

■ Information Literacy Workshop for Public Servants “A Powerful Tool to Assist Policy Planning: From Understanding Problems to Solving Problems”

In order to help civil servants strengthen their information capabilities in proposing contingency measures and solving problems, the National Central Library jointly organizes the “National Civil Servants Library and Information Literacy Series of Activities” annually with the National Taiwan Library and the National Library of Public Information. Starting from May this year, the “Tools to Assist Policy Planning: From Recognizing Problems to Solving Problems” course was held in Taipei, Tainan, Taichung, Kaohsiung and other places, to introduce information literacy skills, data search methods and the special databases of the three museums. A total of six courses was held this year, among which was a specially planned online session to allow more colleagues from public agencies to participate.

The first session was held on May 8 in the National Central Library’s OPEN LAB. Participants also took the opportunity to learn about the library’s latest services. The last session ended successfully on August 18 at the National Taiwan Library. A total of nearly 200 public agency personnel participated in the six sessions this year, and the course satisfaction rate reached 97 percent. The students also said that they would apply the lessons in the workplace and use the library’s rich resources and information search skills to solve problems encountered at work.



A commemorative photo of workshop participants.

On the basis of the six skills of information literacy, the workshop guided students in starting by defining problems, establishing information-

seeking strategies, effectively obtaining information, and evaluating and applying it. The morning course included information literacy skills, data query skills, and introductions to and drills on the National Central Library database, allowing students to become familiar with data query methods for journal articles, degree dissertations, government resources, etc., and sharing with students the applications of this year’s sensation—ChatGPT—at work and in research. In the afternoon, the National Taiwan Library was invited to introduce the Taiwan Studies Database and Japanese Occupation Period resources; the National Library of Public Information introduced that library’s popular electronic resources, such as e-books, magazines, newspaper databases, and audio-visual databases, etc., to advance the knowledge and ability of public servants in collecting information and solving problems.

■ 2023 Overseas Scholars Savor a Study Day of Mid-Autumn Festivity in Dadaocheng

In order to allow foreign visiting scholars in Taiwan to experience Taiwan’s Mid-Autumn Festival culture, the Center for Chinese Studies and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs held a Mid-Autumn Festival event in Dadaocheng on September 6, 2023 (Wednesday). Participants included the Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ Taiwan Scholars, as well as the foreign visiting scholars under this year’s National Central Library Scholarship for Overseas Scholars Studying Sinology in Taiwan. A total of about 39 foreign scholars and nine family members from 28 countries participated in the event.

The custom of celebrating the Mid-Autumn Festival has been around for a long time. The cultural festivals are rich in content and there are many stories and legends, including those of Chang’e flying to the moon, Wu Gang’s expedition to Guangxi, the Jade Rabbit pounding medicine and Zhu Yuanzhang’s uprising, etc. It is one of the three traditional festivals that Chinese people around the world must pass on every year. National Central Library Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng pointed out that, for this event, a walking tour of Dadaocheng was specially arranged, and that the visiting scholars and their families were allowed to make their own silk lanterns, allowing scholars to experience Taiwan through local stories.