

At the end of the talk, NCL Director-General Tseng led an active discussion between special libraries and those engaged in research related to Mongolia on the one hand and Director Ichinkhorloo on the other. Many questions were asked about the National Library of Mongolia. This brought the talk to a perfect end.

## ■ Press Conference for Trial Implementation of Public Lending Right In 2020



*A group photo of dignitaries in attendance at press conference.*

On December 31, 2019, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Culture held a press conference, hosted by National Central Library, on a Trial Implementation of Public Lending Right. It was held at NCL's exhibition hall. In attendance were those who had given input into and helped develop the trial system, such as scholars, publishers, and representative authors, representatives from the library association, officials from local departments of cultural affairs, and personnel from public libraries. It also attracted the attention of media representatives from almost 20 different organizations.

When the press conference started, a video was shown explaining the rules of Public Lending Right. It outlined the origins of Public Lending Right and its implementation in various countries, as well as the promotion process and system and the way it could be implemented in Taiwan. Then, the Minister of Education Wen-zhong Pan and the Minister of Culture Li-chiun Cheng both

spoke, explaining the meaning and significance of this trial implementation, as well as the need for reading promotion and cultural creations.

After the press conference, the two ministers and those in attendance participated in an opening ceremony marking the kick-off of the new initiative. Dignitaries used five watering cans to water five large books. As they were watered, five flowers grew out of the books, symbolizing the gestation and fruition of Public Lending Right in Taiwan. By raising Public Lending Right to the status of a national government policy, it achieves the three aims of realizing the spirit of libraries, encouraging creative works and publishing, and ensuring the rights of creators.



*Minister of Education Wen-Zhong Pan and Minister of Culture Li-chiun Cheng sign their names during the press conference to commemorate the occasion.*

## NCL Publications

### ■ A New Reading and Learning Space Close to Nature: The National Central Library Southern Branch & Depository Library



*Published in December 2019  
ISBN 9789576786792*

In 2017, Taiwan's Executive Yuan approved plans for the National Central Library (NCL) Southern Branch & Depository Library to create new facilities as well as to improve existing service content and quality. The new national-level library, to be built in the Xinying District of Tainan, will give the people of southern Taiwan access to excellent public services and become a hub for future knowledge exchange in the region. After the go ahead was given for construction, plans for a variety of services were submitted from across the NCL. In 2019, the library finalized the basic design, which was later followed by detailed plans for its constituent spaces. Meanwhile a special booklet, *A New Reading and Learning Space Close to Nature: The National Central Library Southern Branch & Depository Library*, was put together to inform and educate the public about the project. The booklet offers the public a glimpse of the elegance of NCL's future southern branch, detailing the project's genesis, vision, and planned internal configuration.

### ■ Five Main Themes Booklist 2019



*Published in December 2019*

#### 1. Multicultural Booklist 2019

ISBN 9789576786723

#### 2. Humanities and the Arts Booklist 2019

ISBN 9789576786747

#### 3. Multidisciplinary Learning Booklist 2019

ISBN 9789576786730

#### 4. Scientific and Technological Innovation Booklist 2019

ISBN 9789576786716

#### 5. LOHAS and Environmental Protection Booklist 2019

ISBN 9789576786709

The Regional Resource Centers house book collections encompassing five main themes: Humanities and the Arts, Multidisciplinary Learning, Scientific and Technological Innovation, LOHAS and Environmental Protection, and Multicultural Books. Every year, scholars and experts from the relevant backgrounds are invited to organize a book selection committee to select the highest quality reading resources in each area. The Regional Resource Centers rely on the lists they produce as the basis for replenishing their collections, which increases the popularity of reading. The NCL publishes these five-theme series booklists in December 2019.

### ■ Guide to Library Information Services for Senior Readers in Taiwan



*Published in November 2019*  
ISBN 9789576786785

This publication is a reference guide to library information services for senior readers in Taiwan. It helps effectively advance the provision of services to senior readers in libraries' strategic planning and improves the content of those services and the professional skills of librarians.

### ■ 2019 International Joint Research and Training Program for Development and Application of Digital Humanities



*Published in October 2019*  
ISBN 9789576786761

This publication is the workshop booklet for the 2019 International Joint Research and Training Program for Development and Application of Digital Humanities. The booklet covers the following topics: Digital Humanities Theory and the Development Status of Countries; Interdisciplinary Digital Humanities Research; Digital Humanities and Library Service Innovation; Application of Digital Tools in Humanities Research; Introduction to Digital Humanities Research Planning and Systems.

## NCL International Exchange Events

### ■ Joy Comes from Afar: Recent Important Foreign Visitors

The National Central Library (NCL) has always emphasized the importance of its participation in international exchanges. The library maintains good relations with Taiwan's representative offices around the world, while also frequently welcoming visiting fellow librarians from China and overseas. Between October and December 2019, five delegations totaling 49 library staff visited the library.

Among these many distinguished guests and groups visiting the library to participate in exchange activities was a group led by Prof. Zhenlong Jiang of Fujian Normal University of 42 Chinese literature specialists and teachers based at different schools around Fujian Province. The group, called the 2019 Fujian Humanities and Social Sciences Chinese Language and Literature Teacher Training Group, visited the library on October 12, 2019, with the aim of finding out more about Taiwan's academic resources and how to use them. Members of library staff gave them a guided tour of the library's special collections which left them with deep impressions of NCL's collection of ancient books and documents. During the visit they also had the chance to experience the Little Sun VR Exhibition.



*The visiting 2019 Fujian Humanities and Social Sciences Chinese Language and Literature Teacher Training Group with NCL Special Collections staff on October 24, 2019.*

On November 14, Mr. Omer Caspi, representative of the Israel Economic and Cultural Office in Taipei (ISECO), visited the library accompanied by his wife and colleagues, to pay NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng an official visit. They discussed the activities jointly organized by the NCL and ISECO's for the 2019 Taiwan Reading Festival and the 2020 International Holocaust Remembrance Day, as well future possibilities to work together. Soon afterwards, they visited the "Images of Childhood in Taiwan's Memory" exhibition and the library's Rare Book Room, which left them with a strong impression of the ancient books in the NCL's collection.



*Representative Omer Caspi (center) of the Israel Economic and Cultural Office in Taipei (ISECO) visits Director-General Tseng(right) at the NCL on November 14, 2019.*