

RESEARCH NOTE

## Organizations That Support Taiwan Studies: A Select Overview

DEBORAH BROWN

*Central to the growth of Taiwan Studies is the critical matter of access by scholars to grants and other resources that make Taiwan studies feasible. The following report gathers in one place a briefing on eight foundations and other organizations that assist North America- and Asia-based scholars in their efforts to delve into the domestic and international politics, economics, history, social structures, and other politics-related dimensions of Taiwan and its people. This essay also offers new information collected through interviews on current trends and interests in Taiwan studies as seen through the eyes of both executives of prominent funding organizations and other authorities in the Taiwan studies field.*

**KEYWORDS:** Taiwan studies; funding; foundations; grants; research logistics.

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briefing on eight foundations and other organizations that assist North America- and Asia-based scholars in their efforts to delve into the domestic and international politics, economics, history, social structures, and other politics-related dimensions of Taiwan and its people. These institutes include the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange; the Taiwan Studies Workshop, John K. Fairbank Center for East Asian Research, Harvard University; the Taiwan Foundation for Democracy; the Center for Chinese Studies; the Fulbright Program; the Asia Foundation; the Henry Luce Foundation; and the Freeman Foundation.<sup>1</sup> This summary is a helpful reference from which a search for funding and other support for Taiwan studies might begin. Much of the incorporated information and other data can be readily accessed through each institution's website.<sup>2</sup> However, this briefing also offers new information collected through interviews on current trends and interests in Taiwan studies as seen through the eyes of both executives of prominent funding organizations and other authorities in the Taiwan studies field. Further, the essay provides additional data that, as of this writing, do not appear on websites.

### **Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange (CCKF)**

#### *History*

Most scholars who are engaged in Taiwan studies are very familiar with the private, nonprofit Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International

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<sup>1</sup>The foundations and organizations that are included in this research note were selected after consultation with professionals associated with four foundations and organizations that are well-known for their support of Taiwan studies. Although other organizations may provide funds for Taiwan studies in the social sciences, it was commonly agreed that these eight are the most prominent and significant, or potentially consequential, in their ongoing efforts to support Taiwan studies, especially in the United States. In keeping with the theme of this special issue, however, this research note does not include well-known institutions, such as the Asian Cultural Council, which support Taiwan studies in arts, religion, culture, and other important fields of the humanities.

<sup>2</sup>Note that the websites were the sources for much of the historical background, mission, and grant information provided in this article. Scholars can also access these sites (listed in each

Scholarly Exchange (蔣經國國際學術交流基金會).<sup>3</sup> The foundation was established in 1989 as a living memorial to Chiang Ching-kuo (1910-1988), who was elected President of the Republic of China (ROC) in 1978. Under Chiang Ching-kuo's leadership, Taiwan began democratic practices, including the exchange of competing academic views. In this new political environment, Hsu Cho-yun (許倬雲) and Yu Ying-shih (余英時)—current members of the CCKF board of directors—became the chief architects of Taiwan's establishment of the foundation, which was patterned on the Fulbright Program in the United States.<sup>4</sup>

The foundation is governed by a board of prominent government officials, scholars, businesspersons, and other citizens, who work within a US\$3.4 million budget.<sup>5</sup> Half of the foundation's original endowment was provided by Taiwan's Ministry of Education; the ministry thus retains an important voice within the governing body. Operational funds are derived from interest generated from the endowment that was established by donations from both the public sector and private donors. From these funds, the CCKF makes grant awards for institutional enhancement, research, conferences, seminars, and publications, as well as to individual senior scholars. Since 1989, the foundation has provided fellowships to graduate students and post-doctoral researchers, and assistance to research institutes, university presses, national museums, and libraries, internationally. Professors from American universities form the foundation's North American Committee, which—like its European and Asian committee counterparts—meets annually to review applications for grants and to make its recom-

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section) for additional information, such as application requirements and further program highlights. The Freeman Foundation does not have a website.

<sup>3</sup>The Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange is headquartered at 13F, 65 Tun Hwa South Road, Section 2, Taipei, Taiwan 106; tel.: 886-2-2704-5333; fax: 886-2-2701-6762; e-mail: <cckf@ms1.hinet.net>; and website: [www.cckf.org](http://www.cckf.org). Its regional office in the United States is located at 8361 B Greensboro Drive, McLean, VA 22102; tel.: 703-903-7460; fax: 703-903-7462; and e-mail: <cckfnao@aol.com>.

<sup>4</sup>Unless otherwise noted, information is drawn either from author's October 28, 2004 telephone interview with David Dean, Adviser, Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation, McLean, Virginia, or the foundation's website.

<sup>5</sup>Current budget, 2004-2005.

mentations for CCKF awards. Over the past fifteen years, the CCKF has supported nearly 2,000 projects.<sup>6</sup>

Headquartered in Taipei, the foundation's principal satellite office is in McLean, Virginia. Additionally, there are two centers for Sinological research, the CCKF Center for Chinese Cultural and Institutional History at Columbia University in New York, and the CCK International Sinological Center at Charles University in Prague.

### *Mission and Services*

Broadly speaking, the CCKF pursues four goals: (1) encouragement of the study of Chinese culture and society, internationally; (2) support of international scholarly exchange through collaborative research, conferences, workshops, and publications; (3) advancement of widespread understanding of Taiwan; and (4) promotion of academic dialogue on matters facing contemporary global society.

More specifically, the foundation provides support to nine categories of scholars, institutions, and academic pursuit:

*Scholars and institutions* include: (1) foreign scholars in the fields of the humanities and social sciences for travel to Taiwan to conduct field research related to the ROC; (2) foreign doctoral candidates in dissertation work, and recent Ph.D.s in post-doctoral research; (3) graduate students from Taiwan for travel abroad to participate in international conferences; and (4) universities and academic organizations in the ROC to enable engagement in cooperative undertakings internationally.

*Academic pursuits* include: (1) the study of Chinese civilization in academic institutions in the ROC and abroad; (2) international academic conferences; (3) publication of scholarly books and periodicals; (4) development of connections and cooperation with important cultural and educational foundations internationally; and (5) other projects that ad-

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<sup>6</sup>Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation, *Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange, 2003-2004 Annual Report* (Taipei: Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation, September 2004), 2.

vance Sinological research.<sup>7</sup>

Of the nine categories, most grants are made for research. Often half of a professor's sabbatical stipend is derived from the CCKF.

### *Grants*

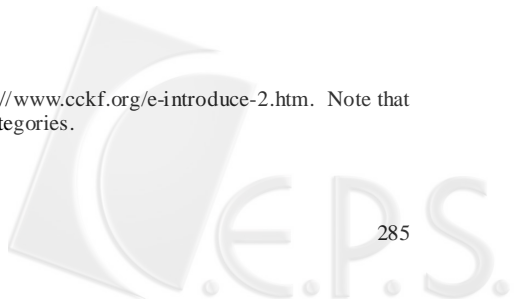
The foundation's principal focus is the awarding of grants to academic institutions and individual scholars, decisions which are made with the approval of its board of twenty-one directors. The focus of the grants program is Chinese studies in the social sciences and humanities that address traditional and contemporary subjects. Geographically, the program considers America (the United States, Canada, and Mexico), Europe, the Asia-Pacific region, and a domestic region comprised of Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Macao. Beginning in 1989, emphasis first was placed on the domestic and American regions, followed by Europe in 1990, and the Asia-Pacific region in 1991. Most grant applications quite expectedly are from the United States, a result of the comparatively larger number of tertiary institutions with a Chinese studies focus. Of the 196 grant applications in 2003-2004, 127 were from the American region, 30 from the Asia-Pacific region, 25 from Europe, and 14 from the domestic region. Seventy-nine applications were approved. The American region was awarded 46 grants, totaling US\$743,659; 18 grants totaling 469,149 Euros were awarded to the European region; and 10 grants of US\$419,000 were awarded to the Asia-Pacific region, with the domestic region receiving 5 awards, totaling US\$243,881 (see table 1).<sup>8</sup>

In 2003-2004, there also were 182 applications for dissertation and post-doctoral fellowships, of which the board of directors approved 65 from the American region, 23 from Europe, and 2 from the Asia-Pacific region. In the domestic region, US\$14,915 was allocated to graduate students to attend international conferences or to make short research trips

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<sup>7</sup>Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation, "Goals," <http://www.cckf.org/e-introduce-2.htm>. Note that the author restructured the goals into these categories.

<sup>8</sup>CCKF, *Annual Report*, 2003-2004, 8-9.



**Table 1**  
**2003-2004 Grant Allocations in the Four Regions (in US\$)**

Region	Grants	Fellowships	Total	%
North American Region	743,659	539,270	1,282,929	45
European Region	544,266	363,664	907,930	31
Domestic Region	243,881	14,925	258,806	9
Asia-Pacific Region	419,000	27,200	446,200	15
Subtotal	1,950,806	945,059	2,895,865	100
Special Projects			547,244	
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>3,443,109</b>	

Source: CCKF, *2003-2004 Annual Report*, 10.

abroad.<sup>9</sup> A small section of the foundation's awards, some 15 to 20 a year, are reserved for dissertation work by applicants holding ROC passports. If the merit of their applications is equal or superior to others, ROC passport holders are given preference for the US\$15,000 dissertation grants.

#### *Trends in Taiwanese Studies and Grant Awards*

In the past few years, among scholars applying for support from the 230 colleges and universities in the United States with Chinese specializations, a trend toward research in business-related studies—e.g., cross-Strait economic matters—has been identified by CCKF staff. This new orientation of interest is presumed to be tied to China's rise as an economic power internationally.<sup>10</sup> Meanwhile, it is important to note that, although the number of faculty positions associated with Chinese studies is increasing, the CCKF has ceased to provide three-year seed money to help establish tenure-track positions owing to the great cost burden of faculty lines.

<sup>9</sup>Ibid., 9. The amount, US\$14,915, is slightly different from the US\$14,925 figure in table 1. Both figures were given in the CCKF, *Annual Report, 2003-2004*.

<sup>10</sup>This increase in business research concerning the PRC has been accompanied by a growing interest in Chinese history and literature. One may assume that the pattern stems, at least in part, from a desire among some scholars to broaden their cultural understanding of China as the country gains influence in global economics and many other international spheres.

**Taiwan Studies Workshop,  
John K. Fairbank Center for East Asian Research,  
Harvard University**

*History*

The Taiwan Studies Workshop, begun in the early 1990s, provides a forum for scholars to deliberate about Taiwan's politics, economics, law, history, culture, and society.<sup>11</sup> The workshop, currently directed by Steven M. Goldstein, Sophia Smith Professor of Government at Smith College, witnessed a critical movement of Taiwan studies from the periphery of academic studies into the mainstream of Northeast Asian research in the 1990s.<sup>12</sup>

*Mission and Services*

Central to its mission of advancing Taiwan studies, the workshop holds periodic seminars, always open to the public, which enjoy large turnouts of students, faculty, and other interested participants, especially from Boston University, Boston College, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and the local community. Among individuals living in New England, both Taiwanese and Chinese from the region are active attendees. Some of the seminars are day-long programs which address a major event in Taiwan, such as the 2000 and 2004 presidential elections and developments in Taiwan's Legislative Yuan. Other seminars feature speakers who address topics stemming from their individual scholarly research. Still others have been host to non-academic guest speakers from Taiwan or the PRC. The Fairbank Center's budget incorporates resources that facilitate presentations two to three times per semester.<sup>13</sup> Through the years, the workshop has also received generous

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<sup>11</sup>The Taiwan Studies Workshop is located at Harvard University, 1737 Cambridge Street, Cambridge, MA 02138; tel.: 617-495-4046; fax: 617-495-9976; e-mail: <sgoldste@smith.edu>; and website: [www.fas.harvard.edu/~fairbank/tsw/tsw\\_about.htm](http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~fairbank/tsw/tsw_about.htm).

<sup>12</sup>Steven M. Goldstein, Director, Taiwan Studies Workshop, telephone interview by author, November 4, 2004.

<sup>13</sup>Ronald Suleski, Assistant Director, John K. Fairbank Center for East Asian Research, telephone interview by author, November 2, 2004.

funding from the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation. The scheduled workshops, seminars, and colloquiums not only deliver topical information, but also are aimed at facilitating discussions in many areas, some of which embrace impassioned, competing political views.

Formerly, the Fairbank Center published Taiwan Studies Working Papers and the Harvard Studies on Taiwan. These publications, which include some fourteen titles stemming from the Taiwan Studies Workshop, were published in three volumes, appearing in 1995, 1998, and 2000. However, in lieu of producing such publications on their own, the center and workshop now collaborate with the Asia program of the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard. For instance, scholars of the workshop and the school presently are completing a book of academic papers which analyzes the ramifications of the parallel memberships of both Taiwan and the PRC in the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the dynamics and developments of cross-Strait economic integration. A workshop conference in the spring of 2005, whose theme has not yet been confirmed publicly, will be the source of a future volume.<sup>14</sup>

Another contribution to broadening the understanding of Taiwan is found in the workshop's efforts to deepen cross-Strait understandings. For the past four years, a core group of workshop scholars has traveled both to Taiwan and to the PRC to engage in meetings in order to probe developments and problems and to reflect on possible steps toward the reduction of cross-Strait tensions.<sup>15</sup> These meetings bring together scholars from academia, think tanks, and government, whose deliberations contemplate the future in the light of current and prospective cross-Strait social, economic, and political realities. Since the inception of the group's working trips, the participating workshop members have delivered a verbal report every February at Harvard, which includes mention of any breaking developments which they deem to be important.

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<sup>14</sup>Goldstein interview.

<sup>15</sup>The participants in these trips have included Stephen Goldstein (Smith College), Alan Wachman (Tufts University), William Kirby (Harvard University), Joseph Fewsmith (Boston University), Thomas Christensen (MIT), Robert Ross (Boston College), Alan Romberg (Henry L Stimson Center), and Ian Johnson (Harvard University).



Also central to the mission of the workshop is the advancement of research among junior and senior scholars whose focus is Taiwan. The Fairbank Center sponsors post-doctoral fellowships and a second program for research by visiting fellows that provides support to such scholars.

### *Grants*

The Fairbank Center offers post-doctoral fellowships for candidates who previously have not received such fellowships, have not earned their doctoral degrees from Harvard University, and who wish to pursue research in a topic related to East Asia in any of a wide spectrum of disciplines. A stipend of \$35,000 is awarded for a one-year period. In the 2004-2005 academic year, there were eight awards. In 2005-2006, there will be seven. As of now, one of these grants is dedicated annually to Taiwan studies, with the support of the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation and the Fairbank Center.<sup>16</sup>

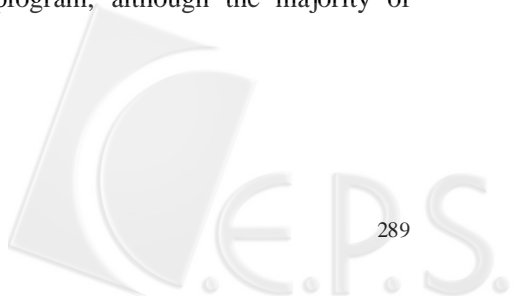
Post-doctoral awards are made on the basis of merit alone; the center emphasizes a search for young scholars with an excellent record, a good command of English, and an English-language manuscript under way that reviewers reasonably might expect to see published.<sup>17</sup> The right of first refusal is given to the Harvard Asia Center publications program. Areas of research by the post-doctoral scholars have covered a wide range, including colonial and post-colonial studies, cross-Strait concerns, and such contemporary domestic matters as current patterns in the rearing of children. Thus, the majority of grants and those invited to speak are not confined to a particular field of research. In keeping with the center and workshop's emphasis on public dialogue, each grantee has the opportunity to organize a weekend workshop on the research topic of his or her focus.

The Fairbank Center also offers a visiting scholar program. This allows appropriately credentialed scholars to reside at Harvard from three months to one year. Occasionally, a government official or a mid-career professional is admitted into the program, although the majority of

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<sup>16</sup>Suleski interview.

<sup>17</sup>Ibid.



awardees tend to be academics. Visiting scholars have access to research materials and scholars in Boston and the vicinity. These researchers, the majority of whom are Asian, arrive with their own funds. Many of these fellows go to Cambridge to study issues related to Taiwan; as many as half of the participants are from the PRC. Each visiting fellow has the opportunity to present his or her research in a talk at the center. Areas of research interest have leaned toward contemporary history and subjects, although in recent years pre-modern topics also have been well represented.

*Trends in Taiwan Studies and Grants*

Principals of the Fairbank Center and Taiwan Studies Workshop note that many post-doctoral grantees and visiting scholars pursue studies related to business, economics, trade, law, and especially cross-Strait relations. Interestingly, in the 2003-2004 grant cycle, the grantees' studies were in areas centered on present-day concerns. In contrast, in the 2004-2005 cycle, more post-doctoral fellows worked on pre-modern topics, although the majority addressed modern and contemporary issues.<sup>18</sup> This relative shift did not represent the preferences of the reviewers, but rather solely was a reflection of the interests of the year's pool of applicants.<sup>19</sup>

Absent hard data, it appears that cross-Strait economic activity and American policy regarding Taiwan are the subjects that receive greatest attention. In the field of Taiwan studies, however, there have been many projects centered on a wide swath of topics, ranging from investigations of popular religions in pre-Japanese occupation periods, to studies of contemporary popular mass culture, literature, and concerns of gender equality. Thus, spokespersons for the center and workshop maintain that broad interests in Taiwan studies continue to hold sway, and that no new major departure from previous awards in Taiwan studies and grants has occurred.<sup>20</sup>

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<sup>18</sup>Wilt L. Idema, Director, John K. Fairbank Center for East Asian Research, in e-mail to author from Steven Goldstein, Director, Taiwan Studies Workshop, November 22, 2004.

<sup>19</sup>Suleski interview.

<sup>20</sup>Suleski and Goldstein interviews.

## **Taiwan Foundation for Democracy**

### *History*

One of the world's newest democracies, Taiwan joined longer-established democratic societies in 2003 in efforts to foster democratic infrastructure throughout the world, including promoting greater freedoms in news media, labor movements, political arenas, and academic communities. Taiwan's democracy is particularly noteworthy owing to the island's rapid rise and ongoing steps in democratic consolidation, and the fact that Taiwan represents the first instance where democracy was established in a society whose members are predominantly of Chinese descent—all aspects which make Taiwan a potential model for the democratic transition of other countries in Asia and Latin America.

The Taiwan Foundation for Democracy (TFD, 台灣民主基金會) was launched by Chen Shui-bian's (陳水扁) new administration under the auspices of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on June 17, 2003, drawing attention as the first such foundation in Asia.<sup>21</sup> The aim of the foundation is to strengthen "democratic institutions and networks of democracy practitioners," internationally; indeed, the National Endowment for Democracy, founded in 1983, was a major inspiration for the Taiwan Foundation for Democracy.<sup>22</sup>

### *Mission and Services*

The Taiwan Foundation for Democracy is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that is governed by fifteen trustees who represent the four major

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<sup>21</sup>The Taiwan Foundation for Democracy is located at No. 4, Alley 17, Lane 147, Section 3, Sinyi Road, Taipei, Taiwan; tel.: 886-2-2708-0100; fax: 886-2-2708-1148; e-mail: <tfd@taiwandemocracy.org.tw>; and website: [www.tfd.org.tw](http://www.tfd.org.tw). Other democracy foundations that exist in North America and Europe include the National Endowment for Democracy in the United States, Germany's Stiftungen, and Britain's Westminster Foundation for Democracy.

<sup>22</sup>Carl Gershman, President, the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), remarks at the first anniversary commemoration of the Taiwan Foundation for Democracy, Taipei, Taiwan, June 14, 2004, <http://www.ned.org/about/carl/carl061404.html>. Gershman noted that the National Endowment for Democracy is rooted in President Ronald Reagan's Westminster address, in which he highlighted the crisis in totalitarianism and called for a "campaign for democracy."

political parties,<sup>23</sup> the government, academia, nongovernmental organizations, and the business sector. About half of the trustees are parliamentarians, and half are from nongovernmental organizations, academia, and other quarters of the private sector. Daily operations are overseen by five supervisors.<sup>24</sup>

The foundation seeks to share Taiwan's experiences in achieving democracy. It has undertaken the task of collecting and organizing information about Taiwan's democratization with dual purposes: to promote democratization internationally, and to assist in furthering the consolidation of democratic achievements in Taiwan.<sup>25</sup> In so doing, the foundation also aims to strengthen the role that Taiwan plays in the international community by demonstrating the island's commitment to democracy, human rights, and other universal values, thus raising Taiwan's international status by broadening recognition of the island's democratic progress and engagement. Among the foundation's expanding services are a training program for legislative assistance, research on referendum mechanisms, and collaboration with other democracy foundations. Additional work includes strengthening networks among NGOs, think tanks, and pro-democracy activists.<sup>26</sup>

### *Grants*

The foundation offers dissertation fellowships to Ph.D. candidates who have completed their course work. The purpose is to promote research in global democratic and human rights development in an effort to advance democracy-building theory and practice. Grantees travel to Taiwan for up to ten months for dissertation research in any discipline that is related to democratic and human rights development. These fields include the social

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<sup>23</sup>Namely, the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), the Kuomintang (KMT), the People First Party (PFP), and the Taiwan Solidarity Union (TSU).

<sup>24</sup>Anne Xiao, Research Fellow and Program Officer, Taiwan Foundation for Democracy, telephone interview by author, November 8, 2004.

<sup>25</sup>"Taiwan Foundation for Democracy," *Taiwan News*, January 11, 2002.

<sup>26</sup>This and the remainder of the discussion of the Taiwan Foundation for Democracy are mostly drawn from the Xiao interview and the foundation's website.

sciences, history, Asian studies, public policy, and other areas of scholarly focus. Because the TFD's in-house facilities are limited, most grantees also find affiliations with other organizations for their stay in Taiwan. Additionally, the foundation provides grants to NGOs, think tanks, and universities abroad to promote research and training also in the areas of democracy and human rights. In all cases, comparative research is encouraged. For example, support was given to the Political Science Association in the Philippines to investigate democratic development among nations of Southeast Asia.

Funding is provided on a case-by-case basis, and awards range from US\$6,000 to US\$30,000. Among international applicants, approximately 30 percent of the foundation's awards are made to applicants from North America. Projects will not likely be funded fully in the future; thus the foundation prefers that applicants have support from other sources. Staff expects that there will be more applicants in 2005-2006, but that the budget for funding will not be increased.

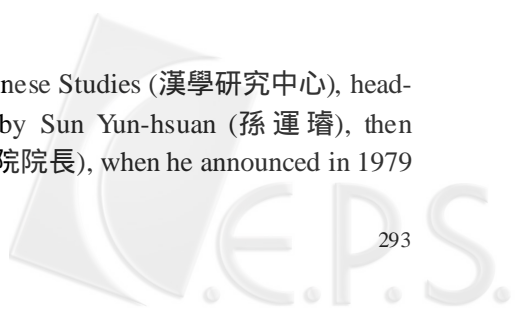
#### *Trends in Taiwan Studies and Grants*

A new organization, the Taiwan Foundation for Democracy is only in its second year of operation. Thus, the foundation has not identified specific trends in Taiwan studies or grant awards, nor does it have a specific program that is dedicated to the promotion of Taiwan studies in North America. Given the organization's developmental trajectory, one can expect the foundation to continue to promote research on democratic development and consolidation in Taiwan. In part, management envisions that future work will take the shape of a greater proactive role in the work of NGOs.

### **Center for Chinese Studies**

#### *History*

The concept of a Center for Chinese Studies (漢學研究中心), headquartered in Taipei, was presented by Sun Yun-hsuan (孫運璿), then Premier of the Executive Yuan (行政院院長), when he announced in 1979



that one of the emphases of his administration would be the promotion of Chinese studies and assistance to domestic and foreign Sinologists.<sup>27</sup> A proposal was presented at the National Construction Conference (國家建設會議) the same year for the establishment of the center, and the project was given by the Ministry of Education to the National Central Library (國家圖書館) for fulfillment. Initially called the Chinese Studies Information and Services Center (漢學研究資料及服務中心), the name was changed in 1987 to the Center for Chinese Studies in order to reflect the organization's enhanced research capabilities.<sup>28</sup> A steering committee of thirteen to seventeen scholars, selected by the head of the Ministry of Education, sets the center's policies and oversees its projects.

#### *Mission and Services*

The center's purpose is to promote Chinese studies and to foster cooperation and exchange among Sinologists in Taiwan and abroad. To assist scholars in their work, the organization provides two helpful publications: the quarterly *Newsletter for Research in Chinese Studies* (漢學研究通訊), and the semiannual journal, *Chinese Studies* (漢學研究). The annual *Selected Bibliography of Chinese Studies in Taiwan* (台灣地區漢學論著選目), and the quarterly, *Current Contents of Foreign Periodicals in Chinese Studies* (外文期刊漢學論評彙目), have been discontinued.<sup>29</sup> Additional services include international conferences and symposiums (most centered on Chinese history, literature, arts, and cultural social/dynamics), and a research grant program (established in 1989) for research exclusively in Taiwan. Scholars also can benefit from such reference and research resources as the center's focus on trends in Chinese studies, a compilation of information on Sinologists, and a collection of Chinese studies resources.

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<sup>27</sup>The Center for Chinese Studies is located at 20 Chungshan South Road, Taipei, Taiwan 10001, ROC; tel.: 866-2-2314-7321; fax: 866-2-2371-2126; e-mail: <ccsgrant@msg.ncl.edu.tw>; and website: www.ccs.ncl.edu.tw.

<sup>28</sup>Unless otherwise noted, information in this section is derived from the center's website: www.ccs.ncl.edu.tw.

<sup>29</sup>You-zhen Ma, Editor, Center for Chinese Studies, telephone interview by Melvin Chih-jen Lee, November 8, 2004.

### *Grants*

Foreign professors, researchers at academic institutions, and doctoral candidates who wish to pursue work in the field of Chinese studies in Taiwan are eligible to apply for a grant from the center. Research subsidies are provided according to academic achievement. A grant includes such benefits as subsidy for research expenses for three months to one year, a research materials service, liaison with universities and research institutes, and the use of the center's additional services.

The center provides about ten grants a year, amounting to approximately US\$60,000 (NT\$2 million). In 2003, the grantees came from Finland (1), Germany (2), Great Britain (1), Hungary (1), Israel (1), Japan (2), Latvia (1), Spain (1), and the United States (2). The average tenure of the twelve grants was 4.9 months. In 2004, grantees were distributed by country as follows: the Czech Republic (1), France (1), Germany (1), Hungary (1), Italy (1), Japan (2), Korea (1), the Netherlands (1), Poland (1), Slovenia (1), and the United States (4). The average tenure was 3.8 months.

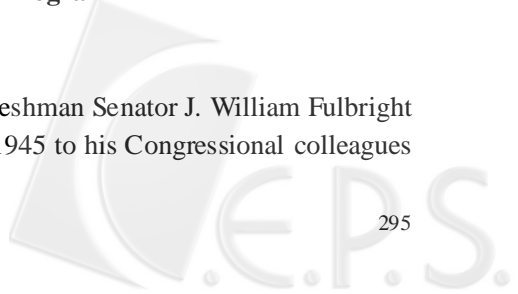
### *Trends in Chinese and Taiwan Studies and Grant Awards*

In recent years, most of the center's grants have been awarded to applicants from the United States, South Korea, and Japan for post-doctoral studies. Grants commonly support research in Chinese studies, philosophy, and ancient history, but also have been given to scholars who are studying such social science areas as politics; security, safety, and policing matters; and roles of women in society. Although the center has not directly funded Taiwan studies to date, its management anticipates that related projects will become more prevalent over time, resulting in applications for funding of research in this field.

## **Fulbright Program**

### *History*

In the wake of World War II, Freshman Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas proposed a program in 1945 to his Congressional colleagues



to foster international exchange that would build better understandings between the citizens of the United States and peoples of other countries. The result was the Fulbright Program, which is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State and administered under the auspices of the Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. A presidential-appointed twelve-member J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board (FSB) has statutory responsibility for the final selection of all grantees. The Institute of International Education (IIE), founded in 1919 with the support of the Carnegie Foundation, manages the Fulbright Student Program, established to assist persons who do not hold terminal degrees. The Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES), a Washington, D.C.-based division of the IIE, was established in 1947 as a private organization to assist in the administration of the Fulbright Scholar Program for senior academicians.<sup>30</sup>

Fulbright awards have been principally in four areas: (1) university lecturing, (2) advanced research, (3) graduate study, and (4) elementary- and secondary-level teaching. As of 2003, among the program's 250,000 participants, 40,100 grants had been made to faculty and professionals engaged in research and teaching in universities abroad, and 42,200 had been made to Fulbright Visiting Scholars from overseas who had pursued similar activities in the United States. Funded academic activities have embraced 140 countries in which the program operates, and have been in a very broad range of fields.<sup>31</sup>

Funding comes foremost from the U.S. Congress, which provides an annual appropriation to the Department of State for the program. In 2003, the appropriation was US\$122.9 million. This amount was supplemented by US\$28 million contributed by foreign governments.<sup>32</sup> Contributions

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<sup>30</sup>IIE is headquartered at 809 United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017-3580; tel: 212-883-8200; fax: 212-984-5452; and website: [www.iie.org](http://www.iie.org). CIES is located at 3007 Tilden Street, NW, Suite 5L, Washington, D.C. 20008-3009; tel.: 202-686-4000; fax: 202-362-3443; and website: [www.cies.org](http://www.cies.org).

<sup>31</sup>Unless otherwise noted, information is derived either from the Fulbright section of the CIES website: [http://www.cies.org/about\\_fulb.htm](http://www.cies.org/about_fulb.htm), or author's October 28, 2004 telephone interview with David B.J. Adams, Senior Program Officer, East Asia Region, CIES.

<sup>32</sup>Frances Marine, press release, "Board of Governors Member Steven Uhlfelder Elected Chair of J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board: Chair of Board of Governors Per-



from foreign governments and some private organizations are principally in the forms of cost-sharing and indirect support.

Activities abroad are developed and supervised by binational organizations in some fifty-one countries, while in an additional eighty-nine countries the program is administered by the Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy. In Taiwan, the program is managed by the Foundation for Scholarly Exchange.

### *Mission and Services*

Beyond its primary charge to improve understandings between the people of the United States and the peoples of other nations, the Fulbright Scholar Program seeks to provide an educational exchange experience to persons holding doctoral degrees or the equivalent. The experience is intended to benefit both the scholar and his or her home and host institutions, and to provide a means to establish professional contacts, inspire collaborative research, launch enduring friendships, and allow for uninterrupted scholarly work during the period of the research grant. The Fulbright Student Program assists students at the undergraduate and graduate levels to benefit from academic experiences abroad. American awardees customarily conduct research in a host country, while foreign students most frequently study at an American academic institution.

### *Grants*

The Fulbright Program incorporates a number of exchange programs for faculty and professionals. They include:

1. the U.S. Fulbright Scholar Program, which benefits some 800 scholars and professionals each year, who lecture or conduct research in over 140 countries;

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formance & Accountability Committee to Head Up International Educational Exchange Program," Florida Department of Education, December 11, 2003, [http://www.flboe.org/news/2003/2003\\_12\\_11-2.asp](http://www.flboe.org/news/2003/2003_12_11-2.asp).



2. the Visiting Fulbright Scholar Program, through which an additional 800 scholars and professionals arrive in the United States for the same purposes;
3. the Pre-doctoral Fellowships Program, which assists some 1,600 graduate students, approximately half from the United States and half from abroad, to study abroad or in the United States, respectively, with full or partial Fulbright support;
4. the Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program, which facilitates exchanges between American and foreign teachers in elementary, secondary, and post-secondary education;
5. the Hubert Humphrey Fellowship Program, initiated in 1979 to bring mid-career professionals from developing countries to the United States to advance their chosen careers of public administration, public policy analysis, public health, agricultural development and planning, or resource management for a year;
6. the College and University Affiliations Program, which since its inception in 1983, has helped over 350 institutions in the United States and abroad to establish a rapport through exchanges of faculty and staff in the fields of the social sciences, humanities, arts, and business administration; and
7. the Fulbright-Hays Foreign Area and Language Training Program, administered by the Office of International Education and Graduate Programs of the U.S. Department of Education, which provides assistance to individual Americans and to institutions in the United States to conduct research and gain training abroad in non-Western languages and world area studies. Grants customarily are for periods of three to twelve months.

In the last three years, three new programs have been launched: (1) the New Century Scholars Program, creating a forum for academics and professionals to address a theme of great international significance; (2) the Senior Specialists Program, providing grants for a two- to six-week period

to scholars and other experts so that they can collaborate with counterparts in other countries on curriculum and faculty development, deliver a series of lectures, or provide other expertise, depending on the host institution's interests and needs; and (3) the Alumni Initiatives Awards Program, supporting recent grantees engaging in projects that foster tighter relations and greater institutional effect between home and host institutions. None of these programs, however, is directed specifically toward Taiwan.

### *Taiwan Focus*

The Fulbright Scholar Program supports research on modern and pre-modern Chinese society, history, culture, and literature in Taiwan and China, including Hong Kong. In 2004-2005, there were eleven grants awarded to senior scholars, six of which were related to Taiwan studies. In 2005-2006, six research awards, nine lecturing awards, and up to six partial grants are being offered.

Grantees who go to Taiwan are permitted to spend a portion of their grant period in China; likewise, research grantees who conduct work in the mainland can spend a portion of their grant period in Taiwan or Hong Kong. Under the Taiwan Program, grant awards are made to American scholars wanting to lecture, study, or conduct research in Taiwan—and to scholars from Taiwan who wish to do the same in the United States.

Through the IIE, grants are available also to students. For the grant period 2005-2006, fifteen full grants are to be offered, although it is uncertain how many will be awarded. These student grants are for a minimum of six months and cannot exceed ten months; also, they are not renewable. Language requirements depend on the field of study, though there are no restrictions on the fields of study themselves. There is a special project called "Taiwan Studies," funded by Taiwan's National Science Council (國家科學委員會), which provides up to five grants annually for doctoral studies focused on Taiwan in any field. Two cost-sharing grants also are offered for the IMBA program at National Chengchi University (國立政治大學).<sup>33</sup>

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<sup>33</sup>IIE, U.S. Student Program, "Fulbright Grant Opportunities," Individual Country Sum-

Further, two student internships are available to travel to Taiwan for a six- to ten-month period for candidates with a master's degree or who are enrolled in a graduate program, and who (1) major in journalism and are interested in any aspect of the media, or who (2) wish to pursue international education, cross-cultural counseling, or teaching English as a second language (TESL). These grantees work twenty to thirty hours per week at a nonprofit or governmental organization and an additional ten to twenty hours per week at language study, independent study, or on a research project.<sup>34</sup>

Twelve Fulbright English Teaching Assistantships to Taiwan also are offered in the 2005-2006 grant cycle, and cover an eleven-month period which runs from August through June. This opportunity is extended to graduating seniors and graduate students who would like to teach English at the elementary or junior high school levels in Taiwan. Teaching experience is preferred, but not necessary. The English Teaching Assistants (ETAs) typically work in one or more elementary schools in Ilan County (宜蘭縣) in northern Taiwan, helping local English teachers thirty-five hours a week, twenty of which are spent in the classroom.<sup>35</sup>

Finally, the Fulbright Program offers two full scholarships to graduating seniors, preferably those with a knowledge of Chinese, who wish to undertake projects especially in the social sciences, public policy, journalism, law, international relations, the creative and performing arts, and the humanities (but not the sciences). Each grantee must establish an affiliation with an academic or other appropriate institution in Taiwan.<sup>36</sup>

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maries, Taiwan, [http://www.ije.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Fulbright\\_Demo\\_Site/U\\_S\\_Student\\_Program/Fulbright\\_Grant\\_Opportunities/Taiwan.htm#teach](http://www.ije.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Fulbright_Demo_Site/U_S_Student_Program/Fulbright_Grant_Opportunities/Taiwan.htm#teach).

<sup>34</sup>Ibid.

<sup>35</sup>Ibid. More can be obtained on the Fulbright English Teaching Assistantships in English at <http://www.fulbright.org.tw>, or in Chinese at <http://www.saec.edu.tw>.

<sup>36</sup>IEE, "Fulbright Grant Opportunities," Taiwan. It should be noted that Fulbright awards to Americans are made only to citizens of the United States. They are not made to holders of greencards.

*Trends in Taiwan Studies and Grant Awards*

CIES does not discern a particular pattern in Taiwan studies or associated grant awards, owing to the entwinement of Taiwan studies with the broader fields of Chinese and Asian studies. Although in the past years there have been a few applications and awards made for work centered specifically on Taiwan studies, most applications and awards are for research and study in the larger area of Chinese studies.

**The Asia Foundation**

*History*

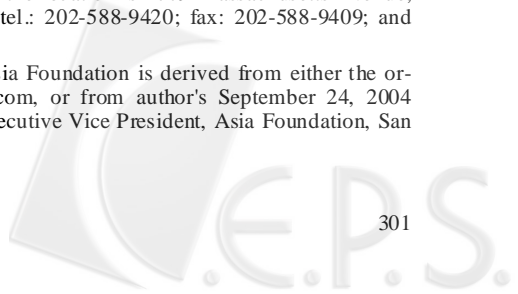
Founded in 1954 and headquartered in San Francisco, the nonprofit, nongovernmental Asia Foundation has worked for the past fifty years with hundreds of governmental and nongovernmental entities throughout Asia.<sup>37</sup> The foundation's explicit aim has been to promote greater peace, prosperity, and openness in the Asia-Pacific region.<sup>38</sup> Staffed by approximately 350 employees in the United States and Asia, the foundation operates in seventeen offices in Asia, including one in Taiwan, in addition to its facilities in Washington, D.C., and San Francisco.

The foundation's budget is based on contributions by private corporations, individuals, and foundations; funding awarded by governmental and multinational development agencies; and an annual appropriation from the U.S. Congress (in 2004, this appropriation was US\$10,376,000). Between 1989 and 2003, the foundation supported more than one thousand nongovernmental organizations in Asia. In 2004, the foundation is provid-

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<sup>37</sup>The Asia Foundation is headquartered in the United States at 465 California Street, 9th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94104; tel.: 415-982-4640; fax: 415-392-8862; and e-mail: <info@asiafound.org>. On the East Coast, the location is 1779 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 815, Washington, D.C. 20036; tel.: 202-588-9420; fax: 202-588-9409; and e-mail: <info@asiafound-dc.org>.

<sup>38</sup>Much of the general information on the Asia Foundation is derived from either the organization's website: [www.asiafoundation.com](http://www.asiafoundation.com), or from author's September 24, 2004 telephone interview with Barnett Baron, Executive Vice President, Asia Foundation, San Francisco.



ing US\$75 million in grants, materials, and other resources in twenty-two countries and territories in the Asia-Pacific region. Of the US\$75 million, US\$85,000 was provided to the Asia Foundation in Taiwan, an independent entity that licenses its name from the Asia Foundation in the United States (see below).

### *Mission and Services*

In general, the Asia Foundation's work centers on assisting organizations and programs in Asia that seek to (1) improve governance, law, and civil society; (2) promote women's participation; (3) pursue economic reform and development; and (4) advance international relations. Under these four broad categories, the foundation also supports work in such areas as elections, human rights, women's programs, environmental concerns, and information and communications technology. In its collaboration with private and public partners, the foundation assists leadership and institutional development, provides technical assistance, organizes exchanges, conducts policy research, and develops educational materials.

### *Taiwan Focus*

The Asia Foundation in the United States has supported Taiwan studies for more than forty years. Today, the foundation's one focus dedicated to Taiwan is its cooperative relationship with the Asia Foundation in Taiwan (AFIT), a locally incorporated nongovernmental, nonprofit organization that is supervised by Taiwan's Ministry of Education.<sup>39</sup> This program, viewed as a promising model for other American-Asian partnerships, was founded in September 1996 in response to Taiwan's rapid economic and political development, and has a dual purpose: (1) to improve the environment for the growth of nonprofit organizations and entrepreneurship in Taiwan, and (2) to provide examples of successes in Taiwan's development in order to guide growth in other Asian nations. Although the

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<sup>39</sup>The Asia Foundation in Taiwan is located at no. 17 Chu Lun Street, Taipei 104, Taiwan; tel.: 886-2-2506-1174; fax: 886-2-2509-3240; and e-mail: <afit03@afit.org.tw>.

AFIT program has been in existence for less than a decade, its establishment was the direct result of the Asia Foundation's four decades of work in Taiwan that was centered on progress in areas critical to Taiwan's democratic and economic development—including human rights protection, advancement of women's status, election and legislative reform, economic planning, and university development. In 2004, the AFIT, with a staff of five full-time professionals, is supported by an endowment of NT\$10 million, all of which comes from donations.<sup>40</sup>

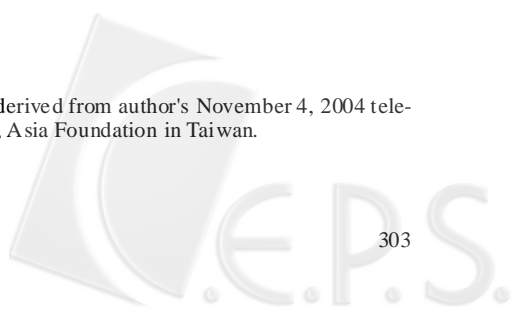
The relationship that the Asia Foundation shares with the AFIT is unlike its standard relations with other organizations in Asia. In the early 1990s, the Asia Foundation felt that Taiwan no longer required the same level of financial support given the island's rapid economic development. Yet, Taiwan was an emerging democracy, soon to witness the onset of democratic consolidation, and might serve as an inspiration for Chinese and other Asian societies. Consequently, although the Asia Foundation previously had closed offices in other areas of Asia as the need for the foundation's support had diminished, the foundation deemed it appropriate to maintain a direct tie to Taiwan in recognition of the foundation's many alumni on the island and in acknowledgment of Taiwan's importance as a standard bearer of democracy in the Asia-Pacific region.<sup>41</sup>

The annual support that the Asia Foundation provides to the AFIT contributes to meeting the organization's operating expenses. Although the Asia Foundation has no direct responsibility for the AFIT, its annual support helps to foster important work. A chief focus of the AFIT is strengthening the management and activities of Taiwan's nonprofit organizations (NPOs) in order to serve constituents more effectively; the view is that NPOs, although lacking resources comparable to those of corporations and government, nevertheless are essential to the preservation of a stable, prosperous, civil society. Related work includes cultivating legal and policy en-

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<sup>40</sup>Much of the information related to AFIT is derived from author's November 4, 2004 telephone interview with Taymin Liu, President, Asia Foundation in Taiwan.

<sup>41</sup>Baron interview.



vironments that facilitate the development of nonprofit organizations,<sup>42</sup> fostering research about the island's NPOs, and supporting their development. Also among the AFIT's programs are management training, technological development, and the interface of Taiwan's NGOs with the international philanthropic community.

Regarding business, the AFIT is particularly interested in the development of an environment that is friendly to small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in terms of laws and regulations. The organization's efforts in this regard focus in part on the advancement of sound financial practices in the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) member economies and the promotion of regional prosperity. In recognition of the critical importance of women in business, the AFIT works in concert with Taiwan's Ministry of the Interior to promote women's participation in both APEC and economic activities throughout the region.<sup>43</sup> Taiwan's Intellectual Property Office works with the AFIT on a wide range of intellectual property rights (IPR) issues, including antitrust, marketing, and legal matters in high-tech industries.

Business and trade issues are directly tied, of course, to cross-Taiwan Strait and regional relations, another central focus of the AFIT. Special attention is given to efforts to reduce tensions of various sorts not only across the Taiwan Strait but also in the Asia-Pacific region. Included in the AFIT's undertakings are the promotion of mutually beneficial and cooperative activities related especially to the development of nonprofit organizations, agro-economic activity, and governance and law.

Based on the work conducted in Taiwan on economic and NPO development and governance, the Southeast Asian Leader's Exchange Network was initiated in 2003 as a vehicle by means of which Taiwan's experiences in these areas could be shared with Southeast Asian societies. This is one of a series of efforts that are designed to foster Taiwan's integration

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<sup>42</sup>For example, the AFIT drafted one version of a Foundation Law that still is under consideration by the Legislative Yuan.

<sup>43</sup>Asia Foundation, "Overview," Asia Foundation in Taiwan, [http://www.asiafoundation.org/Locations/taiwan\\_projects.html](http://www.asiafoundation.org/Locations/taiwan_projects.html).



into the international arena. Related programs include seminars that highlight Taiwan's SME development, corporate governance, and relations among emerging enterprises in the Asia-Pacific region.

To advance democratic, social, and economic progress, the AFIT offers a broad range of forums in which scholars and representatives of various sectors of civil society routinely participate. These participants come from societies beyond Taiwan (many are from Southeast Asia), and the AFIT funds their costs of participation. These forums include conferences on such issues as international relations; judicial reform and other aspects of democratic development in Taiwan; development of NPO techniques to mobilize resources, management, fundraising, and social capital development; and consumer health-care and patient-health-care professional relationships. Further, the AFIT offers a wide range of programs concerning economic reform and development. Altogether, the AFIT offers some twenty activities a year.

### *Grants*

Neither the Asia Foundation in the United States nor the AFIT offers grants for scholarly work in Taiwan studies. However, the AFIT provides fellowships to individual post-graduate young scholars who are citizens of Taiwan in order to encourage their interest and work in Asian studies. Grant recipients spend one to three months, depending upon the study plan, in a foreign country. In acknowledgment that there are many organizations that fund research focused on Northeast Asia, the AFIT gives preference to applications for studies of Southeast Asia. The intent of the grants is to provide funding for Taiwan's students who are writing a master's thesis or Ph.D. dissertation so that they can gain first-hand experience of their target country and have the opportunity to conduct face-to-face interviews. The average grant is US\$2,000; no more than five grants are awarded annually.<sup>44</sup>

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<sup>44</sup>At present, there are no grants for senior scholars, yet the possibility exists for such grants in the future. If established, these grants will only be available to applicants from Taiwan.



*Trends in Grant Studies and Awards*

The AFIT's grant program has been in existence for only two years; thus, it is too early to identify trends in preferred studies among applicants or in grant awards. To date, subjects have included the politics, economies, human rights, technologies, Chinese communities, democratic developments, and cultures of primarily Southeast Asian countries. One pattern that has been identified is that most applications to the AFIT come from northern Taiwan's greater Taipei region.

**Henry Luce Foundation**

*History*

The Henry Luce Foundation was established in 1936 by Henry R. Luce, the co-founder and editor-in-chief of Time, Inc. The organization's current assets of some US\$700 million stem mostly from stock that was left to the foundation upon Luce's death in 1967. The work of the foundation centers chiefly on developments in higher education, the study of religion and theology, scholarship in American art, opportunities for women in science and engineering, environmental and public policy programs, and—most pertinent to the topic of this volume—improved understanding between Asia and the United States.<sup>45</sup>

The organization's focus on Asia, theology, and education stems from the Luce family history. Henry Winters Luce and Elizabeth Root Luce arrived in China in 1897 as educational missionaries. Their son, Henry R. Luce, his sister, Elisabeth Luce Moore (an original foundation board member), and two other siblings all were born in China. Henry Luce III, son of Henry R. Luce, served as foundation chairman and CEO from 1958 to 2002, and was succeeded following his retirement by the current board chair, Margaret Boles Fitzgerald.

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<sup>45</sup>Henry Luce Foundation, "More about the Foundation," [www.hluce.org](http://www.hluce.org). In addition to this website, other sources of information were derived from either the author's November 22, 2004 e-mail exchange or October 29, 2004 telephone interview with Helena Kolenda, Program Officer for Asia, the Henry Luce Foundation, New York. The foundation is located at 111 West 50th Street, New York, NY 10020; tel.: 212-489-7700; and fax: 212-581-9541.

*Mission and Services of the Asia Program*

The foundation's Asia Program has two interrelated objectives: to promote intellectual exchange between countries of the Asia-Pacific region and the United States, and to strengthen American capacity to understand and interact with Asia through development of scholarly and public resources. The Luce Scholars Program provides professional internships in Asia for young American college graduates. The Asia Project Grants Program responds to the needs of the Asian studies field and is limited to endeavors involving Northeast and Southeast Asia. Periodically, the foundation funds special competitive initiatives regarding Asia. For example, the Luce Fund for Asian Studies, which concluded in 2002, was a four-year program that supported the creation of new junior faculty positions in Asian studies at selective liberal arts colleges.

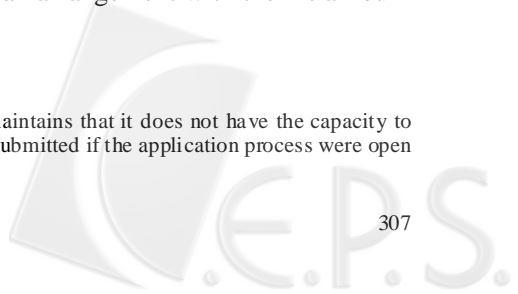
Although occasionally given to Asian institutions, most grants are awarded to institutions in the United States. Not having offices in Asia, the foundation typically restricts its grant-making to American institutions.

*Grants*

Each year, young Americans benefit from the Luce Scholars Program's internships, which provide experiential (rather than academic) opportunities for grantees to live and work in Asia for a year. Begun in 1974, the program is intended to stimulate awareness of Asia among potential future leaders of the United States. Candidates must be U.S. citizens, hold a bachelor's degree, be under thirty years of age, have defined career objectives, and have little or no experience in Asia or Asian studies. Thus, the foundation makes a concerted effort to increase the number of persons in the United States who have had first-hand experience in Asia and thus an understanding of the region's cultures. Fifteen scholars are selected annually from candidates who are nominated by a group of sixty-five invited colleges and universities.<sup>46</sup> Through an arrangement with the Asia Foun-

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<sup>46</sup>Given the size of its staff, the foundation maintains that it does not have the capacity to handle all of the applications that would be submitted if the application process were open



**Table 2**  
**Country Placement of Luce Scholars, 2001-2004**

Country	No. of awards 2001-2002	No. of awards 2002-2003	No. of awards 2003-2004	Three-year Total	% of 3 year Total
Cambodia	–	3	1	4	8%
China	3	4	6	13	26%
Hong Kong	1	–	1	2	4%
Indonesia	2	–	–	2	4%
Japan	2	4	1	7	14%
Mongolia	1	1	–	2	4%
Philippines	1	–	–	1	2%
South Korea	1	1	3	5	10%
Taiwan	1	1	1	3	6%
Thailand	4	2	2	8	16%
Vietnam	1	2	–	3	6%
<b>TOTAL</b>	17	18	15	50	

**Source:** Compiled by author from data available from "2001-2002 Luce Scholars," "2002-2003 Luce Scholars," and "2003-2004 Luce Scholars," posted on the Henry Luce Foundation website, [www.hluce.org](http://www.hluce.org), spring 2004.

dition, they are placed with Asian institutions on the basis of the individual scholar's and host institution's goals. The Asia Foundation also provides support services and program coordination in the host country.

Additionally, the foundation supports a broad range of activities under its Asia Project Grants Program, whose primary goal is to strengthen Asian studies teaching and research in the United States at the higher education level. Awards are typically for multi-year programs or projects, and support advanced scholarship, the creation of new resources, and the promotion of information exchange between Americans and Asians. Asia Project Grants respond to critical needs in the field of Asian studies. Grants assist in opening new fields of inquiry, such as a program in modern Tibet-

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to all tertiary institutions. The list of sixty-five institutions invited to make nominations is reviewed and revised periodically.

an studies at Columbia University and a program in Korean Christianity at the University of California, Los Angeles. Funding also supports development of library collections and policy studies. This program has no funding for individual projects or for conferences.

In addition to the Luce Fund for Asian Studies mentioned above, another example of a special competitive initiative was the United States-China Cooperative Research Program, which ran from 1988 to 1998. Through this program, the foundation supported forty-nine projects in the social sciences and humanities that entailed collaboration between scholars in the United States and China. Although the majority of the projects focused on the PRC, some involved scholars from and scholarship on Taiwan.

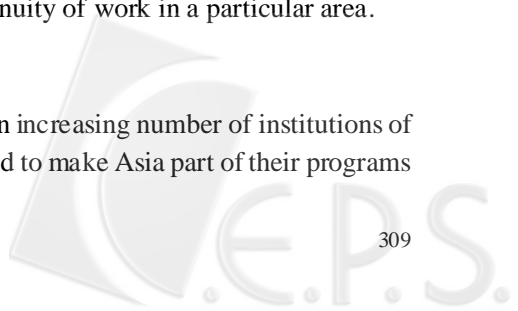
### *Taiwan Studies*

Taiwan is not singled out as a specific focus at the foundation, but is included within the general Asia Program. For instance, placement in Taiwan as part of the foundation's internship program noted above is a possibility every year, although table 2 shows that only 6 percent of the grantees have been placed in Taiwan over the last three grant cycles.

Another case of a grant involving Taiwan is the Elizabeth Luce Moore Leadership Program for Chinese Women. For eight years, this program enabled women leaders from nongovernmental organizations from Taiwan, Hong Kong, and the PRC to travel to the United States for one month, of which two weeks were devoted to working with counterpart American NGOs in the areas of social services, economic empowerment, environmental protection, and arts education. Although that program has ended, the foundation now sponsors a follow-up project, which includes annual conferences attended by program alumnae and other women in the NGO sector. Thus, the foundation views at least some projects as stepping stones to others, thereby establishing a continuity of work in a particular area.

### *Trends in Asian Studies*

Foundation staff maintain that an increasing number of institutions of higher learning want to "globalize" and to make Asia part of their programs



of study. This growing emphasis on Asia is also evident at the K-12 levels.

## Freeman Foundation

### *History*

The Freeman Foundation was begun in 1993 by the family of Mansfield Freeman, co-founder of the American International Group, Inc. (AIG), in his memory following his death in 1992.<sup>47</sup> The foundation is a family-run private organization based in Stowe, Vermont, with offices in New York City and Honolulu. Mansfield Freeman, a scholar of Chinese philosophy, left the United States in 1919 to teach at Tsinghua University in Beijing. After four years, he helped to found the company that later would be known as AIG. He and his wife remained in China until the outbreak of World War II in the Pacific in 1941, when they returned to the United States, bringing with them a concern that Americans and Asians lacked mutual appreciation for each other's histories, cultures, values, and aspirations.<sup>48</sup>

### *Mission and Services*

The foundation provides some 160 grants annually, totaling over US\$50 million, and has made generous awards to such causes as projects to clear mines in central Vietnam, the establishment of programs for elementary school children to travel to Asia, and the augmentation of tertiary Asian studies curricula. So far, some eighty-four American undergraduate institutions and many post-graduate specialized programs have been grant

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<sup>47</sup>The Freeman Foundation is based in Stowe, Vermont; tel.: 802-253-2853; and fax: 802-253-2855. The foundation has no website (and there is no standard application). The foundation also has offices in New York City, c/o J.P. Morgan & Co., Inc., 345 Park Avenue, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10154. Unless otherwise noted, the information in this section is derived from *Freeman Foundation, 2003 Annual Report* (n.p.: Freeman Foundation, 2003) or author's November 2, 2004 telephone interview with Graeme Freeman, Principal, Freeman Foundation.

<sup>48</sup>Traced to his childhood summers in Vermont, Freeman's love of the state led him to move there in retirement. Thus, another focus of the foundation is to preserve and protect "Vermont's forests, farmlands, waterways, and natural resources."

recipients.

While the Freeman Foundation supports a wide range of projects, its chief means of building bridges between the United States and East Asia is to fund educational programs at all levels of instruction. For example, the organization's Undergraduate Asian Studies Funding Initiative provides grants to American colleges and universities in order to strengthen and broaden their programs in Asian studies.<sup>49</sup> With such support, institutions are able to increase the number of courses that they offer as well as the number of students who have familiarity with the political, economic, and cultural dimensions of East Asian societies. In addition to funding tertiary-level programs and projects, the foundation provides the means for elementary and high school students—often through sister school relationships—to benefit from United States-Asia exchange programs for a week. Sister community relationships also are funded.

### *Grants*

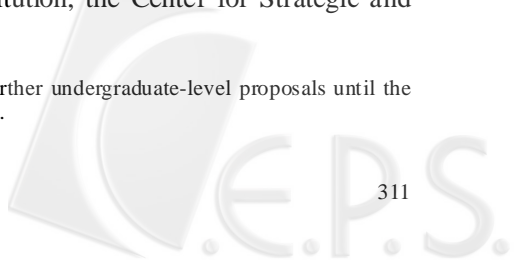
As of 2003, grants made possible by the foundation had totaled nearly US\$500 million. Wesleyan University, the alma mater of several of the family members, advances the knowledge that Asians have of the United States through the Freeman Asia Scholar Program, which annually awards four-year scholarships to twenty-two students from eleven Asian nations.

Many of the foundation's grants support professors and students from the United States who wish to study in Asia. Although the foundation makes awards to Asian scholars so that they can study and conduct research in the United States, most awards are given to Americans going to Asia. Professors may conduct their scholarly activities in Asia for up to one year. Some students spend three weeks in the summer in Asia, while others benefit from a full academic year abroad.

In addition to individual scholars, the foundation provides resources to think tanks and other organizations. The National Committee on U.S.-China Relations, the Brookings Institution, the Center for Strategic and

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<sup>49</sup>The Freeman Foundation will not accept further undergraduate-level proposals until the current four-year funding cycle is complete.



International Studies (CSIS), the East-West Center in Hawaii, and the Asia Foundation are among institutions that have received Freeman Foundation support.

Interestingly, the foundation never has received a proposal concerning Taiwan studies specifically, although it is open to such applications. However, many projects that the organization funds, such as security studies, include Taiwan. Also, the study of social sciences related to Taiwan has been indirectly supported by the foundation through institutional grants, as revealed in the Asia programs of many of the tertiary institutions that have received support from the foundation.<sup>50</sup> Finally, occasionally grantees gain uncommon exposure to Taiwan. For instance, the foundation provided funds for a student from Pomona College to play on a college basketball team in Taiwan in order to learn how Pomona's team compared to the host counterpart. Although the foundation supports humanitarian and other work in parts of the Southeast Asia region, its central focus remains scholarly activity and other projects in Northeast Asia.

#### *Trends in Asian Studies and Grants*

The foundation's principals believe that there has been a revival of interest in Asian studies, but they have not identified particular trends. Indeed, applications cover a wide array of proposals, including requests for support for release time, petitions to strengthen certain areas of study, or submissions to work with counterparts in Asia for a specific reason. Unlike some funding organizations, the Freeman Foundation continues to consider proposals for resources for new faculty positions.

### **Conclusion**

This article has sought to provide an overview of some of the principal organizations that fund and otherwise support Taiwan studies, primarily

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<sup>50</sup>Observation made by an anonymous reviewer of this research note.



as undertaken either by Americans in the United States or in Taiwan, or by scholars from Taiwan or other Asian societies in the United States. The summaries have intended to provide helpful background and other information about a number of key organizations, some new, others well-established, that have utilized their resources to varying degrees to promote both Taiwan studies, in particular, and studies related to Taiwan as they are enveloped by the larger fields of Chinese and Northeast Asian studies.

Regarding trends, a number of foundation representatives have remarked that there has been a very evident increase of applications that concern studies and research related to the PRC, and Asia in general (especially Northeast and Southeast Asia). However, no foundation official who was interviewed for this summary noted that there had been a marked uptum in applications concerning Taiwan studies, specifically. This may be because the field of Taiwan studies is mingled with Chinese or East Asian studies, and too infrequently is approached as a separate category of intellectual pursuit. Further, this brief overview does not address the "Greater China" concept that has been espoused in some writings and programs, and whether it has had an effect on the funding of Taiwan studies as a stand-alone academic field.

In addition to an increased interest in Northeast and Southeast Asian studies, which seems quite naturally to parallel the rise of power of Asia on multiple fronts, another possible trend has surfaced in this report. Some organizations are reluctant to support new faculty positions as a result of the associated increasingly high expense. So a conundrum exists: there is a desire to advance the study of Asia in academia in light of the intensified importance of its societies to contemporary economic, military, political, and cultural global dynamics; however, many colleges and universities are finding it difficult to secure the resources to support tenured positions for faculty who are authorities in these fields.

Another observation is that there was a trend toward greater pluralism of academic views in the 1990s; during this period, scholars of various stripes began to be attracted to Taiwan studies given the major democratic progress on the island and economic developments in the entire East Asia region. With the infusion of new interested parties added to the stable of



seasoned scholars who had spent many years investigating academic interests in Taiwan, Taiwan studies entered the mainstream of scholarly pursuits that are centered on Northeast Asia more broadly. A further advance in the field is that the funding of Taiwan studies over the years has become more pluralistic and generally more professionally standardized and transparent.

As Taiwan studies develop into the future, participants must be realistic about, on the one hand, the need for funding to continue research, and on the other hand, the vested interests of the sources from which funding comes. Thus, what some scholars raise as an ever-present concern—the preservation of a careful balance between protecting academic independence and integrity, and fulfilling the legitimate and acknowledged expectations of funding sources—remains as it has been in the past, a matter for careful reflection. A drift away from the vital balance would risk denigrating Taiwan studies, thus reducing international understanding and appreciation for the remarkable achievements and rightful aspirations of Taiwan's people.