

Political Virtue

between East and West



3 – 4 May



09:00 AM
– 18:00 PM



LI-4409
LI-6376

PARTICIPANTS

Elton Chan

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Academia Sinica

Edward Hall

University of Sheffield

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National Chengchi University

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The central purpose of this conference is to examine the idea and practice of “political virtue” from comparative perspectives. In Western political theory, political virtue is commonly associated with the republican tradition and it is often distinguished from moral virtue. Yet, Confucianism does not hold a sharp distinction between moral virtue and political virtue and, rather, stipulates their seamless connection. In this conference, the participants will explore the following questions: How do liberal/Roman/Confucian traditions understand political virtue, and how is it distinguished from moral virtue? How should we conceptualize political virtue and what could be its normative implications? Is the conceptual (and practical) distinction between moral and political virtue helpful? How can political virtue be cultivated? Is political virtue important to the ruler only, or can it have an important bearing on the people (commonly understood as the ruled)? What insights can we draw by comparing the Western and East Asian (especially Confucian) philosophical and political traditions?

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DAY 1 May 3 (Fri.) LI-4409(AM), LI-6376(PM)

09:30-09:45	Welcoming Remarks	Sungmoon Kim <i>City University of Hong Kong</i>
09:45-10:45	The Ancient Greek Myths of Political Art in Plato's Protagoras and Statesman	Kazutaka Inamura <i>Waseda University</i>
11:00-12:00	A Rousseauian Proof for Natural Pitié	Antong Liu <i>University of Maryland, College Park</i>
14:00-15:00	Reverential Respect Leading towards Solidarity: Some Insights from the Xunzi	Ellie Wang <i>National Chengchi University</i>
15:15-16:15	Cultivating Public-Spiritedness by Eliminating Private Desire: On Wang Yangming's Virtue Monism	Baldwin Wong <i>Hong Kong Baptist University</i>
16:30-17:30	Trust as a Political Virtue: The Confucian Perspective	Siufu Tang <i>University of Hong Kong</i>

DAY 2 May 4 (Sat.) LI-6376

09:45-10:45	The Ethics of Deep Diversity	Duncan Ivison <i>University of Sydney</i>
11:00-12:00	Liberal Ambivalence about Political Virtue: Judith Shklar's Ethos of Sceptical Vigilance	Edward Hall <i>University of Sheffield</i>
14:00-15:00	Confucian Meritocracy and Passive Virtues	Sungmoon Kim <i>City University of Hong Kong</i>
15:15-16:15	The Centrality of Character: Confucian Virtues for Political Realism	Elton Chan <i>Lingnan University</i>
16:30-17:30	Discussion	