



Discussion on the cooperation and exchange issue amid Asian Libraries.

A key development at the forum was the ratification of the “Kunming Declaration of the 2013 Forum for Asia Library Directors Kunming Declaration.” The declaration calls on libraries in Asian countries to strengthen “cooperation and exchanges on library collection resource building, cooperation and exchanges on document preservation and protection, cooperation on digital library establishment and joint resource creation and sharing, and support for the establishment of an international library training exchange center.” It also urges progress towards the creation of an Asian library consortium to contribute to global civilization and knowledge.

Events

■ *The “Taiwan Academy” Lecture Series*

In conjunction with the government’s overseas “Taiwan Academy” program, the NCL arranged a four-session Chinese Studies Lecture Series and three-city exhibition on ancient literature on October 11 to 18, 2013, in the United States. The lectures were hosted at the University of Washington in Seattle, the San Francisco Public Library, Culture Center of Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Houston, and Rutgers University in New Jersey. University of California, San Diego Professor Liao Ping-hui, National Taiwan University Professor Lau Siu-hung and Professor Huang Chi-chiang from William Smith College presented speeches on “Digital Resources for Chinese Studies in Taiwan” and “Su Dongpo” during the seminars.



Director General Tseng giving an opening speech

The 2013 Exhibition of Ancient Literature was held under the theme: “A Genius of All Ages: Su Dongpo.” The exhibitions opened in San Francisco, Houston and New Jersey on dates co-timed with the lecture series. Among the exhibited works were replicas of more than 30 rare books and over 90 modern publications in the NCL collection related to Su Dongpo. The books were presented in five themes: recalling Su Dongpo’s life, exploring the emotive world, Su Dongpo’s realm of literature, Su Dongpo’s artistic life, and trends in Su Dongpo’s thoughts.

Several universities and public libraries were visited during the tour, including the East Asia Library at the University of Washington, San Francisco State University, the East Asian Library at the University of California, Berkeley, and Rutgers University Libraries in New Jersey.

There were four notable aspects to the tour, including the following:

- (1) An English introductory video entitled “Resources for Chinese Studies in Taiwan” was produced and shown.
- (2) The speeches presented during the “Chinese Studies Lecture Series” were videotaped in full and posted on the NCL website, making the seminar content globally available to people interested in the covered topics.
- (3) The main highlight of the exhibition was the replica of “The Scorched Edition of the Annotated Su Dongpo’s Poetry” (21-volume set). Replicated from the original Song edition—an 800-year-old national treasure in

the NCL collection, this beautifully printed edition has tremendous collection value.

- (4) The exhibition presented a rich selection of works, including more than 30 replicas of rare books and more than 90 modern works in the NCL collection related to Su Dongpo.

■ *Regional Resource Center for Public Libraries to Increase Library Services*

To improve the integration and services of public library resources, the NCL has actively promoted its Public Library Resource Integration Development Project. According to the project, within four years the regional resource center will be established in northern, central, southern and eastern Taiwan, with eight more district resource centers to follow. These district centers will assist the regional center in purchasing library resources and in guiding the expansion of resource exchange and sharing as well as reading promotion. This will lead to a more integrated use of public library collections and a strengthening of their cultural and educational use.



An awarding ceremony in the regional resource center for public libraries.

With regard to the construction of these regional resource centers, the NCL organized a steering committee comprised of 13 scholars and experts in 2013. After reviewing applications from cities and counties throughout Taiwan, the Ministry of Education assigned the Taipei Public Library as the northern regional resource center, Kaohsiung Public Library as the southern center, and Hualien County Cultural Affairs Bureau as the eastern center. The central center, as well as the eight

district centers will be decided in 2014.

To help the regional resource center build their collections, the NCL commissioned experts to select outstanding books suitable for the general public in the following four categories: youth, knowledge, culture and creativity, multiculturalism. These lists, to be used by the centers in deciding which books to procure, were published in December 2013. They included “Books for Youth” (8,298 titles), Books of Knowledge (8,965 titles), “Books on Culture and Creativity” (8,761 titles), and “Books on Multiculturalism” (5,449 titles). Copies were given to all public libraries and school libraries (junior high and above) as resources to use in promoting reading and in purchasing quality books.

■ *Original “Golden Horse Awards” at the NCL Arts and Audiovisual Center*

The NCL held a special exhibition of works by Taiwanese sculptor Yang Yu-yu in partnership with the Yang Art Research Center. Entitled “Painting Harvest Years: Graphic Designs by Yang Yu-yu,” the display included Yang’s 1963 statue used to model the “Golden Horse Awards” trophy, as well as the first public showing of several graphic designs by the artist, including artwork for the cover of “Harvest” magazine.

Books and early periodicals from the NCL collection looking back on Yang’s life and work were also on display. The exhibition coincided with the 50th Golden Horse Awards Ceremony, which was held in Taipei on November 23.



Artist Yang’s poster and the original “Golden Horse Awards” trophy in the exhibition room.