

children and young adults in Taiwan, as well as anthologies, maps, posters, multimedia materials on tradition arts in Taiwan, English translations of Chinese-language books and bilingual (Chinese and English) titles. The reading room will also provide access to a digital database and online resources.

The opening of the new reading room represents a major step forward in the NCL's efforts to expand international cooperation ties and contribute to the endeavor of global cultural resource sharing. It also continues in a trend of steadily deepening relations between Taiwan and Mongolia in recent years. Today, Taiwan is an important trading partner of Mongolia. In addition to trade and investment ties, the two sides have also strengthened cooperation in the fields of education, science, technology, and tourism. Education exchanges and cultural studies have helped Taiwan and Mongolia to foster mutual awareness of their society, history and customs, deepening understanding and cooperation between the two sides.



*Taiwan Reading Garden at the Book Palace Children. (Photo provided by Lin Taihong)*

During the ceremony Director-general Ku noted that "Children are the jewels of humanity and the hope of the future. Ensuring that they have the resources to learn is a mission that we cannot ignore. The Taiwan Reading Garden was established at the Book Palace Children on this concept. And the NCL will continue to sign cooperation agreements with Vietnam, Mongolia and other countries so that, through resource sharing, dissemination of information and study, we can win international

recognition, heighten our international visibility, and let the world see our efforts."

#### ■ *NCL Donates Books for Taiwan Studies Center at Korea University*

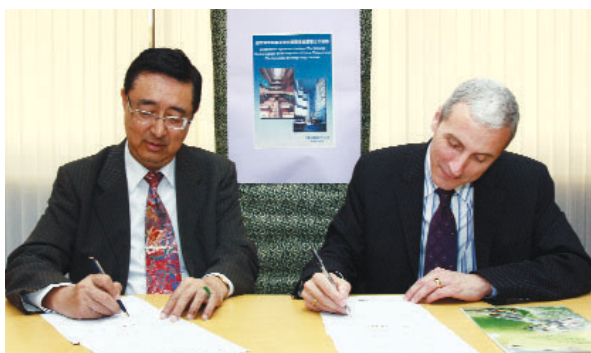
The Institute for Asian Studies at Korea University officially opened the Taiwan Studies Center on April 8, 2009. The center will focus on research related to cross-strait and North and South Korea relations and Taiwan-Korea relations. Korea University has formed sister school relations with six universities in Taiwan. In addition to ongoing student exchanges in cultural fields, the university also plans to intensify academic exchange visit and cooperation with Taiwan.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) coordinated 21 organizations in Taiwan, including the NCL, Government Information Office and National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts, to donate 1,080 books and periodicals on Taiwan history and geography, society, medicine, art and culture to the Taiwan Studies Center. The NCL donation included nearly 100 volumes in a variety of fields, including *Taiwan Socio-cultural Models in Transition*, *A Century of Baseball in Taiwan*, and *Journey to Taiwan*, presenting the culture of Taiwan in words and pictures to the reading public in Korea.

#### ■ *NCL and University of Hong Kong Sign Cooperation Agreement*

The NCL and University of Hong Kong (UHK) Library signed a cooperation and exchange agreement on May 13, 2009. NCL Director-general Karl Min Ku and UHK Library Deputy Librarian Peter Edward Sidorko represented the two sides in signing the agreement. The agreement covers: 1) exchanges on general or specialized books, periodicals, documents and other publications; 2) digital conversion of Chinese documents and rare books in the library collections; 3) cooperation on establishing a bibliographic database for Chinese documents and rare books; 4) cooperation on publishing monographs consistent with the expectations and interests of the two sides; and 5)

exchange of experience on library services and activities, personnel interaction or joint holding of international conferences, within the budget restrictions of the two sides. The two sides also agreed to later decide on the details of other cooperation research plans on a case-by-case basis.



*NCL Director-general Karl Min Ku (left) and University of Hong Kong Library Deputy Librarian Peter Edward Sidorko (right) sign the cooperation agreement. (Photo by Pinery S. Wu)*

### ■ **NCL Wins First "Government Service Quality Award"**

The Research, Development and Evaluation Commission (RDEC) of the Executive Yuan held the first "Government Service Quality Award" presentation ceremony on June 11, 2009, with President Ma Ying-jeou presenting the keynote speech. The NCL was the only academic institution to receive the award in the "Frontline Service Agency" category. The award was presented to the library by Premier Liu Chao-shiuan and received by NCL Director-general Karl Min Ku.

Awards were presented in the categories of "Frontline Service Agencies" and "Service Planning Agencies." The NCL was noted for creating a user-friendly environment with services such as book sanitation boxes, service desks on each floor, and online book reservation. The library also distinguished itself through its use of information technology to enhance reader interactivity, as well as Web 2.0 concepts and technology to provide online reference, collection and labeling to improve the visibility of collection resources. The NCL has

received several high-profile awards over the years, including Executive Yuan's "Records Management Quality Award" and the National Science Council's "Outstanding Periodical Award." The library has also been cited for excellence in public service by the Ministry of Education, excellence in energy conservation by the Ministry of Economic Affairs.



*Premier Liu Chao-shiuan (second right) presents the "Government Service Quality Award" to NCL Director-general Karl Min Ku (right). (Photo by Pinery S. Wu)*



*NCL Director-general Karl Min Ku and staff receive the "Government Service Quality Award." (Photo by Pinery S. Wu)*

### ■ **NCCU and NCL Open Center on International Organizations**

The International Organization Information Research Center of the NCL officially opened at the Center for Public Business Administration Education Library, National Chengchi University on May 18, 2009. The new center represents the first branch and special collection to be opened by the NCL in cooperation with a university. The center is a