musical instrument of the Atayal (Taiwan aborigines); Professor Daniel Sorichette from Champagnat University, Argentina performed a tango dance.

This was an occasion for scholars to have a better understanding of each other and to exchange and share experiences of their research and life in Taiwan.



The NCL and MOFA colleagues with visiting scholars.

# Visiting Foreign Scholars Taiwan Cultural Tour Experience

To provide visiting foreign scholars an indepth understanding and exposure to the rich cultural and social customs and practices of the people of Taiwan, the CCS organized for them the "Ilan Cultural and Local Customs Tour" on May 18. They visited the National Center for Traditional Arts, Dong Shan River Park, Luodong Forestry Culture Garden, and Kavalan whiskey distillery.

Recipients of the CCS Research Grants for Foreign Scholars in Chinese Studies and the MOFA Taiwan Fellowship visiting scholars come from 21 countries and together with their respective families, 36 persons participated in the organized Tour.

Through this tour trip, the visiting scholars were able to experience and learn more about

Taiwan's traditional drama, forestry railroad during the Japanese occupation and Taiwan distilled whiskey and coffee.



The NCL and MOFA visiting scholars visit the National Center for Traditional Arts.

# **News from Taiwan Libraries**

## Copyright Law of Dissertations and Theses Revised

In the past, whether dissertations and theses in Taiwan were open access or not was something that could be decided by the student. However, with the new revision of the Copyright Law submitted by the Intellectual Property Office, theses and dissertations will all be open access. Officials stated that this move can prevent widespread plagiarism and can increase their research quality.

#### The New Taipei City Library's Main Branch Reaches One Year

The new main branch of the New Taipei City Library, the first 24-hour library in Taiwan, was opened on May 10, 2015. In the last year since its opening, it has attracted 1.77 million visitors and has lent out 890,000 books. New Taipei City currently has 102 branch libraries, and at the end of this year will have a collection of between 6.15 and 6.20 million books. That means there will be 1.5 books for every resident in the city.

#### Run to the Library No Longer

Last year Taipei City began a project with FamilyMart convenience stores to allow patrons to return library books at their stores. Starting in September of this year, a new service will begin — book borrowing. If things go as planned, patrons can reserve books on the library catalog, then select a convenience store as a pick up location. Patrons will be responsible for shipping costs.

## Book Boxes for Businesses: An Effective Service, Makes Reading Much Easier

In 2014, the Tainan Public Library began providing a service called Book Boxes for Businesses. Participating businesses could indicate a theme they wanted books on. The library would then select books that fit the theme and deliver them to the business. In April 2016, this service expanded to local communities and faith centers. The response has been overwhelmingly positive.



# NATIONAL CENTRAL LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

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