

■ *A Look Back on Writing: Professor Lei Xiang Lectures and Donates Manuscripts*

On June 14, 2014 Prof. Lei Xiang donated his manuscripts from recent years to the NCL. He is currently teaching at the Taipei National University of the Arts.

A prolific writer, Lei has published nearly 30 novels and essay collections. In addition, he has also produced over 280 television segments, which show his unique film techniques. After the donation ceremony, Prof. Lei gave a lecture entitled “A Look Back on Writing.” The events helped readers better understand his writings and outlook on life.



Prof. Lei discusses his manuscripts and his experience as a writer.

■ *Southern and Northern Region Resource Centers for Public Libraries Now Open*

The Southern Region Resource Center for Public Libraries was officially opened on May 22, 2014 in the Zuoxin Branch of the Kaohsiung Public Library. The Ministry of Education’s Deputy Director of Department of Lifelong Education Li Yu-chuan and Director General Tseng of the NCL attended the opening, as did the oversight committee for the Public Library Resource Consolidation Development Project and representatives from libraries from across the southern region.



Director General Tseng attends the opening ceremony

The resource center’s holdings can be divided up into four main categories: teenagers, multicultural, culture and creativity, and knowledge. Of these, knowledge books number the most. Currently the center holds over 28,000 volumes, including Chinese, foreign language, and East Asian books (395 in Thai, 464 in Vietnamese, 257 in Burmese, 315 in Indonesian, and 87 in Malay). In terms of material types, there are general books, children’s books, and audio-visual materials. The public has been able to borrow books since January 2014 — a total of 30,000 volumes having been borrowed to date.

The Northern Region Resource Center was officially opened on May 30, 2014 at the Taipei Public Library. Due to the fact that Taipei has been designated the World Design Capital for 2016, the Northern Region Resource Center was built around the concept of “culture and creativity.” It has acquired quality Chinese, foreign language, and East Asian books and audio-visual materials for public consumption, as recommended by experts in relevant disciplines.

■ *An Oral Reading Feast for World Book Day*

Based on results from the national reading survey that the NCL conducts every year,