

cataloguing cooperation meetings, the “National Bibliographic Information Network (NBINet) Policy Committee” and the “NBINet Meeting of Collaborating Library Directors” were held at the NCL.



A group photo taken at the NCL after the NBINet meeting.

■ The Establishment of the “National Federation of Taiwan Theses and Dissertations E-databases”

On November 6, the NCL, combining with university libraries established the “National Federation of Taiwan Theses and Dissertations E-databases” in view of having a complete collection of the bibliographic data and electronic full text of national theses and dissertations to permanently preserve domestic academic research and to promote global knowledge sharing.

Besides presenting the main directions of cooperation, the current Federation General Assembly also elected 19 representatives from libraries to make up the “Development Committee”.

Also invited for the meeting were Hao-ren Ke, University Librarian of National Taiwan Normal University and a colleague from the NCL who pointed out the significance of the establishment of the Federation and strategies for future cooperation development. In the discussion were pointed out the eventual participation of university libraries from Hong Kong, Macao and Mainland China in the federation, the application of administrative work, the forms of database vendors cooperation and other related issues.



A group photo at the inaugural meeting of the federation.

■ The First Golden Information Awards

In an effort to increase civil servants’ ability to resolve issues by searching NCL databases for information, on November 16, 2015 the NCL hosted the first “Golden Information Awards: National Competition of Library Information Literacy for Civil Servants.” Following the competition, awards were presented by Director General Tseng.

This competition saw questions based on the five main information systems created by the NCL: Index to Taiwan Periodical Literature System, National Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations in Taiwan, Taiwan Citation Index – Humanities and Social Sciences, Taiwan Memory, and NCL Gazette Online. Civil servants were divided into two groups: general (open to all civil servants) and professional (limited to librarians).

The top three from each group received awards. The silver medal for the professional group was awarded to a staff member from the NCL. In her remarks, Director General Tseng stated that information literacy is an important ability for civil servants, as they need to be able to fluently and effectively use library resources to find information required by their jobs and to increase the quality and effectiveness of their work. She also hopes that the contestants can go back and teach the people around them how to make use of library and information tools to find resources, thus increasing even further the overall ability of civil servants in this regard.



Director General Tseng (3rd left, front row) with the prizewinners.

■ 2015 Taiwan Reading Festival

Two years ago the NCL began holding a Taiwan Reading Festival, which entails working with various schools, libraries, and educational institutions to put on many reading-promotion events. These are aimed to increase the amount of reading the public does.

The 3rd Taiwan Reading Festival was celebrated in a festive atmosphere on December 5, 2015 at the NCL and its surrounding area. The NCL held a press conference on November 23, wherein Director General Tseng explained the planned events to the public. The Ministry of Education (MOE) and collaborating organizations were in attendance to encourage the public to participate in the many events of the festival.

On the day of 2015 Taiwan Reading Festival, together with the reading festival was the awarding ceremony of National Public Libraries evaluation results. The celebration attracted more than 1,000 people.

The Minister of Education, Mr. Se-hwa Wu, attended this event. He congratulated the 143 public libraries who were awarded for their special features, their outstanding performance and other achievements. In his speech, Minister Wu pointed out that reading not only increases one's personal knowledge, reading every day also increases the continuous growth of brain cells and produces a more healthy life. He therefore encouraged everyone to read more and more.

Minister Wu also mentioned the present use of the library space which created an atmosphere that is different from the previous set up. He said that in the future, libraries will play a more important role expressing his hope that libraries manage further the reading community to encourage more and more people to read.



Director General Tseng (3rd left), Minister of Education Wu (center) and honored guests take a group photo at the opening ceremony.

After the awarding ceremony, Minister Wu, accompanied by Director General Tseng, visited the festival venue and the various booths giving his encouragement to both the NCL staff and the public.



A number of people are attracted to the outdoor book wall.

The NCL launched the “Donate Uniform-Invoice, Select Good Books, Donate to Charity” activity. This was well-liked and supported by book-lovers. On the day of launching, nearly ten thousand uniform-invoices were collected. These were all donated to the Eden Social Welfare Foundation to support less privileged, disadvantaged family services.

Director General Tseng remarked that it not only wants to attract popular participation in pluralistic reading activities through nationwide series of events and festive shows to promote a love for reading culture. We also hope to call on people to donate to charity their everyday shopping uniform-invoices and their quality books from publishers. In this way, we not only love books, but also give love to others.



Director General Tseng donates the collected uniform-invoices to the Eden Social Welfare Foundation.

■ “Winter Reading: A Feast of Art and Literature” Lectures

In view of enhancing the depth and breadth of the people's reading interest and ability, the NCL held a series of lectures on the theme of “Western Reading: A feast of Art and Literature” from November 2015 to January 2016. Six speakers were invited to explore with the readers: Western literature and art which included sculpture, music, theater, food, architecture, film, across classical Greece, the Renaissance and even