



*NCL Director-General Tseng is interviewed by Mongolian National Broadcaster*

### **■ NCL and National University of Mongolia Collaborate to Establish Mongolia's First Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies**

On September 10, 2019, National Central Library Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng and National University of Mongolia's Vice President Ch. Lodoiravsal signed a cooperative agreement for a Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies (TRCCS). An opening ceremony was held the same day. This is the first TRCCS NCL has established in Mongolia and marks the 32nd one overseas. Both parties also signed a cooperative agreement regarding the Union Catalog of Rare Book Database. This is a new page in collaboration on ancient Chinese books between the two institutions. It is also a significant achievement for NCL in its efforts to promote international cultural exchange.



*NCL Director-General Tseng and National University of Mongolia's Vice President CH. LODOIRAVSAL sign the cooperative agreement on the Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies.*

National University of Mongolia has played a critical role in the development of Chinese studies in modern Mongolia. The two famous scholars of Chinese from modern Mongolia—Chimedtseren and Jugder—both taught at National University of Mongolia. Under their tutelage, a new generation of outstanding Chinese studies scholars and Chinese language teachers have been trained. National University of Mongolia was established in 1942 and has had a leading role in Mongolian higher education. Approximately 1/3 of the scholars in Mongolia are graduates from this institution and are active in the humanities, education, and science fields in Mongolia, as well as assuming important positions in society. National University of Mongolia's library has a collection of over 360,000 volumes, along with many digital databases.

In 2012 National Central Library began establishing Taiwan Resource Centers for Chinese Studies overseas by selecting important universities or research institutions. This proved to strengthen collaboration with research institutions in Chinese studies in countries throughout the world. It also promoted scholarly exchange between scholars in Taiwan and abroad, thus disseminating the scholarly achievements of Chinese studies in Taiwan. This project was one of four to be awarded the American Library Association's 2015 International Innovative Service Award. Not only does this increase NCL's interaction with research institutions across the globe and provide new opportunities for collaboration, it also enables even more people to come in contact with and use e-resources from Taiwan on Chinese studies. This increases Taiwan's visibility and influence internationally.

In establishing this Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies at National University of

Mongolia, NCL provided 394 titles (541 volumes) of books on Chinese studies and Taiwan studies. Each year moving forward, this collection will be supplemented with new books. NCL also provided the university's professors and students access to the abundant digital resources in Taiwan's digital collections and databases.

During the opening ceremony, Director-General Tseng presented a replica of a national treasure Annotations of Mr. Dong Po's Poems, a work with over 800 hundred years of history, as well as a dual colored Diamond Sutra, the only surviving copy of its kind. The 22 volumes will not only add to the university's collections, but also stand as a witness of this historic moment of collaboration. They also will provide opportunities for further collaboration in the future.

The establishment of the TRCCS aids in broadening scholarly exchanges at the university; it also promotes Chinese studies from Taiwan. In addition, it functions as an important international window whereby more people can read the excellent books published in Taiwan and use the abundant Chinese studies e-resources, thus showing the results of Taiwan's promotion of Chinese studies.

### ■ **NCL Establishes ‘Taiwan Corner’ in Greece’s Athens Municipal Libraries: Taiwan’s Beauty Shines in the Foundation of Democracy**

Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng of the National Central Library (NCL) represented the NCL in launching the first international ‘Taiwan Corner’ in Greece, Athens on August 30, 2019. Director-General Tseng graced the book donation ceremony, held at the Central Library of the Municipality of Athens, when

the Library's Director Vasiliki Lambri and the Children's Library's Representative Roxani Kargakoy accepted the donations on behalf of the Athens Municipal Libraries system. The Taipei Representative Office in Greece rendered valuable assistance to the ‘Taiwan Corner’ project, while Director Lambri's strong support made it possible for the establishment of ‘Taiwan Corners’ in both the Athens Municipal Libraries' Central Library and the Athens Children's Library. It is hoped that the ‘Taiwan Corners’ will bring additional access to high quality books and picture books by Taiwanese publishers, to enrich the rich cultural tapestry of Athens – long a symbol of democracy – particularly in cultivating Chinese reading ability and greater interest in learning about Taiwan.

For years, the NCL has dedicated itself to expand international cooperation and exchanges, which entails both building collaborative relationships with other countries to advance the field of librarianship, as well as supplying academic resources to promote the field of Chinese studies internationally. Since 2012, the NCL has launched over 30 international ‘Taiwan Resource Centers for Chinese Studies’ (TRCCS) with leading international universities and research institutions. In addition to the TRCCS, the NCL has created a new brand named ‘Taiwan Corner’ specifically to advance international awareness of Chinese language and Taiwan's culture and society for more general readers. The NCL plans to work with leading international libraries to establish ‘Taiwan Corner’ therein, and continuously make new donations of quality books, Children's picture books, and Chinese language learning guides each year. By doing so, the NCL wishes to use the Taiwan Corners to cultivate good reading habits in