

online, and over 90% of reader queries are dealt with by email. In recent years, the university library has frequently hosted cultural events. Director-General Tseng took this rare opportunity to visit the library's service facilities, exchange her experience in running a library, and plans for possible future cooperation between the two libraries.



Director-General Tseng (front row, 3rd left) poses with a group of university leaders attending the book donation ceremony, led by Vice-Rector Ryszard Naskręckii (front row, 3rd right).

## Events

### ■ “Love Together: Love Reading Flash Mob Performances,” Part of a Series of Events to Mark 2017 World Book and Copyright Day

To celebrate 2017 World Book and Copyright Day, on April 23, the NCL organized a relay of three “Love Reading Flash Mob” performances, which took place in the cities of Taipei, Hsinchu (新竹), and Tainan (台南). The flash mobs sang songs adapted from poetry.

The first performance was in the main hall of Taipei Railway Station. After the performance, NCL Director-General Tseng presented Ms. Tantri Sikhina, who was founder of the Migrant Worker Library and has long been providing Indonesian migrant workers with reading books in Indonesian at Taipei Railway Station. The relay then continued as the second flash mob performance kicked off at

Hsinchu High-Speed Railway Station. Passengers passing through the station were surprised and delighted by the singing. For the third performance, members of the NCL flash mob were joined by a team organized by the Tainan Public Library.



NCL Director-General Tseng (right) presents Ms. Tantri Sikhina with books.



The NCL flash mob was joined by a group from the Tainan Public Library to sing at the final performance in the relay.

### ■ Special Lecture “Prague Springs Are Not the Same” Gets Warm Welcome

Following the “Prague: Mother of Cities” exhibition, the NCL and the Czech Economic and Cultural Office in Taipei teamed up again to cohost a special lecture on “Prague Springs Are Not the Same” at the NCL on April 11. Mr. Song-ming Kao (高嵩明), the only Taiwanese to be awarded the Gratias Agit award by the Czech Republic, was invited to speak.



*Mr. Kao states that the entire Cesky Krumlov was listed as a cultural heritage area by UNESCO.*

Before the lecture began, Deputy Representative of the Czech Economic and Cultural Office David Hrdousek spoke. The first thing Mr. Kao did in his lecture was point out how Charles Bridge had long since become a landmark in Prague, as well being acclaimed as “Europe’s most beautiful bridge”. Following this, he focused on religious reforms, scientific achievements during the Renaissance, the influence of musical genius Mozart on the people of Prague, Czech literary achievements, and the Art Nouveau that Alphonse Mucha was representative of and its encompassing of worldwide decorative art.



*A captivated audience listens attentively.*

### ■ **Panamanian Ambassador to Taiwan, Dr. Alfredo Martiz, Presents the NCL with a Collection of Books**

On April 20, Panamanian Ambassador to Taiwan Dr. Alfredo Martiz presented the NCL with 17 volumes published in his home country.

These included a collection of works by famous Panamanian artists, Panamanian children’s stories, and a book about the Panama Canal. Ambassador Martiz explained that two years ago he had been invited to the Taipei International Book Exhibition, and this experience had made him to want to donate books. He hoped that the books would help the Taiwanese public discover Panamanian book culture.



*Panamanian Ambassador Alfredo Martiz (left) Presents a Collection of Books to NCL Director-General Tseng.*

Director-General Tseng remarked that this was the first visit to the NCL by a Panamanian ambassador, and the first time the library had been donated books published in Panama. She continued to say that this was the first step in a book culture exchange between the two countries. Besides presenting Ambassador Martiz with a certificate of thanks, Ms. Tseng hoped that in future the two countries could work together to host lectures and exhibitions. She also invited the embassy to send a representative to this year’s International Workshop for Professional Librarians, which will shortly be hosted by the NCL. Director-General Tseng accompanied Ambassador Martiz’s delegation throughout their visit to the NCL’s Special Collection’s exhibition and stack room. Ambassador Martiz said he had learned a great deal from the visit.