

國立臺灣大學外國語文學系學術演講



Translator as Intercultural Mediator: Rendering from English to Chinese

Ingratitude: The Debt-Bound Daughter in Asian American Literature

《忘恩負義：亞美文學中債台高築的女兒》

Speaker: Prof. Su-ching Huang 黃素卿教授 (Associate Professor, East Carolina University)

Moderator: Prof. Hsin-ying Li 李欣穎教授 (Associate Professor, NTU)

Time: 3:00 ~ 5:00 pm, Wednesday, June 17, 2015

Venue: DFLL New Conference Room, Old Main Library (舊總圖一樓外文系新會議室)

Abstract:

Locating and re-examining the model minority myth from inside the Asian immigrant family, *Ingratitude* views the nuclear family as a microcosmic capitalist enterprise. Its emphasis on the model minority myth provides much needed critical vocabulary that can account for the relationship between Asian immigrant labor and Asian American literary and cultural production. As *Ingratitude* is heavily theory-based (drawing on feminisms, post-structuralism, psychoanalytic theories, etc.), its sentence structures and vocabulary are particularly complex. To produce a decent translation in Chinese, the translator needs to search for Chinese expressions that may serve as counterparts of the original, and sometimes even has to coin new words and phrases in Chinese to approximate the meanings and nuances of the source language. In this way, this translation project is not just working between two languages but also among several languages, in terms of the theories engaged in Ninh's work. While striving to be faithful to Ninh's expressions, the translator makes minor alterations and adds explanatory notes to render the Chinese edition more accessible to the readers in Taiwan. This presentation will discuss several concerns in translation studies, such as fidelity, domestication, intercultural mediation, communicative equivalence, and so forth.

About the speaker:

Su-ching Huang is associate professor of English at East Carolina University, where she also directs the Ethnic Studies Program. She has taught courses in Asian American literature, multiethnic American literature, ethnic studies, women's literature, travel narratives, and so forth. In addition to her book, *Mobile Homes: Spatial and Cultural Negotiation in Asian American Literature*, she has published book chapters and journal articles on Liu Daren, Gish Jen, Jackie Chan, Ruthanne Lum McCunn, Hua-ling Nieh, Chiang Yee, and feminist theater. Her current research focuses on racial melancholia in Asian American literature, including Sinophone literature in the U.S.

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