



Group photo of participants at the May 9th Development Focus Forum

■ NCL Announces the “2024 Report on Taiwan Academic Resource Capabilities and Ethos”

On April 28th, National Central Library announced the “2024 Report on Taiwan Academic Resource Capabilities and Ethos.” Using the two databases of the NCL Taiwan Periodical Literature and the Taiwan Citation Index - Humanities and Social Sciences as reference, the report summarizes the authorizations and reader usage circumstances of these collections over the past year, observing the citation frequency and dissemination of these resources, analyzing frequently used keywords, and unveiling popular research topics. The report announcement held in the NCL International Conference Hall was attended by over 160 representatives from journal publishing institutions who gathered to learn about the capabilities and roles of these two database resources in supporting academic research.

Journal Publications Reflect Important Current Events, with Artificial Intelligence, COVID-19, and Sustainable Development among Most Popular Topics

The NCL Taiwan Periodical Literature journal paper database collection surpassed 3.35 million entries by the end of 2024, including 2.42 million full-text digital papers, reaching an impressive 10.3 million full-text downloads over the course of the year. Looking at the 10 most commonly searched keywords during 2024, Artificial Intelligence was the research area that received the most attention, surpassing that of COVID-19. Research on Artificial Intelligence not only reflects current trends in technological development, but also demonstrates its application potential in the fields of education, medicine, and industry. In addition, extensive research on COVID-19 continues, particularly on the themes of telemedicine and its effects on the elderly. Furthermore, the topic of sustainable development, an important global focus, also occupies an important space within academic research in Taiwan, reflecting a focus on environmental governance and social responsibility.

The report also looks at the over 3.56 million source literature entries and 8.69 million cited

literature entries within the Taiwan Citation Index - Humanities and Social Sciences database, using bibliometric analysis to observe the dissemination patterns of periodical literature. In addition to conducting statistical and analytical evaluations of each journal based on “five-year citations” and “long-term citations,” the report also examines connections and contexts according to different academic disciplines and journal levels, providing humanities and social science researchers and journal publishing institutions with a valuable reference.



A group photo of periodical resource use award recipients

NCL Thanks All Sectors for Supporting the Spirit of Open Access, Disseminating Academic Capabilities

NCL Director-General Han-ching Wang expressed that Taiwan’s academic resource capabilities are founded upon the contributions of research institutions, academic publishing organizations, and researchers. This report on academic resource capabilities and ethos that NCL has organized presents the general situation of how these collection resources assist readers in conducting research as well as providing insights into readers’ focus themes. This information will be beneficial to NCL in the collection of data and in providing more focus and depth to NCL’s knowledge-based services. In addition, it will be helpful for publishers and researchers to gain these insights to inform their work in journal management and understand developing research topic trends. At the report announcement event, Director-General Han-ching Wang specially thanked members of all sectors for working with NCL to support the spirit of Open Access, allowing Taiwan’s culture and academic capabilities to be widely disseminated and passed on to future generations within the digital internet environment we live in today.



NCL Director-General Han-ching Wang makes a speech



A group photo of event participants

■ A Celebration of World Book Day: National Central Library and National Development Council Launch Bilingual Book Donation, Showcasing the Vision of the Southern Branch

Reading is not only a measure of personal competitiveness but also a vital indicator of a nation's cultural soft power. The National Central Library has long been dedicated to fostering a culture of reading, encouraging citizens to cultivate good reading habits, deepening cultural literacy, and thereby building a knowledge-based society. To promote the beauty of reading and to echo the global celebration of World Book and Copyright Day on April 23, 2025, the National Central Library and the National Development Council jointly hosted the event “Sharing the Joy of Reading through Book Giving.”

This initiative also aligns with the government's Bilingual 2030 policy, which seeks to strengthen bilingual learning environments at the pre-high school levels and cultivate English communication skills among the younger generation. At the same time, it represents an important step in realizing the vision of the National Central Library's Southern Branch to deepen reading literacy.



Second-grade students from Tainan Municipal Beiqu Park Elementary School together with volunteer storytelling mothers

The event centers on two main components: regional book donations and a nationwide online platform for sharing reading reflections. Under the theme “Sharing the Joy of Reading through Book Giving,” the National Central Library, in collaboration with the National Development Council, donated Chinese and English picture books to 60 elementary and junior high schools across Yunlin, Chiayi, Tainan, and Kaohsiung. Each school received high-quality picture books that combine language learning with elements of local culture, thereby enriching bilingual reading resources and enhancing students' English reading proficiency. Schools were encouraged to organize shared-reading activities and upload their outcomes to the event's official website (<https://guide.ncl.edu.tw/event/2025worldbookday/>), where the results are available for nationwide exchange and learning.

The online reading reflection activity made use of the NCL to Your Home platform, offering 320 digital picture books to encourage students nationwide to take the initiative in reading and writing reflections. The aim is to cultivate consistent reading habits, integrate reading into daily life, and thereby raise overall literacy across society. This year's activity drew participation from more than 7,000 students, who engaged in online reading and submitted reflections—demonstrating both the vitality of students' reading and their enthusiasm for creative expression, while also highlighting the powerful effectiveness of digital reading resources in promoting literacy.

The book donation ceremony was held on May 27 at the Hsu Shih Music Library of the Tainan Public Library. The event featured a special performance by second-grade students from Tainan Municipal Beiqu Park Elementary School together with volunteer “storytelling mothers,” who presented a lively bilingual storytelling session in both Chinese and English, adding a touch of childlike charm and heartfelt emotion to the occasion.

National Central Library Director-General Han-Ching Wang stated that the Library is currently constructing its Southern Branch and National Repository Library in Sinying, Tainan. In the future, this facility will serve as a modern library that brings together national reading resources, providing academic support, lifelong reading services, and diverse cultural programs. The National Repository Library will also function as a key repository for documents and digital resources, supporting the transmission and innovation of knowledge throughout Taiwan. Notably, 80% of the campus will be preserved as green space, balancing ecological conservation with educational functions and embodying a vision of sustainability.