

correspondences by well-known Ming scholars. During the month of the exhibition, historians were invited to present lectures each Saturday at the library.

The five lectures addressed the following topics: Art History in Ming Letters, Growth through Ordeals: Ming Scholars and their Achievements, The Pursuit of Self and Family Relations: From Wang Yangming's Philosophy to Early Qing Idealism, A Look into Consumer Culture from Ming Letters, The Pursuit of Modernity and Late Ming Discourse.

■ ***A Shortcut to Reading: "Evolution in Reading –Enjoying Simultaneous Viewing and Listening" Exhibition***

Is reading equivalent to reading a book? Flooded with and immersed in today's audio-visual materials, reading is no longer just reading a book. Reading has been extended to incorporate "audio-visual materials."

"The Evolution in reading –enjoying simultaneous viewing and listening" exhibition took visitors on an "audio-visual materials" trip, traveling through the rich collection of the NCL Arts and Audio Visuals Center. Visitors were guided towards a new horizon, re-experiencing the rich and diverse audio-visual materials passing through CD and DVD display areas, a language learning zone, movies and documentary films special areas and many other novelties! Besides the exhibition on audio-visual materials, there were displays on the Digital Audio Visual Archive System as well as

the e-newsletter of Arts and Audio Visual Center.

A variety of audio-visual storage media such as different sizes of video tapes, laser discs, videodiscs, DVD, vinyl records, cassette tapes, and CDs collected over the years were also exhibited. One could see the historical development of audio-visual media storage. Of particular interest was the "listening" corner where, surrounded by antique vinyl player and a portrait painted by Professor Chen Jing-Rong of Professor Robert Scholz (1902-1986), one could sit back comfortably on a sofa and quietly enjoy and appreciate the "listening and seeing" exhibition.

The "NCL Digital Audio Visual Archive System" and the "NCL Arts and Audiovisual Center E-Newsletter" are the library's "audio-visual materials" services offered to readers worldwide, enabling them to calmly enjoy world affairs without being limited by time and space.



■ ***Publication Launch Party of Encyclopedia of Buddhist Arts***

On May 13, the NCL co-hosted a publication launch party for the "Encyclopedia of Buddhist

Arts” in conjunction with the Fo Guang Shan Foundation for Buddhist Culture and Education. Compiled over the last 12 years by the Foundation, the encyclopedia categorizes works of art scattered throughout 30 countries in 5 continents. The work is separated into eight main categories: architecture, caves, sculptures, paintings, calligraphy, seal carvings, crafts, and Buddhist artists. Published in 20 volumes, it boasts some 9,000 entries, totaling 3.8 million words, and more than 15,000 pictures. It is the first compendium of its kind in the world and a major achievement in the history of Buddhism in Taiwan.

The encyclopedia will undoubtedly be a must-have reference for those who research Buddhist art, increasing the depth and breadth of research. For the average reader, it can aid in increasing understanding of Buddhist art. In the foreseeable future, this reference set will play a significant role in popularizing education of Buddhist art.

■ ***A Brand New Service, a New Experience: NDLTD Mobile Service is Formally Launched! You are Welcome to Make Good Use of this Offer!***

On April 15, 2013, the NCL launched the “National Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD) Mobile Service.” You may access it with your mobile phone or tablet computer. Enter the URL: ndltd.ncl.edu.tw and you will be automatically directed to the NDLTD web site. If you want to view the PC version, click “PC version” on the NDLTD home page and related

services will be available.

A reminder: before browsing the electronic full text on your mobile phone or tablet computer, go to App Store to download Adobe Reader and Zip Browser.

■ ***Promote the Idea of Open Access to Theses and Dissertations***

The NCL and Southern Taiwan University of Science and Technology (STUST) Library teamed up on May 31 to host the 2013 Outstanding Intercollegiate Theses and Dissertation Authorization and Presentation Conference at STUST, as a way to promote the idea of open access to and knowledge dissemination of theses and dissertations.

In all nearly 300 students from 17 universities attended. NCL Deputy Director General Wu stood in for Director General Tseng in presenting certificates to student presenters. The conference both drew attention to outstanding research by promoting open access and reducing plagiarism, as well as provided a way for these research achievements to find an international audience.



Deputy Director General Wu (4th from left)