

General level staff, such as Leipzig University Library Director-General Prof. Ulrich Johannes Schneider, the University Librarian at Jawaharlal Nehru University, Dr. Ramesh C. Gaur, and Deputy Chief Executive of the National Library Board, Singapore, Ms. Tay Ai Cheng.

Deputy Minister for Education, Dr. Ching-hwa Tsai, remarked that over the past decade or more the Taiwanese government has been funding libraries, museums, and public and private cultural institutions to digitize their collections and create databases of related materials, which has produced a vast quantity of digital information.

A number of local and overseas experts and scholars accepted invitations to attend the four-day program. They discussed such topics as the working methods appropriate for the digital era, the experiences of different countries and institutions in establishing their respective national memories, and the cultural preservation of life and memories.



*Deputy Minister Tsai for Education delivers a speech at the opening ceremony.*

Local experts also gave accounts of Taiwan's digitization projects and how archives are built up and used. They described how further developing the technology and scope of the management of all kinds of archive and then pooling collective

knowledge could help bring about the establishment of deeply meaningful and effective models of sharing.

### ■ **NCL Partner with UCLA and UIUC to Establish the Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies**

On November 13, NCL (National Central Library) Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng and UCLA (the University of California at Los Angeles) Associate University Librarian Dr. Sharon Farb attended a ceremony to mark the signing of a comprehensive agreement between the two libraries. In accordance with the spirit of the agreement, in future the two institutions will exchange staff, academic information and materials. They will also co-host conferences in which they share a common interest.



*Left to right: Asia-Pacific Research Center Director Zhou Min, NCL Director-General Tseng, UCLA Associate University Librarian Farb, Los Angeles TECO Deputy Director Ping-shen Wang.*

On the same day, the Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies (TRCCS) was officially opened, the 25th of its kind to be established worldwide, and the third to be established in the United States by the NCL. The NCL have initially provided the UCLA TRCCS with a collection of 1,151 both

Taiwan and China studies related research titles spanning 1,188 volumes, which will be added to each year.

On Nov. 14, 2017, NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng and acting UIUC (University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign ) librarian William H. Mischo signed two collaborative agreements. The first of these was to establish the TRCCS, while the second was to collaborate on the NCL's Union Catalog of Chinese Rare Books e-database. The partnership between the two institutions can thus be said to be a comprehensive one. After the opening of the exhibition entitled the "Fascinating Culture of Books," a Taiwan Lecture on Chinese Studies was held as well and Prof. Kai-wing Chow, the Department of History of UIUC, spoke on "Printing Technology, Book Culture, and the World of Print in Imperial China."

The NCL provided the center with an initial collection of 772 Chinese studies and Taiwan studies research-related books, spanning a total of 916 volumes. In future, these will be added to annually. Staff and students at the university will also be provided with access to Taiwan's rich digital collections and electronic databases to assist their research.



*NCL Director-General Tseng and acting UIUC librarian William H. Mischo completed the signing of the two collaborative agreements.*

## ■ International Conference on the Sinophone and Writing Southeast Asia

The Institute of Chinese Studies at Tunku Abdul Rahman University (UTAR), Malaysia, is the location of one of the Taiwan Resource Centers for Chinese Studies (TRCCS). From Nov. 25-26, 2017, Taiwan's National Central Library (NCL) and the institute jointly hosted an international conference on the "Sinophone and Writing Southeast Asia: Literary and Cultural Representations from Taiwan, Malaysia, and Singapore," at UTAR's Sungai Long campus. The conference was accompanied by an exhibition on "Malaysian Chinese Literature and Taiwan."

Fourteen papers were presented and a round-table discussion held at the conference. Academia Sinica Academician David Der-wei Wang delivered the keynote lecture, "Reconstructing Images of Southeast Asia: The Confrontation between Theories and Stories." Besides hosting the conference, the NCL and UTAR also put on an exhibition on "Malaysian Chinese Literature and Taiwan," charting the history of literature written by Malaysian Chinese in Taiwan over the past 40 years.

NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng remarked that the relationship between Taiwan and Southeast Asia was a historically close one. She also pointed out that, not only was this conference the first that NCL's Center for Chinese Studies had held in Malaysia; significantly, it was also the first it had hosted in any Asian country outside of Taiwan. One of the scholars invited to deliver a paper at the conference, Prof Kuei-fen Chiu of National Chung Hsing University (中興), also accepted an invitation by the NCL and the University of Malaya to give