

and a cooperative relationship with Russia. In December 2010, the Russian State Library's (RSL) director-general and Russian State Children's Library's director visited NCL, during which a cooperative agreement was signed between NCL and RSL. NCL's director-general led a team to tour many important libraries and research institutes in Russia in 2011. During the trip, a formal cooperative agreement was signed with the RAS Institute of Oriental Studies, which served as a basis for the establishment of the Chinese Cabinet.

In early 2012, NCL donated 550 books to the institute as a continuation of culture exchange. In addition, it either continued or established book exchange relationships with many libraries in Russia. Even though the Chinese Cabinet is already established, NCL will continue to add to the collection there, providing more books on Taiwan and Chinese studies.

Events

■ *Promoting Sinology: The Taiwan Academy and Taiwan Chinese Studies Resource Center*

In the second half of 2012, the National Central Library (NCL) decided to expand the series beyond the academy's facilities to well-known university campuses in the United States in order to promote the Chinese culture of Taiwan to their mainstream American public. Among the universities selected to host the event were the University of Texas at Austin (UT Austin), Hunter College of the City University of New York (CUNY), the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), and University of Southern California (USC). In addition, the NCL partnered with the University of Texas at Austin to establish the first overseas Taiwan Chinese Studies Resource Center to continue outward promotion of Taiwan and Chinese studies.

The recent lectures at UT Austin and CUNY were chaired by Professor Chen Fang-mei of the Graduate Institute of Art History at National Taiwan University. She presented a speech on "Temples and Immigrant Identity: A Case Study of the Building of Tamsui's Yinshan Temple in Early Nineteenth Century Taiwan." In addition, Prof.

Yang Mei-hwa of the Graduate Institute of Library, Information and Archival Studies at National Chengchi University presented the keynote speech on "Voyage of Discovery: Scholarly Electronic Resources on Sinology" at UCLA and USC respectively. The lecture introduced electronic resources for Chinese studies in Taiwan beyond those available from Internet search engines.

The NCL donated 83 publications (203 volumes) on art history to UT Austin. UT Austin's Fine Arts Library also hosted "Erudition: An Art Exhibition on Reading the Ancient Aesthetics of Living."

Head Librarian Fred Heath represented UT Austin in signing the memorandum of understanding for the Taiwan Chinese Studies Resource Center with the NCL (Vice Provost's Office - Chief of Staff - Douglas Barnett represented the university in the MOU exchange with the NCL).

This is the first such center to be established overseas by the NCL. The library hopes that the signing of the MOU will help to expand the influence of Chinese and Taiwan studies abroad. The center will also benefit from resources from the NCL to enhance the research of scholars at UT Austin, achieving a win-win outcome.



Vice Provost's Office - Chief of Staff - Douglas Barnett (second from right).

In order to deepen academic exchanges, the NCL donated to UCLA 30 high-quality reproductions of rare books and 45 volumes on modern literature, history, and philosophy.



UCLA Associate University Librarian Dr. Kevin Mulroy (third from right) receives the books donated by the NCL at a ceremony joined by TECO Deputy Director Chou Chin-lung (second from right), East Asian Library Head Librarian Su Chen (left).

■ ***A Visit to Taiwanese Studies Centers and Libraries in Korea***

The NCL actively collects materials concerned with Chinese studies from all over the world and makes these resources available for scholarly research. In addition, the NCL also promotes Chinese culture from Taiwan, disseminates top-quality Taiwanese publications, publicizes sinological research from Taiwan, and improves its image as an important center for Chinese studies. Beginning in 2012, the NCL has actively sought cooperative opportunities with renowned universities and sinological institutions worldwide to establish the “Taiwan Chinese Studies Resource Center.” Because of this, from October 9-15, 2012, the NCL sent Director Shioh-man Liao from the Division of International Cooperation to Korea to visit libraries and institutions engaged in Taiwan study.

Large Maps of China (1943) in National Seoul University Library’s collection.



This tour of Taiwan and Chinese studies institutions and libraries in Korea yielded much in terms of understanding more of Korea’s software plans and facilities. In addition, due to the close ties between the Korean and Chinese cultures, as well as close geographical proximity, there is much in the way of library holdings regarding Taiwan, Chinese, and East Asian studies that should be better understood.



Chang-hwa Hwang, the director of the National Assembly Library of Korea (center).

■ ***The 2012 Winter Season “Exhibition of Reading the Western by Way of Audiovisual Materials” for Greeting Hope and Brightness***

Begetting in spring, growing in summer, harvesting in autumn, and preserving in winter, now it’s time when the season has changed itself to winter while pine and cedar can stand the cold, and plum are in full bloom. In this season of keeping yourself in good health and preserving your energy for later use, National Central Library has prepared for you “The 2012 Reading Together with National Central Library – Winter has Come, Spring is Not Far Behind – Reading the Western by Way of Audiovisual Materials Exhibition” for greeting the hope and brightness of next year.

