

NCL Director-General Tseng (center) and Director Shu-fen Hung (1st right) hold the agreement.

NCL Sets up Scholarly Exchange Platform at Prince William and Princess-consort Kate's Alma Mater, St. Andrews University

The NCL successfully established the 40th TRCCS at St. Andrews University (St. AU), the alma mater of Prince William and Princess-consort Kate. At beginning stage of the discussions that took place between the parties for this collaboration, the NCL was notified by the Taipei Representative Office in the United Kingdom that St. Andrews University needed assistance with the cataloging of their Chinese holdings and was willing to collaborate in related areas. Subsequently, the NCL spend more than six months communicating and deliberating with St. AU. On March 7, NCL Director-General Tseng and St. AU Chief Legal Officer Dr. Roy Drummond and Director of Libraries and Museums Dr. Catherine Eagleton signed the Agreement, formally beginning this collaborative project.



NCL Director-General Tseng signs the collaboration agreement with the University of St. Andrews to set up the 40th Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies.

The NCL sets this TRCCS up in St. AU's main library, which is located in Scotland. St. AU has 10,424 undergraduate students, including 2,164 graduate students. That graduate students comprise 20 percent of the student body makes this an important research university. St. AU was established in 1413 and is the third oldest university in the English-speaking world. In recent years, it has leaped to the second top university in Great Britain. Its reputation and scholarly outpouring put it on equal footing with Oxford and Cambridge.

The University of St. Andrews library has actively developed its library holdings on Taiwan studies, and its Chinese studies courses include such areas as classical literature, history, economy, politics, the arts, and language. St. AU established a Chinese Studies department in 2020, which is under the jurisdiction of the College of Foreign Languages. Last year (2021), it began accepting students into its program. In addition to undergraduate studies, it also provides opportunities for masters and doctoral researchers to conduct comprehensive studies on contemporary Chinese language and culture. Professor Yu-feng Chi, who is from Taiwan and teaches in this department stated that St. AU's undergraduate program allows students to take a minor or to even take three majors. Consequently, students in any department or graduate institute can take courses from the Chinese Studies department.

Director-General Tseng is very pleased to have add this TRCCS collaborative project with St. AU, and believes that sharing of Taiwan publication resources and cataloging expertise, and joint scholarly activities will be mutual beneficial to both parties.



A Group photo of the signing event shows from left to right St. AU Chief Legal Officer Dr. Roy Drummond, Deputy Director Jennifer Louden and Director Catherine Eagleton of Libraries and Museums, Senior Vice Principal Prof. Brad Mackay (International Strategy and External Relations), Associate Lecturer Yvonne Chi and Prof. Gregory Lee from the Department of Chinese Studies, St. AU.