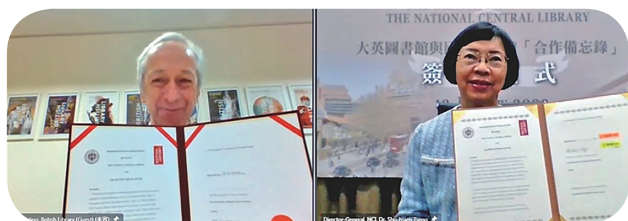


endeavor. NCL Director-General Tseng stated that it is an honor being able to sign a relatively comprehensive collaborative agreement with the famed library. She explained that NCL collaborated with the British Library in 2013 and 2015, and the great collaboration experiences are encouraging for both parties to extend the collaboration by this MOU. The terms of this three-year agreement including digitizing Chinese holdings in the British Library, collaborating on research, jointly hosting an exhibition, forum, or workshop. As for deepening the scholarly exchange between the two libraries, activities may include doing joint research, sharing research resources, and building a platform for scholarly research between the two countries. This project is mutual beneficial for both parties.



National Central Library Director-General Tseng and the British Library Chief Executive Keating take a photo together holding their copies of the MOU.

Representative Kelly Hsieh said during the video conference that he was honored to witness the birth of a new collaborative partnership between Taiwan and England. It is hoped that through both libraries signing this MOU, it can strengthen relationships with the international scholarly communities and upgrade Taiwan's visibility. The British representative to Taiwan, Mr. John Dennis mentioned how much he admires NCL's rich collection of ancient Chinese books. He can't wait to see the results of this collaboration between the two libraries. He believes that NCL and the British Library can have an amazing collaborative experience and is happy to see NCL sidestep the restrictions brought on by the pandemic and through web services sign an MOU with Great Britain, thus deepening and solidifying the great collaborative relationship and scholarly exchange between the two libraries.

As the pandemic spreads, even though physical events and interactions have been restricted, this ceremony to sign the MOU was done via video conferencing technology. This signing will functionate

as building a new bridge, taking Taiwan's scholarly research achievements to the world. It will also play an instrumental role in the platform of the scholarly exchange between Taiwan and England. It is believed that additional opportunities for collaboration will be built on the foundation of this MOU.



The British Library Head of Collections and Curation Xerxes Mazda, Head of Asian and African Collections Luisa Mengoni, Head of International Marcie Hopkins, International Engagement Manager Eleanor Cooper, Curator of Chinese Collection Emma Harrison were all present online to witness and celebrate the collaboration between the two libraries.

Internationally Renowned Sinologist Hao Chang Donates Book Collection to National Central Library

At 9 am on February 2022 Taiwan time (5 pm on Feb. 8 in the US), National Central Library and the San Francisco TECO held a synchronized online donation ceremony for Academician Hao Chang. Director-General Ming-Chi Scott Lai represented NCL in presenting a plaque of appreciation to him. Academician Chang's family were also in attendance in San Francisco.



National Central Library presents a plaque of appreciation.

Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng stated, NCL has strived for many years to acquire the collections, materials, letters, and manuscripts of scholars to add to NCL collections and to benefit scholarly researches. New developments in scholarship are a sign of a

nation's competitive power. They require outstanding leadership to achieve. Professors are important in terms of helping forming the foundation of a nation's long-term intellectual development; their resources will also nurture the future generations. Academician Chang is an internationally renowned historian of intellectual thought. Beginning in his youth when he was a student in National Taiwan University in Taiwan, he was deeply influenced by Professor Hai-guang Yin's thoughts on freedom and democracy. After the World War II, he went abroad for graduate study at Harvard University in the US. During the graduate study he took courses with the famed sinologist Lian-sheng Yang and comparative intellectual historian Benjamin I. Schwartz. Ideas that Academician Chang put forth are of great diversity, including the Axial Age of a world humanities tradition, the hidden consciousness of democracy in the West, the transition period of the history of modern Chinese intellectual thought, etc. His ideology has deeply influenced researches in Taiwan, besides, effectively triggered advanced researches in Sinology circles in the world. The NCL admires profoundly for Academician Chang for he has realized the philosophy "The more I do for others, the more I have; the more I give others, the more abundance I enjoy" through donating his collection.

You-ting Chang, and Academician Fan-sen Wang also lent his support and assistance. Wang and the former director of the Center for Chinese Studies, Li-chun Keng worked as intermediators to help. Their helps were also very crucial for Academician Hao Chang to make the final decision to donate his collection to NCL.

The total number of books donated was estimated to be around 5,000 volumes, with subjects covered literature, history, philosophy, and social science. It also contains western books in sinology from the latter half of the 20th century, books in Western philosophy, and valuable letters of Dr. Chang's interactions with scholars in Taiwan, China, and Hong kong. There are also more than ten large boxes of manuscripts and notes. This donation is will be shipped back to Taiwan to NCL after this signing ceremony. It is believed that the donated materials can afford later scholars a deeper look into Chang's academic though. Academician Fan-sen Wang was invited to speak and during his remarks elucidated Chang's scholarly contributions. He emphasized that Chang's research was extremely novel, encompassed a large theoretical basis, and was highly influential. Wang especially expressed his respect towards Chang's generous donation to NCL.

As for the valuable books, periodicals, and other materials received, Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng explained that the library will properly preserve the collection. After all are cataloged, a list of donated materials will provide to the donator, and the library will provide free access for users. As for manuscripts and ancient books, they will be digitized to make it easier for the long-term preservation of the physical copy whilst making the digital resource available. The Southern Branch of the National Central Library & National Repository Library, which will be set up in Tainan, will house them. All valuable books and materials that are added to the library's holdings will thus be able to be preserved in a facility that meets international standards for the preservation of cultural assets. Thereby, achieve sustainability in cultural relics preservation on one hand, and acquire utmost added value from promotion use of the resources on the other.

This is the first time NCL has held a donation ceremony online coordinated through NCL and the TECO office abroad. Doing so has allowed the Library to overcome some of the restrictions from the worldwide pandemic and continue seeking for



NCL Director-General Tseng hosts Academician Hao Chang's donation ceremony online.

For NCL, as a national depository library and serve as an academic library in Taiwan, receiving of this donation is not only an opportunity to expand the library's holdings on Sinology but also became possible to help scholars exploring the highlights of his researches. In fact, there were some other institutions earnestly requesting for the donation of this collection including Academia Sinica. Academician Chang's decision to donate his life-long collection received the support from his two daughters, You-jung Chang and

research resources beyond boundaries. This shows forth the Library's motivation in fostering of valuable resources and support for scholarly communities.



On behalf of NCL, San Francisco TECO Director-General Ming-Chi Scott Lai receives the donation.

■ True Authenticity is Beauty, A True Man of Art: Prof. Kuang-nan Huang Donates Almost 900 Manuscripts to National Central Library for Archival

On January 27, 2022, National Central Library hosted the “True Authenticity is Beauty: Prof. Kuang-nan Huang’s Manuscript Donation Ceremony and Exhibition.” Prof. Huang is a well-known ink wash painter in Taiwan. In addition to being an artist, he is also an officer of cultural administration and an art educator. He once served as the head of Taipei Fine Arts Museum, the National Museum of History, and as president of the National Taiwan University of Arts. He has much experience in museum administration, as well great achievements in the arts creations. Prof. Huang started out as an instructor in a junior college but ended up becoming a leader of the art world in Taiwan. From an ink wash artist to an overall cultural manager, his success in the arts and his influence on culture deserves a unique chapter in the history of Taiwan art.



Prof. Huang donates almost 900 manuscripts to National Central Library.

Outside of Prof. Huang’s busy duties as a public servant, he continued his passion for art creations. His strong outpouring of creative energy was mostly focused on ink wash painting. He was well respected in the art world, both in Taiwan and abroad. His works were collected by art galleries worldwide. While his right hand was painting, his left hand was busy writing. For many years, he was engaged in the researching art history, aesthetics, art administration, etc. He published many articles on these subjects, each a work of art in and of themselves. His forceful writing resulted in more than 60 works. His literary creations once earned him the Zhongxin Literary Award and several national cultural medals from Taiwan and abroad, including the top Ministry of Education Culture Award, the French Minister of Culture’s Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, the French Minister of Education’s L’ordre des Palmes académiques. Few in Taiwan’s art world can compare to his achievements.

From September to December 2021, Prof. Huang donated 875 manuscripts to National Central Library, including 686 hand-written manuscripts, 94 traditional paintings, 71 notebooks, 18 works of calligraphy, 5 albums of paintings, and 1 picture scroll. The content of these manuscripts was so rich, it well revealed Prof. Huang’s poignant artistic thought and incredible creative power. They are rare treasures indeed.

NCL Director-General Tseng stated that the acquisition of manuscripts is an important job for NCL. This selfless donation by Prof. Huang is very sizable and has not only added much to the Collections of Renowned Persons at NCL but also is extremely beneficial in helping patrons understand the creative process and artistic thoughts of Prof. Huang. Furthermore, Prof. Huang’s collection has its niche among other books and materials in NCL’s collection for research on art theory and creation. The library will speed up the digitization of the donated works and upload the images onto the database of Contemporary Celebrities’ Manuscripts so that users in Taiwan and abroad can browse them. During the donation ceremony, Prof. Huang was invited to share his ideas and creative process. His works were also put on display outside the meeting hall so that attendees could have the chance to look at the splendid nature of this famed artist’s works.