

Professor Michael Shiyung Liu Lectures on “Digital Resources and Taiwan Studies”

The first session of the Center for Chinese Studies' 2014 overseas Taiwan Lectures on Chinese Studies was co-hosted with the Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies. It was held on May 14th from 11:00-13:00 at the Russian Academy of Science's renowned Department of the Institute of Oriental Studies, with Professor Valentin Golovachev chairing the lecture. Yun-Bin Robin Lu, head of the economic section of the Taiwan Economic and Cultural Office in Russia, also came and spoke.

Professor Michael Shiyung Liu from Academia Sinica's Institute of Taiwan History was invited to give the main lecture, speaking on “Digital Resources and Taiwan Studies.” Professor Liu earned a doctorate in history at the University of Pittsburg and is an expert in the economic and medical history of post-war Taiwan. He is currently a researcher at the Institute of Taiwan History and its assistant dean.

Taiwan's multicultural and historical documents are an essential component to Taiwan studies. Professor Liu has played an active role in Academia Sinica's “Digital Resources,” giving particular attention to Taiwan's current situation and uniqueness in online resources for Chinese studies. His lecture began with an overview of the history of the “Taiwan e-Learning and Digital Archives,” including the primary participating institutions such as Academia Sinica, National Central Library, and Academia Historica. Next he spoke on the recently-established Academia Sinica Digital Center and its aim of bringing together the results of 15 years of digital archiving efforts. It is designed to support the single portal log on of the union catalog as a convenience for scholars both in Taiwan and abroad.

The second part of his lecture focused on Taiwan's history, citing example after example of three main types of records: personal records, family communications, and organizational documents. He tied these in to the content, importance, and potential use of Digital Archives. Personal records highlighted include Lin Xien-tong's diary, Yung Yun-ping's records, Chen Cheng-po's records and art works, etc; family communications include Pan family's documents of An-li, Zhang Jin-da kinship's communication, merchant Xu Zhi-hu family's correspondence in Lu-kang; and organizational archives include documents from the Monopoly Bureau of Taiwan Governor-General Government, the Forestry Bureau. It was hoped that scholars in attendance could better understand and make use of Taiwan's abundant and multifaceted online

resources.

After the lecture, Director of the Center for Chinese Studies Li-chun Keng played a short promotional video that was produced especially for overseas Taiwan Lectures on Chinese Studies. It introduced the Center for Chinese Studies and its Research Grant for Foreign Scholars in Chinese Studies, the Taiwan Fellowship, and e-resources in Chinese studies created by various organizations in Taiwan. The video was to encourage more outstanding foreign scholars to apply for research grants in Taiwan, and thus increase Taiwan's international academic energy.

Many renowned Russian sinologists came to attend the lecture, and Professor Liu's masterful presentation led to a wonderful discussion and many questions.



The first session of Taiwan Lectures on Chinese Studies in 2014 was held at Russian Academy of Science's Institute of Far Eastern Studies



Professor Michael Shiyung Liu from Academica Sinica's Institute of Taiwan History speaks on "Digital Resources and Taiwan Studies"



Head of the economic section of the Taiwan Economic and Cultural Office in Russia Yun-Bin Robin Lu (r) and lecture chair Professor Valentin Golovachev (l)



A group picture during a tour of the Institute of Far Eastern Studies after the lecture