

resources. Regarding donations, Mrs. Pei-chi Wang, on behalf of her husband, former NCL Director-General Chen-Ku Wang, donated his manuscripts, letters, files, and pictures. Experienced art collector Shui-chung Wang donated the manuscripts and other artifacts from renowned historical fictionist Yang Kao. Joyce Cheng, a well-known actress, donated ten of her own paintings. Zhong-mou Du, from the influential and international book collector family that manages the vast collection called Chengding tang donated three first editions of Charles Dickens. Also, the Fo Guang Shan Foundation for Buddhist Culture & Education donated Master Hsing Yun's calligraphy works as a blessing.

After the celebration meeting was over, NCL hosted the International Symposium Celebrating Nine Decades of the National Central Library. In response to how changes in this century have affected libraries, three keynote speakers were arranged, as well as four sessions of presentations. The first keynote speaker was Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng; she spoke on Discovering New Value of Library-Aiming on Enduring Positive Input to the Human Society--Endeavors, Accomplishments, and Future Perspectives of the National Central Library. She shared insights into NCL's long-term development, achievements, and future prospects. The second speaker was by Chief Executive of the British Library Sir Roly Keating, who spoke on the history of the British Library over the last 50 years and future prospects. The third speaker was the Library Association of the Republic of China (Taiwan) President Kuang-hua Chen. His remarks were titled A New Horizon of Academic Libraries. He explored academic libraries' efforts in developing data services and advanced analysis as a means to strengthen library function.

Presentations in the four sessions discussed current trends and innovation at libraries. CEOs, Director-Generals and Deputy-Director General from the British Library, National Libraries of Canada, Germany, Estonia, Lithuania, Poland, and Singapore were invited to present, as well as Tamkang University Library Dean Sheue-fang Song, Bio-architecture Formosana's Principal Architect Ying-chao Kuo, and seven other scholars and experts. The themes of the International Symposium sessions

were as follows: Session I: Pandemic Impacts Bring Libraries Impetus for Change; Session II: Smart Technology Leading Libraries into a New World of Service; Session III: Libraries Practicing Sustainable Development as a Force for Good in the World; Session IV: Interregional Exchange Creating New Values for Integrated Library Development. More details of the Symposium, please refer to the website at <https://90th-conf.ncl.edu.tw/agenda?siteid=conf-ncl90thc>.

■ The National Central Library Goes to Harvard: Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng Was Invited to Speak and Share Taiwan's Experience in Digital Strategies and Actions

The National Central Library Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng led a group of library staff to attend Harvard University's international conference on "Tools of the Trade: The Way Forward." In addition to Director-General Dr. Shu-hsien Tseng being invited, other staff also attended and presented at the conference, including Dr. Hui-ju Chuang from Special Collections Division and Dr. Ching-ju Cheng and Bo-yue Wu from Knowledge Services Division.

The Tools of the Trade: The Way Forward conference was held from March 14-16 at Harvard University. The purpose of the conference was to discuss digital tools and platforms, as well as to provide an opportunity for libraries across the globe to learn from and interact with each other, and seek out closer collaborations and partnerships. Attendees at the conference came from China, Taiwan, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, Europe, North America, and from Buddhist research libraries and centers. They shared with each other tools, technology know-how, and experience from the process of gradual change from printed materials to digital tools, resources, and platforms.

NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng was invited to speak on future prospects for libraries on March 14, the first day of the conference. The opening session was chaired by Harvard-Yenching Library Director Jidong Yang. Director-General Tseng spoke on "Sharing of the Refined Asset: NCL's Strategies and Actions for Dealing with

the Digital World.” She introduced the National Central Library’s strategic development aims, future prospects, and its digital prospects for the future. Later, three of NCL’s staff also presented on three digital humanities systems created recently by NCL. First, Dr. Hui-ju Chuang from Special Collections Division presented on the Universal Type Digital Humanities Research Platform on Ancient Chinese Books. Her presentation was titled “Diving into the Ocean of NCL’s Special Collections: Universal Type Digital Humanities Research Platform on Ancient Chinese Books.” Next, Dr. Ching-ju Cheng from Knowledge Services Division talked about Taiwan Memory. Her presentation was titled “Enhancing Access of Taiwanese Historical Texts and Images: Development and Reflection of the Taiwan Memory System.” The final presenter from NCL was Bo-yue Wu from Knowledge Services, who introduced the NCL Taiwan Periodical Literature database NCL created. The title of his presentation was “Open Digital Assets for All from the Endeavors of National Central Library: An Introduction of the Taiwan Periodical Paper Index System.”



NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng presenting at Harvard University.



A group photo from the first session.

■ **The National Central Library Attends 2023 TiBE “The Multiverse of Reading” with an Exhibition Themed “NCL Starts a New Chapter: A New Opportunity for Makers”**

The 2023 Taipei International Book Exhibition (TiBE) was held right after Chinese New Year. The opening ceremony was held on January 31. NCL attended TiBE with the aim of promoting its new service, the Open Lab that just opened its doors to the public in 2022. NCL put on display crafts made using some of the equipment available at Open Lab, including items printed on a 3D printer, a mbira made of wood, various materials printed with heat transfer, sewn items, laser carved items, and more. There were also close to 200 books that can help makers learn new processes, gain inspiration, and develop new skills. In addition, the National Central Library found some content in the ancient books in its collection about “makers” in ancient China. Images on display came from such ancient books as *The Exploitations of the Works of Nature*, *An Illustrated Guide to Marvelous Machines*, *Illustrations of Embroidery*, *Illustrated Compendium of the Three Realms*, *An Anthology of Calligraphy and Paintings from the Ten Bamboo Studio*, *Lingering Notes from Remote Antiquity*, and *Moveable Type Prints from the Hall of Military Glory*. All of these help visitors to learn about and understand the creative productions of ancient makers.

Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng stated that the new trend in library services at the most advanced