

## Program

### ■ "Reading Taiwan" Event Stimulates Interest in Books

The Ministry of Education has long promoted community education and encouraged the habit of lifelong education. In conjunction with the "Museums and Young People" theme of this year's International Museum Day, the ministry joined hands with community education organizations and other related units to organize the "Young Taiwan: See, Know and Act" series of lifelong learning activities from May this year. The activity aimed to stimulate an interest in self-exploration and study, and thereby stimulate the abilities and creativity of children and youth in Taiwan so that they can present the vitality of Taiwan on the international stage.

In conjunction with the lifelong learning activities and an MOE project to bolster lifelong learning systems, the NCL, National Taiwan Library, National Museum of Natural Science, National Museum of Marine Biology and Aquarium, and National Education Radio jointly planned a "Reading Taiwan" activity to promote family reading, to provide the public with a broader environment conducive to reading, and to encourage the public to research and read about Taiwan. The library also published *An Introduction to Online Resources for Taiwan Studies*, introducing 200 to 250 major websites for Taiwan studies.

Organized by the NCL, the "Reading Taiwan"

activity will run from August 1 to October 31 this year. The event will include five major activities: 1. Taiwan Study Camp; 2. Exploring Formosa Online; 3. Images of Taiwan: Historic Photographs of Taiwan; 4. Taiwan Photo Exhibition; and 5. Publication of *An Introduction to Online Resources for Taiwan Studies*.

The Taiwan Study Camp will be held from August 7 to 28 and consist of six sessions (12 groups) in northern, central and southern Taiwan. The camp will introduce various NCL information systems, such as "Taiwan Memory," "Window on Taiwan," and "Reading Taiwan," as well as print publications in the library collection to elementary and high school teachers and librarians at social education organizations. The camp aims to heighten awareness of the customs, history and unique qualities of Taiwan, and thereby foster the public's appreciation of their native land.

The Taiwan Photo Exhibition will visit four venues from September 15 to November 19: the Taipei County Library, Taichung County Cultural Center, Kaohsiung Municipal Library, and Hualien County Cultural Bureau. Activities include the following:

1. Exhibition of Japanese-era postcards in the NCL collection: A selection of 1,000 postcards will be displayed, with themes including the customs and lifestyles of Taiwan, the Taiwan Fair, architecture, artifacts and local industries
2. Exhibition of the best historical photographs of Taiwan submitted for the "Images of Taiwan" activity: A display of selected photographs that aim to increase public understanding and appreciation of local history, traits and customs

3. Exploring Formosa Online: This activity aims to through riddle and deduction games to increase understanding of the "Taiwan Memory," "Window on Taiwan," and "Reading Taiwan," information systems.

Well-known scholars and experts of Taiwan studies will also be invited to present lectures in conjunction with the photo exhibition.

### ■ Service and Seed Instructor Training Program for Overseas Chinese Libraries in Malaysia

The "Malaysian Overseas Chinese Library Services and Seed Instructor Training Program" was held in Malaysia from July 4 to 29, 2006. The program was organized by the Graduate Institute of Library and Information Science, National Taiwan Normal University with assistance from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Cabinet-level National Youth Commission, Overseas Chinese Affairs Commission, and the Library Association of the R.O.C. (Taiwan).

### ■ NCL and Global Memory Net Ink Memorandum of Cooperation

The NCL and Global Memory Net planning director Prof. Ching-chih Chen of GSLIS, Simmons College signed a memorandum of cooperation on July 19, 2006. Under the agreement, the NCL will provide high-quality images from Taiwan Memory and Rare Books Information Net systems for use on Global Memory Net. NCL will retain all ownership and

relevant rights of the provided images, which will be digitally watermarked and captioned on Global Memory Net.



Prof. Ching-chih Chen (second from right) and NCL Director General Juang Fang-rung (center) (Photo by Pinery S. Wu)

The NCL will broadly publicize the cooperation project in relevant NCL activities, such as conferences and publications, and Global Memory Net will also assist in promoting the NCL's outreach activities in the digital area to countries in the region.

Prof. Chen first raised the concept of a "World Digital Library" in 1993. She is now in charge of planning the Global Memory Net project, which is supported by the International Digital Library Program of the National Science Foundation (U.S.A.). Global Memory Net is an integrated multimedia search system offering rapid links to multimedia documents and bibliographic resources around the world, similar to OCLC's World Cat and online resources such as Google Scholar and Google Video.