

History of Science in Globalizing Time

Dun Liu

*Institute of History of Natural Scienc, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China
(dliu@ihns.ac.cn)*

Considering the human civilization from the standpoint of macro-history, the tendency towards globalization can be traced as early as the 16th century. From then on, the diffusion of science and technology has been an accelerating factor in this process. It is no exaggeration to say that how a country or region regards its traditional culture and historical experience will serve to influence if not determine how it will keep up with the wave of international globalization. On the other hand, the diversity of cultures and different national or regional experiences are also important factors in the sustainable development of human existence. Therefore, the discipline of the History of Science will play an even pivotal role in the time so-called globalization.

Dun Liu, previously Director of the Institute for the History of Natural Science within the Chinese Academy of Sciences (1997-2005), Professor Dun Liu is the incumbent President of the Chinese Society for the History of Science and Technology. His main research field is Chinese mathematics-astronomy and its interaction with the social context, especially in the Ming-Qing transitional period (c.17th century). Also serving as Editor-in-chief of the bimonthly journal, *Science & Culture Review*, he currently focuses on such historiographic and cultural topics as “the Needham question” and the “C. P. Snow thesis”.