

demonstrate the core values of libraries, extending beyond the traditional function of collection stewardship and effectively embodying the spirit of the Riga Declaration on the right to read, ensuring that everyone has equal and free access to knowledge. For the library, exhibitions are not merely displays of collections but also serve as a medium for fostering social inclusion and interactive engagement, enriching the public's reading and everyday experiences. The National Library of Latvia's curatorial practices clearly demonstrate that exhibitions function as a strategic tool linking collection-based research with public participation, thereby strengthening the library's role in advancing national democratic development, enhancing international visibility, and deepening cultural diplomacy.



NCL donating a Taiwan Corner to the National Library of Latvia

During the Q&A session following the lecture, participants actively engaged with questions, to which Director Baltiņa provided detailed responses and thoughtful feedback. The lecture was rich in content and highly engaging, offering valuable international insights for Taiwan's library community and inspiring further reflection among local professionals on the role and positioning of libraries in the 21st century.

Following the keynote lecture, NCL held a Taiwan Corner donation ceremony, during which Director-General Wang presented a Taiwan Corner to the National Library of Latvia, bringing the day's scholarly exchange to a successful conclusion.

The content of today's keynote lecture, "Why Do We Still Need Book Exhibitions in the 21st Century?", will be uploaded to NCL's Distance Learning Platform, allowing more members of the library community to access it for observation and learning.

■ NCL Hosts the 2026 International Seminar for East Asian Library Professional Librarians

NCL hosted the International Seminar for East Asian Library Professional Librarians from February 2 to 4, 2026, with the aim of advancing the integration of Taiwan's library profession with the international community and promoting Taiwan's scholarly publications. The theme of this year's seminar, "From Intelligence to Innovation: Exploring the Future of Libraries through Human-AI Collaboration," focuses on the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on the production, organization, discovery, and preservation of knowledge, while emphasizing the human-centered core of library professionalism.



A group photo of dignitaries and students

The seminar brought together 20 international librarians from nine countries—the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, Japan, Australia, Switzerland, Hong Kong, the Philippines, and Thailand—as well as representatives from NCL's overseas TRCCS partner institutions, to participate in a three-day program of professional training and scholarly exchange. In addition to five keynote lectures, participants visited the Taipei International Book Exhibition and the National Archives to gain deeper insight into Taiwan's achievements in publishing and cultural preservation.

In his opening remarks, Acting Director-General Chih-Tsung Weng of NCL noted that since 2009, the biennial International Seminar for East Asian Library Professional Librarians has become an important platform for international scholarly exchange in the library profession. Evolving from a regional initiative into a cross-cultural and transregional professional community, the seminar demonstrates the library sector's collective commitment to addressing changes in knowledge and technology through dialogue, collaboration, and learning.

All five keynote lectures were conducted in English, featuring scholars from Taiwan and Singapore who shared their latest research and practical experience. Professor Hsin-Chieh Lee, Director of the Institute of Technology Management at National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University, discussed “Development Trends in Library 4.0,” analyzing how libraries can achieve intelligence and innovation in the digital age. Assistant Professor Wei-Ning Cheng of National Taiwan Normal University and Professor Chris Khoo of Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (joining online), jointly explored “The Integration of Generative Artificial Intelligence and Knowledge Graphs,” examining the impact of AI on knowledge organization and service models.

Assistant Professor Chia-Ling Chang of Tamkang University presented “Applications and Challenges of Artificial Intelligence in Digital Humanities,” discussing the practical applications of AI in cultural preservation and digital humanities, as well as the challenges involved. Yi-Chen Wu, Consultant to the Digital Publishing Committee of the Chinese Book Publishers Association, analyzed the integration of digital publishing and library services and offer perspectives on the future development of scholarly resources. Professor Chih-Ming Chen of National Chengchi University delivered a presentation titled “Applications of Artificial Intelligence and the Metaverse in Libraries,” examining the impact of virtual-physical integration on library services and operations.



Expert Faculty Lead Instruction on the AI Wave

In addition to the keynote lectures, participants visited the Taipei International Book Exhibition to experience firsthand the latest developments in Taiwan’s publishing industry and the advancement of Chinese-language scholarly resources. On the afternoon of the third day, they toured the newly

inaugurated National Archives to gain insight into Taiwan’s achievements in archival preservation, digital governance, and the transmission of cultural memory.

This seminar not only demonstrates NCL’s commitment to advancing international scholarly exchange but also promotes the practice of human-AI collaboration. Through diverse international perspectives, NCL strengthens its partnerships with libraries around the world and provides a forward-looking practical framework for how libraries globally can balance innovation with their core values in the age of AI.

■ **National Central Library’s Center for Chinese Studies Participates in the AAS Annual Conference Book Fair in Vancouver**

"To disseminate Taiwan’s academic achievements in the humanities, the National Central Library (NCL) dispatched a delegation to Vancouver, Canada, to attend the Association for Asian Studies (AAS) Annual Conference held from March 12 to 15, 2026. This year’s book fair showcased 400 titles (433 volumes) of high-quality publications in Sinology and Taiwan Studies from the past three years. Additionally, a book donation ceremony for the University of Alberta was held on the afternoon of March 12. The ceremony was presided over by Angel Liu, Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Vancouver, with Professor Daniel Fried representing the University of Alberta to accept the donation."



National Central Library Showcases Taiwan’s Academic Research and Publishing Achievements at the AAS Annual Conference