

The forum organizers and presenters.

The NCL Director-General Tseng in her opening remarks stated that libraries can find a place in modern life for ancient works by printing replicas, holding multimedia exhibits, etc. Furthermore, passages and images from ancient works can be retooled into economically viable products. This retooling represents an innovative approach by institutions that have ancient works in their collections. Group members from both sides of the strait shared their experiences and explored high-end scholarly exchange platforms for Chinese libraries to increase their worldwide influence.

At the end, the NLC and the Nanjing Library exchanged books to augment each other's holdings.



Director-General Tseng (1st from right), Director-General Xu (2nd from right) and two honored guests inaugurate the forum.

Events

■ Taiwan Lectures on Chinese Studies Held in SOAS

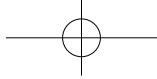
NCL's Center for Chinese Studies (CCS) held two sessions of Taiwan Lectures on Chinese Studies on July 6 and 8 at University of London's School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS). Dr. Christopher Lupke was invited to speak on Taiwanese films.

SOAS is the first participating institution in NCL's Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies in the UK. The two lectures marked the fourth overseas session of Taiwan Lectures on Chinese Studies this year. Dr. Dafydd Fell from SOAS chaired the lectures. NCL Deputy Director-General Ying-mei Wu gave the opening remarks.



Dr. Christopher Lupke (3rd from left) poses with Deputy Director-General Wu (2nd from left) and Dr. Dafydd Fell (3rd from right).

Dr. Christopher Lupke is a professor of Chinese film studies at Washington State University. In 2002, he was awarded the CCS research grant for short-term study in Taiwan. His area of expertise is modern Chinese culture, but has been trained in ancient Chinese, modern Chinese, cultural theory and film. He is keenly interested in Taiwanese culture and society.



Dr. Christopher Lupke gives his speech.

His two lectures were “Decoding Cui Suxin’s ‘Gongliao, How Are You?’: Post-verité Documentary and Environmental Activism” (Jul. 6) and “The Illusion of Teleology in the Cinema of Hou Hsiao-hsien” (Jul. 8). Both lectures attracted a sizable number of students. Deputy Director Wu played a short video “An Introduction to Resources in Taiwan for Chinese Studies” after the lectures. The video explained the process for applying for a CCS grant and encouraged more outstanding foreign scholars to apply, which would increase the research momentum in Taiwan.

■ **NCL Works with Local Counties to Develop Digital Holdings and the Library Facilities**

In recent years the NCL has worked with counties and cities in Taiwan to digitize high quality local publications. On Jul. 27 and Aug. 2, Director-General Tseng confirmed with Hsiao-yun Wu, head of the Cultural Affairs Department of Lienchiang County, and head of the Cultural Affairs Department of Pingtung County, Jin-fa Wu, regarding their desire to collaborate. This means that all three off-island counties (Kinmen, Lienchiang, and Penghu) have agreed to collaborate on digitizing their

local publications and sharing a database with the NCL.



Director Wu (right) and Director-General Tseng.

The significance of this project is not to be undervalued. Not only will it aid in scholarly research and allow the proper preservation of historical materials and modern publications, it will also lead to the development of local culture.

During the roundtable discussions, Wu made a presentation on the optimized library services that the county has developed this year, such as extending hours of operation, incorporating senior-aged volunteers, and promoting family reading. Director-General Tseng and accompanying committee members gave concrete feedback on issues related to the library space design, reader services, and extension services.

In the meeting with the Cultural Affairs Department of Pingtung County, Mr. Wu asked Director-General Tseng and the three visiting committee members to help strengthen the county library facilities. Director-General Tseng stated that she would have experts and scholars to provide suggestions for improving the holdings, reader services, information services, and space at the Jhonjheng Library. She also emphasized that the positive boost in public satisfaction toward the government resulting from developing library services at the county and city levels cannot be overlooked.