

video biographies fill an important gap in the NCL collection on contemporary literary history. The NCL has also published Mr. Wang's book, "A Decade of Writers' Video Biographies."



Many writers photographed by Wang Pu attend the donation ceremony (from the second left): Hsin Yu, Tsao Chungchih, NCL Director-general Karl Min Ku, Li Shuching (Mr. Wang's wife), Wang Pu, Luo Men, Si-ma Chungyuan, Chiu Hsiuchih, and Kuan Kuan. (Photo by Pinery S. Wu)

■ 2009 Chinese Digital Publishing Expo

The Third Chinese Digital Publishing Expo was held at the Beijing International Convention Center on July 6 to 9, 2009. The Taiwan Digital Publishing Forum and Magazine Business Association of Taipei participated as supporters. The NCL was represented at the event by Tsai Peiling, director of the Acquisition Division.

The theme of this year's expo was "Implementing Digital Development Strategies and Promoting the Upgrading and Transformation of the Publishing Industry." to emphasize pragmatic and international objectives. The program consisted of three parts, including a main summit forum, breakout summit forums, and exhibition. The main forum kicked off with government, industry and market reports presenting a comprehensive overview of the digital publishing industry in mainland China, as well as industry developments and trends. A total of 15 papers were presented during the session on topics such as "Information Management Strategies for Publishing Groups," "Innovative Management: Promoting the Rapid Development of Digital

Publishing," and "Impact of the Internet on the Future of Digital Publishing."

The NCL participated in the breakout forums on "Comprehensive Media Promotion in the Digital Age," "Legal Relations and Resolutions in the Digital Publishing Industry," and "Creating a National Reading Platform through Diverse Digital Publishing Products." Each session also explored a number of sub-topics, including presentations on digital publishing achievements, discussions on technical procedures, and academic exchanges of views on digital publishing copyrights.

This year's Chinese Digital Publishing Expo attracted a record turnout, with over 10,000 expo visitors and more than 400 participants in the main forum and breakout forums. (Chinese text by Tsai Peiling)



Third Chinese digital publishing exposition. (photo by Tsai Peiling)



Tsai Peiling in front of the Third Chinese Digital Publishing Expo. (photo provided by Tsai Peiling)

■ New Era of Discovery

NCL and American Institute in Taiwan (AIT) jointly held the "New Era of Discovery" activity at the NCL from July 20 to August 30, 2009. Retired

astronaut Marsha S. Ivins of the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) visited Taiwan to share her space mission experience during the event.

The two-week activity included exhibitions and lectures. The exhibitions focused on the themes of "outer space" and the "stars" as viewed by humanity over the millennia. The NCL arranged three special exhibitions of books on space and astronomy related topics, including "Secrets of the Heavens: An Exhibition of Rare Books on Astronomy and Calendars"; "Vicissitudes of the Stars: An Exhibition of Ancient Star Charts"; and the "Exploring Space Book Exhibition" focusing on lunar landing plans. Other events included "Man and the Moon: A Multimedia NASA Poster Exhibition"; "Beauty of the Stars," an exhibition of photos taken from observatories across the world; and "Exploring the Stars," an exhibition of photos by astronomy photographers in Taiwan.

During the event lecture series, astronaut Marsha S. Ivins and renowned astrophysicists Li Chiawei and Sun Weihsin presented their views on the next step in space exploration following the lunar landing. Other events, including the "Dialogue between Books and Man," "Lecture on Popular Science," "Evening Talks on the Stars," and a "Video Appreciation" further elaborated on the history of

humanity's quest to turn its star-filled dreams into reality.

■ *READncl Looks to the Future*

The READncl Service System will become history at the end of 2009, but its constituent databases—the "Index to Chinese Periodical Literature," "NCL Gazette Online" and "Contemporary Authors Full-text Image System"—will continue to be available as stand-alone resources from 2010. The "Index to Chinese Periodical Literature" will re-debut as the "Taiwan Periodical Thesis Index System" with the following functional enhancements:

- (1) Expanded Search: Users can search archived material dating back 20 years, twice the 10-year search period under the old system. At the end of 2009, the database will also be made fully open to the public, giving readers online access to nearly 40 years of resources without visiting the library.
- (2) User-friendly Search: Keyword searches, query analysis and expanded searches will all be available to improve the research utility of the service. Search results will automatically highlight the search words with links to extended search functions. Search results can also be sorted by title, category, and year to help users quickly filter out material of interest. From the enhanced search section, users can also link to thesis papers cited in the queried articles for further research.
- (3) Personalized Service: Other new functions include search histories so users can access previous search results without reentering search words. RSS feeds will also be provided for popular periodicals so readers can keep abreast of the latest publication news.
- (4) Full-text Access: The NCL is currently working on gaining copyright authorization for full-text electronic periodicals. Copyright authorized articles will be made available in PDF format for online browsing. Readers can also apply for copies of non-copyright authorized articles via the Nationwide



"New Era of Discovery" Dialogue (from left): Astronaut Marsha S. Ivins, Prof. Li Chiawei of the Department of Life Sciences, National Tsing Hua University; Dean Benjamin Fong Chao of the College of Earth Sciences, National Central University, and Dr. J.J. Miao, director general of the National Space Organization. (Photo by Pinery S. Wu)