

## Program

### *New Databases for University Libraries*

The National Science Council (NSC) completed the acquisition of five databases on early English literature, economics and other subjects on December 6, 2006. All of the new information has been accessible from university libraries throughout Taiwan since the start of the year.

The council spent over NT\$100 million to acquire the five databases, including the Eighteenth Century Collection Online (ECCO), Early English Books Online (EEBO), Early American in Prints (EAI), The Making of Modern World (MOMW), and Periodicals Index Online (PAO).

The five databases include about 500,000 publications, including 15th to 18th century publications in England, 17th to 19th century American publications, and 18th to 20th century European and U.S. periodicals, and 15th to 19th century works on economics. These resources will be available from 177 universities across Taiwan, as well as from Academia Sinica, the NSC and the Science & Technology Policy Research and Information Center.

The NSC has also purchased bibliographic records for the database materials, enabling users to more easily access information. There are no limits on access, and users can download and print the full text of the publications included in the databases.

Funding for the databases was provided as part of the NSC's NT\$300 million annual subsidy to help university libraries in Taiwan build up their collection resources. The council began offering the subsidy in 2006 and will continue providing it to 2010, enabling universities to acquire an estimated 100,000 to 150,000 research books.

(Chinese text excerpted from a Dec. 22, 2006, article by Chang Te-hou / Broadcasting Corp of China website)

## Special Reports

### *Bringing Books to Life: NCL Makes a Splash at 2007 TIBE*

The NCL hosted a hugely successful booth the 15th Taipei International Book Exhibition (TIBE), which was held in Taiwan's capital city from January 30 to February 4, 2007. The library exhibit attracted over 7,000 visitors inquiring about library information or interested in buying NCL publications. It was also highly effective in connecting with a broad range of readers and raising the library's public profile.



Visitors flocked to the NCL exhibit during the 2007 TIBE (Photo by Pinery S. Wu)

Adopting the theme of "Bring Books to Life," this year's exhibit highlighted the NCL's collection building plans, contribution from the publishing world, book donations to the library, and international publication exchanges. It also promoted the various digital and network resources that the library has

developed to provide convenient online access to its abundant collection throughout Taiwan and the globe. Different systems of the NCL were displayed on the body of each figure of the exhibit poster, conveying that integration of library systems and readers is the main goal of the NCL services.

The NCL also displayed a number of library publications, including the warmly received *Taipei During the Japanese Occupation Period*, *Introduction to Online Resources for Taiwan Studies*, and *Photographic Memories: Historic Photos of Taiwan*. (Chinese text by Katie Su)

### ? *Russian Wind Blows at 2007 TIBE*

A gale of Russian books and culture blew into Taipei for the 2007 Taipei International Book Exhibition (TIBE), where the Russian national pavilion showcased contemporary Russian authors, along with an eye-catching display of miniature books.

With assistance from the Representative Office in Taipei for the Moscow-Taipei Coordination Commission on Economic and Cultural Cooperation, event organizer the Taipei Book Fair Foundation invited the Russian Fund of Social-Economical and Intellectual Programms (FSEIP) to jointly plan the national pavilion for this year's TIBE, held from January 30 to February 4. A total of 18 Russian publishers displayed over 2,000 books available for copyrights sale, including works on Russian art, contemporary novels, titles on history, social science and humanities, and language study, encyclopedias, and books for young people.

Five Russian authors also attended the show, including Sergey Lukyanenko, author of the popular science fiction novel *Night Watch*, author/ animator

Eduard Uspensky, and Andrey Biitov, Yury Poljakov, and Victor Erofeev.

Another popular visitor draw at the Russian pavilion was a display of 130 miniature and micro books. One of the volumes, Anton Chekhov's *Chameleon*, measured just 0.01 square centimeters—smaller than the tip of a ballpoint pen, earning it the Guinness record for world's tiniest book. There was also a miniature edition of *The Little Prince*, reportedly produced by Chen-fong Shean of Taiwan. Another display highlight was 41 volumes printed with special materials and bindings, including various metals and strings of pearls on golden strings.

The event organizer hoped to present the richness of Russian culture from a variety of perspectives, so apart from the book display there was a showing of Russian movies. The series opened with Russian director Aleksei Uchitel's "The Stroll," which was shot in St. Petersburg at the request of the city mayor to commemorate the 300th birthday of the city's founding. Also shown were "The Return," "Russian Ark," "Poor Poor Pavel," and animated feature "Little Longnose." (Chinese text excerpted from the Central News Agency, 2007/01/19)



*Special binding exhibition (Photo by Lin Chiao-min)*