

and Institutions) was invited to visit Taiwan for a professional communication from November 10–15, 2012. She gave address on the topic of the “21 Century Libraries: Centres of Learning, Social Action, Inclusion, and Cultural Heritage” and had a communication with local library professionals.



*President Parent (right) giving a speech at the NCL*

Dr. Parent’s address has a revelation and it probed into the current issues that libraries encountered and concerned. Her speech has received ardent responses, feedbacks, and questions from the attending audience for deeper communication.

In order to keep library services in Taiwan abreast of international trends, join international profession associations, and take part in their activities, NCL has invited IFLA Former President Ms. Ellen Tise coming to Taiwan for professional communication in April 2011. This year it is our honor again to invite, in conjunction with National Taiwan University Library, the current IFLA President Dr. Ingrid Parent for giving a speech and networking with local library professionals. IFLA is currently a most important international organization in the field of library and information science, and it is leading ahead the development and trends of library services in the world. It is believed that by this trip to Taiwan, Dr. Ingrid Parent will understand more library development in Taiwan and will share her Taiwan experience with international library professionals.

Since it is the first time that Dr. Ingrid Parent visited Taiwan, after her special topic address we arranged particularly for her to visit NCL rare book room and introduced to her the Chinese classics

bibliography databases. She paid detailed attention to understand the NCL’s collection and preservation of cultural heritage, as well as commended those facilities.

### ■ *Chinese Cabinet at the Russian Academy of Sciences’ Institute of Oriental Studies*

In conjunction with government policy to promote Chinese studies and Chinese culture, the National Central Library continues to actively promote Chinese studies and engage in cultural diplomacy. After establishing a Taiwan Chinese Studies Resource Center at the University of Texas Austin in November of this year, a month later, on December 24, the NCL successfully set up a Chinese Cabinet at the Russian Academy of Sciences’ (RAS) Institute of Oriental Studies.

This act will greatly increase Russian sinologists’ and library patrons’ understanding of Chinese studies in Taiwan. It also increases Taiwan’s visibility and cultural image in Russia. The director of the institute Vitaly Naumkin (who is also a member of the advisory Scientific Council under the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Russia) and Taiwan’s representative to Russia Jack Chen both attended the ceremony to witness this historic moment.



*RAS Institute of Oriental Studies director Vitaly Naumkin (left) and Taiwan representative to Russia Jack Chen.*

The NCL has established close cultural ties

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.

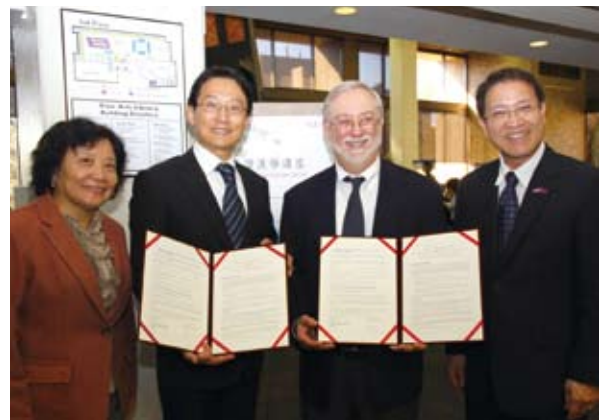
The recent lectures at UT Austin and CUNY were chaired by Professor Chen Fang-mei of the Graduate Institute of Art History at National Taiwan University. She presented a speech on "Temples and Immigrant Identity: A Case Study of the Building of Tamsui's Yinshan Temple in Early Nineteenth Century Taiwan."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