



NCL Director-General Tseng attends the opening ceremony for Fo Guang Shan's 2021 International Book Exhibition: *Forever Starting from a Place of Loving Care* and book donation ceremony, receiving a donation of *The Encyclopedia of Buddhist Arts* for NCL and public libraries.



NCL Director-General Tseng presents a certificate of appreciation to Fo Guang Shan Cultural Education Foundation Director Venerable Master Ju Chang.

■ Gathering Information on Scholarly Events by Chinese Studies Institutions in Taiwan: A Voice to the World, the Oldest Brand of Chinese Studies Newsletters—*Newsletter for Research in Chinese Studies* Turns Forty

Currently the longest running and most widely distributed international scholarly publication on research findings and research trends in Taiwan is the *Newsletter for Research in Chinese Studies*, which is soon turning a dignified 40! To thank the scholarly world for its long-term support, National Central Library held a *Newsletter for Research in Chinese Studies* and the Digital Transmission Age Workshop on December 29, 2021. Each contributing institution and experienced

correspondent were presented with certificates of appreciation. As part of the event, arrangements were made for Prof. Chu-shan Chiang, the Dean of the Graduate Institute of History at National Central University to talk on scholarly dissemination in the digital age.

NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng stated that National Central Library's Center for Chinese Studies (CCS) was established in 1981, making it 40 years since its inception. *Newsletter for Research in Chinese Studies* was started in January 1982 and was CCS's first publication. It is also the primary bridge by which communication happens with the academia. More importantly, it is the longest running humanities newsletter published in Taiwan. To date it has been going for 40 years, with a total of 160 issues. Publishing the *Newsletter for Research in Chinese Studies* is one of the most important tasks the Center for Chinese Studies has, as its distribution web is spread over the entire globe. It has long been a well-known and influential periodical in the international Chinese studies community. The aim of the newsletter is to help scholars be well alerted of scholarly trends by publishing information on new research, and thus help bringing about development in scholarly research. Contents of the Newsletter cover research, teaching, events, and current information from Taiwan and abroad. Over the last 40 years, it has received the support of universities and research institutes in Taiwan and abroad through a vast network of over one hundred correspondents. Also, starting in 2006, the Center for Chinese Studies developed the *E-Newsletter for Research in Chinese Studies*; in 2018 it incorporated GIS to make the information more interactive. Also, it has begun inviting scholarly groups to communicate at Facebook to instantly spread information about scholarly publications. All of these efforts have resulted in the Chinese studies community worldwide valuing the publication. It is viewed as one of the most important publications in understanding trends in Taiwan and abroad in Chinese studies.

During the workshop, NCL expressed its heartfelt gratitude to those academic institutions and correspondents who have for many years provided valuable information to the *Newsletter for Research in Chinese Studies*. Certificate of appreciation called Scholarly Information Dissemination Institution Awards were given to 22 academic institutions and universities

in Taiwan. Also, 20 information correspondents in various organizations were awarded the Scholarly Information Dissemination Individual Award. Director-General Tseng hopes that correspondents will continue to provide information in the future, not only for the benefit of the organizations for which they work but also as a record of scholarly development in Taiwan. Furthermore, through the *Newsletter for Research in Chinese Studies* the academic achievements in Taiwan will continue to be shared with the rest of the world. At the same time, this event also featured a lecture by Prof. Chu-shan Chiang, the Dean of the Graduate Institute of History at National Central University, who shared his experience on scholarly dissemination in the digital age.

Over 30 correspondents and institutional representatives attended the workshop, including Director of the Institute of History and Philology at Academia Sinica Dr. Jen-der Lee, Department Chair of the Chinese Department at National Sun Yat-sen University Chia-lun Du, National Cheng Kung University's Department of Chinese Literature Chair Sheng-sung Huang, National Palace Museum's Senior Executive Officer of Department of Rare Books and Historical Documents Hsiao-ming Yu. There was an energetic yet welcoming atmosphere at the workshop, and Prof. Chiang's pleasant humorous talk brought it to a perfect ending.



A group photo of attendees of the *Newsletter for Research in Chinese Studies* and the *Digital Transmission Age Workshop*.

■ The 50th Anniversary of *Taipei People*: The Inexhaustible Hsien-yung Pai

On December 11-12, National Central Library and Trends Education Foundation teamed up to host

a conference on “The 50th Anniversary of *Taipei People*: The Inexhaustible Hsien-yung Pai” at NCL’s international conference hall. Invited to the conference were Hsien-yung Pai, Zhao Yang, and many other renowned authors, as well as scholars from various universities to share have a forum and discuss research on a classic novel in modern literature: *Taipei People*. It was a two-day feast of literature lectures and discussion.

The event started off with opening remarks by the Director-General of National Central Library Shu-hsien Tseng. She first thanked Trends Education Foundation for the invitation to cohost the conference. She also thanks the Trends Education Foundation for their being an important partner with NCL in promoting cultural arts events for many years. Besides, she also thanked Hsien-yung Pai for the importance he places on cultural heritage. In addition to the many lectures he has given at NCL, he has also donated his manuscripts to National Central Library for preservation. Next, Trends Education Foundation Executive Director Yi-chen Chen spoke. She talked about the background behind the theme “The Inexhaustible Hsien-yung Pai” for this 50th-anniversary event. Then she mentioned that they are planning on doing an online guided reading activity this year and have invited 14 authors to have each one of them be in charge of a guided reading for one of the stories in *Taipei People*.

On the first conference day, after the opening remarks, the first conference session followed which was comprised of two keynote addresses by Hsien-yung Pai and Zhao Yang. Mr. Yang used James Joyce’s *Dubliners* as a foil, elaborated his personal observations by deeply analyzing the similarities and differences in the narrative style and plot organization of *Taipei People* and *Dubliners*. Then he addressed the view that some readers have that the descriptions in *Taipei People* aren’t of people who truly live in Taipei. He used *Dream of the Red Chamber* (*Hóng lóu mèng*) as an example to support his own views, explaining the era in which the novel was set as well as its actual and imagined parts. Hsien-yung Pai quoted the poem “*Wuyi Lane*” (*Wū yī xiàng*) by Tang poet Yuxi Liu as an opening to describe Nanjing, which has experienced changes of dynasties twelve times, and revealed that the place has left an significant image to each of the