

Events

■ Elaine L. Westbrooks, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Librarian, Visits NCL to Deliver a Lecture

On July 30, 2019, Ms. Elaine L. Westbrooks, University Librarian from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, visited the National Central Library (NCL) to give a lecture and participate in a discussion at the library's invitation. She spoke on "The Future of Scholarly Communications: Moving Towards an Open Infrastructure." A number of professors from Library and Information Studies departments, library directors, and colleagues in the field of Library and Information Studies from all over Taiwan attended.

The lecture was personally moderated by NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng. The main focus of the lecture was on how university libraries can formulate appropriate development strategies and approaches towards academic resource development that will enable them to share a sustainably developed academic communication environment with university staff and students. In Ms. Westbrooks view, if we wish to create a future of sustainably developed scholarly communications, then besides continuing to work with university teaching staff to advocate the idea and importance of open access to academic resources, we must also understand what academic resources staff and students need in practice; we need to analyze current resource use and user behavior in order to identify core resources, and then use this as a basis for considering follow up purchases of academic resources.

At the end of the lecture, a succession of

professors from Library and Information Science departments and colleagues working in the field took advantage of this rare and valuable opportunity to ask Ms. Westbrooks' advice. They also shared their local situations and experiences, making this lecture an even more meaningful occasion.



UNC-Chapel Hill university librarian, Ms. Westbrooks (center) photographed with NCL Director-General Tseng (fifth right), and several professors from Library and Information Science Field.

■ NCL Holds Explanatory Meetings Regarding Tenders for the Southern Branch of the National Central Library and National Repository Construction Project

Meetings explaining the tendering process for the construction of the southern branch of the National Central Library (NCL) and National Repository Library were held in Xinying, Tainan on August 9 and the at the library on August 12, 2019. Sixteen construction companies attended the meetings.

The NCL strongly emphasized the importance of these explanatory meetings. The Tainan meeting was chaired by Deputy Director-General Wu Yingmei, who also gave the introductory speech, while the Taipei meeting was moderated and introduced by Director-General Shu-hsin Tseng. The project was designed by architect Ching-hwa Chang of

Bio-architecture Formosana and is being managed by Cheng Hsu Engineering Consultancy.

In her speech, Director-General Tseng explained that the project includes the construction of both the southern branch of the National Central Library and the National Repository Library, thereby effectively resolving the issue of the NCL's own shortage of space. It additionally includes other dedicated spaces to house special collections for example. The project is of greater complexity than previous projects. The detailed designs have been completed and are already open for public inspection. It is hoped that the collective efforts put into this advanced project will produce a landmark that raises the bar and increases Taiwan's visibility.

Now that the two explanatory meetings for this construction project have taken place, the public inspection stage begun, and the public appraisal and selection committee established, once opinions on the project have been gathered and the tender documentation duly revised, they will be published on the government procurement web site before the end of August. Construction groups from all over Taiwan are more than welcome to submit a tender to build this world class cultural landmark for the nation.



Director-General Tseng delivers a speech at the second explanatory meeting in Taipei.

■ “Contemporary India: Talk Series” Starts with a Bang at NCL

First Talk “Startlingly Beautiful India: The Rapid Rise of an Inconceivable Nation”

National Central Library and the India Taipei Association (ITA) began to cohost “Contemporary India: Talk Series” on the afternoon of July 21, 2019. The first talk was held at National Central Library's International Conference Hall. Invited to speak was James C.F. Huang, Chair of the Taiwan External Trade Development Council, who has visited India eleven times. He spoke on “Startlingly Beautiful India: The Rapid Rise of an Inconceivable Nation.” Attendance was very strong, with no empty seats left. Before he spoke, special arrangements were made for a professional dance troupe to perform two Bollywood dances. The lecture then began in an atmosphere that was full of Indian flare.

National Central Library Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng spoke at the beginning of the session, stating each year National Central Library cohosts various events and activities with representative offices of other countries in Taiwan. She hopes that through NCL's domain and by integrating various holdings and resources, that the public can come to know and experience the culture and conditions of foreign countries.

ITA President Sridharan Madhusudhanan stated that India can be likened to a large library with many books awaiting the public to come and view. He hopes that this collaborative endeavor with NCL will help the Taiwan public have a deeper understanding of various aspects of modern India.

James Huang shared his knowledge of the various layers and facets of India during his