

Policy Unit both mentioned the significance of the government publications that were donated for academic research. Director Luo even promised to set up a computer and related accessories at the Kwang Hua Information and Culture Center so that residents in Hong Kong can access NCL's government information databases. This is a positive extension of our government's influence. (translator / Trevor B. McKay)



Group picture of dignitaries who attended the forum.

■ Visitors

2010.05.04: A four-person group including Library of Renmin University of China Director-general Liu Dachun, Deputy Director-general Xiao Qunzhong, and Library of University of Science and Technology Beijing Deputy Director-general Ji Shujuan visited the NCL, accompanied by Fu Jen Catholic University Library Director Huang Tian-cheng.

2010.05.07: A 10-member cultural exchange mission from Haiyan County, Zhejiang Province in mainland China visited the NCL, led by Haiyang County Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference Vice-Chairman Zhu Zijun.

2010.05.12: Mr. Gautam Bambawale (second from left), director of the East Asia Division at India's Ministry of External Affairs, and Mr. Arun Chatterjee (center), deputy director of the ministry's Finance Division, visited the NCL accompanied by India-Taipei Association Director-General Pradeep Kumar Rawat (second from right). Director Hsiao-Ming Yu (left) and Director Li-Jen Ku (right) hosted the Indian guests on behalf of NCL.



2010.05.14

- (1) A four-person group from Mongolia's Ministry of Education, Culture and Science of Mongolia visited the NCL accompanied by Secretary Hsu Kuan-hai of the Department of West Asian Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- (2) Tsinghua University Library Deputy Director Jiang Airon, Sichuan University Assistant Director Han Xia, and Shanghai Jiao Tong University Library Director Sun Yi visited the NCL.

2010.05.25: National University of Singapore Chinese Library Assistant Librarian Sim Chuin Peng visited the NCL.

2010.05.26: Ms. Hsi-Chu Bolick, director of the East Asian Collection at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, visits the NCL to exchange views on the focus and methods of e-resources development at the two libraries.

2010.05.28: Dr. Khaled Kakhaleh, president of Jordan's El Hassan Science City, visited the NCL accompanied by Secretary Ma Chun of the Department of West Asian Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



Dr. Khaled Kakhaleh (left) and NCL Deputy Director-general Wu Ying-mei.

2010.05.31: Ms. Duong Thi Hoang Thu, deputy director of the Library for General Sciences (LGS) in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, and LGS staff member Ms. Pham Thi Anh Hoa visited the NCL to learn about rare book restoration and meet with Deputy Director-general Wu Ying-mei.

2010.06.03: Ms. Shi Chun-chun, wife of Minister of Foreign Affairs Timothy Chin-tien Yang, attends the Welcome to Taipei International Club event and visits the Mongolian Buddhist Image & Sculpture Art Exhibition at the NCL with a party of seven, including Ms. Casilda Maria Baeza Gomez, wife of Spanish Chamber of Commerce Director Jose Luis Lamas Carril. The group was received by NCL Deputy Director-general Wu Ying-mei.

2010.06.09: Ms. Diana Liu Wen-ling, librarian for East Asian Studies at the Indiana University visits the NCL and presents a report on "Rethinking Collection Management in the Wake of Digitization." She also exchanges experience with NCL staff on e-resource development.



Ms. Diana Liu Wen-ling (left).

2010.06.10: Mr. Liang Shu, chief editor of the Chinese studies section of China's GuangMing Daily, visits the NCL accompanied by Dr. You Wei-chen of National Tsing Hua University and meets with NCL Director-general Karl Min Ku.

2010.06.24: A four-person group including Shanghai Library Director Wu Jianzhong and Shanghai East Asia Institute Deputy Director Hu Lingwei visits the NCL.



2010.06.25: A 24-member delegation of mainland library professionals visits the NCL, led by Deputy Chief Li Tangjie of the Science and Technology Information Institute in Fujian Province.



Deputy Chief Li Tangjie (fifth from left) is warmly welcomed by NCL Director-general Karl Min Ku (sixth from left).

2010.07.12: The 22-member "Hong Kong and Macau Documentation Exchange Mission to Taiwan" visits the NCL for exchanges. The group is led by Macau Information and Documentation Society President Tang Chon Chit and Chairperson Helen Leong Hoi Keng. The two sides enthusiastically exchanged views on digital archives and dissemination.



President Tang Chon Chit (left) presents a publication from the Macau Information and Documentation Society to the NCL, represented by NCL Deputy Director-general Wu Ying-mei (right).

2010.07.22: A 10-member delegation of mainland university law school library professionals visits the NCL while in Taiwan to attend the "Cross-strait University Law School Library and Information Science Exchange Symposium" held by National Chengchi University. The group was led by Chen Zhihong (fifth from left), head of the School of Law Library at Peking University and was received by NCL Deputy Director-general Wu Ying-mei (sixth from left). The two sides exchanged views on government information and legal document archives and services.



2010.07.30: A nine-member group from mainland China, including Director Fang Shu (back row, second from left) of the National Science Library, Chinese Academy of Sciences, and Deputy Director Zhong Yongheng (back row, second from right) visited the NCL, led by China National Chemical Information Center Deputy Director Jiē Yu-bin (back row, center). The group was in Taiwan to attend the Cross-strait Mainland Book Exhibition. At the NCL, the group met with Director-general Karl Min Ku (front row, fourth from right) and Deputy Director-general Wu Ying-mei (front row, fourth from left).



Chinese Studies Symposium

May 4

The Center for Chinese Studies held two academic conferences, inviting two of its grant receiving scholars to give talks. The first was Andreas Berndt of the University of Leipzig, who spoke on the “Belief and Worship of Dragon Kings during the Ming and Qing”, and who was introduced by Li Fong-mao, a research fellow in the Institute of Philosophy and Literature at Academia Sinica. The second talk, entitled “Chiang Kai-shek’s Secret Korean War,” was given by Chang Cheng, a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of History at the University of California at San Diego, and was introduced by Chang Shu-ya, an associate research fellow at Academia Sinica’s Institute of Modern History.

In the first session, Andreas Berndt explored the role and position the belief in the dragon kings occupies in traditional Chinese society. In traditional belief, the dragon kings most often appear in the image of water gods, and are closely related to dragons, similarly regarded by the Chinese as propitious omens. Indeed, the two share many similarities in terms of symbolism. However, the dragon kings are not merely a branch of dragons; during the course of the historical development of beliefs surrounding the dragon kings, other symbolic connotations were developed, and so in this respect there exist differences compared to dragons. On one hand, as gods who controlled the rain, the dragon kings were worshipped by the government and the people. Later, in classical literature, they were also combined into the non-religious image of the Dragon Kings of the Four Seas. From the Ming to the beginning of the republican era, temples dedicated to the dragon kings were built throughout China, but reliance on belief in the dragon kings varied from place to place. Berndt believes that by analyzing records in local gazetteers relating to changes in climate and geographical environment, it may be possible to understand the reasons for this, and indeed this is a direction he will pursue in future research.