

National Central Library

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Spotlight

■ Fulfilling the New Southbound Policy: NCL Works with Chulalongkorn University to Establish a TRCCS and Hold Series Events

In pursuit of the government's New Southbound Policy, on October 30, 2018, National Central Library (NCL) Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng and Prof. Amorn Petsom, Director of Academic Resources at Chulalongkorn University signed a cooperative agreement formally establishing a Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies (TRCCS) at the university. This is the 28th TRCCS to be established by the NCL and the first in Thailand.



Director-General Tseng and Prof. Amorn Petsom (right) at the TRCCS's signing ceremony.

Established in 1917, Chulalongkorn University is the Thailand's oldest and top-rated university. Its Central Library is home to one of the country's important collections, comprising over one million volumes. Its inter-disciplinary Institute of Asian Studies is dedicated to the fundamental research of the economics, societies, and politics of Thailand and the Asia region, and to develop new research on East Asia.

In the signing ceremony, the NCL Director-General Shu-shien Tseng stated in her remarks that establishing a TRCCS is a win-win situation for both the Chulalongkorn University and NCL. The NCL has donated 658 titles 737 volumes of books related to Taiwanese Studies and Chinese Studies as well as electronic databases to Chulalongkorn University TRCCS, and will continue to do so each year. This TRCCS will not only provide important academic resources for the researchers here, but also will aid in improving the exchange and collaboration among Thailand, and various institutions in Taiwan.

Dr. Chen-yuan Tong, Representative of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Thailand, and Prof. Pomthong Malakul Na Ayudhaya, vice-president for academic affairs at Chulalongkorn University also attended and gave speeches at the opening ceremony, in which they both wished the new center well for the future. It is only by forming collaborative partnerships that libraries will be able to face the uncertainties and new challenges of the twenty-first century.

In order to accompany the opening ceremony of TRCCS, NCL and Chulalongkorn University co-hosted the Taiwan Lecture on Chinese Studies entitled “Thai Studies and Thai Images in Taiwan,” given by Prof. Pei-hsiu Chen of National Chi Nan University’s Department of Southeast Asian Studies. In addition, the exhibition on “The Beauty and Grace of Thailand: An Exhibition of Thailand in Taiwan Memory” was also held at Chulalongkorn’s Office of Academic Resources.

The exhibition’s eight themes highlighted the vibrant two-way relationship between



Prof. Pei-hsiu Chen gives a lecture at Chulalongkorn University

Thailand and Taiwan. The themes were: Statistical Data, Ancient Books, Japanese Surveys and Reports, Memories of Famous Taiwanese, Public Library Services, Earthly Pleasures, Film, and Photographs and Stamps. These were accompanied by 107 books spanning 400 years and illustrating the beauty and elegance of Thailand in the memories of the Taiwanese people. The exhibition took place from October 30 to November 30, 2018. At the end of the exhibition’s run, all the books on display at the exhibition were donated to Chulalongkorn University’s collection.



NCL's Editor Ching-ju Cheng (1st right) gives a guided tour to the guests.

■ **A New Page in Collaboration between Taiwan and Italy: NCL Sets up TRCCS at Ca' Foscari University of Venice and Sapienza University of Rome**

In order to deepen and strengthen the