President Zalio noted that, in its development, the Campus Condorcet library has placed special emphasis on integrating the collections of multiple research institutions and is committed to the preservation and digitization of rare texts and documents in various languages. He further stated that artificial intelligence and large language models can greatly enhance the interpretation and preservation of these valuable materials, aligning closely with Taiwan's research directions in the digital humanities. This collaboration, through the archiving of Chinese-language resources and the research achievements of scholars, will further support academic research in France.

In her remarks, Director-General Wang emphasized that Taiwan not only possesses abundant academic resources but also serves as a global bridge for Chinese studies and Taiwan studies. Going forward, TRCCS will provide the Campus Condorcet library with a wealth of high-quality research and digital resources from Taiwan. This center will not only strengthen academic exchange but also make Taiwan's research more readily accessible to scholars in France and across Europe, further enhancing the international visibility of Taiwanese scholarship.

Josue Serres, Head of the Academic Collaboration and Culture Office at the French Office in Taiwan, was invited to speak at the event. He highlighted that the TRCCS at Campus Condorcet will help deepen Taiwan–France relations and lay a solid foundation for future collaboration.

To commemorate the signing, the National Central Library presented a replica of The Annotated Poetry of Su Dongpo to Campus Condorcet, symbolizing the shared commitment of both libraries to knowledge preservation and cultural exchange. The signing ceremony concluded successfully amid mutual aspirations for future collaboration. Both institutions believe that the TRCCS at Campus Condorcet will open more opportunities for dialogue and exchange between Taiwanese and French scholars, while injecting new vitality into global Chinese studies and Taiwan studies. Representatives from the European Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the International and Cross-Strait Education Division of the Ministry of Education also attended the event, affirming that TRCCS will benefit both the teaching and research endeavors of Campus Condorcet.

Presenting a replica of The Annotated Poetry of Su Dongpo

A group photo of the dignitaries

■ NCL Director-General Wang Leads a Team to the PNC 2025 Conference: Promoting International Exchange of Achievements in Taiwan Scholarship and AI Innovations in Libraries

The 2025 Pacific Neighborhood Consortium (PNC) Annual Conference was held in Hanoi, Vietnam, from September 20 to 22. This year's conference was hosted by the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences. Centered on the theme "Mind Meets Machine: Rethinking Intelligence and Knowledge in the Age of AI," the event explored how artificial intelligence is redefining the concepts of knowledge and intelligence, as well as the future directions of human-machine collaboration. Over the course of three days, the conference brought together more than a hundred distinguished scholars and experts from Taiwan, South Korea, Japan, the United States, the United Kingdom, Vietnam, China, Indonesia, and Malaysia, fostering in-depth scholarly exchange and discussion.

NCL Director-General Wang posing with scholars at the conference

A group photo of 2025 PNC attendees

This year, the National Central Library organized and hosted Session 7: Human–AI Collaboration in Libraries, chaired personally by Director-General Han-Ching Wang. The session was held on September 21 from 10:45 to 11:15 a.m., bringing together scholars from Taiwan, Japan, and Vietnam to discuss emerging trends in the interaction between human expertise and artificial intelligence within libraries. The session featured four insightful presentations, each examining the applications of AI in library services, education, and knowledge management from different perspectives—including digital transformation, cultural knowledge preservation, bibliographic identification, and smart services.

Ngo Thi Huyen's (Chair of the Department of Library and Information Science, University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Vietnam National University, Ho Chi Minh City) presentation examined digital transformation challenges in private university libraries in Vietnam, revealing the complex interplay between content, service, workforce, and organizational transformation. Through comprehensive analysis of a private institution's journey, her work highlights the unique challenges faced by private universities, including financial constraints and human resource limitations, while emphasizing the critical role of staff development and institutional support in successful digital initiatives.

Wei-Ning Cheng's (Assistant Professor, Graduate Institute of Library and Information Studies, National Taiwan Normal University) presentation explored the innovative use of artificial intelligence and knowledge graphs for cultural heritage and scientific research. By moving beyond traditional information storage to dynamic knowledge visualization, this approach transforms libraries into active partners in meaning-making, enabling users to navigate complex relationships between concepts, texts, and research findings across disciplines.

Takumi Tamura, Takashi Harada, Hiroyoshi Ito, Atsuyuki Morishima, Yukihiro Fukusima, Minako Nishiura, and Sho Sato's (seven scholars from Japan, representing the University of Tsukuba, Yashima Gakuen University, Gifu Women's University, Keio University, and Doshisha University) presentation examined Conditions for Human Intervention in Library-Oriented Hybrid Bibliographic Identification. Takumi Tamura and colleagues proposed a hybrid bibliographic identification framework for interlibrary loans, combining rule-based filtering, machine learning, and human judgment. Their study identified high-risk cases—especially where titles are similar but authors differ—and shows that selective human intervention can achieve 99.7% accuracy with minimal effort.

Tze-ing Chang, Shih-Hsuan Wu and Fang-Ling Lin's (National Taiwan Normal University Library) presentation introduce a "digital twin AI librarian" to enhance academic librarians' instructional roles through asynchronous teaching. Using a design-based research approach, they fine-tuned a large language model to support information literacy education. Built on ChatGPT and integrated with automation tools, the AI agent demonstrated promising results in facilitating dialog, supporting learning, and extending librarians' capabilities in the digital age.

The NCL team for Session 7 and attendees

In addition, Director-General Wang was also invited to serve as the chair of Session 5: Geo-Spatial AI & Environmental Analysis, held on September 20 from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. This session focused on the application of artificial intelligence and geospatial data to environmental issues and sustainable development. Drawing on her extensive experience in international collaboration, Director-General Wang facilitated interdisciplinary dialogue among participants, fostering diverse partnerships and the exchange of knowledge.

During this year's PNC Annual Conference, the National Central Library was invited for the first time by Academia Sinica to set up a "Taiwan Scholarly Achievements Display." The exhibit showcased 120 titles (125 volumes) of humanities and social science research publications from Taiwan, highlighting the island's rich accomplishments in Chinese studies and interdisciplinary scholarship. At the closing ceremony on September 22, Director-General Han-Ching Wang formally donated all the exhibited books to the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences, symbolizing the deep academic and cultural ties as well as the ongoing collaboration between Taiwan and Vietnam.

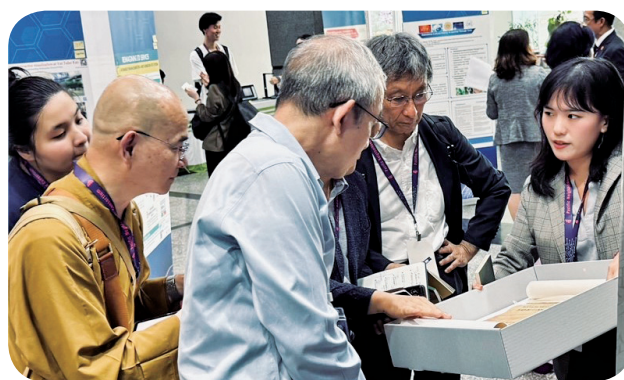*The "Taiwan Scholarly Achievements Display" of 120 books*

NCL Director-General Wang presenting a collection of books to the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences during the closing ceremony

NCL also presented two posters at the conference, showcasing NCL's recent innovations in digital archiving and the application of artificial intelligence:

1. The Special Collections Division presented a poster titled "Millennium Treasures Reimagined: High-Fidelity Replicas of Rare Books at the National Central Library," presented by Assistant Editor Szu-Yu Chen of the International Collaboration Division. Supported by Ministry of Culture projects in 2022 and 2025, the initiative successfully produced high-fidelity replicas of 36 rare books. These have been widely featured in exhibitions and outreach programs both domestically and internationally, including locations across Taiwan, its outlying islands, the Czech Republic, and Malaysia. This poster was recognized by the conference reviewers and awarded second place.

Assistant Editor Szu-Yu Chen presenting and explaining the poster at the conference

2. The Collections Development and Bibliographic Management Division presented a poster titled "Reimagining ETD Services: AI-Enabled Enhancements for a Next-Generation ETD System," presented by Assistant Editor Ying-Luo Huang. Developed between 2024 and 2026, the system incorporates AI technologies for thesis recognition, data extraction, automated cataloging, and smart recommendations, enhancing the efficiency of electronic thesis and dissertation (ETD) management and reinforcing the National Central Library's pivotal role in the academic communication ecosystem.

Assistant Editor Ying-Luo Huang presenting and explaining the poster

Since its founding in 1997, PNC has been committed to promoting collaboration and exchange among academic institutions across Asia and around the world, and has become an influential international organization in the global scholarly community. NCL has been an active participant in the PNC Annual Conference since 2021, consistently promoting topics related to digital libraries and the application of artificial intelligence, while continuously deepening its collaborative relationships with libraries and academic institutions worldwide.

■ NCL Donates Taiwan Corner to Diplomatic Ally Eswatini

In order to deepen friendship between Taiwan and Eswatini, further promoting cultural exchange between the two nations, Taiwan's National Central Library (NCL below) donated a Taiwan Corner to the Eswatini National Library Service on July 1st, 2025, with Minister of Economic Planning and Development Thambo Gina receiving the donation on behalf of Eswatini.

Eswatini Minister of Economic Planning and Development Thambo Gina receives the Taiwan Corner Donation on behalf of the Eswatini National Library Service

NCL Director-General Han-Ching Wang expressed that in the many years of diplomatic partnership between Taiwan and Eswatini, significant achievements have been made in collaborations on agriculture, trade, education, medicine, and other fields. Now, with the donation of quality books from Taiwan, NCL hopes to expand and create new channels for cultural exchange between the two nations, looking forward to fruitful developments as a result. Taiwan Corner is an important trademark developed by NCL in order to deepen international exchange, promote understanding of Taiwan among the citizens of different countries, and popularize Taiwan's image throughout the world. The planning of each Taiwan Corner focuses on promoting Taiwan's history, local culture, and promoting Taiwan's cultural image and related information. Curated based on local needs, Taiwan Corners present diverse published materials suited to offer a launching pad from which citizens of various countries can learn about Taiwan at their own local libraries. This donation from NCL included children's picture books, three-dimensional pop-up books and maps of Taiwan, as well as books on a variety of diverse themes from Taiwan, including history, local cultures, the natural environment, literature, arts, and more.

Esteemed guests take group photo with donated books from the Taiwan Corner

Minister Gina expressed that Taiwan has long been one of Eswatini's most genuine partners, with collaboration extending beyond economic realms to include culture, information, and education. He expressed his sincere gratitude and affirmation for the establishment of this Taiwan Corner and expressed his hope that it will serve as a cultural bridge across which further mutual understanding and friendship can be promoted between the two nations. In addition to the donation ceremony, Minister Thambo Gina and colleagues toured the NCL Main Library and the Digitization Center, engaging in professional exchange including learning about NCL's experience with digitization, particularly the digitization of ancient texts.

Located next to the Taiwanese embassy in Eswatini's capital city Mbabane, the Eswatini National Library Service is an important center of cultural education with a mission to provide professional and equitable library, reference, and information services for all. The establishment of a Taiwan Corner in the library will not only enrich Eswatini's Chinese-language library collection, it will also serve as a starting point for more cultural exchange and collaboration. We thank the Taiwanese Embassy in Eswatini, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the