

[In Sondry Ages and Sondry Londes]

Reading Chaucer outside the Anglophone World:

Receptions, Translations, and Traditions

Date: March 12–13, 2027

Venue: National Taiwan University, Taiwan

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The recent Mandarin Chinese translation of *The Canterbury Tales* (Linking Publishing, 2025) by Dr. Francis K. H. So offers a timely opportunity to reflect on the growing presence, vitality, and diversity of Chaucerian studies outside the Anglophone world. This significant contribution not only opens new avenues for engaging with Geoffrey Chaucer's language and narrative art, but also foregrounds the crucial role of translation, pedagogy, and local scholarly traditions in shaping how Chaucer is read, interpreted, and taught across different linguistic and cultural contexts.

Aligned with the New Chaucer Society's (NCS) ongoing initiative “In Sondry Ages and Sondry Londes” (curated by Dr. Jonathan Fruoco), this international conference seeks to advance a more globally grounded Chaucerian studies, one that situates the significance of Chaucer beyond the Anglophone world by foregrounding translation, adaptations, multilingual readerships, pedagogical practices, and cross-cultural intellectual exchange. By bringing together scholars working across diverse linguistic regions and by creating a venue for established scholars, early-career researchers, and graduate students, the conference aims to foster sustained conversations about Chaucer's afterlives and to strengthen transnational scholarly networks shaped by translation, adaptation, and comparative inquiry.

The keynote speakers are **Dr. Candace Barrington**, Professor of English at Central Connecticut State University and President of the New Chaucer Society, whose work focuses on Chaucer and medieval English literature, especially global reception, translation, and adaptation, and **Dr. Francis K. H. So**, Professor Emeritus at National Sun Yat-sen University, whose scholarship centers on Chaucer, medieval and Renaissance English literature, East–West comparative studies, and the translation

and global circulation of premodern texts.

We invite proposals that explore any aspect of Chaucer's works, their translations and adaptations, as well as their critical or creative receptions outside the Anglophone world, or in comparative and transregional contexts. Possible topics include (but are not limited to):

Translation, Adaptation, and Literary Mediation

- New approaches to, or challenges in, translating Chaucer into non-Anglophone languages
- Histories of major translations and translators, and the role of translation in shaping local understandings of Chaucer
- Considerations of the role publishers (both university and commercial presses) supporting and promoting editions of Chaucer outside the Anglophone sphere
- Theoretical reflections on translation, vernacularity, and Middle English in multilingual or cross-cultural contexts
- Chaucer-inspired works in contemporary literature, media, or visual culture

Reception, Pedagogy, and Intellectual Histories

- Histories of Chaucerian scholarship in non-Anglophone academic traditions
- Pedagogical practices and challenges in teaching Chaucer in multilingual or non-Anglophone classrooms
- Chaucer in textbook cultures, anthologies, curricula, and the formation of literary canons, particularly the “World Literature” category

Chaucer in Global and Comparative Perspectives

- Cross-cultural approaches to medieval narrative, performance, humor, or religiosity
- Comparative medievalisms across linguistic, national, or cultural traditions
- Reading Chaucer alongside non-Western or premodern texts (e.g., *The Tale of Genji*, *The Cloud Dream of the Nine*, *Romance of the Three Kingdoms*), with attention to narrative framing, irony, or social satire
- Intersections between Chaucer and local philosophical or aesthetic traditions

Texts, Traditions, and Critical Methods

- Critical innovations on Chaucer's oeuvre (*The Canterbury Tales, Troilus and Criseyde*, the dream visions, Chaucer's translations of Latin and French texts, and shorter poems), through lenses such as gender, race, affect, ecology, embodiment, or disability
- Manuscript studies, material culture, digital humanities, or archival research, particularly Middle English manuscripts housed in Asia and the global South.
- Chaucer, colonialism, and postcolonial reception histories in non-Anglophone contexts

The conference will be held in person on March 12–13, 2027, at National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan. Please submit a proposal (250 words in English) along with a brief bio of 100 words to **readingchaucer@gmail.com** by **June 30, 2026**. In addition to individual paper proposals, the conference welcomes panel proposals consisting of three to four papers organized around a shared theme. Panel submissions should include a panel abstract (300 words) outlining the panel's coherence and relevance to the conference theme, along with individual paper abstracts (250 words each) and a brief 100-word bio for each participant. We particularly welcome submissions from graduate students and early-career scholars, and we hope this gathering will reinforce and expand long-term networks of Chaucerian research beyond the Anglophone world. There is no registration fee for the conference. For updated information, please visit the conference website: <https://readingchaucer.com/>.

This event is co-sponsored by the New Chaucer Society (NCS), the Taiwan Association of Classical, Medieval, and Renaissance Studies (TACMRS), University Paris Nanterre (CREA), and the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), Taiwan.

Conference Organizers:

Sophia Yashih Liu, National Taiwan University

Yu-Ching (Louis) Wu, National Central University

Jonathan Fruoco, University Paris Nanterre (CREA)