

"International Progress of Libraries: Global Knowledge Sharing." A total of 15 papers was presented during the symposium.

There were also two exhibitions held during the centennial celebration, including the "Exhibition of the History of the National Library of China" (September 8 to October 7) and the "Exhibition of the Special and Rare Collections of the NLC" (September 1 to October 7).



Director-general Karl Min Ku (left) presents a gift to Director Zhan Furui (right) of National Library of China (NLC). (Photo provided by Keng Lichun)



Keng Lichun presents a paper at the symposium. (Photo provided by Keng Lichun)

### ■ **Exhibition of Watercolor Paintings by Chen Yangchun**

The 134th Exhibition of Watercolor Paintings by Chen Yangchun was hosted at the NCL Arts and

Audiovisual Center from September 21 to November 8. At the opening day ceremony, Mr. Chen presented his watercolor painting "Carefree and Content" to the NCL permanent collection. NCL Deputy Director-general Wu Yingmei represented the library in receiving the gift. Mr. Chen has been painting for over 40 years. He is considered a master of the watercolor genre, paragon of Confucianism, and a cultural ambassador. Mr. Chen has exhibited his paintings in 41 cities around the world, promoting cultural exchange with other countries. His works are also widely collected and admired for their dream-like quality and grace.



Mr. Chen Yangchun (right) donates his painting "Carefree and Content" to the NCL represented by Deputy Director-general Wu Yingmei (left) to receive the painting. (Photo by Yan Wenying)

### ■ **NCL Attends Ceremony for the Completion of Confucius Family Tree**

ISBN Center Director Tseng Kunhsien attended a ceremony for the completion of the *Confucius Family Tree* on September 24 at the Confucius Temple in Qufu, Shandong China.

The *Confucius Family Tree* is a comprehensive genealogical record of the descendants of Confucius and is listed as the "world's longest family tree" in the Guinness World Records. According to Kong Detang, president of the Association of Compilation Work for Confucius' Genealogy, the *Confucius*

*Family Tree* has undergone one major revision every 60 years and one minor revision every 30 years since the Ming period. The most recent amendment was carried out in the 1930s and was not published until 1939 as the *National Genealogical Record*. This work has served as the blueprint for the compilation of the current version.

Over RMB12 million was spent in compiling the recent *Confucius Family Tree*. The record added nearly two million new names (an increase of 1.4 million from the 560,000 people recorded in the *National Genealogical Record*), including about 200,000 female family members. The record is published in an 80-volume set measuring 2.4 meters long, weighing 125 kilograms, and consisting of about 43,000 pages and over 50 million Chinese



*Ceremony for the completion of Confucius Family Tree. (Photo by Tseng Kunhsien)*



*Tseng Kunhsien (left) in front of the ceremony. (Photo provided by Tseng Kunhsien)*

characters. The National Central Library acquired a copy of the mammoth publication for the library collection. (Chinese text by Tseng Kunhsien)

### ■ *NCL and Tzu Chi College Co-host Symposium on Jing-Si Aphorisms*

NCL and Tzu Chi College of Humanities and Social Sciences jointly hosted "Life Educator: Symposium on Jing Si Aphorisms by Master Cheng Yen" on September 28. The symposium explored the influence of Jing-Si Aphorisms on education, life, and modern culture over the past 20 years. Related sub-topics included: Jing-Si Aphorisms and Tzu Chi Buddhists, Jing-Si Aphorisms and Buddhism, Jing-Si Aphorisms and Confucianist Thought, Jing-Si Aphorisms in Society and Culture, Jing-Si Aphorisms and School Education.

The opening ceremony began with a speech by Tzu Chi Foundation Vice President Wang Duanjen. The foundation also presented books to the NCL for its permanent collection, including *Jing-Si Aphorisms*, *Living Wisdom of the Jing-Si Aphorisms*, *Learning English with the Jing-Si Aphorisms*, and *Jing-Si Aphorisms (English Edition)*. Since 1989, a total of 20 anthologies of *Jing-Si Aphorisms* has been published. They have also been translated into 11 languages, including English, Japanese, Spanish, German and Indonesian, with over 3.5 million copies issued.

### ■ *NCL Debuts Integrated Search System*

The National Central Library (NCL) debuted its new Integrated Search of Selected Resources (ISSR) system on September 28. The system integrates Metadata from 19 NCL database systems and provides a single easy-to-use interface for readers to quickly search for bibliography or full-text material. The system website is: <http://issr.ncl.edu.tw>.

19 Databases Accessible from the ISSR System:

1. Union Catalog of Chinese Rare Books
2. PerioPath: Index to Chinese Periodical Literature
3. Taiwan Humanities Indexes