

The NCL is holding an exhibition featuring a special selection of rare books in the library collection, along with block-print and hand-written reproductions, and modern republications. The exhibition will assist scholars in textual verification research and also provide examples for the study of the style of the different editions.

The exhibition opened on November 14, 2007, at the NCL Rare Books Room.



February 1991 photocopy edition

Touring Exhibition of Award-winning Government Publications

Forty government publications emerged as winners of this year's Outstanding Government Publications Award. Grimm Culture editor-in-chief Mr. Hau Kuang-tsai, Mr. Liu Ko-hsiang, director of the China Times literary supplement, and other literary leaders formed the jury that picked the winning works, which included books, AV materials, e-publications, periodicals and other types of government publication.

From Above Mountains of Taiwan and Historical Figures of Taiwan: Story of the Hakka People to the Illustrated Guide to Snails in Taiwan and Pearl of the Grasslands: The Formosan Ring-necked Pheasant, the winning works all well deserved the award for their outstanding content.

From November 1 to December 31, 2007, the publications winning this year's Outstanding Government Publications Award will be displayed at a touring exhibition stopping at 23 libraries across Taiwan, offering the public a chance to browse the titles free of charge. For the exhibition schedule, visit: http://open.nat.gov.tw/OpenFront/show_img.jsp?file_id=25000011

Taiwan Studies Book Exhibition: Oceans, Colonialism, and Contemporization

The National Taiwan Library held a Taiwan Studies Book Exhibition on the theme of "Oceans, Colonialism, and Contemporization" from November 17 to December 2, 2007. The exhibition was guided by the Ministry of Education and held in conjunction with Academia Sinica's Institute of Taiwan History, Graduate Institute of Taiwan History at National Taiwan Normal University, Taiwan Historica, National Taiwan University Library, Shung Ye Museum of Formosan Aborigines, SMC Publishing Inc., and Kinokuniya Bookstore.

Several lectures were also presented during the exhibition, including presentations on ports and shipping in Taiwan during the Japanese colonial period, land deeds in Taiwan, social changes in Taiwan during the Japanese occupation period,

Taiwan during the war, ethnological studies in Taiwan, and the "Viva Tonal-The Dance Age."



Taiwan Studies Book Exhibition poster

CCS News and Activities

CCS Seminars

Three visiting scholars presented lectures during two seminars held by the Center for Chinese Studies (CCS) on August 16 and October 9, 2007.

At the first seminar, hosted by Prof. Liang Chitsu of the Institute of History and Philology at Academia Sinica, the keynote speakers were Prof. Reiko Shinno, an associate professor of history at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, who presented a paper on, "The Importance of the Mongolian Empire in Chinese Medical History," and University of California, Berkeley, doctoral candidate Margaret Mih Tillman, who addressed the topic, "Mastering Child Birth: Updating Theories and Realities."

In her study, Prof. Shinno found that the Northern Song government had begun compiling medical knowledge and creating an environment favorable to

the development of physicians. By the Yuan dynasty, the complex relationship emerging among the Mongol, Semu and Han people accelerated this trend. Prof. Shinno argued that scholars should not view the Yuan dynasty as an extension of the Song dynasty, but rather treat it as an independent historical period. The Yuan government had its own system of authority and also formed a unique medical culture.

Ms. Mih Tillman's paper looked at changing social attitudes towards pregnancy and childbirth in terms of the evolving way in which society imagines and outlines life. Previous studies in this area have focused on the influence of western science and the professionalization of midwives. Ms. Mih Tillman used missionary works and other materials to explore the western influence on gender education and reproductive health advice in China during the early part of the 20th century. She also collected gynecological instruments and drew on information from newspaper reports, medical journals, and medical systems to present an overview of childbirth in Taiwan during the Japanese occupation period.

At second seminar, held on October 9, Prof. Florian C. Reiter of the Chinese department at Germany's Humboldt University presented a paper on "Perspectives on the Significance and Development of the Five Thunders Method." The seminar was hosted by Prof. Li Feng-mao of the Institute of Chinese Literature and Philosophy at Academia Sinica. Prof. Reiter believes that ceremony and the classics in Daoism are interrelated. In addition to holding large-scale public ceremonies, such as the jiao and zhai rituals, Daoists also embraced the black arts. From the