

Celebrating Academic Exchange with Poland: Lecture on NCL's Efforts to Disseminate the Classics and Enhancement through Digital Content

As part of its remit to promote international academic exchange and draw attention to Taiwan's research, the National Central Library (NCL) partnered with Poland's Jagiellonian University to establish a Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies (TRCCS) at the university. To mark the first anniversary of its creation, on May 18-19, 2017, the two institutions, together with the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange (CCKF) held a conference entitled "Jagiellonian Window to China." On May 18, NCL Director-General Tseng Shu-hsien delivered the opening lecture, entitled "Digital Curation for Cultural and Intellectual Assets: Recent Efforts of the National Central Library." The NCL also organized a Taiwan Lecture on Chinese Studies, for which it invited Prof. Lawrence C. H. Yim to deliver a lecture on "Wu Weiye's (1609-1672) 'Song of the Lute': A Mourning Song for the Fallen Country."

Since 2012, the NCL have been establishing TRCCS overseas at selected universities and research institutions. The aim has been to strengthen cooperation with Chinese studies research institutions around the world, promote academic exchanges at home and overseas, disseminate Chinese studies research produced in Taiwan, and together create global Chinese studies research resources and information platforms. Jagiellonian University has always enjoyed a close working relationship with various fields of research in Taiwan, and is one of the overseas institutions with which the NCL has partnered to establish a TRCCS.

In their opening remarks, Prof. Elżbieta Górka, Dean of Jagiellonian University's Faculty of Philology, and Prof. Tomasz Majtczak, Deputy Head for Student Affairs at the Institute of Oriental Studies, both expressed their deep gratitude to the NCL for establishing a TRCCS at Jagiellonian University, which serves as a focal point for academic and cultural exchange. They also strongly affirmed how much staff and students are benefitting from the reproduction editions and high quality publications donated by the NCL in their studies and research.

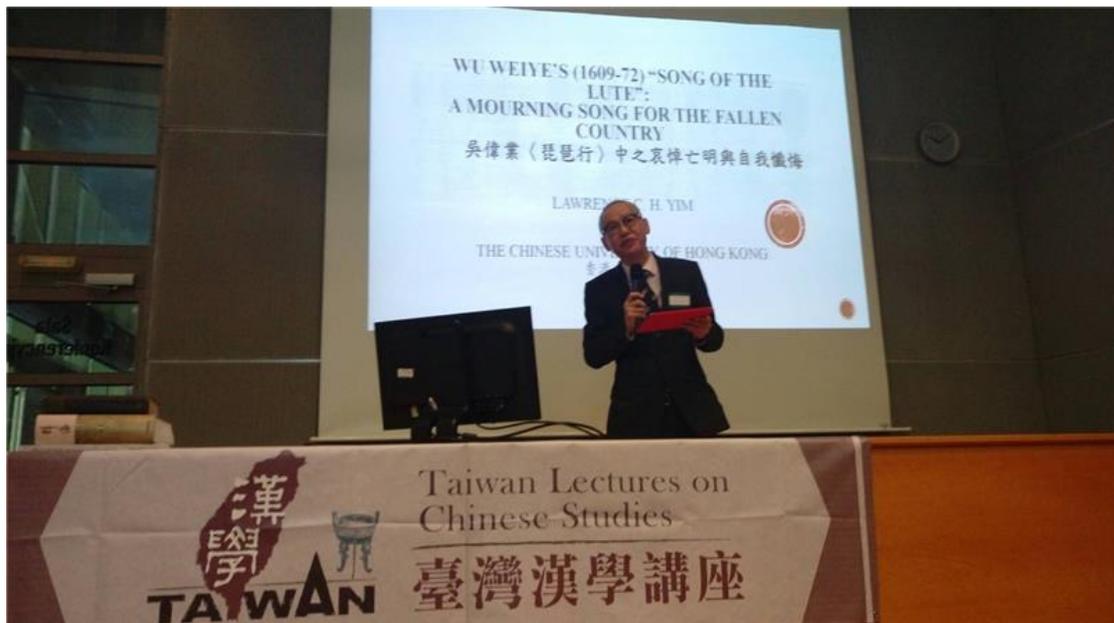
In her lecture, Director-General Tseng Shu-hsien introduced the special features

of the NCL's collection of ancient books and the digital services it provides, international collaboration in scanning ancient books, and the digital archives and bibliographic resources it shares. She also talked about the important digital collections that the NCL continues to advance, such as the Contemporary Celebrity Manuscripts system, and the products of virtual and physical interaction used in the creative industries and digital education. These show how libraries can utilize collection, openness, and digitalization to achieve high quality digital content to serve the needs of academic research and the general public. Besides these, Director-General Tseng shared plans to scan academic publications published in Chinese in Taiwan between 1911 and 1949, and the principles of a plan to create a Chinese e-book database.

The guest speaker for this Taiwan Lecture on Chinese Studies was Prof. Lawrence C. H. Yim. Prof. Yim obtained his Ph.D. from Yale University, and is now a professor in the Department of Chinese Language and Literature, and director of the Research Center for Classical Chinese Poetics at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Prof. Yim has a close relationship with Taiwan's research community. He was formerly a research fellow of the Institute of Chinese Literature and Philosophy at the Academia Sinica, and a professor in the Department of Chinese Literature at National Tsing Hua University. In 2014, he received the Academia Sinica's Scholarly Monograph Award in the Humanities and Social Sciences, and is a former recipient of the Ministry of Science and Technology's Outstanding Research Award. He has an excellent reputation in his field of research, Ming and Qing Literature. In this lecture, he used a work by the late Ming-early Qing poet Wu Weiye (1609-1672), entitled "Song of the Lute," to relate how those loyal to the Ming dynasty reflected upon the connections between late Ming scholars, society and culture, and the fallen dynasty through their literary works. Prof. Yim shared some wonderful images, recordings of *pipa* playing and singing performances from *The Peony Pavilion*, to enhance the audience's understanding of the theme of the lecture and appreciation of classical literature. The themes chosen by the professor for this lecture also echoed Poland's historical experience of war and suffering before World War Two, which resonated with the audience. Many of the attendees enthusiastically contributed to the post-lecture discussion and enjoyed exchanges with the professor.

This event marked the anniversary of the founding of the TRCCS at Jagiellonian

University. It not only demonstrated the achievements of the TRCCS program and collaborations with Chinese studies research institutes in Poland and around the world, successfully achieving the program's goals, but also strengthened and deepened those achievements.



Prof. Lawrence C. H. Yim delivers a Taiwan Lecture on Chinese Studies



NCL Director-General Tseng Shu-hsien delivers the opening lecture at the conference “Jagiellonian Window on China” at Jagiellonian University



Prof. Tomasz Majtczak, Deputy Head for Student Affairs at the Institute of Oriental Studies, Jagiellonian University



Prof. Elżbieta Górka, Dean of Jagiellonian University's Faculty of Philology



View of the audience



Prof. Olga Lomová of Charles University asks a question



Audience member asks a question



Honored guests at the “Jagiellonian Window to China” conference