



March 13, 2020

OFFICIAL LETTER OF POSTPONEMENT

North American Taiwan Studies Association (NATSA) 26th Annual Conference
May 22-24, 2020. University of California-Irvine *to be moved to*
Late May, 2021. University of California-Irvine

NATSA has made the difficult decision to postpone our 2020 conference in Irvine, California, to late May of 2021 in the same location. The decision to not meet in May, 2020 in Irvine is based on recommended measures to protect against COVID-19. For example, the State of California has declared a [state of emergency](#), so had the [University of California-Irvine made public announcement to ban gathering of more than 100 people](#). The primary rationales behind our postponement decision is to ensure our community's safety and to not create additional burden in the wake of an urgent public health concern.

We recognized that the timing of this decision might be of inconvenience for some; we apologize and also ask for your understanding that we have been operating under the most effective rate given the many concerns we had to consider. **Your registration to our 2020 conference will be fully refunded**, if we can assist you with any other reimbursements, please contact our secretary (secretary@na-tsa.org). We will also appreciate if you decline our refund, which will offset some of the financial setback we experience. We thank you for your understanding and appreciate your cooperation in face of this unfortunate COVID-19 pandemic.

For all accepted presenters and invited scholars, our default is to reserve your commitment to next year. Our conference “*Keywording Taiwan*” will still be held at the University of California-Irvine, in late May with specific dates to be announced. We also understand if you can no longer join us given the postponement. Your moderator will email you directly inquiring whether you wish to drop or reserve your presentation.

Thank you again for your understanding. You may direct any concerns regarding this decision to the current NATSA president at d.hsieh@uci.edu

NATSA President 2019-20 Diane (Ta-yang) Hsieh
北美台灣研究學會 2019-20 會長 謝大洋 敬上

NATSA is a US-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization registered by the state government of California. It is established and operated by North America based junior scholars and doctorate students interested in studying Taiwan. The NATSA annual conference is the largest academic event on Taiwan Studies in North America. We provide scholars and students of Taiwan Studies with a regular forum to meet and exchange intellectual ideas, which also allows researchers on East-Asia and beyond to receive dynamic feedback and broaden their academic horizons.

