

and Disadvantages of KMT's Overseas Community Affairs in the 1950s.” On the same day, Mr. Jun Matsuba, Ph.D Candidate of Graduate School of Social Sciences, Hitotsubashi University, Japan, gave the online lecture on “Railroad Finances Structure of the Government-General of Taiwan.”

CCS News and Activities

■ Taiwan Fellowship Scholars' Presentation on Their Research Outcomes

On May 5 2021, the National Central Library held the year's first Taiwan Fellowship Scholars' presentation, whose title was “Stability and Prosperity in the Indo-Pacific Region—Taiwan's Possible Role.” The event focused on two topics: Taiwan's roles under the influence of Taiwan- Japan relations and Sino-US relations. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Klement Gu, Director-General of the Department of Policy Planning, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Two fellowship winners were invited to share their perspectives on current international issues, and domestic scholars were invited as discussants.

The speaker presenting on Taiwan-Japan relations was Dr. Madoka Fukuda (professor at Hosei University, Japan). He discussed “Japan-Taiwan Relations in the Indo-Pacific Region.” Professor Fukuda argued that there had been changes in three aspects of Taiwan-Japan relations since 1990: 1. Interaction between Japan and China; 2. Economic and cultural exchanges with Taiwan; 3. Mainstream consciousness among various communities and Taiwan's performance on the international stage 2019 in the light of the coronavirus pandemic had brought phased changes to the relationship between Japan and Taiwan. In consideration of the role of Taiwan-Japan relations in the Indo-Pacific region, the two sides' governments had signed several substantive agreements with each other in the past ten years and taken cooperative measures in response to China's expanding weapons deployments. The discussant for this topic was Dr. Yujen Kuo, Director, Center for Japanese Studies, and Professor, Institute of China and Asia-Pacific Studies, National Sun Yat-sen University.

The speaker presenting on Sino-US relations was Mr. Wen-Ti Sung (Lecturer, The Australian National University), who spoke on the theme of "Taiwan's Search for a Grand Strategy after US-China Engagement." Mr. Sung argued that when Sino-US relations is in an "establishing diplomatic relations" mode Taiwan can achieve a certain degree of balance. Trump's "ambiguous" attitude towards China in 2016, however, had brought tension to Sino-US relations. This in turn tilted Taiwan's "balance." Taiwan therefore needed to consider a corresponding "strategy" in the context of "post-US-China engagement". The scholarly discussant on this topic was Dr. Kuan-Hsiung Wang, Professor, Graduate Institute of Political Science, Department of East Asian Studies, National Taiwan Normal University.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs Taiwan Fellowship has been in operation since 2010. To date it has been awarded to 1117 scholars from 83 countries, with the National Central Library's Center for Chinese Studies handling applications. Scholars from domestic academic institutions were invited, and more than 30 attendees participated actively. These research outcomes sharing presentations provided other visiting scholars and important Taiwan academic institutions opportunities to share their ideas and research findings.



Group photo taken before the event.

News from Taiwan Libraries

■ The First National Archives Started in Linkou, with Archives the Equivalent of 200 Taipei 101s

Archives, libraries, and museums are the three pillars of the knowledge system in mature developed

countries. The National Development Council announced on June 4th that construction of the first National Archives will begin construction. This building will provide an archival facility and an academic research environment. It will be located in the Linkou area of New Taipei City. Construction is scheduled to be completed in 2024, and operations will start from 2025. The archive will be able to house 100 km of material as estimated by shelves length, which is the about equivalent of 200 Taipei 101s.

This National Archives will be built on 2.6 hectares and will be constructed in a way that it blends with the ecosystem of the area. It will boast both green and smart features. Building volume and landscaping construction will be done with the quality and safety in mind. Special considerations will also be taken to preserve the landscape ecology, the natural views, and resource chains. It brings together administrative, archival, and multifaceted service functionalities. The creation of an energy-saving, safe, and smart management archival preservation facility, as well as a fully automated library, is planned. In the future, the library will provide a comfortable and convenient reading and listening environment, interactive learning areas, and open spaces. This facility will ensure that national intellectual assets are properly preserved and available for people to use.

■ **Pingtung County Library Promotes Online Reading: Reading while Resting at Home to Alleviate Mental Stress**

The public can enjoy reading at home during the pandemic times. Pingtung County Library collected an array of online reading and digital learning resources, named the reading service “E-book Repository for Parents and Children.” The resource includes e-books, e-journals, children’s audio books, illustrated books, and online movies, an audiovisual platform, and online exhibitions. Patrons just need to use their Pingtung County Library card to log in and access the resources. Reading during the pandemic times can help alleviate patrons’ mental stress.

As the pandemic persists, libraries and schools are temporarily closed. Children and students have to stay home and usually feel bored. Even parents are at their wits’ end. Pingtung County Library

assembled a digital resource service that brings together local and foreign e-books and constructed an audiovisual platform. This can be found under the section entitled “E-book Repository for Parents and Children.” County residents can utilize the resources in this platform to read and learn at home. It’s also a great way for parents and children to spend their time together at home.

The Pingtung County Cultural Affairs Bureau stated that Taiwan Cloud Library (TCL)@PingTung brings together the National Library of Public Information’s integrated Allpass platform that includes over 300,000 e-books and e-journals that can be borrowed without limits to time or location. Patrons do not need to place items on hold or wait for items to be available. In addition, National Central Library’s Regional Resource Center online movie theater has one hundred domestic and foreign films, documentaries, and animations that can be easily found and viewed. All of these great variety of e-books and online digital resources are free for the public.

■ **Taitung County Library Promotes Online Story Time and Urge People to Stay Home during Pandemic Alert**

Taitung County’s Cultural Affairs Bureau stated that the COVID -19 pandemic has caused Taiwan to be in a Level 3 alert for some time. As a way to encourage residents stay at home as possible, the Cultural Affairs Bureau is promoting “Reading Together at Home” online story telling time. It began on June 18 and is held every Friday night at 9 pm on the Taitung County Cultural Affairs Bureau’s Facebook page. The reading introduction was given by Deputy Lead of the Taitung Cultural Youth Observation Group Hsing-ping. Through her explanations about the book and her insights, viewers could follow along in the book as they listened.

The first book read was a new book *The Civility in Life that I Long to See* written by the Alliance Cultural Foundation (ACF) Director Chang-shou Yen. Taitung County Magistrate Ching-Lin Yao urged people to stay at home and let Hsingping take everyone on a book journey. Doing so will make everyone become a decisive power in defeating the pandemic.