

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.



A group photo of the dignitaries in attendance.

■ Masaryk University in Czech Republic and National Central Library Collaborate to Establish a Resource Center: The 39th Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies Lands in Brno

On January 3, National Central Library once again overcame the challenge of a raging pandemic in Europe to set up a Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies (TRCCS) at the Masaryk University (MU) in Czech Republic. This is the 39th partner institution abroad. During discussions between NCL and MU, Representative Liang-ruey Ke from the Taiwan Economic and Cultural Office in Prague personally made a follow-up visit to MU for a better mutual understanding after Dr. Hung-wei Yen, head of the technology department, had hosted a video conference for both parties to aid in communication. Thereafter, NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng and Masaryk University Rector Martin Bareš signed the agreement for future collaborations.



NCL Director-General Tseng signs the collaboration agreement with Masaryk University to set up the 39th Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies.

Director-General Tseng mentioned that TRCCS program was started from 2012, and has adopted the principle of widely and evenly distribution on all

continents of the world as well as in different countries. This NCL's TRCCS program, with the practice that could realize sharing philosophy with high-efficiency services, has been recognized as a significant mutual-beneficial academic exchanges and collaboration program.

The Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies was set up by NCL in MU's College of Art Library and Chinese Studies Graduate Institute Library. The university was named after the first president of the former Czechoslovakia, President T. G. Masaryk. It was established in 1919, and is the second oldest university in the Czech Republic. It is in the country's second largest city, Brno, which was rated as the second-best location for a vacation by the British magazine Time Out in 2022. The university has a total of 32,800 students, of which 7,829 are master's students and 2,685 are doctoral students (as of January 2022, according to Masaryk University's website). In addition, it is one of three famed universities in Czech that have Chinese studies departments or graduate programs. MU also has an Asian Studies Center as part of its College of Art, which bears the important mission for Chinese studies, Taiwan studies, and language teaching.

In response to the teaching and research needs of the Chinese studies department and graduate institute, MU library keeps acquiring resources on Chinese literature, language pedagogy, political thought, multiculturalism, religion, Chinese medicine, kung-fu, movies, Taiwan studies, etc. over the years. MU's Chinese studies department and graduate institute offer undergraduate and graduate level courses. Apart from teaching language courses, the teaching and research in many courses focus on modern China and Chinese culture through the lens of society, literature, politics, history, and thought. Following the rise of China and its increasing influence on Europe, a research discipline on modern China and Taiwan has been developed and received attention.

Through working with NCL to set up a TRCCS, Masaryk University will be able to more easily acquire good-quality Chinese books and journals published in Taiwan. It is genuinely believed and wished that the TRCCS resources will greatly benefit researchers, faculty, and students in Brno for their researches, teaching, and learning of Chinese literature, Taiwan studies and cross-cultural researches and teaching.