National Central Library and Bibliothèquenationale de France Work Together to Catalog Ancient Chinese Books

On August 21, 2014, the NCL released a report on "Cooperating with the Bibliothèquenationale de France on Cataloging Ancient Chinese Books and Viewing Materials in Paris." Francic Li-chung Tu, an assistant editor from the NCL's Special Collections Division, discussed his experience of working with the Bibliothèquenationale de France (BNF) to catalog their rare Chinese books and the conditions of manuscripts and Chinese holdings at BNF.

To coincide with the report, a display of post cards from late Qing and early Republic eras and French published reports and observations on China from the 19th and 20th centuries found in old bookstores and flea markets in France were available for viewing. The exhibition lasts until September 21. These are important materials in researching modern Chinese history.



Mrs. Valentine Gigaudaut (2nd from right), La France à Taiwan's Cultural Section, Director General Tseng (second from left).

Assistant Editor Tu had visited Paris from April to June 2014 at the invitation of the Bibliothequenationale de France. The French library is in the process of cataloging the thousands of works in its extensive collection of Chinese rare books and ancient maps. However, the library has not undertaken a comprehensive cataloging of these resources in accordance with strict cataloging rules. The library therefore asked the Ministry of Culture to request that the NCL send personnel to assist with the cataloging work as a cultural professional.

Learning Visits to 2014 Outstanding Public Libraries

The NCL organized visits to outstanding public libraries throughout Taiwan to enhance professional knowledge of library operations among librarians. Such visits were made on July 31 to the New Taipei City Youth Library, winner of the Innovative Service Award; and the Jingmei Branch of the Taipei Public Library, recipient of the Reading Promotion Award. Other visits were made in August to Douliu Picture Book Library in Yunlin County, which was recognized in 2013 for its unique building space; and on September 25 to Renai Public Library in Nantou County.

2014 Exhibition on the Folk Songs of Yuhsien Teng

The NCL held the 2014 "Taiwan Art Scene: Retrospective on Cheng-po Chen, Yu-shan Lin, Yu-hsien Teng, and Tu-shui Huang" four-part exhibition. This year's fall exhibition coincides with the 70th anniversary of the death of Mr. Teng and features the musician's work.

Known as the "Father of Taiwanese Folk Songs," Mr. Teng (July 21, 1906-June 11, 1944) wrote 89 popular songs in his lifetime. The resources on display were arranged into theme