Foreign Scholars Visit the OPEN LAB Multimedia Center

In order to assist Ministry of Foreign Affairs Taiwan Scholarship scholars and the National Central Library's sponsorship of foreign Sinology scholars in Taiwan in using the equipment and environment of the multimedia innovation and experimentation center (OPEN LAB) newly installed by the National Central Library in 2023, the library arranged on the morning of January 18th for scholars to visit the center.

First of all, colleagues from OPEN LAB guided the students in using the center's space and introduced the process of booking various facilities, the reading space for various creative books, discussion rooms, recording and broadcasting rooms, creative experiment spaces, etc. After the tour, and in groups, the students experienced hand-craft experience courses, involving sewing machines, mug heat transfer printing, and badge machines. At the same time, OPEN LAB's other equipment and reading space prompted scholars to stop, visit and learn more about center colleagues. This activity was the first for the scholars in 2023. There were 20 scholars from 14 countries. They participated enthusiastically and said that they would make more use of the functions and space of this center.



Group photo of foreign scholars at the entrance to OPEN LAB.

2023 Spring Festival Reception for Visiting Scholars

The National Central Library's Center for Chinese Studies held the 2023 Spring Festival Reception for Visiting Scholars in the Breezeway on the 3rd floor of the Art Center at noon on February 8, inviting 41 Ministry of Foreign Affairs Taiwan scholars and their spouses, six Center for Chinese Studies scholars and their spouses, 15 officials and distinguished guests from the Department of Policy Planning of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and more than 70 colleagues from the National Central Library, totaling more than 70 scholars, all under the same roof as the year got underway. Interacting with conversation while savoring culinary delights, they shared their research experiences in Taiwan.



Group photo of 2023 Chinese New Year Exchange Tea Party for Foreign Visiting Scholars.

For the occasion, the NCL arranged for Orchestra to bring the song "Jubilation" to open the event. A series of traditional music performances such as "Blissful Harmony" and "Peach Blossom Takes the Ferry" were interspersed between speeches, a lottery, and riddles, and, finally, with an encore piece, "The Flight of the Bumble-Bee," the wonderful *erhu* and bamboo flute ensemble performance won an impassioned ovation!

Chief Grace Ya-kuang Chang from the Department of Policy Planning of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs opened the event with remarks in which she noted the impact of the pandemic era and the Russia-Ukraine war, which had greatly changed the lifestyles and interpersonal relations of people around the world. She said that, on this day, those present had been brought together under one roof from all over the world and should fully cherish this rare opportunity. She wished each Taiwan scholar success in their studies, great enjoyment of Taiwan's Spring Festival atmosphere and a rich experience of Taiwan life. As Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng of the National Central Library delivered remarks, she expressed her gratitude to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Department of Policy Planning for its longterm cooperation and support, and a sincere welcome to—and enthusiasm to serve—the scholars. All colleagues of the National Central Library, she said, are very happy to assist scholars in their research. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs' own remarks, she said, indicate the great importance that it attaches to this scholarship program. She also thanked all colleagues of the Center for Chinese Studies for their support for the program.



Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng enjoys a group photo with the lucky Taiwan Scholarship recipients.

NCL Publications

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As the National Central Library (NCL) is the only legal depository library in Taiwan, the Library bears a mission to preserve all the deposited books for contemporary and future generations. According to the Library Act in Taiwan, all formally published materials and publications are supposed to be deposited with the NCL. At the same time, the Library Act also entrusts the NCL with the mission of preserving and promoting resources, guiding the development of all other categories of libraries, and promoting information standardization, professional services, and sustainable development.

NCL tries to cast light on perspectives of value, vision, strategies and goals of the Library in a clearer way with a Strategic Plan 2021-2030, specifically pointing out NCL vision and goals, including collecting and doing value-added applications of resources, digital engagement of all people, providing user-oriented good programs and services, establishment of smart service platforms, promoting and facilitating sinology researches worldwide, providing friendly and professional services, providing librarianship guidelines for various types of libraries in Taiwan, and consistently pursuing for excellence.

The full text of this publication is available for download at: https://nclfile.ncl.edu.tw/files/2023 04/8d86bc7b-e070-4364-af3e-6139f715d8c6.pdf

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This report is the 2022 report on the survey on Taiwan's reading ethos organized by the Ministry of Education and undertaken by the National Central Library. Through this report, the 2022 national