

## Invités/Keynote Speakers

### **Paul BAILEY**

Professor of Modern Chinese History,  
University of Edinburgh, UK

***"Discipline, Resistance and 'Face': The Case of the Huagong in WW1 France"***



### **Abstract**

This talk will focus on perceptions of Chinese contract workers amongst their French (and British) employers, and how attempts by the latter to 'discipline' them were conditioned by both a resort to essentialist stereotypes and a sensitivity to their own self-image ('face'). The talk will also discuss how Chinese workers (especially those under French employ) reacted to their living and working conditions in France, and the ways in which they confounded stereotypes, emphasising that the WW1 recruitment Chinese workers should be seen as a significant episode in Chinese labour history.

### **Curriculum Vitae**

[Paul.Bailey@ed.ac.uk](mailto:Paul.Bailey@ed.ac.uk)

#### EDUCATION

Graduated in Chinese at the University of Leeds (1973)

MA in Far East Area Studies at the University of London (1976)

PhD in modern Chinese history at the University of British Columbia, Canada (1982).

#### TEACHINGS

Lingnan College, Hong Kong (1973-1975)

The University of Durham (1983-1984)

Sevenoaks School, Kent (1984-1985)

#### RESEARCH INTERESTS

His current research interests are in the fields of gender, educational and social history of modern China. His latest book, *Gender and Education in China* (RoutledgeCurzon, 2007), explores the beginnings of public schooling for girls in early twentieth century China. He has been contracted by One World Press (Oxford) to write an introductory history of the Chinese Civil War (1946-1949), and has also begun writing a study of Chinese workers in France during World War One, entitled *The Sino-French Connection: A Sociocultural History of Chinese Labour in WW1 France* for which he has been awarded AHRC research leave in 2008. He has also begun a new research project on crime, gender and modern state-building in twentieth-century China, while future writing projects include two narrative and analytical histories: *Women and Gender in Twentieth Century China* and *A History of Vietnam* (both under contract with Palgrave Macmillan)

## PUBLICATIONS

(Translation from the French and introduction), M. Bastid, *Educational Reform in Early Twentieth Century China*, Ann Arbor: Center for Chinese Studies, University of Michigan, 1988.

*Reform the People: Changing Attitudes Towards Popular Education in Early Twentieth Century China*, Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1990.

(Trans. from the French) D. Hoizey, *A History of Chinese Medicine*, Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1993.

*Postwar Japan: From 1945 to the Present* Oxford: Blackwell, 1996.

*Strengthen the Country and Enrich the People: The Reform Writings of Ma Jianzhong (1845-1900)*, Richmond: Curzon, 1998.

*China in the Twentieth Century*, Oxford: Blackwell, 1988. Translated into Spanish, *China en el Siglo XX* (Ariel: Barcelona, 2001).

*China in the Twentieth Century*, Oxford: Blackwell, 2001, new and expanded ed..

*Gender and Education in China*, Routledge, 2007.

Professor Bailey is currently completing a book on the Chinese contract workers in WW1 France, entitled *The Sino-French Connection: Chinese Labour in WW1 France and the Chinese Francophile 'Lobby'*.

## **Marianne BASTID-BRUGUIERE**

Membre de l'Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques,  
Directrice de recherche émérite au CNRS

Member of the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences,  
Emeritus Research Director at the National Center for  
Scientific Research (CNRS), France :



**« Le retour en Chine des travailleurs chinois  
de la Grande Guerre : quel héritage? »**

**"The Return of the Chinese Workers of the Great War: What heritage?"**

### **Résumé**

Nous considérons ici le retour en Chine des travailleurs chinois de la Grande Guerre. Il s'agirait de préciser la répartition provinciale de l'origine des travailleurs, les conditions, la chronologie, les difficultés techniques et les effectifs des retours, en essayant de chiffrer le nombre réel des morts et de ceux qui se sont installés durablement en Europe. L'étude comporterait également l'examen de la réinsertion géographique et professionnelle des travailleurs, l'accueil réservé par l'opinion et les autorités, les acquis matériels, culturels et la mémoire mis en oeuvre par les rapatriés

### **Abstract**

Although the history of Chinese workers during the Great War has not yet appeared in school textbooks, scholars have not ignored it, among whom the British writer Michael Summerskill and the Taiwanese historian Chen San-ching. However, while many studies have brought light to the recruitment, transportation, management, life and work conditions of the workers in Europe, relatively little attention has been paid to their return to China. This paper tries to clarify this issue, which has special relevance to the historical significance that we may read into the whole episode.

As with many other items, provisions for repatriation of the workers hired by the French and by the British were different, and the two allies acted differently. After the Armistice, British authorities were keen to cut unnecessary expenses and trouble; they sent back their Chinese labour corps as fast as they could. While faced with the huge task of clearing the battlefields and undertaking reconstruction, French authorities wished to delay the return of part of their Chinese workers, and found most of them readily responsive, in the hope of making more money under less strained circumstances. But after less than a year, rising general economic difficulties and the growing number of serious incidents between Chinese workers and the local population decided the French gradually to send back their Chinese workforce. The last shipment left in February 1922. About 130, 000 returned to China can be estimated at around 130 000.

What had they learned or gained during their stay in Europe? How different were they from the men who had left China a few years before? Originally, except for a few thousands, all of them were illiterate, unskilled laborers. The literacy programs provided fairly late (July 1918 for the YMCA) and on a small scale by the Sino-French Education Society and the YMCA produced very scanty results, mainly noticeable among those who managed to remain in Europe. Experience with the European labour movement and trade unions was very sporadic and limited to a few thousands who happened to work in certain French factories. The so-called Federation of Chinese Workers in France established in December 1919, and the earlier journal aimed at Chinese workers, *Lü Ou zazhi*, which started in August 1916, were Parisian creations of Li Shizeng, staffed with his old friends, with scarcely any audience among the workers. What over 90% of them gained mainly, as evidenced by the oral data gathered by Zhang Yan and Niu Fangyu, was some exposure to the social organization, management, daily comforts and urban landscape of an industrialized country, as well as some sense of exotic life. Most of them saved some

money, although their families, banks, and a sinking rate of exchange, squeezed part of it. Among the skilled workers, some two thousand were able to learn further skills that could improve their standard of living.

The British shipped back their Chinese directly to Qingdao and Weihaiwei in Shandong province from where they were immediately dispatched back to their villages. The first six thousand men repatriated by the French in January and March 1919 disembarked in Shanghai where they rioted in the French concession because of delayed payment of their dues. The skilled workers among them established a Returned Chinese Laborers' Association that consisted of 1,600 men in 1920. It included the former interpreters, was headed by a journalist with YMCA connections and promoted mutual assistance, but never acted as a trade union. A similar society was established in Tianjin. Further repatriation of the French Chinese labour corps brought the men close to their place of origin: to Pukou for those from Anhui province, to Qingdao or Tianjin for those from Shandong and Hebei. Although the Chinese government had established an emigration Office since December 1917, in charge of both those who left and those who returned, no effort was made to employ the men who returned or to help them. Most of them went back to their native place. Former interpreters and the few educated workers often managed local modernizing projects. Among ordinary laborers, a fair number improved their situation by buying land, others by working in the railways or in urban factories, but foreign managers were not so eager to hire them for fear they might become strike leaders. Many lived as before their journey to Europe, went back into local armies, or even led a wretched life pulling a rickshaw or begging because they were maimed or insane.

The idea of the returned Chinese worker as the backbone of the rising workers movement seems to be only wishful thinking on the part of a few leftist Chinese intellectuals at the time, or a myth in the minds of some foreigners terrified by the powerful tide of Chinese national revolution since 1915. On the whole, except for personal emotional experience and individual contingencies, their stay in France did not change the role or collective fate of the Chinese workers enrolled in the labour corps. They were not actors or direct agents of changes. However, they did become passively the instruments of major changes on the Chinese social, intellectual and political scene. Their presence in France was first instrumentalized by Li Shizeng for his own political agenda, to gain a constituency and to get funds from various sources. At the same time, already in 1916-1917, Li Shizeng was promoting the new problems of labour to a central place in the Chinese political debate. This prompted the action of the Chinese Branch of the YMCA through which many young social activists got their first training with the labour corps. By its wide echo in the Chinese press, it also directed the attention of the first young Chinese communists towards workers. The Chinese labour corps in France were in fact the first workers with whom young Chinese intellectuals became closely acquainted and they lived together, thanks to the Work-Study Movement launched by Li Shizeng in 1919, which brought Chinese students, among whom Deng Xiaoping, to French factories where Chinese workers were employed.

## **Curriculum Vitae**

[bastid@canoe.ens.fr](mailto:bastid@canoe.ens.fr)

### **TITRES ET DIPLÔMES**

Doctorat en histoire, Université de Paris, 1968 : La réforme de l'enseignement en Chine au début du XXe siècle d'après les écrits de Zhang Jian.

Docteur honoris causa de l'Institut d'études extrême-orientales de l'Académie des sciences de Russie, 1995.

Docteur honoris causa de l'Université d'Aberdeen, 1997.

Professeur honoris causa de l'École normale supérieure de la Chine de l'Est, 1997.

Professeur conseiller de l'École normale supérieure de la Chine de l'Est, 2002.

Chercheur honoris causa de l'Institut d'histoire moderne de l'Académie des sciences sociales de Chine, 2000.

Professeur honoris causa de l'Université de Pékin, 2002.  
Professeur honoris causa de l'École normale supérieure de Chine centrale, 2003.  
Professeur correspondant de l'Université des langues étrangères de Pékin, 2003.

#### CARRIÈRE

1964-1965 Professeur de langue et littérature française à la Faculté des langues occidentales de l'Université de Pékin.  
1965-1966 Boursière de recherche à la Faculté d'histoire de l'Université de Pékin.  
1966-1969 Attaché de recherche au Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS), section d'Histoire moderne et contemporaine.  
1969-1973 Chargé de recherche au CNRS  
1973-1980 Maître de recherche au CNRS  
Depuis 1981, Directeur de recherche au CNRS, élue à la classe exceptionnelle en 1990.  
1988-1993 Directeur-adjoint de l'École normale supérieure (en détachement du CNRS).  
Depuis le 1er septembre 1993 : réintégrée au CNRS, section Formation du monde moderne, comme directeur de recherche, rattachée au Centre d'études sur la Chine moderne et contemporaine (UMR 8561).  
Depuis le 1er septembre 2007, directeur de recherche émérite au CNRS  
Membre de l'Institut (Académie des Sciences morales et politiques) depuis 2001.  
Membre de l'Academia Europaea, section des humanités I, depuis 2002.

#### PROFESSORAT D'INVITATION À L'ÉTRANGER

Académie des sciences sociales de Chine (1986),  
Université de Kyoto (1993-1994),  
Université Seikei (1997 et 2005),  
Université Pompeu Fabra à Barcelone (1999),  
Academia Sinica (1999),  
Université Fudan (2002),  
Université normale de Chine centrale (2003).  
Nombreuses autres invitations comme "visiting fellow" aux Etats-Unis, au Canada, en Europe, en Chine et au Japon.

#### AUTRES FONCTIONS SCIENTIFIQUES ACTUELLES

Membre du Conseil scientifique de l'École française de Rome depuis 2004.  
Membre du Conseil scientifique de l'École pratique des hautes études, 2004-2006.  
Membre du Conseil d'administration de l'École pratique des hautes études depuis 2004.  
Consultant pour l'ANR  
Membre du Conseil d'administration de la fondation Yves Rocher à l'Institut de France, des fondations Louis Cros et André Lévesque pour la relation à l'Académie des sciences morales et politiques, de la fondation Louise Weiss et de la fondation Lafue.  
Membre du jury de la Fondation Louis D. à l'Institut de France depuis 2005.  
Membre de la Commission administrative de l'Académie des sciences morales et politiques depuis 2007.  
Présidente du jury du Prix Asie de l'ADELFA (Association des écrivains de langue française) depuis 1998.  
Membre du comité de rédaction d'Études chinoises et d'Extrême-Orient Extrême-Occident (Paris), de Zhongguo xueshu (Érudition chinoise) (Pékin), de Ming Qing yanjiu (Naples), de Chinese History and Society/Berliner China-Hefte (Berlin), de Modern Chinese History (Pékin).

#### PUBLICATIONS

6 ouvrages, 70 contributions à des ouvrages collectifs, 60 articles publiés en Europe, en Amérique, en Chine et au Japon. Sur l'histoire de la Chine moderne et contemporaine.

##### Ouvrages :

La Chine 1 : des guerres de l'opium à la guerre franco-chinoise, 1840-1885, en

collaboration avec J. Chesneaux (Paris, Hatier ; New York, Pantheon ; Turin, Einaudi ; Barcelone, V. Vives) 1969.  
Aspects de la réforme de l'enseignement en Chine au début du XXe siècle (Paris / La Haye, Mouton) 1971.  
La Chine 2 : de la guerre franco-chinoise à la fondation du parti communiste chinois, 1885-1921, en collaboration avec J. Chesneau et M.-C. Bergère (Paris, Hatier) 1972.  
L'évolution de la société chinoise à la fin de la dynastie des Qing, 1873-1911 (Paris, EHESS) 1979.  
China's education and the industrialized world; studies in cultural transfer, en collaboration avec R. Hayhoe (Armonk / New York / Londres, M.E. Sharpe) (en chinois, Shanghai, 1990) 1987.  
Educational reform in early twentieth century China, translated by P.J. Bailey (Ann Arbor, The University of Michigan Center for Chinese Studies) 1988.

#### DECORATIONS

Commandeur de la Légion d'honneur

## **Jean-Jacques BECKER**

Professeur émérite, Président du Centre de recherche de l'Historial de la Grande Guerre, Péronne, France  
Emeritus Professor, Université de Paris X,  
Head of the Research Center of the Historial of the Great War, Péronne, France



**« Des travailleurs chinois dans la Grande Guerre »  
"Chinese Workers during the Great War"**

### **Résumé**

Ce qu'on appelle souvent assez improprement la Première Guerre mondiale est une guerre essentiellement européenne. Pourquoi cette guerre, quelle fut son évolution et pourquoi des travailleurs chinois y furent mêlés ?

### **Abstract**

World War I was more a European than a global war. Why did this war happen? How did it evolve? Why were Chinese workers involved?

### **Curriculum Vitae**

[jj.becker@wanadoo.fr](mailto:jj.becker@wanadoo.fr)

#### **DIPLÔMES**

Agrégé d'histoire, Docteur ès lettres

#### **CARRIÈRE**

Professeur au lycée d'Auxerre (1954-60)  
Professeur au lycée Arago à Paris (1960-68)

Université Paris X-Nanterre :  
Maître-assistant (1968-77),  
Professeur (1985-94),  
Professeur émérite (depuis 1994),  
Vice-Président (1986-89)

Université Clermont-Ferrand II-Blaise Pascal :  
Professeur (1977-85),  
Doyen (1982-85)

#### **AUTRES RESPONSABILITES**

Président du centre de recherche de l'Historial de la Grande guerre à Péronne (depuis 1990),  
Vice-président de la Société des études jaurésiennes (depuis 1994)  
Vice-président de la Société des amis de Georges Clémenceau (depuis 2001)  
Vice-président de la Société d'histoire moderne et contemporaine (depuis 2006)  
Président de la commission chargée de la célébration du 90e anniversaire de la fin de la Première Guerre mondiale (2007-08)  
Membre du Conseil national des universités (Cnu) (1985-93)  
Administrateur du Musée de l'armée (depuis 1999)  
Vice-président (1986-87 et 1988-90), Président (1990-92) du jury de l'agrégation d'histoire

#### **OUVRAGES**

1914, la Guerre et le mouvement ouvrier français (en coll., 1964)

Le Carnet B, les pouvoirs publics et l'antimilitarisme avant la guerre de 1914 (1973)  
1914, Comment les Français sont entrés dans la guerre (1977)  
Les Français dans la Grande guerre (1980)  
Le Parti communiste veut-il prendre le pouvoir ? (1981)  
La Première guerre mondiale (1985)  
Histoire de l'anticommunisme en France : 1917-1940 (tome 1, en coll., 1987)  
Histoire politique de la France depuis 1945 (1988, 9 e éd. 2007)  
La France en guerre, la grande mutation (1988)  
Les Sociétés européennes et la guerre de 1914-1918 (direction en coll., 1990)  
Victoire et frustrations (1914-1929) (en coll., 1990)  
Guerre et cultures (1914-1918) (direction en coll., 1992)  
Les Jeunes gens d'aujourd'hui (1995)  
La France, la nation, la guerre : 1850-1920 (en coll., 1995)  
L'Europe dans la grande guerre (1996, rééd. sous le titre la Première guerre mondiale [2003])  
1917 en Europe, l'année impossible (1997)  
Les Juifs de France de la Révolution française à nos jours (direction, en coll., 1998)  
Crises et alternances (1 reéd. : 1974-1995 [1998], 2 e éd. : 1974-2000 [2002])  
Clémenceau l'intraitable (1998)  
Trente questions sur Clémenceau (2001)  
Le Traité de Versailles (2002)  
L'Année 14 (2004)  
Encyclopédie de la Grande guerre (en coll.)  
Histoire des gauches en France (dir.) (2004)  
La France de 1914 à 1940 (2005).

#### DECORATIONS

Chevalier de la Légion d'honneur  
Commandeur des Palmes académiques

#### DISTINCTIONS

Grand prix Gobert de l'Académie française pour l'ensemble de son œuvre (2002)  
Prix Maurice Beaumont (2005)

## Marylin LEVINE

Dean/Doyenne, College of Arts & Sciences,  
Eastern Oregon University, USA

***"The Chinese Labor Corps during World War I:  
Prelude to Political and Cultural Activism"***



### Abstract

The Chinese Labor Corps (CLC) who served the Europeans during World War I felt they were building their own country's capacity for economic development and contributing to world peace and the betterment of all humanity. Unlike the colonized peoples of India, Africa, and Southeast Asia, the Chinese workers often were seen as the most reliable and industrious workers and given the most difficult tasks. Within the CLC there was an array of issues that extended from literacy training, alcoholism, labor strikes, and of course cross-cultural transformation. The CLC during the war and immediately afterwards served as a key bridge to educational and political activism in the Chinese communities in France, Germany and Belgium.

### Curriculum Vitae

[mlevine@eou.edu](mailto:mlevine@eou.edu)

#### EDUCATION

1979-1985 Ph.D. in History. University of Chicago, Department of History, Chicago, Ill. 60637. Dissertation title: "The Found Generation: Chinese Communism in Europe, 1919S1925."

1981-1982 Stanford Center. Inter-University Program in Chinese Language and Literature, Taipei, Republic of China (advanced Chinese language program).

1975-1978 M.A. in History. University of Hawaii, [Southeast Asia] Department of History, Honolulu, Hawaii. Thesis title: "Ho Chi Minh and Ngo Dinh Diem: A Comparative Study."

1971-1975 B.A. in History. San Diego State

#### ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

2005- Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, Eastern Oregon University

The Dean is the Chief Executive Officer of the College that includes three Divisions: Sciences, Mathematics & Technology; Social Science & Modern Languages; and Arts & Letters. These Divisions are comprised of 19 Departments. It is the largest College within the University. The College offers 15 majors and 23 minors and delivers 3 majors online. The Dean reports to the Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, manages a budget of approximately \$7.5 million (112 faculty and staff, 2,177 students), and supervises an administrative staff responsible for communications, fiscal affairs, advisement, research, technical and clerical support. Direct reports from three Division Chairs. After the 2007-08 campus reorganization, the online and onsite academic programs are now administered by the College of Arts and Sciences.

2001 – 2005 Chair, Division of Social Sciences, Lewis-Clark State College

The Chair of the Division manages seven disciplines and oversees 21 faculty and staff with ca. 400 majors with BA/BS degrees in Social Sciences (Anthropology, Economics, History, Political Science, and Sociology), Justice Studies, and Social Work. Direct reports included Director of Justice Studies, Director of Social Work, and Coordinator of Social Sciences.

#### 2003-2004 Co-President, Women in Higher Education Roundtable

The Mission of this group in the Northwest U.S. is to foster inter-institutional and regional collaboration among women in higher education and to encourage the promotion of leadership of, and for, women into administrative leadership. The group includes nine regional institutions. My main accomplishment was to co-author a study, Survey on the Status of Women in the Northwest in Academe. This study was submitted to the nine NW regional Presidents for a joint discussion in April, 2004.

#### 2004 President, H-Net, Humanities and Social Sciences Online ([www.h-net.org](http://www.h-net.org)).

H-Net is the world's largest scholarly society dedicated to using new media for scholarship. Founded in 1993, H-NET publishes more than 1,900 book reviews a year and has over 141 scholarly moderated discussion networks with more than 143,800 subscribers. The responsibilities of this position included: board members, communication between the H-NET Council and H-NET Editors, managing personnel issues, grant writing, and travel.

#### RESEARCH INTERESTS

History of Modern China: 20th century Chinese Political Party development in Europe, and transcultural influences.

Vietnamese political and cultural history.

Life-writing and spatial biography based on databases and GIS analyses, i.e., time-place historical phenomena in digital databases combined with multivariate analyses and historiographic methodology.

#### SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

[Over 60 publications, including books, articles, book reviews, and electronic papers]

Co-Authored with Chen San-ching, *The Chinese Guomindang in Europe: A Sourcebook of Documents* Berkeley, California. Institute for East Asian Studies, Center for Chinese Studies Monograph Series # 52, 2000.

A series of 72 documents from archives in Europe and Asia on the formation of the Chinese Nationalist Party in Europe, EGMD (1923, Lyons) which had the first United Front with the Communists. The first two units cover the formation and politics of the EGMD. The final unit of the book covers ideology among the five Chinese political parties formed in Europe from 1922-23.

*The Found Generation: Chinese Communists in Europe During the Twenties* Seattle, Washington: University of Washington Press, 1993.

An examination of the generation of young Chinese who adopted the route of political party formation during the early twenties while sojourning in France. The historical background of the Chinese Labor Battalions during the first World War, the Work-Study Movement, the creation of the European Branch of the Chinese Communist Party (1922), and the personal transformation experience and ideological developments of those involved in the party formation are explored.