

funding rather than replace them. In addition to established university centres and research institutes, one area of potential mutual interest would be a collaborative project related derived from one of the functional task forces of the PECC.

POTENTIAL PROBLEMS AND OBSTACLES

Vocabulary. Academic forums have progressed beyond the earlier jousting on "Taiwan" versus "Republic of China." The basic operating rule has been that when Canada, Canadian conventions and policies reign; when in Taiwan, ROC policies reign. The Taiwanese have generally been quite flexible in using "Taiwan" in naming joint committees such as the Canada-Taiwan Business Association. In educational matters, there is the additional advantage that Canadian provinces have large responsibilities in the area. A more complex problem, though less politically important, is the matter of transliteration systems between Chinese and English.

Political manipulation in Taiwan. Bureaucratic rivalries in Taiwan are intense as are factional divisions and personal ambitions. Canada has not yet developed either the institutional capacity or the personal relations to allow us to move as effectively as do the American in academic relations. In unofficial diplomatic dealings between Canada and Taiwan in the past two years, there have been unfortunate breeches of trust and confidentiality which have slowed otherwise promising initiatives.

There is no simple solution to the problem. Academic issues are, of course, less incendiary than issues of diplomatic representation and consular affairs. The best general strategy is to proceed slowly and incrementally, using personal relations that have been emerging over the past several years. It is also important to avoid generating any expectation that expansion of academic relations will lead, now or later, to changes in the official Canadian position on a one-China policy. Very few academics in Taiwan are pushing for these objectives, but the Ministry of Education has been known occasionally to push hard for political points in the conflict with Beijing.

Caution Among Canadian Institutions. Universities and governments in Canada have exerted considerable efforts to develop linkages with counterparts in the PRC. Few are willing to risk these connections. They will need time to develop confidence that they can also have simultaneous contact with institutions in Taiwan. This again suggests that timing is very important and an incremental approach the best way to proceed. It will also be important not to generate too many large expectations about what can be achieved in the short run. Attracting significant numbers of high quality Taiwanese students to Canada, for example, will take several years. "Taiwan-mania," along the lines of the "China-mania" of twenty years ago, is unlikely to develop and should not be encouraged. Developing common research and scholarly interests is a surer and more profitable form of cooperation.

Funding. This is not a situation in which Canada is providing foreign aid. In fact, most of the initiative and funding for academic contact up to this point, albeit on a modest