



Prof. Ching-chih Chen (left), signs the memorandum of cooperation with Director Yu Hsiao-ming, representing NCL Director-General Juang. (Photo by Pinery S. Wu)

Special Report

■ NCL Hosts Seminar on East Asian Libraries in the U.S.

In order to further understand the characteristics of East Asian libraries in the U.S. and strengthen exchanges and cooperation with such libraries, the NCL hosted a "Seminar on U.S. East Asian Library Characteristics and Exchanges" on July 13, 2006. Mr. Michael Meng, director of the Asia Library at the University of Michigan; and Ms. Wen-ling Diana Liu, a librarian at the East Asian Library, Indiana University presented reports and shared their experience with NCL staff during the seminar. Mr. Meng spoke on the situation at his library and the status and challenges of the Michigan-Google Project. Ms. Liu introduced the characteristics of the Chinese language materials in the Indiana University collection. The event was organized by the NCL's

Bureau of International Exchange of Publications to facilitate exchange.

The NCL also presented two reports at the seminar. Editor Sung Mei-chen introduced the NCL's 3T characteristics and development status; and Director Peng Wei spoke on the collection



The "Seminar on U.S. East Asian Library Characteristics and Exchanges" was joined by Michael Meng (third from right), Wen-ling Diana Liu (second from right) and NCL Deputy Director General Sung Chien-cheng (third from left). (Photo by Pinery S. Wu)



The Seminar on U.S. East Asian Library Characteristics and Exchanges (Photo by Pinery S. Wu)

traits and exchange activities of the NCL. The briefings gave the visiting librarians a better understanding of the progress made by the NCL in recent years in terms of collection building and information systems, hopefully making these resources more widely used by researchers abroad.

Events

■ LAC Kicks Off 2006 Summer Program

The Library Association of the R.O.C. (Taiwan) is holding its 2006 summer workshop series from July 17 to September 1. The 11-session series includes courses on senior library management, library collection development in the digital age, introductory and advanced courses on information organization, cataloging standards, library operations and marketing, reading and libraries, library quality management, digital content collection, management, publication and utilization, library operations and local resource utilization, book information laws and regulations, and library e-learning space sharing planning and practical issues.

■ NCL Organizes Summer Workshop on Online Data Searching

The NCL and National Institute for Compilation and Translation (NICT) jointly organized the "Learning Online, Soaring High" education and training course from July 4 to 12 at Taipei Municipal University of Education, National Taichung Library, Kaohsiung Municipal



NCL Deputy Director-General Sung Chien-cheng (far right), National Taichung Library Director Hsueh Mao-sung (left, standing) welcome summer workshop participants at National Taichung Library.

High School, and Tzu Chi University in Hualien. The courses were attended by senior high school, vocational high school, middle school and elementary school teachers. The main online systems covered were: 1. READncl (produced by the NCL): Introduction to Periodical, Government, and Literary Information; 2. E-Publication Web (NICT): Online Browsing of over 2,000 Illustrated Books; and 3. Taiwan Genealogy Online (National Digital Archives Program): Introduction to Clan Histories, Family Migration Charts, and Genealogical Charts.

■ Lecture on "Archaic Land Deeds and Clan Relations in Taiwan"

In conjunction with the Taiwan Archaic Documents Exhibition at the National Central Library, held from April 21 to June 20, 2006, the NCL invited Professor Wen Chen-hua of the Graduate Institute of Taiwan History at National

Taiwan Normal University to present a lecture on "Archaic Land Deeds and Clan Relations in Taiwan" at the library on May 19. The lecture comprised covered the four topics of Taiwan's aboriginal tribes, land deed structures in the Qing dynasty, "frontier people" and Han Chinese in archaic land deeds, and Han, frontier and "barbarian" people in archaic land deeds.

Contract and agreement documents are an important source of information on daily life and social changes in Taiwan in earlier times. Since many of these documents are scattered in different locations, the NCL plans to collect, compile and publish such documents now in private collections to facilitate the study of Taiwan history.

■ *NCL Group Attends OCLC Meeting and Visits U.S. Libraries*

Director Wu Ying-mei of the NCL's Cataloging Department led a delegation of 16 library professionals from Taiwan to participate as observers in the 2006 OCLC Members Council Meeting. OCLC arranged a series of courses on its operating strategy and R&D plans for the Taiwan group before the meeting. The courses were taught by high-ranking managers of OCLC, including Vice President Phyllis Spies. Tsai Sue-en of OCLC Asia Pacific Library Services also led the Taiwan group on a tour of the OCLC campus, including visits to lab facilities and server rooms.

Apart from attending the OCLC activities, the Taiwan delegation visited several major libraries in the U.S., including the Library of Congress, District of Columbia Public Library, Ohio State University



Director Wu Ying-mei of the NCL (second from right) and Andrew H. Wang, Executive Director of OCLC Asia Pacific Services & New Initiatives (far right) (Photo provided by Wu Ying-mei)

Main Library and East Asian Library, Columbus Metropolitan Library, Huntington Library, Los Angeles Public Library and UCLA Library.

Director Wu also met with Andrew H. Wang, Executive Director of Asia Pacific Services & New Initiatives at OCLC, for discussions on cooperation issues. The NCL noted that it would complete its CMARC and MARC21 transfer software this year, and have at least 100,000 bibliographies (excluding academic papers) uploaded to the WorldCat system by the end of 2007. This cooperative achievement will serve as reference material for East Asian and global libraries in bibliographic copying. (Chinese text by Wu Ying-mei)

■ *NCL Attends the 4th Annual Library Leadership Institute*

The "4th Annual Library Leadership Institute:

The 21st Century Digital/Print Hybrid Research Library" was organized by the Hong Kong University Libraries in Nansha, China, from May 27 to 30, 2006. Director Wang Teng-yuan and Assistant Editor Liao Shioh-man attended the institute from the NCL, joining 33 other representatives from academic and research libraries in Hong Kong, Taiwan, mainland China, Thailand, Malaysia, and Singapore.

Paul Gandel, vice president for Information Technology and Services at Syracuse University, was principal facilitator; and Johnson Paul, deputy director of Publishing and Research Services (PRS) of the National Library Board of Singapore, was the main presenter. Over the course of the four days, participants engaged in learner-driven activities designed to build skills and awareness required of library leaders today. The sessions mixed formal presentations, small group discussions and interactive simulation activities. Topics covered included: Project Management,



Principal facilitator Professor Paul Gandel (center) is pictured with the Director Wang Teng-yuan (right) and Asst. Editor Liao Shioh-man (left) of the NCL.

Strategic Planning and Assessment, Changing Nature of Higher Education, and Scenario Planning.

Apart from attending the courses, participants had ample opportunity for exchanges and to share practical experience in the library fields in the represented countries.

■ *Summer Fun at the Hsinchu Bureau of Cultural Affairs Library*

The Hsinchu City Bureau of Cultural Affairs Hsinchu City kicked off a series of fun learning activities this summer vacation.

One such program was a computer camp, where fifth- and sixth-year elementary school students could learn how to use online resources at the public library. The camp also arranged outdoor activities to familiarize kids with PC hardware and software and show them that learning with computers can be fun.

A touring exhibition of classical comics was also arranged by the bureau from June 24 to July 2, with over 10,000 volumes on display. Comics published before 2001 joined a selection of more recent popular titles at the event. Books on infant education, parent-child education, preschool education, and other education topics were also on display in a special children's book section to encourage greater parental interest in children's educational development.

Another event during the summer program was the "2006 Children's Reading" symposium and book exhibition on June 17. The symposium introduced methods of reading and writing