



Vice-President Chien-jen Chen gives a talk at the International Holocaust Remembrance Day Event.

speech, in which he reflected on the events of this period of history and important lessons we should learn from them.

In their speeches, Director-general of the German Institute Taipei, Dr. Thomas Prinz, and representative of ISECO, Mr. Asher Yarden, both noted that the countries that observed International Holocaust Remembrance Day were all democracies. This being the fourth consecutive year that Taiwan had participated in the commemorations was proof that Taiwan has joined the ranks of the world’s liberal democracies, and could serve as a role model for upholding human rights in the region.

This was the first time that Vice-President Chen had personally attended and given a speech at the International Holocaust Remembrance Day commemoration. He emphasized that, as Taiwan actively participates in the international community, it must always remember this period of history and stand up with other nations to protect the universal values of human rights. After nearly six years of planning and preparation, the Taiwanese government formally established the National Human Rights Museum in 2018. In future, the museum’s remit will be expanded to raise awareness of all kinds of human rights issues, reflecting Taiwan’s resolve to pursue democracy and human rights.

This event was a special collaboration with the Ama Museum in Taipei and the Anne Frank House in the Netherlands. Also on display at the event were Anne Frank’s diary, a model of Anne Frank’s home, and Holocaust-related historical materials and books.

■ NCL Hosts “Taiwan Academic Impact Awards Conference”

The 2019 Taiwan Academic Impact Awards Conference were held in the National Central Library (NCL) on March 29, 2019. Awards were made for the past year’s most popular academic dissertations: “Best Communication Award,” “Hot Topic Award,” “Most Influential Dissertation Award,” and “Best Academic Contribution Award;” for the year’s most influential humanities and social sciences periodicals: “Knowledge Communication Award,” “Knowledge Impact Award,” and “Knowledge Contribution Award;” and for the most popular periodical review: “Best Communication in a Periodical Award.” The awards highlighted the work of 53 of Taiwan’s universities and universities of technology, as well as 148 of its academic periodical publishers, as models in their respective fields. Except the award ceremony, Prof. Dungsheng Chen, Department and Graduate Institute of Sociology at National Taiwan University, was invited to give a lecture on “The Significance and Importance of Establishing Taiwan Citation Index-Humanities and Social Science (TCI-HSS).”

The NCL is designated as the legal depository for Taiwan’s publications and degree dissertations. The National Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD) in Taiwan, TCI-HSS, and Index to Taiwan Periodical Literature System are key academic resource databases that have been set up to access this rich collection of resources, and provide the large datasets for analyzing the impact of different academic resources.

In her speech at the awards, NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng vowed that the library will continue to actively promote the idea of collecting and sharing theses and dissertations, and remains committed to maintaining this complete collection in electronic form in perpetuity, while enhancing this aspect of cooperation with universities. At the same time, the library will forge ahead with developing the functionality of its theses and dissertations databases, which should help to increase Taiwan's visibility and influence in global academia.



Director-General Tseng (5th right) presents the awards to the recipients.

■ NCL Holds the Spring Lectures on Reading: Friendship in Poems

Poems on friendship are an important subgenre. From the earliest extant anthology of poems, the Book of Odes, till now there have been many poems written on the pursuit of genuine friendship. Such poems were written in each age, becoming a massive corpus in the history of Chinese literature. Because of this, National Central Library (NCL) Spring Lecture on Reading for 2019 was on “Peaches, Plums and a Cup of Wine in the Spring Breeze: Friendship in Poems.” The event was held on Saturdays from February 23 to April 27, with seven lectures in all. Scholars were invited to analyze the motivation and mind of poets as they

used their poems to express feelings on friendship. Each session is as follows:

02/23 “An Intimate Friend, a Dream I’ve Pursued My Entire Life: Friendship in the Book of Odes.” Kun-yang Yen, Professor of Department of Chinese Literature, Fu Jen Catholic University.

03/02 “To Love and to Kill Each Other? Friendship and Passion in the Six Dynasties.” Li-feng Chi, Associate Professor of Department of Chinese Literature, National Chung Hsing University.

03/09 “We Both Forget the World Is Sad: Friendship in Tang Poetry.” Li-chuan Ou, Professor of Department of Chinese Literature, National Taiwan University.

03/23 “From Peaches, Plums and a Cup of Wine in the Spring Breeze to My Home South of the Yangtze with Fertile Clouds: Friendship in Huang Tingjian’s Poems.” I-chung Chou, Professor of Department of Chinese, National Changhua University of Education.

03/30 “Friendship Ethics and Friendly Feelings: Friendship in the Four Schools of Ming Poetry and Calligraphy.” Wen-huei Cheng, Professor of Department of Chinese Literature, National Chengchi University.



The Spring Lectures on Reading have attracted enthusiastic participation of the audience.