

public library reader borrowing data was collected and organized for statistical analysis to facilitate an understanding of the annual reading habits and interests of the nation, and actively assist libraries and publishing houses across the country to grasp readers' reading needs.

Chinese Studies Symposium

■ **The Center for Chinese Studies Holds Academic Seminars for Global Chinese Studies Lectures**

The Center for Chinese Studies (CCS) promotes academic exchanges in order to increase interaction between the local and overseas Chinese Studies communities. To this end, the CCS established the Research Grant for Foreign Scholars in Chinese Studies, which every year assists 20 overseas scholars in coming to Taiwan to conduct research for periods of between 1 to 6 months. Besides hosting Academic Seminars for Global Chinese Studies from time to time at which these scholars can present the fruits of the research, the center also often invites renowned scholars from around the world to visit and deliver lectures. Between January and March, 2023, 4 scholars gave their presentations. Topics and speakers for each session are as follows:

On February 14th, 2023, Dr. Craig A. Smith, Senior Lecturer of Asia Institute, University of Melbourne, Australia, gave the lecture on “Chinese Asianism (1924-1937) before World War II and Japan’s Role within it.” At the same day, Kevin Kind, PhD candidate, Johns Hopkins University, USA, gave the lecture on “Protecting the Muslim Children: Smallpox Epidemics, Chinese Medicine, and Vaccination Colonialism in Late Qing Turpan, 1880-1911.”

On March 29th, 2023, Prof. Alan Baumler, Professor of History, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, USA, gave the lecture on “Aviation to Save the Nation: Importing Technology and Cultivating Talent in Republican China.” At the same day, Prof. An Chansoon, Associate Professor of Department of Chinese Language & Literature, Kyungpook National University, Korea, gave the lecture on “Korea Confucian Toegye Lee-Hwang’s

View on Literature: Mainly In Comparison with Zhu Xi.”

News from Taiwan Libraries

■ **Taipei Public Library “Exhibition of Results of Collecting Old Photos” Carves out Taipei’s Eras**

Throughout the more than one hundred years since Taipei was founded, it has weathered the Ch’ing Dynasty, the Japanese occupation period, and the Republic of China Period, adding the distinctive humanistic scenery and customs of various eras to Taipei City. Taipei Public Library selected 100 images and held the “Exhibition of Results of Collecting Old Photos” from February 9th to February 23rd, 2023, at the Taipei City Archives: Shuxin Hall. Most of the photos on display were of the daily life of Taipei citizens living in the city limits, and a small number of photos collected by foreign tourists visiting Taipei City for a short stay or sightseeing, truly presenting the human customs or natural landscape of Taipei at the time. The exhibits covered transportation infrastructure, such as various stations and railway streetscapes, so that the public could recall the pre-“undergrounding” evolution of Taiwan Railway stations and railway streetscapes, such as the interesting and appealing Shilin Railway Station and the Renaissance-style Taipei Main Station of yesteryear. Once the most prosperous goods distribution center in Taipei, Dadaocheng Dihua Street, and—before its demolition, Jiancheng Circle Night Market—famous for their endless streams of people and their snacks, as well as commemorative photos of the early exteriors of military dependents’ villages, landmark buildings, weddings and funerals, etc. , conveyed particularly effectively the vicissitudes of life in Taipei City.

The exhibition also provided books related to the development of Taipei City for the public to read on the spot. Their content included historical and cultural assets related to the past development of Taipei City. Old photos and images on books can be used to recall the traces of history engraved on Taipei City, enabling the recollection of the former Taipei City through each photo.