

Annual Report of ATCTA

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Secretary of ATCTA

The Australian Tertiary Chinese Teachers Association's fifth annual meeting took place on the 13th of June, 2008 at the Asia Centre, The University of Melbourne. The meeting was well attended and warmly received.

In the first half of the meeting, three research papers were delivered, covering a wide range of fields. The members' highly inspiring presentation immediately set off an intense discussion among the attendants, who all feel that they benefited from the discussion. They all agreed that regular scholarly forums should be organized in the future. The papers were highly recommended to be published in the journal of *Chinese Studies Review*.

The meeting was followed by the Chairperson's annual report, highlighting the association's activities and achievements in the past year. The chairperson firstly extended his gratitude to Dr Lijian Hong for working tirelessly as the Editor in Chief of this Association's journal *Chinese Studies Review*. He also reported to the members about the Association's successful collaboration with the Education Office at the Chinese Consulate General in Melbourne, in organising this year's Chinese Bridge Competition conducted on 7 May 2008. Three students from Monash University and RMIT were chosen to represent Australian university

students to compete against other contestants from all over the world at the competition's final round, which will be held in China in July, 2008. Hunan TV Station recorded the competition to be broadcasted on their national network in China.

The meeting also proposed some social activities promoting the learning of Chinese, such as the organising of a social and cultural event conducted in the Chinese language for students of Chinese and students from China. Activities may include speeches, story-telling, singing, musical instruments, kung fu, etc. This would encourage learners of Chinese to interact among themselves and with native speakers of Chinese. A possible date is around the Mid-Autumn Festival. Members are encouraged to further explore this possibility.

Participants had a lovely dinner together afterwards.