

implications of city-to-city diplomacy.

The third session, chaired by Professor Jenn-Jaw Soong of National Cheng Kung University, focused on the theme of "New Southbound Policy, Mobility, and Digital Impact." Presenters included Professor Pooran Chandra Pandey of the University of Indonesia, who discussed the potential of Indian expatriates in regional cooperation, using the Taiwan-Indonesia Labor Mobility Agreement as an example; Professor Nguyen Thi Phi Nga of CMC University, Vietnam, who analyzed the impact of short videos on the consumption behavior of Taipei youth; and Associate Professor Pham Thu Huong of the Vietnam University of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, who studied the factors influencing Vietnamese students' decisions to stay and develop in Taiwan after graduation within the context of the New Southbound Policy.

The conference, which presented the results, was attended by more than 60 scholars and experts from various fields. The scholars' research topics spanned diplomacy, security, religion, urban governance, labor mobility, and digital culture, and the exchanges were lively. During lunchtime, a special "Taiwan Scholarship Fellowship Tea Party" was arranged, allowing participants, in addition to academic exchanges, to share their research experiences in Taiwan and build friendships in a warm atmosphere.



*2025 MOFA Taiwan Fellowship Presentation and Farewell Tea Party*

### ■ **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 October and December, 2025, 1 scholar gave his presentation. Topics and speakers for each session are as follows:

On November 25th, 2025, Prof. Park Young Hwan from the Dongguk University in South Korea, gave the lecture on "Hu Shih and Min Young-gyu's Romantic Fellowship and Several Points of Discussion—Centered on the Harvard-Yenching Academic Network and East Asian Knowledge Circulation."

## News from Taiwan Libraries

### ■ **Empowering Knowledge and Sustainability: The 2025 LAC Annual Conference**

In a landmark event for the library community, the Library Association of the Republic of China (LAC) convened its 59th General Assembly and the 5th Conference of LIS and Practices (CoLISP 2025) from November 21 to 22, 2025. This annual gathering served as a vital platform for scholarly exchange and signaled a collective strategic shift within Taiwan's libraries toward comprehensive digital transformation.

Aligned with the Library Week theme—"Libraries: The Power of Knowledge and Sustainability"—the conference focused on how reading connects the global community and facilitates the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Experts explored the practical integration of Artificial Intelligence in automated cataloging, intelligent circulation services, and digital preservation. A highlight of the ceremony was the presentation of the inaugural Library Service Contribution Award to Taoyuan Mayor Chang San-cheng, recognizing his exceptional commitment to local library infrastructure and symbolizing the successful synergy between municipal governance and literacy promotion.

The highly anticipated Poster Exhibition showcased remarkable creative and R&D energy.

Tamkang University's Chueh Sheng Memorial Library secured second place with its project, "AI Decoding Western Books," which utilizes AI to drastically improve cataloging efficiency. The National Library of Public Information followed in third place with "Knowledge Adventure: Gamified Reading," demonstrating the successful implementation of ludic elements in literacy. To foster international presence, the LAC announced that the top three winners selected for the 2026 IFLA World Library and Information Congress will receive subsidies for airfare and registration, aiming to showcase Taiwan's smart library achievements on the global stage.

### ■ **Grand Opening of Taichung Green Museumbrary: Taiwan's First Co-located Art and Library Landmark**

On December 13, 2025, the long-awaited Taichung Green Museumbrary officially opened its doors. Designed by Pritzker Prize laureates Kazuyo Sejima and Ryue Nishizawa, this architectural marvel stands as Taiwan's first cultural landmark to integrate a municipal central library and a fine arts museum within a single complex.

During its trial run from October to November, the Taichung Public Library launched the "Stocking the Main Library" initiative. Over 500 citizens participated in a "book relay" to move a million-volume collection into its new home, symbolizing the communal transmission of knowledge. Comprising eight distinct white buildings—four of which are dedicated to the library—the facility features age-specific reading zones, intelligent shelving, and AI-guided tours. The completion of the Green Museumbrary not only elevates Taichung's cultural stature but also flawlessly merges reading, art, and nature through its "Library in the Park" concept, establishing it as Taiwan's premier cultural destination at the close of 2025.



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