

helped in establishing several periodicals on library and information science, such as the “International Journal of Librarianship Series” (Greenwood Press). After Dr. Li retired from Dominican University of California in January 2000, he became Dean Emeritus and professor of the university. In 2001 he received an honorary doctorate in honor of his lifelong contribution to the field of library and information science.



In July 1972, former Director-General Li (left) received a book donation from the Republic of Vietnam.

■ National Central Library’s Impression Sun VR Receives Award at the 1st XR Golden Awards

National Central Library utilized manuscripts and famous works by Lin Liang in its holdings to create a VR production called Impression Sun VR. It was entered in the 1st XR Golden Awards held under the direction of the National Development Council. NCL was awarded the Arts and Culture Application Award in the B2C category! Many entries were received for the XR Golden Awards, yet in the midst of such fierce competition, NCL managed to come out on top. Beating other companies and cultural-educational groups and receiving such high praise from the judges was no small feat.

NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng stated that Impression Sun VR is a work of VR

literature for NCL that channels the R&D energy of universities with the aid of secondary schools. The project received support from the Ministry of Education’s Digital Humanities Project to Subsidize Social Educational Institutions. It was a collaboration with Tainan National University of the Arts’ Graduate Institute of Animation and Film Art and the National Experimental High School at Hsinchu Science Park. The text was based off of two classic pieces from Lin Liang’s Little Sun, namely “A One-room House” and “Little Sun.” NCL provided paintings and original manuscripts from its special collections and utilized the newest VR technology to develop a set of immersive modern literature VRs with rich humanities characteristics. The public can visit the virtual scenes from Lin Liang’s works in person as experience the warm sentiments of daily life and raising a family. Impression Sun VR also designed curriculum that go together with the VR. The curriculum invites young students to step into the rich and imaginative world of the author, experience a new face of reading literature, and realize the possibility of flipped education.

The production of the VR piece received the strong support of Lin Liang himself, who provided the production team many verbal explanations of the spatial and temporal background his works. This enabled the VR to show exactly what the one-room house would have looked like those many years ago. Unfortunately Lin Liang passed away before the VR was finished. That he never got to experience it was the biggest regret of the production team.

As soon as NCL’s Impression Sun VR was released, it received great reviews. In addition, it was actively promoted during the different events of the Taiwan Reading Festival. It is currently available in full VR form on the fourth floor of NCL in its digital experience area. It was also made into a 360-degree video that can be played on Mobile VR headsets. Social educational

institutions are also invited to request a VR installation CD via written letter so that it can be promoted in many other ways. Please refer to Impression Sun VR 360-degree video: <https://reurl.cc/20IOev>.



NCL VR is awarded the Best XR Cultural Art Application Award at the 1st XR Golden Awards.



During the ceremony, awards are handed out using augmented reality scenes; Director of the Special Collections Division, NCL Ms. Lu represents NCL in receiving the award.



The key vision of the Impression Sun VR.

Events

■ Crossing over the Pandemic Fence: National Central Library Works with Other Institutions to Donate Books to Harvard University and Brown University in Scholarly Exchange

National Central Library, Academia Sinica, and National Taiwan University Press collectively donated more than 700 books and audio-visual materials at the end of April 2020. These were outstanding publications on research in the humanities and social sciences from Taiwan and were donated to important scholarly institutions in the U.S.: the Harvard–Yenching Library, the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, and Brown University Library’s East Asian Collection. Due to the disruption caused by COVID-19, the annual meeting for the Association for Asian Studies (AAS), which has been held consecutively for 70 years, and related exhibitions were canceled this year. The annual meeting would have been held from March 19-22, 2020 in Boston.

National Central Library and two other participating institutions, in addition to the collaboration of the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange, contacted Harvard and the other institutions before the annual meeting to propose the donation—ensuring that the books which had already arrived in the U.S. would continue to make contributions to scholarly research. The donation that NCL planned on displaying included 349 volumes in the humanities and social science fields on Taiwan studies and Chinese studies published in the last three years; if the donations from the other institutions are added in, it comes to a total of 700 books and audio-visual materials. A special effort was made to contact these institutions before the annual meeting, so that scholarly exchange would not stop just because of the pandemic. Even though most schools in Massachusetts and Rhode Island are under lockdown, and the people of Massachusetts are under stay-at-home orders