

During the lecture, NCL Director-General Han-Ching Wang first delivered opening remarks and introduced the guest speaker, Director McDonald. Drawing on her extensive professional experience in library practice, Director McDonald presented a lecture entitled “Libraries of Influence: Innovation, Inclusion, and Impact—The Case of the State Library of Queensland,” offering an in-depth exploration of how libraries can exert meaningful social influence.

In her lecture, Director McDonald first outlined the challenges of serving library users by examining Queensland’s geographic and demographic characteristics. She then introduced the State Library of Queensland’s vision and strategic objectives, and discussed how libraries can achieve these goals within the framework of UNESCO’s Public Library Manifesto and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). She also shared numerous case studies illustrating how the State Library of Queensland designs and delivers user-centered services.

The keynote lecture underscored that the core value of libraries extends far beyond serving merely as repositories of collections; it lies in ensuring that everyone has free and equitable access to culture and knowledge. The State Library of Queensland focuses its services on children, families, students, and digitally disadvantaged communities. Through its spaces and services, the Library actively promotes social equity, inclusion, and interaction, while enriching the public’s reading experiences and quality of life.

During the post-lecture Q&A session moderated by Director-General Wang, engaged participants raised a wide range of insightful and in-depth questions. Topics included how institutional vision can be translated into daily operations and staff actions, whether the Library’s partnerships extend to cross-sector or cross-departmental collaboration, and strategies for outreach to adolescent audiences, among others. Director McDonald responded to each question with detailed explanations and thoughtful feedback, enabling participants to gain substantial insights from the exchange.



*A view of the active Q&A session after the lecture*

## ■ Academician Yi-Chiu Liao, the Father of Taiwan Aquaculture, Donates Personal Manuscripts and Research Materials to NCL, Marking a Major Milestone in the Transmission of National Scholarship and History

On the morning of November 11, 2025, NCL held a donation ceremony for the personal manuscripts and scholarly research materials of Academician Yi-Chiu Liao, known as the “Father of Taiwan Aquaculture.” Academician Liao was the first member of Academia Sinica elected for his contributions in the field of aquaculture research. His work brought numerous innovations and breakthroughs to Taiwan’s agriculture and aquaculture industries, laying a vital foundation for the development of the nation’s agricultural and fisheries sectors. His contributions are outstanding. In addition, Academician Liao is the first life sciences academician to donate his complete collection of personal manuscripts and academic research materials to NCL. This act symbolizes his deep commitment to scholarly research, educational legacy, and the enduring transmission of knowledge.

NCL Director-General Han-Ching Wang noted that the materials donated by Academician Liao are exceptionally rich in content, encompassing manuscripts, experimental notebooks, instructional materials, unpublished hand-drawn illustrations of groupers, and significant published works. These are from his time as an undergraduate and graduate student, as well as when he was at the Fisheries Research Institute. They span the fields of aquaculture and agricultural science. These materials not only comprehensively document the course of Taiwan’s agricultural science and technology development, but also vividly reflect a scholar’s steadfast commitment and passion for the pursuit of knowledge and the transmission of education. This valuable body of materials will serve as a crucial foundation for scholars and historians studying the history of agricultural and aquaculture development in Taiwan. It will also hold profound and enduring significance for future research into Taiwan’s agricultural economy and related academic fields.



*Academician Liao donating his writings to NCL*

Academician Liao remarked that throughout his lifelong academic journey, the ocean and fisheries have always been his greatest passion. From breakthroughs in grass shrimp aquaculture technology to Taiwan's emergence as a global leader in aquaculture, these achievements were made possible through the support and collective efforts of countless individuals. Donating his personal documents and research materials to NCL represents both an affirmation and consolation for the years he has devoted to his work, as well as a message of hope for future generations. He expressed the wish that these materials would inspire a new generation of researchers to continue upholding a spirit of craftsmanship, leaving no regrets, and to write an even more brilliant chapter in the development of Taiwan's fisheries.

NCL has long been committed to collecting and preserving the manuscripts and research trajectories of Taiwan's important intellectuals, writers, and scholars, thereby providing a strong foundation for the transmission of culture and knowledge. In anticipation of the establishment of its Southern Branch in Xinying District, Tainan City—positioned as a knowledge hub for biotechnology, agricultural technology, and emerging technologies—NCL has in recent years actively acquired scientific and experimental historical materials in related fields, including research notes, laboratory records, photographs, and correspondence. Academician Liao's donation not only enriches the depth of the Southern Branch's collections in agricultural technology, but also constitutes a valuable resource for future scholars seeking to trace the development of aquaculture and agricultural science in Taiwan. Looking ahead, the Southern Branch will continue to serve as a major center for emerging technologies, biotechnology, and agricultural research. It will preserve and transmit collections of historical

and scholarly significance. Through these efforts, NCL hopes to inspire more researchers to pursue innovation and exploration, to reflect on the paths forged by earlier generations, and to move toward new horizons while sustaining the spirit of advancing scholarship and agricultural development.



*A group photo of the dignitaries in attendance*

Taiwan has long been renowned worldwide as a nation founded on and sustained by agriculture. Through his actions, Academician Liao has exemplified selfless dedication to knowledge and education. His donation ensures the permanent preservation of invaluable research achievements; it also symbolizes a deep commitment to protecting scholarly legacy and cultural memory. Distinguished guests attending the donation ceremony included former President of the Judicial Yuan Hao-Min Lai, Academicians Chang-Hung Chou and Te-Tsai Lee, Professors Ching-Feng Chang, Kuo-Tien Lee, Hsi-Yen Hsiao, and Han-Chia Lin, as well as Director Chin-Yi Chang of the Fisheries Research Institute under the Ministry of Agriculture. They expressed strong affirmation and respect for this contribution. Through this acquisition, NCL hopes to enable more people to gain insight into the development of Taiwan's agriculture and fisheries, to appreciate the perseverance and significance of scientific research, and to continue promoting the preservation and exchange of knowledge across the humanities, history, and sciences, ensuring that the scholarly spirit and the pulse of the times may endure and evolve.



*Attendees looking at some of the documents donated*