

Director General Tseng further indicated that, based on types of books borrowed, reading preferences in Taiwan continue to lean towards popular literature. Translated works were among the most popular children's books. The MOE and NCL therefore invited scholars and experts to compile bibliographies of books under the four themes of "Books for Youth" (8,298 vols.), "Books for Knowledge" (8,965 vols.), "Books on Culture and Creativity" (8,761 vols.), and "Books on Multiculturalism" (5,449 vols.).

The bibliographies have been provided to public libraries nationwide as references for book purchasing. The NCL is also expanding cooperation ties with the publishing industry, cultural and educational organizations, and libraries at all levels to build momentum for universal literacy.



Honored guests, participants and NCL's staff taking a photo in the event venue.

### ■ Prof. Pai Hsien-yung Donates Manuscripts and Speaks on the 228 Incident

Progressing from understanding to forgiveness: On March 30, 2014 in NCL's international conference room, Professor Pai spoke on General Pai Chong-xi's experience and influence in coming to Taiwan, as well as the most harrowing time in Taiwan history—the 228 Incident of 1947. Prof.

Pai donated seven of his manuscripts to the NCL, which had combined total 150,000 characters. These included parts of *Father and the Republic*, as well as "Teach for Two" and "Danny Boy" from his short story collection *The New Yorker*. Director General Tseng stated, the donation ceremony brought awareness to the fact that one's manuscripts and letters are better cared for in the hands of an institution equipped to archive and preserve them, rather than keeping them in one's own possession.

The NCL has established the Contemporary Celebrities' Manuscript System, where it is systematically adding full-text images of manuscripts in its possession to increase their use in social education.



Director General Tseng gives the trophy to Prof. Pai Hsien-yung.

### ■ Harvard Prof. Peter K. Bol Speaks at NCL

Harvard University Prof. Peter Bol, Chen Shih-pei and Yu Wen (a doctoral candidate at the History Department of Harvard University) were invited to speak at the NCL on March 11, 2014.

The China Biographical Database (CBDB) of the University currently comprises about 330,000 records on people from the Tang Dynasty to the

early Republican period, with a large number of records on Ming period figures. In addition to its function as a biographical reference, the database is useful for analysis of statistics, social networks and spatial dimensions in Chinese history.



*Prof. Hsiang Chieh (2nd from right) with Prof. Peter K. Bol (2nd from left).*

ChinaX is a HarvardX course offered through the edX online learning platform jointly established by Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. HarvardX currently offers 24 classes attended by a million students from 193 countries, including 43,000 students enrolled in the ChinaX course.

The ChinaX curriculum focuses on introducing Chinese history, geography, philosophy, literature, politics, economy, art and ecology. The class uses new technology to provide an online anytime and anywhere learning environment for busy people.

### ■ *A Ceremony for the Donation of Paintings and Manuscripts by Prof. Liang Dan-feng*

The NCL held a ceremony for the donation of paintings and manuscripts by Prof. Liang Dan-feng on March 14, 2014. In a speech presented at the ceremony, NCL Director General Tseng noted Prof. Liang's deep cultural concepts and willingness to support the cultural collection work of the NCL.

Since 2012, Prof. Liang has donated over 12,000 paintings and more than 2,000 manuscripts to the NCL.



*Prof. Liang (6th from right) with honored guests attending the event.*

Prof. Liang is a well-known painter and writer. In her early years, she studied at the Hangzhou National College of Art. She is an expert at Western painting and an internationally renowned master of Chinese ink painting and Western watercolor painting, sketching and oil painting. At the ceremony, Prof. Liang presented a keynote speech looking back on her 66-year career as a painter. Some of Prof. Liang's works can be viewed on the NCL's "Contemporary Celebrities Manuscript System" at: <http://manu.ncl.edu.tw>.

## NCL Publications

### ■ *Buddha's Brush, Buddha's Paste Rebirth of a Taima-Mandala Restoration and Origin*



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