

■ *Exemplary Letters by Eminent Ming Scholars*

On 5 March, NCL opened an exhibit entitled “Exemplary Letters by Eminent Ming Scholars.” The exhibit was a special collection of several hundred handwritten letters (*Chi du*) written by a number of illustrious scholars of the Ming dynasty, such as Yan-Wu Ku, Zong-Xi Huang, Yang-Ming Wang, Zheng-Ming Wen, Guang-Dou Zuo, and many others. *Chi du* is a type of literary correspondence form between private individuals. These *chi du* are of exceptional literary and scholarly value, because written by illustrious scholars. By seeing the historical materials in their original expressive handwritten form, viewers of the exhibit are able to more fully experience and recreate the aesthetic sensibilities and philosophy of the Ming era.



Venue for the “Exemplary Letters by Eminent Ming Scholars” exhibit.

■ *NCL Exhibition of Traditional Chinese Medicine Rare Books*

On 6 April, NCL opened an exhibit on rare books of traditional Chinese medical texts. The texts were separated into ten topics: medical classics; medical cases; acupuncture and moxibustion; herbology (materia medica); gynecology; pediatrics; smallpox; incantations and exorcism; sexual health; and East-West medical exchange. By looking at this feast of medical knowledge and its extension through the ages, one



can clearly see the value placed on human life, the deep humanistic devotion, and love for mankind exhibited by medical practitioners of centuries past.

- Exhibit Location: National Central Library Fourth Floor Rare Books Room
- Online Exhibit: http://rarebook.ncl.edu.tw/rbookod/exhibition/hypage.cgi?HYPAGE=exhibit/exhibition_detail.htm&sysid=00000014

NCL International Exchange Events

2010.01.11: A group of 15 cultural professionals from the Gansu Province Culture Department led by Deputy Director Wen-Quan Wang visited NCL to discuss possible cooperation projects.



Gansu Province Culture Department officers and Deputy Director Wen-Quan Wang (front row fourth from left), NCL’s Director Hsiao-Ming Yu (front row fifth from right) and Director Li-Jen Ku (right).

2010.01.22: Sinology Professor Roger Greatrex of Sweden’s Lund University came to visit Director-

general Karl Min Ku, so as to better understand about academic publications in Taiwan and channels for library acquisition.



Director-general Karl Min Ku with Prof. Roger Greatrex (left).

2010.03.15: China Review News Communications Publishing and *China Review* monthly Director Wei-Feng Guo, Editor in Chief Yu-Lin Yu, and Deputy Editor in Chief Xiang-Xi Luo came to visit NCL, licensing China Review for public online use in NCL's Periopath Index to Taiwan Periodical Literature.

2010.03.25: Professor Dietmar Wolfram of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee School of Information Studies visited NCL to participate



Director-general Karl Min Ku and Professor Dietmar Wolfram (left).

in an exchange meeting of experiences with the NCL Reference Division and the Bibliographic Information Center Librarians.

2010.03.31: India-Taipei Association Director-general Pradeep Kumar Rawat came to a meeting at NCL, also visiting the rare books room and the exhibit hall in the cultural and educational area.



Director-general Karl Min Ku and Pradeep Kumar Rawat (left).

2010.04.13: A delegate of seven officials from Mainland China's Peoples' Publishing House, led by Acting Editor-in-Chief Guang-Wei Xin, visited NCL.



Guang-Wei Xin (right) with Dr. Armande Liao of NCL.

2010.04.15: Director-general Min Fang of Capital Normal University Library in Beijing came to visit

NCL with Director Yi-E Lin of Academia Sinica's Institute of Modern History Library.



Director General Karl Min Ku and Director-general Min Fang (right) of Capital Normal University Library.

2010.04.18: Pontificio Consigliodella Cultura Secretary-General Fr. Barthèlemy Adoukonou and Asian Affairs ministry officer Fr. Theodore Mascarenhas visited the Library accompanied by one secretary of the Department of European Affairs of Foreign Affairs Ministry.



Pontificio Consigliodella Cultura Fr. Father Barthelemy Adoukonou (right), and Asian Affairs ministry official Theodore Mascarenhas (left).

2010.04.22: Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences Secretary-general Marcelo Sánchez Sorondo visits the Library, accompanied by Department of European Affairs Secretary Ri-Xin Zhong.



Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences Secretary-general Marcelo Sánchez Sorondo (center) and Charge D'Affaires Monsignor Paul Fitzpatrick Russell (left) appreciating rare books on display. Director-general Karl Min Ku (right) looks on.

2010.04.29: Thirty-one librarians and official guests from Mainland China's Chongqing Municipal Culture Bureau were led on a visit to NCL by Chongqing Library Assistant Director-general Bo Zhang.

Chinese Studies Symposium

January 8

The Center for Chinese Studies visiting scholar Dr. Gerald Chan, a professor in the Department of Political Studies at The University of Auckland, spoke on "Taiwan's Quest for International Space: Constraints and Possibilities." Dr. Ming Lee in the Department of Diplomacy, National Chengchi University chaired the seminar.

This seminar explored two issues: firstly, the implications of Taiwan's quest for international space for its foreign-policy choices; and secondly, the implications of such a quest for the study of International Relations. The seminar examines the constraints on Taiwan's quest. These constraints come in the main from China's political pressure on Taiwan as well as on other actors in world affairs; constraints also come in relatively smaller measure