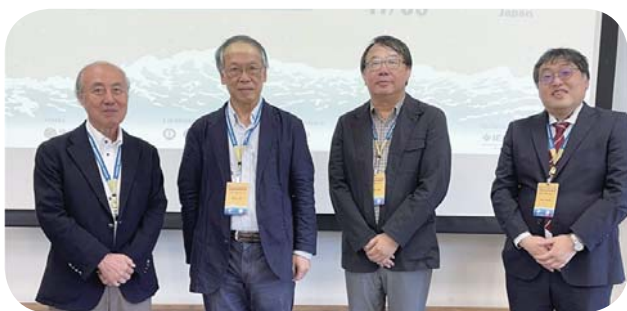


Humanities, National Taiwan University and included presentations by three speakers on the following topics:

1. National Chengchi University (Taiwan) Associate Professor and Library Director Wen-hung Liao: Digital Archives and Humanities Research: A Case Study Using Overseas Taiwanese Democratic Movements Collection
2. Tsurumi University (Japan) Professor Emeritus Takashi Nagatsuka: A University Library Experience Facilitating the Student-centered Approach Supported by Information Technology
3. Tenri University (Japan) Professor Takashi Koga: Developments and Challenges of National Digital Collections: Focused on the Programs of the National Diet Library of Japan



*The Host and Three Speakers at the PNC 2023 Digital Libraries Session.*

In addition, at the 2023 conference, NCL's poster: "Development of Library Big Data Platform as a Tool for Exploring and Promoting Reading Atmosphere and Reading Engagement in Taiwan" was selected to participate in the 2023 PNC poster session. The poster was edited by Assistant Wei-hsiang Hung of the NCL Librarianship Development Division, who attended the PNC conference to present the poster and share NCL's experiences with event attendees.



*NCL attended the PNC conference poster session to share experiences from Taiwan.*

## ■ The “Oscars” of the Library Industry, The Second Ministry of Education Library Contributions Awards Ceremony Take Stage in a Grand Event

The Second Ministry of Education Library Contributions Awards Ceremony was held in the 3rd Floor International Conference Hall of the National Central Library Arts and Culture Center. The ceremony celebrated 17 award recipients and holds meaningful symbolic significance for promoting the development of the library industry nationally. In order to commend local leaders who have devoted themselves to building local public libraries as well as individuals and groups who have made major and unique contributions to the robust operation and development of library services or who have promoted a love of reading among members of the public, on September 16th, 2020 the Ministry of Education established the “Implementation Guidelines for the Ministry of Education Library Contributions Awards,” which includes five different awards categories: the “Benchmark Library Award,” the “Outstanding Librarian Award,” the “Outstanding Library Director Award,” the “Local Leader Award,” and the “Special Contribution Award.” These awards have become the highest honor for work in the library industry in Taiwan. The awards also establish exemplary models for all kinds of libraries nationwide to emulate in their development.

Ministry of Education Deputy Minister Lin expressed his pleasure in representing the Ministry of Education and Minister Wen-chung Pan in attending this award ceremony. Libraries serve as gateways for people to acquire knowledge and as arenas for lifelong learning. In recent years, the Ministry of Education has initiated numerous programs including a mid to long-term case-based program for constructing collaborative and shared public library systems, a diverse reading promotion program, and an implementation plan for public library earthquake resistance improvement. Both the central and local governments have worked together to address the construction and operational development of public libraries, collaborating with schools and libraries nationwide, integrating relevant resources, promoting reading education, and driving the development of the library industry. On behalf of the Ministry of Education, Deputy Minister Lin thanked Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng's team at the National Central Library and

the panel of judges for the successful completion of the second Library Contributions Awards. Deputy Minister Lin looks forward to the award recipients continuing to play an influential role in their respective positions, working to make even greater contributions to the library industry. The Ministry of Education pledges to provide a strong support in everyone's efforts, working together toward the goal of creating a nationwide enthusiasm for learning and a culture of lifelong learning.

This year for the second Ministry of Education Library Contributions Awards, the panel of judges selected 17 winners:

1. Local Leader Award (two recipients): **Taichung City Mayor Shioh-yen Lu**, for her dedication to the promotion of local libraries and the building of libraries in all levels of public schools, and for her allocation of cultural and education budget funding and her promotion of the construction of a new branch of the Taichung Green Museumbrary, thereby enhancing the development of reading skills in her city. **Hsinchu County Magistrate Wen-ke Yang**, for his support toward the construction of the Hsinchu County Main Library and creating a new culture of reading in Hsinchu County.
2. Special Contribution Award (one recipient): Leekoyung Foundation Chairman **Peng-hsiung Lee**, for continuing his father's legacy of public welfare and giving back to society. Peng-hsiung Lee has long supported the development of local education and the cultivation of reading culture among the public by donating library buildings. In recent years, he has donated a total of 10 Lee Ko-yung Memorial Libraries in various cities and counties, making significant contributions as a model of excellence in society.
3. Benchmark Library Award (six recipients): **Taoyuan Public Library Longtan Branch**, for developing a special collection around the work of local musician Yu-hsien Teng and establishing a unique brand of music events, creating a reading landscape that integrates arts and humanities; **Kaohsiung Public Library Caoya Branch**, for specializing in long-term care services, working with hospitals and schools to create a thriving and inclusive elderly-friendly reading environment; **Hsinchu High School Library**, for their library building reconstruction and the establishment of the "Hsinchu High School Humanities Library" special collection resources and for developing a variety of interdisciplinary reading activities, sowing a love of reading deep in the hearts of their students; **National Taiwan Normal University Library** for their excellent service, satisfying the needs of their students and faculty, for long serving as the convener of the Taiwan Academic E-Book & Database Consortium, and for making significant contributions in supporting the development of academic research throughout institutions of higher education nationwide; **Hsinchu County Department of Cultural Affairs Library**, for promoting an operational system between their main library and branches, integrating reading resources throughout the whole county, and promoting the construction of a new main library, creating a new milestone in the library industry; **Tainan Public Library**, for their enthusiastic operation of their new main library, pioneering a variety of public library services and leading a culture of reading throughout the city.
4. Outstanding Library Director Award (three recipients): Tamkang University Library **Director Tina Song**, for incorporating comprehensive quality management principles into her management of the university library and leveraging technology to promote inter-university collaboration and improve organizational processes, bringing new ideas to library management; Hsinchu County Department of Cultural Affairs **Section Chief Pei-hsuan Lee**, for actively seeking resources to expand library services, establishing an evaluation system, and propelling libraries throughout the county to make leaps in the quality of their services; Providence University **Chief Yi-tai Chiang**, for developing the library's unique curation brand, establishing a professional website for library information, making long-term contributions to professional library organizations, and expanding and promoting growth in library information professionalism.
5. Outstanding Librarian Award (five recipients): National Cheng Kung University Library's **Chih-wen Chou**, for brining innovative thinking to his use of technology and actively developing and deepening quality services; Kaohsiung Public Library Planning Officer **Yu-ting Tsai**, for her work cultivating the field of original Taiwanese picture books and helping bring the brilliance of Taiwan's picture books to a wider

audience; National Taiwan Library research assistant **Shih-ying Chueh**, for her long-term devotion to providing reading services to disadvantaged communities, creating picture books for deaf and hard of hearing individuals, and promoting a variety of unique reading events; Taipei First Girl's High School Library administrator **Hui-yu Tsai**, for her ingenuity in helping high school girls to fall in love with reading and turning the First Girl's High School Library into a place where students can go to express themselves; Taipei City Guting Junior High School Library manager **Hui-ping Liu**, for her professionalism and passion in becoming an important advocate for reading education at Guting Junior High School and promoting rich and diverse reading events.

The commendations offered by these awards will be beneficial in enhancing the image of the library industry and laying a solid foundation upon which Taiwan's libraries can strive toward becoming a competitive library system that offers the highest quality at an international level.

The names and achievements of this year's winners have been announced on the event's official website: <https://moeacl.ncl.edu.tw>



*Ministry of Education Deputy Minister Lin and award recipients.*

## ■ National Central Library and the Saudi Arabian Trade Office in Taipei Co-hosted “World Arabic Language Day and Arabic: The Language of Poetry and Art” Exhibition

To increase international cultural exchange, the National Central Library and the Saudi Arabian Trade Office in Taipei co-hosted the “2023 World Arabic Language Day and Arabic: The Language of

Poetry and Art” Exhibition. It went from December 19-31. The opening ceremony was held on December 18 at the NCL reading room. NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng and Saudi Arabian Trade Office in Taipei Representative Adel F. Althaidi co-hosted the event. Representatives stationed in Taiwan from Jordan and Oman were also invited to attend. On display were ancient books, clothing, artifacts, and modern books related to Arabic. Important works of literature and poets were also introduced.

NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng stated that Arabic is an important language in the world, with over 400 million people using it on a daily basis. In 2010, the United Nations declared December 18 as World Arabic Language Day. Saudi Arabia is Taiwan's largest trading partner in the Middle East and its largest crude oil supplier. The relationship between the two countries is very tight. This is the first time NCL collaborated with Saudi Arabia to put on an event. Consequently, Representative Althaidi visited NCL many times, and the faculty and students in the Arabic Department at National Cheng-chi University provided many valuable suggestions on the content and décor of the exhibition—making this exhibition a reality. It is worth noting that on display at this event were handwritten manuscripts of the Koran written in 1504 and an ancient Arabic book from 1702, which are from the personal collection of International Student Center Director Mei-ting Huang at Fu Jen Catholic University International and Cross-Strait Education Center. These are rare works that are not seen often.



*The opening of the exhibition with special guests present.*

In recent years, NCL has expended much effort in developing international exchanges and expanding its