

## ■ Conference Held on “Manipulating the Media: News and ‘Fake News’ in China since Early Modern Times”

A conference on “Manipulating the Media: News and ‘Fake News’ in China since Early Modern Times” was jointly hosted by the Czech Academy of Sciences’ (CAS) Oriental Institute and the National Central Library (NCL). The conference took place from June 7-8, 2018, at the NCL’s International Conference Hall.

Many outstanding overseas scholars were invited to present papers at this conference, with the aim of encouraging academic dialogue and exchange between local Taiwanese and overseas scholars and experts in different fields, and inspiring new ways of thinking.



*The presenters at the opening ceremony.*

There were two keynote speeches held at this conference. Professor Wang Fan-sen from Academia Sinica was invited to give the first speech on "Public Opinion in Chinese Society from the Ming and Qing Dynasties down to Modern Times." The second speech "What is Fake News in the Digital Age?" was spoke by Professor Daniela Stockmann from Hertie School of Governance, Germany. In addition, the conference included 9 papers presented by scholars from different academic disciplines, and focused on different periods of history, observing and analyzing cases of media manipulation in China's past and present, and how this manipulation affected society.

## ■ The NCL Held Taiwan Lectures on Chinese Studies in Eastern Europe and East Asia

In conjunction with the establishment of new Taiwan Resource Centers for Chinese Studies (TRCCS), the National Central Library (NCL) regularly plans and hosts the Taiwan Lectures on Chinese Studies series. The purpose is to tap into the vibrant atmosphere surrounding Taiwan studies and Chinese studies to effectively promote domestic and international exchanges on research achievements in these areas. Doing so also deepens NCL’s relationship with the international Chinese studies community and with East Asian libraries. The NCL held a total of four lectures in May and June in Hungary, Slovenia, Japan, and Korea this year.

The first lecture of 2018 was held on May 8 at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. Professor Wu Jui-jen from Academia Sinica’s Institute of Taiwan History was invited to speak on “Caught between Empires: Democracy and Nation-state Formation in Taiwan.” Dr. István Monok, head librarian at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, was the host of the event, with NCL’s Director-General Tseng attending and giving remarks.



*Prof Wu Jui-jen (right) gives a lecture at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.*

On May 10, the second lecture was held at the University of Ljubljana (UL) in Slovenia.

Professor Lee Hsien-chung from National Taiwan University's Department of Philosophy spoke on "A Study on Pre-Qin Confucianism and Mohism from the Perspective of Thought Units." Dean Roman Kuharof from UL's Humanities College was the host of this lecture.



From left: Prof. Jana S. Rošker, Prof. Lee Hsien-chung, NCL Director-General Tseng, and Prof. Natasa Vampelj Suhadoinik.

The third was held on June 26 at Tokyo University. Professor Chu Ping-tzu from National Tsing hua University's Department of Chinese Literature spoke on "The Digital Humanities in Taiwan: Past, Present and Future." Professor Christian Wittern from Tokyo University was the host of the lecture. And then three days later he gave the fourth lecture on "Research and Education in the Digital Humanities of Taiwan: Current Developments and Predicaments" with the host, Professor Kim Hyun Cheol at Yonsei University in Korea.



Prof. Chu Ping-tzu gives a lively lecture at Yonsei University.

Each lecture attracted a large and engaging audience that interacted with the lecturers, demonstrating an increasing interest in Chinese studies abroad.

### ■ The NCL and Elling Eide Center Sign Collaborative Agreement on the Union Catalog of Rare Chinese Books

To augment the collection of Chinese books, collaboration on the Union Catalog of Rare Chinese Books, and Chinese studies, on behalf of President Harold G. Mitchell of the Elling Eide Center in the U.S., Ms. Ann Roddy came to visit Director-General Tseng on June 7, 2018. In addition to signing a collaborative agreement to participate in the Union Catalog of Rare Chinese Books and thus becoming NCL's 80th partner.

The Elling Eide Center was established by sinologist Elling O. Eide in 2016. It currently has more than 75,000 volumes in its collection, with over 60,000 Chinese books (including rare books, manuscripts, and works of art). As one of the largest private Chinese libraries in the world, its content spans the entire history of China.



Director-General Tseng and Ms. Ann Roddy (left) from the Elling Eide Center after signing the collaborative agreement.