

On August 16, 2017 Prof. Priyadarsi Mukherji, Director of the Centre for Chinese and South-East Asian Studies of the Jawaharlal Nehru University, India, and his wife visited the NCL. They met with Director-General Tseng and discussed potential areas of collaboration, including exchanges in Chinese studies, visiting scholars, and publication exchanges. After the meeting, they toured the Rare Books Room and other library services and facilities.



*Prof. Priyadarsi Mukherji (center) presents Director-General Tseng with a souvenir.*

On September 26, 2017 Deputy Director-General Chen Jian (陳堅) from Capital Library in Beijing led a 14-member delegation to visit the NCL. Director-General Tseng personally welcomed



*Deputy Director-General Chen Jian (4th from left) and the delegation meet with Director-General Tseng (4th from right).*

them and shared with them current services and holdings. They also discussed NCL's experience in mentoring libraries throughout Taiwan. In addition to touring the reading rooms on each floor of the NCL, they also visited the exhibition on the Collected Works of Master Hsing Yun (星雲).

On September 29, 2017 Chu Shuqing (褚樹青), Director of the Hangzhou (杭州) Library, and three assistants visited the NCL. They toured the services and facilities on each floor, and since Director Chu is keenly interested in research on ancient books, they were also invited to visit the exhibition in the Rare Books Room.

## Chinese Studies Symposium

### ■ The CCS Holds a Colloquium for MOFA Taiwan Fellowship Scholars

On July 4, the second presentation of research undertaken by 2017 Taiwan Fellowship scholars was held at the National Central Library (NCL).

The first to present was Dr. Jonathan Sullivan, an associate professor at the University of Nottingham, the UK. In his presentation, entitled "How and Why Foreign Media Get Taiwan 'Wrong': What It Means and What Taiwan Can Do About It," Dr. Sullivan described how the Western media have constructed discourse on democratic Taiwan, and offered some suggestions as to how Taiwan should respond.

Next to present was Kristina Karvelyte, a Ph.D. candidate from the University of Leeds, the UK. Speaking on "The Meaning of the 'Cultural Turn' in Taipei," Ms. Karvelyte argued that besides being influenced by the market, domestic and foreign politics are also the reasons behind Taiwan's cultural policy change.



*Attendees fill up the presentation venue.*

The third presentation was delivered by Dr. Maria Indira Aryani, an assistant professor at Pembangunan National Veteran University, East Java, Indonesia. Dr. Aryani's presentation topic was "New Southbound Policy: Challenges and Opportunities for Indonesia." She explored the potential challenges and opportunities that the partnership between Taiwan and her home country will bring.

Dr. Barthélémy Courmont of the French Institute for International and Strategic Affairs was the last to present his research. In his presentation, entitled "France's Foreign Policy and Its Impact on Taiwan after Macron's Election," Dr. Courmont argued that although a concrete Asia policy has yet to take shape, it was inevitable that one will gradually do so.



*Left to Right: Dr. Jonathan Sullivan, Ms. Kristina Karvelyte, Kuo-ting Tan (譚國定, Deputy Director-General, MOFA Department of Policy Planning), Dr. Maria Indira Aryani, Dr. Barthélémy Courmont.*

## ■ The CCS Holds the Academic Seminars for CCS Scholars Worldwide

On July 27, the Center for Chinese Studies (CCS) hosted two Global Chinese Studies Lectures. Two scholars were invited to share the fruits of their research in Taiwan. Maggie Clinton, an associate professor of history at Middlebury College, the USA, was the recipient of a Research Grant for Foreign Scholars in Chinese Studies in 2014. Scott Relyea, an assistant professor of history at Appalachian State University, the USA, was supported by the research grant in 2017.

Professor Clinton's presentation was entitled, "The Politics of Images: Modernism and Right Wing KMT Periodicals during the Nanjing Decade." Prof. Clinton explored how the images published in right wing KMT periodicals circulating prior to 1937 disseminated their ideas. She showed how extremely modernist images with a mechanical, highly efficient style of design were used on the covers and in the content of various periodicals to help their ideas permeate into the everyday lives of readers.



*Prof. Maggie Clinton (left) with Prof. Chih-hung Lin (林志宏).*

Professor Relyea then gave his presentation, entitled "Lamas, Empresses, and Tea: Imperial Models and Sino-British Encounters in Early

Twentieth Century Tibet.” He discussed the interaction between British and Qing dynasty officials, merchants, and explorers in the Kham region of Tibet, and how this influenced Chinese government policy towards the region.



Prof. Scott Relyea (center) and Prof. Jui-te Chang (張瑞德).

On August 24, the CCS hosted a Global Chinese Studies Lecture. Prof. Marie Bizais-Lillig, an associate professor in Chinese Literature at the University of Strasbourg, the USA, was invited to present some of the research she had been engaged in during her time in Taiwan, where she had been financially supported by a 2017 MOFA Taiwan Fellowship. The lecture was moderated by Prof. Yu-yu Cheng (鄭毓瑜) of National Taiwan University's Department of Chinese Literature.

Prof. Bizais-Lillig had conducted considerable research in the field of ancient literature and literary criticism, including *Shijing* (詩經), poetics, and *Wenxin Diaolong* (文心雕龍). Her lecture centered on the Commentary on *Botanical and Zoological Terms in the Book of Songs* (毛詩草木鳥獸蟲魚疏), a work by the Three Kingdoms period scholar Lu Ji (陸璣), and a Ming dynasty enlarged edition of the same work by Mao Jin (毛晉).



Prof. Marie Bizais-Lillig (left) with Prof. Yu-yu Cheng.

These two important works that interpret *Shijing* describe the different kinds of plants and animals that appear in the poems. Citing sections of the books, Prof. Bizais-Lillig explained how these works of literary interpretation offer the reader abstract and non-abstract, cultural and non-cultural information. After this she went on to explore some of the basic problems commonly encountered when reading literary works from the point of view of literary criticism.

## CCS News and Activities

On September 25, the Center for Chinese Studies (CCS) held “A Dialogue between Tea and Music,” a Moon Festival tea party for visiting scholars, at the Nanhai Academy (南海學園). All scholars supported by a CCS Research Grant for Foreign Scholars in Chinese Studies or MOFA Taiwan Fellowship were invited to the event, which took place with the Moon Festival just around the corner. 47 scholars hailing from 20 countries attended the party, where they had the chance to experience a traditional Taiwanese festival celebration.