

[讨论稿]

探寻东南亚的中国研究和知识

文平强 (新纪元大学)

1. Comments will relate to the situation in Malaysia

- Studies on contemporary China have long been neglected by universities and the Govt.
- The Institute of China Studies (ICS) in the University of Malaya is fast emerging as a leading research centre on contemporary China.
- Dr Ngeow and his colleagues have excellent credentials and are actively spearheading focused research on China.
- Research on traditional Chinese Studies (Sinology) and the Chinese community has a rather long history in Singapore and Malaysia. It is the study of contemporary China that is woefully lacking up to now. Singapore is now taking the lead in undertaking research on modern China while Malaysia begins this with ICS.
- ICS and its researchers have accomplished much in a relatively short time.
- ICS is posed to play an increasingly leading role in China research in the years to come.

With the emergence of China and the rise of the Asian Century, ICS would do well to become a leading China research centre, first in Asia and eventually in the whole world.

- To do this, ICS has to be given priority in terms of funding and staffing to build itself up as a leading China research centre in the world.

- Dr Ngeow's presentation shows that several other education institutions are showing interest in research on contemporary China. But given the rapidly growing global role of China, overall interest on China is clearly inadequate to raise the level of understanding of China.

2. The relevance of research on China. To ask some naïve or cynical questions

- How useful are research findings on conducting bilateral relations with China?
- Do these findings help in formulating policies on China?
- How relevant is research in contributing to bilateral understanding?
- Are research findings or ideologies more significant in shaping bilateral relations?
- Many countries are conducting high-level research on China but only to see the worsening of their relations with China.