

NCL Director-General Wang during her remarks

In her remarks, Deputy Director-General Wu emphasized that the old books involved in this collaboration are extremely valuable, with some even absent from major databases in mainland China. She also expressed gratitude to colleagues at the National Central Library, who consistently assist in promoting the publications of the Institute of Modern History during international exchanges. The core value of digitization lies in preservation and accessibility. Through collaboration with the National Central Library, not only can these precious documents be properly preserved and widely utilized, but under the premise of sustainable transmission, this initiative can further foster in-depth global academic and cultural exchange, collectively contributing to the preservation of cultural heritage and the advancement of scholarship. Beginning with digitization, this collaboration sets the stage for closer future efforts in promoting cultural materials, allowing the world to recognize Taiwan's achievements in this field of scholarship.



The signed collaborative agreements

Following the signing ceremony, IMH also held further discussions with the Library on academic collaboration. This partnership is not limited to the digitization and exchange of documents; it also aspires to foster joint activities such as lectures or publications. Such initiatives aim to enrich scholarly exchange between both institutions and lay a solid foundation for future academic collaboration.



Group photo following the exchange between the National Central Library and the Institute of Modern History at Academia Sinica

Yun-wu Wang Foundation Donates Rare Books to the National Central Library, Enriching the Holdings of NCL's Southern Branch

The National Central Library, dedicated to the preservation of cultural assets and the promotion of scholarly research, is committed to the acquisition, organization, and safeguarding of bibliographic resources, while also fostering a culture of reading among the public. Today, the Library received a generous donation from the Yun-wu Wang Foundation, consisting of more than 18,400 volumes from the personal collection of Mr. Yun-wu Wang. This extensive collection includes a wide range of Chinese and Western works, as well as 103 rare classical texts. These treasured materials will become part of the holdings of the Library's Southern Branch, thereby enriching its resources for academic research and public reading once the branch officially opens.

NCL Director-General Han-ching Wang remarked that Mr. Wang Yun-wu was a distinguished educator, statesman, and publisher, and a key figure in shaping the knowledge system of the Chinese-speaking world. The donation of Mr. Wang's personal book and manuscript collection by the Yun-wu Wang Foundation will be preserved at the Library's Southern Branch, serving as an invaluable resource for scholarly research and cultural services. Among the rare books in this donation, the earliest dates back to the 10th year of the Xuande reign in the Ming dynasty (1435), Huian xiansheng wuyan shicao (originally cataloged as Huian shichao xu). Other notable works include the Qing dynasty titles Xiao wanjuan zhai jingjin gao and Han bei yinwei kao, as well as Japanese translations from the Taisho and Meiji periods such as Wayaku Rōshi (Japanese Translation of Laozi) and Wayaku Sōshi (Japanese Translation of Zhuangzi). Together, these works illustrate the rich intersections of Chinese, Japanese, and Western cultures. The establishment of the Southern Branch and the National Repository Library strengthens Taiwan's capacity for bibliographic preservation and expands the service network for knowledge and academic research. The Yun-wu Wang Foundation's generous donation not only contributes precious resources to cultural education but also represents a significant milestone in the long-term collaboration between the Foundation and the Library.

Director Chun-shen Wang of the Yun-wu Wang Foundation Wang stated that the donation of more than 18,000 volumes encompasses works ranging from the Ming dynasty to the modern era, covering literature, history, philosophy, and other fields. These volumes represent a profound manifestation of Chinese civilization and its cultural heritage. The collection also includes books published over a century ago by the Commercial Press, which at the time were meticulously produced by scholars through leadtype printing and word-by-word proofreading. He emphasized that the National Central Library has long been dedicated to the preservation of culture, and that the Foundation continues to maintain close cooperation with the Library to ensure that these valuable materials may be studied by a wider readership.

In his remarks, Ven. Chi-chun Tseng, President of Dharma Drum Mountain Social University, observed that this donation highlights and carries forward Mr. Yun-wu Wang's enduring contributions to publishing, education, and culture. Assistant Professor Chenghua Han of the Department of History at National Taiwan University further noted that in addition to rare classical works, the collection comprises an exceptionally large number of volumes across diverse fields—including culture, law, politics, economics, finance, industrial management, management, as well as physics and chemistry—making it an invaluable body of materials for historical research.



A view of the preface of Huian xiansheng wuyanshi chao



A page from Xiao wanjuan zhai jingjin gao published in 1885

NCL and the Yun-wu Wang Foundation have long collaborated, not only co-organizing the "Yun-wu Wang International Forum on Self-directed Learning" but also completing the digitization and public access of his manuscripts. The donation of Mr. Yun-wu Wang's personal book collection marks yet another milestone in this partnership, opening a new chapter of cooperation. Both parties look forward to continuing to work hand in hand to promote cultural sustainability and the broad dissemination of knowledge.



Dignitaries present at the donation

Preserving Light and Shadow: NCL Collaborates with the Family of Wan-Chuan Chang and Sign an Agreement to Digitize His Works

On the morning of May 28, the National Central Library held a signing ceremony for a cooperative agreement on the digitization of archival materials with the family of the late painter Wan-chuan Chang. In addition to members of Chang's family, nearly seventy individuals—including scholars, experts, and relatives of other senior artists—were present to participate in and bear witness to this momentous