

roots; in addition to building on the foundation of traditional scholarship, it serves as an important classical collection of records for the study of Confucianism and genealogy.

■ *Visit to Xiamen University, University library and Xiamen city library*

From 18 to 21 March, Director I-Jung Lee, Asst. Editor Li-Ling Chen, and Senior editor Li-Jen Ku accompanied the President and a number of professors of National Taipei University on a trip to Xiamen University, the University library, and the Xiamen city library.

The city of Xiamen lies on the coast of Fujian Province. As a coastal city, it made contact with the West earlier than other areas, and as a result has progressed quickly, becoming a youthful and vibrant city. The academic and research environment at Xiamen University is excellent, and the university library has abundant resources. The architecture is striking, the equipment complete, and the utilization rate is high; the Zhangzhou campus branch is also extremely well-managed. The collection of the Zhongshan branch of the Gulangyu Xiamen city library bears a strong local character, and is geared towards the needs of the local population. The Xiamen city library is a municipal library integrated with the city's cultural center. The library building was designed by an American architect, and reworks an industrial site to yield an open, spacious interior. The reading environment is pleasant, with a garden reading area that readers pass through. The Xiamen University library will continue to conduct exchanges with NCL.

■ *World Book and Copyright Day—Reading Malaysian Chinese Literature*

On World Book and Copyright Day, 23 April 2010, NCL co-hosted “Malaysian Chinese Literature: Diasporic Writing with a Multicultural Vision” jointly with Unitas Publishing and Chinese



Director General Karl Min Ku presents a set of souvenir to Prof. I-Wen Chung (right).

Creation Publishing Company. At the same time, a number of exhibits were made: “The Literature of Profs. I-Wen Chung and Da-Wei Chen”; “The Modern Literature in NCL”; and “Original Books from Southeast Asia in the NCL Collection.”

In order to conform to policies promoting cultural diversity in education, NCL will be offering publications of Southeast Asian literary classics and representative works, in service of the new immigrant population. Furthermore, NCL will establish cooperative relationships with Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, and Vietnam, so as to expand and broaden exchange of publications and actualize the goals of international cultural and educational exchange.

■ *Volunteer Service Award and Guide Training Completion Ceremonies*

In order to award NCL volunteers for their devoted service, the Ministry of the Interior established the “Volunteer Service Award Regulations”, which award for volunteers who have completed over 3000 hours of volunteer service are eligible. In 2009, the first NCL applicants qualified for the award, and it was conferred on twelve volunteers, all of whom had at least four years of seniority, and many of whom volunteered every day, Monday through Friday.

In honor of these devoted friends of the



Director-general Karl Min Ku presents an award to volunteer Zao-Wen Li (right).

Library, NCL held an award ceremony in the International Conference Hall on 8 February, so as to express deep thanks and continued encouragement. In his address, Director-general Karl Min Ku particularly emphasized the great help provided by the volunteers. Last year the library recruited volunteers to serve as library guides, and of thirty-nine volunteers, thirty participated in training, with twenty-one completing it.

■ ***“Moral Character, Starting from the Family” Symposium***

On 8 March, in cooperation with the Women’s Association of Taipei City and the National Taipei University (NTPU) Library, NCL co-hosted a symposium entitled “Moral Character, Starting from the Family.” Education Minister Ching-Ji Wu, Taipei Deputy Mayor Yong-Ping Lee, and Women’s Association of Taipei City Director Shu-Chu Chen all came to express respect for their female compatriots hard at work in society and in the home. Legislative Yuan Representative Alex Hrong-Tai Fai, NTPU President Chung-Weun Hou, and NCL Director-general Karl Min Ku presented their thoughts on moral education, setting down enlightening ideas on the subject.

■ ***To participate the 8th Annual Library Leadership Institute***

The 8th Annual Library Leadership Institute, organized by Hong Kong University Library and The National Science Library of Chinese Academy of Sciences, took place at the Beijing University Lakeview Hotel Conference Center on 23-27 April.

Altogether there were fifty-two librarians in attendance from Indonesia, the Philippines, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, China, Hong Kong, Macau, and other areas. NCL’s Deputy Director-general Ying-Mei Wu and Assistant Editor Hsiu-Ling Sun participated in the training events related to this year’s theme: “New Challenges, New Opportunities.” The main point of the training session was to enhance methods for management and leadership of libraries and strengthen the professional capacities of library leaders.

Most of the participants came from libraries in Asia, but for the first time, this year’s meeting included colleagues from Australia and the USA, that carried out the training session’s pre-planned objective: to promote exchange between Asian library leaders and leaders of Asian libraries from all over the world.

During the training, participants also visited the National Library of China, Capital Library, and the National Science Library of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.



NCL Deputy Director-general Ying-Mei Wu visiting National Library of China Director-general He-Ping Zhou (right).