

on Taiping Mountain that was built during the Japanese occupation. The Jiaoxi hot springs was another whole new experience for the scholars, as they interacted with the toe-nibbling minnows indigenous to the springs.

### ■ *2013 Dragon Boat Festival Luncheon and Research Presentation for Visiting Foreign Scholars*

On June 10, the Center for Chinese Studies held a Dragon Boat Festival luncheon and research presentation for CCS grant recipients and Taiwan Fellows from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Held on the night before the Dragon Boat Festival, it was a successful event, with 36 scholars from 17 countries attending with their families.

As part of the program, musician Hou Guangyu performed three classical pieces on a Chinese flute, giving the visiting scholars a first-hand taste of the beauty of traditional music. The scholars and their families also enjoyed rice dumplings and mung bean pastries. During the luncheon, Dr. Hardina Ohlendorf, from Germany, was invited to discuss her research on Taiwan issues influenced by Chinese nationalism, Ms. Aurelie Saillard, from France, shared insights from her research on Taiwan puppet shows. In addition, Dr. Agita Baltgalve, from Latvia, entertained everyone with her guitar and vocal skills as she sang songs from her homeland. The atmosphere was extremely open, with scholars enjoying chatting with each other. As the scholars introduced themselves, any sense of unfamiliarity dispersed and they were able to identify those with similar research interests.

## News from Taiwan Libraries

### ■ *Taipei Public Library Invites You for Cloud Reading with Millions of Readers Reading Simultaneously*

The Taipei Public Library, in conjunction with 7500 other libraries around the world, has initiated the “Reading Project in Big Libraries”, with a hope to introducing to readers a new way and tide of reading. It ran until June 1. Readers who have a cell phone or an iPad with free App software going to Taipei Public Library’s Audio-visual Digital Platform were able to download Michael Malone’s e-book “The Four Corners of the Sky,” the winner of the Edgar Allen Poe Awards and Emmy Awards.

The Taipei Public Library also prepared a hard copy of the book, translated into Chinese, for readers to borrow. The Library announced that currently there are more than 1000 e-books and more than 500 movies on the Audio-visual Digital Platform ready for downloading and browsing.

### ■ *Action and Interest in Reading the 90th Anniversary of National Library of Public Information Gets Start*

The National Library of Public Information (NLPI) celebrates its 90th anniversary on May 14. The NLPI has been designated as a national digital library. It’s the first digital library in Taiwan. The new main library opened its doors on June 3, 2012 and within one year of its opening, the library had had 2,500,000 visitors to the building and 3,000,000 persons using its on-line services.

The NLPI initiated iLib Reader, the reading action electronic platform, and iLib Go service App

software. They are the first e-reading platforms of their kind among public libraries in Taiwan. iLib Reader is the first reading action software for readers to check out e-books free of charge in Taiwan. With a library card from any library, a user can apply on-line to be a member. Readers are able to check out more than 10,000 e-books in traditional Chinese characters. The on-line services include introduction action App software iLib Go, the library building in 2-D in both Chinese and English, an audio-visual tour and introduction, a QR code for library departmental service information, as well as elementary, young people, adults, senior citizens, and parents and children introductions and tour schedules.

■ ***The World Book and Copyright Day:  
Reading for Love***

In response to World Book and Copyright

Day and in memory of Lucy Chen, the late library director of Shei Wor Memorial Library, Shih Hsin University held its 4th “Reading for Love” activities from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm on April 23. It was a one-day program with 44 sections and a total of 195 participants. Each section read aloud in relays a paragraph from the book of their choice that was most meaningful and most appealing to them.

The idea and inspiration of “Reading for Love” relaying activity was Lucy Chen’s. She always hoped to promote a reading atmosphere and good reading habits on campus. The University President Lai Ting-ming said he hoped to disseminate the faith of “peace,” “blessing,” and “love” through the “Reading for Love” activity to eliminate disasters such as the recent marathon explosion in Boston, U. S. A. and the earthquake in Schichuan, China.



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