



Director-General Wang introducing the event

Director-General Wang emphasized that this collaboration with the National Development Council to donate books is not only a concrete step in expanding reading promotion services, but also symbolizes a new starting point for the National Central Library in extending the power of knowledge. It is an initiative that will allow the seeds of reading to take root across the nation, enriching Taiwan's cultural foundation and strengthening its international competitiveness.



A photo of distinguished guests at the 2025 World Book Day "Sharing the Joy of Reading through Book Giving" event

■ 2025 IO Talk Online Forum, Co-organized by the National Central Library and the Library Association of the Republic of China, Concludes Successfully

To promote the sharing of information organization knowledge with common principles among library professionals, the National Central Library and the Library Association of the Republic of China held the IO Talk Online Forum on June 11 and June 25. Library professionals and the general public interested in information organization were invited to participate in the online forum to learn and share new knowledge.

The June 11th session, themed "Research Data and Metadata," was presented by Dr. Yingheng Liu, a researcher at the Chemnitz University of

Technology in Germany. The lecture explored the key roles of research data and metadata in knowledge organizations. First, he discussed the definition; "what data is," emphasizing that data is constructed through specific contexts and research processes, and its boundaries and reuse strategies need to be carefully considered. The briefing pointed out that the quality of subject metadata in current research materials is inconsistent and lacks sufficient contextual information, making data search and reuse difficult. This was followed by three empirical case studies, including the "discovery" of Australian research data catalogues and the positioning of meta-data roles, the elicitation of data exploration contexts, clinical trials and health-related data. Finally, three reflections were proposed: how to capture and utilize key contextual information, how post-data and repositories can balance disciplinary characteristics and cross-disciplinary interoperability, and how to design user-centered data exploration systems based on user behavior.

The June 25th session was themed "Artificial Intelligence and Metadata," and the speaker was Dr. Liu Yingheng. The speech focused on the application and future development of artificial intelligence (AI) in the field of metadata, and the content came from the results of the 2024 Dublin Core Metadata Initiative (DCMI) cross-national survey questionnaire. The content incorporated four major aspects: meta-data tasks and artificial intelligence applications, potential benefits of implementing artificial intelligence, challenges and concerns, future impacts and characteristics of respondents. Participants generally recognized the potential and benefits of AI, including improving the richness and discoverability of metadata, reducing manual work, and facilitating the connection of metadata. Many respondents, however, also said that the main challenges lie in the need for professional training, ensuring transparency of AI in the decision-making process, resource issues, and how to integrate expertise. Concerns about AI bias, data quality, and the impact on professional roles. Quantitative structural equation model (SEM) analysis shows that "benefits" can effectively drive the application of AI, "challenges" promote skill development, and "confidence" is an important driving force for AI adoption. The study recommends that information organization professionals should have basic AI knowledge, programming and data analysis skills, data evaluation capabilities and ethical literacy to ensure the accuracy and sustainability of AI applications.

The final Q&A session of the two forums was chaired by Ya-ning Ch'en, Chairman of the Technical Services Committee of the Library Association of the Republic of China. The event was successfully completed with the enthusiastic participation of library colleagues. It is hoped that this event will

enhance the understanding of research data, artificial intelligence and meta-data among all sectors. A total of approximately 270 people participated online.



The National Central Library co-organizes the 2025 IO Talk Online Forum with the Library Association of the Republic of China

■ Director of University of Tokyo's Asian Research Library Professor Eiji Sagawa Visits NCL for Lecture and Exchange

On the afternoon of April 21st, Professor Eiji Sagawa, Director the University of Tokyo's Asian Research Library, visited National Central Library to present a lecture titled, "The Asian Research Library and the Establishment of Digital Resources." During his lecture, Professor Sagawa discussed the Asian Research Library's digitization projects and summarized the Library's experience promoting a Taiwan Research Center for Chinese Studies (TRCCS) as a collaborative partner with National Central Library's initiative to establish these centers abroad. In addition, Professor Sagawa and National Central Library colleagues engaged in discussion and exchange of their respective experiences.



Professor Eiji Sagawa describes the Asian Research Library's establishment of digital resources

Professor Eiji Sagawa received his Ph.D in Literature from Osaka City University and currently serves as a professor in the University of Tokyo's Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology and Faculty of Letters, where his research focuses on ancient Chinese history. The University of Tokyo Library is the 12th Taiwan Research Center for Chinese Studies (TRCCS) established abroad by NCL, and marks the first such center in Japan. The two institutions began collaboratively organizing lectures on Taiwan's Chinese Studies and other activities in 2014 and continue to maintain a close collaborative partnership. The Asian Research Library was established as a part of the University of Tokyo's library system in 2020 and houses a collection of over 50,000 volumes related to Asian Studies. In addition to their displayed collection, the library is also home to a basement-level automated storage and retrieval system including texts relating to all regions of the Asian continent, from East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, Central Asia, to Western Asia.

During his lecture, Professor Sagawa focused on the origins and mission of the Asian Research Library as well as its collection and recent developments in its digitization programs. Professor Sagawa also shared his experiences receiving book donations and hosting lectures through the TRCCS. After his lecture, Professor Sagawa engaged in discussions and exchange with NCL colleagues from the Rare Books and Special Collections, Chinese Studies, Digital Platforms and Systems Departments.

Chinese Studies Symposium

■ NCL Organizes International Conference on Animal Depictions in Classical and Modern East Asian Culture, Bringing together Scholars to Expand Forward-Looking Topics in Taiwan's Chinese Studies

In order to promote academic exchange and develop new research topics, National Central Library's Center for Chinese Studies held an International Conference on Animal Depictions in Classical and Modern East Asian Culture in Taipei from May 15th to 16th, 2025. In addition to inviting 17 scholars from Taiwan, the USA, Japan, Singapore, and other countries to present papers and hold a round-table forum, the conference also invited Professor Sechin Y. S. Chien, Research Fellow at the Research Centre of Humanities and Social Sciences, Academia Sinica, to present a keynote speech based on his long-term research on animal ethics. In-person and virtual attendees engaged in enthusiastic exchange on the conference subjects.