







# Taiwan as Pioneer workshop 2023

European Research Center on Contemporary Taiwan University of Tübingen



Tübingen, 4-6 October 2023



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European Research Center on Contemporary Taiwan, University of Tübingen

Tübingen, 4-6 October 2023

#### **Workshop location:**

Gästehaus der Universität Tübingen, Lessingweg 3, 72076 Tübingen, (Tel: 07071 688 907-0)

#### **Hotel addresses:**

**Guesthouse** - Gästehaus der Universität Tübingen, Lessingweg 3, 72076 Tübingen, (Tel: 07071 688 907-0)

Hotel Meteora - Weizsäckerstraße 1, 72074 Tübingen (Tel: +49151210278833)

**Cloud N°7** - Karlstraße 11/2, 72072 Tübingen (Tel:+4970711387370)

### Some information:

- -Each panelist, except the guest speakers and the travel grant recipients, has 30 minutes to present her/their/his work, then each panel presentation is followed by a Q&A and discussion.
- -Safe space and inclusivity: We value the attendance of every person and want everyone to feel safe throughout the duration of the events. Therefore, it's our joint responsibility to make sure we create a safe space where we can exchange ideas in a spirit of goodwill and collectively improve each other's work.

Wednesday, October 4	
9h30	Arrival of Participants at the workshop location and coffee
10h-11h	Words of welcome by Dr. Amélie Keyser-Verreault
10n-11n	Introduce ourselves to each other (2-3 minutes each)
11h-12h30	Taiwan as Pioneer (TAP)  Presentation of the project and individual sub-projects by the TAP group
	Introduction of the project by Dr. Josie-Marie Perkuhn (Trier University) (5 minutes)
	Presentation of the sub-projects (15 min each):
	Dr. Josie-Marie Perkuhn (Trier University) – Political participation
	Dr. Thomas Fliss (Trier University) – Progressive and Innovative Poetry of the Taiwanese Writer Wu Sheng
	<b>Dr. Hsu Yu-Yin</b> (Ruhr-University Bochum) – Education as a Motor of Modernity: Focusing on the Development of Vocational Education in Colonial Taiwan
	<b>Dr.</b> Amélie Keyser-Verreault (University of Tübingen) – Gender, innovation and human capital: (Un)doing family in contemporary Taiwan
	Q&A
12h30-13h30	Lunch (Caterer: Ammertäler Metzgerei Egeler)
	Guest speaker lecture 1  Prof. Kao Ying-Chao (Virginia Commonwealth University) –
13h30-14h30	Decolonizing Queer Glocalization and Conservative Internationalism: Taiwan's Pioneering Debates on Xingbié Píngděng (sex/gender/sexuality equity/equality) Beyond Liberalism
	Q&A
14h30-15h	Coffee break
15h-17h30	Panel 1: Modern history, culture and society

	Chair: Dr. Hsu Yu-Yin (Ruhr-University Bochum)
	<i>Tai Ting-Huang</i> (The doctoral school "Social Sciences and Humanities", École normale supérieure Paris-Saclay) – <i>Geometric Data Analysis of the Field of Senior High Schools in Taiwan</i> (2008 – 2020)
	Lin Hsin-Hui (Graduate Institute of Taiwanese Literature, National Chengchi University) – Disasters as a Method: Non-normative Temporalities and Transformation of Bodies and Islands in Taiwanese Science Fiction
	Dr. Monika Arnoštová (Institute of East Asian Studies and Faculty of Social Sciences, Duisburg Essen University) – Disenchanted young professionals in Taiwan: Lying flat between Mainland China and Japan
	<b>Prof. Christine Moll-Murata</b> (Ruhr-University Bochum) – Statistics from the Period of Japanese Colonial Rule as Sources for the Socioeconomic History of Taiwan
	Q&A
17h30	Walk to the dinner location
18h	Dinner at Historische Weinstube Forelle (Kronenstraße 8)

Thursday, October 5	
	Panel 2: Indigenous Issues
9h-11h	Chair: Dr. Thomas Fliss (Trier University)
	Lin Wan Jou (National Taiwan Normal University) – Indigenous Female Resilience on the Forced Displacement: A Case Study of Ciulaku, Southern Taiwan
	Dr. Fanny Caron (IrAsia research unit, CNRS-Aix-Marseille University)  – Paiwan women artists as actants of decolonisation: renewal and revival of ancestral practices
	<i>Dr. Agathe Lemaitre</i> (Ethnic Relations & Cultures, Dong-Hwa University) – <i>Maintenance in time of disappearance: Survivance of the clouded leopard in the Paiwan's spiritual landscape</i>
	Q&A

11h-11h30	Coffee break
11h30-12h30	Guest speaker lecture 2
	Lee Tzu-Tung (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) – Sailing in The Pirate Sea of Art
	Q&A
12h30-13h30	Lunch (Caterer: Tuffner)
	TAP Grant recipients' presentations (online)
13h30-14h30	Damir Padieu (Trier University) – Current Development, Research Practice and Conventions of the Digital Humanities in Taiwan
	Florian Paulsen (Berlin University) – Exploring the Entrepreneurial Spirit of Taiwanese Students and Young Professionals: A Mixed-Methods Study in the Context of Mainland China's Global Impact
	<b>Dr. Frédéric Krumbein</b> (Institute for European Politics) – Leaving the dragon's shadow – Normative Power Europe and the emergence of a Taiwan policy in the EU?
	Hassan Al-Said (University of Cologne) – The importance of innovations from Taiwan for young students' self-identification: Insights from the Republic of China
	Alena Dorakh (Trier University) – Taiwan's Influence on Europe's Semiconductor Supply Chain: A Trade and FDI Perspective
	Sven Pabis (Ruhr-University Bochum) – The Status quo of sales digitalization in Taiwan using the example of a Taiwanese recycling company
	Panel 3: Governance and Politics
14h30-16h30	Chair: Dr. Jens Damm (Freiburg University)

	Anthony Li (Department of Politics and Public Administration, The University of Hong Kong) – Understanding the varieties of local developmental states in Taiwan for energy transitions 2015-2020: A Qualitative Comparative Analysis  Peng Chao-Hsuan (School of Advanced Research in the Social Sciences (EHESS) – Revisiting the Taiwanese Debate on "Civil Society" (1986-1987) or Outline of an Intellectual History of Taiwan's Democratization  Dr. Chen Wan-Shin (Sorbonne Paris North University—Paris 13, LabEx ICCA: Cultural industries and artistic creation (ICCA)) – Why Did They Cancel the Screen Quotas and what happened today? Examining the Decision-Making and the institutional changes of the Taiwanese Government for Film Policies Based on New Institutional Economics Theories  Q&A
16h30-16h45	Coffee break
16h45 -18h15	Panel 4: LGBTQIA2S+ issues  Chair Dr. Amélie Keyser-Verreault (University of Tübingen)  Dr. Jens Damm (Institute of Chinese Studies, Albert-Ludwigs-University Freiburg) – Contested and Negotiated Discourses: LGBTQI Issues in Taiwan's Media  Chuang Chi-Ting Serena (University of Manchester) – Same-sex couples' negotiation of filial responsibilities and family relationships: The Case of Taiwan  Q&A
18h15	Walk to the dinner location
18h45	Dinner at Restaurant Mauganeschtle Tübingen (Burgsteige 18)

Friday, October 6	
	Panel 5: Migrations Issues
9h-11h	Chair Dr. Amélie Keyser-Verreault (University of Tübingen)

	<b>Dr. Beatrice Zani</b> (CNRS) – Catching global connections. Sketches of reflection on multi-sited ethnography of ports, supply chains, and economic networks in, from and to Taiwan
	<b>Prof. Tseng Yu-Chin</b> (University of Tübingen) – "True love" or convenience? Strategies and emotions of married Chinese-Taiwanese couples in the West
	<b>Prof. Isabelle Cockel</b> (University of Portsmouth) – To see is to act: the screening of And Miles to Go before I Sleep and interactive knowledge co-production
	Q&A
11h-11h30	Coffee break
	Book publishing talk (hybrid - TBA)
11h30-12h30	with Prof. Kao Ying Chao (US context) and Prof. Dafydd Fell (European context)
12h30-13h30	Lunch (Caterer: Ammertäler Metzgerei Egeler)
13h30-14h30	Group discussion  The role of Taiwan as a Pioneer and its role in the global megatrends
14h30-15h	End of the workshop and coffee break
15h	Free time to enjoy Tübingen!
15h-18h	TAP group internal work (only Dr. Josie-Marie Perkuhn, Dr. Thomas Fliss, Dr. Hsu Yu-Yin and Dr. Amélie Keyser-Verreault)

## **Workshop participants:**



**Dr. Monika Arnoštová** is Akademische Rätin (post-doc) in the field of Chinese society and comparative sociology at the Institute of East Asian Studies (IN-EAST) and the Institute of Sociology at the University of Duisburg-Essen. In 2021 she completed her doctoral studies in sociology at Renmin University of China with a focus on social psychology and the study of the problematics of overtime work and work-life balance in China. She holds an MA degree in Chinese and Dutch Philology from Palacký University in Olomouc, Czech Republic. Between 2017 and 2018 she was a resident research fellow at the European Research Centre on Contemporary

Taiwan (ERCCT) at the University of Tübingen. In her research, she focuses mainly on the Chinese working environment, work-life balance, and trends in overtime work in mainland China, Taiwan and Japan. She further focuses on the alternative lifestyles young people adopt in response to the rat race and involution currently defining the youth job market in China. Her latest research project involves the comparison of lying flat movement in China and its alternatives in Taiwan and Japan.

**Dr. Fanny Caron** is an associate researcher of the IrAsia research unit, CNRS-Aix-Marseille University, where they are a member of two research teams ("Transmission of knowledge, orientation of social values", and "Asian literatures and translations"). They defended a PhD in Chinese Languages and Literatures, titled "From ancestral Orature to contemporary Literature of the Dakotapi and the Paiwan: (hi)stories of trans-indigenous resilience", in 2020. Having been trained both in the fields of General



and Comparative Literature and of Chinese Studies, their work is inter- and transdisciplinary. Such a transversal epistemological approach was useful for their study of Indigenous orature and literature, analyzed from a literary and stylistic standpoint, and from an anthropological one.

As an autistic researcher, Fanny converted a "disability" into a strength. They are hyperfocused and highly methodical. Additionally, as invited to do by Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, they "speak" not only on behalf of Subalterns – but as one. In their research, deeply rooted in interconnected studies, they replaced the notion of national literature/art with that of literary/artistic space, and proposed knowledge systems, scientific descriptions, and analytic methods based on Indigenous paradigms where "subjectivity" serves ethics.

For the past two years, they have published a translation of Paiwan short-stories into French, two academic articles, two book chapters, and co-organized three workshops and a seminar within Aix-Marseille University – all in connection with Taiwan. They are now working on a new PhD project that they will be presenting during this workshop.



**Dr. CHEN Wan-Shin (陳琬欣)** is a postdoctoral researcher at Sorbonne Paris North University Paris 13, LabExICCA (Cultural industries and artistic creation). The purpose of her current postdoctoral project is to examine the impact of Taiwan's local and international streaming platforms on the production and distribution of Taiwanese films, including audiovisual works. In this project, her aim is also to gather the viewpoints on the ongoing legislative discussions about the OTT policy from the streamers, film workers, and National

Communication Commission (NCC) commissioners.

Regarding her other research, she holds a PhD degree in Information and Communication Sciences from Sorbonne Nouvelle University-Paris. Her PhD dissertation focuses on the impact of Taiwanese local governments' grants on the production and distribution of Taiwanese films from 2003 to 2021. In her Master's thesis in the College of Communication at Fu Jen Catholic University, she explores the construction and representation of the Oriental imagination about Jackie CHAN's roles in his Hollywood films. Furthermore, from 2011 to 2013, Wan-Shin CHEN was employed as a full-time research assistant in the Department of Advertising at National Chengchi University, for the project "Taiwan Communication Survey", funded by the Taiwan National Science and Technology Council.

Chuang Chi-ting Serena (莊紀婷) is a second-year PhD candidate in sociology at the University of Manchester. Working at the intersection of aging society, gender, sexuality, family and everyday life, her current research project seeks to explore Taiwanese married same-sex couples' negotiation of filial responsibilities and family relationships with parents. With an interest in the implications of methodology for knowledge production, she has incorporated couple interviewing, relational mapping and the use of vignette into her project.

Serena was awarded the 2020 Government Scholarship to Study Abroad by Taiwan's Ministry of Education for her PhD



study. She holds a Master of Arts degree with distinction in Gerontology and Ageing from the King's College of London, UK, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism from the National Chengchi University, Taiwan. Before starting her PhD, Serena had worked with various NGOs focussing on human rights, democracy and international development projects. She was also formerly a journalist and public relations specialist.



**Prof. Isabelle Cockel** is Senior Lecturer in East Asian and International Development Studies at the University of Portsmouth. Her research focuses on labour and marriage migration in East Asia. She is particularly interested in how the state instrumentalises immigration for political economic interests. Her publications focus on sovereignty, citizenship, gender, activism, and irregular work in the informal labour market. Enacting upon her commitment to academic activism, she utilises academic blogs to raise public awareness of inequality and injustice embedded in labour migration. She is currently the Secretary-General of the European Association of Taiwan Studies, Research Associate of Centre of Taiwan Studies of the School of Oriental and African Studies, and a

Member on the European Advisory Board of European Research Centre on Contemporary Taiwan at the University of Tübingen. She is an Associate Editor of Asia Pacific Viewpoint and on the editorial board of International Journal of Taiwan Studies and International Journal of Asia Pacific Studies.

**Dr. Jens Damm** is a lecturer at the Institute of Chinese Studies at Freiburg University. He is also an Associate Fellow at the European Research Center on Contemporary Taiwan (ERCCT), Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen. He was an Associate Professor at the Graduate Institute of Taiwan Studies, Chang Jung University, Tainan, Taiwan (2009-2019) and an Assistant Professor at Freie Universität Berlin until 2009 and PI of "China's Cultural Diplomacy and the Role of Non-state Actors", 2015-2017 (GARC) at the Oriental Institute Prague. His research interests include the new media and the Internet, the Taiwanese and Chinese diasporas, and gender studies.





**Dr. Thomas Fliß** has been a research fellow in the joint research project at Trier University since its beginning in February 2022. In this project, he studies Taiwanese literature and culture in the context of globalisation and the Anthropocene. After graduating in Chinese Literature at National Cheng Kung University in 2020, he worked as an adjunct assistant professor in the Department of Taiwanese Literature at National Cheng Kung University.

**Dr. Hsu Yu-Yin (徐郁紫)** received her PhD in Buddhist Studies from the National University of Singapore with a FASS Scholarship. She specializes in modern Chinese Buddhism, with particular emphasis on its ritual practices, transnational networks, and print communication. Her latest book, "The Development and Transformation of Humanistic Buddhism in Singapore," was supported by the Research Scholarship on Humanistic Buddhism in East Asia/Southeast Asia from the Center for the Study of Humanistic Buddhism at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Her most recent research is on the history of education and vocational training in twentieth-century Taiwan. The main goal of



this project is to explore innovative policies and changes in the vocational training system in Taiwan.



**Prof. Dafydd Fell**'s interest in Taiwanese politics began after a year as a language student in Taipei in the late 1980s. After graduating from a degree in Chinese Studies he spent most of the 1990s working in Taiwan in the education, broadcasting, tourism, agricultural and sports management sectors. Being an eyewitness to Taiwan's transition away from authoritarian rule has helped shape his subsequent research at SOAS. He joined the SOAS Politics Department as a PhD student

in 1999 and has been teaching here since 2003.

Dafydd's main research focus has been on Taiwan's political parties and electoral politics. His first book, Party Politics in Taiwan (Routledge, 2005) examined party change in the first fifteen years of multi-party politics. He frequently visits Taiwan for fieldwork and election observing. He has published numerous journal articles and book chapters on Taiwan's party system, new parties, party switching, candidate selection and how parties learn from electoral setbacks. His second book Government and Politics in Taiwan was published by Routledge in 2011 and a revised and updated second edition was published in 2018. Over the last few years he has been working on a project on the politics of migration and has a co-edited volume titled Migration to and from Taiwan (Routledge, 2014). He also has shifted his attention towards Taiwan's social movements, publishing an edited book titled Taiwan's Social Movements under Ma Ying-jeou in 2017. His current research projects include looking at Taiwan's Green Party, party switching and candidate selection within parties.

Dafydd has been active in developing the field of Taiwan studies at SOAS and beyond. He helped establish the European Association of Taiwan Studies in 2004 and was the Association's Secretary General for eight years. At SOAS he has helped develop the world's most extensive Taiwan Studies teaching and academic events programme.

Prof. Ying-Chao Kao (高穎超) is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Virginia Commonwealth University. Kao's research uses critical, decolonial, and transnational theories to understand the interactions among genders, sexualities, masculinities, religions, and social movements in East Asia, examining their connections with American and global counterparts. His current book project, *Liquid Conservatism: Queering Transnational Anti-LGBTQ Movements between Taiwan and the United States*, is under contract with the New York University Press. Focusing on LGBTQ politics in Taiwan – the first Asian



country that legalized same-sex marriage, the book explores how Taiwanese anti-LGBTQ groups have risen, developed, and declined concurrently as the Asian democracy marches toward political and intimacy democratization.

Kao published his work in the journals Sexualities, International Journal of Taiwan Studies, Contexts, Sexuality Research in China, and Gender Equity Education Quarterly (in Chinese). His transnational feminist critique of anti-Asian racism during Covid is collected in Global Feminist Autoethnographies During COVID-19: Displacements and Disruptions (Routledge, 2022). His research on military masculinity was published in East Asian Men: Masculinity, Sexuality, and Desire (Palgrave, 2017) and Masculinities in a Global Era (Springer, 2013 and co-authored with H-D Bih). His traditional Chinese translation of Laud Humphreys' Tearoom Trade: Impersonal Sex in Public Places (Socio, 2016) won the Editorship Award at the Taipei International Book Exhibition in 2017.

To learn more, please visit his website: <a href="https://sociology.vcu.edu/people/faculty/kao.html">https://sociology.vcu.edu/people/faculty/kao.html</a>



**Dr.** Amélie Keyser-Verreault is a postdoctoral fellow affiliated to the European Research Center on Contemporary Taiwan at Tübingen University. She holds a PhD in sociocultural anthropology from Laval University (Canada). Dr. Keyser-Verreault research focuses on body politics and gender with an emphasis on beauty politics, maternity, aging, and resistance in East Asia. She also has a deep interest in qualitative art-based, decolonial and intersectional methodologies. At Tübingen University, Dr. Keyser-Verreault is the lead of the Taiwan as a Pioneer (TAP) research project. Her TAP project is an ethnography of (un)going the family in the Taiwanese

context of low birth rate in which she addresses the megatrends of demographic shift. She also has a side project in which she works with Taiwanese migrants in Europe and in Japan and focuses on intimacy and migration. Besides having co-authored three books her work has been published in academic journals such as *Chinese Sociological Review*, *Journal of Gender Studies*, *Ethnography*, *European Journal of Cultural Studies*, *Feminism & Psychology*, *Taiwan Journal of Women's and Gender Studies* (女學學誌), *Taiwan Journal of Anthropology* (台灣人類學刊) and the International Journal of Taiwan Studies.

Lee Tzu Tung (李紫形) is a Taiwanese conceptual artist. Intricately melding anthropological field research with political activism in their artistic narratives, their creations delve into the intricacies of surviving and asserting autonomy within the intersections of political, gender, and illness identities. Across diverse art mediums, Tzu Tung adeptly incorporates participatory methods, inviting collaborators to creatively challenge and decolonize the contemporary form of art, technology, and authorities. Educated at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MS)



and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (MFA), Tzu Tung's art exhibit globally in renowned institutions, including National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts, MOCA Taipei, C-Lab (TW), MIT Museum, Cuchifritos Gallery, Stanford University, Tom Robbinson Gallery (US), Lisbon University (PT), ArtScape(CA), Transemediale(DE), ADL(KR), Hyundai Studio(CN), etc. Beyond artistic achievements, Tzu Tung is also the organizer for several of Taiwan's Indigenous and gender movements, the founder of an artist-technologist collaborative Tinyverse NPO, and curator of Sensefield, an art and anthropology biennale. For more visit: tzutung.com



**Dr. Agathe Lemaitre** in anthropology, graduated in July 2023 from the College of Indigenous Studies, Department of Ethnic Relations and Cultures, National Dong Hwa University, Taiwan. She was part of the research project "Austronesian Worlds: Human–Animal Entanglements in the Pacific Anthropocene." Her PhD research considered the relationship between the Austronesian Paiwan and two species of nonhuman animal, the locally extinct clouded leopard (Neofelis nebulosa) and the endangered mountain hawk-eagle (Nisaetus nipalensis), from a social, political, and environmental perspective.

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A graduate of the research Master's program in "Interdisciplinary Practices in Social Sciences (PDI)" from ENS Paris, **Ting-Huang Tai (戴定皇)** holds research Master's and Bachelor's degrees in sociology from National Taiwan University. He has been a sociology doctoral candidate at ISP since February 2021. Under the supervision of Virginie Albe (ISP, ENS Paris-Saclay)

sociology doctoral candidate at ISP since February 2021. Under the supervision of Virginie Albe (ISP, ENS Paris-Saclay) and Agnès van Zanten (CRIS, Sciences Po Paris), his thesis focuses on the educational field of gifted students in Taiwan. This



research aims to investigate why and how "gifted education," despite its elitist reputation tinged with strong disapprovals, is gaining momentum in Asian countries and what its impacts are on the educational field and, more broadly, on social stratification. His research interests lie at the intersections of sociology of education, sociology of science, and sociology of culture, with a focus on using mixed methods approaches to studying educational meritocracy as well as the structure of educational markets.



Anthony Ho-fai Li (李浩暉) is currently a PhD candidate at the Department of Politics and Public Administration, University of Hong Kong. His doctoral study focuses on institutional changes and innovative urban commoning for energy transitions under high uncertainties with decentralized solar energy in Taiwan. He is an Adam Smith Fellow (2022-2023), a HEA Associate Fellow, and a recipient of EATS Research and Publication Grant (2021). His research interests include institutionalism in human cooperation, multi-level governance of energy transition, urban sustainability, and Cold War histories in Asia. Anthony earned a M.Phil. and a Bachelor of Social Science in Government and Public Administration from the Chinese University of Hong Kong. His previous work

was published on *China Perspectives*, *Modern Asian Studies*, and *Asia-Pacific Journal of Public Administration*. Email: anthonylihf@gmail.com.

Hsin-Hui Lin (林新惠) is a science fiction writer and literary critic based in Taipei. She is a PhD candidate in Taiwanese literature at the National Chengchi University and was a Visiting Graduate Researcher at the University of California, Los Angeles from 2022 to 2023. As an interdisciplinary researcher, Lin is interested in intersecting literary texts with technological, ecological, and medical humanities. She is the author of the sci-fi novel Contactless Intimacy (零觸



碰親密) and the short story collection Human Glitches (瑕疵人型), both of which investigate the blurring boundaries between humans and non-humans in the current technological time.



**Lin Wan Jou** (林宛柔), PhD Candidate at the Department of Taiwan Culture, Languages and Literature at National Taiwan Normal University in Taipei.

Born in Southern Taiwan, Pingtung, my father named me Wan Jou, meaning gentle and tenderness. My interests are many and keep developing, playing music, outdoor activity, most of all, I enjoy simply being in nature.

I have long thought about the issue of male dominance and the (re)construction of Taiwan's indigenous

subjects. I aim to combine ecofeminism and indigenous knowledge to study and criticize the world (dis)order imposed by neoliberal economic globalization. My research will study Taiwan indigenous knowledge from different forms such as their cultures, literature and rituals to respond to the climate crisis from the resilience and adaptation of political ecology perspective. I also hope to bring into the contemporary studies and global debates on the contexts of indigenous peoples in global climate change adaptation and mitigation in order to accommodate the position of Taiwan indigenous peoples.

**Prof. Christine Moll-Murata** is Chair Professor for History of China and director of the research unit on Taiwanese Culture and Literature at Ruhr University Bochum, Germany. She is a co-applicant of the project "Taiwan as Pioneer" and hosts TAP's Bochum postdoc research project. Her research interests include local history and historiography of China, social and economic history of China and East Asia, labor history of China, Japan, and Taiwan, and the history of crafts and industry in China, Northeast Asia, and Taiwan. At present, she is Vice



Dean of the Faculty of East Asian Studies of the Ruhr University Bochum, and she is the Vice Chairperson of the German Association for Chinese Studies (DVCS).



Chao-Hsuan Peng (彭照軒) is fully-funded PhD candidate (doctorant contractuel) and lecturer (chargé d'enseignement) in History at the School of Advanced Research in the Social Sciences (EHESS) in Paris. An intellectual historian of post-war Taiwan, and specifically of the democratization period, he is interested in the relationship between knowledge production and political/social activism, and the role of alternative press in the political transformation of post-war Taiwan. He

is currently preparing a dissertation on Taiwanese student activism of the 1980s.

**Dr. Josie-Marie Perkuhn** leads the joint postdoc research project Taiwan as a Pioneer (TAP) at Trier University and is non-resident-fellow at the Institute for Security Policy at Kiel University (ISPK). She graduated in Political Science and Chinese Studies. Her PhD research concerned the PRC foreign policy regarding International Relations. At Heidelberg University, she taught at the Institute of Chinese Studies and worked as project manager for a training program in cooperation with Taiwan DGPA in 2012, 2015 and 2016. In 2017, she pursued her research interest as Taiwan Fellowship recipient at NCCU, Taipei. Being an active member of the East Asia Institute (OAI e.V.) situated in Bonn she also followed her interest



in cultural heritage and diplomacy. During the pandemic situation, she started the academic online feature series chinnotopia: Future designed by China and built on her postdoc interest in Maritime Security and Peace Studies, Digitalization, Climate Change, Energy Supply and Global Health.

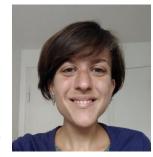


Prof. Yu-chin Tseng (曾育勤) was appointed Junior Professor at University of Tübingen in 2018, and since then she has been serving as co-director of the European Research Center on Contemporary Taiwan (ERCCT). She received her PhD in Sociology from the University of Essex in 2015. Her research interests lie in the area of gender, mobility, and intimacy in the context of Asia and Europe. Seeking to explicate migrants' relation with the

state, she is interested in topics, such as Chinese overseas in Europe, migrant entrepreneurship, and China's diaspora governance and public diplomacy. Her current research comprises three main streams: China's digital public diplomacy and its outreach to overseas Chinese in Europe; the health behaviors and wellbeing of international students in Taiwan and in Germany; and intimate mobilities and their correlation with states in Asia. She has published widely on the topics of marriage migrants, gender and family, and China's public diplomacy. Her latest publication, 'China's Twitter Diplomacy in Germany: Practices, Reactions, and Discrepancies', was published in *Journal of Contemporary China* in 2023. She is also the co-editor of the *Handbook of Chinese Migration to Europe*, scheduled to be published with Brill in 2024.

**Dr. Beatrice Zani** is a sociologist and research fellow at the French National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS)/ Interdisciplinary Unit for Economic Sociology (LISE). She serves as board member of the European Association of Taiwan Studies (EATS) and of the network 'Migration' of the French Sociological Association. Her research interests include economic sociology, transnational labor and marriage migration, gender, global work and

inequality, migrant entrepreneurship, digitality, and globalization. Drawing on the case study of transnational labor in the Asian shipping sector (China, Taiwan, Singapore), her ongoing research explores the link between migration, digitality, global work and migrant entrepreneurship in the transformation of global economy and globalization. Her work has been awarded the Mobility Prize by the Mobile Lives Forum; the Lyon 2 University Dissertation Award, and the Young Author Award by the journal *Sociology of Work*. She has an extensive track record of publications in the field



of migration, transnationalism, and migrant digital entrepreneurship, including a monograph *Women Migrants in Southern China and in Taiwan. Mobilities, Digital Economies and Emotions* (Routledge, 2022).

# Workshop report1

From 4th to 6th October 2023 the Taiwan as Pioneer (TAP) workshop 2023 took place at Tübingen University. Twenty-one scholars from Europe, Taiwan and North America participated in the fruitful academic exchange and networking activities of the 3-day workshop.



The first day started with a welcome and introduction of the participants by Dr. Amélie Keyser-Verreault which was followed by the introduction of the TAP Project and the individual subprojects of Dr. Thomas Fliß, Dr. Hsu Yu-Yin and Dr. Amélie Keyser-Verreault. Unfortunately, Dr. Josie-Marie Perkuhn did not present her research since she got a positive Covid test. Nevertheless, the three presentations of the subprojects were followed by a Q&A where Prof. Moll-Murata raised the question of how the subprojects can be closely connected under the umbrella of the TAP theme. The TAP researchers found that there are some commonalities to be found between Dr. Fliß's subproject on

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Thank you to Sophie Schlebusch for the redaction of the workshop report.

"Progressive and Innovative Poetry of the Taiwanese Writer Wu Sheng" and Dr. Hsu's "Education as a Motor of Modernity: Focusing on the Development of Vocational Education in Colonial Taiwan".

After the lunch break the workshop continued with the first guest lecture by Prof. Kao Ying-Chao from Virginia Commonwealth University on the topic of "Decolonizing Queer Glocalization and Conservative Internationalism: Taiwan's Pioneering Debates on Xìngbié Píngděng (sex/gender/sexuality equity/equality) Beyond Liberalism". In his comprehensive presentation Prof. Kao explained three limitations of liberal discourses including the potential reproduction of Euro-American centrism and Western cultural imperialism, the omission of global ideological forces beyond the political left-right spectrum and the assumption of a rigid linear spectrum of gender/sexual politics. He continued with the introduction of the concept of "liquid thinking" in Sociology, presented his mixed-method research design and his findings of the decolonization in different queer discourses. In the Q&A after the presentation Prof. Kao replied to Dr. Zani's question that he would be open to comparative studies with countries such as Sweden and Canada because they are admired by Taiwanese as being more progressive.

After the coffee break the first panel on modern history, culture and society began with Tai Ting-Huang's presentation of his research on "Geometric Data Analysis of the Field of Senior High Schools in Taiwan (2008-2020). With his innovative quantitative research, he explored the question of how different classes or programs influence the relationship between schools and why certain schools are deemed as distinctive. In the following Q&A Tai answered several questions regarding his intention to put his data to use and how his quantitative approach can be integrated with the work of the French sociologist Pierre Bourdieu.

The next presentation was held by Lin Hsin-Hui on the topic of "Disasters as a Method: Non-normative Temporalities and Transformation of Bodies and Islands in Taiwanese Science Fiction". She explained the relevance of "disaster" and "Taiwanese Sci-fi" as research fields and possible future research prospects such as comparative studies of

Taiwanese Sci-fi and that of other regions as well as converging disaster sociology with posthuman and new materialist viewpoints.

This was followed by Dr. Monika Arnoštová's presentation of her research entitled "Disenchanted young professionals in Taiwan: Lying flat between Mainland China and Japan" where she described the relatively new phenomenon of "lying flat" in East Asian societies and acknowledged the lack of a clear categorization of this trend amongst the younger generations. She further expressed her intention to do research on the attitudes of soon-to-be young professionals in mainland China, Taiwan and Japan towards existing working conditions and alternative work models. In the Q&A she received some suggestions on further exploring the influence of work-life balance books on people, the impact of class stratification on the participation in "lying flat" and the views in the media.



The last presentation before the dinner was held by Prof. Christine Moll-Murata from the

Ruhr-University Bochum on the topic of "Statistics from the Period of Japanese Colonial Rule as Sources for the Socioeconomic History of Taiwan". She introduced different printed and digital economic statistics and databases as well as one of her research examples on "Labour relations, according to the taxonomy of the Global Collaboratory on the History of Labour Relations, 1500-2000" based at the International Institute of Social History in Amsterdam. She concluded with raising some methodological issues such as whether taking over the same categorizations of the original source is ok, whether one should adopt or modify the data of the original source according to one's own research interest and whether the information in different types of encoding can be interpreted as being identical.

The second day of the workshop started with the panel on Indigenous Issues. The first presentation was held by Lin Wan Jou about her research on "Indigenous Female Resilience on the Forced Displacement: A Case Study of Ciulaku, Southern Taiwan". In her presentation Lin explained the history and forced displacement of Ciulaku in 1976 due to a military expropriation and elaborated on the women's acquired resilience and response to the traumatic experiences as well as the marginalization still faced by indigenous peoples in Taiwan.



After a short Q&A Dr. Fanny Caron continued with the next presentation on "Paiwan women artists as actants of decolonisation: renewal and revival of ancestral practices". They introduced their research approach consisting of interviews with two famous Paiwan women artists exploring the question of how these women decolonize the collective imaginary, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, and their own respective field(s), whilst safeguarding and revitalizing their cultural heritages. They further outlined their main research concepts being based on "Decolonizing Methodologies, Research and Indigenous Peoples" by Linda Tuhiwai Smith and the framework of intersectionality according to Samudzi. They ended the presentation with an explanation of their research methodology where they amongst others justified the use of the term "survivance" instead of "survival" because the former one indicates a "continuation of Native stories that are renunciations of dominance, tragedy and victimry".

The last presentation of this panel was held by Dr. Agathe Lemaitre on the "Maintenance in time of disappearance: Survivance of the clouded leopard in the Paiwan's spiritual landscape". She first elaborated on the different categorization of animals in the Paiwan culture and the historic relationship of the Paiwan people to the clouded leopard which is believed to have gone extinct a long time ago. Through her on-site research Lemaitre has found that the silence surrounding the clouded leopard doesn't mean it has been forgotten or lost the interest of the people, but that silence is a way to protect the idea of a continued spiritual presence of the animal. She concluded that maintaining the presence of the clouded leopard is a matter of resilience and survivance is an act of resistance. The panel ended with a short Q&A and a coffee break.



After the coffee break the workshop continued with the presentation of Lee Tzu-Tung on "Sailing in The Pirate Sea of Art". The artist introduced 5 of their art projects exploring the question of "How marginalized communities queer up the sovereignty and ownership regime under the current hegemonic system?". One of the art projects named "Forkonomy" consisted of several jars filled with water from the South China Sea and contracts of ownership for the water. To better showcase this art project Lee had even brought one of the jars and provided contracts for any of the workshop participants who wanted to buy a few milliliters of the water. This project of theirs raised the most interest among the participants during the Q&A where amongst others Dr. Fliß posed the question of how to define the water as water from the South China Sea. Naturally the artist did not intend to provide exclusive answers to that with the art project but intended to rather make people discuss, negotiate and find answers for themselves.



After the lunch break the workshop went on with 6 online presentations from the TAP grant recipients Damir Padieu, Florian Paulsen, Dr. Frédéric Krumbein, Hassan Al-Said, Alena Dorakh and Sven Pabis. Their presentation topics ranged from current developments of the Digital Humanities in Taiwan, the national self-identification of young Taiwanese students, Taiwan's influence on Europe's Semiconductor Supply Chain, an emerging Taiwan policy in the EU, the status quo of sales digitalization in Taiwan to the entrepreneurial spirit of Taiwanese students and young professionals.

This was followed by the third panel on governance and politics where Prof. Jens Damm substituted for Dr. Perkuhn as the chair. First Anthony Li presented his research on "Understanding the varieties of local developmental states in Taiwan for energy transitions 2015-2020: A Qualitative Comparative Analysis". In his research he investigated the question of "What kind of institutional arrangements are facilitative to the coordination of the range of actors for the attainment of policy outcome of energy transition?". He further explained his research methodology of qualitative comparative analysis supplemented with

thematic analysis. His most important finding was that local states of both high and low political autonomy, regardless of the degree of urbanization, can facilitate solar energy installation in their respective jurisdictions with institutional innovations to engage local bureaucrats as well as actors of different scales with high cross-scale political coordination.



Next, Peng Chao-Hsuan held his presentation on "Revisiting the Taiwanese Debate on "Civil Society" (1986-1987) or Outline of an Intellectual History of Taiwan's Democratization". In his research he explored how Taiwanese imaginations of Democracy as well as certain social movements during the 1980s influenced the Taiwanese course of democratization. In several intellectual Taiwanese magazines from that time of which he had brought some samples for the participants he amongst others found a dissatisfaction with the mainstream of Dangwai among the student movement which was challenged in public debates.



Lastly, Dr. Chen Wan-Shin presented her research on "Why Did They Cancel the Screen Quotas and what happened today? Examining the Decision-Making and the institutional changes of the Taiwanese Government for Film Policies Based on New Institutional Economics Theories". Through her research she found that the bounded rationality of the 6 years of democracy before the quota canceling, the emphasis on only high-quality productions for international film festivals and the long-term contract between the State and its citizens have affected the decision-making behind the film policies. Furthermore Taiwan's isolated diplomatic position strongly led to the cancellation of screen quotas nevertheless some institutional changes from protecting the Taiwan film productions to the concern of the development of the entire film industry have been taken into action since then. The panel ended with a quick Q&A and a coffee break.

After the coffee break the 4th panel on LGBTQIA2S+ issues started with Dr. Jens Damm's presentation on the topic of "Contested and Negotiated Discourses: LGBTQI Issues in Taiwan's Media". In his research he pursued to answer the questions of "how has

homosexuality been portrayed in Taiwanese media representations during different periods from the mid-1980s until today? Which media platforms were dominant in each period? (or use two most important periods?)". He found that in the 1980s there has been a gradual liberalisation of LGBTQI issues in the media, yet they were still framed as the other or as a danger. Since 2015 same-sex marriage has first been treated as a political issue, later there has been a shift towards treating it as a human rights issue.



After that Chuang Chi-Ting Serena continued with her presentation on the topic of "Same-sex couples' negotiation of filial responsibilities and family relationships: The Case of Taiwan". She expressed her intention to use the snow-balling technique and conduct indepth interviews with same-sex couples in the UK on their family relationships as a part for her dissertation. She presented her methodological approach which includes family network mapping. After a quick Q&A the day ended with dinner in the old town of Tübingen.



The last day of the workshop started with the 5th panel on migration issues and the first presenter Dr. Beatrice Zani explained her research on "Catching global connections. Sketches of reflection on multi-sited ethnography of ports, supply chains, and economic networks in, from and to Taiwan". For her research she conducted over 70 in-depth interviews with migrant seafarers, migrant women, shipping company owners, tour guides and coast guards in Taiwan. She ended her talk with a theorization of the informal traders of supply chain capitalism.



The next presenter Prof. Tseng Yu-Chin continued with an introduction of her research on "True love' or convenience? Strategies and emotions of married Chinese-Taiwanese couples in the West". Through her in-depth interviews she found that a majority of the couples married for convenience and that they face extra complexities including different legal frameworks and discrimination.



The third presentation on the topic was entitled "To see is to act: the screening of And

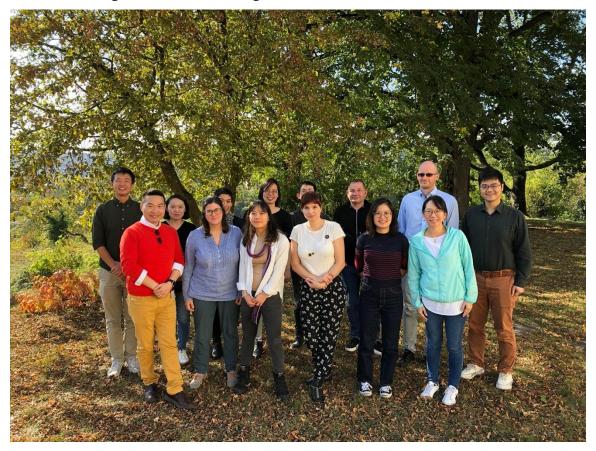
Miles to Go before I Sleep and interactive knowledge co-production" and was held by Prof. Isabelle Cockel. Through her research she intended to answer the question of whether film screening can be utilized as a method for producing knowledge about issues that receive limited public attention. She found that the interaction of the viewers with the film transformed it from a messenger into a site of knowledge co-production since the Q&A sessions and the Facebook posting allowed multiple interpretations of the film and encouraged the audience to contextualize the issues examined by the film.



After a short Q&A and a coffee break the workshop continued with a hybrid book publishing talk where first Prof. Dafydd Fell who joined via zoom elaborated on the academic book publishing process and conditions in the European context. He encouraged all participants to engage in more self-promotion for example through podcasts and lobbying libraries. Prof. Kao joined in on the talk to provide an American perspective on book publishing strategies. He provided recommendations on selecting the appropriate presses and emphasized the need to build close relationships with them by being

transparent about one's publishing efforts.

Finally, the workshop closed with a discussion on the role of Taiwan as Pioneer and its role in the global megatrends where participants used the opportunity to exchange views and ideas linking and recontextualising their own and the other's work.



All in all, these three days will have enabled a number of researchers to forge academic relationships and networks with a view to future collaborations and, thanks to Prof. Kao Ying-Chao's sound advice, to give young researchers additional tools to develop their careers.