■ National Central Library Receives Outstanding Government Institution National Integrity Award, a First for Social or Educational Institutions

National Central Library represented the Ministry of Education in participating the 2020 National Integrity Awards evaluation. Due to its robust array of transparent information and administrative policies, along with services to make digital technology more accessible to the public, the fact that it created a complete SOP for creating digital assets, proactively making library holdings more usable, creating partnerships with other industries, and other such honest and creative endeavors caught the attention of the reviewers. Out of 16 government institutions that participated in the competition, NCL stood out and was awarded the National Integrity Award by the Agency against Corruption (AAC), which is part of the Ministry of Justice in Taiwan. The library is the first socioeducational institution to receive this distinct honor. On April 29, the AAC held the National Integrity Awards Evaluation Result Meeting and Awards Ceremony at NCL.

Minister of Justice Ching-hsiang Tsai presents the National Integrity Award to NCL Director-General Tseng.

The United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) was passed by the General Assembly on October 31, 2003 as the guide for the member states' governments in legislation and policy-making in the campaign against corruption. All member states should observe the UNCAC and fight against corruption. Taiwan passed legislation based on the UNCAC in 2015. Governments of the member states are obliged to handle public affairs under the principles of integrity and transparency.

In 2018, Taiwan held an international review conference on the initial report under the UNCAC. The members of the review board proposed 47 concluding observations. No.13 was "Conducting, annually, the Integrity Assessment on public institutions to encourage internal efforts for better governance and integrity." The AAC commissioned Transparency International – Taiwan to propose a series of mechanisms for "the encouragement of integrity evaluation on public institutions." As such, the National Integrity Award, an award at the national level and based on the "Evaluation Standard" of the AAC for evaluation of integrity, was proposed for this purpose.

The aim of creating the National Integrity Award is to encourage government departments to proactively inspect themselves through the award evaluation system. This strengthens the corruption early warning system and brings in new honest and innovative policies, establishes benchmark learning models, and increases the honest image of the government. In terms of feedback, through participating in the National Integrity Award selection process, the need for integrity was more fully solidified in both administrators and staff, understanding risks associated with the institution and how to control those risks, strengthening integrity practices, and through outside committee participation, outstanding aspects of the institution were identified. Through encouraging the institutions to self-assess how honest their policies are, it reveals the commitment all of the staff of the institution has toward these policies. Actual practices are highlighted and then the results and effects of such policies are evaluated by a third party. This is to show how much trust in the transparency and integrity of a government institution is perceived by the public.

The award evaluation process for 2020 began with 16 competent authorities from national and local government agencies. They were asked to recommend an organization under their jurisdiction. Recommended agencies were not limited to only those already making reform efforts. These institutions had a time limit by which fill out the award application based on the factors being evaluated. Then the evaluation committee went

to each participating institution to conduct an onsite evaluation. The last step was to hold a decisionmeeting where the committee members discussed the results and decided on the winners. A total of six institutions were selected for awards. The reasons for their selection were clearly outlined. The five main areas of assessment are: 1. The determination and sustained efforts of the person in charge (20%); 2. Transparency in information and administration (25%); 3. Risk prevention measures and accountability (25%); 4. Displayable effects of honesty in government (15%); and 5. Innovation and expansion in integrity practices (15%).

The NCL team is together with the reviewers and other distinguished guests.

Five highlights from NCL's evaluation are: 1. proactively implements integrity and ability in every aspect; 2. guarantees information transparency, with honest and open administrative behavior; 3. protects national assets and insists on honest policies with good execution; 4. many reports of the library's openness, transparency, and initiative; 5. cross-discipline collaboration to create new and innovative services.

During NCL's participation in the evaluation process, the library staff focused on the Director-General's statement "Operational integrity is everybody's responsibility." The staff worked together to complete the tasks for participating in the evaluation. Apart from displaying NCL teamwork and execution ability, the evaluation process caused everyone to become clearer on what risks are involved in their position and how to mitigate those risks. In addition, they gained a better understanding of the relationship between information and administrative transparency on one side and library operations on the other. In the future, more principles of benefit-inducing integrity can be integrated into

the library's operations, thusimproving service quality and a competitive edge internationally. After NCL was given the award, other organizations expressed their desire to learn about what NCL did during the award application process. NCL happily shared their experience in the hopes that such a contribution will create a positive cycle. NCL will continue to pursue excellence and innovation, leading the library science field in Taiwan, expand service abilities, and exert an influence across the globe.

■ 2021 Taiwan Scholarly Resource Influence News Conference

National Central Library has long been striving to preserve important scholarly resources in Taiwan. As such, it has created three main databases: the National Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations in Taiwan, the Taiwan Citation Index – Humanities and Social Sciences, and the NCL Taiwan Periodical Literature. Each year the use of these databases is analyzed, showing how theses and dissertations, as well as other scholarly resources in Taiwan are used. Popular research topics in recent years are also highlighted in the analysis. Awards are offered to journal publishers and universities according to the use of these resources at the Taiwan Scholarly Resource Influence News Conference. The aim of this activity is to thank publishers of various fields for their contributions to scholarship in publishing excellent scholarly resources in Taiwan.

According to the statistical analysis of NCL's database use up to the end of 2020 and its use records, meticulous statistical investigation was conducted to arrange the results in order of users' use. Awards for scholarly resource influence were given based on total use of the resources analyzed. Through recognizing and awarding those institutions for their outstanding contributions to scholarly resources and research, it is hoped that others will be encouraged and motivated to follow their example. That way Taiwan's research energy can be upgraded on a countrywide level. Awards presented include Journal Resource Contribution Award, Instant Dissemination of a Journal Award, Long-term Dissemination of a Journal Award, Theses and Dissertation Dissemination Award, Theses and Dissertation Open Access Award, and Theses and