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“Taiwan Today” Lecture sponsored by UTSA’s East Asia Institute



(September 5, 2012) - Dr. Daniel Liao, Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) in Houston will visit UTSA on September 12, 2012 to give a lecture entitled “Taiwan Today”.

This event will take place from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. in UTSA’s University Center Room 0.224. The topics will include the current status of Taiwan, the future outlook of political, economic and social aspects of Taiwan, and recent developments of the cross-strait relationship with China. A small Q & A session will succeed the speech. This event is free and open to the public.

Taiwan, officially known the Republic of China, is an island located off the Southeastern coast of the Asia continent. Despite its small size, it has a population of 23 million people. Taiwan’s economy is ranked 4th in all of Asia, and 18th in the world.

In recent years, Taiwan has successfully diversified its trade markets, cutting its share of exports to the United States down by half. The dependency of trade with the US will continue to decrease as its exports to Southeast Asia and China grow, along with its efforts to develop trades with the European market. The national language of Taiwan is Mandarin. However, there are many other recognized regional languages, such as Taiwanese and Hakka languages. The cultural identity of Taiwan is made from a mixture of various places. It is influenced by China, Japan, as well as Western societies.

The service area of TECO-Houston covers five states, including Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi. Its mission is to promote exchanges and cooperation in trade and investment, science and technology, culture, education and tourism between Taiwan and the Southern United States. The office also serves the interests of Taiwanese citizens living and traveling in the area and works to provide consular service to those in need.

The UTSA East Asia Institute’s mission is to promote appreciation and understanding of East Asian societies and cultures both on campus and in the community through research, outreach, networking, education, student/faculty exchange, and business development and cooperation. The East Asia Institute organizes seminars, workshops, lectures, conferences, film festivals, visual art exhibitions as well as bringing in performing art groups from China, Japan, Korea, and other Asian nations. It also encourages faculty research collaborations both within UTSA and with participating East Asian university researchers.

For more information regarding this event, please contact the East Asia Institute at eai@utsa.edu or visit the EAI's home page at <http://www.utsa.edu/eai>.