

**From:** [Media.Relations](#)  
**To:** [O'Connor,D](#)  
**Cc:** [Metcalf,F](#)  
**Subject:** FW: FYI - LSE PhD thesis - Taiwan president  
**Date:** 11 June 2019 16:03:33  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)

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Hi Danny, Fiona,

Just to let you know the Library has been receiving enquiries about Tsai Ing-wen's PhD at LSE. Taiwan's election takes place in January 2020.

Regards

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**From:** Wright,NC  
**Sent:** 11 June 2019 15:54  
**To:** Pressoffice  
**Cc:** Nadal,L; Hix,S; Thomson,MT  
**Subject:** FYI - LSE PhD thesis - Taiwan president

Dear all,

Just a quick alert that the Library has been receiving queries about this alum and the PhD. This happened a few years ago and Simeon Underwood at that time investigated and established these details. We are responding as per the below text. This could be high profile during the election period in Taiwan.

Best wishes,  
Nicola

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**From:** Wilson,Clive  
**Sent:** 11 June 2019 12:35  
**To:** Bell,M; Bhullar,I; Challis,D; Collings,R; Dawson,H; Fry,AE; Gomes,S; Graham1,N; Hayward,S;

Horsler,PN; Hussain,R; Murphy,GE; Orson,R; Payne1,D; Reid,MJ; Towlson,A; Wilkinson,E;  
Wilson,Clive; Zajasensky,L; Benton,A; Rodriguez; Poulouse,S; Donnelly,S; Wilson1,K; Griffiths,CB  
**Cc:** Lsethesonline  
**Subject:** LSE PhD thesis - Taiwan president

Hi All

sorry to send this so widely, but I'm trying to cover all bases. Please forward if you think I've missed anyone.

There are presidential primaries in Taiwan this week to decide who the candidate for the DPP will be. One is the current president and LSE alumna Ing-wen Tsai.

Ing-wen Tsai received her PhD from LSE in 1984: Unfair trade practices and safeguard actions. We have had three queries in the last two weeks about it.

There was also great interest in it when she first stood for election and we had to do a lot of digging. LSE Library has never had a copy and Senate House could not find their copy. We tried IALS as some law theses went there but they didn't have it either. The student record was checked and LSE is satisfied that the PhD was awarded correctly.

The standard response to any query about the thesis is as follows:

Thank you for expressing an interest in this thesis. Unfortunately, LSE Library has never had a copy of this thesis. All PhDs from that period were awarded under the University of London banner and would have been sent first to Senate House Library. As you can appreciate there has been a lot of interest in Dr Tsai's thesis, we have been in correspondence with the University of London about it and extensive checks have been made. Unfortunately Senate House are unable to find their copy.

I am sorry we cannot help further.

But please copy any queries to both me and [lsethesonline@lse.ac.uk](mailto:lsethesonline@lse.ac.uk)

thanks

Clive