

municipal libraries of Henan, Sichuan and Jinjiang. They particularly expressed strong interest in the NCL's digital archives and digitalization process.



Director-General Tseng with the honored guests in front of the main entrance.

2016.09.02 Andrea Kreuzpointner from the East Asian department of the Bavarian State Library came to Taiwan to conduct research on Chinese studies for one month. During this time, he visited the NCL to find some information, as well as to better understand NCL's service facilities and holdings.

2016.09.22 Professor Natsuko Furuse and a group of 13 others from Ochanomizu University visited NCL's Rare Books Room to better understand how it lends its ancient books. They were especially interested in the digitization of NCL's special collections. NCL staff also assisted them in finding research materials they were interested in.

Chinese Studies Symposium

■ The Center for Chinese Studies Holds a Colloquium for MOFA Taiwan Fellows to Present Research

On Jul. 13, the CCS held the second session of its 2016 Research Presentations by Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) Taiwan

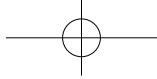
Fellows. Four scholars were invited to share their research findings and discuss issues with other scholars in attendance, so as to improve academic exchange between scholars in Taiwan and abroad, as well as to provide reference for foreign policy making in Taiwan.



Dale W.C. Jieh (Director-General, Department of Policy Planning, MOFA) (center) and all the presenters.

The four scholars who presented were Dr. Tanguy Struye de Swielande from the Catholic University of Leuven, who spoke on "Middle Powers in the Asia-Pacific: Passive Bystanders or Active Stakeholders?"; Dr. Steven Kim from the DKI Asia-Pacific Center for Security in the US, who spoke on "China's Growing Dilemma in Resolving the Nuclear Conflict on the Korean Peninsula;" Dr. Jesus M. de Miguel from the University of Barcelona, who spoke on "Seven Challenges of Higher Education in Taiwan;" and Dr. Patrick Ziltener from the University of Zurich in Switzerland, who spoke on "How to Get into Free Trade Relations with Taiwan: Some Tentative Conclusions."

Approximately 130 guests were in attendance, including foreign scholars, ambassadors from representative countries, Taiwanese scholars of similar disciplines, officials from MOFA, representatives from private foundations, and members of the general



public. After the presentations, the session was opened up for questions. The discussion, as intense as it was, centered on international relations and Taiwan's policies. Many views were exchanged.



A group photo of presenters and participants.

■ CCS Research Grant Recipients Present Research Findings

The CCS held two lectures on Sep. 7 and invited two scholars receiving Research Grants for Foreign Scholars in Chinese Studies to share the results of their research. The first was Dr. Rafal Smoczynski, assistant professor at the Polish Academy of Sciences; the second was Dr. ArunKumar Yadav, assistant professor at Nalanda University in India.

Professor Smoczynski spoke on "Religion and Economy: Exploring the Role of Religious Convictions in Shaping Attitudes of Business People." According to data gathered from Poland and Taiwan, he believes that religious behavior can restrict speculation in economic activity. Furthermore, it can promote innovative reforms for middle and small business that are subject to challenges by corruption and underground economy.

Professor Yadav spoke on "A Comparison of China's Ullambana Festival and India's Pitru

Paksha, and Their Connection to Hinduism and Buddhism." He holds that in the transmission of Buddhism, sacrificial ceremonies from India were transplanted to other countries in different forms. He also compares and contrasts China's Ullambana Festival and India's Pitru Paksha based on ancient sutras, festival times and content, and religious value.

CCS News and Activities

■ 2016 MOFA Taiwan Fellowship Recipients Welcome Party

MOFA's Taiwan Fellowship, which is handled by NCL's Center for Chinese Studies, held a welcome party for this year's recipients on Jul. 26 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The party was hosted by Deputy Foreign Minister Javier Ching-shan Hou. Invited to attend were fellowship recipients and their families, representatives of the hosting institutions in Taiwan, ambassadors and representatives from related countries, scholars in Taiwan on U.S. Fulbright grants, NCL Director-General Tseng, and visiting scholars at the CCS.



A group photo of all the 2016 Taiwan Fellowship recipients.

Deputy Foreign Minister Hou's remarks