

The delegation attended the ALA conference and poster exhibition, as well as participated in the Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA) Annual General Meeting.



*The Taiwan delegation at the event opening*

ALA member organization CALA also held its annual meeting on June 29 under the theme of “Exploring the World: Librarian Leadership and Global Outreach.” The meeting is the most highly respected annual event for professional exchanges in the Chinese library community. The NCL, which is in charge of professional library development in Taiwan, has earned respect and attention among its peers in the international community.

NCL Director General Shu-hsien Tseng was therefore invited to present a keynote speech at the CALA annual meeting entitled “Gathering Knowledge, Striving for Excellence, Promoting Culture, Creating Sinology Ripple World-wide: Experiences of the NCL on Library Leadership and Global Outreach.”

The speech shared the NCL’s achievements and leadership experience in the areas of

knowledge services, pursuit of excellence, enhancing culture and fostering global sinology exchanges.



*Director General Tseng presents a keynote speech at the meeting.*

### **■ *Donation Ceremony of Hungarian Heritage Music Collection & Presentation of UNESCO World Heritage - Hungarian Dance House***

On July 28, the NCL held a donation ceremony and a presentation of Táncház, traditional Hungarian dancing, in the International Conference Hall.

Director General Tseng said that the donation of a set of 50 CDs (Heritage of Our Future XX→ XXI) from the Hungarian Trade Office represents classic traditional Hungarian folk music collection for a century. The 20th century was a great time for folk songs in Europe as it experienced a large production of records and other recordings.

Due to the advent of the digital age, and in light of the fact that traditional Hungarian cultural identity is not at odds with their integration in the European Union (Hungarian folk songs are a part



*Director General Tseng gives a welcome remark*

of Europe’s cultural heritage; as such, efforts to keep Hungarian folk music alive are a substantial contribution to the preservation of European culture), Hungarian government officials and music experts proposed the Heritage of our Future project to preserve this music. The aim of the project is to record a complete array of Hungarian folk music throughout the region and digitize them for long-term archiving.

Representative Levente Székely from the Hungarian Trade Office in Taipei began his address with the expression “Receiving Is Nice; Giving Is Better.” Previously, Hungarian officials had presented a copy of this CD set to the Library of Congress in the U.S., the largest library in the world. He then explained that the NCL was the first library in Asia to receive an official donation of this set.



*Representative Székely receives a thanks certificate from Director General Tseng.*

This donation will infuse new energy into music and dance in Taiwan, as well as accelerate culture exchange between Taiwan and Hungary. He later gave a comprehensive illustration of the material being donated. His wife, Madame Hedi Sztano Szekelyne, together with a Taiwanese dancer, also demonstrated the rich traditional Hungarian dance.

During a tea break attendees were able to enjoy red, white, and rose wines from Hungary. In future days, the public in Taiwan will be able to access these CDs by visiting the NCL’s Arts and Audiovisual Center.



*Representative Levente Székely gives a comprehensive illustration of “UNESCO World Heritage–Hungarian Dance House.”*