



A group photo of Premier of the Executive Yuan Tseng-chang Su, Minister without Portfolio Bing-cheng Lo, Minister of Education Wen-chung Pan, and Minister of Finance Jain-rong Su in the Rare Books Room.



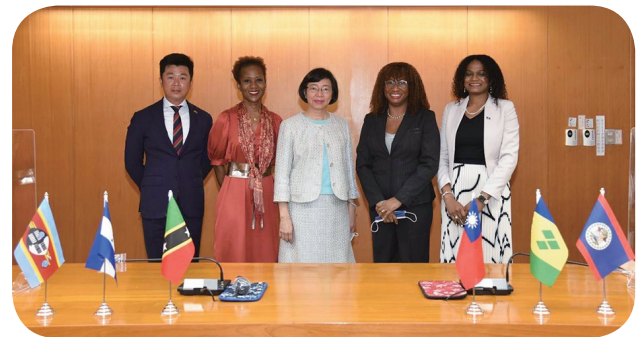
A group photo of Premier of the Executive Yuan Tseng-chang Su, Minister without Portfolio Bing-cheng Lo, Minister of Education Wen-chung Pan, and Minister of Finance Jain-rong Su in the special collections vault.

■ Ambassadors from Allied Countries Visit NCL Together to Promote Cultural Exchange

In an effort to promote reading and cultural collaboration and exchange, on April 6, 2022, a diplomatic mission from four allied countries, led by H.E. Ambassador Jasmine Elise Huggins, Embassy of Saint Christopher and Nevis, comprised of H.E. Ambassador Dr. Candice Augusta Pitts, Embassy of Belize, H.E. Ambassador Andrea Clare Bowman, Embassy of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Director of Trade and Investment Promotion Section, Achilles Yeh, Embassy of the Kingdom of Eswatini came to visit National Central Library Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng. They also discussed cultural and educational issues in a forum, as well as toured National Central Library.

In the forum, Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng welcomed everyone, following which the head of the Taiwan diplomatic mission, Ambassador Huggins, spoke. Then the ambassador from Saint Vincent and the Grenadines represented the group—including Honduras—in presenting a proposal on cultural collaboration and exchange.

Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng stated that National Central Library is much honored to be a solid partner with each embassy in reading promotion and cultural exchange. Functioning as an exchange platform to help the people of Taiwan come to know these countries' cultures, NCL will continue its close partner relationship with each embassy and plan together various art and cultural events. These will help directly showcase the unique cultural content from each country and provide the public with a rich cultural smorgasbord.



The ambassadors from the allied countries that visited National Central Library (from right): Belizean Ambassador Candice Augusta Pitts, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Ambassador Andrea Clare Bowman, NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng, Saint Kitts and Nevis Ambassador Jasmine Elise Huggins, Eswatini ambassador representative Achilles Yeh.

After the forum, National Central Library arranged for a tour for the VIPs of the facilities and resources on each floor of the library. A specialist for each area was on hand to provide explanation. During the tour, not only did they visit the rare books room which houses many national treasures and ancient books, they also walked through NCL's ancient book exhibition "The Great Yuan: Mongolian History and Culture" and the interactive School Days exhibition that incorporates 100 years of Taiwan education history. In addition, National Central Library made special arrangements for displays of books and other materials related to the five allied countries which comprised of four main sections: dissertations and theses, general

books, donated books, and maps. The dissertation and thesis section primarily displayed researches done by students from those countries who studied in Taiwan. Topics include farming, forestry, fishing, animal husbandry, business management, medicine, public health, sustainable development, economic development, and international studies. In the general books section were books published in these countries. In the donated books section were books given to the president of Taiwan by these countries. The map section showcased maps from these countries. It is worth noting that master's thesis of Prince Buhlebenkhosi Dlamini, who once visited NCL in 2016, as well as a book he co-authored with Shih Chien University professor Ying-feng Chen entitled *Yes Eswatini*, the first book on Eswatini in Chinese, were also on display.



Books published in the four allied countries, including a Chinese version of Yebo Eswatini published in Taiwan, originally written by Prince Buhlebenkhosi Dlamini.

The ambassadors were deeply impressed with NCL's rich scholarly resources and special collections. It is also hoped that the forum will lead to smoother future collaborations between all parties, as well as provide even more opportunities for exchanges. Thereby, the good collaborative relations would bring about expected fruitful results.



Group photo in the rare books room after touring at the conservation room that preserves the national treasures.

■ Dissertation Donation Ceremony Honoring Her Excellency Ambassador of Belize Candice Augusta Pitts

On June 17th, National Central Library held the "Dissertation Donation Ceremony Honoring Her Excellency Ambassador of Belize Candice Augusta Pitts." Five ambassadors from allied countries and one embassy director were in attendance, including Her E. Ambassador Candice Augusta Pitts from Belize, Her E. Ambassador Jasmine Elise Huggins from Federation of Saint Christopher and Nevis, Her E. Ambassador Andrea Clare Bowman from Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, His E. Ambassador Robert K. Lewis from Saint Lucia, His E. Ambassador Roudy Stanley Penn from the Republic of Haiti, and Director Achilles Yeh, Embassy of the Kingdom of Eswatini, as well as Director-General Dr. Nicole Lee of the Department of International and Cross-strait Education, Ministry of Education, Deputy Director-General Ms. Shu-Jung Chen of the Department of Latin American and Caribbean Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Deputy Executive Director Mr. Chia-Wen Yeh of the Central America Trade Office and other honored guests from within Taiwan as well as friends of the ambassadors.

In her opening speech, NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng made a special introduction of Her E. Ambassador Candice Augusta Pitts's experience: Dr. Pitts is the current ambassador and has previously worked as a university professor as well as a city councilwoman. She arrived in Taiwan to take up the role of ambassador on April 20th 2021. Director-General Tseng also introduced that Dr. Pitts has written a book about the transformation of the print media in Belize, published two articles about nation building, and once regularly published articles in newspapers and periodicals, showing her concern for the nation and its society. In the just over a year since the ambassador has arrived in Taiwan, she has concerned herself with the studies and development of students from Belize as well as diverse cooperation between the two countries. During the pandemic, she organized the virtual event "The 1st Annual Belize Taiwan Academic Conference: Dialogues of Innovation and Ingenuity." In addition, she paid a visit to indigenous communities in Pingtung County where she interacted with young indigenous students. Director-General Tseng expressed deep admiration