

Conference Venue:

IKGF Seminar Room, Building D1
(Hartmannstraße 14, 91052 Erlangen)

Since the publication of Kidder Smith, et al., *Sung Dynasty Uses of the I Ching* in 1990, there have been many illuminating studies of *Yijing* commentaries. In these studies, the *Yijing* commentaries are read as historical documents revealing the changing identity of the literati and the constant interplay between culture and politics. What is lacking, however, is a close study of the *Yijing* divination. While it is true that the *Yijing* had been transformed from a collection of oracles into a moral and philosophical text at the dawn of imperial China, the classic (including its earlier form, the *Zhouyi*) was often used as a manual of divination. In fact, the *Yijing* divination was even more deep-rooted and widespread if we take divination to mean not only the mantic arts to seek guidance from gods, spirits and ancestors, but also the manifold human efforts to alleviate the fear of the uncertainty of life.

To demonstrate the significance of the *Yijing* divination, this workshop will examine the various methods that the *Yijing* text and its sixty-four hexagrams were used to address the serendipity of life. It will cover the divination practices from the Western Zhou (1046-771 BCE) to contemporary times, such as the stalk divination, numerology, and the cosmic charts. In examining these divination practices, this workshop will highlight the importance of divination to a broad spectrum of inquirers, ranging from high officials in the imperial court to farmers and laborers in a small town. From predicting the future to prescribing medicine to an ill person, this workshop will show that the *Yijing* was indeed part of the everyday life of the Chinese people, especially when they faced the ups and downs in life.

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*Fate, Freedom and Prognostication.
Strategies for Coping with the Future in East Asia and Europe*

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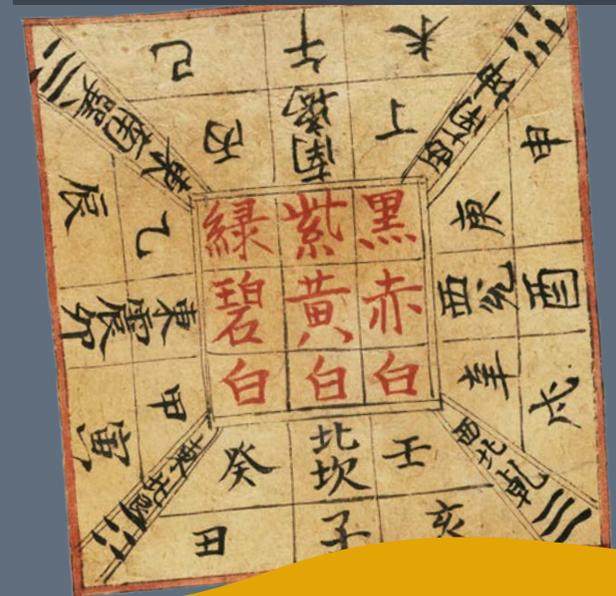
**INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM
for Research in the Humanities**

*Fate, Freedom and Prognostication.
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October 24-25, 2017

WORKSHOP

The *Yijing*: Alternative Visions and Practices



**FRIEDRICH-ALEXANDER
UNIVERSITÄT
ERLANGEN-NÜRNBERG**



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Tuesday, October 24, 2017

- 10:00 a.m. Welcome Address
Michael Lackner & Hon Tze-ki
- 10:10 a.m. Placing the *Zhouyi* in BCE Stalk Divination traditions: Views from Newly Discovered texts
Constance A. Cook, Discussant: Zhao Lu
- 11:00 a.m. *Coffee Break*
- 11:20 a.m. Predicting Success: The Song Literati Uses of *Yijing* in divination
Liao Hsien-huei, Discussant: Stéphane Feuillas
- 12:10 p.m. Prediction based on the Past: Yang Wanli' commentary on the *Zhouyi*
Stéphane Feuillas, Discussant: Liao Hsien-huei
- 1:00 p.m. *Lunch Break*
- 2:30 p.m. Medicine and *Yijing* Hexagram: A Case Study on the *Mingmen* (Gate of Life) in Song-Ming China
Chang Chia-Feng, Discussant: Constance A. Cook
- 3:20 p.m. *Coffee Break*
- 3:40 p.m. Simplified Procedure and Extended Divination Objects: Explosion to Plum Blossom Yi Numerology
Tao Yingna, Discussant: Chang Chia-Feng
- 4:30 p.m. *End*

Wednesday, October 25, 2017

- 10:00 a.m. Predicting a Regime Change: The *Yijing* Studies in Early-Twentieth Century China
Hon Tze-ki, Discussant: William Matthews
- 10:50 a.m. *Coffee Break*
- 11:20 a.m. Reducing Uncertainty: Six Lines Prediction in Contemporary China
William Matthews, Discussant: Hon Tze-ki
- 12:10 p.m. Roundtable Discussion
Discussant: Michael Lackner
- 1:00 p.m. *Lunch Break*
- 2:30 p.m. Roundtable Discussion
- 3:30 p.m. *End*

