

Chinese Studies Symposium

2014.07.01

The CCS invited four recipient scholars of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Taiwan Fellowship to present their research results.

The first speaker was Professor Tsuyoshi Ito of the School of Political Science and Economics at Meiji University in Japan. His paper was entitled "Opportunities for Multilateral Commitments on Maritime Safety in the East China Sea and South China Sea."

The second speaker was Dr. Roger Irvine, a visiting researcher from the Centre for Asian Studies at the University of Adelaide in Australia. His presentation was entitled "Future Uncertainties in Mainland China."

The third speaker, Mr. Nuno Santiago de Magalhaes, a doctoral candidate at the Department of Politics and International Studies at Cambridge University, presented a paper on "Economic Integration of Taiwan and Mainland China: Analysis of a Strategic Choice." The last speaker was Mr. Tomasz Smura, a doctoral candidate at the Faculty of Journalism and Political Studies at the University of Warsaw in Poland. His talk was entitled "The Political Significance of Taiwan in U.S. Security and Defense."

The seminar was attended by more than about 150 local and foreign guests, including 50 visiting scholars and foreign envoys from 24 countries, as well as officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, scholars, reporters and the general public.



A group photo of the four speakers

2014.07.29

The CCS held the second Global Chinese Studies Seminar. Two CCS recipients of the Research Grants for Visiting Foreign Scholars were invited to present their research findings.

The speaker at the first seminar was Professor Sergey Vradiy of the Institute of History, Archaeology and Ethnography of the Peoples of the Far East at the Far East Division of the Russian Academy of Sciences. In a paper entitled, "Map of Russia: The First Korean Map of the Primorsky Krai in Russia," Professor Vradiy noted that the "Map of Russia" is a very unique manuscript that provides valuable historic data for the study of interaction among Russia, North Korea and China and North Korean immigrants in Primorsky Krai in the nineteenth century.



Professor Sergey Vradiy listens to the questions raised by the audience.

The second session speaker was Jonathan Chappell, a doctoral candidate of the Department of History at the University of Bristol. His presentation, entitled “A Matter of Territorial Sovereignty: Military Intervention by Britain and France in the Taiping Rebellion,” investigated from the perspective of territorial sovereignty the paper intervention in the Taiping Rebellion by Britain and France, who enjoyed considerable rights and concessions in China at the time, as well as their power relations with China.



Jonathan Chappell in discussion with audiences

2014.08.12

The CCS invited three visiting scholar recipients of the Taiwan Fellowship grant to present the findings of their research in Taiwan at a three-session Global Chinese Studies Seminar.

The speaker at the first session was Professor Naofumi Uchida from the Faculty of International Studies of Culture at Kyushu Sangyo University in Japan. His paper, entitled “Memorial Politics and Imperial Power in the Kangxi Period of the Qing Dynasty,” explored the establishment of imperial memorial politics in the Kangxi, Yongzheng and Qianlong periods and the importance of the memorial system on the consolidation of power and territorial expansion by the Qing regime.



Professor Naofumi Uchida (left) is about to start his presentation.

The speaker at the second session was Professor Eom Ik-sang of the Department of Chinese Language and Literature at Korea’s Hanyang University. In his talk entitled “Why are Some Korean Words Like Ancient Chinese?,” Professor Eom said that most modern Korean words are either native to Korea or borrowed from classical Chinese. However, some native Korean words are phonologically similar to classical Chinese. Professor Eom called these “Korean-Chinese equivalent words” and attempted to show that they are Chinese loanwords or Korean-Chinese cognates formed by language contacts.



Professor Eom Ik-sang in the seminar venue

The speaker at the third session was Dr. Elaine Wong from the Department of English at Trinity University in San Antonio. In a paper entitled “Beholding Words in the Word ‘Behold’:

Calligrams and the Self of Language,” Dr. Wong noted that calligrams are poems formed by the composite qualities and materiality of words and are both “seen” and “read.” Taiwanese calligrams began to develop in the 1950s and form an undeniable link in the history of Taiwanese literature.



Dr. Elaine Wong (left) with Mr. Luo Ching

2014.08.14

The CCS annually holds the CCS Scholars Worldwide Seminar to strengthen exchanges with former scholar recipients of CCS grants (and members of CCS Scholars Worldwide). Since 2012, the NCL has invited grant alumni to share their research results at the seminar. Three visiting scholars spoke at the latest seminar, held in August 2014.

The speaker at the first session was Assistant Professor Phillip Thai of the History Department at Northeastern University. His paper, entitled “Law, State-Building, and the War on Smuggling in Coastal China,” looked at coastal smuggling and its relation to changes in state power during the Nanjing Decade (1927-37) of the Republican period.



Phillip Thai (left) discusses issues with the audience

At the second session, Associate Professor Peter J. Carroll of the Department of History at Northwestern University presented a paper entitled “Mending the Pen after the Sheep are Lost: Suicide, Social Statistics, and the Youth Crisis in Guangzhou during the Republican Era.” The paper explored the reasons for the wave of suicides among Chinese youth in the late Qing and early Republican period, the efficacy of suicide prevention efforts, and their impact on society.



Professor Peter J. Carroll (right) answers questions

The speaker at the third session was Associate Professor Rebecca Nedostup of the Department of History at Brown University. Her paper, entitled “The Unheroic Corpse: Ordinary Graves and the Public Secrets of Nanjing’s Zijinshan,” argued that countries often establish mausoleums or monuments in honor of rulers. This forms a kind of symbolic cultural subject matter, but often overlooks the nameless dead. Professor Nedostup urged for more attention to be paid, not only to research of the mausoleum at Zijinshan from a national perspective, but also to the overlooked “micro history.”



Professor Nedostup listens to the feedback from the audience.