

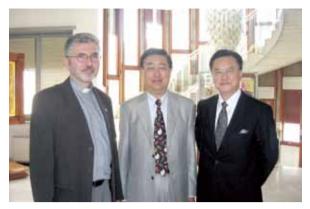
Director of press and information affairs for the Society of Jesus Fr. Giuseppe Belucci, S.J. (center),

During the short two-day stay at the Vatican, Director-general Ku visited seven libraries and Sinology-related organizations and held discussions on cooperation matters with eight major persons. The NCL proposed to assist the Vatican Library with the cataloging of the large number of rare Chinese books in the library collection, using the NCL's advanced technology and remote-cataloging capabilities. Under the cooperation plan, the Pontifical University Library in Rome can upload the cataloging-in-publication (CIP) number of a Chinese publication to a designated server, and the NCL can then do the cataloging work in Taipei. The NCL also can provide information and CIP data on digital Taiwan publications to the Vatican Library.

During the visit, Director-general Ku also presented a limited edition reproduction of the Diamond Sutra to the Vatican Library. The work was reproduced from a rare Yuan period red and black ink edition in the NCL collection. This was the first copy of the book to be presented to an overseas library.



Pontifical Gregorian University Vice Chancellor Fr. Francisco Javier Egana (second from right) and Library Librarian Marta Giorgi Debanne (left).



NCL Director-general Ku with Fr. Marek Rostkowski (left), director of the Centre for Chinese Studies at Pontifical Urbaniana University.

NCL participates in American Library Association Annual Meeting & Chinese American Librarians Association Conference

The American Library Association (ALA) held its annual meeting on June 24-28, 2010, at the Washington Convention Center. About 14,000 people registered to attend. This year's event featured a personal schedule system that allowed participants to plan their own meeting program according to subjects, time, and other options.

As in previous years, the Library Association of the Republic of China (LAC) sent a delegation to this year's meeting. It also provided subsidies for professors and students to attend and present papers at the event. The association also encouraged library staff to take part in the meeting poster exhibition and to attend major meetings related to the library profession to improve Taiwan's international visibility and influence. The four main issues of this year's meeting were as follows:

- Ex Libris Rosetta: Goodbye Digital Preservation, Hello Permanent Access. Panel speakers included Ling Wang of the University of Illinois at Chicago, CARLI Executive Director Susan Singleton of the University of Illinois at Chicago at Urbana Champaign, and Ex Libris' Mike Thuman. Singleton outlined six aspects of digital preservation: 1) Technology preservation; 2) Refreshing: copy to same/new medium; 3) Migration and reformatting; 4) Emulation: re-creation HW/SW environment; 5) Data archaeology; 6) Output to analog media: microfilm, COM....
- (2) Multiple Formats and Multiple Copies in

a Digital Age: Acceptance, Tolerance, Elimination: Speakers at this ALCTS and ROSA hosted panel included Occidental College's Robert Kieft, Grand Valley State University's Doug Way, and Florida University's Roy Ziegler. They talked about policy how university libraries deal with multiple formats and multiple copies in the digital age, and mechanisms for participation in cooperative book and periodical collections, such as the Google Book Project, OCLC program, JSTOR project, HATHI Trust Digital Library, and other cloud library projects.

- (3) Designing Digital Experiences for Library Websites. Speakers at this LITA-sponsored panel included Darien Library's John Blyberg, Skokie Public Library's Toby Greenwalt, Topika & Shawnee County Public Library's David Lee King, and Chattahoochee Valley Libraries' Bobbi Newman.
- (4) Re-thinking library business model for licensed digital contents under mobile and cloud computing deals: Access to Continuing Resources Interest Group. This panel was sponsored by the ALCTS. SpringerLink noted the lack of compatibility in the e-book and mobile device services on the market (i-Pod, i-Phone, Kindle, etc.). A major task, therefore, is to design an e-book interface that can be used on all platforms. It was noted that the AIP periodical has been downloaded 25,000 times in a three-month period, indicating that users are already comfortable with the format. The pace of technological progress and adoption of new technology are astonishing.

The Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA) was established on March 31, 1973, and held its first annual meeting in Chicago in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Association of Asian Studies. Over the past 37 years since then, the association has been a highly active affiliate of ALA and in recent years has arranged numerous work meetings during the ALA annual meeting period.

This theme of this year's CALA meeting was "Sky is the Limit: Reaching out to the Minority Communities of Users and Librarians." Director Yu Hsiao-ming presented a report at the meeting on the NCL's experience and recent developments in the area of international Chinese studies librarian training. The meeting was moderated by Zhijia Shen, the newly elected CALA president and librarian of the East Asia Library at the University of Washington. Also joining the panel was Satia Orange, a former director of the ALA Office for Literacy and Outreach Services. Ms. Orange presented a talk on "Sharpen our skills and enhance our services to minority communities," in which she advocated a core session on the organization of the Associations of Librarians of Color. She also appealed for minority groups (Asian, African, Hispanic, etc.) to cooperate, seek greater recognition, and plan activities.

At the dinner banquet after the meeting, CALA presented a US\$6,200 donation to Taiwan's Linbian and Jiaxian township libraries, which suffered heavy losses in Typhoon Morakot. The funds were accepted by delegation head Prof. Wang Kuo-yu. Yu Hsiao-ming of the NCL personally presented the funds to LAC Secretary General Peng Wei in Taiwan for conveyance to the two recipient libraries.



From left: Rush Mille, Yu Hsiao-ming, Carol Quick, and Susan Hildreth.



The Taiwan delegation at the Asian Division of the Library of Congress.