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National Central Library

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Spotlights

NCL Participates in the 2016 Taipei International Book Exhibition

The National Central Library (NCL) participated in the 2016 Taipei International Book Exhibition (TIBE) that attracted a big crowd. A series of activities were organized from February16 to 21.

NCL Director General Shu-hsien Tseng, Director General László Tüske from National Széchényi Library (Hungarian: Országos Széchényi Könyvtár, OSZK), National Taiwan Library (NTL) Director General Yuhuei Yang and other distinguished guests attended the opening ceremony of the NCL booth and launched the campaign on "Dreaming Future Libraries." All were invited and encouraged to use their imagination and creativity to present the face of future libraries.

1. A plain book exhibition combined with dynamic fun activities to introduce the NCL resources and development received very good and wide acclaim.



OSZK Director General Tüske (6th left, back row), NCL Director General Tseng (5th left, back row), NTL Director General Yang (4th left, back row) and NCL staff at the TIBE opening ceremony.

Using the theme of "Breaking Through Innovation. Digital Value-added Services." the NCL created a "Golden Bookstore Dreamland" at the 2016 TIBE. For six days, the NCL exhibited and sold its publications. It was also the venue to introduce NCL's efforts in recent years: the digitization of its collections; the promotion and sharing of Chinese studies at an international level; the offer of professional growth and development guidance to national public libraries as well as other significant achievements. All these enabled the TIBE visitors to see and perceive a different NCL! Besides showing these plain information, together with the NTL, some thirty activities were planned out. Through interesting and catching games, the electronic resources and achievements of both libraries were introduced. Bookbinding, embossed bookmark and other hands-on activities attracted thousands of people with their families to the NCL booth. Those interviewed by the media expressed their high appreciation of this year's exhibition. More people came to know the NCL's newly developed digital resources, mobile phone apps and other services that facilitate search of resources.

2. The Minister of Education, library professionals and friends of all ages, outline together the blueprint of future library.

To create intelligent library services more in line with the needs of society, the NCL held a dream start future library activities, inviting TIBE visitors to imagine together their image of future libraries. On the last day of the TIBE, 85 persons who participated in this activity were chosen by lots received cultural and creative products prepared by the NCL and the NTL. During the period of the TIBE, more than six hundred cards were collected on which were written ideas of future library. These came from the Minister of Education, librarians, foreign friends and others from various circles. Many parents with their children together wrote how they imagine the future library. Some children were very creative using drawing to express their expectations and imagination of future libraries.

On the opening day of the book fair, NCL Director General Tseng, OSZK Director General Tüske, NTL Director Yang, and a 3rd Grade elementary school student wrote down and shared their dreams of future libraries. Minister of Education Se-hwa Wu and others who visited the NCL booth also shared with the public their dreams of future libraries. From the small cards written by people from all walks of life and of various age, regarding their dreams of future libraries, one can identify six characteristics: future libraries should possess high-technology, must be userfriendly, an acceptable human-machine interaction, a comfortable environment, simple, easy and accessible, promote learning without space and time restrictions.



Three library director generals and a 3rd grader share their dream of future library.



Education Minister Wu shares his dream of future library.

3. Library forum invites publishing professionals to discuss the future direction of the digital reading.

The NCL hosted a library forum, inviting six books and publishing industry professionals to discuss on the topic of "Digital Reading Platform and Library Digital Reading Promotion." Together, they discussed important issues on "Taiwan Books Publication Trends," "Digital Reading Platform Operations Development and Trend" and "Library and Industry Cross-border Cooperation to Promote Digital Reading Mode," and other related issues. There was full attendance. Each lecture provided valuable survey analysis information. Participants gained a deeper understanding of the publishing status and trends of Taiwan books, digital reading. Furthermore, it explored the future direction of digital reading.



Director General Tseng (4th left) with the lecturers and moderators.

4. Lectures of OSZK Director General, and gastronomy writer attract a packed audience.

To promote international exchanges, the NCL invited the OSZK Director General Tüske to speak on "The Role and Tasks of an East-Central European National Library in the 21st Century" and a wellknown gastronome writer Ms. Zsófia Mautner to speak on "Budapest Bites- Hungarian Cuisine beyond Goulash and Paprika." A book signing followed and individual conversations, sharing of experiences with researchers, librarians, teachers and students, and the general public. The lecture of Director General Tüske introduced its Library various stages of historical development, from the traditional to the planning of modern systems and its diverse and rich special collections, which included the first map of Hungary, printed books of the early times, manuscript of the Hungarian national anthem, drama scripts, music, leather postcards, wedding invitations and many kinds of small prints. The audience was enthused and asked questions about the selection criteria for the collection of postcards and other issues.



OSZK Director General Tüske speaks on "The Role and Tasks of an East-Central European National Library in the 21st Century".

Hungarian gastronomy writer, Ms. Zsófia Mautner mainly focused on the close relationship between diet and cultural history. Hungary is located in the center of the European continent. Its cuisine is diverse, containing the essence of the neighboring countries' cuisine. Ms. Zsófia also shared the characteristics of Hungarian cuisine that places the importance of lunch and other dietary habits. The audience asked many questions regarding Hungarian feast day food, the food of common people, food taboos, kinds of food and ingredients, their cultivation and other related problems. There was a lively and warm interaction between the audiences: a best witness of "Food Without Borders".



Ms. Mautner (left) with Director General Tseng.

Events

NCL Participates in the MOE Technological Innovation Service Plan for National Social Education Institutions

The MOE invited the director generals of ten national museums and national libraries to jointly launch the "Intelligent Service & Joyful Learning for Everyone: Technological Innovation Service Plan for National Social Education Institutions" with the goal of attaining zero distance to knowledge and unlimited service hours to create a new era in learning.

Through workshops, forums, seminars, questionnaires and other related ways and means, each participating institution will bring together experts in various fields to discuss with the general public their thinking and imagination of how future museums and libraries should look like. The fruits of the exchanges will be incorporated as reference in the details of the planning. Hopefully, with a wider public participation, the content of the project will answer the real needs and expectations of the general public.

Education Minister Wu pointed out that the goal of this Service Project is to assist museums and libraries to bring in intelligent technology using mobile devices and cloud technology to provide the general public with a new learning experience and with more intelligent services. The content of the project will include "Overall Service Model Innovation" and "Enhancement of Core Service." Furthermore, this project will promote that sharing of resources between museums and libraries as well as horizontal linkages.



Group photo at the plan launch press conference.

Imagination - Creativity - Flipping: Future Library

Three Libraries: The NCL, the NTL and National Library of Public Information jointly organize a series of activities with the theme on "Imagination - Creativity - Flipping: Future Library." Through the interactivity between all ages and generations, the general public is enabled to voice out flipping operational planning ideas of libraries, outlining the imagination of future libraries to create library services more in line with the needs of society.

In view of this vision, staring March 2016, the three libraries held the "World Café" events, inviting children, young adults and high school students together to express their imagination in the north, central, and south regions of Taiwan. The participants has come to a consensus on the future of libraries through "World Café Conversations".

A total of 86 persons composing 9 groups from the central region participated in the first session. They are members of book clubs, reading associations, bookstores, teachers, senior citizens, foundations, businesses, county and city governments department of Cultural Affairs, public and university library directors, librarians and others.

During the discussion sessions, they shared twelve key services to future libraries. They enumerated: simplification procedures, adequate