

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

a lecture there on Nov. 23, on the topic of Taiwan Literature and World Literature.



Distinguished guests gather for a group photograph at the International Conference on the Sinophone and Writing Southeast Asia.

■ 2017 Taiwan Reading Festival Forest Reading Carnival

The 2017 Taiwan Reading Festival Carnival was held on Dec. 2 at the Daan Park. It was hosted by National Central Library (NCL) and the Taipei City Parks Department.

This year saw many unique activities, such as the “Reading Wander” where environmental protection experts explained the biology and ecosystem in Daan Park; “Reading in Nature,” which had bookshelves designed to blend into the surrounding space, so that reading can meld with nature and life; “Reading Walk of Fame” combining elements of music, dance, and theater with reading; “Forest Story Village” where Director-General Tseng and other VIPs acted as mystery guests and took children on fanciful reading adventures; “Reading Happiness Parade” that went from the main doors of NCL to Daan Park—the parade started off with a rousing chant “Love reading, embrace happiness, forest reading, go go go!”

Other activities included Forests, Grass Fields, and Reading Groups; Reading 101; I Choose My Reading Style; and Love You Library: Missions for Librarians for a Day.



Forests, Grass Fields, and Reading Groups attracts a lot of children.

Events

■ NCL Holds Taiwan Lecture on Chinese Studies Abroad

The Center for Chinese Studies (CCS) of the National Central Library (NCL) and the University of Tokyo jointly hosted a Taiwan Lecture on Chinese Studies at the university on Oct. 13. Academia Historica’s Director Mi-cha Wu delivered the lecture, entitled “Taiwanese Historical Research and Official Documents.” The NCL partnered with the University of Tokyo to establish a Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies (TRCCS) at the university in 2014.

On Nov. 14 and 17, Taiwan Lecture on Chinese Studies was held at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), USA, and University of Toronto, Canada respectively. Prof. Kai-wing Chow, the Department of History of UIUC, was invited and spoke on “Printing Technology, Book