

Program

■ *NCL Humanities Web Archive Project Report*

The internet has become a major channel of information, yet one in which resources can easily disappear as servers shut down, content is deleted, and websites are moved. In order to better preserve online resources for research, the NCL last year proposed a "Humanities Web Archive Project" and obtained funding for the project this year. As part of the planning process, NCL Deputy Director-general Sung Chien-cheng recently chaired an advisory meeting joined by Dr. Chen Kuang-hua of the Department of Library and Information Science at National Taiwan University, Dr. Ou-yang Chung-jung of the Department of Information and Library Science at Tamkang University, and Director Chen Ya-ning of the Computing Centre at Academia Sinica. Five general proposals were presented during the meeting in regards to the project implementation:

(1) Course of web archive development

Archiving work should begin with the NCL's websites and later expand to include the websites of government agencies and academic institutions, as well as websites with short life cycles and content on important events, persons and matters, especially websites that in danger of disappearing.

(2) Copyright issues

If the web archive is only storing information or making it available strictly for use in the library, there should be not problems with copyrights. However, if the library plans to allow outside access to archived resources it should be cautious in doing so and first draft relevant plans.

(3) Software and hardware platforms

Efforts should be made to ensure functional

completeness in regards to storage capacity, robot software, metadata, and webpage management software.

(4) Cooperation with other projects

If there is duplication between materials archived under other projects, such materials can serve as a backup. In future, the NCL may consider linking its archive with other archives to enable cross-searches and to complement resources.

(5) Formulation of project duties

The NCL can formulate an inter-library arrangement of website selection/examination, system maintenance and other related duties, using the web archive project at National Taiwan University Library as a reference.

The NCL is currently drafting follow-up plans based on the input received during the advisory meeting. Once the planning stage is completed, the library will regularly retrieve website content and archive such materials on its servers for public access and other added-value uses.

Special Reports

■ *NCL Launches "Taiwan Humanities Indexes" Service*

In recent years, the NCL has been establishing information systems to serve research needs in various academic fields. Among the most useful of these systems are online bibliographies and indexes. Since 1945, Taiwan has made considerable research achievements and progress in the area of Chinese humanities. Such resources, including books, academic journals, degree thesis papers, daily newspapers, and collected academic papers and seminar proceedings, have provided important