For immediate release

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(October 10, 2013 ) The Taiwan Academy recently awarded UTSA a $20,000 grant to host the “Taiwan Series” to promote Taiwan/Sinology Studies.

UTSA’s “Taiwan Series” is comprised of a seminar series, lecture series, film festival, visiting artist workshop series, an art tour to the San Antonio Museum of Art, a Sinology Trivia/Video Contest and establishing a Taiwan Learning Resources Center within the East Asia Institute at UTSA.

Mimi Yu, Lecturer of Japanese and associate director of the East Asia Institute is one of the two principal investigators of the grant. “We are very excited about this funding opportunity as it will bring many Sinology-related events to our campus,” Yu said. “Chinese language, society, culture, religions, architecture, history, arts, customs, and traditions will be introduced to the San Antonio community through the Taiwan Series.”

Sulin Su, Lecturer of Chinese of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures is the other principal investigator of the grant. “We hope the Taiwan Series will inspire our students to take interest in learning more about Taiwan within the context of Asia,” said Su. “Taiwan and Texas share many similarities and Taiwan has been a big collaborator with Texas in terms of its economic development.”

Both Yu and Su hope the “Taiwan Series” will help promote understanding of Taiwan and thus inspire the study and research of Sinology at UTSA and in San Antonio.

The grand opening of the Taiwan Series will coincide with the Taiwan Film Festival to be held on Tuesday, October 22nd, 2013. The campus community is invited to the reception beginning at 5:30 p.m. and the public screening of Cape No. 7 to be followed by a short lecture and panel discussion featuring UTSA’s Taiwan specialist Dr. Thomas Bellows of the Department of Political Science and Geography.
Taiwan and Sinology Seminars are held on Oct. 11, Oct. 17, Oct. 24, Oct. 31, Nov. 7, Nov. 14, Nov. 21 and Nov. 25 in the Main Bldg. room 1.209.

Taiwan Lecture Series are held on Oct. 22 (MB 0.106) and Nov. 26 (MB 4.106).

Taiwan Film Series and Festival are scheduled on Oct. 22, Oct. 29 and Nov. 12. All three films will be publicly screened in MB 0.106.

Art tour to the San Antonio Museum of Art is set to happen on Oct. 27 that will feature the Chinese art collection at the museum with a narrated tour specially designed for the Taiwan Series. Sign up can be done at the East Asia Institute's homepage.

Sinology and Chinese Culture Booths will also be available on Nov. 13 during the International Educational Week (IEW) at the University Center Paseo area.

Visiting Artist Workshop Series are held on Nov. 14 during the International Education Week featuring two calligraphy and ink painting experts Chuan Chang and Shih-chioun Hsiao from Taiwan with a hands-on workshop.

Also available during the IEW is the Sinology Trivia Contest and Video Contest. Call for submissions will be announced on the East Asia Institute’s homepage soon.

All of the Taiwan Series events are free and open to the public. For detailed information about the series, see the EAI homepage at http://www.utsa.edu/eai or contact the EAI office at eai@utsa.edu or 210.458.4943.

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The Taiwan Academy originated from the cultural policy of Republic of China President Ma Ying-Jeou. Taiwan is the major Chinese cultural center where Confucianism, Buddhism, Zen, literature, architecture, arts and crafts, and traditional customs are promoted and preserved more completely as compared to the many regions influenced by Chinese culture.

A number of the Taiwan Academy Resource Centers have been established to disseminate information and organize seminars, workshops and other activities that promote philosophy, literature and arts. By doing so, the Taiwan Academy hopes to enhance cultural exchanges between Taiwan and the international community.

The mission of the UTSA East Asia Institute 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 institute organizes seminars, workshops, lectures, conferences, film festivals and visual art exhibitions as well as hosting performing arts 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.