

for the NCL.



*Director-General Tseng presents the UW with a book, *The Face of Taiwan Culture*.*

■ NCL and Royal Library of Belgium Sign a MOU on the Union Catalog of Chinese Rare Books

On the morning of May 10, NCL Director-General Tseng and the Royal Library of Belgium (KBR) signed a MOU on the Union Catalog of Chinese Rare Books, opening a new page of cooperation on Chinese Rare Books between the NCL and the KBR. The KBR is the national library of Belgium. Its history dates back to the 15th century era of the Dukes of Burgundy. In 1559, the main collection consisted of many artifacts from King Philip II Coudenberg Palace, hence the library is called the Royal Library.



Director Robert Nouwen (left) with Director-General Tseng.

The signing ceremony of the MOU between the NCL and the KBR was held at the KBR. The KBR director of special collections, Dr. Robert Nouwen, signed on behalf of KBR Director-General, Prof. Patrick Lefèvre. Besides the signing of a MOU, both sides donated books to each other. The NCL offered *The Diamond Sutra*, an ancient treasure engraved book with six hundred years of history for the KBR collection. The KBR in turn offered a 1,535 rebate publication *Het Hennessy-getijdenboek*.



Commemorative gift exchange.

■ Director-General Andris Vilks of the NLL Gives a Presentation on “The Castle of Light: Green Technologies of the New NLL Building”

The NCL invited Mr. Andris Vilks, Director-General of the National Library of Latvia (NLL) to give a talk on June 8. The topic was: “The Castle of Light: Green Technologies of the New National Library of Latvia Building”. He introduced the new characteristics of the NLL building, its energy-saving design features. This attracted many library information and construction industry related professionals.



Director-General Vilks (6th from right).

The NLL was established on 29 August 1919 and founded in Riga. The new building was completed in the end of 2013, and the new NLL opened for the public on 12 June 2014. The key characteristics of the new NLL building are flexibility, light and spacious. Therefore, it is called “the Castle of Light”.

Latvia has four distinct seasons of the year. Through energy-saving induction measures and programs, the greatest achievement is saving 30% electricity. Currently, solar panels are mounted on the Library roof top.

After his talk, Director-General Vilks presented a slide show of the interior and exterior premises of the NLL to share with the participants the magnificent building, the well-lighted interior and the space design reflecting a sense of modernity.

The NCL Director-General Tseng pointed out that currently, green architecture and the environmental consciousness are gradually increasing, so that is why NLL can come and address the development of green architecture technologies for libraries is a rare opportunity. During her speech, Director-General Tseng indicated that the unique elements of the NLL’s green design, when incorporated into NCL’s future plan, will result in a new library image that is “natural, energy-saving, environmentally-

friendly, and sustainable”.



All seats are occupied.

The NCL and NLL have enjoyed a close collaboration. In the year 2013, the NCL signed a cooperation agreement with the NLL to establish the TRCCS. The NCL provided books published in Taiwan and e-databases related to Chinese Studies and Taiwan Studies. In 2015, both libraries once again organized the “Exhibition: Imprints of Civilization” to introduce printing techniques and the developments in the printing industry.

Events

■ Summer Seminar

This summer, from June 4 to August 8, the NCL in cooperation with Lam Research Corporation have a series of lectures on “Sovereigns Come to Rule the World: Their Strategies, Wisdom and Talents”. Many historians are invited to explore the capacity, scope and depths in the governing of six famous emperors in Chinese history, their wisdom and important deeds.

The first session was given by Prof. I-tien Hsing of the Academia Sinica. Besides exploring the merits and strategies of Emperor Wu of Han Dynasty, he compared the Emperor Wu with western historical sovereign, ancient