

■ **The NCL's CCS in Cooperation with the UT Austin in Texas, USA, and the Ghent University, Belgium, Organize the “Taiwan Lectures on Chinese Studies”**

On April 8, the NCL's CCS in cooperation with the University of Texas (UT) at Austin organized the “Taiwan Lectures on Chinese Studies”. Prof. Li-chuan Ou from the National Taiwan University, Department of Chinese Studies, was invited to speak on the topic: “A New Perspective on *Dream of the Red Chamber*: The Concealed Aristocratic Culture of Traditional China”.



The lecture attracts lots of attendees.

About one hundred persons attended the presentation. From the perspective of cultural history, Professor Ou placed *Dream of the Red Chamber* in the space-time context at the time when it was written to explore the misunderstandings generated by this book because of the differences in the contemporary space-time and cultural background.

On May 9, the “Taiwan Lectures on Chinese Studies” was hosted at the Ghent University. Invited to this lecture was Prof. Dafydd Fell from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. He spoke on “The Use of Rap in Taiwanese Political Communication”. His talk investigated the role and impact of rap

music in Taiwan political communication.

Prof. Fell pointed out that in the past three decades, rap has developed into an important musical style in Taiwan. This musical style came after the democratization of Taiwan. Surprisingly, it is often used in political communication. The lecture attracted many students from Ghent University and a lively discussion ensued on how the elements of rap music influenced Taiwan election and its democratization process.



Prof. Fell's lecture is filled to capacity.

■ **NCL Holds a Joint Exhibition of Taiwan Antique Map**

The NCL jointly held an Exhibition of Taiwan Antique Map with Taiwan Historical, Beitou Museum, and Association for Taiwan Antique Maps and Cultural Relics to showcase the antique maps provided by cooperative units and collectors from February 22 to May 29 at the NCL. The old maps on display have different themes, such as Taiwan Industry Map that introduces the industrial development at all historical periods. At the opening of the exhibition, the exhibition appealed many artists, historians, local culture and history researchers, and museum and library staff to visit.