

COMPLETION REPORT

China Rising and Taiwan-Japan Relations: Opportunities and Challenges

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I am most fortunate and grateful for receiving the support of the Sumitomo Foundation to carry out research on the topic of Taiwan-Japan relations in the new century. Through the support, I was able to increase my interaction with Japanese specialists with expertise on the subject and improve my understanding of the topic. It is particularly worth mentioning that the grant enabled me to carry out short term research at the Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, University of Tokyo for three months (October – December 2018). Under the guidance of Dr. Matsuda Yasuhiro – Japan’s leading expert on Taiwan-Japan relations and China specialist – among others, I gained new perspectives on the subject that will no doubt help me in further research. In Tokyo, I also had the chance to interact and exchange views with advanced graduate students at the University of Tokyo while attending seminars and talks by academics and key policymakers such as Yves Tiberghien (Professor, University of British Columbia) and Li Li-jen (Deputy Counselor, Mainland Affairs Council, Taiwan). I had the chance to make use of the archive at the University of Tokyo library while attending talks and conferences in the Kanto region (such as attending a conference at Waseda University). In short, the short stay in Japan greatly benefitted my view on Taiwan-Japan relations. It was also during the three months stay in Tokyo that I received a position offer from the Graduate Institute of Futures Studies, Tamkang University (Taiwan), where I taught and researched at this past semester (Feb – June 2019). (From August 2019, I will be transitioning back to National Chung Hsing University as an Assistant Professor in the General Education Center and the China and Asia Studies (English) program)

Noting the mentioned experiences, work is in progress on an article on the development of Taiwan-Japan relations in the new century to be submitted to an academic journal with good international standing. During the grant period, earlier thoughts on Taiwan-Japan relations were presented at the 22nd annual Asian Studies Conference Japan and the International Studies Association annual convention. I plan to make further presentations at upcoming local conferences in Taiwan, including the Japan Studies Conference and the Taiwan Political Science Annual Conference. Noting the growing relations between Japan and Taiwan, hopefully in the near future, research on the topic can be compiled into a volume that can be used as textbook material for my classes at NCHU.

Publication of the Results of Research Project:

Verbal Presentation (Date, Venue, Name of Conference, Title of Presentation, Presenter, etc.) Date: December 7-8, 2019 Venue: National Chung Cheng University Taiwan Political Science Association 2019 annual convention Presentation Title: Taiwan-Japan Relations in the Shadow of US-China Clash of Civilizations Presenter: Tony Tai-Ting Liu *the research outcome will also be subsequently presented at the annual Japan Studies Association (Taiwan) annual conference.
Thesis (Name of Journal and its Date, Title and Author of Thesis, etc.)
Book (Publisher and Date of the Book, Title and Author of the Book, etc.)