

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.



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