

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

The Center for Chinese Studies (CCS) promotes academic exchanges 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 July and September 2025, 7 scholars gave their presentations. Topics and speakers for each session are as follows:

On July 4th, 2025, Prof. Florian C. Reiter, Humboldt University, Germany, gave the lecture on “Taoist Priests (daoshi, fashi) and Spirit-Mediums (jitong, tongling) in canonical sources, and their conditions of collaboration.”

On July 10th, 2025, Ph.D. Lorenzo Andolfatto, senior researcher and translator currently based at Academia Sinica’s Institute of Modern History, Taiwan, gave the lecture on “Sources for the Study of Modern Astronomy in 19th-century China: An Overview.”

On July 11th, 2025, Prof. Jun Yong Hoon, The Academy of Korean Studies, Republic of Korea, gave the lecture on “The Introduction of Western Cosmology and the Invention of Earth's rotation in East Asia.”

On July 15th, 2025, Prof. Francis Allard, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, USA, gave the lecture on “Early Maritime Interaction in the South China Sea: A View from South China and Taiwan.”

On July 22nd, 2025, Prof. Park Minsu, Ewha Womans University, Republic of Korea, gave the lecture on “Crossing the Strait of Shifting Identities: Analyzing the Evolving Portrayals of the Zheng Regime in Taiwanese History Textbooks.” At the same day, Assoc. Prof. Tsuchiya Hiroshi, Nagoya University, Japan, gave the lecture on “History of “Historical Awareness”: Textbooks in Modern China and Japan.”

On September 23rd, 2025, Mr. Nga, Shi Yeu, Stockholm University, Sweden, gave the lecture on “Digital Gut-scape: Probio-politics of Care and Posthuman Fieldwork.”

## News from Taiwan Libraries

### ■ "Reading in Taichung" 2025 Taichung City Reading Start-up Event

The Taichung Municipal Library launched the "Reading in Taichung - Reading Starts Here" campaign in 2025, officially starting on July 3rd, to continue until December 31st. The event focuses on promoting reading for infants and toddlers aged 0 to 5. It is jointly organized by 46 libraries throughout the city and includes themed book exhibitions, storytelling, parent-child reading, parent growth lectures, and creative reading activities. More than 100 events are expected to be held, and 10,000 reading gift bags will be distributed to encourage parents and children to spend time reading together. Parents registered in Taichung who hold a children's library card can redeem a limited-edition reading gift bag by borrowing 10 books and participating in any activity or completing a learning worksheet. Taichung Public Library encourages new parents to cultivate their children's multi-sensory learning through "10 minutes of daily parent-child reading," encompassing auditory, tactile, and comprehension skills. Cultural Affairs Bureau Director Chia-chun Ch'en stated that the city government is integrating resources such as libraries, social housing, correctional institutions, and mobile library vehicles to create a borderless and friendly reading environment, making reading an important part of urban life.

### ■ National Chung Hsing University, together with 17 alumni and businesses, is helping students realize their dreams of reading

National Chung Hsing University held the "2025 Little Reading Explorers - Fun Adventure in the Book Jungle" charity event for students to explore the library at night from July 8th to 25th, 2025. This is the third year of the event. The event was hosted by the International College of Innovation and Industry Liaison at National Chung Hsing University, co-organized by the library and the Office of Academic Affairs, and supported by 17 enthusiastic alumni and businesses. The event was held in four sessions, to which about 40 students were invited from rural areas

in education-priority areas such as Da'an District and Dajia District in Taichung City, Yuanlin City in Changhua County, and Baozhong Township in Yunlin County, to participate in a two-day, one-night night-time reading adventure. The activities focus on fun-filled walking tours and experiential learning, allowing children to cultivate their reading interest and thirst for knowledge while exploring the library. The students are fascinated and excited to be able to explore the library freely at night, creating a lively and warm atmosphere. The school hopes that this activity will allow children in rural areas to experience the joy and inspiration of reading, and cultivate a passion for lifelong learning.

### ■ On the 100th anniversary of Chih-fan Chen's birth, National Cheng Kung University Library holds a "Thanking Heaven" exhibition of rare documents

To commemorate the centenary of the birth of Professor Chih-fan Chen, a literary figure renowned for his contributions to both science and the humanities, National Cheng Kung University Library held the "Thanking Heaven: Selected Works from the Library's Collection for the Centenary of Chih-fan Chen's Birth" exhibition from August 8th

to October 15th, 2025. The exhibition was held in the multi-functional reading area on the east side of the first floor of the library. Chih-fan Chen served as a visiting professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering at National Cheng Kung University from 1993 to 2002, and enjoyed a deep friendship with teachers and students. Since 2009, National Cheng Kung University has been promoting the "Project to Rescue Chih-fan Chen's Documents" to preserve his manuscripts, letters, and writings, among other valuable materials. The exhibition, themed "Looking Back on the Past, Cherishing the Present, and Looking Forward to the Future," showcases Professor Chen's collected works, manuscripts, photographs, and other treasures. It features themed exhibition areas such as "Important Chronology," "The Vision of China," "Chih-fan Chen in Science," and a "Different Impacts" gratitude wall. During the exhibition, the library also hosted a special lecture on September 18, with Professor Ming-Jer Tang and Professor Tung Yuan Fang, wife of Chen Zhifan, sharing their literary spirit and lifestyle. National Cheng Kung University hoped that, through the exhibition and lectures, the public would rediscover this writer who conveyed gratitude and humanistic care through the spirit of "Thanking Heaven".



## National Central Library Newsletter

Publisher: Han-Ching Wang  
National Central Library  
Taiwan (R.O.C.)

English Editors: Trever McKay, Joelle Chevrier, Mark Rawson

Editors: Wen-de Huang, Shiou-ian Hsu

First Issue: April 1969

### Important Notice

NCL Newsletter published quarterly is going paperless from 2026 onwards. Readers across the globe can access and download all newsletter content through our website as follows.

[https://enwww.ncl.edu.tw/periodicallist\\_14.html](https://enwww.ncl.edu.tw/periodicallist_14.html)



ISSN 0034-5016



GPN2005800011