

Apart from 631 volumes of *Minnan* opera librettos, this donation is comprised of more than 3,000 books and journals. Content ranges from books on Chinese literature and foreign Chinese studies, as well as many types of journals and materials from China and Taiwan. In addition, in the future Professor Chen is also willing to donate his collection of around one hundred *Teochew* folk song librettos stored at his residence in Paris to NCL for archival. Director-General Tseng stated that NCL will find a perfect place in its conservation room for these works. The Library will make complete catalog records for these materials so that they will be searchable on the library's website. Furthermore, in the near future, the Library will digitize all librettos, well organize them so as to ensure long-term preservation of the physical copies and make the digitized images available for access. NCL believes that these materials will be valuable and beneficial for those researching *Minnan* culture.



*Minnan opera librettos have been in circulation for a hundred years; Sinologist Qinghao Chen donates them all to the NCL.*



*Prof. Chen donates many books on Chinese in other languages.*

## ■ NCL Strives to Expand TRCCS Sites Worldwide

NCL sets up its 41st Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies (TRCCS) in the European Union member state Slovakia. This was done by creating a collaborative relationship with the country's famed house of learning, the top University in the country, Comenius University (CU). Endeavors in discussion about this collaborations took about six months. During the time, assistance was given by Hung-Wei Yen, the head of the technology division at the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Prague. Thanks to his help that the discussion between both parties went smooth and resulted in this meaningful collaboration.



*NCL's Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng, Director Shu-fen Hung and international cooperation coordinator Leo Lin, International Cooperation Division, strive to expand TRCCS sites worldwide.*

The Comenius University library system includes 13 libraries scattered across the campus and even off-campus. These are all under the governance of the Academic Library Centre. The TRCCS was established in CU's Faculty of Art Library because the Department of East Asian Studies is part of that faculty. In 1988, the East Asian Studies department added Chinese studies. It is the only university in the country that offers both undergraduate and master's programs in Chinese studies. The department started the international periodical *Studia Orientalia Slovaca* in 2002. After 2010, this periodical began publishing two issues and including cross-discipline articles on East Asian studies.

In responding to the teaching and research needs of Chinese studies, the library's holdings have Chinese

books, as well as books and periodicals published in Western languages. Subjects of library collections covered history, literature, economics, politics, the arts, and languages. NCL Director-General Tseng stated, CU is an important house of learning for Chinese studies teaching and research in Slovakia. Its diligence and contributions shown in its internationally known periodicals and publications is impressive. It is hoped that the signing of this collaborative agreement will add to their library resources more Taiwan publications that carry the Taiwan's achievements in scholarly researches to benefit the teaching and research of this great institution.



*Dean of the Faculty of Art, Prof. Marián Zouhar signs the Agreement of the TRCCS.*

### ■ **The First Resource Center for Taiwan Studies Is Established in the Library of the Congress in Argentina**

The National Central Library (NCL), for the first time, has established a Resource Center for Taiwan Studies in the Library of the Congress (LC), the Argentine Nation. This collaborative agreement was signed by Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng, the NCL, and General Coordinating Director Alejandro Santa, the LC. On behalf of Director-General Tseng, the sign unveiling and book donation were handled by Taipei Commercial and Cultural Office in Argentina.



*With dignitaries as witnesses, the sign unveiling is done by Board Chair of the Library and Member of the Congress Carlos Selva and General Coordinating Director Alejandro Santa along with TECO Representative Tsao.*

During the signing ceremony, both parties opted to sign in person. Video feed was sent to the other country to share what was happening onsite and to be able to interact with each other. Approximately 120 persons were in attendance, including Argentinian politicians, businessmen, educators, and the representatives of overseas Taiwanese community. Director-General Tseng stated during her remarks that this Resource Center for Taiwan Studies is NCL's first abroad that adopting this name. An agreement was also signed regarding comprehensive collaboration between the two sides. The reason to adopt the name Resource Center for Taiwan Studies was because the party signing the agreement was the Library of the Congress, the Argentine Nation. This library provides all sorts of general services for people from all sectors. The name fully reflect that the resources shared for the Library of the Congress, the Argentine Nation, would include resources covering diversified materials including government publications, research reports, general and academic publications, etc. that carry successful experiences in various fields and areas of Taiwan, including economics, agriculture, the technology industry, democratic system, etc. These resources will aid congressmen, university and research institute researchers, as well as patrons who wish to know about Taiwan.