

introductions by industry experts, the seminar aims to help librarians familiarize themselves with marketing channels for Taiwan’s publications and to understand the development status of books and databases, thereby facilitating the promotion of Taiwan’s research publishing achievements to global academic institutions.

During her opening remarks at the Seminar’s opening ceremony, NCL Director-General Han-ching Wang stated that NCL has held the International Seminar for East Asian Library Professional Librarians every two years since 2009, in order to increase exchanges between East Asian Libraries and Chinese Studies Research Institutes throughout the world. This year’s seminar is centered around the theme: “Librarians: Acquisitions of Taiwan Publications and Digital Research Resources.” The goal of this seminar is to help East Asian Library professional librarians learn about various channels for procurement in order to introduce Taiwan’s academic achievements to their libraries and thereby assist researchers to complete high quality research. Speakers at the seminar include professionals and scholars from Taiwan’s publishing industry to help professional librarians gain a deeper understanding of topics surrounding the acquisition of Chinese-language publications, audiovisual materials, and digital databases. This year’s seminar was timed to coincide with the 2024 Taipei Book Exhibition, incorporating corresponding itineraries to ensure that participants can fully grasp the development trends in Taiwan’s publishing industry and thereby establish an even stronger foundation to assist with future academic research endeavors. In addition, the seminar will arrange visits for attendees to observe and learn about the National Central Library’s “Open Lab” Multimedia Center, in order to gain insights into Taiwan’s maker culture and learn about how the National Central Library transformed this space to become a highlight in the Ximending area. An additional cultural itinerary offers a visit to the Fo Guang Shan Buddha Museum and its “Silk Road Splendor: DunHuang Caves Art Exhibition.”

This year’s seminar includes over 20 international participants and speakers, hailing from the USA, Germany, Malaysia, Thailand, and Hong Kong. They believe that the 2024 International Seminar for East

Asian Library Professional Librarians will facilitate a deepening of academic exchange between Taiwan and the world, and also that linking this year’s events to the Taipei International Book Exhibition and designing relevant classes accordingly will provide them with greater confidence in conducting interviews about Taiwan’s research literature and publications.



East Asian Library Professional Librarians took a group photo at the opening ceremony



International Seminar for East Asian Library Professional Librarians participants attended the National Central Library Booth opening ceremony

■ NCL Actively Seeks Donations of Quality Books from Guest of Honor the Netherlands and Other Participating Organizations at the 2024 Taipei International Book Festival

National Central Library has long spared no effort in promoting reading and international cultural exchange. Every year during the Taipei International Book Festival, NCL actively seeks book donations from the many countries in attendance to contribute

to the NCL collection. This year (2024), Taipei International Book Festival “Guest of Honor” The Netherlands, as well as other countries and regions in attendance including Japan, Hong Kong, Poland, and Thailand donated hundreds of books displayed during the exhibition to NCL. To express gratitude for the donation of high-quality books from these participants, Director-General Han-ching Wang personally visited each booth on the morning of February 22nd to accept the donations and present certificates of appreciation.



Books Donated by the Netherlands' Guest of Honor Pavilion at the 2024 Taipei International Book Exhibition

Director-General Han-ching Wang expressed that the Taipei International Book Festival is an ideal bridge for creating cross-border reading connections. The generous donations from various countries in attendance contribute quality books showcasing unique cultural characteristics from these regions to remain in Taiwan as part of the NCL collection. This will allow these books highlighting the cultures of many nations to remain permanently at NCL for further dissemination rather than end with the culmination of the exhibition. These will serve as an important reading resource through which the people of Taiwan can learn about the Netherlands and other cultures throughout the world. Furthermore, they contribute to the Taiwan publishing industry's understanding of global publishing, literature, society, economy, art, and various developing trends, also aiding in the selection and acquisition of foreign language books by Taiwanese libraries of all types, thus providing long-lasting benefits.



NCL Director-General Han-ching Wang visited the Netherlands Guest of Honor Pavilion

At this year's Taipei International Book Exhibition, the Netherlands Office Taipei donated over one hundred books by important authors and illustrators that were brought to Taiwan as part of the Netherlands' Guest of Honor Pavilion and The House of Hong Kong Literature's curator, author Tang Siu Wa, donated all of the literary publications they brought to the exhibition. In addition, Ms. Karolina Makiela, director of international collaboration at the Poland Book Association, Ms. Mie Hasegawa, chief of the overseas licensing department at Japan's Tokuma Shoten Publishing, Mr. Chumpol Akkapantanon, founder of Thailand's Artist House Bangkok Publishing also donated works of literature, picture books, and other quality publications which were shared with members of Taiwan's public during the book exhibition. These wonderful books from various countries will all be added to the NCL collection after the exhibition and we welcome readers to make use of them, connecting with global reading trends with every turn of the page, thereby expanding global perspectives and cultural exchange.



Director-General Han-ching Wang and Representative Guido Tielman of the Netherlands Office Taipei posed for a photograph



Director-General Han-ching Wang presented a certificate of appreciation to the Poland Book Association

■ **NCL Director-General Han-Ching Wang Attends and Presents at Special Session of the Council of East Asian Libraries' Committee on Chinese Materials**

National Central Library Director-General Han-ching Wang received invitation from the US Council of East Asian Libraries' (CEAL) Committee on Chinese Materials to give a presentation during their "Crisis vs. Responses" Special Session held in Seattle on March 13th, 2024; the topic of Director-General Wang's presentation entitled: "Taking up the Torch of Wisdom- The Next Chapter: Branding Beyond the Pandemic."

CEAL's membership is made up of East Asian Libraries located in North America and its objectives are to serve as a forum for discussions about issues of common concern relating to East Asian libraries and East Asian Librarianship, to formulate programs for the development of East Asian library resources, services, and systematic organization of all types of recorded information and knowledge, and to promote interlibrary and international cooperation in East Asian librarianship. The organization is divided into three permanent committees based on the language category of materials: the Committee on Chinese Materials, the Committee on Japanese Materials, and the Committee on Korean Materials.

The Committee on Chinese Materials held this special session under the theme "Crisis vs. Responses," inviting speakers from Hong Kong, the USA, and Taiwan to share their experiences of how libraries handled challenges including dealing with

the COVID-19 pandemic, integrating collections, providing academic services and journal access, while also addressing how academic libraries can continue to support research. In her presentation, NCL Director-General primarily focused on sharing how two libraries: NCL and the National Cheng Kung University Library, at which she long served as director, faced crises and simultaneously engaged in innovation, utilizing a variety of resources to continue to provide diverse academic services, disseminate resources, and engage in international collaboration throughout the pandemic. Over 100 professionals and scholars from North America and various regions across the world were in attendance at the session. After the session, Director-General Wang engaged in exchange with international colleagues and experts at libraries that have long worked alongside NCL in international collaboration.



NCL Director-General gave themed special session presentation

■ **NCL Participates in Book Exhibit at Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, Donates Books on Chinese Studies and Taiwan Research to University of Oregon**

The Association for Asian Studies (AAS), the world's largest Asian Studies academic community, held its 2024 annual conference in Seattle from March 14th to 17th. National Central Library continues to attend AAS annual conferences and participate in the event's book exhibit in order to bring awareness among the AAS community of Asian Studies scholars to Taiwan's academic achievements in the humanities and to promote familiarity with Taiwan Studies research and various fellowships offered to conduct relevant research in Taiwan. On the afternoon of