

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



30,000 books were collected this year for donation to 288 rural townships and public libraries with small collections, giving residents in remote areas access to high quality books.

National Taichung Library and 316 public libraries in 25 counties and cities organized 316 large-scale book exchange activities for this year's National Good Book Exchange Day. Among the participating libraries, 126 offered extended book exchange activities and set up "good book exchange areas" for the ongoing development of book exchanges.

People donating books were issued a "book exchange card" that could be used to exchange up to 10 books on July 12.

Celebrities joined the crowd for the exchange activity, which also highlighted culture resource recycling, battery recycling, soap making and other environmental protection events.

■ National Taichung Library Celebrates 85th Birthday

Established in 1923, the National Taichung Library (NTL) celebrated its 85th anniversary with a series of special exhibitions from May 15 to 21, 2008. The anniversary events included "Corridors of Sound and Light: Exhibition on the Evolution of the AV Collection"; "Reading New Experiences—Special Exhibition on E-books"; "Special Exhibition on the Digitization of Rare Book Collections"; "Periodical Vitality: Special Exhibition of First Issue

Natural and Social Sciences Periodicals"; "Children's Book Model Show"; "Exhibition of Posters on Circulation Operations"; and "Exhibition on the Basic Design Stage of the New Library Facilities." On May 15, the day of the anniversary, the library also held a ceremony for the presentation of a CD-ROM of digitized old newspapers to the Kinmen Daily News, an exhibition of e-book readers and symposium under the theme of "Cherishing the Past, Spurring the Future." A "Tree of Hope" was also planted at the library to promote carbon emission reductions.

In conjunction with the events, the library published an 85th anniversary album with articles submitted by Taichung Mayor Jason Hu and long-time library readers. In addition event was arranged to collect historic photographs, presenting a nostalgic look at the Taiwan of old.



Director-general Shiu-an-chyn Yang (second from left) and other dignitaries cut the cake for the NTL's 85th anniversary.



A display at the library entrance introduces the highlights of the NTL over the past 85 years.