

■ **A NCL Poster, “Imprint of Civilization: The Amazing Journey of Books,” is Selected for Exhibition at the 2017 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago**

The American Library Association (ALA) annually holds a conference and exhibition in a different U.S. city. Activities at the conference include seminars, discussion forums, lectures by prominent speakers, a poster session, and a book exhibition. The ALA Annual Conference draws librarians from all over the world.

The 2017 ALA Annual Conference took place from June 22-28 at McCormick Place in Chicago. The National Central Library’s (NCL) poster, entitled “Imprint of Civilization: the Amazing Journey of Books,” was selected for this year’s poster session. The poster draws attention to the special exhibitions of ancient Chinese books and manuscripts that the NCL has successfully held around the world in recent years. It introduces the NCL’s collection of rare books, and shares the exhibitions it has held overseas, including in New York, Houston, and Los Angeles (2012); San Francisco and New Jersey (2012, 2013); at the National Library of Latvia (2015); and at the National Széchenyi Library, Hungary (2016).



Dr. Chia-chi Chao (趙家琦, right) of the NCL, with international librarians from Costa Rica in front of the NCL’s exhibition booth.



Dr. Chao explains the poster to an international librarian from Houston.

■ **Taiwan Lecture on Chinese Studies at Vietnam National University Ho Chi Minh City - University of Social Sciences and Humanities**

On April 27, 2017, the National Central Library (NCL) and Vietnam National University Ho Chi Minh City - University of Social Sciences and Humanities (VNU-USSH) co-hosted this year’s first Taiwan Lecture on Chinese Studies at the university. Prof. Tien-tai Wu (吳天泰) of the Department of Ethnic Relations and Cultures at National Dong Hwa (東華) University delivered the lecture, entitled “The Cultural Practice of Taiwan’s Indigenous Education Policy.” Prof. Ho Minh Quang (胡明光), Dean of Faculty of Oriental Studies of the VNU-USSH, was the moderator in the lecture.

Prof. Wu began her lecture with a brief introduction to Taiwan’s different indigenous groups, the laws relating to them, and institutions governing indigenous education. She then recounted her long contribution to and experience with indigenous Taiwanese education, reflecting on the current way in which indigenous cultural knowledge is passed down and learned. Professor Wu argued that, in researching indigenous peoples, scholars should center their approach on indigenous culture, and by relaxing divisions between academic disciplines, allow a complete picture of indigenous knowledge to emerge. Turning to the indigenous cultural

curriculum in current use in higher education, Prof. Wu proposed an integrated, culturally-responsive teaching model.

The auditorium was filled to capacity with staff and students from the faculties of Oriental Studies, Chinese Linguistics and Literature, and Anthropology.



Prof. Wu speaks on “The Cultural Practicing of Indigenous Education Policy in Taiwan” at the University.



Audience fills up the room.

NCL International Exchange Events

On April 29, 2017 A delegation of 13 directors and deputy directors of Shandong’s (山東) higher education institution libraries paid a visit to the NCL. The delegation visited the library’s facilities, and was particularly impressed by the NCL’s work in preserving and digitizing rare and ancient books.

On May 9, 2107 Dr. Dordzhi Kukeev visited the

NCL to present the library with volume one of the *Chinese-Russian Dictionary* (Китайско-русский словарь, 漢俄合璧韻編, two volumes) from his collection. The dictionary was typeset and printed by the School of Combined Learning (同文館) in Beijing, 1888. Dr. Kukeev, who is based at Kalmyk State University, is a recipient of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Taiwan Fellowship.

The book was originally a gift from a friend. After arriving in Taiwan in March this year to carry out research, Dr. Kukeev was moved by the NCL’s rich collection of rare and ancient books. He felt that if he donated the book to the library, it would assist scholars in their research.



Dr. Kukeev (left) presents the dictionary to Director-General Tseng.

On May 12, 2017 Ms. Nguyen Hoang Yen (阮黃燕), Deputy Director of the Office of Research and Project Management at the VNU-USSH (Vietnam), led a delegation of staff and students from the university on a visit to the NCL. The NCL has previously established a Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies (TRCSS) at the university, to which it returned on April 27 this year to hold a Taiwan Lecture on Chinese Studies. Some of the staff and students attending the lecture joined this delegation, adding special significance to the visit.