

## NCL International Exchange Events

### ■ *Exhibition of A Collection of Writings on 27 Cities along the Taiwan Strait: Opening Ceremony and Book Donation Ceremony*

NCL and the Publishers' Association of the Republic of China co-hosted the Exhibition of A Collection of Writings on 27 Cities along the Taiwan Strait. The opening ceremonies and book donation were held on July 18. Director of the Straits Exchange Foundation, Chiang Pin-kung came and gave a talk. With over 100 persons from all sectors of society in attendance, it was truly a grand occasion.

The book exhibition was one of the joint activities publishers from both sides of the strait agreed to when they signed a formal agreement during the first cross-strait forum in 2009. Co-hosted by the Straits Literature Publishing Company, Taiwan Publishers Association, and the Fujian Min-Tai Book Company Ltd., authors from both China and Taiwan worked together with publishers to produce this important work. The collection was first made available on June 21 in Xiamen, following which it began being published on both sides of the strait. In July it went on sale across the island.

An anthology of prose pieces written by both Chinese and Taiwanese authors, this collection describes the history and culture of 27 cities on both sides of the Taiwan Strait, including 20 cities in the Mainland (Fuzhou, Xiamen, Zhangzhou, Quanzhou, Sanming, Putian, Nanping, Longyan, and Ningde in Fujian province; Wenzhou, Quzhou, and Lishui in Zhejiang province; Shantou, Meizhou, Chaozhou and Jieyang in Guangdong province; and Shangrao, Yingtan, Ganzhou, and Fuzhou in Jiangxi province), and seven cities in Taiwan (Taipei, Hsinchu, Taichung, Jiayi, Tainan, Kaohsiung, and Hualien). Each volume follows the same structure arrangement of four chapters: "Searching for Historical Remains," "Visiting the Sages of Yesteryear," "The Verdant Landscape," "A Taste of Local Customs." These pieces can be read

as prose, as literary compositions of hometowns, or even as travel guides for readers wanting to better understand a certain city.

The publishers presented NCL and Director Chiang with complementary copies as a way of expressing appreciation for the many dedications and forewords written. The sets were presented by Vice-chairman of the Fujian Publisher's Association Deng Baonan. The set donated to the National Taiwan University library was accepted by NTU library Director Chen Hsueh-hua.

Political relations between China and Taiwan have been stable in recent years, leading to increasingly frequent interaction and cultural



*Vice-chairman of the Fujian Publisher's Association Deng Baonan (left) presents a copy of the publication to NCL Director-general Karl Ku (right).*



*Director of the Straits Exchange Foundation Chiang Pin-kung (second from right) observes displays at the exhibition, accompanied by NCL Director-general Karl Ku (right) and Vice-chairman Deng Baonan (second from left).*

activities between the people of both countries. Economic growth and a rise in the standard of living in the Mainland have left people there with a greater thirst for knowledge. As a result, the cultural publication industry has flourished and publishers from all provinces in China have come to Taiwan in groups, putting on various kinds of promotional activities. In an expression of friendship, copies of the books on exhibit were presented to NCL. This not only deepens cross-strait relations, it also gives Taiwan readers more channels with which to understand China. (translator / Trever B. McKay)

### ■ *Forum on Legal Information in China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Macau & Book Donations in Hong Kong and Macau*

On May 28, the Faculty of Law at Macau University and the Macau Library and Information Management Association (MLIMA) co-hosted the Forum on Legal Information in China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Macau. In attendance were more than ten legal experts and scholars from these four regions. NCL Director-general Karl Ku was invited to represent Taiwan at the meeting.

When Macau went back under the jurisdiction of the Chinese government, MLIMA already had plans to host a law forum. More than 10 years later, issues such as changing the Portuguese sections of Macau's law and establishing a law database require input from other regions on technical aspects, function, and content. They hoped to cull experience from other regions in order to augment the exchange of legal information from experts and scholarly research cooperation.

Opening ceremonies began with five high-level dignitaries cutting the ribbon. José Chu, Director of the Public Administration and Civil Services Bureau at Macau S.A.R. Government gave the opening address. Before the discussion meeting began, Director-general Ku signed a cooperative agreement termed "The Library Science Classroom" with MLIMA Executive Director Wang Guoqiang, in which every month starting in July, NCL will arrange for library personnel to go to Macau and either lecture or hold a conference on

training topics for library staff at Macau Library.

The conference was replete with informative presentations, including "Current Status and Analysis of Law Libraries in China" (by Yu Liying, Assistant Director of the Law Library at Tsinghua University in Beijing), "Access to Legal Information and Effective Use of information Technology: The Case of Macau LITES Project" and "Facilitation of Legal Research on Greater China and the Role of Regional Academic Institutions: The Scope of the Practical Guide to Legal Research in China, Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan Project" (by Muruga Perumal Ramaswamy, Professor of Law at Macau University), "Introduction to the Input Solicitation System for Drafts of Laws and Regulations" (by Kong Xiangqing, Manager of Legislative Affairs Office Information Center of China's State Council), "China Law Database and the Digitalization of Legal Information" (by Zhao Xiaohai, Director of Peking University Center for Legal Information); "Personal Views of Development of Legal Information Platform: With Emphasis on the Law System of the Legislative Yuan" (by Karl Ku, NLC General-director); "The Drafting and Publication of Hong Kong's Legal Code" (by Emma Wong, Senior Government Lawyer in the Hong Kong Department of Justice's Law Drafting Division); "Introduction to Hong Kong's Laws Information System and Research on Composite Use of Legal Information by Government Departments" (by Yam Wing Ming, Manager of Information and Communications Technology at InvestHK), "Review of and Prospects for Macau's Law Information System: A Case Study of LegisMac" (by Cai Zhilong, General Assembly Deputy Chairman at MLIMA), "Searching Taiwan's Law System: An Introduction" (by Chen Li-ling, Assistant Editor at NLC), and "A Look Back at the Range of Legal Publications in Macau over the Last 10 Years" (by Wang Guoqiang, Executive Director of MLIMA and Assistant Director of Macau University Library). These topics reveal the urgency for and sincerity of interaction between China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Macau in developing library regulations.