

## ***TAIWAN MINISTRY OF EDUCATION MANDARIN SCHOLARSHIP***

Through the generosity of the Taiwan Ministry of Education and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Boston (TECO), the Department of Asian Studies at Williams College has been awarded a scholarship for one Williams student to study Mandarin language in Taiwan during 2011-2012. As explained in a letter received from TECO, "this scholarship is being awarded to your esteemed college in the hopes of fostering a strong friendship between Williams College and Taiwan and furthering our mutual academic goals of cross-cultural understanding and exchange."

The scholarship allows one Williams student to study Mandarin language in Taiwan at a university-affiliated language training center of the student's choice for a period of four to twelve months beginning September 2011. (For example, 9/11-12/11, 9/11-1/12, 9/11-5/12, 9/11-6/12, and 9/11-8/12 would all be possible study periods.) The scholarship consists of NT 25,000 per month (approximately US \$790 at the current exchange rate), out of which the student will pay tuition and living expenses. With careful budgeting, the scholarship amount should be sufficient to cover about ten hours a week of tuition as well as moderate housing and meal costs, but applicants should note that air fare and miscellaneous expenses are not included.

Basic eligibility requirements for students interested in applying for the scholarship are:

1. Must not be a citizen of Taiwan
2. Must currently be a student at Williams College at the time of application (any year, including graduating seniors)
3. Must have taken (or currently be taking) one or more Chinese language courses at Williams College

While any student who meets the above basic requirements is eligible to apply, priority will be given to those seniors who are Chinese or Asian Studies majors or who have taken Chinese language through the 400 level. In the case of rising juniors who wish to go to Taiwan for junior year abroad, it is important to coordinate with Dean McKeon, Coordinator of International Education Programs, concerning accredited schools in Taiwan and the minimum number of class hours weekly that is required in order for Williams College credit to be granted.

To apply for the scholarship, please prepare and print out a one-page statement in English and place in Professor Cecilia Chang's mailbox in the Hollander Hall Faculty Mailroom by **Monday, February 28**. In the statement, discuss your reasons for applying and how going to Taiwan to study Mandarin relates to your future study and career plans; also indicate how long you wish to study in Taiwan. The faculty members in the Chinese Program expect to identify a top candidate before the beginning of Spring Recess. At that time, the candidate selected will fill out a formal application, which must be forwarded to TECO by the end of March. Students who have questions about the scholarship should contact Professor Chang via e-mail at [cchang@williams.edu](mailto:cchang@williams.edu)