Web Archives and Services Lecture

The NCL hosted a lecture on "Web Archives and Services" on February 5, 2007. The keynote speakers were Prof. Chen Hsin-yuan of the Department of Literature Archival Studies at National Chengchi University; Mr. Han Kuo-tung, editor of the culture and education section at the China Times; Mr. Feng Tseh-ping, editor of Wen-Hsuan magazine; Ms. Chou Hui-chu, chief editor of the readers' section of the Merit Times, and columnist Mr. Wang Hsiu.

Proposals presented at the seminar included enhancing book review and bibliography reports and focusing on special reporting in these areas as a distinguishing trait of the magazine. It was also suggested that special bibliographies based on publishing industry trends be included in the magazine and that a committee composed of experts from various fields be formed to select recommended books; and that proletariat positions, originality of opinion and specialization be considered in book reviews. It was further proposed that every year the magazine include at least four special research reports, and that in addition to introducing new books the magazine could recommend outstanding publications for joint promotion with private groups, such as the National Teachers’ Association of the ROC.

World Book Day Activities

Taiwan celebrated UN-established World Book Day (April 23, 2007) with a series of fun activities to promote interest in reading. The Library Association of the Republic of China (Taiwan), Taiwan Reading Association and Taipei Public Library jointly organized a "Rock Your Life with Reading" event at Daan Forest Park in Taipei on April 21. The day's activities included an oral reading marathon with family reading events and poetry readings in various languages by native speakers of various languages. There was also a book parade joined by groups from neighboring schools and organizations, and some of the participants came dressed as fairy tale figures during the reading carnival.

Linnei Township Promotes Reading Diversity

Students of Linching Elementary School in Linnei Township learned about the development of books, from early bamboo slip volumes to modern publications, during a workshop activity on April 30, 2007. Under the guidance of an instructor from the Linnei Reading Club, the Linching Elementary students also tried their hand at Chinese knot art, helping them understand early methods of making bamboo slip books.

In order to promote reading diversity, Linnei Township arranges workshops for children at the township library every Monday. During the workshops, the children can see displays of specialty products from Linnei, such as loofah, papaya, and tea, as well as engage in various DIY activities aimed at building awareness of local industries, culture and agricultural products. By joining reading with hands-on activities, the students are able to deepen their understanding in a fun and engaging way.

Asustek CEO Donates New Library to Alma Mater in Changhua

Changhua Senior High School opened a new library this March with the help of an NT$12.4 million donation from Asustek Computer CEO Jonney Shih, an alumnus of the school. Modeled after the upscale bookstore chain Eslite, the library covers an area of about 1,000 square meters on the seventh floor of the school’s administration building.

Tainan Library Displays Top-ranked Books for Young Readers

The Tainan Municipal Library (TML) teamed up with the Taipei Public Library, Mandarin Daily News and other organizations to organize a display of books recommended last year for children and adolescents. The exhibition was hosted at the TML on April 15 to May 18, 2007.

With new books coming out at an ever-faster pace, parents often find themselves at a loss when trying to select books to nurture their children's interest in reading. The TML and Mandarin Daily News therefore regularly commission panels of experts to sift through the deluge and compile lists of good books for young readers.

The book selection activity has been held twice a year for 17 years, providing an invaluable guide for
parents and readers. During the selection process, a panel of 20 experts and scholars evaluates books in the four categories of "narrative literature," "non-narrative literature," "knowledge-building books," and "illustrated books and children's reading material."

In 2006, the selection panel selected 109 books from a total of 420 titles submitted by 76 publishers. Readers can view the entire list (in Chinese) by visiting the TML website (www.tnl.edu.tw) and clicking on the "2006 Recommended Books" link.

Model Community Library Opens in Kaohsiung

The Kaohsiung Public Library (KPL) and Chen Yan Construction Group opened a demonstration community library on March 29, 2007. The new library is part of efforts by Kaohsiung City to promote interest in reading.

The opening ceremony was jointly presided by Kaohsiung City Bureau of Cultural Affairs director Wang Chih-cheng, KPL director Shih Chun-fu and Chen Yan Construction vice president Yang Pin-hui. The demonstration library pioneers new ground by showing that developers are willing to upgrade the cultural environment of communities when promoting construction projects. The KPL donated 200 books for the library collection and hopes that more communities will take initiative to establish libraries to encourage reading.

The demonstration library currently has a collection of about 1,000 books, with titles for women and children accounting for the majority. It was established as part of Chen Yan's design for a new housing community. Book purchasing, automation systems and volunteer staff were arranged with support from the KPL.

Seminars

- Yes! I Share! Seminar
  Sponsor: Taipei Public Library
  Date: April 24, 2007
  Place: Taipei Public Library

- 2007 E-learning Forum
  Sponsor: Chinese Information Literacy Association, Fong Chia University, Taipei University, City University of Hong Kong; Blackboard
  Date: April 26 - 27, 2007
  Place: Taipei International Convention Center

- Seminar on the Future of Academic Libraries Librarians
  Sponsor: American Cultural Center
  Date: May 1, 2007
  Place: National Taiwan University Library

- Pictures of the New Floating World: Seminar on Modern Newspapers and Periodicals
  Sponsor: Department of Chinese Language and Literature, National Chi Nan University
  Date: May 5, 2007
  Place: National Chi Nan University

- Quotation Index Database Seminar
  Organizers: Library Association of China; National Central Library, Cheng Kung University Library
  Date: May 17 - 18, 2007
  Place: Cheng Kung University Library; National Central Library

- Taiwan Library Operations and Educational History Seminar
  Sponsor: Graduate Institute of Library, Information and Archival Studies, National Chengchi University

2006 Academic Year University Library Directors Meeting
Sponsor: Kunshan University of Technology Library
Date: June 1, 2007
Place: Kunshan University of Technology Library

2007 IASL Conference
Sponsor: Library Association of the Republic of China (Taiwan)
Organizers: Graduate Institute of Library and Information Science, National Taiwan Normal University; Graduate Institute of Library, Information and Archival Studies, National Chengchi University; National Central Library; Taiwan High School Library Advisory Council; Chinese Association of Library and Information Science Education; Chinese Information Literacy Association
Date: July 16 - 20, 2007
Place: National Taiwan Normal University

Exhibitions

- National Taichung Library Holds Bookmark Exhibition

National Taichung Library (NTL) displayed over a hundred finely crafted bookmarks from the collection of the Library Information Center at Nan Kai Institute of Technology from April 14 to May 27. The bookmarks displayed were made from a variety of materials, including paper, cloth, leather, and metal, and came from various regions, opening a little window to the local folk cultures of the places of origin. There were papyrus bookmarks from Egypt, small rug-like bookmarks from Turkey, brocade bookmarks from Japan, and carved wooden bookmarks from Sanyi, Taiwan. There were also a