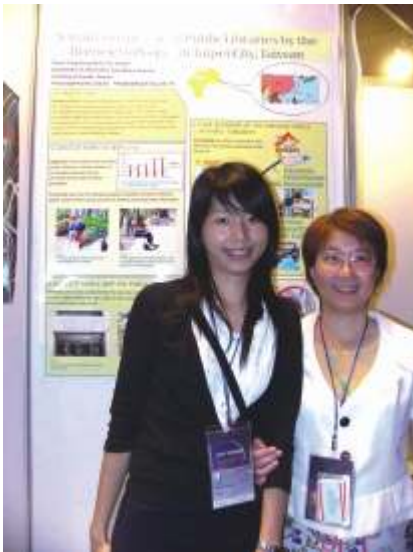


the poster created by the two was selected from among 85 posters exhibited at the 72nd IFLA annual meeting, representing the first time that Taiwan has been honored with the award.



Prof. Sheue-Fang Song (far right) and Ms. Hui-Tzu Hung pose in front of their award-winning poster. (Photo provided by Prof. Sheue-Fang Song)



Library Association of the Republic of China (Taiwan) president Prof. Huang Hung-chu (far right), Prof. Sheue-Fang Song (second from left) and Ms. Hui-Tzu Hung (second from right) are pictured with IFLA President Alex Byrne (center) (Photo provided by Prof. Sheue-Fang Song)

Established 80 years ago, the IFLA is an independent non-governmental organization supported by UNESCO. The association's 72nd annual meeting was held in Seoul, Korea from August 20 to 24, 2006, bringing together about 4,000 participants from over 124 countries. A total of 85 thesis plans from around the world were presented at the meeting in poster form. The best of these posters was selected by a secret vote as the winner of this year's best poster award. Selection criteria included: (1) Originality of theme and humanistic relevance; (2) Excellence of overall thesis structure and research results; and (3) Excellence of layout design. The meeting also provided ample opportunity for productive exchanges between the thesis authors and meeting participants.

In her poster, Ms. Hung proposed that libraries and social organizations cooperate to improve the lives of the homeless by collecting food, providing information, and integrating with service networks for the homeless.

(Chinese text partly excerpted from the Sept. 1, 2006, (Vol. 72) issue of the weekly newsletter of the Department of Information and Library Science at Tamkang University)

■ *IASL to Hold 2007 Meeting in Taiwan*

A group of high school library directors in Taiwan emerged successful from a hard campaign to bring the 2007 annual meeting of the International Association of School Librarianship (IASL) to Taiwan. About 600 association members from over 30 of the 80 member countries are expected to take part in the 2007 meeting, which will be held in Taiwan from July 16 to 20. Local librarians began bidding for the hosting rights after the 2006 National High School Library Work Conference on October 23 to 24, 2006.

It was announced at the conference that in preparation for the event local libraries would create bilingual (Chinese and English) websites and arrange for a robot to greet IASL visitors. Groups will also be invited to participate charity bazaars and other activities related to the 2007 meeting.

IASL Vice President Diljit Singh noted that the association designated the fourth Monday in October each year as International School Library Day to encourage library directors to promote e-learning and reading activities. On this day, IASL member countries hold library events to foster better reading habits and promote reading. In Taiwan, the day was marked by holding the 2006 National High School Library Work Conference under the theme of "Self-transcendence through Creative Learning." The conference discussed ways to increase students' interest in reading and to integrate school libraries and digital information.

NCL Deputy Director General Sung Chien-cheng noted that through the support of the Ministry of Education, long-term efforts of high school library directors, and cooperation with books.com.tw, Taiwan has made significant progress in promoting e-learning through online reading contests as well as other reading campaigns. He also expressed confidence that the 2007 IASL annual meeting would further elevate Taiwan's international profile and tourism industry. (Chinese text excerpted from the Central News Agency, October 23, 2006)

■ *NCL Builds Collection and Services for the Digital Age*

As Taiwan's only national library, the NCL plays an important role in the collection of publications and in providing information services. In the past such

resources and services dealt largely with print materials, but in the digital era the library has devoted growing resources to building its e-collection and online services. This evolution has involved the procurement of domestic and foreign digital products, as well as in-house creation of online databases to facilitate information access. The library has also been digitally converting collection resources and strengthening search functions to further enrich its e-library services. As of July 2006, the NCL's digital resources included 355,137 e-books and e-journals. A summary of these resources in the three categories of procured, produced and free online materials is provided in the following chart. (Chinese text by Tsai Pei-ling)

*Online Electronic Resources at the NCL
(As of July 2006)*

Source	Type	Qty.	Unit	Access Points
Procured	E-books	8,997	Titles	NCL and some public libraries
Procured	E-journals	25,023	Titles	NCL and some public libraries
Procured	e-newspapers	312	Titles	NCL and some public libraries
Procured	Thesis papers	145,796	Titles	NCL and consortium member libraries
Procured	Research reports	9,072	Titles	NCL
Procured	Gray literature	19,803	Titles, Volumes, Articles	NCL
Subtotal		209,003		