

modern Asia and to promote cross-disciplinary studies on politics, economics, and business in Asia.

NIAS and the University of Copenhagen's Faculty of Social Science Library have enjoyed a long-term collaboration, housing northern Europe's largest collection of books, periodicals, and electronic resources on modern Asia. It is one of the most important hubs for northern European scholars to conduct research on Asian studies. NCL established a TRCCS in it to provide books and databases in English and Chinese published in Taiwan. In the future, it will also be a venue for Taiwan Lectures on Chinese Studies, exhibitions, and other scholarly events. The far-reaching and positive influence on promoting Taiwan studies and Chinese studies and the increased collaboration opportunities with important universities and research institutions in northern Europe will be great.



Director-General Tseng, Director Geir Helgesen, Chair Ingolf Thuesen, and the Representative Chuang Heng-sheng of Taipei Representative Office in Denmark (2nd right) photographed in front of the TRCCS.

■ The NCL's 85th Anniversary: A Double Feature Exhibition and International Conference Were Held

The National Central Library (NCL) was established in 1933, making this year its 85th anniversary. On April 18 a special dual exhibition:

“Imperial Repository 85: A Showplace of Unique Versions” and the “National Treasures Exhibition.” A number of distinguished former directors-general attended this opening ceremony, including Wang Zhen-gu, Yang Chung-sun, Chung Fang-jung, Wang Wen-lu, Huang Kuan-chung, and Ku Min.

The exhibition “Imperial Repository 85: A Showplace of Unique Versions” had on display classical works held at NCL and well-known by the public, such as *Hamlet*, *The Old Man and the Sea*, *The Tale of Genji*, *The Dream of the Red Chamber*, and *Taipei People*... etc. Specifically, various versions of these works were showcased for public viewing. Through explaining the story behind the differences in each version, the quality and quantity of NCL's holdings, its unique role as Taiwan's legal deposit repository, and its belief in book preservation and knowledge heritage were readily apparent.



NCL Director-General Tseng (4th left) with other dignitaries.

The National Treasures exhibition showcased five exquisite and rare copies of ancient books designated by the Ministry of Culture as national treasures, including a Ming print of *Depictions of Metals, Minerals, Insects and Plants*, the earliest known copy (Yuan dynasty, dual-colored) of *The Diamond Sutra*, a Song print of *An annotated*

anthology of Mr. Dongpo's Poetry, the only extant Song version of *Commentaries of the Five Masters on Wenxuan*; and a very rare hand-written copy by a Song official of *The Veritable Records of the Song Emperor Taizong*.

In addition, the NCL and the Pan Pacific Ocean Group jointly hosted the international conference on a "New Heritage in the Cloud age: Adding Value to and Interpreting Ancient Books" on April 19, 2018. Themes for discussion at the conference addressed four main topics as follows: Preservation and Culture Transmission of Ancient Books; Reprinting Ancient Books and Recreating Classics; Knowledge Construction of Ancient Books; Resources and Integrated Services for Ancient Books. It invited internationally renowned scholars and experts related to ancient books to participate, with 10 papers to be presented, while reproduced the value of ancient books, and enrich the 85th anniversary of the NCL.



NCL Director-General Tseng (3rd right in the front row) with the presenters.

■ The NCL attended EARL's Opening Ceremony

On May 10, 2018, the National Central Library (NCL) Director-General Tseng Shu-hsien traveled to the University of Ljubljana (UL), Slovenia, being invited by its East Asian Resource Library (EARL) to attend the opening ceremony. The President of UL Ivan Svetlik and the deans of many colleges

spoke at the ceremony. Ambassadors from many countries were also in attendance, including the Education Section Head Lu Yun-bin from the Taiwan Economic and Cultural Office in Austria.



The first TRCCS in Slovenia established by NCL.

The EARL is comprised of the Chinese Book Resource Center (Capital Library of China), the Japanese Book Resource Center (Japan Foundation), the Korean Book Resource Center (Korea Foundation), and the Taiwan Center for Chinese Studies (NCL). Each center provides books and digital resources published in its respective country, which support research and teaching needs by faculty and students at the university. The NCL signed two Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with the UL on May 24, 2017. The first MoU established a Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies (TRCCS), while the second invited the university to join the Combined Catalogue of Rare Books database.

Event

■ Israel Economic and Cultural Office Donates Books to the NCL

The National Central Library (NCL) held a book donation ceremony on June 26, 2018 with the Israel Economic and Cultural Office. Representative Asher Yarden from the Taipei office made the donation.