

exchanging their views on Taiwan's international relations and policy creating varied reactions.



Group photo taken after the presentation.

News from Taiwan Libraries

■ National Chiao Tung University 120th Anniversary Artifact Exhibition

As part of National Chiao Tung University's (NCTU) 120th anniversary celebration this year, its library hosted an exhibition of rare manuscripts, documents, and pictures. The exhibition ended on April 27. In 1896, NCTU was called Nanyang College, founded by Xuan-huai Sheng. The items exhibited showcased the historical journey from Nanyang College to NCTU, and then to NCTU's reestablishment in Taiwan. It also displayed the memoirs of Mr. Sheng and other university presidents, as well as manuscripts, books, and information on the founding of the school, its construction, the laying of railroad tracks and other transportation facilities.

■ Tzu Chi University Library Has Used Book Drive

Tzu Chi University Library held a community book drive with the aim of recirculating second-hand books and magazines and of helping the environment. After receiving contributions, the library inspected the donated items. Those that were in good condition but which the library did not have a copy were added to the library holdings and made available for reading. Books that were too worn,

marked up, or otherwise unsuitable to be included in the library's holdings were made available free-of-charge to students who wanted them. The library makes available old magazines and books such as these to students each year. This year 4,084 volumes of used books were made available, of which 3,016 were claimed. That means that over 70% of the books found new owners. The students were happy to find books that they wanted.

■ New Taipei City Library Develops Reading App for Cell Phones

New Taipei City Library has introduced Smart Interactive--Library 2.0+ and has developed a mobile check out service. Library patrons just need to download the New Taipei Book app to borrow and return books, as well as use library facilities; there is no other ID needed. Furthermore, if users download the UDN Reading app, they can view the library's e-book wall, which has more than one thousand popular e-books. These can be borrowed with the simple scan of the QR code. For advice cell phone users this is a very convenient service.

■ New Taipei City Library Expands Reading Services for Immigrants

New Taipei City has the largest concentration of immigrants in Taiwan, with the population numbering 98,000. More than 35,000 children of immigrants are currently enrolled in elementary and junior high schools. In an effort to help develop their reading abilities and habits, New Taipei City Library has expanded its immigrant reading services this year by placing books and learning resources from their home countries at common gathering locations. This will aid them in learning more life information, which will be brought into their families and facilitate immigrant parents and children reading together.

■ New Taipei City Library Offers “Dog Reading Companion” Service

New Taipei City Xinzhuang Yumin Branch Library is the country’s first “Pet Friendly Library.” It launched the “Library Pet Day” and went to the different special education centers in Xinzhuang and to elementary, junior schools resource room to offer the “Pets as Companions to Special Reading Needs” service. In 2016, on the occasion of “Children’s Day”, the “Dog Reading Companion” Service was launched. It offered a free service to allow students with special needs to register. Trained professional of “Learning Guide Dogs” accompanied students with reading disabilities to read in a relaxed atmosphere. They also tell stories to dogs. In so doing, assist to improve the interest of these students with reading disabilities.

■ Kaohsiung City Library Trains Volunteers to Promote Reading in Schools

The A-Lien Branch of the Kaohsiung Public Library has plans to train 100 volunteers in an effort to increase reading in schools and encourage the use of library holdings. These volunteers will then go into four junior high and elementary schools in A-Lien each Monday to share extracurricular books or newspapers with students. This will afford students exposure to different fields of knowledge, expanding their horizons and encouraging them to explore potential interest. It will also augment their writing and public speaking abilities. This group of volunteers is comprised mostly of students’ parents and retired teachers. The first training got underway in April at A-Lien Junior High School.



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