

Taiwan's language and culture.

Ogawa Naoyoshi (1869–1947) was an editor in the Education Department of the Governor-General's Office during the Japanese colonial period and a professor at Taipei Imperial University. He dedicated himself to the investigation and research of Taiwanese Chinese dialects and Austronesian languages. He is known as a pioneer of Taiwanese linguistics. The work which best represents him, "Japan-Taiwan Dictionary," has had a profound influence on the linguistics community. Academician Li Ren-gui of the Academia Sinica even called him a "pioneer of Taiwanese linguistics."

Director-General Han-Ching Wang said in her speech: "National Taichung University of Education has played a vital role in Taiwan's education, humanities, and arts for a century. Its profound historical heritage and cultural contributions cannot be ignored. This first collaboration between the National Central Library and Taichung University of Education is an important starting point. We look forward to continuing to expand multi-faceted cooperation in the future to jointly protect Taiwan's intellectual assets."

President Pai-ch'en Kuo said that National Taichung University of Education is honored to join the ranks of digitizers of Taiwan's ancient books and documents and to contribute to cultural preservation. He also said he hoped that this cooperation could be extended to local revitalization projects such as USR (University Social Responsibility) in the future, further deepening the connection between the school and the local area and social contributions. He especially thanked the National Central Library for its trust and for its invitation, which enabled the launch of this epoch-making collaboration.

Looking ahead, in addition to continuing to promote the digital preservation of old books, the two parties will also combine resources such as on-campus academic units and the Lin Chih-Chu Memorial Hall to expand cross-domain cooperation and jointly build a complete digital knowledge system of Taiwan's cultural assets, allowing historical wisdom to be passed on sustainably through technology.



Director-General Han-Ching Wang of the National Central Library and President Pai-ch'en Kuo of National Taichung University of Education are photographed with copies of the agreement

■ The National Central Library's Digital Audio-Visual Service System Includes the Teco Technology Foundation's Amazing Music and Dance and Other Indigenous Audio-Visual Resources

The National Central Library has partnered with the TECO Foundation to collect audio-visual materials, including Indigenous music and dance performances and ancient folk songs, on the "Digital Audio-Visual Service System" (<https://dava.ncl.edu.tw/>). Simply access the "Digital Audio-Visual Service System" and click "Exclamation Mark - Indigenous Peoples' Sustainable Education Project" in the selected theme area to view precious audio-visual resources authorized by the TECO Foundation for the National Central Library's collection and public broadcast. This is the first large-scale audio-visual licensing cooperation since the National Library's "Digital Audio-visual Service System" was launched in September 2024. The high-definition audio-visual archive resources provided by the TECO Foundation vividly reproduce the results of the integration of Taiwan's indigenous traditional culture with international art. These results have been nominated for the Golden Melody Awards for Traditional Arts and Music eight times. Among them, the 2020 "Amazing Music and Dance" won the Best Traditional Performing Arts Audio-Visual Publication Award at the 32nd Golden Melody Awards.

Since 2003, the TECO Foundation has been involved in the "Exclamation Mark - Indigenous Peoples' Sustainable Education Project," and "Exclamation Mark - Taiwan Indigenous Peoples' Music and Dance Feast" is the most important annual performance of the project. The Foundation has long been deeply involved in tribal work, supporting more than ten ethnic groups and more than forty tribes or school teams, helping them establish a teaching system that is people-oriented and rooted in culture. In 2005, "Amazing Music and Dance" began to hold performances of its achievements and transformed into theater form in 2010, encouraging the team to challenge themselves on a professional stage. This is not only an exhibition, but also a platform for each team to build their production, performance, cultural preservation and revitalization capabilities. Through meticulously designed programming, ancient Aboriginal songs, dances, and rituals are presented to the audience in a spirit of "returning to nature," hoping that Taiwan's traditional Aboriginal culture can connect with international art, allowing these ancient songs, which "only have language but no written text or music," to be passed down.

Every year, "Amazing Music and Dance" will present traditional music and dance from different ethnic groups, such as the Paiwan, Bunun, Tsou, and Amis. The program content delves into the traditional songs, dances and rituals of various ethnic groups,

striving to show the spirit flowing in the blood of the indigenous peoples, allowing the audience to deeply experience the primitive and profound charm of Taiwan's indigenous culture. One of its major features is the combination of ancient Aboriginal songs and modern theater techniques. Some of the ancient ballads will be arranged by Bay Sound Music Director Che-i Li and professional musicians, based on human voices, and then accompanied by a string orchestra for a cross-disciplinary performance. The performance will also be accompanied by professional lighting, imaging, and sound engineering, allowing the ancient ballads to display rich layers in their simplicity.

Although most of the performers are amateur training teams from the tribe, after long-term cultivation and professional training by the foundation, their stage performance and vitality are amazing. The entire "Amazing Music and Dance" production team brings together dozens of cultural workers familiar with Aboriginal performing arts, as well as top professionals in various fields such as theater, choreography, lighting, and sound.



The National Central Library's digital audio-visual service system includes the Teco Technology Foundation's amazing music and dance and other indigenous audio-visual resources

■ National Central Library and International Cooperation and Development Fund Host “Development Focus Forum”

National Central Library and the International Cooperation and Development Fund (ICDF below) together held the first “Development Focus Forum” at NCL on the afternoon of May 9th. The forum was titled “Global Aid for Trade 2025: Challenges and Opportunities” corresponding with the theme of the latest edition of ICDF’s publication “Development Focus Quarterly,” focus on exploring future development trends in Aid for Trade.

Participating scholars were invited to the forum to analyze ways to effectively utilize Aid for Trade as a tool for supporting policies in developing countries, assisting those countries in finding and establishing footholds in an unfair trade environment within a currently turbulent global economy. Visiting scholar and recipient of this year’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs Taiwan Fellowship, Canadian Professor Marc

Lanteigne of the Universitetet i Tromsø—the Arctic University of Norway was also invited to the forum as a keynote speaker, presenting Canada and Norway’s practical experiences in aid diplomacy in his talk titled, “Northern Approaches to Aid Diplomacy: The Cases of Canada and Norway.”

This forum marks the first time that NCL and ICDF have collaborated to bring together foreign visiting scholars from relevant fields to participate in and conduct exchange around the themes of the “Development Focus Quarterly” for the purpose of exploring Taiwan’s roles and opportunities in the areas of digital transitions, net-zero carbon emissions, and regional economic shifts. Ministry of Foreign Affairs Deputy Minister Ming-chi Chen attended and gave remarks at the event, which was also attended by envoys from Taiwan’s diplomatic allies including Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Tuvalu, and Eswatini, as well as over one hundred representatives from industry, government, education, research, NGO’s and international scholars.



Forum visuals

NCL Deputy Director-General-General Chih-Tsung Weng attended the event and gave remarks on behalf of NCL. The video recording of the forum has been uploaded to the ICDF and NCL DAVA platform for viewing by interested members of the public.



Group photo of distinguished guests at the May 9th Development Focus Forum