale Center Beijing

October 12, 2019

5pm

36th Floor, Tower B, IFC Building
8 Jianguomenwai Avenue
Chaoyang District, Beijing

Confucianism and Cosmology:

How does Chinese thought energize and elevate an evolutionary worldview?

Our aim in this program is to suggest that the issues of sustainability are enhanced when joined to the humanities and environmental ethics. An interdisciplinary synthesis of science, policy, and traditional cultural values deepens China's promotion of an ecological civilization.

Program - Simultaneous translation will be available

5:00 Showing of *Journey of the Universe* (with Chinese subtitles)

Journey of the Universe is an Emmy Award winning film accompanied by a book from Yale University Press that is translated into Chinese. Yale/Coursera has released 3 online classes on *Journey of the Universe* that are available in Chinese.

6:00 Opening Comments: Mary Evelyn Tucker, Yale University

6:15 Panel Discussion:

Tu Weiming, Beijing University
Lu Feng, Tsinghua University
Qiao Qingju, Central Party School
Yao Xinzong, Renmin University

The panelists will focus on how the cosmological and ecological perspective of *Journey of the Universe* is compatible with the Confucian cosmology of the unity of Heaven, Earth, and human. The integration of scientific and cultural cosmologies may be a fruitful context for encouraging the flourishing of our shared Earth community. The encompassing Chinese perspective of “forming one body with all things” can provide a rich basis for mutually enhancing human-Earth relations.

7:15 Question and Answer with Audience

8:00 Reception

Note: The *Journey of the Universe* film and book is available through Yale/Coursera in online courses that have been translated into Chinese. Our hope is to make these courses known in China for use in academia and beyond and to show how this perspective is complementary to Chinese Confucian perspectives.

Brief Biographies

Professor Tu Weiming

After receiving his PHD from Harvard University, Professor Tu Weiming taught at Princeton University (1967-71) and the University of California, Berkeley (1971-81). He became a Harvard Professor in both Chinese History & Philosophy studies and Religious Studies in 1981. Later, he served as the Chairman of Harvard Research Committee of Religious Studies (1984-87), the Chairman of the Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations (1986-89), and the Director of the Harvard-Yenching Institute (1996-2008). Professor Tu Weiming is currently the Peking University Chair Professor (2010-), the Founder and Director of the Institute for Advanced Humanistic Studies (IAHS, 2010-), the Director of World Ethics Center of Peking University (2010-), and the Chair Professor of Harvard-Yenching Chinese History, Chinese Philosophy, and Confucianism Studies of Harvard University (1999-).

For over 50 years, Professor Tu Weiming has devoted himself to the interpretation of Confucian Classics, to the evaluation of Confucianism from a perspective of cultural diversity in the world, and to the revival of Chinese culture by a creative transformation of the ancient tradition. The intellectual activities and academic discourses advocated by him, such as “Cultural China”, “Civilizational Dialogue”, “Reflections on the Enlightenment”, and “the Third Phase of Confucianism”, have rendered profound influence in the international circle of thoughts.

Professor Lu Feng

Lu Feng was born on 1956, Graduated from Wuhan University, Ph. D. Now he is the professor and Executive Director of Center for Eco-civilization Tsinghua University (TUEC). His fields cover applied ethics, environmental philosophy, philosophy of science and technology and study of modernity. He had once worked as visiting scholar in Harvard University, University of St Andrews, and Utrecht University. His publications mainly include 1) The Home of Human Being, 2) Enjoyment and Existence: Living Styles of Modern People and Environment Protection, 3) Human, Environment and Nature, 4) Freedom, Science-technology and Nature, 5) Immaterial Economy, Cultures and Eco-civilization, 6) Eco-Civilization and China . He is now very interested in the research of ethics of science and technology, ecological cultures and ecological civilization, naturalism and the relationship between philosophy and the way of life.

Professor Qiao Qingju

Born in 1966, and graduated from Peking University (Beijing) and Waseda University (Japan), Ph.D., he is currently a professor, doctoral supervisor, and the academic inspector of Central Party School of the C.P.C.. His research focuses on Confucianism, Taoism, History of Ecological Thoughts in China, History of Chinese Philosophy, Comparison of Chinese and Western Philosophy. He had worked as visiting scholar in Sungkyunkwan University, Friedrich-Alexander-University of Erlangen, National University of Tokyo. His publications mainly include 1) On Zhan Ruo-shui’s Philosophical Thought, 2) On Jin Yuelin’s Thoughts of Neo-Confucianism, 3) A History of Contemporary Studies on Ancient Chinese Philosophy (in two volumes), 4) A General Study on Confucian Ecological Thoughts, 5) A Dictionary of Confucian Knowledge, 6) The Cultural Life of River. Besides these publications, he has also published around 130 papers on top journals such as “Philosophical Research”, “Social Sciences in China”, etc. in multiple languages (English, Japanese, German, Korean). He is a

prominent researcher in fields such as the history of Chinese philosophy and ecological thoughts in traditional Chinese philosophy, and is currently responsible for several projects under different foundations such as “The National Social Science Fund of China (Key Projects)” and “National Think Tank of China”.

Professor Yao Xinzhong

(Chinese: 姚新中; pinyin: *Yáo Xīnzhōng*; born 1957) is Professor of Ethics, and formerly the Dean of the School of Philosophy at Renmin University of China in Beijing, as well as author and editor of the 2 volume *Encyclopedia of Confucianism* and co-edited with Tu Weiming the 4 volume *Confucian Studies—Critical Concepts in Asian Philosophy*. He was formerly professor and the director of the King's China Institute at King's College London. Prior to this appointment, Professor Yao was Professor of Religion and Ethics at the University of Wales, Lampeter, and a senior research fellow at the Ian Ramsey Centre, University of Oxford. He was educated at Renmin University, and took his Doctorate Degree at Renmin University as well as the University of Wales. Professor Yao has published books and articles on the subject of Confucianism, including comparative studies with Christianity. In 1998, in recognition of his work promoting Confucianism in the UK, he was made honorary President of the Confucian Academy in Hong Kong.

Moderator:

Professor Mary Evelyn Tucker received her PhD at Columbia University under the Confucian scholar, Wm Theodore de Bary. She teaches at Yale University and co-directs the Yale Forum for Religion and Ecology (fore.yale.edu), which examines cultural and religious values for broadened environmental ethics. She is the co-author of *Journey of the Universe* with Brian Thomas Swimme and the executive producer of the Emmy Award winning film with John Grim. (journeyoftheuniverse.org) She has published several books on Confucianism including *The Philosophy of Qi* (Columbia University Press) and *Moral and Spiritual Confucianism in Japanese Confucianism* (SUNY). She has co-edited *Confucianism and Ecology* (Harvard University Press) and two volumes with Tu Weiming on *Confucian Spirituality* (Crossroad). She has been a member of the Columbia University Seminar on Neo-Confucian Studies since chairing it from 1985-1989. She is also an associate of the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies at Harvard since 1995.

宇宙的历程 = (Yu zhou de li cheng) *Journey of the Universe* book

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