

**NATPA Think-Tank Committee
Annual Report to NATPA Board**

July 7, 2016

This annual report by the NATPA Think-Tank Committee (TTC) is being submitted to the NATPA Board prior to NATPA's annual meeting, as stipulated in the *NATPA Think-Tank Policy*.

- I. A review of the work done this fiscal year:
1. Plan: Explicitly support research on East Asia and the world in relation to Taiwan from NATPA's historic focus on subjects mostly related to Taiwan.
Status: Have obtained concurrency from the Board and announced to NATPA members.
 2. Plan: NATPA should encourage members to add a "Taiwan element" onto their specialties.
Status: Have obtained concurrency from the Board and announced to NATPA members.
 3. Plan: Grouping our members into four or five specialty groups, such as Life Sciences, Engineering & Technology, Social Sciences, and Humanities, etc.
Status: The concept has been modified to formulating Discussion Groups on specific subjects. One group consisting of nine economists was formed, in November 2015; Prof. Frank Hsiao is serving as the coordinator for the group; active discussion is going on among the group members; 29 essays have been published since the group's inception.
 4. Plan: Encourage members to write:
Status: We encourage members to write and announce their publications on NATPA Forum at the end of each quarter. There were 63, 50, and 31 essays published in the three month periods ending on December 31, 2015, March 31, and June 30, 2016, respectively.
 5. Plan: The Think-Tank Committee will arrange a two-hour time slot for discussion on Taiwan issues at the 2016 annual meeting.
Status: A session, with speakers Prof. 周鉅原、Prof. 林維熊、and 何澄輝, is scheduled for Sunday, July 10, to discuss economic development, economic security, and their relationship with national sovereignty.
 6. Plan: One of the long-term plans, identified in the August 5, 2014 annual report, is to commission a book project on the political history of Taiwan from the Taiwanese point of view.
Status: Peter Chow, Li Chung-chih, and Shyu-tu Lee met with two professors from Academia Sinica, on 5/20 while they were in Taipei, to discuss how to handle this. We are working on the plan based on the information received from the meeting.

- II. A discussion on our approach:
1. The framework, in terms of organizational structure and guiding documentation, for moving NATPA toward being a think-tank for Taiwan issues is mostly in place. The next task is how to develop the specific knowledge related to Taiwan extending from members' specialty and to mobilize our members to write.
 2. The major task for the coming year is to create more discussion groups in different specialized areas and to encourage members to write.

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