



Director General Tseng (front row, fourth from left) with Leonard S. Marcus and Jon Agee (front row, third and second from left).



Director General Tseng explains the survey findings



Audience fills up the room

■ **2014 National Reading Habits Results Announced**

Since 2011, the NCL has annually announced an analysis and statistics on the reading habits of public library readers in Taiwan. The latest such data was released at a press conference and model reader commendation ceremony held by the Ministry of Education (MOE) was on February 12, 2015. The event was joined by MOE Department of Lifelong Education Director-general Hsiung Tsung-hua. The findings for 2014 were announced by NCL Director General Tseng.

The data showed that the numbers of library visitors, book borrowers, books borrowed, website queries, and applications for library cards all increased in 2014 compared to 2013 (the number of book borrowers increased to 17.22 million, up 590,000 or 3%; the number of books borrowed increased to 63.58 million, up 1,490,000 or 2%; and the number of library card applicants increased to 12.02 million, up 600,000 or 5%). The book borrowing volume by the readers exceeded 1,500 volumes per year.

Director General Tseng further indicated that, in recent years, the MOE, NCL and county and city governments have teamed up to promote three public policies which are: setting up regional resource centers; subsidizing improvements to public library reading environments and facilities, and implementing programs to promote reading and enrich collection resources. In the future, the NCL will continue to expand cooperation with various parties to promote interest in reading. In his speech, Director-general Hsiung thanked the NCL for its efforts. She also emphasized that 2015 is the “Year of Innovative Education” and encouraged

libraries to continuously improve their administrative quality, strengthen their reader services and propose innovative reading programs.



Group photo after the press conference

■ *Opening of Taoyuan and Penghu Areas Regional Resource Centers*

To help public libraries integrate resources and develop services, the NCL started the “Project for the Resource Integration and Development of Public Libraries” in 2013. Four Regional Resource Centers in the northern, central, southern, and eastern regions of Taiwan and eight Area Resource Centers will be established over four years. Director General Tseng attended the opening ceremony of Taoyuan and Penghu Area Regional Resource Center on February 12 and March 29, respectively.

The Taoyuan Area Regional Resource Center is located on the 4th floor of the Taoyuan Public Library. The Center’s holdings particularly focus on multicultural topics. In the future it will continue to add Chinese and foreign language titles (including Southeast Asian languages) to provide patrons with a richer multicultural information

service.

The Penghu Area Regional Resource Center is located at the Penghu County Library. The library’s holdings primarily focus on youth reading needs and services. In the future, it will begin working closely with the Southern Regional Resource Center (Kaohsiung City Library) and the Tainan Area Regional Resource Center (Tainan City Library) to establish an inter-region reader services system.



Director General Tseng at the Penghu Area Regional Resource Center.



At the Penghu Area Regional Resource Center

■ *2015 Taipei Literature Festival*

The NCL, Department of Cultural Affairs, the Taipei City Government, and Wenshun Magazine jointly held the “Memory and Retrospection: Taipei Literary Reading Seminar” on March 8. Renowned film