

2013.12.11 Wang Yichun, professional librarian from the University of Michigan Asian Library, visited the NCL to exchange views on collection development and bibliographic management, bilateral book purchasing process, as well as acquiring an in-depth understanding of related matters of NCL international exchange.

2013.12.12 Chen Yan, vice President of Shandong University in China, Professor Zheng Jiewen, and Fang Peng-cheng, editor-in-chief of Taiwan Commercial Press visited the NCL to discuss the digitization of ancient books and other topics. They visited the Rare Books Room and the exhibition on “Professor Ye Jia-ying Manuscripts Works and Photos.”



A group photo taken in the Rare Books Room

2013.12.16 An entourage of nine representatives of Tianjin University Library led by their Director, Deputy Director and a section head visited the NCL to further understand and discuss NCL service measures, digital developments, and the Center for Chinese Studies profiles.

Chinese Studies Symposium

2013.10.03

The Center for Chinese Studies (CCS) held the Global Chinese Studies Seminar on October 3, 2013. The keynote speaker was Dr. Henning Klöter of the Department of East Asian Studies at Germany's University of Gottingen.

A CCS visiting scholar and recipient of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Taiwan Fellowship grant, Dr. Klöter presented a paper entitled “A Study of Minnan Literature by Spanish Missionaries in the Late Ming to Early Qing Period.” The study looked mainly at “The Arte de Lalenguachiochiu,” the earliest extant Chinese grammar book written by a European. The book is a record of the language of Chinese immigrants in the Philippines by seventeenth-century Dominican missionaries, as well as the first known document to romanize Minnan words and phrases.



Dr. Klöter photographed with the participants

2013.11.08

The Center for Chinese Studies and Chang Gung University jointly held the second session of the seminar series “Travels in Art: The Cultural Activities and Interpersonal Networks of Scholars in the 13th to 14th Centuries” on November 8, following the first session in March. The guest speaker was Zheng Jiali, a researcher at the Zhejiang Provincial Institute of Cultural Relics and Archaeology. In a paper entitled “A Survey of Southern Song Tomb Inscriptions in Zhejiang Province,” Professor Zheng compared differences between clan burial sites in the Zhejiang and Central Plains regions. His fieldwork showed that among clan grave sites in Zhejiang, very few date back to the Southern Song period, but relatively more survive from the Ming period.



Prof. Zheng in the symposium

CCS News and Activities

■ *International Conference on Chinese Books, Knowledge Construction, and Cultural Transmission*

The two-day “International Conference on Chinese Books, Knowledge Construction, and Cultural Transmission” commenced on the morning of December 12 at the NCL International Conference Room. The conference was jointly held by the Center for Chinese Studies and the Institute of Chinese Literature and Philosophy at Academia Sinica as part of the series of activities to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the NCL.

During the three sessions of the first day, outstanding scholars from mainland China, Japan, the United States, the Czech Republic and Taiwan presented nine papers on the four topics of “Cultural Classics Knowledge Building and Dissemination,” “China and Surrounding Areas,” “Dissemination of Religious Texts,” and “Publishing and (Non-) Material Culture.” The first three of the mentioned topics were also discussed in the nine papers presented by scholars from mainland China and Taiwan during the three sessions on the second day.



The conference ongoing

■ *2013 ROC National Day Reception*

The ROC National Day Reception returned this year (2013) to the Taipei Guest House. The NCL specially arranged for recipients of the CCS Research Grant for Visiting Scholars and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ Taiwan Fellowship to attend the gala with their families. The scholars were honored to be invited to join the reception, which also provided a rare opportunity to see the Taipei Guest House, a grade one national historic site that is rarely opened to the public.



A group photo taken in front of the Taipei Guest House

More than 4,000 local and foreign dignitaries attended the reception. Together, they enjoyed a multicultural performance program at the classical baroque-style building and outdoor garden. An El Salvadoran group presented a graceful traditional dance; a Paraguayan group performed a folk dance rich in Latin style; and a group from Gambia presented the passion and energy of Africa in a performance of African drumming and singing, creating an impressive feast of touching songs and beautiful music.