

than 125 scholars to come to Taiwan each year.

NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng expressed a warm welcome to the scholars, as well as told them about National Central Library's collaborative projects overseas and the resource exchange in Chinese studies with foreign institutions. She also expressed concern for their health in Taiwan with the COVID-19 epidemic. She explained what Taiwan was doing to prevent an outbreak and remind the scholars to pay attention to their health, to get adequate exercise, and to increase their immune ability. The scholars shared what topics they would be researching in Taiwan, their experiences with preventing epidemics in their own countries, and their approval of Taiwan's emphasis on world health. The atmosphere of the Spring Festival Tea Gathering was warm and relaxed, as everyone enjoyed the festive spirit and interacted with one another.



*At the tea gathering Director-General Tseng welcomes and encourages the scholars there.*



*Director-General Tseng (center) photographed with a group of scholars.*

## News from Taiwan Libraries

### ■ National Kaohsiung University of Hospitality and Tourism Library and Information Center Opens Its New Makerspace in March

National Kaohsiung University of Hospitality and Tourism's Library and Information Center held an opening ceremony and ribbon cutting for its new Makerspace (LIB@NKUHT) on March 18, 2020. What was originally the periodicals section was renovated into a stimulating Makerspace. An activity was also held to help students better understand what resources are available, how to think and come up with solutions, and how to inspire creativity and active knowledge growth. The event emphasized how users can participate in the Creative 2.0 concept and how the space can become a place where the public engages in creative and innovative endeavors.

The space is divided into three main areas: a large study room, a large kitchen, and a bistro. The discussion area is designed like a bistro, signifying the fact that both academic research and practical vocational skills are both valued at the university. Humanities and business themed magazines can be found in the large kitchen and the bistro, respectively. The large kitchen also doubles as a display area for case studies, which can be used by faculty and students can analyze and apply case studies to their research and learning. The university's library and information center amalgamates the heart of the hospitality and tourism industries and the unique features of the school into the Makerspace. The covers of Chinese and Western language travel and hospitality magazines cover the face of the steps, signifying that forward progress comes from knowledge, and highlights the importance of the core holdings in supporting teaching and learning.

The ultimate purpose of the Makerspace is to generate solutions to problems that satisfy societal needs. For patrons, the space and themed

resources provide the needed environment to improve student information literacy and comprehensive thinking ability, to cultivate their life-long learning habits, to inspire new thoughts, and to create the possibility of fostering future issues to explore.

### ■ **National Taiwan Library's “Handicapped Patron Services Digital Learning Courses for Librarians” Now Online**

To provide professional development for interested librarians and persons in related disciplines, National Taiwan Library has designed a Handicapped Patron Services Digital Learning Courses for Librarians to provide a flexible learning model through e-learning. The courses enable librarians the opportunity to increase their professional acumen with regard to handicapped patron services. In 2020 the following six courses were completed: “Communicating with Visually

Impaired Patrons and Reading Technology for Them,” “Communicating with Hearing Impaired Patrons and Reading Technology for Them,” “Communicating with Patrons with Learning Difficulties and Reading Technology for Them,” “Handicap Accessible Environments and Library Facilities,” “Library Services for Handicapped Patrons,” and “Policies and Regulations Related to Handicap Access.”

Teaching videos were not only added to National Taiwan Library’s Visually Impaired e-Resources Search System under the resource classroom option, they were also added to National Central Library’s e-Learning Campus, the Ministry of Education’s e-Academy for Teachers, and the Taipei e-Campus. They provide librarians at all types of libraries and those patrons who are interested in handicapped service issues an opportunity to watch the entire course and to earn certification hours through a test.



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