



Dr. Hwa-Wei Lee (front row, left) and NCL staff

with NCL colleagues. (some content excerpted from the North American edition of the World Journal, Feb. 19, 2008)

Events

■ *NCL Holds Workshop on Rare Book Restoration and Preservation for Overseas Librarians*

On July 16, 2007, the NCL approved a three-year (2007~2009) program to promote international exchanges with overseas librarians and information professionals to strengthen the library management and service abilities of NCL personnel and foster closer contacts and cooperation with organizations around the world.

As part of the program, the NCL arranged a three-week workshop from May 5 to 25 this year to introduce the library's rare book restoration and



NCL Director-general, Dr. Huang Kuan-Chung (right) greets the workshop participants. (Photo by Pinery S. Wu)

preservation operations to three participants from the National Library of Vietnam (NLV) and the Sinological Institute Library at Leiden University.

During the workshop, the participants, including two librarians from the NLV and Mr. Koos Kuiper of the Sinological Institute Library, learned about restoration and preservation of various types of rare books on both theoretical and practical levels. An expert from the NCL Special Collections Division led a class on restoring rare books. The visitors also attended a weeklong hands-on course on rare book restoration work taught by Mr. Yang Shih-rung of the NCL Taiwan Branch. Arrangements were made for the participants to visit various libraries and archives as well, including the NTU Library Special Collection Division, Fu Ssu-nien Library, Joint Library of Humanities and Social Sciences, Institute of Chinese Literature and Philosophy, the archive restoration office at



Ms. Yeh Mei-chue at Academia Historica explains archive restoration and preservation work



Workshop participants with NCL colleagues (Photo by Pinery S. Wu)

Academia Historica, and the Department of Books and Documents at the National Palace Museum. The visits were highly productive in building the knowledge of the program participants on rare book restoration and preservation.

The NCL also arranged a lecture and seminar during which Mr. Kuiper, who is in charge of rare book management at the Sinological Institute Library, introduced the history of the Chinese rare book collection at Leiden University from the 17th century to the present. On the last day of the workshop, the two visiting librarians from Vietnam shared the results of their stay and introduced operations at the NLV, which urgently needs to acquire the expertise needed to preserve and digitize its large collection of rare Han-Nom documents.

In addition to sharing knowledge, the three-week workshop fully succeeded in promoting the NCL's international image. It also brought together various organizations in Taiwan to provide a platform for future cooperation.

■ *NCL attends the 17th EACS Biennial Conference*

On August 6 to 10, 2008, the European Association of Chinese Studies (EACS) Held its 17th Biennial Conference in Lund, Sweden. The Center for Chinese Studies (CCS) organized an exhibition of publications on Chinese studies at the conference. CCS Liaison Division Director Keng Li-chun and NCL International Publication Exchange Department Director Dr. Katie Su represented the NCL at the conference. The CCS exhibit displayed 595 books and periodicals (617 volumes) on Chinese studies published in Taiwan over the past three years. The publications fell into the seven categories of philosophy, thought, and classical studies; history and geography; religion and customs; society, education, economy, politics law, and foreign affairs; language, literature and drama; art, music and architecture; and other. Various CCS print and CD-ROM publications were also displayed.

The CCS book exhibition provided a channel for



Representative of Taipei Mission in Sweden Dr. Jong-jen Chiu (third from right) and his wife (second from right) visited the CCS exhibit

introducing the international world of Chinese studies to Taiwan's research achievements and publications in this field, as well as for strengthening academic cooperation and exchange with other countries.

■ *KMT Completes Party History Database*

The Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) introduced its newly completed "KMT Party History Database," a collective effort with National Taiwan University Library, at a presentation on May 28.

NTU Library and the KMT Archives began work on the database in 2006. As of the end of 2007, the database had grown to include a total of 400,000 microfilm and digital images and 55,000 metadata records. The content includes sections on "Special Archives," "Hankou Archives," "Books and Letters by Contemporary Figures," and "First Five KMT Central Party Archives." Data can be accessed by person names, place names, periods, place of birth and other search criteria.

■ *National Good Book Exchange Day*

The National Good Book Exchange Day activities kicked off on the morning of July 12, 2008, under the theme of "Loving Books, Loving the World." National Taichung Library organized this year's event with support from the Council for Cultural Affairs and Ministry of Education. Over